



## COMMUNITY NEWS MARCH 2025

### Important Numbers

**City Hall** 515-279-3662

**Public Safety** 515-277-4453

**Emergencies** 911

### What's Inside

- Road Construction Update
- FD Association Easter Egg Hunt
- YMCA Summer Camp
- Compost It! Season Starting
- Recognize Your Veterans
- Council Meeting Recap

### Contact Council

#### Mayor Mike Jones

- [mike.jones@windsorheights.org](mailto:mike.jones@windsorheights.org)

#### Councilor Susan Skeries

- [susan.skeries@windsorheights.org](mailto:susan.skeries@windsorheights.org)

#### Councilor Joseph Jones

- [joseph.jones@windsorheights.org](mailto:joseph.jones@windsorheights.org)

#### Councilor Michael Libbie

- [michael.libbie@windsorheights.org](mailto:michael.libbie@windsorheights.org)

#### Councilor Lauren Campbell

- [lauren.campbell@windsorheights.org](mailto:lauren.campbell@windsorheights.org)

#### Councilor Threase Harms

- [tharms@windsorheights.org](mailto:tharms@windsorheights.org)

You can also scan [click here](#) to contact Council as well!



Mark your calendars for Saturday, April 20. We're planning something amazing for the full family to learn about and appreciate nature! Including; Stream Cleanup at Colby Park, free crafts, live raptor from SOAR, and more!

New this year will be the inclusion of the Walnut Creek Watershed Festival\* hosted by Polk County.

*\*The festival celebrates life in the Walnut Creek Watershed, promoting awareness of how residents can protect it, with activities and resources from local cities and organizations focused on water quality and quantity improvement.*

### 2025 MOVIES IN THE PARK

PRESENTED BY

## BOLTON & MENK

WINDSOR HEIGHTS  
the heart of it all

May 2nd	June 6th	August 1st	September 5th	October 3rd	December 6th

# FREE!



**WINDSOR HEIGHTS**  
the heart of it all

# Andy's Corner!

- As winter ends, everyone's favorite season is on the horizon. The season of, you guessed it, road work! The 73rd Street Road Reconstruction project will start again this month. The 68th Street Road Reconstruction Project is slated to also begin this March. Important details regarding these projects are included in this newsletter and are available on the City's website.
- Road work is understandably inconvenient; however, the outcomes of these projects result in a much safer road network and provide for necessary improvements to the infrastructure above and below ground that will last a long time into the future. Please keep in mind that short-term pain is worth the long-term gain! Thank you for your support in these projects.
- Outside of the large reconstruction projects forthcoming, the Public Works Department will be working on road and storm sewer projects all throughout town this year. These projects include pavement preservation, pavement rehabilitation, and storm sewer intake replacements.
- Reminder that the Storm Water Best Management Practices Program is available again this year. Windsor Heights is committed to increasing water quality and decreasing run-off, which collect contaminants that eventually lead directly into our water ways. Visit the Public Works Department on the City's website for more information about the program and reimbursement rates.
- Here are some other projects our crew has been hard at work completing:
  - ◇ Building and Grounds Interior Maintenance
  - ◇ Continued work on the Urban Forestry Maintenance Program along The Windsor Trail weather permitting
  - ◇ Clearing log jams in North Walnut Creek
  - ◇ Storm Sewer Cleaning and Televising



## Pardon Our Mess

**68th St. Reconstruction:** Work on 68th St. between University Ave. and School St. is set to begin on March 31st, starting at School St. The intersection of 68th St. and School St. will experience intermittent closures during the first stage of reconstruction. Please use 69th St. for access to Colby Park throughout the spring and early summer. The project will be completed in three stages and is expected to finish by the end of the year.

**73rd St. Reconstruction:** Work on 73rd St. between University Ave. and Jefferson Ave. will resume on March 17th, beginning just north of University Ave. Businesses along 73rd St. will remain accessible. Construction in front of Clive Learning Academy will take place during summer break, followed by work between Del Matro and City Wide Heating & A/C in the fall. The project aims for substantial completion by year-end contingent on weather and other factors.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation during these improvements! Weekly Project Updates Are Available at [www.windsorheights.org/489/Project-Updates](http://www.windsorheights.org/489/Project-Updates)

## YMCA Hosting Summer Camp at Colby Park

In the summer of 2025, Walnut Creek YMCA will host a camp at Colby Park from June 9 to August 15, operating daily from 7 AM to 6 PM. As part of the park utilization agreement, registration is temporarily open exclusively to Windsor Heights residents, who will also receive a \$10 per week discount.

