

The City Focus

Official Newsletter for the City of Colonial Heights



Spring 2021



in this *issue*

Council Column	2
Dates of Interest	3
CHPD Accreditation	3
COVID-19 Updates	4
COVID-19 Vaccination Information	4
New Financial System in Progress	4
From the Commissioner of Revenue	9
Yard Sale Information	9
Civic Ready & Notify Me Information	9
Family Storytime at the Library	10
Spring Cleaning for Safety	10
Be Weather Ready-Watch or Warning	10
Tri-City Chili Peppers Schedule	11
City Phone Directory	12
Curbside Trash Collection	12

REC - *happenings*

Sports and Athletics	5
Classes and Events	6
Community Center	6
Senior Center	7
Violet Bank Museum	7
Therapeutic Recreation	8
Youth & Human Services	8

City of Colonial Heights Council Members



T. Gregory Kochuba
Mayor
kochubag@colonialheightsva.gov



Elizabeth G. Luck
Vice Mayor
lucke@colonialheightsva.gov



Michael A. Cherry
Councilman
cherrym@colonialheightsva.gov



John E. Piotrowski
Councilman
piotrowskij@colonialheightsva.gov



Dr. Laura F. Poe
Councilwoman
poel@colonialheightsva.gov



Robert W. "Bobby" Wade
Councilman
wader@colonialheightsva.gov



John T. Wood
Councilman
woodj@colonialheightsva.gov

Pamela Wallace
City Clerk of Council
wallacep@colonialheightsva.gov
(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



Happy New Year! What are your goals for 2021? Your city council has been hard at work setting specific, achievable goals for the upcoming year and beyond. On Friday, January 15, City Council held its annual retreat for that very purpose. Congratulations to Bobby Wade and Laura Poe for being newly elected members of city council. Their insights and comments contributed greatly to our goal setting discussions. Congratulations also to returning Council members, Greg Kochuba and Mike Cherry. Their experience and knowledge is always valuable and appreciated.

Some of the topics discussed at the retreat were:

- The Economic Development Strategic Plan
- Zoning
- Code Enforcement
- Financial Overview
- Revenue Trends
- Project Updates
- Infrastructure
- And other items of interest.



Our citizens are always interested in what is new and what is upcoming. Here is a list of Economic Development projects that have recently opened or are in the planning stages:

- Boot Barn – opened Feb. 2021
- Towneplace Suites – developing a site plan
- Extended Stay Hotel – opened April 2020
- Volcano Crab – opened Sept. 2020
- Boil Bay – opened March 2020
- Marco's Pizza – opened Feb. 2020
- Panera Drive Thru – developing a site plan
- Mission BBQ – tentative opening Oct. 2021



In addition, we have interest in the vacant Walgreens building, the former Gordmans Building and the Former Wells Fargo building. Retail is not dying but it is changing!

COVID-19 has financially impacted our city, but through the excellent leadership of City Manager Doug Smith and Finance Director Sheila Minor, we have been able to hold our own. If you were negatively impacted by the virus (job loss, pay change, etc.) and need assistance with your utility bill **there is help available for a limited time**. Please contact the Utility Billing Department (804-520-9288) in City Hall to receive a simple application.



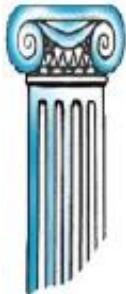
In closing, I'd like to thank Kenny Frenier and Joe Green for their 12 years of devoted service on our City Council. Thankfully, they have chosen to stay involved by serving on some of our community boards. We will miss these two good men!

Your Council is looking forward to serving you in this new year! We've established our goals and wish you the best year possible. Whatever your goals are for 2021 we hope you achieve them, along with great health and much happiness!

Sincerely,
Betsy Luck

On the Cover.....

Featured in this picture is the park pavilion at Ft. Clifton Park and taken by Recreation staff member Elliott Williams. Ft. Clifton Park features this rentable park pavilion, restrooms, walking trails, an amphitheater, and open space. As Spring weather arrives get out and enjoy one of the many parks in Colonial Heights. For information on renting a park pavilion see page 7.



