



FALL 2023 Champlin Chronicle



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Upcoming Events



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5th Annual Shed Fest

The Ultimate Bon Jovi Tribute

Saturday, September 23 | Public Works Yard

Gates open at 5 p.m.

Get ready to ROCK at the City's 5th Annual Shed Fest concert in the Public Works Yard located behind City Hall. Pre-purchase tickets online for \$15; day of will be \$20 (scan the QR code). The night will kick off with a preshow by **Mall Rats**, from 6 to 8 p.m. They are bringing back your 90s/2000s favorites. **Slippery When Wet - The Ultimate Bon Jovi Tribute** will perform from 9 to 10:30 p.m. Plan your night to enjoy dinner and adult beverages from The Lookout, MN Carnivoriun, or Ku-Ma-In food trucks. IDs will be required to gain entry. Parking will be available at the Ice Forum, and shuttle buses will run from various parks. Follow the City's Facebook and website for more details during the week of the event.

PURCHASE TICKETS: secure.recl.com/MN/champlin-mn/catalog





CITY HALL

Phone: 763-421-8100

Website: www.ci.champlin.mn.us

The City Council and staff can be reached at the following email: email@ci.champlin.mn.us

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday | 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Ice Forum: 763-421-3696

Parks & Public Works: 763-421-2820

Police Administration: 763-421-2971

Utility Billing: 763-923-7135

CITY COUNCIL

Mayor: Ryan Sabas

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Ward 1: Jessica Tesdall | **Ward 2:** Tom Moe
Ward 3: Nate Truesdell | **Ward 4:** Tim LaCroix

CITY STAFF

City Administrator: Bret Heitkamp

City Engineer: Heather Nelson

Communications: Ashley Wagner

Community Development Director: Scott Schulte

Finance Director: Shelly Peterson

Fire Chief: Ted Massicotte

IT Director: Todd Beisang

Police Chief: Glen Schneider

Public Works Director: Chris Rachner

REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE

City Council: 2nd & 4th Monday of the Month

EDA: 2nd & 4th Monday of the Month

ERC: 1st Monday of the Month

Park & Rec Commission: 1st Tuesday of the Month

Planning Commission: 3rd Monday of the Month

*Meeting dates are subject to change; call the City office to confirm dates and times or check website calendar for updates

EDITOR

Champlin Chronicle Editor: Ashley Wagner



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FARMERS MARKET

The Champlin Farmers Market is at Mississippi Crossings every Tuesday through October 10 from 2-6 p.m. Stop by 307 East River Parkway to stock up on fresh produce, flowers, and more!



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[Mayor's Corner]

Greetings, Neighbors!

By: Mayor Ryan Sabas

What a summer it has been! Minnesota summers often take a while to get here, but when they do, we know how to spend the time. This summer has been extraordinary as we finally got to feel what Mississippi Crossings (MC) is all about. With the event center and outdoor performance area open, Champlin enjoyed many family-friendly riverside shows. It was great to see so many of you come out and enjoy what has been 20+ years in the making. Our goal all along was to give meaningful access to the river, and I truly believe we have delivered on our mission! I look forward to another fun year in 2024 with more exciting additions to the Crossings still to come. Our rooftop restaurant will start construction this fall and open in the summer of 2024. The Mississippi Marketplace Deli will break ground this year and open in 2024. To improve access to the area, we are adding additional parking stalls at D.C. Chandler Park (details on page 8). This being the first year, we have learned a lot and hope to continue to improve the experience at Mississippi Crossings. I knew MC would be a hit in Champlin, but what I didn't realize was how big of a reach this venue would have regionally. It has become a top place to visit in the North Metro area.

It has been a busy year with all our neighborhood road projects, and I want to mention how thankful we are for the patience shown by residents. The Ward 2 and 4 project is the single largest road project we've ever done. It has been a huge success.

