



Fridley

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

AUGUST 2016
NO. 201

We believe in a Fridley that is a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.

6431 University Avenue NE
Fridley, MN 55432
phone: 763-571-3450
www.FridleyMN.gov
e-mail: info@FridleyMN.gov

Mayor – Scott J. Lund

Councilmember-at-Large – Robert L. Barnette

Councilmember 1st Ward – James T. Saeffe

Councilmember 2nd Ward – Dolores M. Varichak

Councilmember 3rd Ward – Ann R. Bolkcom

City Manager – Wally Wysopal

What's Inside

Thank You Liz Chevalier	2
Primary Election.....	2
Ask to See a City License	3
MWMO Free Seminar	3
Bulky Item Recycling.....	3
Lawn Care Tips for Healthier Waters.....	3
Fall Senior Kick-Off.....	4
Exercise Your Brain	4
Beware of Scam Artists	4
Choose Your News	4
Coffee with Cops.....	4
The Garden of Alden Way	5
New Fridley Police Explorers.....	6
Beautifying Fridley - One Hydrant at a Time ..	6
Create a Place for Art in Fridley.....	6
Fridley Fire Explorers.....	7
'49er Days Explodes with Fun.....	8
New Fire Engine Debuts at '49er Days	8

Stay Connected!

Like Us on Facebook:
search City of Fridley

Follow Us on Twitter:
@CityofFridley

PRESORTED STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Twin Cities, MN
Permit NO. 92886

Next Steps for the Columbia Arena/ Civic Complex Redevelopment Project

Columbia Arena once had a reputation for youth hockey, but in recent years was more famous for its graffiti walls, deteriorating structure and attraction for trouble. It was time for a change. When the Fridley HRA acquired the property in October 2014, they understood the significance of this highly visible location and made a commitment to take the time to listen to you and consider the best options for our community.

In Spring 2015, you determined what was most important for this development through a series of four public workshops, complete with brainstorming and discussions, getting to the heart of what you want and what can be done.

- You asked for:
1. Housing
 2. Public Park
 3. Civic Complex

At the same time, separate from these workshops, the Fridley City Council was busy evaluating the conditions of City Hall and the Public Works garage. You may recall, the buildings are over 60 years old and there is an urgent need to address major maintenance, safety, accessibility, environmental and other changing conditions. With such extensive and costly work needed, the Council researched the best use of taxpayer dollars, examining pros and cons for remodeling at the current sites or building new. As they listened to residents and evaluated all the research, the two projects began to coincide. Last December, a big question surfaced: *Should Columbia Arena be the site for a new civic complex that houses City Hall, Police, Fire and Public Works?* Public Works was already in this area – did it make sense to put everything in one spot? The current condition of the Public Works area would discourage private development. What could be done to make both cohesive?

On December 28, City leaders invited you to an open house to take a closer look at that idea. Based on your ideas, suggestions and feedback, Council hired an architect and construction manager to take it one step further and see what it could look like, what it would cost, and what the financial impact would be on residents.

All those pieces are now starting to come together and were introduced at July's Open House with a preliminary site plan. This is what redevelopment for Columbia Arena could look like with a combination of a civic complex, park space and residential development.

Your Council members and many City leaders are Fridley residents and taxpayers, just like you. They understand that creating an effective and detailed design now is essential for spending tax dollars wisely. Fridley has a



vision: We believe in a Fridley that is a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses. The proposed design for this site was created with the following goals in mind:

1. **Affordability:** In order to make this a viable option for residents and keep financial impact to a minimum, there is a need to maximize available area for private development and do so in a way that attracts developers.
2. **Convenience:** Clear, easy-to-understand signage and entrance. It should be welcoming and easy to navigate.
3. **Collaboration:** Employees should all be on one level to make it easy to communicate with each other and with residents, and Fire and Police should be conveniently located nearby.
4. **Accessibility:** Public parking should be designed with sufficient spaces close to the door. Employee parking can be further away, but should still be safe and convenient. Restrooms, elevators and countertops should be accessible to those with wheelchairs or other physical challenges.

By building new, these City buildings should serve our needs for over 50 years with proper maintenance, just as the current buildings have served you. It is a much more prudent and cost-effective solution than remodeling and expanding at the current locations, as those costs would be very similar but longevity would be in the 10 to 20-year range.

