



Hiawatha Insights

Easter Egg Hunt

Hop, Hop, Hop.....Easter Bunny is Coming to Kainz Drive Orange Pavilion!!!

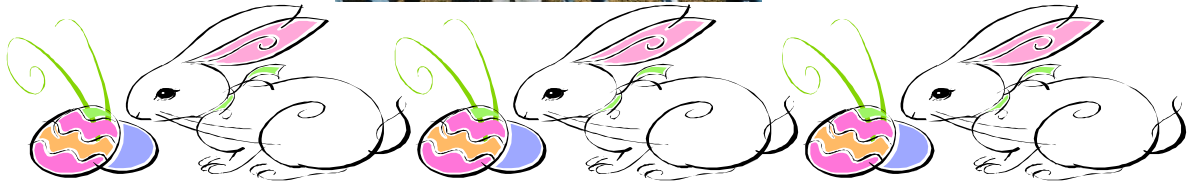
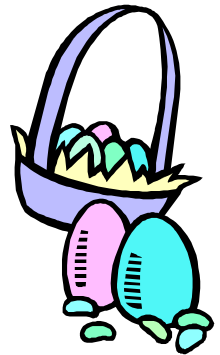
Saturday April 11, 2009 9:00 a.m.

Hiawatha Park & Recreation Department, Culvers Frozen Custard and Hiawatha Lions Club will sponsor the annual Easter Egg Hunt.

Eggs will be spread in the grass around the Kainz Drive Orange Pavilion (Off Boyson Road)



Don't be late!! Eggs vanish in minutes! Visit with Scoopy from Culvers



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- Council Members**
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- Police Chief:**
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- Fire Chief:**
Mike Nesslage
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Local Option Sales Tax Update

On February 2, 2009, our State Legislature passed a bill allowing disaster-stricken city and county governments to quickly levy a one percent local-option sales tax to fund recovery efforts. On March 3, 2009 the vote was cast, rural Linn County, Alburnett, Cedar Rapids, Ely, Fairfax, Lisbon, Mount Vernon, Palo, Springville, and Walker approved the one percent sales tax.

The citizens of Hiawatha voted against the one percent sales tax. 962 citizens came out to vote on Tuesday, with 440 voting yes and 522 voting no, along with the cities of Center Point, Marion, Robins and Walford.

Beginning April 1, 2009 retailers in rural Linn County, Alburnett, Cedar Rapids, Ely, Fairfax, Lisbon, Mount Vernon, Palo, Springville and Walker will be begin collecting and receiving the one percent sales tax for the period of five years, expiring June 30, 2014.



Hiawatha Budget from the Finance Desk

Your elected officials have done a great job of keeping property taxes stable. This was accomplished by making hard decisions weighing the needs and benefits of projects and services against their associated costs. The tax rate will not change from last year's rate of \$15.31 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. An owner of a home valued at \$100,000 will pay \$698.16 in taxes to the City of Hiawatha in the next fiscal year.

Hiawatha's assessed taxable valuation grew by 1.36% due to the state mandated roll-back factors. The main contributing factor is the new residential and commercial/industrial construction. The quality businesses that have located in Hiawatha continue to be a great asset to our community. In effect, residential property owners pay a lower percentage of total taxes as business development continues to occur. The overall result is a balanced tax base for the community.

Hiawatha has been able to keep our tax rates reasonably low and stable due to the diligent efforts of your Mayor and Council Members on economic development and fiscal matters. With their continued efforts, Hiawatha will continue to provide taxpayers the best cost-of-living value in the area.

Mayor's I-380/Tower Terrace Interchange Update

One of the most asked questions of me this past year has been "What is happening with the I-380/Tower Terrace Interchange?" We have been very active in seeking support of this important project in several different ways.

We have received sixteen letters of support from surrounding communities, school boards, chambers of commerce, business development organizations and the Linn County Emergency Management Agency.

In June 2008 in Coralville and again in October in Muscatine, we made presentations before the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) regional meetings which revealed facts and pictures of the traffic concerns occurring at Boyson Road at both the morning and evening peak hours of traffic, resulting in unsafe conditions and justifying the need for the I-380/Tower Terrace interchange.

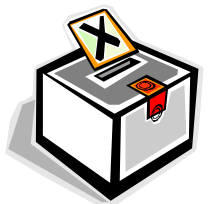
In February 2009, Dick Olson and I joined the Cedar Rapids-Iowa City Chamber of Commerce Corridor group trip to Washington, D.C. This gave us an opportunity to present our case at the federal level. We have an excellent factual presentation that has received some attention. I wish I could tell you that all this effort was going to pay off with quick results; but sometimes government moves very slowly and this seems to be one of those times.

