



Insights

WINTER 2025

City Honors First Bridge Builder Award Winners

At the State of the City event on Nov. 21, 2024, the IGH Mayor and Councilmembers presented the first-ever Bridge Builder Awards. The brainchild of Councilmember John Murphy, the award was based on the idea of challenge coins often seen in the law enforcement and military communities. IGH residents were invited to identify members of the community who have contributed in extraordinary ways through their actions and efforts.

“We are looking to identify the folks who have gone above and beyond, and who have set an example,” said Murphy. “My hope with the Bridge Builder Award is to start to create a culture of recognition in the City of Inver Grove Heights and begin a legacy with this award that will continue for years to come.”

The award idea has been years in the making. Councilmembers and City staff worked together to develop and create the award (pictured left), which was minted locally at Wendell’s, Inc. The Bridge Builder name represents the iconic Rock Island Swing Bridge and signifies that the actions taken by award



recipients “build bridges” that strengthen ties within the IGH community.



Bridge Builder Award Winner: Rob Reitberger



Bridge Builder Award Winner: the late Jill Lewis

After its approval by the City Council in early 2023, the Bridge Builder Award was introduced to the IGH community in the *Insights* newsletter, on social media and on the City’s website (ighmn.gov/Award). Residents were asked to nominate potential individuals and provide a brief explanation of the nominee’s achievements. The City received a pool of candidates—all deserving of the award—and staff and Council began the difficult task of narrowing the field for the first award. Note that, once a resident is nominated, they remain eligible to receive the award in any future year.

The two Bridge Builder Award winners named for 2024 were IGH residents **Rob Reitberger** and the late **Jill Lewis**.

–Learn more about the winners, continued on page 2



A NOTE ABOUT *INSIGHTS*: The City of IGH is working to make its communications more accessible for all residents. Part of this work is adjusting the *Insights* newsletter to include larger font sizes and simplified layouts. Enjoy the new, more readable *Insights* beginning with this issue!



ABOVE: IGH Mayor (center) and City Councilmembers with Bridge Builder Award winners: Amy Nugent (left of center) accepting on Jill Lewis's behalf, and Rob Reitberger (right of center).

Photo credit: Rebecca Slater

BELOW: Rob Reitberger accepting the Bridge Builder Award from IGH Mayor Brenda Dietrich. Photo credit: Rebecca Slater



Bridge Builder Award Winner: Rob Reitberger

Reitberger, who owns and operates local favorites Hometown Meats and Hometown Sweets with his wife of 36 years, Robin Reitberger, grew up in IGH and raised three sons here, all Simley graduates.

Reitberger has given back to the community in many ways, including sponsoring and co-chairing the annual Hometown Heroes Cookout and back-to-school events for ISD 199 faculty and staff. He served as a Police Reserve Officer for 15 years and is an IGH Police Foundation board member. Reitberger is also a member of the ISD 199 Advisory Council and a former coach. He

sponsors IGH Scholarship Royalty candidates and supports Mae's Mission, which aids a local child with a rare syndrome called CTNNB1.

Proud to have grandchildren who also live locally, Reitberger invited his family to be present when he received the award. "IGH is truly my hometown," said Reitberger. "The people who live here have been there for my family, so giving back comes naturally to me. If I see something that needs to be done, I think, 'How can I help?' And for me it's, 'Go big or go home.' How can I make the biggest difference?"

"I have the privilege of working with Rob Reitberger on lots of community events each year, with our favorite being our annual Hometown Heroes Cookout to honor local first responders and others during Inver Grove Heights Days. I sometimes wonder if Rob sleeps in the weeks leading up to the Cookout, as not a day goes by where he isn't working to make the event even better. He brings this same approach to his businesses and to so many other community events he supports. I cannot think of a more deserving recipient of the Bridge Builder Award."

—JOE ATKINS, DAKOTA COUNTY COMMISSIONER



Rob and Robin Reitberger (pictured center). Photo courtesy of Soldiers 6 and Dakota County Commissioner Joe Atkins.