Join us in creating a community presence to be proud of. Your feedback on this preliminary design will help shape a formal proposal which will be presented to the Fridley City Council during the November 14 Council meeting. This will be a public hearing where you are invited to offer formal comments. You are also welcome to reach out to your elected officials or City staff at any time.

Share your thoughts with our Community Development Director, Scott Hickok, at Scott.Hickok@FridleyMN.gov or (763) 572-3590, or City Manager, Wally Wysopal, at Wally.Wysopal@FridleyMN.gov or (763) 572-3506.

Details about this project, as well as study results and summaries, are available on our website at FridleyMN.gov/city-hall-update.



Firefighter Dave Larson, Larry Chevalier (Liz's husband), Liz Chevalier and Fire Lieutenant Todd Messer

22 Roses for 22 Years — Thank You Liz Chevalier



The idea of Safety Camp was introduced to Fridley Police in 1995 by Liz Chevalier, and for 22 years she has organized this invaluable program on a zero dollar budget, funded solely through the generosity of area businesses and made successful by volunteers. Her legacy with Safety Camp and numerous other youth projects will continue, even after she moves on to new adventures in retirement. Liz retired from service to our City on July 20 of this year.

Liz started with the Fridley Police Department in 1980. She served the City for over 5 years, then returned to us in February 1994 as a Crime Prevention Specialist. Liz has been with us ever since. That is over 27 years of service to our community, a great portion of that time dedicated to children through school and family support; projects like Shop with a Cop, Cops in the Cafe, and Safety Camp; and finding solutions and assistance for at-risk youth.

“It has been my pleasure to work with Liz over the last 20 years,” says Brian Weierke, Fridley Director of Public Safety. “She is a very passionate advocate for children in our community and has a strong reputation throughout the City. Liz is always willing to help out a family in need and is such a happy

person to be around. We wish Liz the best in her next chapter and appreciate all her service. We will definitely miss her.”

Safety Camp was Liz's pride and joy, and she departs us after another successful year. This summer, 120 third and fourth graders spent two fun-filled days learning essential safety skills and lessons through games, activities and demonstrations. Campers are mentored by police officers, firefighters and paramedics who serve as their counselors during camp, guiding them in safety topics including fire, water and swimming, first aid, wilderness, bicycle, electrical, poisons and more. The following supporters made Safety Camp 2016 a success:

- Allina-Health/Unity Hospital,
- Bob's Produce,
- Dunn Bros Coffee,
- Fridley American Legion Post #303,
- Fridley Lions,
- Friendly Chevrolet,
- Frito Lay,
- Fridley VFW Ladies Auxiliary,
- Kiwanis Columbia Heights/Fridley,
- McDonalds,
- Perkins,
- Safe Kids Anoka County,
- Schmit Towing and Voigt's Bus Company.

Thank you to these businesses and all the volunteers for your support of this incredible program.

Fridley Community Calendar

August

- 1 Parks & Recreation Commission
- 3 Appeals Commission
- 4 HRA Meeting
- 8 City Council Meeting
- 9 Environmental Quality & Energy Commission
- 9 Primary Election Voting
- 17 Planning Commission
- 22 City Council Meeting

September

- 1 HRA Meeting
- 5 City offices closed in observance of Labor Day
- 6 Charter Commission
- 7 Appeals Commission
- 12 City Council Meeting
- 12 Parks & Recreation Commission
- 13 Environmental Quality & Energy Commission
- 21 Planning Commission
- 26 City Council Meeting

NOTE: City Council and Commission meetings start at 7:00 p.m. Meetings are held at the Municipal Center, 6431 University Avenue NE. The public is welcome.

Hearing impaired persons who need an interpreter or other persons with disabilities who require auxiliary aids and would like to attend a meeting, should contact Roberta Collins at 763-572-3500 at least one week in advance.

Primary Election August 9, 2016

Filings for the offices of mayor and councilmember-at-large closed May 31, 2016. The following individuals filed for office:

Office of Mayor:

- Scott Lund
- Drew Schuette

Office of Councilmember-at-Large:

- Bob Barnette
- Shanna Larson
- David Ostwald
- John Anderson

As four individuals have filed for the office of councilmember-at-large, a primary election for that office will be held on August 9. The top two individuals who receive the most votes will move on to the November 8 General Election.

