

# The City Focus

Official Newsletter for the City of Colonial Heights



Fall 2020

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Larry Tipton

[www.colonialheightsva.gov](http://www.colonialheightsva.gov)

# City of Colonial Heights Council Members

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kochubag@colonialheightsva.gov



**Elizabeth G. Luck**  
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lucke@colonialheightsva.gov

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(804)520-9360

## Contact the City Manager



**Douglas E. Smith**  
City Manager  
City Hall  
201 James Avenue  
smithd@colonialheightsva.gov  
(804) 520-9265

## COUNCIL COLUMN



**Michael A. Cherry**  
Councilman  
cherrym@colonialheightsva.gov

Well, citizens of Colonial Heights, welcome to another exciting edition of the City Focus. To say that this year has been unique, well that would be an understatement.

The challenges of the global pandemic that is COVID-19 have even reached into our tiny little hamlet. We are still getting numbers and though it was bad for our economy, it could have been worse. We saw a drop in several of our revenue sources but those have been coming back as of late. The city has tightened its belt, and put off several projects that had been scheduled, to ensure that we have the revenue to operate and provide the critical services for you, our citizens.

Our Police and Fire/EMS departments have worked tirelessly during this entire pandemic and have served us all very well. Please take the time to say thank you if you see an officer or firefighter out and about the city. They put their lives on the line daily to serve us and a “thank you” is the least we can offer them. The city was able to give a small bonus to them through the CARES act funding that the city received from the Federal government. No one was more deserving than they were to receive that bonus for all the hard work and long hours - well done to both departments. Chief Jeff Faries and Chief Wayne Hoover, thank you for your leadership during these critical days. We are blessed to have you lead our most critical departments.

With November quickly approaching, it’s time to start thinking about the coming elections. There will be some changes on the council this election cycle. Councilman Kenny Frenier and Councilman Joe Green are hanging up their name plates and not running for election this fall. They have served the city well and we will miss their leadership and dedication; that means there are a few new faces to consider as to who will represent you this fall. There are several good candidates and I highly recommend you get to know them and their thoughts on the direction of the city. Never more than now, is it critical that we have great leadership in our city.

Well that about wraps up my time with you today. I want to remind you that we on Council are here to represent you. Please bring your thoughts and concerns to us that may impact or benefit you and your neighborhoods. As a Council, we always want to be available to listen to your concerns, and take actions to resolve them as best we can and within our means. Be blessed and we look forward to continuing to serve you.

No Wax,  
Michael Cherry



## On the Cover.....

Thank you to Larry Tipton for submitting this Fall themed picture for this edition of the City Focus. This picture was taken along the Appomattox River Trail. This river trail is a paved walking/biking path that follows the Appomattox River from Roslyn Landing Park to the newly completed trail section ending at Appamatuck Park. The Appomattox River Trail is nearly 2 miles in length and is open year round from dawn to dusk.

<b>Sept 1</b>	<b>Planning Commission</b> 7:00 pm, - Council Chambers
<b>Sept 7</b>	<b>City Holiday - Labor Day</b>
<b>Sept 8</b>	<b>City Council Regular Meeting</b> 7:00 pm - Council Chambers
<b>Sept 15</b>	<b>City Council Special Meeting</b> 6:00 pm - Council Chambers ( <i>tentative</i> )
<b>Oct 6</b>	<b>Planning Commission (<i>tentative</i>)</b> 7:00 pm - Council Chambers
<b>Oct 12</b>	<b>City Holiday - Columbus Day</b>
<b>Oct 13</b>	<b>City Council Regular Meeting</b> 7:00 pm - Council Chambers
<b>Oct 20</b>	<b>City Council Special Meeting</b> 6:00 pm - Council Chambers ( <i>tentative</i> )
<b>Nov 4</b>	<b>Planning Commission (<i>tentative</i>)</b> 7:00 pm - Council Chambers
<b>Nov 10</b>	<b>City Council Regular Meeting</b> 7:00 pm - Council Chambers
<b>Nov 11</b>	<b>City Holiday - Veteran's Day</b>
<b>Nov 17</b>	<b>City Council Special Meeting</b> 6:00 pm - Council Chambers ( <i>tentative</i> )
<b>Nov 26&amp;27</b>	<b>City Holiday - Thanksgiving Holiday</b>
<b>Dec 2</b>	<b>Planning Commission (<i>tentative</i>)</b> 7:00 pm - Council Chambers
<b>Dec 8</b>	<b>City Council Regular Meeting</b> 7:00 pm - Council Chambers
<b>Dec 15</b>	<b>City Council Special Meeting</b> 6:00 pm - Council Chambers ( <i>tentative</i> )
<b>Dec 24&amp;25</b>	<b>City Holiday - Christmas Holiday</b>

## **CITY OF COLONIAL HEIGHTS COVID-19 UPDATES AND IMPORTANT CITY INFORMATION**

City of Colonial Heights City offices and buildings are now OPEN to the public during regular office hours. We want to encourage our residents and the community to continue practicing social distancing and to please wear a mask when entering our facilities for your safety and the safety of others.

**Colonial Heights Courthouse:** For more information on court operations please visit the following website: <http://www.courts.state.va.us/main.htm>

For assistance with City Services, please call:

- City offices as listed on the back of this Newsletter, or
- The City's Citizens Assistance Line at (804) 520-9266 from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday.

To Pay a Bill: We want to encourage you to continue to pay your bills either:

- Online by visiting <http://www.colonialheightsva.gov/819/Pay-Online>, or
- By placing your payment in the large white DROP BOX that is located in the City Hall Parking Lot.

