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# Hiawatha Insights

## Local Option Sales and Service Tax

The Hiawatha City Council wishes to notify you that a Local Option Sales and Service Tax (LOSST) Election has been called by the City of Cedar Rapids. The intent of the petition is to extend the LOSST in Linn County for the period of twenty (20) years. The petition will be voted on as a contiguous block, meaning that all Linn County metro area cities must vote and approve the tax as one.

On February 2, 2011, the Hiawatha City Council approved a request to submit the question of extending the imposition of a 1% of the Local Option Sales and Service Tax for a period of twenty years to the registered voters of Linn County residing in Hiawatha at an election to be held on **Tuesday, May 3, 2011**. The Hiawatha City Council specified that the revenues from the 1% Local Option Sales and Service Tax, which may be imposed in this City, shall be allocated as follows:

1. Up to 10% for property tax relief
2. The specific purposes for which the revenues shall otherwise be expended is/are 100% for any lawful purpose including, but not limited to, retirement of outstanding obligations, water & sewer system improvements, street improvements, public safety, library, and park & recreation improvements.

Upon a positive vote of the metro area cities, the new 1% sales tax would begin on July 1, 2014 after the current 1% sales tax term ends on June 30, 2014.

**Quick Facts:**

- The first petition for a 1% LOSST for Linn County was voted on and passed in 2009.
- The City of Hiawatha has used funds from that LOSST as follows:
 

Replaced the Police K-9 unit	\$ 40,144
Rescue Truck for the Fire Department	\$160,703
Street Repair/Construction	\$204,476
Park Improvements	\$ 48,641
City Buildings Repairs and Upgrades	\$ 15,562
N. Center Point Road Water Main Extension	\$112,240
Televising/sealing of sanitary sewers	\$ 15,000
- Scheduled FY11-FY13 future LOSST projects include, but are not exclusive to, E. Clark Water Main Replacement, Police Department Portable Radio enhancements, C. Ave. Reconstruction and Emmons St./Robins Rd. Realignment with estimated cost of \$547,000 for listed projects.
- On Tuesday, May 3, 2011, Hiawatha citizens will vote as a contiguous block with Cedar Rapids, Fairfax, Marion and Robins. A simple majority of the composite metro population will approve the extension of the LOSST for a period of twenty (20) years.
- The one-cent sales and service tax will continue to provide funding for capital improvement projects and property tax relief as a whole.
- If the one-cent sales and service tax is extended, the tax would be implemented on July 1, 2014 and ending June 30, 2034.
- If the one-cent sales and service tax is turned down within the Metro area, Hiawatha would have to pay for necessary service upgrades and needed infrastructure repairs through increased property taxes and bonding over the twenty (20) year period.



## Save the Date! City Wide Spring Cleanup

Mark your calendars for Saturday, April 30, 2011 from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. This is the scheduled date for our City-Wide cleanup at Guthridge Park, located in the 10th Avenue Parking Lot. As in year's past, we will be conducting electronic recycling, hazardous household waste disposal, flag disposal, new flag sales, document shredding, eyeglass recycling, hearing aid recycling and medication disposal for expired and left over medications. Watch for the flyer in next month's newsletter detailing all of the specifics about this event that helps to make our City a better, cleaner and more environmentally friendly place to live, work and play.

Also mark your calendars for the week of May 2, 2011 for the Leaves, Brush and Yard Waste Pickup; Saturday, May 7, 2011 for the City Wide Garage Sale and the week of May 9, 2011 for the Bulky Items pickup!



## Activity Registration Day & Hiawatha Easter Egg Hunt

Please join the Parks and Recreation Department on **Saturday, April 9, 2011 from 8:00 - 10:00 a.m.** in the Hiawatha Community Center for Activity Registration Day.