As the kids go back to school and everyone gets into their fall routine, please don't hesitate to reach out to the City Council or me if you have an item that is important to you or the community. We strive each day to make Champlin a safe place for everyone, especially inside our schools. Community safety is the single most important service we provide, and I look forward to watching our new Police Chief, Glen Schneider, mold the department under his leadership and excel as he takes on today's current

Continued on page 10

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Front Row: Stephanie Stolt (Pre-Planning Specialist), Tina Schulz (Funeral Director), and Brittney Chase (Funeral Director)

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QCTV Wins Big

Quad Cities Community Television (QCTV) was named the winner of two Hometown Media Awards and ten Telly Awards in 2023. A full list of programs awarded can be found at QCTV.org/Awards. QCTV has been providing programming to Champlin for over forty years. Its mission is to connect its communities through local programming valued by residents. Watch QCTV online at QCTV.org and [YouTube.com/QCTV](https://www.youtube.com/QCTV).



October 25th Live & Local: Champlin

Be sure to tune in for Live & Local: Champlin on October 25 at 2 p.m. The one-hour show will air live on QCTV's website, YouTube, and local Comcast Channel 16.

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Champlin Resident Wins Garden Contest

Congratulations to residents Yee Lee and Bryan Johnsen! They have won the 2023 Star Tribune Beautiful Garden Contest. The Winnetka Ave. N. property has become a paradise over the last four years, featuring 27 gardens plus a new canyon feature that allows you to walk over it and underneath it. Through the blooming season, the couple provides tours for people arriving from coast to coast. They say their reward is to see the beautiful gardens' effect on visitors' happiness.

They would love to extend an invite to fellow residents to visit their property. Arrangements for large groups can be accommodated. Visit them on Facebook at "Ascent Flower LLC" to learn more.



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\$12.5 MILLION IN FUNDING SECURED

109th Avenue Reconstruction Project – Jefferson Hwy. to Winnetka Ave.

Since 2016, the City of Champlin has been working with the City of Brooklyn Park to plan for the reconstruction of our border roadway, 109th Avenue N. Because it is a shared boundary roadway, it is a shared responsibility for each city to contribute to improvements of the roadway. In early 2023, the cities contracted with a design consultant to start the detailed design process for the project. Proposed improvements include construction of a four-lane divided roadway with curb and gutter from Winnetka to Jefferson Highway. Intersection improvements include addition of turn lanes and signal improvements at Highway 169, upgrades to the current signal at Winnetka, the addition of a signal at Xylon Lane N., and the construction of a roundabout at Jefferson Highway. The cities have spent time



seeking funding for this project and have successfully secured approximately \$12.5 million!

Construction of the project is proposed for 2025 and 2026. As we approach those dates more information will be available on our website ci.champlin.mn.us.



Park and Ride Closure

117th and West River Road

Due to underutilization, Metro Transit and the City of Champlin have decided to close this specific Park and Ride. In fact, of Champlin residents who use Park and Ride, only eight percent use the Champlin locations. Two close alternative Park and Ride options are Richardson Park in Champlin and the express Park and Ride in Brooklyn Park at 610 and Noble. The 117th and West River Road location will continue to serve as a bus route stop. The future of the location is unknown. It is zoned for single-family residential. If you have further questions, please contact the Community Development Department.

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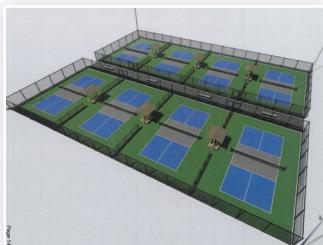
parkdental.com

Pickleball Play

City staff has begun the design phase of a future pickleball complex at Andrews Park in 2024. It would be located next to the existing tennis courts. The current timeline includes design in 2023, bids in early 2024, and construction mid-2024.

Current Locations:

- Paul Wethern Park – 2 courts
- Oak Creek Park – 1 court
- The Bowline Apartments (open for public use 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily)
- Andrews, Richardson, & Highpointe Park – tennis courts lined for pickleball
- Life Time Champlin – 3 indoor courts (\$)



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D.C. Chandler Parking Lot

As a continuation of the Mississippi Crossings development project, Council has approved the expansion of the parking lot at D.C. Chandler Park. This work will include the construction of a parking lot with over 100 additional parking spaces and installation of landscaping, irrigation, lighting, and trails. Construction is anticipated to occur in the fall of 2023. Please visit our website for more information.



Don't Leaf the Lakes

If you look carefully, you may be able to see the first hints of fall colors spreading through the treetops. Not too long after that, you'll look out the window one day to find your entire yard covered in a medley of leaves. As beautiful as the fall leaves are, it is important to recognize that the same leaves that add color to neighborhoods can also add unwanted color to our lakes.