\*Note: Payments are being accepted inside City Hall, however, a limited number of people will be allowed entry to offices in order to maintain safe social distancing protocol. When visiting City Hall and other City facilities, we encourage everyone to wear a mask for your safety and the safety of others.

As your City Government, we are all working hard to maintain communication and full transparency with each Colonial Heights resident during COVID-19. Our information and updates are distributed through our Website ([www.ColonialHeightsVA.gov](http://www.ColonialHeightsVA.gov)) along with our Facebook Page (<https://www.facebook.com/colonialheightsva>) and Instagram (CityofColonialHeights).

We highly encourage each resident to sign up online for our city notifications by visiting the following links:

**NOTIFY ME:** City News Notifications/Updates: News, Community Spotlight, City Events and Meeting Notifications

<http://www.colonialheightsva.gov/list.aspx?Mode=Subscribe#newsFlash> (Through this you can receive all of our news updates and community spotlight notices as well as meeting notices, etc.) through email, text, and phone.

**EMERGENCY ALERTS:** City Notification System (CivicReady) <https://www.colonialheightsva.gov/918/CivicReady-Notifications> (Through this link you can sign up for all of our Emergency Alerts, Weather Notices, Closures, etc.)

### **Important Additional COVID-19 Data and Highlights**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) have many resources available for citizens to learn more about the novel coronavirus known as COVID-19. Please visit these main sites for the most up-to-date information:

- CDC Main COVID-19 Site (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>)
- VDH Main COVID-19 Site & VDH Current Presumptive Positive Case Status in Virginia (<http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/surveillance-and-investigation/novel-coronavirus/>)
- CDC COVID-19 Videos (YouTube Channel Playlist) (<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLvvp9iOILTQaJa78zFQ0QgvShQ2HEwHxP>)
- Public Library Curbside Service: While the Library is open to the public, Residents can still utilize the curbside service to request books, audiobooks and movies for all ages by visiting <http://www.colonialheightsva.gov/FormCenter/Library-6-6/Book-Request-Form-71-71> and completing the request form or by calling the library at (804)520-9384. Patrons will be notified when the requested items are ready for pickup.
- Recreation and Parks Department Activities and Senior Services: <http://www.colonialheightsva.gov/AlertCenter.aspx?AID=200>

# FROM THE BILLING & COLLECTIONS DEPARTMENT

## FALL 2020 - IMPORTANT DATES

### Real Estate Taxes (due November 16)

- November 16, 2020, the 2nd half of 2020 Real Estate Taxes are due. In order to avoid penalty and interest, these taxes must be paid by November 16, 2020. Failure to receive a tax bill does not relieve the taxpayer from any late charges. Please mail or bring your bill with you when making payment. The DROP BOX is also available for payments. If receipt is needed, please provide a self-addressed stamped envelope. If you prefer to pay by credit card, you may visit the City website at [www.colonialheightsva.gov/epayments](http://www.colonialheightsva.gov/epayments).

### Personal Property Taxes (due December 7)

- December 7, 2020, the 2nd half of 2020 Personal Property Taxes are due. In order to avoid penalty and interest, these taxes must be paid by this date. Failure to receive a tax bill does not relieve the taxpayer from any late charges. Please mail or bring your bill with you when making payment. Please pay all Personal Property taxes by due date to avoid a Vehicle Registration Stop being placed at DMV.

### Drop Box Payments

- The white DROP BOX located in the City Hall Parking Lot is also available for all payments. If receipt is needed, please provide a self-addressed stamped envelope.

ALL checks should be made payable to "CITY OF COLONIAL HEIGHTS"

Sheila S. Minor, Director of Finance  
City of Colonial Heights  
Billing & Collections  
P. O. Box 3401  
201 James Ave.  
Colonial Heights, VA 23834-9001

### Online Payments

- If you prefer to pay by credit card, you may visit the City website at [www.colonialheightsva.gov/epayments](http://www.colonialheightsva.gov/epayments).

## Training at the Emergency Communications Center To Better Serve You

The Colonial Heights Emergency Communications Center (CHECC) answers numerous 9-1-1 and administrative lines every day. Communications Officers also enter court and magistrate paperwork, monitor radio traffic for police, fire, and EMS, and manage several other alerting services. So when do Communications Officers have time to train? Training allows employees to acquire new skills, sharpen existing ones, perform better, increase productivity and be better leaders.

At the CHECC, we have a tradition of "Sunday Training". Every Sunday that each particular shift works, a topic is chosen and reviewed. Many times the topic is chosen a week or more in advance and the "trainer" for that session makes worksheets, power points, and/or cheat sheets for their respective shift. This training allows us to review call types and policies that are not used as often, that way when they do occur, we can be as up-to-date and prepared as possible to handle the situation.

## New Financial System to Bring Changes

Customers will see new bill formats, payment options

For the past two years, City staff have been working behind the scenes to procure, select, and implement a new, comprehensive financial system for the City. Several of the City's existing systems are over 20 years old, and don't offer modern and efficient online services.

This new software and the related equipment will handle multiple City functions, including real estate and personal property tax administration; utility billing; miscellaneous billing; collections; business license, meals, and lodging taxes; financial administration; purchasing; and human resources and payroll. Huge changes like this must be implemented in phases, and the first phases were implemented in July and August with real estate and personal property taxes and utility bills. Financial administration, human resources and payroll, and purchasing will be implemented in 2021.