Apr 2	<i>City Holiday</i> Good Friday
Apr 6	<i>Planning Commission</i> 7:00 pm - Council Chambers (<i>tentative</i>)
Apr 13	<i>City Council Regular Meeting</i> 7:00 pm - Council Chambers
Apr 20	<i>City Council Special Meeting</i> 6:00 pm - Council Chambers (<i>Budget</i>)
Apr 27	<i>City Council Special Meeting</i> 6:00 pm - Council Chambers (<i>Budget</i>)

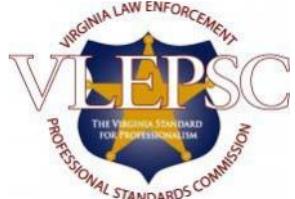
May 4	<i>Planning Commission</i> 7:00 pm - Council Chambers (<i>tentative</i>)
May 11	<i>City Council Regular Meeting</i> 7:00 pm - Council Chambers
May 18	<i>City Council Special Meeting</i> 6:00 pm - Council Chambers (<i>tentative</i>)
May 31	<i>City Holiday</i> Memorial Day

June 1	<i>Planning Commission</i> 7:00 pm - Council Chambers (<i>tentative</i>)
June 8	<i>City Council Regular Meeting</i> 7:00 pm - Council Chambers
June 15	<i>City Council Special Meeting</i> 6:00 pm - Council Chambers (<i>tentative</i>)

July 5	<i>City Holiday</i> July 4th
July 6	<i>Planning Commission</i> 7:00 pm - Council Chambers (<i>tentative</i>)
July 13	<i>City Council Regular Meeting</i> 7:00 pm - Council Chambers
July 20	<i>City Council Special Meeting</i> 6:00 pm - Council Chambers (<i>tentative</i>)

CHPD Continues Commitment to Accountability and Professionalism

In June of 2020, President Donald Trump signed Executive Order 13929, more commonly known as “Standards for Certification on Safe Policing for Safe Communities”. This Executive Order requires that each and every police department meet several standards of policing in order to meet newly enacted requirements of police reform as well as be eligible to receive federal grant money.



One of the main requirements of this order is that a specific agency either be accredited by an approved independent credentialing body or be in the process of obtaining accreditation. This Executive Order does not expire and requires each agency to meet the requirements of the order each and every year. Here at the Colonial Heights Police Department, we are extremely proud to report that not only are we currently in compliance with this Executive Order, but we have also complied for nearly a decade. In 2012, our agency was the first in the Tri-Cities to meet all the requirements of the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission. In January 2013, we received our initial accreditation certificate. In 2016, we received our first reaccreditation certificate and are now extremely excited to report that in January of 2021, we were once again successfully assessed for our second reaccreditation certificate.

During each assessment, an on-site team of certified assessors spends three days inspecting the agency, interviewing and riding with officers, reading policy and reviewing four years of “proofs of compliance” for more than 700 standards. Agencies like ours that choose to enter into the agreement for accreditation will find that it requires a commitment and a team effort from not only the organization, but also the community and our local leaders in order to be successful. According to the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission, agencies and their communities benefit from the program because of the following:

“Accreditation increases the law enforcement agency’s ability to prevent and control crime through more effective and efficient delivery of law enforcement services to the community it serves. Accreditation enhances community understanding of the law enforcement agency and its role in the community as well as its goals and objectives. Citizen confidence in the policies and practices of the agency is increased. Accreditation, in conjunction with the philosophy of community policing, commits the agency to a broad range of programs (such as crime prevention) that directly benefit the public. Accreditation creates a forum in which police and citizens work together to control and prevent crime. This partnership will help citizens to understand the challenges that confront law enforcement. Law enforcement will, in turn, receive clear direction from the community about its expectations. Thus, a common set of goals and objectives will be arrived at and implemented.”

Before there was ever an Executive Order, our commitment to be an accredited agency was ingrained in our agency’s culture. We soundly believe that accreditation demonstrates to our citizens that we are committed to being a professional police department and it creates a working environment that our employees can be proud of.



Even though this assessment is completed, our commitment never stops. From here, we move forward in complying with the requirements for our next assessment in 2025. We are excited about the future of policing and the direction of our agency. We are also proud to be one of more than 100 agencies in Virginia that are either accredited or are working towards making their agency and community the best it can be.

UPDATES & IMPORTANT INFORMATION

City of Colonial Heights City offices and buildings are 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 City phone list (page 12), or call the City's Citizens Assistance Line at (804) 520-9266 from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday.

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) along with our Facebook Page (<https://www.facebook.com/colonialheightsva>) and Instagram (CityofColonialHeights).

ADDITIONAL COVID-19 INFORMATION

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 (www.cdc.gov)
- VDH Main COVID-19 Site & VDH Current Presumptive Positive Case Status in Virginia (www.vdh.virginia.gov)
- **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.
- **Online bill pay:** Go online to www.colonialheightsva.gov and go to I Want To....> Pay Online.

New Financial System in Progress

The City is continuing the implementation of a new financial system, which enhances several customer services. Customers received the new format utility bills in the fall. Based on customer feedback, we will be revising these bills with larger type and a slightly changed format in the next few months. Customers are also able to sign up for direct debit and e-billing for their utility bills as well by contacting the Utility Billing office at 520-9288.

The new system will also utilize new payment screens for utility billing and taxes that will allow customers to look up their bill amounts and pay online.

