



Hopkins Highlights

**March
2014**

Partnering with the community, enhancing the quality of life

Inspire • Educate • Involve • Communicate

2014 Citizens Academy

There is still time to sign up for this year's Citizens Academy. During this free, five-week course you will have an opportunity to:

- Participate in a felony traffic stop
- Learn how a firefighter prepares to fight fires
- Visit the water treatment plant
- And, new this year, go behind the scenes at the Hopkins Center for the Arts, Ice Arena and Activity Center

Classes are held at 6:30 pm on Thursdays beginning April 3. If you are interested in attending this year's Academy call Jim Genellie at 952-548-6303. 🍷



Housing Rehab Program

Are you thinking about making some improvements to your home? Did you know the City of Hopkins has a housing rehab program that might be able to help pay for your next home renovation? The program is funded by the City of Hopkins and administered by Hennepin County. Hopkins homeowners who reside in their homes may qualify for up to \$25,000 towards home repair, remodeling and improvements. Program eligibility is based on household income limits. For more information, contact Meg Beekman, Community Development Coordinator, at 952-548-6343 or visit www.hopkinsmn.com/home/building/loans.php. 🍷

Hopkins Center for the Arts Pilots New Program—Explorations with the Center

This new program will consist of workshops and "art about town" field trips for artists, art students and art lovers. The schedule for March and April is:

Saturday, March 22 | 9 am–3 pm | Splash Page! (1-day comic book workshop)

Hopkins Center for the Arts, 1111 Mainstreet

Registration Fee: \$40 (\$25 full-time student); Deadline: March 7 (call 952-979-1105).

Saturday, April 12 | 9:30 am–bus leaves Hopkins Center for the Arts | Art about Town: Minnesota Museum of Art tour

Registration Fee: \$38; Deadline: March 2 (call 952-979-1105).

For more information call 952-979-1105 or visit www.HopkinsArtsCenter.com. 🍷

Adopt a Fire Hydrant

A hydrant is a vital appliance in the role of firefighting. Hydrants not only provide water to our fire apparatus to suppress fires, but also water for decontamination of our emergency personnel during hazardous material responses. However, the hydrants are useless if we cannot reach them. Help us help the community by adopting a hydrant. Contact 952-548-6454 for more information. 🍷



Visioning Mainstreet Pecha Kucha

March 12, 6–9 pm | Hopkins Center for the Arts

Do you care about the future of Hopkins Mainstreet? If so, you are invited to the first Visioning Mainstreet Pecha Kucha. Pecha Whatcha? Pecha Kucha is a fast-paced style of presenting information on a variety of topics. Individuals have six minutes to pitch their ideas for Hopkins downtown—everything from food trucks to business incentives.

Then you will have an opportunity to ask questions, provide your thoughts and see which ideas rise to the top. 🍷

Experience the UPSIDE of AGING

Stay Active at the Hopkins Activity Center
Located at 33 - 14th Ave N in Hopkins. Call 952-939-1333 or email activitycenter@hopkinsmn.com with questions or to register.

🍷 Pickleball

Mondays, 1:30 pm; Tuesdays, 11:30 am; Wednesdays, 3:30 pm, and Thursdays, 5 pm.

Members free; Others \$2/time.

Players age 50+ are welcome to join in on the fastest growing sport in America. No experience necessary to play this exciting, easy to learn paddle game on two indoor courts. Try your first time free. Beginners welcome.

🍷 Get Pinning with Pinterest Class

Mondays, March 10 and 24, 9:30–10:30 am.

Members free; Others \$2.

Pinterest is a website that allows you to "pin" things online, just as you would pin them on a real life bulletin board. Pinterest helps you keep organized in topics of interest to you such as recipes, books, travel, projects and more. Volunteer Molly will help you set up an account, understand and use this fun and easy social networking site.

🍷 Know Before You Throw

Wednesday, March 12, 9:30 am.

Do you have any treasures in your attic? Bring your collectibles, and Cheryl from Hopkins Antique Mall will help you discover information about your special treasure. Call 952-939-1333 to register.

🍷 Facebook Review and Cell Phone Lab

Thursday, March 20.

Members Free; Others \$2. Call to register.

Noon: Get a taste of "Facebook," a free-access social networking website to connect to your family and friends.

1 pm: Flip phone users. **1:30 pm:** Smart phone users. Discover different areas of your phone so you can understand and use it better. Cell phone users from all wireless companies welcome.

Hopkins Center for the Arts Events

Empty Bowls Fundraiser

Tuesday, March 11, 11 am–7 pm

Join us for the 16th annual fundraiser for the ICA Food Shelf and ResourceWest. Choose from bowls created by local artists and students. Enjoy soup and bread with your neighbors, make a free will donation and more!





Hopkins Highlights

Refuse and Recycling

Recycling collection is March 10-13 and March 24-27, and takes place the same day as your refuse collection.