Citizens will notice the following changes:

- A new look to utility bills, including color formatting, consumption history graphs, and a letter-sized bill in an envelope rather than the current mailer. The bill will be perforated so customers can tear off the bottom and return it to us with payment.
- A new look and feel to online payments. Customers will be able to look up their bills, pay online with credit and debit cards (Visa, Mastercard, Discover) or e-Checks.
- Modified convenience (credit/debit card) fees for transactions other than utility bills. During the covid-19 state of emergency, credit card fees have been waived, however, under normal conditions, the convenience fee was 3% for on-line transactions. When convenience fees are re-instated, the City will be reducing the convenience fee for various categories of transactions (besides Recreation and Parks payments), which will apply to online transactions as well as in-person, over-the-counter transactions.
- No fees on utility bill payments or e-checks. The City will not charge convenience fees for paying utility bills online or in person, and e-checks online will be free of charge, giving customers a free option for online payment.
- Coming soon, customers will have the ability to have utility bills directly debited from their bank account. If you would like to take advantage of this service, contact the utility billing office at (804)520-9288, for a form.

Our staff is excited to offer these enhancements, but we have been doing a lot of work to get this new system up and running! Thank you for your patience as we continue to work out any issues with putting this new system to work.

# Colonial Heights Recreation and Parks Department

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00am - 5:00pm

P.O. Box 3401 / 901 Meridian Avenue

Colonial Heights, VA 23834

[www.colonialheightsva.gov/recandparks](http://www.colonialheightsva.gov/recandparks)

Recreation and Parks Office (804)520-9390  
 Senior Activities & Classes (804)520-9220  
 Senior Transportation (804)520-9219  
 Office on Youth & Human Svcs (804)520-9286  
 Weather Cancellation Line (804)524-8788  
 Violet Bank Museum (804)520-9395



## Fall Youth Soccer

Ages: 4-17

Registration for 2020 Fall youth soccer leagues is underway at [www.colonialheightssoccer.com](http://www.colonialheightssoccer.com). Players from all localities are welcome for an additional \$5 per player fee. All games and practices will take place at the Soccer Complex behind the Colonial Heights Library. 1st time registrants are required to show proof of age. You must register by August 31st to guarantee a spot on a team and to receive a uniform if needed. Practices will begin in September and games will be played on Saturdays starting late-September. For more information email [chsainformation@gmail.com](mailto:chsainformation@gmail.com).

Fees: \$40; ages 6U  
 \$60; ages 8U-12U  
 \$80; ages 14U-18U  
 \$160; Cross-Assoc ages 10U-12U  
 \$185; Cross-Assoc ages 14U-19U

*Registration fees include the uniform.*

## Youth Basketball Registration

Ages: 5-15 (as of 1/1/2021)

Registration for 2020 youth basketball leagues will begin on October 5, 2020. The deadline to register is November 6. To register you must be a City of Colonial Heights resident. Practices begin will begin in November. Fee: \$20 until November 6; \$30 after November 6 and as space permits, children registered after November 6 may be placed on a waiting list.

### Coed:

Instructional League ages 5-6  
 Instructional League ages 7-8

### Boys:

U10 League ages 9-10  
 U12 League ages 11-12  
 U15 League ages 13-15

### Girls:

U10 League ages 9-10  
 U12 League ages 11-12  
 U15 League ages 13-15

## Register by Mail

To register by mail, send your registration form with check to:

Colonial Heights Recreation and Parks  
 P.O. Box 3401  
 Colonial Heights, VA 23834

## Register in Person

To register in-person, please visit our office, Monday - Friday 8:00am-5:00pm:

Recreation and Parks Office  
 Shepherd Stadium  
 901 Meridian Avenue  
 Colonial Heights, VA 23834

## Register Over the Phone

Call the office at (804)520-9390 during office hours to register. All phone-in registrants are responsible for signing a waiver form and returning it to the Recreation office before the first class.

## Register Online

To register online, please visit us online at [www.colonialheightsva.gov/recandparks](http://www.colonialheightsva.gov/recandparks) and click the Recreation Programs link.

## After Hours Dropbox

We have a Drop Box for after hours collection of registrations, payments and uniforms; located in front of the Community Center at 157 Roanoke Ave. Checks only, please do not place cash in the dropbox.

## Payment Options

The Recreation Dept accepts Cash, Check, money order and major Credit Cards. Please make checks payable to:

"City of Colonial Heights". \$50 fee may apply for returned checks.

## Connect with Us On Social Media...



## Youth Football & Cheer Covid-19 Announcement

With the recent announcements from the Virginia High School League and the cancellation of Fall sports in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, to include High School Football, we have made the very difficult decision to cancel our Youth Tackle Football and Cheerleading Program this year.

At this time our local league, the Chesterfield Quarterback League, will not be offering a tackle football program this Fall. They are exploring options for a non-contact flag football program with no decision made at this point.

Please stay up to date with any changes on our Facebook page and website. You may contact us at (804)520-9391 with any questions.

## Youth Winter Sports

We are continuing to monitor the COVID-19 situation and hope to offer Winter Sports programs. We will accept registration for basketball, and if unable to conduct the program, all registrants will receive a full refund.

Please continue to check our Facebook page and website for updated information as it becomes available.

### COVID-19 and #ResponsibleRecreation

We all play a part in keeping one another safe. Follow these steps to recreate responsibly:

Separate Yourself and Honor the 6-Foot Social Distance Rule for Others

Stay Away from Parks and Recreation Areas if You are Sick or Have Symptoms

Help Keep Your Parks Clean: Practice the "Pack In and Pack Out" Etiquette

Please Wear a Life Jacket When In, On, or Near the Water

US Army Corps of Engineers

# Classes & Activities

# Therapeutic

## Mess Makers

Ages 2-5

Mess Makers, a program designed for young ones to get down and dirty with different sensory objects, textures and smells. Children are able to squish and squeeze different materials with parents while also expressing their imaginations. Parents are encouraged to participate with their little one!