This fall, take time to sweep or rake leaves out of the street in front of your house. Left in the street, they can clog storm drains and contribute to local flooding. In addition, when leaves are washed into nearby lakes, rivers, and streams via storm drains or ditches, they become a major source of phosphorus, the nutrient (or "food") that allows smelly and potentially toxic algae to bloom in our favorite lakes in the summer.

Do your part for our local lakes and don't leaf the lakes you love this fall! Help protect our local lakes by collecting and properly disposing of your leaves.

Seeking Election Judges

Interested in serving as an
Election Judge in 2024?

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your name, address, and phone number to
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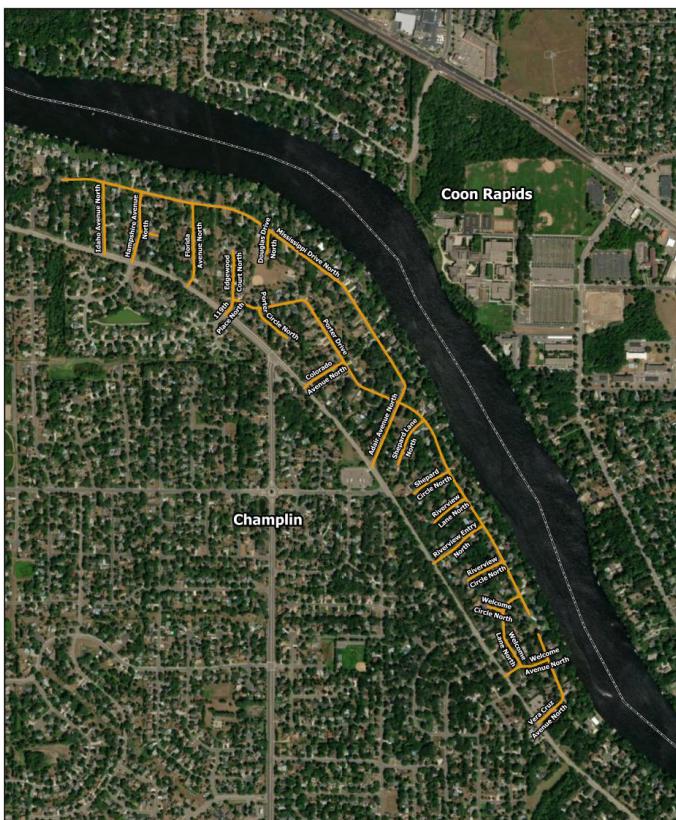
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2024 Street Improvement Project

Planning is under way for road improvements in the area shown on the map. In the upcoming weeks, information will be mailed to property owners who will be impacted by the improvements and a public information meeting will be held the end of September. The city is currently working on the feasibility study for the project. Once complete, we will begin working on the detailed design. We anticipate bidding the project during the winter and construction to begin in May 2024. To learn more, visit ci.champlin.mn.us and select improvement projects.



Skating Season

Visit the Ice Forum for:

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 - **Programs** – Open Skate, Developmental Ice, and Adult Open Hockey
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 - **Meeting Rooms** – Reserve space for a gathering or book a birthday party
 - **Advertising** – Place your logo in ice, on a wall, or on a dasher board
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To learn more, visit the Ice Forum page on the City's website.

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THC Licenses and Cannabis in the City



Understanding Minnesota's New Cannabis Law

A new state law allows Minnesotans aged 21 and older to legally possess and use certain amounts of cannabis and cannabis products. Under this new state law, cities have limited authority to impose additional regulations related to adult use and sales. With that in mind, City Council held a special meeting on August 21st to discuss measures to take in areas where the City does have authority, and they adopted a new ordinance banning the use of cannabis in the parks, public spaces, and on City property. The City has also established a license for low potency THC sales.

It is important to note:

- An adult cannot possess more cannabis than is legally allowed.
- Cannabis cannot be consumed on school property.
- Driving under the influence remains illegal.
- Open containers or products are not allowed in any areas of a vehicle normally occupied by the driver and passengers.
- Under 21 possession and use is illegal.
- Cannabis cannot be sold without a license. The State of Minnesota has stated that licenses to sell cannabis will not be available until 2025. However, low potency THC products, such as gummies and infused beverages, are allowed to be sold with a license from the City.