All polling locations will be open for the Primary Election. If you cannot make it to the polls, you may vote by absentee ballot in person at Fridley City Hall or by mail through August 8. Preliminary results of the Primary Election will be posted on our website. The final report will be posted after the canvass board receives and certifies the canvass report on August 12.

Remember, Minnesota does not have early voting, we have absentee voting. Absentee voting for the November 8 General Election begins September 23, 2016. If you have any questions about the process, voter registration or elections in general, please visit our website at FridleyMN.gov/Elections, call (763) 572-3523 or email elections@FridleyMN.gov.



Fred's Fun Rewards only at Fridley Liquor!

Easy and Free!

*Earn 1 point per \$1 spent on most purchases.

100 points = \$5 credit

**You deserve a reward!
Stop in Today!**



For hours, directions and reward program details, visit: FridleyLiquor.com

Fridley Market: University Ave. & I-694 (763) 571-1994

Moore Lake Drive: Hwy 65 (763) 571-8365

*some restrictions apply.

Ask to See a City License

Door-to-Door Solicitors

This time of year everyone is out and about enjoying the warm weather, and this includes sales people. No doubt your doorbell will ring with someone trying to sell you a new driveway, magazines, window replacement, etc.

The City of Fridley does what we can to regulate door-to-door sales, defined as a person or persons who come to your door and tries to sell you a service or product. These types of sales require a City license – ask to see it!

Please note: we do not require non-profit youth groups (like scouts or schools) to get a solicitor license.

Why should you care? One of the key reasons we require a solicitor license is so our Police Department can perform a comprehensive background check. We do our part to protect you by investigating the character, reputation and criminal activity of an individual and business before issuing a City license. If we see red flags, we will not issue the license.

Tree Trimmers

Another common type of solicitor is one that offers tree services. Anyone offering tree trimming or other tree services in Fridley, MUST be City licensed. If it is regarding tree services, it does not matter if they are

coming up to your door, distributing flyers, mailing a postcard, etc. If they are performing tree services in Fridley, they must be licensed.

We keep an up-to-date list of licensed tree trimmers and tree service businesses on our website: FridleyMN.gov/791, or search “City Licensed Businesses” from anywhere on our site.

Waste Haulers

Waste haulers in Fridley also must be City licensed. A current list of approved waste haulers can be found on our website. If you want to investigate competitor rates, are new to the City, or need a specialized service such as a roll-off, start with a visit to FridleyMN.gov.

Stay Safe

If you ever feel pressured, uncomfortable or unsafe by a salesperson, it is best to end the interaction. If it is on the phone, hang up. If it is someone at your door, ask them to leave. Remember, if a deal sounds too good to be true, it probably is; and if they refuse to give you time to investigate or compare before making a purchase, they may have something to hide.

If you ever feel uncomfortable or wish to doubt a solicitor’s credentials, contact Fridley Police by calling 9-1-1. In Fridley and all of Anoka County, 9-1-1 is used for both emergency and non-emergency reporting.



Lawn Care Tips For Healthier Waters

- **Clean Up Leaves:** A mulching mower is an excellent way to handle leaves. Other options include proper paper bag disposal through your garbage hauler with a yard waste agreement or by transporting them to Bunker Hills Compost Site (there is a small fee for disposal at this site and specific hours).
- **Avoid Winterizer Fertilizer:** Fertilize in late summer instead. If you are concerned about how much fertilizer your yard needs, have your soil tested at the University of Minnesota’s Soil Testing Lab.
- **Grow Grass a Little Longer:** 3 inches tall is the perfect height. The extra length allows grass to absorb more sunshine, making for a healthier and more weed resistant lawn. What is too long? Lawns over 10 inches high will get our attention as a code violation.
- **Scoop the Poop:** Always pick up after your pet. Animal waste left on the ground is not only smelly and unsightly, it poses risks to human health and negatively impacts water quality.
- **Tune Up Your Irrigation System:** Check your sprinkler heads, replace them if necessary, and install a smart sensor which senses rain and helps conserve water. We have great rebates available right now. Learn more at FridleyMN.gov/watergrant.