Mo 10/5-10/26 11:00am-12:00pm  
 \$20 Community Center

## Belly Dancing

Ages 13+

This class is designed to teach the traditional Cabaret Style belly dancing while providing an excellent cardio workout that strengthen your core and your abdominal and lower body muscles. All shapes, sizes, and fitness levels are welcome.

Th 9/3-9/24 6:00pm-7:00pm  
 Th 10/1-10/22 6:00pm-7:00pm  
 Th 10/29-11/19 6:00pm-7:00pm  
 \$30 Community Center

## Family Night Pumpkin Carving

All Ages

Join us for some family fun at the Colonial Heights Community Center on Thursday, October 29th from 6:30pm-8pm for our family pumpkin carving night. All of the pumpkins, tools and decorations will be provided and each pumpkin cost \$10.00. Let us worry about the mess! Families are encouraged to pre-register but cash or check payments will be accepted at the door. First-come, first served for night of registration. Parents are encouraged to stay with their children!

Th 10/29 6:30pm-8:00pm  
 \$10 Community Center

Therapeutic Recreation (TR) uses recreational activities (such as art, games or dance) to help people with disabilities to improve their physical, cognitive and social skills. For example, doing a craft activity might help a child to build fine motor skills, while also giving them an opportunity to think creatively and have fun with peers.

Colonial Heights Recreation and Parks offers a series of new programs for those with special needs ranging but not limited to intellectual, physical, emotional or developmental disabilities.

These activities will be offered to help enhance their recreation interests and participation. Each activity is held on Wednesday from 5:30-7pm; prior to the activity the participant must register and complete a participant profile. The participant profile can be found online on our website or can be emailed per request. *Activity schedules are subject to change\**

## Volunteers Wanted

If you are someone that is interested in working with and learning about those with special needs then we would love to have you as a Therapeutic Recreation volunteer. Our TR volunteers are needed in our Wednesday night activity sessions listed below. Prior to the start of class we have an informational meeting to discuss class goals, diagnosis of potential participants and we also engage in team building activities with other staff members. If you are interested in volunteering please email Shamiya Taylor-Bland at [blands@colonialheightsva.gov](mailto:blands@colonialheightsva.gov) for more information.

## Fall Classes ( All Ages ) - Community Center

We	9/2	Culture Art	\$3	5:30pm-7:00pm
We	9/9	Healing Sounds Music Therapy	\$10	5:30pm-7:00pm
We	9/16	Paint and Sip	\$3	5:30pm-7:00pm
We	9/23	Ceramics	\$3	5:30pm-7:00pm
We	9/30	NO CLASS		
We	10/7	Healing Sounds Music Therapy	\$10	5:30pm-7:00pm
We	10/14	BINGO	\$3	5:30pm-7:00pm
We	10/21	Paint to the Music	\$3	5:30pm-7:00pm
We	10/28	Halloween Party	\$5	5:30pm-7:00pm
We	11/4	Sensory Coloring	\$3	5:30pm-7:00pm
We	11/11	Healing Sounds Music Therapy	\$10	5:30pm-7:00pm
We	11/18	Thanksgiving Crafts	\$3	5:30pm-7:00pm
We	11/25	NO CLASS		



## Announcement About Fall and Winter Special Events

We are continuing to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic and the corresponding restrictions being placed on large gatherings. At this time no decision has been made on upcoming Fall and Winter events to include the Halloween in the Park event and the Colonial Heights Christmas Parade. While we are hopeful we can still hold these popular events, current restrictions will not allow us to do so. Our staff is working on other options for events that we feel can be produced with the safety of participants, vendors, and our staff as a priority.

As we move into the Fall months we will make announcements concerning the status of our Fall events. Please check the City's website, as well as the Recreation & Parks Facebook page for updates concerning upcoming events and programs. You can also visit the City website and sign up to receive notifications from the City concerning events and other City alerts. Please see Page 7 for details about signing up for the Notify Me alerts.

# Senior Center

## Senior Center

The Senior Citizen Center is adjacent to the Community Building at 157 Roanoke Avenue. It is open Monday through Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. The Center is open to adults 50 years of age and older who are City Residents. All Senior Citizen programs are FREE unless noted.

Visit the Senior Center's website at [www.colonialheightsva.gov/261/Senior-Center](http://www.colonialheightsva.gov/261/Senior-Center) for a full listing of programs and activities. The website is updated each month with a full monthly calendar listing of programs, trips and special activities. You may also call the Center at (804)520-9220 for information on upcoming activities.

## Senior Transportation

Hours of Operation are Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (With services being provided from 8:15 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.) and Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (With services being provided from 8:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.).

Service is available only to Colonial Heights residents who are at least 60 years of age, and adult special needs or handicapped Colonial Heights residents. Transportation will be available to and from any Colonial Heights destination. Also, for medical appointments only, to and from Petersburg, Hopewell and the Puddledock Road area of Prince George County. Registration for services is required and is available by calling Senior Transportation at (804)520-9219. Appointments must be made at least 24 hours in advance. There are no fees for transportation services, but donations are accepted.