Report a Pothole

If you would like to report streets that need repair, visit the City website and click "Report a Pothole" in the Quick Links box or call Public Works at 952-939-1382.

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Upcoming Meetings

City Council Calendar

Wednesday, March 12, 6 pm

Visioning Mainstreet at the Hopkins Center for the Arts

Tuesday, March 18, 7 pm

Meeting

Tuesday, April 1, 7:05 pm

Meeting

Agendas and minutes can be found at www.hopkinsmn.com/council/meetings/. Watch City Council meetings live at www.hopkinsmn.com/council/video/.

Boards and Commissions Calendar

Monday, March 17, 6:30 pm

Park Board

Tuesday, March 25, 6:30 pm

Zoning and Planning Commission

Tuesday, April 1, 7 pm

Housing and Redevelopment Authority

Agendas and minutes found at www.hopkinsmn.com/boards/.

Cable Channel 16

City Council and Zoning and Planning Commission meetings can be seen on cable Channel 16 **live**. Meetings are replayed on Channel 16 at the following days and times:

Every day except Tues - 7 pm
Thurs - 2 pm and Sun - 1 pm

Elected Officials

Mayor
Eugene Maxwell
(952-935-5270)

City Council

Molly Cummings
Jason Gadd
Kristi Halverson
Cheryl Youakim

Buy a Brick Before March 31

This program gives you an opportunity to be a part of Hopkins history. You can purchase bricks with names imprinted that will be placed in the Clock Tower Plaza at the south-west corner of 9th and Mainstreet. For more information, visit the City website, call 952-939-1333 or stop by the Hopkins Activity Center, Hopkins City Hall or Hopkins Public Works. Order deadline is March 31.

Spring Bulk Drop-Off Event

Hopkins Spring Bulk Drop-Off will take place at Public Works (11100 Excelsior Blvd) on **Friday, April 25, 3-7 pm** and **Saturday, April 26, 9 am-4 pm**. Visit the City website for information on what will be accepted at the drop-off, or watch for the April Highlights, which will have more detailed information.

New American Academy

Tuesday, March 18, 6-9 pm | Hopkins Police Department

Join us to learn how you can work with Hopkins Police and get involved with your community. This will be a free educational workshop with free dinner and free childcare. For more information, contact Sonya Smith at 952-548-6428 or smsmith@hopkinsmn.com.

Pavilion Events



Drop-In Chess Training Tournaments

Sundays, Now-June 1. All ages welcome.
www.hopkinspavilion.com.

Turf Tots

Monday-Friday, Now-May 9, 9 am-2 pm.
No registration necessary. \$4/child.

Skyhawks Summer Sports Camp

Ages 4-12. Register now for weeklong camps.
www.hopkinspavilion.com.

Fire Hydrant Flushing Schedule

Public Works utility crews will be flushing fire hydrants throughout the community from April 7-25. **Flushing the hydrants may cause water discoloration problems.** Residents are cautioned against doing laundry—particularly whites—while crews are in the neighborhood. Unfortunately, it is not possible to determine where sediment or discoloration problems will occur.

April 7-11: Hydrants north of Excelsior Blvd and west of Hwy 169

April 14-18: Hydrants south of Excelsior Blvd and west of Hwy 169

April 21-25: Hydrants east of Hwy 169



Sewer Backups: What You Need to Know

If a property owner has reason to believe that there is a problem with their sewer service, the City should be notified immediately. The Public Works Department can be reached day or night at 952-939-1382 (weekdays 7:30 am-4 pm) or 763-525-6210 (weekends, holidays, and off-hours).

Prompt action in notifying the City may prevent damages to the home or business. The City will dispatch a Public Works employee to investigate the sewer main for problems and take action if appropriate. If the problem is found to be in the sanitary sewer service from the home or structure to the sewer main in the street, including the connection, it is the responsibility of the property owner.

Damage From Sewer Backups

Property owners should be aware of three points regarding sewer backups and resulting damage:

The City is not automatically liable for resulting damages whenever a sewer backs up. The City is liable only for damages if the backup was caused by the City's negligence.

Many property owner insurance policies exclude damage resulting from sewer backups. Property owners often look to the City to pay their damages when their own insurer denies their claim.

Some insurance companies do provide sewer backup coverage; therefore, it is possible for property owners to protect themselves against this risk.

Cleaning Your Sanitary Sewer

Please notify the Public Works Department if you hire a private contractor to clean your sanitary sewer service line. The City will check/clear the City's main service line for/of debris that could affect you or your neighbors' sanitary sewer service.

Questions? Call the Public Works Department at 952-939-1382.

Reason No. 9 to Buy Local

Competition

A marketplace of tens of thousands of small businesses is the best way to ensure innovation and low prices over the long-term.

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