The Mississippi Watershed Management Organization (MWMO) Invites you to a FREE seminar

Water Wednesday: Your Fall Yard
 Wednesday, August 10 • 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
 at the MWMO Stormwater Park and Learning Center, Minneapolis

Learn how to keep a healthy yard while keeping the Mississippi River clean!
 Experts will offer practical tips on how to prepare your yard for fall.

Event is free, but registration is required.
 Call 612-465-8780 or visit them online at www.mwmo.org

Last Call for Bulky Item Recycling: October 8

Fridley’s final recycling drop-off event for the year will be held on Saturday, October 8 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Fridley Public Works Garage: 400–71st Ave NE

This is your chance to get rid of appliances, electronics, vehicle batteries, carpet, tires, small engines, old bicycles, scrap metal, fluorescent bulbs, cardboard and mattresses. We will also offer secure paper shredding.

Most items are accepted for free or for a small charge. Look for details and costs in a postcard coming to your mailbox in September or call Kay Qualley, Environmental Planner, at (763) 572-3594.

Quick Tip: The drop-off line is busiest at 9 a.m. opening. For the shortest wait time, aim for after 10:30 am.

FARMERS' MARKET RETURNS TO FRIDLEY

Now Open: Saturdays through October 15 • 8:00 a.m. to Noon

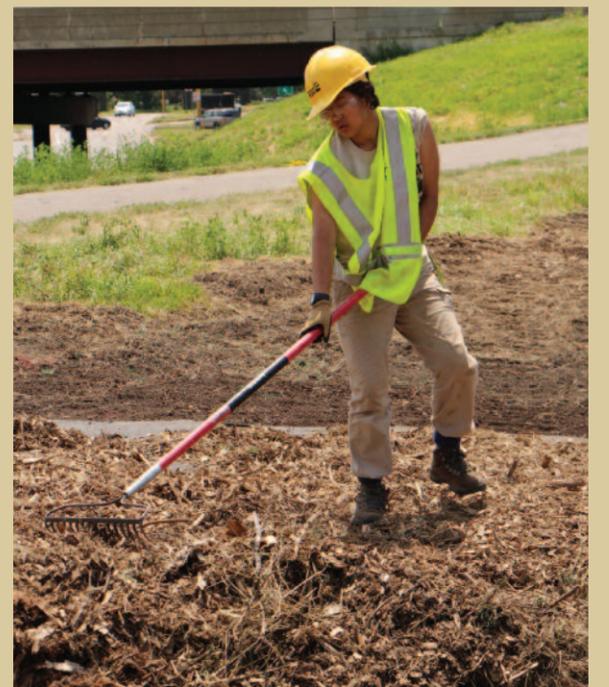
Fridley Community Center, 6085 7th Street, Fridley, MN

Organized by Minnesota Grown

MINNESOTA GROWN
 Fresh From Your Neighbor

Check It Out!

Visit our new Urban Forestry section on the web at FridleyMN.gov/Fridleytrees



Youth Conservation Corps volunteers helped remove quack grass and weeds, and plant new trees along the Mississippi River Trail, on the west side of East River Road. Thanks to MnDOT and the Youth Conservation Corps for providing grants to make this beautification possible.

Exercise Your Brain with Fridley's New Memory Course



Don't Miss the Fall Senior Kick-Off

Thursday, September 22
1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Fridley Community Center:
6085 7th St NE

Free event but registration is required. Call (763) 502-5150.
Space is limited.

Fridley's Senior Program is more than just a gathering place. We offer services and activities to enhance physical and mental well-being, independence and encourage involvement in the community.

- Fitness & Wellness
- Senior Services, including dining and legal aid
- Clubs and Leagues for a variety of interests
- Special Events and Field Trips
- Discussion on Global Issues

Stop by and see what the Fridley Senior Program is all about!



Choose Your News

The City of Fridley offers many email alerts to keep you in the know throughout your day. Sign up online to receive alerts for the information you are interested in receiving. To sign up, go to FridleyMN.gov:

1. Click the "Stay Informed" icon on the home page
2. Enter your email and click the "Sign In" box
3. Click the envelope icons next to the categories you are interested in: Jobs, Police News, Community Connection, etc.
4. Click the link sent via email to confirm your notification account and selections.