Lewis received the 2019 Service Above Self Humanitarian of the Year Award from the SSP/IGH Rotary. Photos courtesy of Amy Nugent.

"Jill Lewis was steadfast in her support of students, learning and her community. She inspired others to get involved to support students so they could excel. Her wit and determination made things happen for kids. We are all better because of Jill's devotion to public education and our community."

—DAVE BERNHARDSON, SUPERINTENDENT,
INVER GROVE HEIGHTS SCHOOLS



Lewis playing the organ at Old Salem Shrine on Upper 55th Street in IGH in June 2019, one year before her death.

Bridge Builder Award Winner: the late Jill Lewis

The second Bridge Builder Award recipient, the late Jill Lewis, devoted herself to the Inver Grove Heights community, and particularly its students. She served on the School Boards of ISD 199 and Intermediate District 917 for a collective 40 years and helped found the B.E.S.T. Foundation, which, under her leadership, raised over \$3 million for scholarships through 2018. Lewis is a member of the Simley Hall of Fame and received the 2019 Humanitarian of the Year Award from the South St. Paul/Inver Grove Heights Rotary Club.

At the State of the City event, Amy Nugent, Lewis's daughter, accepted the award on her mother's behalf from Councilmember Tony Scales and shared memories of Lewis's deep ties to the IGH community. "Jill was a very social person," Nugent said. "She could be found at Cahill Diner most mornings because she would bump into several people she knew every day. The 'Friday Breakfast Group' met for years."

Nugent added, "Jill loved to discover how people in the community were related or connected. When I told her I was dating my now husband, John Nugent, she said, 'His aunt Sandy was my best friend growing up until she moved away.' My husband was golden in Jill's eyes forever more."

The Future of the Bridge Builder Award

The City will continue to ask the IGH community to identify and nominate "Bridge Builders" like Reitberger and Lewis, and plans to recognize a new winner or winners next year and in years to come. "The spirit of community service and stewardship that we are recognizing with this award is a sort of bridge to the future," said Councilmember John Murphy. "We are setting an example for future generations."

If you know of an IGH resident who has made an extraordinary contribution to the IGH community, visit ighmn.gov/Award to nominate them for the IGH Bridge Builder Award.

False Alarm Program Enrollment is Open

The IGH Police Department has a False Alarm Program to help regulate and reduce repeat false alarm calls for service. This program operates from Jan. 1 through Dec. 31 of each year. City Ordinance Title 5, Chapter 3 (Alarm Systems) requires all property owners with an alarm system to complete a Subscriber Alarm Permit annually. There is no fee for this annual permit.

The Subscriber Alarm Permit process can be completed in the following ways:

- 1 Scan the QR code (*right*) with a smartphone or device. This allows you to complete and submit the permit application from your smartphone or device.
- 2 Access the permit application from our City website: ighmn.gov/Police.
- 3 Stop by the IGH PD front counter at City Hall and complete the permit application.

During a calendar year, the first two alarms are responded to at no charge to the alarm user. The fee for a third and subsequent false alarm are as follows:

- The **third false alarm** response fee is \$100.
- The **fourth false alarm** response fee is \$200.
- For the **fifth and all subsequent false alarm** responses, the fee is \$300 per call.

If an alarm is deemed not to be a false alarm, there is no charge.

TO ENROLL in the False Alarm Program, scan the QR code below with your smartphone, or go to ighmn.gov/Police.



FOR REGISTERED ALARM USERS:

If there was no change to your permit between 2024 and 2025, simply complete the name and address sections on your application and select “no changes” when you apply.

DID YOU KNOW?

Community crime maps and monthly crime reports can be found in the IGH PD section of the City website at: ighmn.gov/CrimeMap





2024 Citizen Police Academy participants in class with IGH PD Officers.

**CALL NOW!
LAST YEAR'S
ACADEMY
FILLED QUICKLY**

Join the Citizen Police Academy

Wednesdays, April 9 to May 21, 2025
6 to 9 p.m.