Learn more: cannabis.state.mn.us

Continued from page 3

issues. By the end of the year, we should be closer to a fully staffed department at 30 sworn officers. I'm excited to be able to move to a more proactive policing model with the additional officers that we have coming on board.



For those who hosted Night to Unite back on August 1st, thank you. I loved being out in the community and connecting with local families. I was able to visit seven of our 61 registered parties. It is one of my favorite nights of the year.

Senior Trips

MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET AT OLD LOG THEATER



Join us for a trip to Old Log Theater to watch this amazing production. We will enjoy lunch at the onsite restaurant, Cast & Cru, prior to the show. This musical captures the memorable day when four rock 'n' roll greats made history. On December 4, 1956, an auspicious twist of fate brought together Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis, Carl Perkins, and Elvis Presley at Sun Records' storefront studio in Memphis, Tennessee. This was the only occasion the four legends-to-be played together, and it has come to be known as one of the greatest rock jam sessions of all time. Registration deadline is October 9 or until full.

WHEN: Thursday, October 26

WHERE: Meet and leave from Champlin Ice Forum

TIME: 10:45 a.m. departure / 4:15 p.m. (est. return time)

FEES: \$90

NOVEMBER LUNCHEON

Join us to hear your favorite Neil Diamond songs by local tribute artist Todd Anderson. We will cater a delicious Italian meal of lasagna, Caesar salad, and breadsticks. The musical performance will follow lunch. Registration deadline is November 22 or until full.

WHEN: Wednesday, November 29

WHERE: Mississippi Crossings Event Center

TIME: Lunch will be served at noon. Doors will open at 11:30 a.m.

FEES: \$25

Register online at secure.rec1.com/MN/champlin-mn/catalog or call 763-421-2820.

Golf Cart Permits



Golf cart season in Champlin officially began on May 22, 2023. So far, 18 permits have been issued and these residents are able to ride their golf cart on the designated city roads. Please remember to avoid trails and

sidewalks, and only drive from sunrise to sunset. All rules and regulations are posted on the Police Department page of the City's website. You can also find the permit application and phone number to direct any concerns to. Enjoy your golf carts up until October 31; after that time, they are no longer permitted to be used on city streets.

Mississippi Crossings Rental Information

Rent the space by the hour or all day. Discover Your Destination by visiting MississippiCrossings.com or call 763-421-2820 to reserve. Questions? Email EventCenter@ci.champlin.mn.us.

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Police Department News

Police Clerical is often the first point of contact for citizens, connecting them with staff and assisting with the many varied requests that come in. They ensure accurate processing, maintenance, and dissemination of police records. They also complete discovery requests, case submissions, and referrals for prosecution to the City and County Attorney's Office. Due to recent retirements, the clerical department has three new employees. Emily is our Police Records Tech. Lindsey and Barb are Clerks.



Lindsey, Barb, and Emily

grateful to be working for the Champlin Police Department. I previously worked with the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office as a dispatcher and a sergeant. I love coming to work every day and being a part of such a great team of people."

Meet Emily

"My name is Emily Schroeder, and I am thrilled to have been selected to work for the Police Department! As a mom of three busy kids, one in each Champlin school, I am excited to establish a career in Champlin. I am looking forward to seeing what the future of our great city holds!"

NEW LEADERSHIP



Meet Police Chief Glen Schneider

"I'm most excited about the opportunity to help the department grow and evolve while continuing to provide great service to our City. I have spent my career experiencing the different aspects of policing to prepare for this role. From patrol officer to deputy chief, I strive to learn and improve myself and others. I'm grateful for this opportunity to serve in a new capacity." Cut the last line as the meet and greet will be in the past by then.

Police Chief Schneider's Story:

Chief Schneider has dedicated 24+ years to our community. He started his career in Champlin as a volunteer reserve for two years after getting out of the Army in 1997. He attended Metro State University where he graduated with a degree in Law Enforcement. He was hired by Champlin as a patrol officer on December 20, 1999. He has served as a Bike Patrol Officer, Field Training Officer, Investigator, Drug Task Force Detective, and a Drug Recognition Evaluator. Schneider was promoted to Patrol Sergeant in October 2013 and performed the duties of FTO Supervisor while in this role. He was then assigned the position of Administrative Sergeant in October 2015 and held that position through December 2020 before returning to Patrol Sergeant. As an Administrative Sergeant, he helped the City achieve being recognized as Heart Safe and Beyond the Yellow Ribbon. He also worked on various internal system changes such as Body Worn Cameras and Records Management. Schneider was promoted to Deputy Chief in 2021 and now Police Chief, effective the week of July 3, 2023.