You can also connect with us on social media:

- [Facebook.com/CityofFridley](https://www.facebook.com/CityofFridley)
- Twitter: @CityofFridley
- [NextDoor.com](https://www.NextDoor.com)

Back this fall by popular demand, the Fridley Senior Program offers the Total Brain Health (TBH) MEMORY training classes. It was started this summer with 20 participants, with many more wanting to join.

TBH MEMORY is designed to rev up recall by teaching valuable memory strategies. Learn how memory works and why we forget, plus simple and effective tips for improving retention. The course consists of 16 one-hour classes, each with engaging, hands-on learning activities to allow for on-going practice of the retention strategies. The small group setting also provides a social environment for added peer support and engagement.

"We are proud to provide the TBH MEMORY training classes in Fridley," says Connie Thompson, Fridley Senior Program Coordinator. "The course reflects our ongoing effort to better educate the community on memory techniques."

Total Brain Health is a leading provider of memory and brain fitness training programs. Founded by renowned brain health expert and author, Dr. Cynthia Green, Total Brain Health offers a series of memory and brain fitness programs that are designed for small and large groups. Developed from over three decades of research, the TBH Toolkit courses and programs teach effective steps in boosting brain power using highly social, fun and engaging classes.

"Online brain training can mask the real science of what brain fitness is all about, namely engaging in lifestyle behaviors that have been tied to staying sharp," says Dr. Green. "Our programs are scientifically-based brain fitness products that help adults stay sharp and age successfully."

The fall series will begin on Monday, September 22 and classes will be held from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Cost for the series is \$20. For more information or to register, call the Fridley Senior Program at (763) 502-5150.

Beware of Scam Artists

Unfortunately, scam artists seem to worm their way around our communities, and Fridley is no exception. We have recently had a couple scams re-emerge in neighborhoods. Education is your best defense against these criminals. Here are a few common reports Fridley Police have received.

The Neighbor in Trouble

This scammer targets those home during the day, particularly senior citizens. The scam artist will approach your door, indicate that he is a neighbor and ask to borrow cash to pay a tow truck driver as his wife was just in a vehicle crash. Sad story, right? All a lie. This person will disappear with your money, never to return.

If someone you do not recognize comes to your door asking for money, do not give them any. Decline, close the door and call 9-1-1 to report this person immediately and ask for an officer to investigate.

IRS Calls and Emails

These scammers will call, email or text pretending to be government officials. They claim you owe back taxes or there was an error on your return. They play on your fears, threatening to take your driver's license

or sue, arrest or deport you. The goal – to get your money now.

The truth is: the IRS first form of contact will always be an official letter sent via US Postal Mail explaining the situation. They will never demand immediate payment by wire transfer, cashier check or prepaid debit card.

Extra alert: Caller ID can be faked and manipulated. Do not believe a caller is legit based solely on your phone's caller id. Know the warning signs and always take the time to verify a situation before sharing personal or financial information.

Other Scams

Other popular scams include imposters claiming to be tech support, a family member in trouble (often a grandchild) and online dating connections needing money for a variety of excuses. We have a series of one-minute videos on our website under Police – Crime Prevention, as well as links and phone numbers to report scammers that attempt to contact you.

Learn more online at FridleyMN.gov/CrimePrevention.

Join Us for Coffee with Cops

We invite you to chat with us the last Wednesday of each month from 4 - 5 p.m. Share your concerns, brainstorm crime prevention ideas, or just get to know us better! Bring your neighbors and let's partner for a safe and vibrant community.

Next Coffee Chats:

August 31 from 4-5 p.m. at Starbucks
(5300 Central Ave NE)

September 28 from 4-5 p.m. at Dunn Brothers
(7610 University Ave NE)





The Garden of Alden Way

Meet Lloyd and Patty Weber

Gardening just may be the secret to happiness, and after a visit with Lloyd and Patty Weber you might become a believer. For 20 years, this couple has welcomed visitors to their yard. Plants have traveled from as far as the English Channel, Sweden and Ireland to find a home in this serene Minnesota garden.



The Fairy Garden

Patty and her granddaughters create a land of enchantment on Alden Way. Tiny fairies build tiny homes and welcome tiny gnomes and wizards. They decorate with ribbon and splashes of color – a special place of imagination and charm. New this year, Pooch Park.