A graphic featuring a map of Virginia with the letters "VA" in the center, surrounded by COVID-19 virus particles. The text "CORONAVIRUS" is at the top, and "COVID-19 TESTING & VACCINATION INFORMATION" is in large yellow letters below. The background is dark with a red and blue gradient.

COVID-19 TESTING & VACCINATION INFORMATION

The Chesterfield Health Department (CHD) provides services to the City of Colonial Heights. The CHD is collecting information to assist in the distribution of the Covid-19 Vaccine as it becomes available to our residents.

Visit the CHD website for more information:
<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/chesterfield/>
or call the CHD Hotline (804)318-8207
Mon-Fri 8am-4:30pm
After Hours: 1-877-275-8343

THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH HAS ADDITIONAL COVID-19 INFORMATION. CALL THE VDH HOTLINE: 877-ASK-VDH3 (877-275-8343). LANGUAGE TRANSLATION SERVICES AVAILABLE.

OR VISIT
WWW.VDH.VIRGINIA.GOV/COVID-19-VACCINE
FOR THE MOST UP TO DATE VACCINATION INFORMATION.

HERE YOU WILL FIND:

- Frequently Asked Questions
- CDC COVID-19 Vaccine Information
- Vaccination Prioritization Guidelines
- Find out which Phase our City is in

COLONIAL HEIGHTS RECREATION & 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

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



CONNECT WITH US
ON SOCIAL MEDIA...



SPORTS & ATHLETICS

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 BY 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 and click the Recreation Programs link.

DROP BOX

We have a drop box for after hours collection of registrations, payments and uniforms; located in front of our office at Shepherd Stadium, 901 Meridian Avenue. Checks only, please do not place cash in the drop box.

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

ADULT TENNIS FLEX LEAGUE

Ages: 18+

Registration for 2021 Adult Flex League Play is now open! This program is in partnership with USTA (United States Tennis Association). To register for this Flex League you must register on their website at this link:

<https://www.usta.com/en/home/play/adult-tennis/programs/midatlantic/flex-league.html#>

Visit link for full program rules, descriptions, and registration. There is a \$25 fee to participate.

Flex League Highlights:

- You and your opponents decide when and where to play your match
- You are provided a weekly suggested schedule, however, as long as you complete all of your scheduled matches by the end of the season you can use this flexibility to make the season work for you
- You do not have to be a USTA member to participate
- You can select the NTRP rating and/or level you wish to play in. (Your flexible format matches do not calculate into your USTA NTRP rating)

YOUTH BASEBALL/SOFTBALL REGISTRATION

Ages: Boys 4-18 (as of 4/30/21)
Girls 4-15 (as of 7/31/21)

Registration for 2021 youth baseball and softball leagues will begin on January 4, 2021. The deadline to register is March 5, 2021. To register you must be a City of Colonial Heights resident. Practices begin late-March. Practice times will vary depending on the amount of teams in each league.

Fee: \$20 until March 6; \$30 after March 6, children registered after deadline may be placed on a waiting list.

Coed:

Rookie League (Instructional) ages 4-5
Coach Pitch (Instructional) ages 6-8

Boys:

AAA League ages 9-10
Major League ages 11-12
National League ages 13-15
Big League ages 16-18

Girls:

Angels ages 9-10
Ponytails ages 11-12
Belles ages 13-15
Debs ages 16-18

GOLF LESSONS

Ages: 5-15

We have partnered with Bridging the Gap Golf to provide golf lessons this Spring. There are different levels of lessons available. If its your first time there is beginner lessons available....but we also have lessons for those that have played before and want to improve their game. Equipment is provided but feel free to bring your own. Fee includes a 9-hole tournament at the conclusion of lessons.



Beginner

Sa	5/1-6/5	10:00am-10:45am	Dogwood Trace Golf Course	\$63
----	---------	-----------------	---------------------------	------

Intermediate

Sa	5/1-6/5	11:00am-11:45am	Dogwood Trace Golf Course	\$75
----	---------	-----------------	---------------------------	------

Advanced

Sa	5/1-6/5	12:00pm-12:45pm	Dogwood Trace Golf Course	\$88
----	---------	-----------------	---------------------------	------

CLASSES & EVENTS

YOGA IN THE PARK

All Ages

Class lead by Hope Helton-Lynch, E-500RYT, owner of Yoga One. This class is appropriate for all levels and beginners are encouraged to attend. Some of the benefits of yoga are improved strength, balance, flexibility, and inner peace. Bring a yoga mat or a large towel.