## Activity & Fitness Monthly Class Schedule

### Monday

8:30am Muscles in Motion  
 9:30am Tai Chi (*Library*)  
 9:30am Total Body Strength  
 10:00am Strength & Stretch  
 11:00am Pickle Ball (*Swift Creek Baptist*)  
 11:00am Balance Basics  
 1:00pm Adult Coloring  
 4:00pm Beginners Sewing (*sign-up \$12*)

### Tuesday

8:30am Yoga  
 9:30am Tap Dancin' Grannies  
 10:00am Sit & Let's Get Fit  
 11:00am Meditation  
 1:00pm Bingo  
 3-6pm Quilts for Vets (*Last Tue*)  
 3:00pm Open Sew (*1st, 2nd & 3rd Tues*)

### Wednesday

8:30am Muscles in Motion  
 9:30am Total Body Strength  
 10:00am Strength & Stretch  
 11:00am Pickle Ball (*Swift Creek Baptist*)  
 11:00am Line Dancing  
 12:30pm Bridge

### Thursday

9:00am Yoga  
 10:00am Sit & Let's Get Fit  
 1:15pm Senior Citizens Club Mtg.  
 2:00pm Watercolor

### Friday

11:00am Pickle Ball (*Swift Creek Baptist*)  
 1:00pm Scrabble  
 1:00pm Computer Class (*sign up*)  
 5:30pm Open Paint

# Violet Bank Museum

## Crafty Kids: Make & Take Activities

Ages 5-11

Join Violet Bank Museum staff and volunteers for these make and take craft activities. Children will be provided all the supplies needed and can take home their projects. Register online at [colonialheightsva.gov/recandparks](http://colonialheightsva.gov/recandparks), at Shepherd Stadium, or over the phone at (804)520-9390.

### Icicle Tree Ornaments

Your child aged 5 to 11 will love this craft activity as glue and glitter transform dried okra pods into fantastic icicles to hang on the Christmas tree. All supplies provided to complete two icicles. Activity limited to 10 participants.

Saturday 11/7 1:00pm-2:00pm  
 \$5 Violet Bank Museum

### Gum Drop Christmas Trees

An old-fashioned favorite that is sure to please! Kids ages 5 to 11 will create a sweet Christmas tree using gum drops, all supplies provided to complete one tree.. Activity limited to 10 participants.

Saturday 11/14 1:00pm-2:00pm  
 \$5 Violet Bank Museum

## Let's Get Crafty

Ages 12+

Join Violet Bank Museum staff and volunteers for these craft activities. Participants will be provided all the supplies needed and can take home their projects. Register online at [colonialheightsva.gov/recandparks](http://colonialheightsva.gov/recandparks), at Shepherd Stadium, or over the phone at (804)520-9390.

### Okra Santa Ornament

Participants will paint a dried okra pod into a quirky Santa Claus. The finished ornaments can be tied onto gift packages, displayed on a wreath or tabletop and even hung on the Christmas tree. All supplies provided to complete two Santa ornaments. Activity limited to 10 participants.

Saturday 11/7 3:00pm-4:30pm  
 \$5 Violet Bank Museum

### Orange & Clove Pomanders

All supplies provided in this activity to create two lovely orange and clove pomanders with ideas given on how to display the completed items. This activity is limited to 10 participants.

Saturday 11/14 3:00pm-4:30pm  
 \$5 Violet Bank Museum



**SIGN UP ONLINE TODAY:**  
 Visit [www.colonialheightsva.gov](http://www.colonialheightsva.gov) and  
 click on the homepage Community  
 Spotlight Links to get started!

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**&**  
Notify Me

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We are encouraging ALL residents to sign up for both of our notification systems!

- **Civic Ready:** Water Outages, Significant Emergency Events (thunderstorms, tornadoes, hurricanes, or other widespread events).
- **Notify Me Alert Center:** Choose what City information is important to you! City Events, Meetings, and other Important City Alerts.

For assistance please call (804)520-9265.

# Youth & Human Services

The Office on Youth and Human Services offers programs for youth and families who reside in Colonial Heights. Please follow us on Facebook or view our information at <https://www.colonialheightsva.gov/267/Youth-Human-Services>.

## The Youth Advisory Council

(YAC) is a leadership organization for teens in grades 6-12. YAC works with members of City Council and the Youth Services Commission to identify, address, and resolve issues that affect teens. Our overall goal is to instill a sense of pride in and around Colonial Heights and encourage responsible citizenship. Members serve the community in a variety of worthwhile and fun community service projects. Teens interested in membership are encouraged to apply. Download the [Y.A.C. Application](https://www.colonialheightsva.gov/349/Youth-Advisory-Council) at <https://www.colonialheightsva.gov/349/Youth-Advisory-Council> or visit the Office on Youth in City Hall. For more information, please call 520-9286.

## The Youth Services Commission

(YSC) is a fifteen member advisory board appointed by the Colonial Heights City Council. The Commission provides for continuing study of the needs and problems of youth; coordinates a network of existing youth services; facilitates access to existing community services for youth and promotes additional services needed; discourages overlapping services; reduces alienation between youth and social institutions; increases access to satisfying roles for youth; and advises City Council and other groups on how to deal with problems affecting the youth of the City. The YSC meets the third Monday of every other month from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Anyone interested in serving on the Youth Services Commission may apply through the Office on Youth or through the City Clerk's Office. For more information, please call 520-9286.

## The Kids' Achieving Progress Afterschool Program

(KAP) is a referral-based, free program serving 4th-8th grade students residing in Colonial Heights. Referrals are made for students who require extra academic and/or social support. Students can be referred by teachers or parents. Tutoring assistance is provided by area high school and college students and KAP program staff. Tutoring sessions promote and improve study skills, social skill enhancement, positive behavior, academic performance and a healthy lifestyle. For more information, please call 520-9286.