However, I promise not to give up. We plan to forge ahead and make another presentation before IDOT in Waterloo in June.



Sewer Rate Increase Update

On February 4th, the City Council approved the first reading of Ordinance #628 Chapter 99 Sewer Service Charges, Section 99.02 Rate. This ordinance will raise the rate for sanitary sewer charges from its current rate of 84% of the water rate to 100% of the water rate. This will be the first change in the rate since July of 2005. Over the last five years, the City has been actively pursuing inspections and repairs to the system to reduce or eliminate extraneous flows to the system. The cost of the inspections and repairs, as well as the increases the City is experiencing in the cost of treatment have made it necessary to adjust the rates at this time. The second and third readings of Ordinance #628 were held on February 18, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. The Council voted and passed Ordinance #628 which takes effect March 1, 2009. The increase will be reflected in your April billing statement. If you have any questions, please contact the City Clerk's office at City Hall by dialing (319) 393-1515.



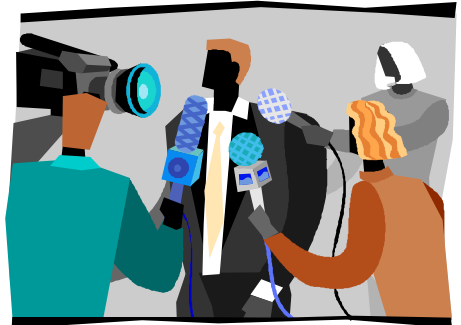
Hiawatha City Council Meetings to be Televised!!!

Mediacom Communications has graciously offered to televise the Hiawatha City Council Meetings.

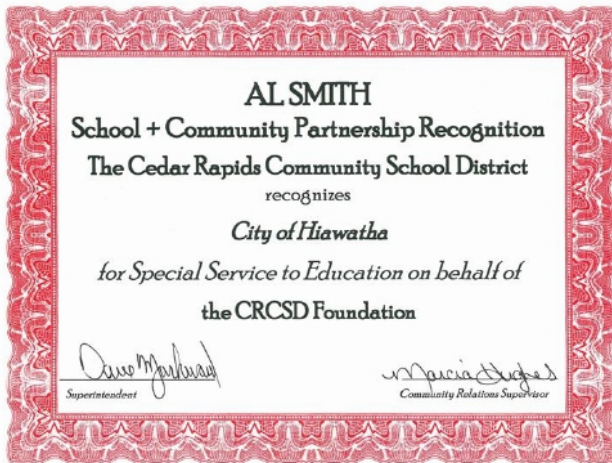
These meetings will air on Channel 18, Wednesday's at 7:00 p.m. and Thursday's at 10:00 a.m. the week after the meetings.

Council meetings are held the first and third Wednesdays of each month, so these broadcasts would be the opposite weeks.

Please tune in to watch these sessions and keep yourself informed of what's going on in Hiawatha.



Galaxy of Stars



The Cedar Rapids Community School District's Foundation recognized the City of Hiawatha for their contributions to support the needs of Students, Staff and Schools affected by the flood of 2008.

The City raised \$15,250.00 to aid students in going back to school.



25 Years of Service to Hiawatha Fire Dept

Hiawatha Volunteer Firefighter Mike Hook was recognized for 25 years of service by the Iowa Firemen's Association. On January 31st the Fire Department held its annually appreciation dinner at the new community center in city hall. Indianola Fire Chief Brian Seymour, who is also Past President of the Iowa Firemen's Association, presented Hook with an appreciation certificate, recognizing him for his years of service.

Mike has served on the Fire Department since 1983 and has served in many capacities. He is presently the Treasure of the Firefighters Association. A fun trivia note: Both Mike and his wife Deb are well known though out the state as being two of the top "Waterball" competitors. Waterball is a popular firefighter competition conducted at conventions and special events.

Next time you see Mike, congratulate and thank him for his years of service to the community.