The French Bistro

Where difficult rose bushes once stood, Patty and Lloyd have created yet another secret hideaway – the French Bistro. The Weber gardens take visitors on a foliage trip around the world, so Paris is a natural stop during these travels.



Lloyd's Favorites

Lloyd is particularly proud of this collection of Hostas, migrated from every corner of the world as well as family farms. They pay tribute to the family “donations” with Grandma’s Garden, where plants are named for family members and pay tribute to Patty’s Swedish heritage. In the back, the “Man Cave” houses a Hosta Hospital and the secret ingredient to great gardens. The journey around the yard continues with Hostas from every corner of the world.

One of Lloyd’s favorites: the Rhino Hide with its thick leaves. “I really like how the leaves cup and the incredible silvery sheen,” explains Lloyd.

As a visitor, one of my favorites was the Elephant Ears with their large, tropical leaves shaped as elephant ears.



The Secret Ingredient

You are expecting the answer to be love and care, aren't you? And you would be correct. The effort

Lloyd and Patty put into caring for this large garden and ensuring its survival through the ever-changing Minnesota weather is staggering.

However, Lloyd has another trick that aids in their success: special mulch.

“I combine cocoa beans and grassing clippings,” he explains. Not an easy task as cocoa beans mold very quickly, but he heats up his blend and runs it through a shredder. The result = a growing soil so successful it cultivates this true work of art.



Visitors Welcome

A sign out front reads “Garden Visitors Welcome”, and if you find yourself on the west side of town near the river on Alden Way, keep an eye out for Patty and Lloyd. Plants are expected to be in bloom right about now. Due to the extensive effort it takes to create such a masterpiece, the Webers say this may be its final year. We thank them for sharing their passion with our community.



Sign Up Now for Fall Sports and Fitness

Find costs, details and new classes – visit us online at FridleyMN.gov/recreation



4-Person Passing Football

There's still time to register for 4-Man Passing Football! \$80. Season starts September 11.

Have fun and get a great workout at our Adult Fitness classes!

- Zumba, Zumba Tonight and Aqua Zumba
- Kettlebell Classes
- Tae Kwon Do

New Fridley Police Explorers

CORE VALUES • LIFE SKILLS • MENTORSHIP AND TRAINING • COMPETITION

Fridley Police invite young adults, ages 14 through 18, to explore law enforcement careers and gain invaluable skills and experience through the Fridley Police Explorers program.

Our Vision: *The goal of the Fridley Police Explorer program is to help in the development of successful young adults who will be able to take the values and skills gained from the program and use them in their future careers.*

“I joined the Fridley Police Explorer program at 14 years old,” says Officer Shawn Murphy. “During my time in the program, I gained valuable knowledge, values and skills while being mentored by Fridley Officers, many of whom I currently work with now. These mentors had such an incredible impact on me and helped shape my future.”

The Fridley Explorers was disbanded the year Officer Murphy left the program, and today he is pleased to bring it back to Fridley. “I credit the success that I’ve had in life thus far to the tools that I acquired while I participated in the program, and when I was hired at Fridley PD I vowed to help resurrect the explorer program.”

Some of the areas the Police Explorers are trained in include:

- Hostage Rescue Negotiations
- Bomb Scene Search
- Burglary Response
- Search and Arrest
- Domestic Crisis
- and More!

Explorers train side-by-side with active Fridley Police officers and compete in the above scenarios at a state competition. This is a great opportunity to gain invaluable skills, learn about various law enforcement careers in a hands-on environment, and build experience that will be a benefit in future job interviews and college applications.

“The impact of this program stretches far beyond just the explorers,” explains Officer Murphy. “The City and Police Department benefit from building positive relationships, and having active and involved young adults in the community; and the individual police officers involved in the program benefit by aiding in the creation of successful young adults.”

To learn more about joining the Fridley Police Explorers, contact Officer Shawn Murphy at (763) 238-7805 or Shawn.Murphy@FridleyMN.gov.



Before Hydrant



New Plug Hug Cleaner



Hydrant Cleaned with Solvent Prior to Primer and Paint



Painting Hydrant



Freshly Painted

Beautifying Fridley – One Hydrant at a Time

This summer we started painting the City’s 1,100 fire hydrants. Our new Plug Hug Fire Hydrant Cleaner is helping speed along these efforts by making fire hydrants “paint ready” in 2 minutes, a significant time saver from de-burring by hand. Hydrants will be descaled, cleaned, primed and a final top coat applied. The entire process takes about one hour per hydrant (longer for those requiring a green painted top to indicate a specific gallon per minute flow for certain hydrants).