*Parent Tip: Communication is a priority-Make your expectations clear, let your child be involved in the decision-making process, help them learn to problem solve, offer choices. Be open to their suggestions.*



### WHAT IS THE DECENNIAL CENSUS?

Every 10 years, the federal government conducts a population count of everyone in the United States. Data from the census provide the basis for distributing more than \$675 billion in federal funds annually to communities across the country to support vital programs- impacting housing, education, transportation, employment, health care, and public policy.

### WHY IS A COMPLETE AND ACCURATE COUNT SO IMPORTANT?

The census is a valuable tool for improving communities across the country. If our community members don't respond, our community may not receive the funding we need. It is important that every community member be counted!

### WHAT TO EXPECT IN 2020!

Households should have received an invitation to participate in the census. You'll then have three options to respond: online, by phone, or by mail. (When completing the census, you'll note where you are living as of April 1.)

**If you have NOT already done so, please complete the 2020 Census today!**

Visit [www.2020census.gov](http://www.2020census.gov) for more information.



# Celebrate Safe Communities

**Tuesday, October 6th, 2020 (5:30pm-8:00pm; Rain Date October 8)**

Celebrate Safe Communities is an exciting opportunity that brings together Law Enforcement, Local Government, Community Leaders, Faith-based Organizations, Civic Groups, Neighborhoods and Citizens like YOU!

The purpose of bringing these community partners together is to talk about concerns in your neighborhood in a fun and friendly way. During our Celebrate Safe Communities event, there will be cook-outs and block parties held at different locations all over the city! Citizens will get to talk, reconnect and discuss not only important neighborhood and community issues, but more importantly have an opportunity to re-open lines of communication.

This year's event could not come at a more critical time. 2020 has been one for the ages and now more than ever, we need to come together as a community to discuss crime, safety and how your police department can support your concerns. At each location, members of the Colonial Heights Police Department will visit with the community. While we will be discussing issues that are important to you, this is also a great opportunity to meet the many new faces that we have in our agency. This is also an opportunity for those that have had an interest in a career in Law Enforcement, to meet some of our newest officers and discuss their experiences from recruitment to instruction and finally to becoming an officer.

There is no way to predict what the status of COVID-19 will be in October, but we will be doing our part to protect each gathering by practicing Social Distancing, using Face Coverings and following current CDC guidelines. If you are interested in hosting an event, tips on COVID-19 preventative measures for increased safety during your gathering or you would like more information on event locations; please contact Career Officer Scott Whirley at (804)520-9318 or by email at [whirleys@colonialheightsva.gov](mailto:whirleys@colonialheightsva.gov). You can also visit [www.colonialheightsva.gov](http://www.colonialheightsva.gov), for an up-to-date list of event locations as well as information. We look forward to seeing everyone on October 6th!!

# Heat Preparedness Tips

## Extreme Heat

Extreme heat is a period of high heat and humidity with temperatures above 90 degrees for at least two to three days. In extreme heat your body works extra hard to maintain a normal temperature, which can lead to death. In fact, extreme heat is responsible for the highest of annual deaths among all weather-related hazards.

### Remember:

- Extreme heat can occur quickly and without warning.
- Older adults, children and sick or overweight individuals are at greater risk from extreme heat.
- Humidity increases the feeling of heat as measured by a heat index.

### IF YOU ARE UNDER AN EXTREME HEAT WARNING:

- Find air conditioning.
- Avoid strenuous activities.
- Wear light clothing.
- Watch for heat cramps, heat exhaustion and heat stroke.
- Never leave people or pets in a closed car.

### Be Safe During:

- Never leave a child, adult or animal alone inside a vehicle.
- Find places with air conditions, libraries, shopping malls can provide cool place to take a break from the heat.
- If you're outside, find shade, wear a hat wide enough to protect your face.
- Wear loose, lightweight, light-colored clothing.
- Drink plenty of fluids to stay hydrated avoid caffeinated drinks. If you or someone you care for is on a special diet, ask a doctor how best to accommodate it.
- Do not use electric fans when the temperature outside is more than 95 degrees, as it could increase the risk of heat-related illness. Fans create air flow and a false sense of comfort, but do not reduce body temperature.
- Avoid high-energy activities.
- Check yourself, family members and neighbors for signs of heat-related illness.

### Recognize and Respond

Know the signs of heat-related illness and how to respond to it.

#### HEAT CRAMPS

**Signs:** Muscle pains or spasms in the stomach, arms or legs

**Actions:** Go to a cooler location. Remove excess clothing. Take sips of cool sports drinks with salt and sugar. Get medical help if cramps last more than an hour.

#### HEAT EXHAUSTION

**Signs:** Heavy sweating, paleness, muscle cramps, tiredness, weakness, dizziness, headache, fainting, nausea, vomiting.

**Actions:** Go to an air-conditioned place and lie down. Loosen or remove clothing. Take a cool bath. Take sips of cool sports drinks with salt and sugar. Get medical help if symptoms get worse or last more than an hour.

#### HEAT STROKE

**Signs:** Extremely high body temperature (above 103 degrees) taken orally, Red, hot and dry skin with no sweat, Rapid, strong pulse, Dizziness, confusion or unconsciousness

**Actions:** Call 9-1-1 or get the person to the hospital immediately. Cool down with whatever methods are available until medical help arrives.