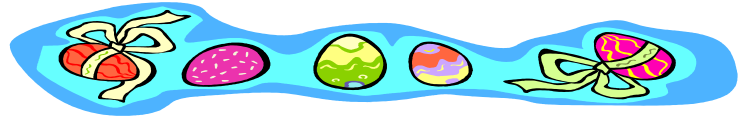
Registration will be on a first come - first serve basis for various summer programs such as Smart Start Soccer, Blastball, Tot-Lot, Playground, Youth in Parks and more!

Parents are encouraged to support our programs by becoming a volunteer coach, no experience necessary and the number of teams is determined by the number of coaches that volunteer.

For questions, please contact Liz Goater or Angie Cole at (319) 393-1515.

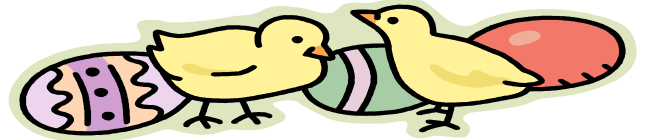


# REGISTER!



The Annual Hiawatha Easter Egg Hunt is approaching again! Mark your calendars for this fun-filled free event sponsored by Hiawatha Parks and Recreation, Culvers Frozen Custard, Hiawatha American Legion, and the Hiawatha Lions Club. This event will take place on **April 23, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. at Hiawatha's Guthridge Park.**

Children of all ages are welcome to attend with their parents to visit with Scoopy from Culvers and search through the grass for eggs filled with candy and toys. *Don't be late, the eggs will vanish fast!*



## Hiawatha Library Self-Check is Here!

Self-check is here! It's official! The long-awaited self-check system at the Hiawatha Public Library has been installed and patrons are happily using it to check out their items. The Library used L.O.S.S.T. funds and a \$25,000 grant from the Giacometto Foundation to implement a new RFID (radio frequency identification) system. Among the many uses of RFID technology is its deployment in libraries. Roughly 45,000 items in the Hiawatha Library's collection were tagged in December, enabling them to be read with a pad that is installed under the desk. This provides staff with the ability to track books, CDs, DVDs, periodicals, and other materials more efficiently, and patrons will be better served by self-check stations.

This technology has slowly begun to replace the traditional barcodes on library items (books, CDs, DVDs, etc.). The RFID tag can contain identifying information, such as a book's title or material type. The information is read by an RFID reader which is installed under the desk. RFID has many library applications that can offer benefits, both for the public and for circulation staff. Since RFID tags can be read through a package, there is no need to open a book cover or DVD case to scan an item. Patrons simply scan their library cards and place their items for checkout on the table. The RFID reader will check out an entire stack of books at one time and give the patron the choice of a receipt. Eventually, patrons will be able to pay fines and fees at the checkout station using a credit card. This RFID technology has also been adopted by other members of the Metro Library Network. Cedar Rapids is already using the system, while Marion is in the process of tagging their sizable collection. This collaboration should serve to provide a more seamless network of library services for all of our patrons. Though we are always happy to wait on patrons, we think that patrons will appreciate the option of self-check.

Come to the Hiawatha Public Library and "check us out!"



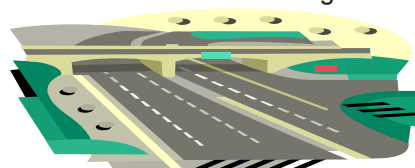
## Emmons Street Closure

The Emmons Street Bridge Water Main Replacement Project work began the week of March 7, 2011. Work began under the Emmons Street bridge and lane closures will occur on Interstate 380 for 2-3 days. The week of March 21, 2011, the Emmons Street bridge including the pedestrian access will be closed to traffic. Emmons Street intersections with 4th, 6th and 7th Avenues will be closed for short periods of time while construction materials and equipment are being moved.

The City will also be publishing press releases and we will post this information on our website as a reminder before the beginning of the project.

We have provided this information to the Hiawatha Elementary School; contact Principal Michelle Elam at (319) 558-2172 regarding the impact of this project on the school.

Please note that for safety, the pedestrian walkways on the bridge will also be closed at this time. Bridge closure should last about two weeks.