Please note that Colby Park will remain open to the public during the camp. Primary camp activities will take place in the open space around the park, with the playground and splash pad remaining accessible to all visitors. We hope this partnership provides Windsor Heights parents with an affordable and convenient summer care option for their children.

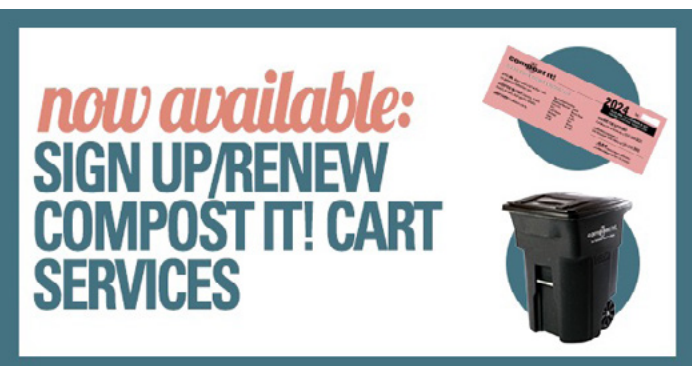
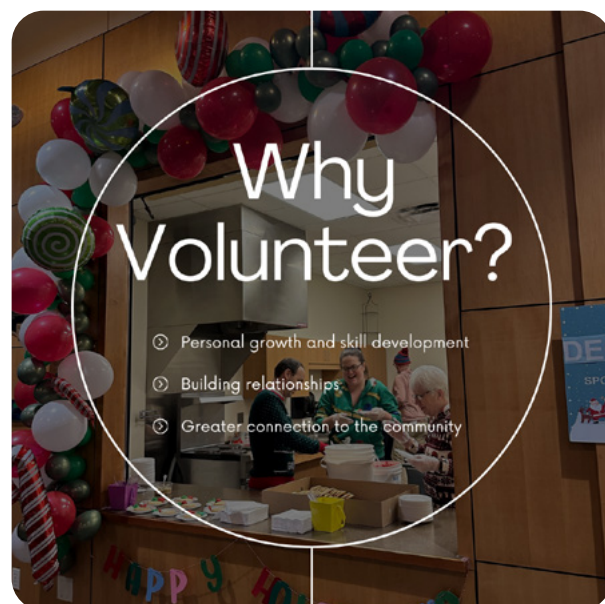
For more info, visit [www.dmymca.org/child-care-camp/summer-day-camp](http://www.dmymca.org/child-care-camp/summer-day-camp)



Have you ever wondered how the City puts on events such as Fall Fest or Movies in the Park? Or thought to yourself how you could be more involved in your community? The answer is simple. Volunteer!

Through the simple act of volunteering, you are able to support the amazing FREE events the City hosts while also meeting neighbors and deepening your roots in the community. We also occasionally have opportunities to sit on city committees that provide valuable resident feedback when the City is making important decisions.

To see what opportunities are currently open and sign up to be notified when opportunities are available, [click here!](#)



Enjoy the convenience of wheeling yard waste to the curb each week during the Compost It! collection season starting March 31.

Learn more at [www.mwatoday.com](http://www.mwatoday.com) or call Metro Waste Authority at 515-244-0021. Cart renewal or sign up is not available through City Hall. However, yard waste bag stickers are available for purchase at City Hall.

## Talk With Officials!

Talk with Officials is a forum designed to connect residents with State, County, and City elected officials representing Windsor Heights. The Talk with Officials event is open to the public and will be held Saturday, March 29 at 8:30 AM in the Aisha R. Syed Board Room at 2830 100th St, Ste 110 in Urbandale. Connect with Representative Jennifer Konfrst, Senator Claire Celsi, Polk County Supervisor Matt McCoy, and Mayor Mike Jones. Registration is required, and in-person registration is limited. Virtual attendance is unlimited; however, registration is still required to receive the Zoom link. Register today by [clicking here!](#)

Questions will be accepted in advance. If time allows, questions will be accepted from in-person and virtual attendees. To submit a question for the elected officials to answer, please email [tmenke@urbandalechamber.com](mailto:tmenke@urbandalechamber.com) on or before March 28.