### HOW TO STAY SAFE WHEN EXTREME HEAT THREATENS

#### Prepare NOW

Keep your home cool:

- Cover windows with drapes or shades.
- Weather-strip doors and windows.
- Use window reflectors, such aluminum foil-covered cardboard, to reflect heat back outside.
- Add insulation to keep the heat out.
- Use attic fans to clear hot air.
- Install window air conditioners and insulate around them

Learn to recognize the signs of heat-related illness.

**BEAT THE HEAT:**  
**Extreme Heat**  
Heat related deaths are preventable

**WHAT:** Extreme heat or heat waves occur when the temperature reaches extremely high levels or when the combination of heat and humidity causes the air to become oppressive.

**WHO:** Children, More males than females are affected, Older adults, Outside workers, People with disabilities

**WHERE:** Houses with little to no AC, Construction work sites, Cars

**HOW to AVOID:** Stay hydrated with water, Stay cool in an air conditioned area, avoid sugary beverages, Wear light-weight, light colored, loose fitting clothes

# Neighborhood Leaf Removal Service

## Fall 2020/Winter 2021

### Convenient Service during Fall Season

The City of Colonial Heights Department of Public Works is pleased to announce that convenient leaf removal services will be provided in city neighborhoods again this year. Each fall, residents collect and stockpile loose leaves along city streets, which city crews remove and make available to local recycling businesses. During the 2019/20 season, city crews collected approximately 2,850 cubic yards of leaves.

### Year Round Service Option

Bagged leaves are collected year round and may be placed at the curbside on regular trash collection days. The limit per collection day is 30 bags, each weighing no more than 50 pounds.

### Neighborhood Service Areas

This year leaf removal operations will occur in three main service areas, each consisting of three to four neighborhoods. Figure 1 shows the service areas and schedules. Signs will be installed on adjacent thoroughfares to let residents know in advance when service is scheduled in their area. Please note that the time for service in each area is subject to change depending on inclement weather conditions and other events beyond the City's control.

Scheduled Time of Service Leaves will be collected and removed during the hours of 7:30 AM and 3:00 PM, Monday through Friday, beginning November 09, 2020 and ending February 09, 2021, except on holidays.

### Preparing Leaves for City Collection

Residents are asked to place leaves along street frontages and roadsides one week before service is scheduled to begin in their neighborhood, as only one (1) pass will be made on each street during the scheduled collection service for the area. No leaves will be removed except during regularly scheduled times. Leaves that are not placed before regularly scheduled removal times will be removed during the next regularly scheduled service in the area. City crews cannot remove leaves from private property.

### Avoid Mixing Leaves with Other Debris

Residents are asked to keep leaf piles free of tree branches, lumber, steel, rock, concrete or other debris. Hard objects mixed with leaves are hazardous and may damage leaf vacuum equipment causing unnecessary time and expense to repair or replace. Neighborhood Parking During Leaf Removal Service Residents can assist city leaf removal operations by keeping parked vehicles clear of leaf piles. The use of off- street parking is encouraged wherever available. "No Parking" signs may be used to restrict parking on neighborhood streets while city crews remove leaf piles. To avoid damaging personal property, city crews will not rake leaf piles out from under or between parked cars.

### More Information

Residents may contact the Public Works Department at 520-9372 for more information about this convenient neighborhood service. (See Page 11 for a detailed Map)