Meet Deputy Chief Weston Rolf

"I am excited to help lead this department. When I joined the Champlin Police Explorers back in high school, I never imagined I would become Deputy Chief. I look forward to moving our department forward and making it one our community can be proud of. I would like to thank Chief Glen Schneider and the City Council for allowing me this opportunity. I would also like to thank the community for trusting me to serve you."

Deputy Chief Rolf's Story:

Weston Rolf started his career with the City as a Police Explorer in October 1998 and remained an active participant in the Explorer Program until April of 2001. Weston also served as a School Resource Security Officer at Champlin Park High School from August 2000 to February 2001. Weston was promoted to the full-time Community Service Officer position in February of 2001, and in August of 2004, Weston was hired as a Police Officer. Weston has served as a Patrol Officer, School Resource Officer, and Investigator. Weston has also been assigned to the following: livable housing, business liaison, pawn inspector, alcohol and tobacco compliance, D.A.R.E instructor, community outreach, and traffic officer. On October 1, 2015, Weston was promoted to Sergeant. As a Sergeant, he served as a Patrol Sergeant and in his last assignment, he served as the Investigative Sergeant for just short of six years. He is the recipient of the Champlin Police Department's Life Saving Awards (twice), Medal of Merit (twice), a Commendation Award, and a Distinguished Service Award.



Night to Unite 2023

It was another successful National Night Out for our community. Thank you to the Anoka-Champlin Fire Department and Champlin Police Department for visiting 61 block parties. The annual community event takes place on the first Tuesday in August and is a great way to gather with your neighbors outdoors to connect. Your Champlin Police Department, Anoka-Champlin Fire Department, and City Council can't wait to see you again in 2024!



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Community Development News

Work in Progress



Emery Village

Emery Village Reserve 4th Addition is a 40-unit condominium development located south of Goodwill and along Business Park Boulevard. The project, including four ten-unit buildings, is essentially an extension of the Emery Village neighborhood as the layout and architectural features blend with the existing neighborhood. Construction began this past spring and now all four buildings are taking shape. Plans are to have at least two of the buildings open for occupancy this fall.

unit buildings, is essentially an extension of the Emery Village neighborhood as the layout and architectural features blend with the existing neighborhood. Construction began this past spring and now all four buildings are taking shape. Plans are to have at least two of the buildings open for occupancy this fall.



Morningside Estates

This single-family residential subdivision is located along Valley Forge Lane just north of French Lake Road (County Road 121). All homes in this new subdivision are either occupied or under construction.



Twin City Twisters

It is hard to miss progress on the construction of Twin City Twisters' new 40,000 square foot gymnastics facility. Located just south of Willy McCoy's restaurant on Business Park Boulevard, work began in the spring and is moving along nicely. Twin City Twisters indicates that they plan to be open by end of year.

In the Works



Riverway

Riverway Church's plans for a 40,000 square foot church facility on the northwest corner of Highway 169 and 117th Avenue were approved by the City in 2022. Riverway Church indicates that they are planning to begin construction later this year.



Mississippi Marketplace

A market concept within Mississippi Crossings for a 5,500 square-foot building located just east of The Bowline Apartments was approved by City in 2022. The market would specialize in selling ready-to-go deli items, bakery goods, coffee, fresh meats, and produce. The project team indicates that they anticipate starting construction later this year.



Mississippi Crossings Restaurant

Plans for the much anticipated Mississippi Crossings restaurant with a full-service bar, rooftop, and large patio were approved by the City in 2022. The restaurant would be designed to complement the City's outdoor performing area and would be the final phase of development in Mississippi Crossings. The anticipated developer of the restaurant is working to make the project a reality with intention to start construction late this year.