The IGH PD is excited to announce openings for its 2025 Citizen Academy class. The program is taught by IGH PD Officers and is designed to offer citizens an inside look into department operations, including:

- A tour and history of the IGH PD.
- The functions of the patrol, investigations, SWAT, negotiators, physical evidence, bike patrol, traffic and K-9 units.
- A review of typical calls for service.
- DWI demonstrations.
- Routine and felony traffic stops.
- Appropriate use of force.
- The laws of arrest.
- Searching and handcuffing a suspect.

After successful completion of this program, participants will be given an opportunity to ride along with an IGH Officer during their shift.

We ask that you make a commitment to attend each of the six weekly sessions.

If you are interested in participating, please register early, as the number of participants will be limited to 15.

Applications can be found on the City website at ighmn.gov/CitizenAcademy.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact:

Lieutenant John Daniels
Citizen Academy Coordinator
EMAIL: jdaniels@ighmn.gov
PHONE: 651-450-2466

Salt Smart, IGH!



Combat ice AND protect water resources this winter season!

Excessive use of deicer and salt on roadways, sidewalks and driveways can pollute both soil and water resources. Even small quantities can negatively impact drinking water, plants, fish and wildlife. **Make a pledge to salt smart this season by following these four steps:**

SHOVEL. Clear walkways before snow turns to ice. Apply salt only if needed.

SCATTER. Use salt only where critical. Aim for three inches of space between salt granules.

SWITCH. Salt doesn't melt ice in temperatures below 15 degrees Fahrenheit. Use sand or grit for traction when it is too cold for salt to be effective.

SWEEP. Clean up leftover and excess salt, sand and deicer to save and reuse as needed.

Pick up a **FREE SALT CUP** at the front desk at City Hall, which will help remind you of how much salt to use this winter, while supplies last.

WHERE TO FIND CITY OF IGH DRINKING WATER NEWS

The City continues to make progress on both interim and long-term improvements to the City's Water Treatment Plant, which will help address elevated radium levels found in the City's drinking water in late 2022.

A City webpage devoted to this topic is updated regularly as new information becomes available:

ighmn.gov/WaterNotice.

The most recent public notice regarding radium is available at the following link: ighmn.gov/WaterPublicNotice.

If you have questions about the City's drinking water, or to request a paper copy of public notices, email water@ighmn.gov or call 651-450-4309.

GIS CORNER

EXCITING OPPORTUNITY: 2025 GIS SUMMER INTERNSHIP!

Are you pursuing a degree in GIS? Do you love maps, spatial thinking and making an impact in the community? The City of Inver Grove Heights is offering a rewarding GIS Summer Internship in 2025!

Over the past decade, the GIS Division has been fortunate to work with outstanding interns who bring creativity, independence and a drive to learn. As an intern, you'll dive into approximately 350 hours of hands-on experience over 20 weeks, tackling 10-15 diverse projects. You'll work with cutting-edge tools like ArcGIS, Survey123, Quick Capture and Dashboards, contributing directly to the City's initiatives and gaining valuable real-world skills.

Keep an eye out this spring when applications open! Don't miss your chance to grow and make a difference in the Inver Grove Heights community.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	 <p>SOUTH VALLEY PARK FUN DAY Monday, Jan. 20 South Valley Park 2:30-4:30 p.m. FREE; No registration necessary</p>		<p>1 NEW YEARS DAY City Offices Closed VMCC Open 9 a.m.-1 p.m.</p>	2	3	4
5	<p>6 City Council Meeting 6 p.m. City Hall</p>	<p>7 Planning Commission Work Session 6 p.m. VMCC Rm. 1 & 2</p>	<p>8 Parks & Rec. Advisory Commission 7 p.m. City Hall</p>	9	10	11
12	<p>13 Econ. Dev. Authority 5 p.m. City Hall City Council Work Session 6 p.m. City Hall</p>	14	15	16	17	18
19	<p>20 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY City Offices Closed VMCC Open</p>	<p>21 Planning Commission 7 p.m. City Hall</p>	22	<p>23 Environmental Advisory Commission 7 p.m. City Hall</p>	24	25
26	<p>27 City Council Meeting 6 p.m. City Hall</p>	28	29	30	31	