Tu 4/20-5/11 5:30pm-6:30pm
FREE Ft. Clifton Park

PUPPETS IN THE PARK

Ages 2-11

Rainbow Puppets presents: Creatures Great and Small. This show features many creatures found around the park, throughout Virginia and then around the world. Included are a blue heron, white egret, drum fish, blue crabs, fiddler crabs, electric eels, and even dinosaurs. Stick around after the show! Participants will be given the opportunity to make a craft with Recreation Staff. Space is limited. Register now!

Sa 5/22 11:00am-1:00pm
\$10 White Bank Park

COMMUNITY CENTER

The Community Center is located at 157 Roanoke Avenue across from Shepherd Stadium. Classes listed are FREE of charge unless a fee is denoted. All fee classes require registration prior to the class. Spots are limited so you must register before attending. For a full listing of classes and activities please visit www.colonialheightsva.gov/recandparks for a calendar and program listing. Online registration is available on our website for convenience. 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.

SCRAPBOOKING

All Ages Welcome

Enjoy and share scrapbooking secrets and ideas. Bring your own supplies but a creative memories dealer will be on-hand to purchase items if needed.

Mo 3/1-3/29 4:30pm-8:30pm
Mo 4/5-4/26 4:30pm-8:30pm
Mo 5/3-5/31 4:30pm-8:30pm
FREE Community Center

OPEN SEWING

All Ages Welcome

Bring your own sewing supplies and projects. Share techniques and socialize while working on different projects.

Tu 3/2-3/30 4:30pm-8:30pm
Tu 4/6-4/27 4:30pm-8:30pm
Tu 5/4-5/25 4:30pm-8:30pm
FREE Community Center

LINE DANCING

All Ages Welcome

Foster a love of movement with this class. Learn choreographed ballroom style dance moves.

Th 3/4-3/25 6:30pm-8:30pm
Th 4/8-4/29 6:30pm-8:30pm
Th 5/6-5/27 6:30pm-8:30pm
FREE Community Center

EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS

All Ages Welcome

Join us for these educational seminars covering different topics each week. These seminars are FREE and take place at the Community Center.

Medicare Roundtable - Medicare mistakes and how to avoid them.

Th 5/6 6:30pm

Crater Community Hospice

Th 5/20 6:30pm

Encompass Health - Learn what Encompass Health is and what they do.

Th 5/27 6:30pm

BELLY DANCING

Ages 13+

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

Th 3/4-3/25 6:00pm-7:00pm
Th 4/8-4/29 6:00pm-7:00pm
Th 5/6-5/27 6:00pm-7:00pm
\$30 Community Center

ART ADVENTURES—YOUTH

Ages K-5th Grade

Draw and paint with Art Adventures! All skill levels are welcome. First, we work with drawing and sketching techniques. Then, adding color, students will work with a variety of media to produce a final piece of Art that will amaze you! All supplies are included.

Sa 3/13 10:00am-12:00pm
Sa 4/17 10:00am-12:00pm
Sa 5/8 10:00am-12:00pm
Sa 6/5 10:00am-12:00pm
\$25/each Community Center

ART ADVENTURES—ADULT

Ages 13+

Learn to paint with watercolors! All levels welcome. Students learn the basics of watercolor, tips, tricks and techniques to create a beautiful painting in just one day!

Th 3/18 6:30pm-8:30pm
Th 4/15 6:30pm-8:30pm
Th 5/13 6:30pm-8:30pm
\$25/each Community Center

KIDZ R COOKIN—YOUTH

Ages 6-12

Join us for these fun themed cooking classes. Recipes included for each activity to repeat at home.

Mexican Fiesta: Various tostadas will be prepared using our signature Kidz-R-Cookin' seasoning blend of over 10 herbs & spices. Students will also prepare horchata and Pico de Gallo.

Fr 3/19 5:30pm-7:00pm

Pizza Palooza: Participants will prepare from scratch their own pizza dough and marinara sauce. Various toppings will be available for students to create their very own signature pizza!

Fr 4/16 5:30pm-7:00pm

Whole Grain -Goodness: Whole grain has never tasted sooooo good! Participants will prepare Belgium waffles from scratch using organic whole grain flour. Various toppings will also be available to finish off these delicious masterpieces!

Fr 5/21 5:30pm-7:00pm

Stir Fry Surprise: Participants will learn how to put together a healthy and delicious stir-fry using various ingredients.

Fr 6/18 5:30pm-7:00pm

\$30/each Community Center

KIDZ R COOKIN—TEEN

Ages 13-17

Join us for these fun themed cooking classes. Recipes included for each activity to repeat at home.

La La Lasagna: An alternative pasta will be used in our oh -so- lovely & healthy lasagnas. We will also make our marinara sauce from scratch.

Fr 3/26 5:30pm-7:00pm

Stir Fry Surprise: Participants will learn how to put together a healthy and delicious stir-fry using various ingredients.