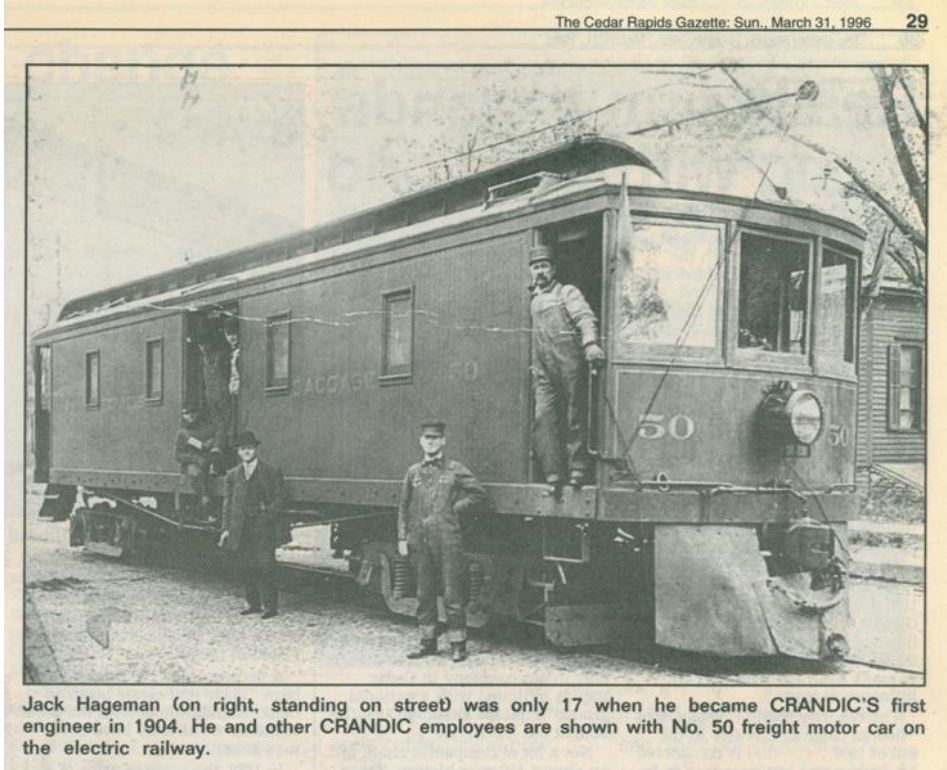


Hiawatha History Corner

1946.....Hiawatha Junction.

Before our city was named Hiawatha, early pioneers remember it being known as Hiawatha Junction. Back in the 1930's the CRANDIC "interurban" Train ran north from Cedar Rapids to Waterloo. It made two stops named "Shiloh" and "Hiawatha Junction".

Hiawatha Junction was located on the west side of North Center Point Road where the existing tracks cross Center Point Road. The name Hiawatha Junction may have some relationship to the Hiawatha Flyer passenger train that passed through the area. The name also may have come from the "Hiawatha Junction" Interurban stop.



Jack Hageman (on right, standing on street) was only 17 when he became CRANDIC'S first engineer in 1904. He and other CRANDIC employees are shown with No. 50 freight motor car on the electric railway.

Council Action Summary

January 21, 2009

Resolution 09-013—Amending Tax Increment Development Agreement by and between City of Hiawatha and Blue Spruce Partners, LLC correct-
ing Exhibit “A” Address and Legal Description of Property.

Resolution 09-014—Approving and authorizing execution of an agreement for private redevelopment by and between City of Hiawatha and
PAETEC Co. and Woodview Properties, LLC.

Resolution 09-015—Declaring official intent under Treasury Regulation 1.150-2 to issue debt to reimburse the City for certain original expendi-
tures paid in connection with specified projects specifically to the Fay M Clark Memorial Park playground equipment, sidewalk access and land-
scaping installation.

Resolution 09-016—Authorizing the purchase of an ICOP Video System and directing Police Chief to submit necessary documentation of Gover-
nor’s Traffic Safety Bureau for reimbursement.

Resolution 09-017—Approving the purchase of two (2) autopluse CPR devices with one (1) to be paid for in FY 08-09 and the second in FY 09-10
to insure the 5% savings.

Resolution 09-018—Amending the City of Hiawatha Pay Plan Policy Procedures to reflect the following: The Compensation Committee will con-
sist of the Mayor, City Administrator, and two (2) Council members of opposite terms.

Resolution 09-019—Approving Change Order #1 for the 8th Avenue Watermain and Subdrain Project with an increase of \$421.76 with a revised
contract amount of \$91,271.97.

Resolution 09-020—Approving Pay Estimate #2 for the 8th Avenue Watermain and Subdrain Project in the amount of \$35,881.29 and to direct the
City Clerk to make payment to Tschiggfrie Excavating Co.

January 26, 2009

Council moved approval of the Capital Improvement Plan (C.I.P.) for FY 09-2013.

January 28, 2009

Resolution 09-021—Requesting submission of the question of imposition of a local option sales and services tax to the registered voters of Linn
County and make a designation as to property tax relief and use the remaining local sales and services tax revenues.

Save The Date!!!!!!

April 25, 2009

**Electronic Recovery, Hazardous Household Waste, Flag Disposal
and Document Shredding Day**

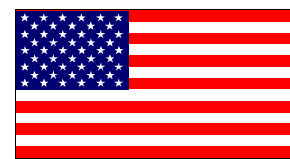
Guthridge Park 10th Avenue Parking Lot from 9:00 am to 11:00 am

Electronics Recovery—Courtesy of Electronics Recovery Services

Hazardous Household Waste—Courtesy of Linn County Solid Waste Agency

Document Shredding—Courtesy of Shred-It Inc.