Crews are working in specified areas based on hydrant conditions. We take all necessary steps to avoid any environmental impact or damage to the boulevards. If you have any questions, please call Public Works at (763) 572-3566.

Help Create a Place for Art in Fridley

Calling all Fridley residents with a visual eye and love of art! You are invited to help create a place that defines Fridley through beauty and creativity.

Jack Becker from Forecast Public Art kicked things off with an introduction and public meeting at the Fridley Community Center in July. The Banfill-Locke Center for the Arts took it from there with a reception to start brainstorming.

The timing is perfect for creative ideas as we look at the future of the former Columbia Arena site and how we, as a community, can create a place that captures the essence of our unique city. If you are interested in getting involved, contact (763) 572-3506.



18th Annual Art of Rice Creek Festival
 Saturday, September 17, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
 Banfill-Locke Center for the Arts
 6666 East River Road, Fridley

Everyone is welcome to attend this FREE event!

- Art Making
- Food
- Entertainment
- Artist Vendors
- Community Partners





Junior Leader, Claire Alexander, with Springbrook campers.

Fridley Junior Leaders

Last year, we had approximately 1,700 enrollments in Fridley’s ROCKS program, and a steady stream of new and returning campers to Springbrook. Each week brings new programs, new activities, new faces and new challenges. We could not do it without the energy and assistance of our Junior Leaders!

Fridley Junior Leaders are volunteers for our summer camps and summer ROCKS program. These young adults, ranging in age from 12 to 18, dedicate their time to helping us create a fun, positive and safe environment for children attending our programs.

Our ROCKS Junior Leaders start in grades 7 and 8 by enrolling in our Leaders in Training (LIT) program. They spend the summer training in areas of child care, first aid, problem-solving and leadership skills. They also learn basic professional development skills such as job hunting, completing job applications and interviewing. In addition, our LIT team plans and executes a community service project. LIT participants then have the opportunity to apply and interview the following summer as a Junior Leader

volunteer, and spend the summer having a blast as a role model to area youth. Along with qualified staff, Junior Leaders chaperone kids on field trips and help with a variety of activities including sports, crafts and creative play.

Our Springbrook Junior Leaders work alongside our Naturalists to teach campers through exploration of nature, science and creativity. They mentor campers during themed weeks like Zombie Survival Camp and the Superhero Training Academy. This summer, Springbrook had approximately 20 teen volunteers. Junior Leaders are a huge help to camp naturalists by assisting with craft preparations, camper supervision, and simply helping kids connect with each other and make new friends.

Junior Leaders for both the ROCKS program and Springbrook summer camps apply in early spring, usually mid-April. For more information on how you can get involved next summer, visit Springbrook online at SpringbrookNatureCenter.org or the City of Fridley at FridleyMN.gov/recreation.



Fridley Fire Explorers Head to the State Fair

If you are headed to the “Great Minnesota Get-Together,” don’t miss the Governor’s Fire Prevention Day on Friday, August 26.

This fun-filled, action-packed event offers families a chance to learn about fire-safe behavior, fire prevention, safe escape and the latest technological improvements in burn treatment and firefighting equipment.

The KSTP stage hosts the Fire Explorer Challenge all day. Come watch the Fridley Fire Explorers square off against other posts from around the state. Fire Explorers compete in 6 different events in which they are timed and judged, including:

- Ladder raising
- CPR
- Spinal mobilization
- Public presentation
- Vehicle extrication
- Building search and rescue

The Fridley Fire Explorer program introduces young adults, ages 14 to 21, to a career in firefighting. Explorers learn side-by-side from working firefighters. Each week, they participate in training drills, learn about fire equipment and how to use it, receive first aid and CPR training, ride along on real fire calls, attend community events, and gain real-world experience by shadowing firefighters on scheduled shifts.

The Fridley Fire Explorer program is open to youth in and around the area. Some youth join for the experience and opportunity to gain invaluable life-skills; others are specifically interested in exploring a career in firefighting. To learn more about Fire Explorers, give us a call at (763) 572-3613 or check us out online at FridleyMN.gov/FireExplorers.