Coming soon in early 2025! A BRAND NEW WAY TO PAY YOUR UTILITY BILL

New and improved online payment portal will be offered by the City of IGH:

- New payment options for online, pay-by-phone and pay-by-text.
- Additional forms of payment will be accepted.
- Convenient paperless billing for fast receipt of invoices.
- Text reminders and payment scheduling options.
- All with fully certified high-level data security!





SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	 IGH POLICE DEPARTMENT Community Safety Survey closes February 17 Take the survey before it closes! ighmn.gov/Police					1
2	3 Econ. Dev. Authority 5 p.m. City Hall City Council Work Session 6 p.m. City Hall	4 Planning Commission 7 p.m. City Hall	5	6	7 Princess Dance 6-8 p.m. National Guard Gym at VMCC <i>(must register)</i>	8
9	10 City Council Meeting 6 p.m. City Hall	11	12 Parks & Rec. Advisory Commission 7 p.m. City Hall	13	14	15
16	17 PRESIDENTS' DAY City Offices Closed VMCC Open	18 Eagan-IGH WMO 5:30 p.m. City of Eagan Plann. Comm. 7 p.m. City Hall	19	20	21	22 IGH SPARC 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament 10 a.m., National Guard Gym <i>(must register)</i>
23	24 City Council Meeting 6 p.m. City Hall	25	26	27 Environmental Advisory Commission 7 p.m. City Hall	28	

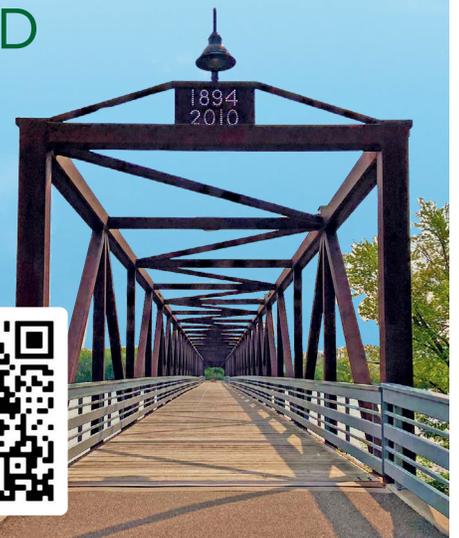


CITY OF INVER GROVE HEIGHTS BRIDGE BUILDER AWARD

Do you know an IGH resident who has made an exceptional difference in the community?
Nominate them for the Bridge Builder Award!

Three ways to nominate:

- Write a letter and mail it to City Hall, attn: Kris Wilson
- Visit ighmn.gov/Award or scan the QR code



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>When clearing snow from driveways and sidewalks this winter, observe the melting patterns to better understand the water paths in the area. Identify the routes to fix and keep slippery spots from developing when the snow melts and re-freezes. To learn more about protecting water resources, visit Imrwmo.org or eaganinvergroveheightswmo.org.</p>						<p>1 Craft Fair 9 a.m.-1 p.m. National Guard Gym at VMCC</p>
2	<p>3 City Council Work Session 6 p.m. City Hall</p>	<p>4 Planning Commission 7 p.m. City Hall</p>	5	<p>6 Kids ROCK Parent Info. Session 5:30-7 p.m., VMCC Comm. Rm. 1</p>	7	8
9	<p>10 City Council Meeting 6 p.m. City Hall</p>	11	<p>12 Parks & Rec. Advisory Commission 7 p.m. City Hall</p>	<p>13 Parks & Rec. Summer Program Registration Begins Noon</p>	<p>14 IGH SPARC Open Skate VMCC 6:30-8:30 p.m. (FREE, must register)</p>	15
16	17	<p>18 Planning Commission 7 p.m. City Hall</p>	19	20	21	22
23	<p>24 City Council Meeting 6 p.m. City Hall</p>	25	26	<p>27 Environmental Advisory Commission 7 p.m. City Hall</p>	28	29
	30	31				