Fr 4/30 5:30pm-7:00pm

Smoothie Explosion: Participants will get to choose from over twelve different fruits, ingredients and toppings to create healthy and delicious smoothies. The health benefits of ingredients will also be discussed.

Fr 5/28 5:30pm-7:00pm

Pizza Palooza: Participants will prepare from scratch their own pizza dough and marinara sauce. Various toppings will be available for students to create their very own signature pizza!

Fr 6/25 5:30pm-7:00pm

\$30/each Community Center

OKINAWAN KARATE

Ages 5+

The focus of this class is on respecting others, self-control, self-discipline and avoiding confrontation. The emphasis is on the basics such as, falling, balance, flexibility, agility and basic karate techniques.

Mo/Th 4/5-4/29 6:00pm-7:00pm

Mo/Th 5/3-5/27 6:00pm-7:00pm

\$40 Community Center

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 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.

Park Pavilion Rentals

As warmer weather arrives this upcoming Spring and Summer consider reserving a park pavilion for your family reunion, birthday party, baby shower, or other family event. Rental of park pavilions are now available by contacting our office at (804)520-9390. City residents can reserve a pavilion for just \$15 and includes the whole day. See below for available park pavilions and contact us with any questions about reserving a pavilion. All rentals must abide by any current restrictions relating to the COVID-19 pandemic.

White Bank Park - (2) pavilions available. Both pavilions seat up to 200 and have restrooms and a charcoal grill available. White Bank Park also features a full accessible playground, disc golf course, sand volleyball courts, and open space.

Ft. Clifton Park - (1) pavilion available. Pavilion seats up to 60 people and has a restroom available. Ft. Clifton Park also features walking trails and open space.

Lakeview Park - (1) pavilion available. Pavilion seats up to 60 people and has a restroom available. Lakeview Park features a playground, fishing pier, and a boat ramp.

Park restrooms and electricity are available for use April 1 - October 31 only.

MONTHLY CLASS SCHEDULE

Monday

8:30am Tai Chi
9:00am Muscles in Motion
9:30am Bowling (*off-site*)
9:30am Tighten and Tone
10:00am Strength & Stretch
10:30am Yoga Core
11:00am Pickle Ball (*Swift Creek Baptist*)
11:00am Line Dancing
1:00pm Adult Coloring
4:00pm Beginners Sewing (*sign-up \$12*)

Tuesday

8:45am Tap Dancin' Grannies
9:00am Total Body Strength (45 min)
10:00am Sit & Fit
10:30am Sit & Fit
11:15am Meditation
1:00pm Bingo
2:00pm Meaningful Exchanges
2:30pm Open Sew (*1st, 2nd & 3rd Tues*)

Wednesday

8:30am Crochet & Knitting
9:00am Muscles in Motion
9:00am Tighten & Tone
10:00am Strength & Stretch
10:00am Yoga Warrior
11:00am Pickle Ball (*Swift Creek Baptist*)
11:00am Line Dancing
1:00pm Poetry

Thursday

8:30am Balance
9:00am Yoga Flow
9:30am Strength & Stretch
10:00am Sit & Fit
10:30am Sit & Fit
11:15am Meditation
2:00pm Watercolor

Friday

10:00am Line Dancing
11:00am Pickle Ball (*Swift Creek Baptist*)
11:45am Line Dancing
12:00pm Open Paint
1:00pm Computer Class (*sign up*)

VIOLET BANK MUSEUM

VIOLET BANK ROCKS!

Be On The Lookout For Kindness Rocks!

After a long winter hiatus, the Violet Bank Kindness Rocks will be making their appearance in early April in City Parks and public spaces. The weather is getting nice to be out and hopefully spot one of these unique rocks. Inspired by the Kindness Rocks Project, founded by Meghan Murphy, the staff at Violet Bank Museum will be painting river rocks a violet purple and adding a positive word or message to each.

This pay-it-forward positivity outreach program hopes to bring a message of kindness, gratitude, encouragement, and spark joy in people's everyday lives. That one simple message on the rock can change a person's day, their outlook or maybe even their life. When one of these special rocks are found, the finder can choose to rehide the rock, replace the rock with one they have painted or simply keep the rock as a reminder of the positive message.

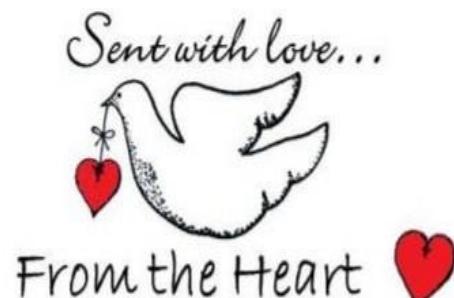
If you find one, please share it on Facebook @colonialheightsrec and use #violetbankrocks



STITCHERS FROM THE HEART

Looking for something to do to chase away the winter blues? Stop by and join the Violet Bank Stitchers From The Heart on Tuesday from 10:00 am to noon as these volunteers gather to make items for those in need. There are knitters and crocheters from novice to expert and a variety of items needed for any skill level or interest. It's a fun and creative way to spend a couple of hours doing something to benefit yourself and others. If you would like to learn more about the Stitchers From The Heart organization please visit: <http://www.fromtheheartstitchers.org>.