Flag Disposal—Courtesy of Hiawatha Legion Post 735



March 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
			Council 7pm			
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Public Safety 6pm	Board of Adj 6pm	Parks 6pm Library 7pm	Work Session 6pm		Kids Movie Night 6pm Madagascar 2	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		Friends of the Library 6:30 pm Water 6:30 pm	Council 7pm			
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
		Red Cross Baby-sitting Class -\$35				
29	30	31				
		P&Z 6pm				

April 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
			Council 7pm			Activity Registration Day 8:00-10:00 am
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
						Easter Egg Hunt Kainz Park 9:00 am
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Public Safety 6pm	Senior Evening Dance 5:15 pm Board of Adj 6pm	Parks 6pm Library 7pm	Council 7pm			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Farmers Market Begins 11am Guthridge		Friends of the Library 6:30 pm Water 6:30 pm			Special Needs Dance 6:00—10:00 p.m.	Earth Day Cleanup Guthridge Park 9:00-11:00am
26	27	28	29	30		
		P&Z 6pm				

CITY OF HIAWATHA

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WALK SEQUENCE

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Activity Registration Day at Community Center

Saturday, April 4th 8:00-10:00 a.m.

Come sign up for all of the following programs on a first come first serve basis. Volunteer coaches will be needed for each program, please sign up!
(Number of teams will be determined by the number of coaches.) See our website for more program information, registration and waiver forms.

www.hiawatha-iowa.com

**PLAYGROUND PROGRAM! TOT LOT! YOUTH IN PARKS!
BLASTBALL! START SMART SOCCER! VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE! TENNIS LESSONS!**

Hiawatha Legion 5th Grade Essay Contest Winners

Hiawatha American Legion Post 735 held their annual 5th Grade Flag Essay Contest. The subject of the essay is "What The Flag Means To Me". This year there were 100 participants from the local Elementary Schools. The purpose of The American Legion of Iowa Essay contest is to develop a deeper knowledge and appreciation for the United States Flag on the part of elementary aged students. Other objectives of this contest include the ability to gain knowledge of flag etiquette and respect for the flag.

This years winners and recipients of \$50 savings bonds are; Shea VonSprecken, Caitlin Langguth and Nathan Sheeley.

The winning essays will be entered for further competition in the 2nd District of Iowa. All students that participated in the contest received a \$1.00 coin from the Hiawatha American Legion Post 735.



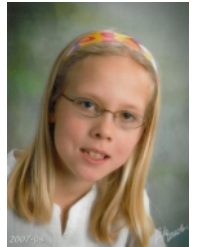
Shea VonSprecken, Viola Gibson Elementary, Daughter of Craig & Carie VonSprecken of Cedar Rapids

When I look at the flag I see 50 stars, each star representing a single state. The 13 stripes represent the 13 Colonies that this great country was built from.

The flag of the United States is displayed at businesses, schools, homes and sporting events. When I see the flag it reminds me of the people who serve our country. When I sing the Star Spangled Banner and say the Pledge of Allegiance, I think about the people who are fighting to keep our country safe.

The letters in the flag mean to me: F for freedom, L for liberty, A for America and G for God. When I see the flag at half mast it makes me think of the important people who have died serving our country.

I am proud to be an American!



Caitlin Langguth, Hiawatha Elementary, Daughter of Sharon Langguth and Todd Brekke of Cedar Rapids

The American Flag is a symbol of hope and freedom. It has been passed down to each generation to show how important freedom is and how brave our past fathers were to fight for our country, and for our rights. For over 200 years the red, white, and blue of the Flag has symbolized the thirteen colonies, the fifty states, and a new beginning.

To many people it has many different meanings. The flag symbolizes our rights, our choices, and our freedom. It not only shows the great things America has done, but it also shows the lives lost and the struggle it took to get here. We weren't always able to make our own choices, we weren't always free. We had to fight for these, and that's what the American Flag means to me.



Nathan C. Sheeley, Nixon Elementary, Son of Pat Sheeley of Hiawatha

I think the flag is a symbol of what Americans are. As proud Americans all of us are free and independent. The flag also stands for hope that every troop in Iraq can come home safely to their loving families and friends. The flag promises that all the sick and poor will get the help that they need. When I think of the flag I am proud. I'm proud because I think of all the things it means like hope, promises, chances and possibilities. I'm grateful of all the chances and possibilities that I have as an American. Every day people are out there volunteering and helping other people and to me that is inspirational.

