

Wonderful Windsor Wonderland



There was fun for the entire family as the new Windsor Heights Community & Events Center opened its doors for the holidays. The crowd enjoyed live music, crafts, family portraits, pet portraits, festive food and drinks, candy making, along with cookie and gingerbread house decorating. Earlier in the day, the Fire Department escorted Santa for a tour of city on the beautiful fire engine. Thanks to these dedicated workers for gathering children's wishes.

Special thanks to our amazing musicians: **Rachel & Sarah Amann, Stasos Clark, Cole Meyers, Dayna Daniels, Zack Oler,** and to **Brad Meyer**, who helped with the equipment and to **Terry Amann**, who helped pull together the names. These folks entertained all in attendance royally.

Thanks to the people who brought new, unwrapped toys to the event to donate to Toys for Tots and to those who brought food and personal care items for the Windsor Heights/Urbandale Food Pantry. These gifts will be shared with area children and families. If you still want to help families this holiday season, bring your gift and/or financial donations to City Hall.

This event would not be possible without the time, energy, and hard work of the Windsor Heights Special Events Committee. Huge gratitude extended to **Dave Jenison**, our beloved Santa, to **Sylvia Owens, Sarah Boots, Dean Boots,** and **Kerry Bowen** for their impeccable help in the kitchen. Mrs. Claus also paid a visit thanks to Windsor Heights Citizen of the Year, **Flo Hunter**. Thank you Flo for spreading your special brand of cheer. To **Cathleen Simpson** and **Barb Niccum**, everyone wants you to know the joy you shared to help make "photos with Santa" a reality. To **Diana Willits** and her daughters, **Ashley** and **Courtney** thank you for volunteering your time to ensure the day went smoothly. **Donna Markley** added much to the afternoon, demonstrating and handing out her famous peanut brittle recipe. Thank you Donna for donating many batches of this yummy creation. If anyone wants a copy of the recipe, call Tracy at 645-6821. Committee member **Nicole Molt** added her marketing creativity – thanks to Nicole.

We appreciate the donations from **Hy-Vee Bakery, Sam's Club** (represented in person by **Laurie Janovec** and **Jessica Campbell**), and **Walmart**, all of whom generously joined in the celebration. **Dave Furneaux** was an invaluable leader in the cookie decorations. Our thanks to you Dave.

We thank our photographer **Steve Poole** and his sons, **Ian** and **John**, resident elves, who brilliantly captured the photos with Santa and to the **Windsor Heights Chamber of Commerce** thank you for your big heartedness with this year's photography.

Thanks to the **Windsor Heights Neighborhood Association** for donating the delicious cocoa and cider and to **Colleen Lange** for helping make it all come together.

Jan Hutchison braved the nippy outdoor air to guide in painting the City snow plow, turning the blade into an adorable abominable snowman. Our appreciation to you Jan for sharing your flair.

The craft activities were also favorite places to be with the talented lead artists **Candace Trew Camling, Sara Fahraie, Mary Pat LaMair, Grace Sherer.**

Thank you to **Mayor Jerry Sullivan**, who with his magic touch, lit the Christmas trees, capping off a glowing holiday season.

And what is a successful event without a support team, comprised of **Josh Heggen, Marketa Oliver, Dennis McFarland, Jason VanAusdall,** and the superb **Public Works staff.**

As is proof, a lot of people made Windsor Wonderland a reality and success. Warm thanks to all.



See us on the Web at www.windsorheights.org!

City of Windsor Heights

AMERICA'S CROWN COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

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Stormwater Winter Tips

As rain showers turn into snow and ice, there are still practices everyone can do to prevent excessive storm water runoff. Salt and other deicing chemicals are two of the most widely used agents during snow and ice seasons. Here are a few tips that everyone should practice.

- Shovel snow before it turns to ice to limit the need for de-icing chemicals like rock salt.
- Shovel snow onto permeable surfaces including gently sloping and level landscape and grassy areas so as the snow melts it will soak into ground rather than directly into nearby storm drain or stream.
- Sodium Chloride, rock salt, is the cheapest and most common de-icing product but Calcium Chloride has more benefits. Calcium Chloride doesn't have the chemical additives that rock salt has; it is less harmful to vegetation, and only one-third as much needed. It also works well at low temperatures (25 degrees F).