LOOKING FOR NEW ZONE LEADERS!

It’s like a Student Council for the Zone!
Stop in for details!



NOW HIRING
Zone Youth Workers,
Ages 16 and older
Contact Cleve McCoy @
(763) 572-3576

New Hours for September
Grades 5 - 8, Monday-Friday: 3 – 5:45 p.m.
Grades 7 - 9, Fridays: 6 – 8:30 p.m.

No late Zone during
Fridley High School home football games.

Join us for End Zone Parties at every FHS football home game!



3 – 6 p.m. in the outdoor
(pending good weather)
Home Football Game Dates:
9/9, 9/23, 10/7, 10/19

Back to School at



The Zone is your place: air hockey, foosball, pool, video games, board games, or just hang out with friends. Daily admission is only \$1, payable at the door. We are in the lower level of the Fridley Community Center – come check it out!



'49er Days Explodes with Fun

Thanks for coming out to celebrate tradition and community at this year's Fridley '49er Days, held June 16-18. Despite some disappointing weather on Friday night, the festival brought together residents of all ages for a weekend of fun.

Thursday night's parade was a huge success with resident Steve Smuder leading the way as Grand Marshal. Crunch and the Minnesota Timberwolves danced in the streets, on top of a truck and with residents; marching bands filled the air with music; and ambassadors waved from royalty floats.

On Saturday, 25 kids battled the heat in a football clinic led by the St. Paul Pioneers, a semi-professional team which includes our own Rec Supervisor Cleve McCoy. The fun continued as kids jumped away in the bounce houses and inflatables, and enjoyed face painting, hair coloring, games, a Home Depot craft, and a kids DJ. They also spit their way to success at the watermelon eating and seed spitting contest, sponsored by Fridley CUB.

Police Officer Tom Roddy and his K-9 partner Jax wowed crowds with the talent of our K-9 unit and a demonstration of their service to the community. The

popular FHS All School Reunion gathered as Union Junction played an outstanding performance. The Lions Club had their beer wagon chilled and the Rotary offered a variety of wines.

"Our biggest, exciting addition to this year's festival was the Saturday night fireworks," says Sue Johnson, '49er Days Vice President. "It has been a long time since we had fireworks in Fridley."

One reason for the lack of a fireworks display in the past is due to the difficulty in finding the funds needed to put on a community festival. "Without the donations from local businesses and organizations, '49er Days would not exist," explains Johnson. Sponsors that made this year possible include Fridley Lions Club, Fridley American Legion, RAO Manufacturing, Xcel Energy and Otis Concessions. The '49er Days Committee also thanks Fridley Fire, Police, Public Works and Parks & Recreation for their help and participation in creating this great event.

The Fridley '49er Days Committee is volunteer run and always looking for help. If you are interested in getting involved in planning for 2017, contact Sue Johnson at recreation@FridleyMN.gov or (763) 572-3573.



Save the Date!

Annual Fridley Fire Open House

Saturday, October 8, 2016

Look for times and details on this popular event in our next newsletter and on our city website at FridleyMN.gov.



New Fire Engine Debuts at '49er Days Parade

Introducing Fridley's new Firetruck: the 2015 Rosenbauer Commander.

This beautiful vehicle took 11 months to complete the build. It provides seating for 5 firefighters, holds 500 gallons of water and 30 gallons of foam. (Foam is used at most structure fires to help get any deep seeded embers extinguished.)

Here are a few stats for our new engine:

- Length = 32'10"
- Weight = 47,000 lbs
- 350 HP Cummins ISL 9L motor
- Capable of flowing 1,500 GPM (gallons per minute)
- 100 ft 1½" hose
- 600 ft 1¾" hose
- 600 ft 2½" hose
- 800 ft 5" supply line



Fire Engine 2 also carries a full complement of hand and power tools. The black and red graphics continues our return to tradition. The Black over Red color scheme started years ago when the Chicago Fire Department bought red Ford Model T chief cars and the soft top only came in black. These colors return with our chief vehicles, response trailer and now Engine 2.

Our previous Fire Engine 2 was put in service in 1994. We expect this new engine to serve the City for the next 20-25 years.

THANK YOU for stepping out at this year's Night to Unite!

Look for a recap and pictures in our October newsletter.