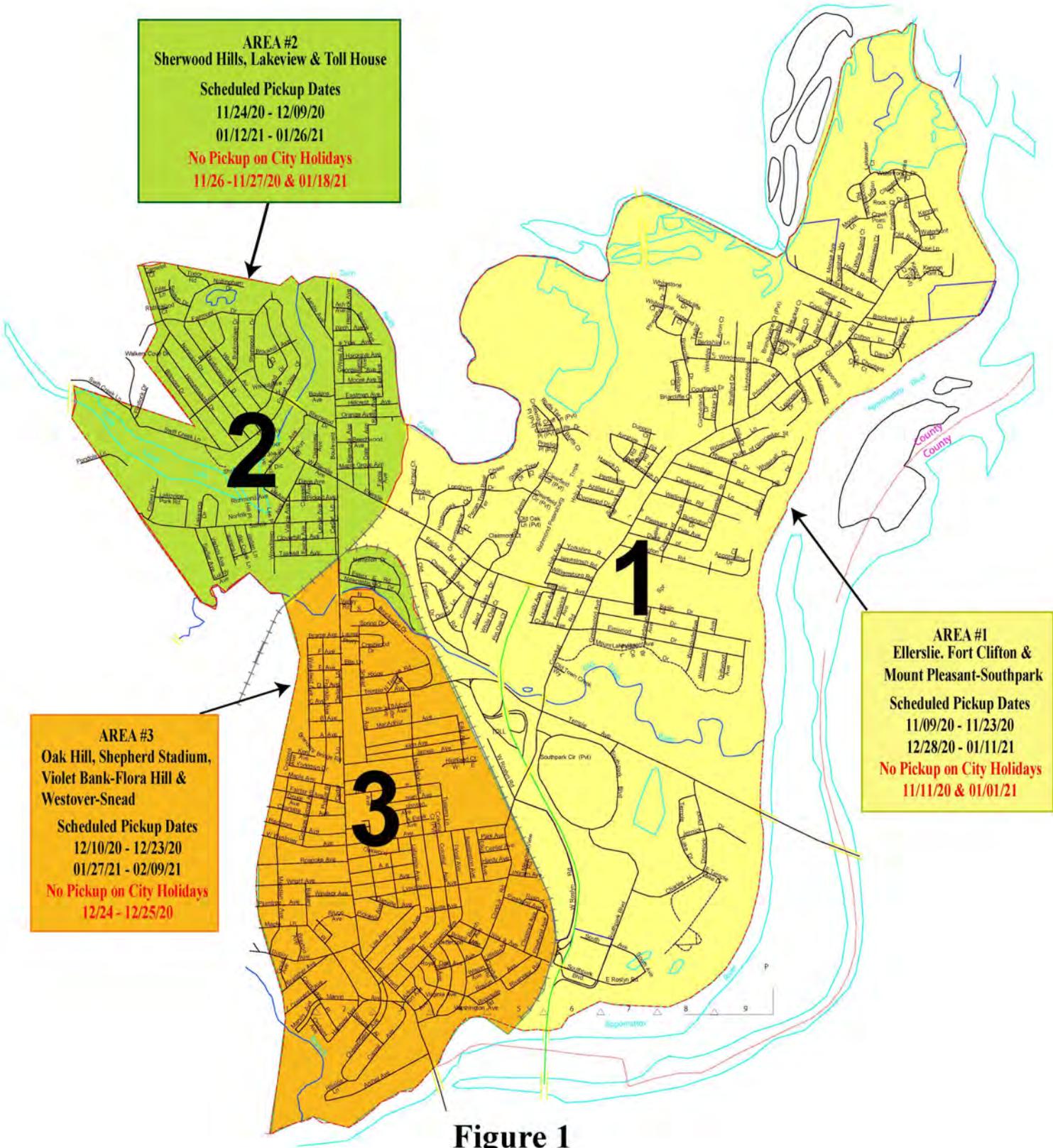


# Neighborhood Leaf Removal Schedule Fall 2020/Winter 2021

**AREA #2**  
Sherwood Hills, Lakeview & Toll House  
Scheduled Pickup Dates  
11/24/20 - 12/09/20  
01/12/21 - 01/26/21  
**No Pickup on City Holidays**  
11/26 - 11/27/20 & 01/18/21

**AREA #1**  
Ellerslie, Fort Clifton &  
Mount Pleasant-Southpark  
Scheduled Pickup Dates  
11/09/20 - 11/23/20  
12/28/20 - 01/11/21  
**No Pickup on City Holidays**  
11/11/20 & 01/01/21

**AREA #3**  
Oak Hill, Shepherd Stadium,  
Violet Bank-Flora Hill &  
Westover-Snead  
Scheduled Pickup Dates  
12/10/20 - 12/23/20  
01/27/21 - 02/09/21  
**No Pickup on City Holidays**  
12/24 - 12/25/20



**Figure 1**

# OFFICIAL VOTING INFORMATION NOVEMBER 3, 2020 GENERAL ELECTION

On the ballot:

**President and Vice President**

**Member, United States Senate**

**Member, House of Representatives 4<sup>th</sup> District**

**Proposed Constitutional Amendments**

**Member, City Council (4 seats)**

Robert W. "Bobby" Wade

T. Gregory Kochuba

Laura F. Poe

Dann P. Ferguson

Derward F. Rollison

Michael A. Cherry

**Member, School Board (3 seats)**

Angie K. Woody

Lia V. Tremblay

Keith R. Kapinskis

Alfred G. Collins, IV

## Dates to Remember

**September 18, 2020** - Early Voting In-Person starts at the Registrar's office

**October 13, 2020** - Deadline to register to vote, or update an existing registration

**October 23, 2020** - Deadline to request an *absentee ballot to be mailed to you.*

**October 31, 2020 (Saturday)** - Last day for Early Voting In-Person

**November 3, 2020** - Election Day, Polling Places open from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

## Ways to Apply to Vote by Mail

### ONLINE:

Go to <http://www.colonialheightsva.gov/334/Absentee-Voting> for instructions and printable application form.

Register to vote, check your registration status, or apply to vote by mail at:

<https://vote.elections.virginia.gov/VoterInformation>

### BY MAIL:

Call (804)520-9277 to request an application to be mailed or emailed.

Your completed application must be received by Friday, October 23, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. Return it by Email to [wellsj@colonialheightsva.gov](mailto:wellsj@colonialheightsva.gov), Fax (804)520-9209, City Hall Parking Lot Drop Box or Mail to:

Attn: General Registrar

201 James Ave., PO Box 3401 / Colonial Heights, VA 23834



## Important City of Colonial Heights Phone Numbers

### Police/Fire Emergency

Dial 911

Police/Fire Non-Emergency

(804)520-9300

Recreation & Parks

(804)520-9390

Office on Youth & Human Services

(804)520-9286

Colonial Heights Health Department

(804)520-9380

Utilities Billing

(804)520-9288

Billing & Collections

(804)520-9320

Commissioner of Revenue

(804)520-9280

Treasurer

(804)520-9321

Planning & Community Development

(804)520-9297

Registrar/Director of Elections

(804)520-9277

Curbside Trash Collection

(804)425-0500

Curbside Recycling Collection

(804)340-0900

Circuit Court

(804)520-9364

General District Court

(804)520-9346

Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court

(804)451-0213

CH Recycling Center

(804)479-7056

(Household Hazardous Waste & Other Materials)

Call US

Colonial Heights  
We want to connect with you in new ways!

# LET'S GET SOCIAL!!!

Did you know you can find us, follow us, and Connect with us on:

Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram

## THE CITY FOCUS

City of Colonial Heights

Office of the City Manager

Post Office Box 3401

Colonial Heights, Virginia 23834-9001

[www.colonialheightsva.gov](http://www.colonialheightsva.gov)

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