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- BEACH SAND DELIVERY
- BOATHOUSE CONSTRUCTION
- DECKS / PERGOLAS / PAVILIONS / GAZEBOS
- ICE RIDGE DAMAGE
- WATERFRONT WINTER PROJECTS
- SHORELINE RESTORATION
- STEEP SLOPE PROJECTS

LANDSCAPE SERVICES

- IRRIGATION
- LANDSCAPE DESIGN
- LANDSCAPE LIGHTING
- PAVER PATIOS / WALKWAYS / DRIVEWAYS
- OUTDOOR LIVING
- RETAINING WALLS
- TREES/SHRUBS/PERENNIALS

QR CODE

October is Fire Prevention Month

Fire Prevention Week is October 8-14 this year, and the theme is "Cooking safety starts with YOU." Here in Minnesota, residential fires most often start in kitchens, but look at any heat sources and make sure anything flammable (think magazines and newspapers, furniture, clothing, towels, or curtains) is at least three feet away from them. That applies to everything from the toaster to the furnace.



Cooking safety starts with YOU.
Pay attention to fire prevention.
NFPA FIRE PREVENTION WEEK™

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Tips from Your Anoka-Champlin Fire Department

- Look for places fires could start.
- Listen for the sound of smoke alarms.
- Learn two ways out of every room.
- Be aware of the common causes of fire.

If a fire does start in your home, you'll have two to three minutes to get out. A working smoke alarm can buy you the precious seconds you and your family need to escape with your lives intact. So test your smoke alarms monthly and listen for the sound. Don't forget to change the batteries twice a year too, and establish a meeting place that's a safe distance away from your home where everyone can gather after escaping a fire.



Now Hiring

The Anoka Champlin Fire Department is seeking to find paid on call firefighters. Are you 18 years or older? Do you want to be a part of a team that gives back to the community in which they live? Applications can be found on our website at anokachamplinfire.org.



at Champlin's Favorite Italian Hot Spot!

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Reserve Your Table or Private Meeting Room Today [f](#)



Primrose School of Champlin Park

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763.494.5500 | PrimroseChamplinPark.com

Call for a tour.

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UPCOMING *Events*



CHAMPLIN HOLIDAY LIGHT TOUR

We are encouraging all of our Clark Griswolds in Champlin (or homeowners with holiday spirit) to participate in our Champlin Holiday Lights Tour. It's FREE and easy; simply sign up by December 1, 2023, and decorate your home for the holidays.

The only limits are your imagination and your property lines! Use light displays, inflatable characters, and whatever else you can imagine and create!

We will compile a list of participating homes and make it available on our website by December 5. Residents can drive by all participating homes and enjoy the holiday spirit on display in Champlin.

Add your home to the tour list by emailing your name and address to recreation@ci.champlin.mn.us. If you have a photo of your finished display, we would love to include that in your listing as well!



CHRISTMAS AT THE CROSSINGS

December 1 | 4-6:30 p.m.

We invite you to join us as we light the Champlin Christmas tree on Friday, December 1 at the Mississippi Crossings Event Center. This free family event will include special carolers, Santa and more! We will officially light up the tree at 6:30 p.m. More details to come as we get closer to this event.

*Walk-through light displays will be illuminated nightly until 10 p.m. for the month of December.



HOLIDAY GIFT & ARTISAN MARKET

Mark your calendar for Saturday, November 18! If you are an artisan, crafter, or cottage producer, we would love to have you participate in our Holiday Gift & Artisan Market. Information and registration forms can be found on the Parks & Recreation page of our website.

If you are a shopper, you will not want to miss this great holiday shopping opportunity. It is a great way to support local artisans and find those special, one-of-a-kind gifts!

WHERE: Mississippi Crossings Building / 307 East River Pkwy.

WHEN: Saturday, November 18

TIME: Market will run from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

CHAMPLIN BUSINESS CONNECTIONS

Thursday, November 9 | 7:30-9 a.m. | Mississippi Crossings Event Center, 307 E. River Pkwy.

The City and the Anoka Area Chamber of Commerce are teaming up to invite Champlin business owners to Mississippi Crossings on Thursday, November 9 at 7:30 a.m. to connect over coffee. This networking event will give businesses an opportunity to exchange cards, get to know each other, and hear an update on what's happening around town. There is no cost to attend and no need to RSVP. Questions? Call 763-421-7130.