The Violet Bank Stitchers From The Heart also will gratefully accept yarn donations of any type, in any amount. Please don't trash that yarn stash, drop it by Violet Bank Museum at 303 Virginia Avenue Colonial Heights, Virginia during operating hours and the Stitchers From The Heart will use it to continue their work in benefiting those in need.



THERAPEUTIC

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 for more information.

SPRING CLASSES (ALL AGES) - COMMUNITY CENTER

We	3/3	Wood Crafts	\$3	5:30pm-7:00pm
We	3/10	Jewelry Making	\$3	5:30pm-7:00pm
We	3/17	St. Patrick's Day Party	\$5	5:30pm-7:00pm
We	3/24	Spring Crafts	\$3	5:30pm-7:00pm
We	3/31	NO CLASS		
We	4/7	Spring Fling	\$5	5:30pm-7:00pm
We	4/14	Open Mic Night	\$3	5:30pm-7:00pm
We	4/21	Bingo	\$3	5:30pm-7:00pm
We	4/28	Group Games	\$3	5:30pm-7:00pm
We	5/5	Music Therapy	\$3	5:30pm-7:00pm
We	5/12	Paint & Sip	\$3	5:30pm-7:00pm
We	5/19	Group Art	\$3	5:30pm-7:00pm
We	5/26	Luau Party	\$5	5:30pm-7:00pm



YOUTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Child Abuse Prevention Month Pinwheel Project

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month, the blue pinwheel is a National symbol used to raise awareness. Join us to make pinwheels to be placed around City buildings. All materials are supplied. Parents are asked to stay and participate! Please call 804-520-9287 to register. Continue to look at our department's Facebook page "Colonial Heights Youth and Human Services" for more details. Please visit our YouTube channel which includes content, such as storytelling, crafts, and more. Access our YouTube channel by searching "Colonial Heights Office on Youth".

Tu 4/6 6:00pm-8:00pm
FREE Community Center

Take Home Kits for Children

Children love to be busy! Get them involved in making something with you. We have partnered with the Colonial Heights Library to provide fun take home activity kits. You could bake, cook, or build together. By using their hands to make or build something, they develop their creative skills. Simply visit the Library and ask for a take home kit. Some kits may need adult assistance to complete. Take a picture once you complete an activity and email it to: glazerm@colonialheightsva.gov.

Each completed activity will be entered into a drawing to win a prize. Winners will be chosen monthly and notified by email. Contact the Office on Youth at (804)520-9287 with any questions.



VIRGINIA C.O.P.E.S. WARMLINE

877-349-MHAV (6428)

OPEN TO ALL VIRGINIANS | YOU ARE NOT ALONE



FROM THE COMMISSIONER OF THE REVENUE

2021 will be a year of change for many reasons. Here in the Commissioner's Office and in other offices that handle tax assessments and tax collections, we will be operating with a new software package that will eventually be more efficient and user friendly. While we are in the transition and learning process, some things may take a bit longer to process and we might encounter a few more errors. Just remember, there is nothing that we cannot fix or make correct, so please be patient as we navigate these new waters. It will get smoother, I promise.

Due dates will remain the same, tax rates remain the same and what you must do as citizens and taxpayers remains the same.

- By now you should have returned your "Blue Form" with any changes to personal property bought or sold.
- It is the taxpayer who is responsible for notifying this office of new purchases as well as personal property sold.
- New business owners are required to get a Business License prior to opening.
- Renewal of existing Business Licenses is required by March 1
- Elderly or Disabled Real Estate Tax Relief applications should be submitted by March 31 for review.
- You must keep your name and address updated at DMV. Changes are required by State Law within 30 days. You can do that on the DMVNow website.
- Colonial Heights does not pro-rate personal property tax. If you owned the vehicle or other property on January 1, 2021, you will pay taxes for the entire year in Colonial Heights regardless of when you move or when you sold it.

Any questions can be directed to your commissioner, Bill Feasenmeyer at feasenmyerw@colonialheightsva.gov or 804 520-9281.

Yard Sale Information

Colonial Heights City Ordinance 187-19 states that a license for yard or garage sales is required. The license is available at the Commissioner of the Revenue's Office, 201 James Avenue, City Hall during regular business hours (8:30 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday). The cost for the license is \$5.00. Contact the Commissioner of the Revenue's Office at (804) 520-9280 for more information.