If you must use de-icing chemicals, follow these suggestions:

- Control application of chemical de-icers, a little goes a long way, avoid applying to much
- Limit chemical applications near environmentally sensitive areas, such as drinking water cells
- Sand can be used as a substitute to salt to assist with traction on driveways.
- Consider using salt substitutes that are less harmful to the environment and to concrete walkways, including Calcium Chloride and Calcium Magnesium Acetate.

There you have it. Some easy practices everyone can do to help reduce storm water run-off. Please remember what goes down the storm drains end up in our drinking glass.

New Picnic Tables for Colby Park from Iowa Grocers Association Grant

The City of Windsor Heights is proud to announce a grant in the amount of \$2,000 for the purchase of green product picnic tables for placement in Colby Park. Awarded by the Iowa Grocery Industry Association through their "Building with Bags," (BWB) the program's intent is "to tackle an environmental concern that has been receiving a great deal of attention – the use of plastic (and to some degree) shopping bags." To address this issue, the "Build with Bags program defined four primary goals:

- 1.) Doubling the amount of plastic bags recycled over the next 24 months
- 2.) Reducing the use of plastic bags (with an additional benefit of reducing the use of paper bags)
- 3.) Increasing the use of reusable bags
- 4.) Encouraging the purchase of recycled furniture and equipment

The BWB grant program demonstrates how recycled plastic bags can be re-used in the manufacturing of outdoor furniture and equipment. The City of Windsor Heights is using Iowa's own Plastic Recycling of Iowa Falls to purchase four picnic tables. Colby Park's grassy areas will provide pretty places to sit and enjoy a meal for new picnic tables. Thanks are extended to the Iowa Grocery Industry Association for their generosity.



City of Windsor Heights
the heart of it all

1133 66th Street
Windsor Heights, IA 50324
(515) 279-3662
www.windsorheights.org

Emergency Access Sick of Winter Driving?

When recovering from a major snowfall, it's easy to forget emergency responders not only need access to your front door, but to the equipment that will help save your home in the event of an emergency. The Windsor Heights Fire Department is recommending citizens clear a three foot perimeter around fire hydrants that are covered with snow. It's also smart to shovel an access path to the road, so fire fighters can easily thread a water hose to the hydrant from the street.

In general, for every minute a home fire goes unsuppressed or undetected, it doubles in size. Every second counts. If a fire occurs in your home or in your neighborhood, you don't want firefighters wasting those seconds shoveling snow to gain access to the fire hydrant.

Take DART! Windsor Heights residents have it good: With eight routes to choose from, they can ride the bus east, west, north or south. The #3 runs along University Avenue from Valley West Mall to the State Fairgrounds. The #5 stops here on the way to and from Merle Hay Mall and downtown. The #92, #93 and #96 Express routes all come through Windsor Heights on their way to and from downtown and Urbandale, Johnston and West Des Moines. Visit www.dmmta.com for all DART routes.

Not close to a bus stop? DART has three on-call services in Windsor Heights that will pick you up at your home. Call 515-283-8100 and a DART representative will help figure out the best route for you or visit ridedart.com.

Contact Us! City of Windsor Heights

Emergency Phone Numbers
Fire Department911
Police Department911

Non-Emergency Phone Numbers
Police/Fire286-3632
City Hall279-3662

MayorJerry Sullivan

Council Members:

- Charlene Butz
- Betty Glover
- Dave Jenison
- Steve Peterson
- Diana Willits

City Admin.Marketa George Oliver
Chief Financial Off.Carrie Brannen
Fire ChiefChristopher Cross
Police ChiefDennis McDaniel
Public Works Director Jason Van Ausdall
Director of Comm. Svcs. Josh Heggen

Police Department:

Police Dispatch286-3632
 Police Admin/Records277-4453
 Police Investigations277-4455