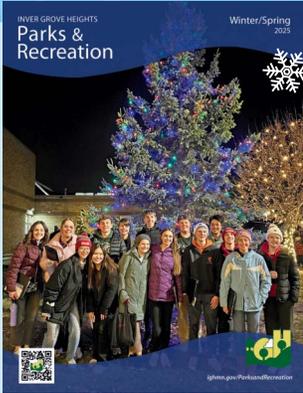
You Belong Here

VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMUNITY CENTER

ighmn.gov/Memberships



Fitness and family fun!



Register TODAY for winter and spring programs!

- YOUTH BASKETBALL
- SEWING CLASS
- SWIM LESSONS
- PRESCHOOL SPORTS
- ZUMBA KIDS
- FITNESS · DANCE
- PICKLEBALL

ighmn.gov/CurrentBrochure

SOUTH VALLEY PARK FUN DAY

Monday, Jan. 20
2:30–4:30 p.m.

- Sledding
- Skating
- Bonfire
- Smores and more!

ighmn.gov/Events



NEW

FITNESS CLASSES AT THE VMCC

- Cardio Strength Train
- Muscle Train
- Family Drop-In Yoga on Sundays
- Sunset Yoga Special
- VMCC Running Club
- Fitness for New Beginnings (for new and expecting moms!)

Princess Dance Masquerade party!
Friday, Feb. 7
6–8 p.m.
Ages 4–12 with an adult
One adult and one child: \$46
Each additional child: \$23

Contemporary Line Dancing
Tuesdays, Jan. 14–Feb. 18 · 1:15 p.m.

Basic First Aid/CPR Class

Monday, January 6

VMCC · 5-9 p.m.

BE PREPARED!

Learn how to care for people in emergency situations.



Calling all boys & girls grades 6-8! (\$10 per team)

3-ON-3 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

Saturday · Feb. 22
Starts 10 a.m.

in partnership with **IGH SPARC**
Spartan Prevention, Advocacy, & Resource Coalition

IGH Park & Rec

Craft Fair

SAT., MAR 1
9 a.m.–1 p.m.

NATIONAL GUARD GYMNASIUM

Creative vendor booths of all kinds!

ighmn.gov/Events

CHECK OUT THE IGH Senior Center

Cards · Day Trips
Fitness Classes
Book Clubs & More!

ighmn.gov/ActiveAdults55



Register online at ighmn.gov/Register

Recycling Guide at
dakotacounty.us,
search
recycling guide.



Follow Your Recycling

If you followed your recycling in Dakota County, you wouldn't have to go very far. The materials are sorted by people and machines at local recycling facilities and sent to different companies that turn them into new products. Many of these companies are based right here in Minnesota, turning recyclables into new cracker and cereal boxes, durable decking and fencing, food and beverage bottles and more. To keep this process running smoothly, it is important to put the right items in home recycling.

Put these items loose in home recycling (no plastic bags):

PAPER

- Newspaper and inserts
- Magazines and catalogs
- Mail and office papers

CARDBOARD

- Corrugated cardboard
- Paperboard (e.g., cracker boxes)

CARTONS

- Milk and juice cartons
- Soup, broth and wine cartons
- Juice boxes

METAL CANS

- Aluminum, tin and steel cans

GLASS BOTTLES AND JARS

- Plastic bottles, containers and jugs
- Containers numbered 1, 2 or 5
- Soda, juice and water bottles
- Milk and juice jugs
- Margarine, cottage cheese and other tubs and lids
- Laundry detergent bottles and jugs
- Clear berry and produce containers

Make sure bottles, jars and containers are empty and dry before recycling. They don't have to be perfect—just free of most residue like food and liquids. Leave caps on containers and flatten boxes. Leave out plastic bags, batteries, black plastic, food and things that can tangle around moving machines. Wondering about a specific item? Use the online Recycling Guide at dakotacounty.us, search *recycling guide*.