No sales are allowed on Sunday. The Yard Sale license includes a Temporary sign permit. The list of licensed yard sales will be posted on the City website not later than Friday at 4:00 pm. In order to be included in the on-line list, the host must obtain a yard sale license no later than 3:00 pm on the Friday prior to the yard sale.



SIGN UP ONLINE TODAY:
Visit www.colonialheightsva.gov and
click on the homepage Community
Spotlight Links to get started!



**&
Notify Me**

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.



Family Storytime at the Colonial Heights Public Library

Wednesdays at 11 AM

March 17 – May 5

Join us for stories, music, and creative movement that help children to build early literacy proficiency. There will be a take-home craft related to the weekly theme. The suggested age is 3-5 years old, but all ages are welcome. [Programs take place in the large meeting room of the library.](#)

We are practicing social distancing during these programs, and each family group is separated by at least 6 feet from other family groups. Adults and children aged five or older, must also wear a mask at all times. Please be aware that we will have to limit the size of the group in order to safely accommodate everyone.

Library phone number: (804)520-9384

Spring Cleaning for Safety

Spring time means spring cleaning. In this case we are talking about cleaning out your house or apartment as items no longer used, needed, or just plain waste. Some people call this hoarding. We are not just looking at the hoarding, but storage in general. Do you have a person in your life who may be a hoarder or have excessive storage? This condition is where a person has persistent difficulty discarding personal possessions. The large amount of possessions fills the home and prevents the normal use of the space. Living space, attic, garage, and closets becomes cluttered. It may be unusable. This brings in distress, emotional health, and general wellbeing concerns for the person.

Why Hoarding or Unnecessary Storage Increases Fire Risks:

- Cooking is unsafe if flammable items are close to the stove or oven.
- Heating units may be too close to things that can burn. They might also be placed on unstable surfaces. If a heater tips over into a pile, it can cause a fire.
- Electrical wiring may be old or worn from the weight of piles. Pests could chew on wires. Damaged wires can start fires.
- Open flames from smoking materials or candles in a home with excess clutter are very dangerous.
- Blocked pathways and exits may hinder escape from a fire.



How Hoarding or Unnecessary Storage Impacts First Responders:

- Hoarding puts first responders in harm's way.
- Firefighters cannot move swiftly through a home filled with clutter.
- Responders can be trapped in a home when exits are blocked. They can be injured by objects falling from piles.
- The weight of the stored items, especially if water is added to put out a fire, can lead to building collapse.
- Fighting fires is very risky in a hoarding home. It is hard to enter the home to provide medical care. The clutter impedes the search and rescue of people and pets.

How Can You Help Reduce the Risk of Fire Injury?

- When talking a person who hoards, focus on safety rather than the clutter. Be empathetic. Match the person's language. If they call it hoarding, then you can call it hoarding.
- Help the residents make a home safety and escape plan. Stress the importance of clear pathways and exits. Practice the plan often. Exit routes may change as new items are brought into the home.
- Install working smoke alarms in the home. Test them at least once a month.
- Reach out to community resources such as churches or civic organizations. Talk to members of the fire department to alert them of your concerns.

This information is provided by the National Fire Protection Association. Go to www.nfpa.org for more information about this and other fire safety messages. You can contact the Colonial Heights Fire Department with any concerns at (804)520-9387 and ask for Lt. Joe Boisseau.

Be Weather-Ready

What's the Difference – Watch and Warning

As spring storms are upon us now is a good time to remind ourselves of the difference between a storm WATCH and a storm WARNING.

A WATCH is issued when severe storms are possible in or near the watch area. It does not mean that they will occur. This pertains to severe thunderstorms, tornadoes, winter storms and even flooding. This is a time to stay Weather-Ready and listen to local news or a weather radio for updates. A watch area is typically large, covering numerous counties. Be ready to act quickly! Be Alert! Be Prepared!

On the other hand, a WARNING is issued when a storm is imminent or indicated by weather radar. This is a time to act! For example, if a tornado warning is issued seek shelter immediately. A warning area typically encompasses a much smaller area. The City will sound the warning siren during these situations. If a warning is issued, seek shelter, and tune to your local news or weather radio for updates.

For more information on the different weather watches and warnings visit: <https://www.weather.gov/lwx/WarningsDefined>

TRI-CITY CHILI PEPPERS

2021 INAUGURAL SEASON HOME SCHEDULE

The hottest team in the Coastal Plain League!