Fire Department279-3662

Public Works Dept.279-3662

Colby Park Reservations ..279-3662

Building Inspector279-3662

Animal Control279-3662

2 City Council Meetings - 1st and 3rd Mondays of every month, unless posted otherwise.

JANUARY & FEBRUARY						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 City Council Meeting 5 PM (City Hall)	11 Mayor's Hour 9-10 AM	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22 Community Coffee Club 9 AM (Grounds for Celebration)
23	24 City Council Meeting 6 PM (City Hall)	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7 City Council Meeting 6 PM (City Hall)	8 Mayor's Hour 9-10 AM	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 City Council Meeting 6 PM (City Hall)	22	23	24	25	26 Community Coffee Club 9 AM (Grounds for Celebration)

NEWS BRIEFS

January Council Meetings

Due to January holidays, the traditional first and third Monday council meetings have been moved to the second and fourth Monday just for January. In addition, the January meeting now rescheduled for January 10th will start at 5:00 pm instead of 6:00 pm. The second meeting of the month on January 24th will start at 6:00 pm.

Health Screenings

The City of Windsor Heights is pleased to offer preventive health screening in collaboration with Life Line Screening. The screenings are offered on Monday, January 24, 9 am to 5 pm at the Windsor Heights Community & Events Center. There will be tests given for stroke risk, vascular disease, and bone density. Call 1-888-653-6441, or visit www.lifelinescreening.com, for more information and to pre-register.

Special Events Committee

Did you enjoy July 4th, Oktoberfest, Movies in the Park, Windsor Wonderland, WHAMM and other special events in Windsor Heights? These events cannot happen without volunteers from our citizens and businesses. The special events committee meets once a month on average to help plan and organize these wonderful events. If you are interested in volunteering on the committee or just interested in volunteering on the day of the special event, please email or call Tracy Levine at 645-6821 or tlevine@windsorheights.org. Again, without volunteers these events cannot happen, so please consider volunteering to make these events a continued success.

Don't Forget to License Your Pets

It is the time of year when dog and cat owners are reminded to have their pets licensed and tagged. This allows the City to quickly notify their owners should the pets stray and be picked up. It also verifies animals have proper rabies vaccinations. Licenses cost \$10 for altered pets and \$20 for unaltered pets. There is an additional fine if your pet is not licensed prior to April 1, so license your pet as soon as possible. Pets must have proof of their current rabies vaccination from their vet. Registration forms will be on the city website or you can stop into city hall and license your pet today!

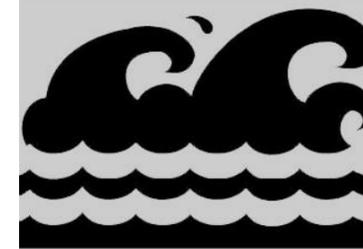
Iowa One Call

Residents undertaking projects involving digging and excavating are reminded to call Iowa One Call. Under Iowa statute if you plan to dig deeper than 12 inches, you are required to make the toll-free call at least 48 hours before digging. The service is FREE to anyone who requests it. Before any digging or excavation starts, call Iowa One Call at 1-800-292-8989 to have utilities marked.

At Your Service

Residents experiencing slow drains and/or sewer back ups are encouraged to call the Public Works department at 279-3662 or after hours at 286-3333. Public Works will check the main and clean any blockages. Blockages located in the home sewer system are the responsibility of the home owner. Windsor Heights has a scheduled inspection and maintenance program. Be advised, according to case law, municipalities cannot be held responsible for any damage resulting from sewer back-ups if they maintain an inspection and maintenance program.

Windsor Wave E-mail Updates



It is easier than ever to get updates and news from the City of Windsor Heights. In addition to our monthly newsletters found in the water bill and the Windsor Heights Living Magazine, you can sign up to get email updates, known as the Windsor Wave, sent directly to you. This is the best way to get up-to-date updates on things like special events, council meetings, etc. In addition, emails are sent out when things like the snow ordinance goes into effect. You can sign up for the Windsor Wave at www.windsorheights.org/emails/signup.htm

In addition, you can get updates from the city by following us at Twitter or visiting our Facebook page. Windsor Heights has one of the most comprehensive and up-to-date open communications with our citizens and businesses and we appreciate everyone who participates in this open process.