Partially funded by Dakota County and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

Home Improvement Loans May Be Available to Qualified Homeowners

The Dakota County Community Development Agency (CDA) Home Improvement Loan Program assists low- and moderate-income homeowners with making repairs and improvements to their homes. Funds can be used for roof or furnace replacement, electrical and plumbing repairs, and accessibility improvements, such as ramps or kitchen modifications.

In late 2024, the City of IGH, along with other area cities, received funding called Local Affordable Housing Aid (LAHA) from the State of Minnesota, part of the revenue collected from a 0.25% metropolitan region-wide sales tax established by the Minnesota Legislature in 2023.

On Dec. 2, 2024, the City Council elected to use 80% of the City's approximately \$200,000 in LAHA money to further fund the Home Improvement Loan Program. The Council considered the success and popularity of the program, which has an applicant waitlist. The remaining 20% of LAHA funds will be used to support radon testing in the homes of qualifying individuals.

Interested in learning more about the Dakota County CDA's Home Improvement Loan Program and whether you qualify? Eligible applicants must own their home and have:

- Sufficient equity in the property
- Satisfactory credit history
- Gross annual income within the program income limits

Home Improvement Loans feature:

- Zero percent interest
- No monthly payments
- Repayable when ownership changes or you move from the property. You may be required to repay the loan if you refinance your home or take out a home equity loan.
- \$15,000 loan minimum; \$35,000 loan limit

For questions about Home Improvement Loans or the application process, contact Dakota County at **651-675-4462**, or visit: **dakotacda.org/housing-resources**.

Home Stretch Homebuyer Education

Thinking about buying a home? Here is a chance to prepare!

Take the first step by attending a Home Stretch homebuyer education class. Learn about the entire homebuying process from a certified Home Stretch educator, mortgage lender, realtor and home inspector. Receive a class certificate required for loan programs, including Minnesota Housing and First Generation Homebuyer Community Down Payment Assistance.

For information about upcoming classes, costs, location and to register, call **651-675-4465**, email **sjohnson@dakotacda.org** or visit: **dakotacda.org/homebuyer-education**.



Dakota County
Community Development
Agency

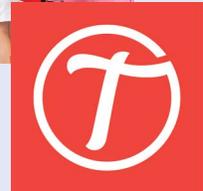
New Rules for Cannabis Businesses

In 2023, the State Legislature legalized adult-use cannabis in Minnesota and at that time some cities, including IGH, adopted moratoriums on cannabis and hemp businesses while the City Council worked to determine their approach to regulation of these businesses.

Since the City’s moratorium was set to expire at the end of 2024, the City Council recently reviewed and adopted new rules for cannabis and hemp businesses that go into effect on **Jan. 1, 2025**. Here is an overview:

- Once a cannabis or low-potency hemp edible retail business has obtained a license from the state, it must register with the City. The IGH Police Department will conduct preliminary and annual compliance checks at the business.
- Based on the population of IGH, the City will permit up to four cannabis retailers to operate here.
- The City will enforce buffer requirements, meaning no cannabis retailer may be located within 1,000 feet of a school or of another cannabis retailer, or within 500 feet of a day-care, residential treatment facility or an attraction within a public park that is regularly used by minors.
- Cannabis businesses will be able to operate in IGH from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Sunday.

Additional questions about cannabis business regulations in IGH can be directed to the City Clerk’s office at cityclerk@ighmn.gov.



OPENING IN JANUARY!