SATURDAY	5/29	vs	WILSON TOBS	7:00 PM
TUESDAY	6/1	vs	MOREHEAD CITY MARLINS	7:00 PM
FRIDAY	6/4	vs	MARTINSVILLE MUSTANGS	7:00 PM
WEDNESDAY	6/9	vs	WILSON TOBS	7:00 PM
THURSDAY	6/10	vs	PENINSULA PILOTS	7:00 PM
SUNDAY	6/13	vs	PENINSULA PILOTS	5:45 PM
THURSDAY	6/17	vs	PENINSULA PILOTS	7:00 PM
SATURDAY	6/19	vs	PENINSULA PILOTS	7:00 PM
TUESDAY	6/22	vs	WILSON TOBS	7:00 PM
THURSDAY	6/24	vs	PENINSULA PILOTS	7:00 PM
SUNDAY	6/27	vs	HOLLY SPRINGS SALAMANDERS	5:45 PM
THURSDAY	7/1	vs	HOLLY SPRINGS SALAMANDERS	7:00 PM
SATURDAY	7/3	vs	PENINSULA PILOTS	7:00 PM
TUESDAY	7/6	vs	PENINSULA PILOTS	7:00 PM
THURSDAY	7/8	vs	MOREHEAD CITY MARLINS	7:00 PM
SUNDAY	7/11	vs	PENINSULA PILOTS	5:45 PM
WEDNESDAY	7/14	vs	WILSON TOBS	7:00 PM
FRIDAY	7/16	vs	PENINSULA PILOTS	7:00 PM
SATURDAY	7/17	vs	WILSON TOBS	7:00 PM
THURSDAY	7/22	vs	MARTINSVILLE MUSTANGS	7:00 PM
FRIDAY	7/23	vs	PENINSULA PILOTS	7:00 PM
FRIDAY	7/30	vs	MARTINSVILLE MUSTANGS	7:00 PM

2021 COASTAL PLAIN LEAGUE HOME OPPONENTS



PENINSULA PILOTS



MARTINSVILLE MUSTANGS



WILSON TOBS



HOLLY SPRINGS SALAMANDERS



MOREHEAD CITY MARLINS



Be a part of the **EXCITEMENT**
chilipeppersbaseball.com



THE SANDLOT

\$20/carload

Max of 7 persons per car

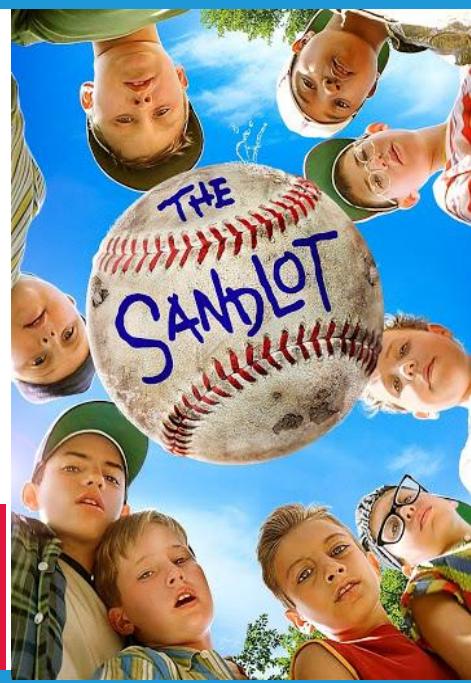
Friday April 16th
 Rent Equip, 2600 Boulevard, Colonial Heights
 Lot opens: 7:30pm
 Movie time: 8:00pm

Join us for a drive in movie featuring The Sandlot

Price includes a Chick-Fil-A Dinner per person.

Dinner choice includes a Regular Chicken Sandwich or
 8-piece Nugget, chips, cookie, and a water.

Limited spots available. View details and register online
 while spots last at colonialheightsva.gov!



NOTICE

Curbside Bulk Item/Trash Collection Service



Contact
CVWMA Customer Service
(804)425-0500

Visit: www.colonialheightsva.gov/321/Trash-Collection
for more details or to complete an online Bulk Pickup Request



For the Regular
Trash & Recycling
Services
[Holiday Schedule](#)
and
[Collection Notifications](#)

Visit: <https://cvwma.com/programs/2020-holiday-collection-calendar/>



**STRUGGLING
TO COPE
WITH COVID?**

VIRGINIA C.O.P.E.S. WARMLINE

877-349-MHAV (6428)

OPEN TO ALL VIRGINIANS | YOU ARE NOT ALONE



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
Library	(804)520-9384
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
Street Maintenance	(804)520-9372
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
Sheriff	(804)520-9352
CH Recycling Center	(804)479-7056
<i>(Household Hazardous Waste & Other Materials)</i>	

Call
Service



THE CITY FOCUS

City of Colonial Heights
Office of the City Manager
Post Office Box 3401
Colonial Heights, Virginia 23834-9001
www.colonialheightsva.gov

PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE

*****ECRWSS*****

Local
Postal Customer