We are gathering photographs of Windsor Heights Veterans for patriotic pole banners. We plan to display these images each year in recognition of Veterans Day and Independence Day.

The banners will include photos and the info to the right. Submit via email to [specialevents@windsorheights.org](mailto:specialevents@windsorheights.org). If you have already submitted, please resubmit. Previous submissions were lost due to technology issues. Thank you for your service!

**Please include the following with your photograph:**

First and Last Name  
Military Branch  
Years of Service  
Any awards or medals

## How's Our Newsletter?

Share your comments and suggestions or ask a question! Email City Clerk Adam Strait at [astrait@windsorheights.org](mailto:astrait@windsorheights.org) or call 515-279-3662

# AT YOUR LIBRARY

## Featured Event: Authors Visiting in Des Moines (AVID)

The Des Moines Public Library's AVID series is back for 2025! We have six fantastic authors coming to Des Moines this year during this annual celebration of reading and the community. Mark your calendars for these great events, and learn more about each event at [dmpl.org/avid](https://dmpl.org/avid).

The first three lined up this year include:

**Saturday, March 22: C.J. Box at the DSM Book Festival 4:30 PM | Franklin Event Center, 4801 Franklin Ave.**


C.J. Box is the New York Times bestselling author of 30 novels including the award-winning Joe Pickett series. Box has won several awards, including the Edgar Award for Best Novel and the Barry Award.

**Thursday, April 3: Amina Luqman-Dawson 6:30 PM | Central Library**

Amina Luqman-Dawson is the Newbery Medal and Coretta Scott King Award-winning and bestselling author of *Freewater*, a historical middle-grade novel about two enslaved children's escape from a plantation and the many ways they find freedom.

**Monday, April 21: David Baldacci 7 PM | Franklin Event Center, 4801 Franklin Ave.**

David Baldacci is a global #1 bestselling author, and one of the world's favorite storytellers. His books are published in over 45 languages and in more than 80 countries, with 150 million copies sold worldwide.




**2025 PET  
LICENSE  
OPEN**

**Register by March 31  
to avoid late fees**

Spayed/Neutered - \$20  
Unfixed - \$30

[CLICK  
HERE](#)



## 2/17/25 City Council Meeting Recap

- Fire Chief Jim Mease officiated the promotion pinning of Fire Lieutenant Brian Jones. Jones' wife was present to pin him.
- Liz Lidgett presented the draft of the City's Public Art Plan. She outlined the purpose, goals, priorities, and next steps of the plan. Staff will continue to work with Liz to finalize the plan.
- Jim Mease with Michael Kulik and Rob DenHartog, both representatives of the Knights of Columbus, proposed the installation of a Safe Haven Baby Box at the Public Safety Building. A climate-controlled and heavily monitored device that allows for the safe surrender of an infant. The Knights will fundraise for the cost of installation. Council approved the proposal. Staff will work with the Knights to finalize the plans and the timeline of installation.
- Immediately following the regular meeting, Council moved into a budget work session to discuss the proposed FY26 Budget presented by Finance Director Rachelle Swisher.

## 2/3/25 City Council Meeting Recap

- The Greater Des Moines Partnership, Des Moines Children's Museum, Windsor Heights Chamber of Commerce, and Windsor Heights Foundation presented the positive impacts they have made on the community, while requesting funding from the city to support the continuation of their missions.
- The public hearing for the 68th Street South Reconstruction project was held, and the plans, specifications, contract, and estimated total cost were approved. Shekar Engineering was awarded the contract. Pre-construction meetings will begin shortly, and additional information will be provided to residents.
- Finance Director Rachelle Swisher presented the proposed FY26 budget to the Council, highlighting key changes and upcoming project funding. Additionally, department heads provided details on anticipated equipment expenses.