Tono Pizzeria + Cheesesteaks

5751 Blaine Avenue East

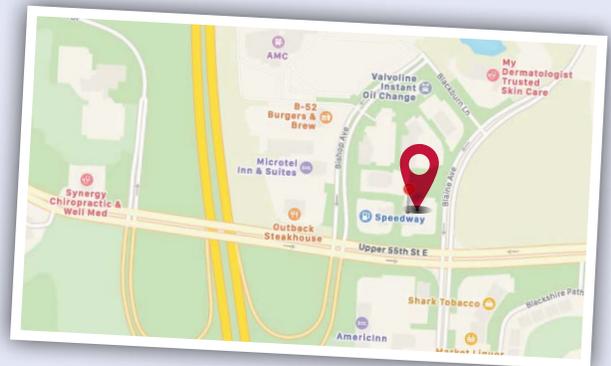
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076

[Instagram.com/_tonomn](https://www.instagram.com/_tonomn)

Tono opened its first location in the Twin Cities in 2019, and its new location in Inver Grove Heights becomes the eighth location in Minnesota. With family recipes hailing from Palermo, Sicily, the Tono mission is to share memorable experiences through food, hospitality, and service to the community. **The grand opening of Tono in IGH is Jan. 4, 2025.**

Shaz Khan, co-founder and president, is excited to open and invites residents to come in. “We at Tono are beyond thrilled to become a part of this community,” says Khan. “We have really been looking forward to opening here, and I see this as an incredible opportunity for us, not just to open another location, but to share smiles and meals with our new neighbors, and show our passion and purpose to a place that already feels like home. We have heard from so many amazing people, online and offline, about their anticipation of this location—and so it feels extra special to know people love us, because we love our customers, too!”

“Once you walk in our doors, you become part of the Tono family,” continues Khan. “We started this business from the ground up right here in Minnesota, and we can’t wait to bring these flavors to Inver Grove Heights.”



Homes Need Smoke AND Carbon Monoxide (CO) Alarms

Smoke alarms are not a substitute for carbon monoxide alarms or vice versa. Make sure your home is protected by both.

SMOKE ALARM FACTS AND TIPS

Due to many factors, fires and smoke spread quickly in modern house fires. Therefore, it is very important to have working smoke alarms to provide an early warning and allow for a quick escape.

- ➔ Roughly three out of five fire deaths happen in homes with no smoke alarms or with the alarms not working.
- ➔ For smoke alarms with replaceable batteries (i.e., not long-life), replace the batteries at least once a year. Pick a date that is easy to remember, such as daylight saving time.
- ➔ Install smoke alarms inside every bedroom, outside every sleeping area and on every floor, including the basement.
- ➔ Follow manufacturer's instructions to install smoke alarms either on the ceiling or high on a wall.
- ➔ Interconnected smoke alarms are best; if one sounds they all sound.
- ➔ All smoke alarms should be tested monthly by pressing the test button to ensure they are functioning properly.
- ➔ Replace smoke alarms every 10 years or sooner if directed by the manufacturer.
- ➔ Keeping doors closed can help slow the spread of smoke, heat and fire.
- ➔ Try to use both types of smoke alarms. **Ionization** smoke alarms are quicker at warning about flaming fires, while **photoelectric** smoke alarms are quicker at warning about smoldering fires. Smoke alarm packaging will be labeled with the detector type.



SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES

Roughly three out of five fire deaths happen in homes with no smoke alarms or with the alarms not working.

CARBON MONOXIDE FACTS AND TIPS

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a colorless, odorless, tasteless, poisonous gas referred to by some as the “Invisible Killer.” More than 150 people in the United States die every year from accidental nonfire-related CO poisoning associated with consumer products, including generators. Other products that can generate CO include faulty, improperly used or incorrectly vented fuel-burning appliances, such as furnaces, stoves, water heaters and fireplaces. *Source: Consumer Product Safety Commission*

- CO is created from combustion of fuels such as natural gas, wood, coal, gasoline and propane. Any heating or cooking equipment that burns fuel can be a source of CO.
- At a minimum, CO alarms should be installed outside each sleeping area and on every floor. Be sure to follow the manufacturer’s installation instructions.
- If a CO alarm sounds, immediately move to fresh air outdoors. Make sure everyone has been accounted for. Then call for help from a fresh air location and wait for emergency personnel to arrive.
- Just like smoke alarms, CO alarms should be tested at least once a month and replaced according to the manufacturer’s instructions. Change the batteries in CO alarms at the same time as the batteries in smoke alarms.
- If warming a vehicle, remove it from the garage after starting it. Never run a vehicle or other fueled engine indoors, even if the garage door is left open, as CO may still accumulate in the garage or house.
- During and after a snowstorm, make sure vents for the dryer, furnace, stove and fireplace are all clear of snow build-up. If a vehicle is parked outside during a snow storm or becomes stuck in a snow drift, be sure to keep the exhaust pipe free of snow if the vehicle is left running.



Just like smoke alarms, CO alarms should be tested at least once a month and replaced according to manufacturer’s instructions.

- Be sure to use generators only outdoors, away from windows, doors and vent openings.
- If using a heater or other fuel-burning appliance in an ice fishing house or other enclosed area, be sure to also install a CO alarm.
- It is important to only use gas or charcoal grills outside, as they can produce CO.
- The initial symptoms of low to moderate CO poisoning are similar to the flu (but without the fever). They include headache, fatigue, shortness of breath, nausea and dizziness.
- High-level CO poisoning results in progressively more severe symptoms, including mental confusion, vomiting, loss of muscular coordination, loss of consciousness and ultimately death.

Insights is published quarterly and is mailed, one copy per residence, to all residential and postal customers in the City of Inver Grove Heights.

WE WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU

Give us a call at 651-450-2500.

CITY COUNCILMEMBERS

Brenda Dietrich, <i>Mayor</i>	651-450-2503
Sue Gliva	651-450-2506
John Murphy	651-450-2507
Tony Scales	651-450-2504
Mary T'Kach	651-450-2505

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Kris Wilson	651-450-2511
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ON THE WEB

ighmn.gov

EMAIL

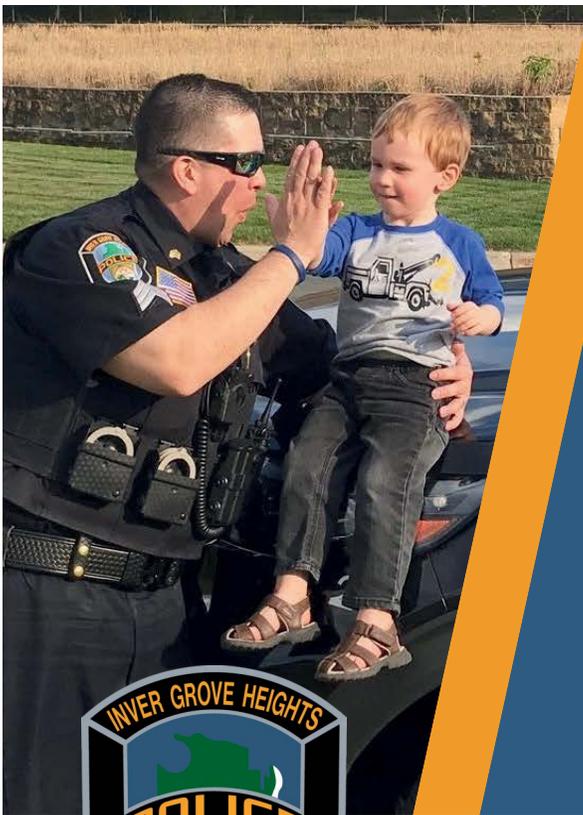
cityhall@ighmn.gov



8150 Barbara Avenue
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077

Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Twin Cities, MN
Permit No. 4639

ECRWSSDDM
POSTAL CUSTOMER



TAKE THE ANNUAL
**Community
Safety Survey**

and help create a safer IGH

Everyone who lives in, works in or regularly visits IGH is asked to complete it.

Find a link to the survey at
ighmn.gov/Police or scan the
QR code to launch the survey.



**Your input helps develop
the 2025 policing plan.**

ighmn.gov/Police
Open until Feb. 17, 2025



The survey takes five to seven minutes to complete.
Thank you for your participation!