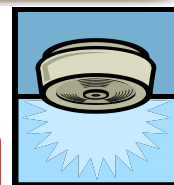
## Hiawatha Fire Department and the American Red Cross -Battery Up!

Teams of Hiawatha Firefighters and Red Cross Volunteers visit those who need assistance to change batteries in smoke detectors and discuss fire safety concerns. If you don't have a smoke detector, one will be installed for you at no charge!

This is a free service! This service will be happening Saturday, April 2, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. until Noon.

To sign up call the American Red Cross at (319) 393-3500 or (800) 982-2438 or go online at [www.grantwood-redcross.org](http://www.grantwood-redcross.org).

If you are interested in volunteering with the American Red Cross, contact (319) 393-3500 or (800) 982-2438.



## History Committee - Fire Department

In the early years of Hiawatha, in the mid 40's, a fire destroyed Fay Clark's manufacturing facility. With no fire protection in the town, he called the Cedar Rapids Fire Department but was denied because they could not respond due to the fire being outside their jurisdiction.

It was after that Fay and Henry Katz of Marion established the Linn County Fire Association, in 1950, which was designed to assist rural communities without fire protection.

After the fire episode, Fay Clark converted an old Army jeep into a make-shift fire truck. Another early fire truck was an old Dodge Power Wagon called the "Grass Buggy", reconstructed by Jim Faas and Fay Clark; it was housed in the complex which later became the first City Hall on the S.W. corner of North Center Point Rd. and Emmons St., with Fay Clark as Fire Chief. It was the home of our first Fire Department until a new one was approved by the voters in 1971 on the corner of Emmons St. and 10th Ave.

Fay Clark returned to Hiawatha in 1972 for the dedication of the new station.

The fire equipment was minimal but got the job done with a Chief and volunteers who were all dedicated and trained in fire fighting. The ladies auxiliary was formed to support the department's efforts. They were very helpful in promoting awareness in the community of the needs of the department and helped with fund raisers for equipment with chili suppers, dances, variety shows, and even an interview on TV with news reporter Dale Brodt.

Members were like a close-knit family with friends helping friends. When a fire call was made it would ring first to Fay and Adeline Clark's phone, if not answered by the fourth ring the caller would move down the list on the roster and so on. The first fireman to the station would set off the fire siren to get the other volunteers.

As the years fly by, the Fire Department has expanded the station, added state-of-the-art equipment, highly trained personnel, ambulance service (EMS) and a full time Fire Chief.

Seeing all of these improvements today makes the people who started it all feel so proud that they had a hand in the "beginning".

### Fire Chief Tenure:

Fay Clark	1950-52	Don Labs	1965-71; 1971-75	Hugh Carney	1984-87
James Faas	1952-54	Lee Waddington	1970-71	Gary Schwab	1988
Robert Cook	1954-61	Keith Kress	1976-77	Bill Foreman	1988-89
Dick Larson	1961-62	Don Mohler	1978-81	Mark Powers	1989-2004
Richard Morris	1962-65	Mark Powers	1982-83	Mike Nesslage	2004 - Present



## Council Action

February 2, 2011

**Ordinance 695 - Amending Hiawatha Code of Ordinances Chapter 95 Sanitary Sewer System amending 95.02, 95.11 and 95.12.**  
**Ordinance 696 - Amending Hiawatha Code of Ordinances Chapter 101 Storm Water Drainage System adding 101.06 and 101.07.**  
**Ordinance 697 - Amending Hiawatha Code of Ordinances Chapter 62 General Traffic Regulations by amending 62.01.**

**Resolution 11-016A - Approving sewer waiver on second water meter for 1501 Boyson Square Drive.**

**Resolution 11-016 - Place plans, specs, form of contract, estimate of cost on file for Thiher Drive Drainage Improvements Phase 2 Project.**

**Resolution 11-017 - Approving and authorizing Fire Department to host an EMT-B Training Class.**

**Resolution 11-018 - Approving the appointment of one (1) volunteer firefighter - Matthew Beeks.**

**Resolution 11-019 - Authorizing Finance Director to proceed with RFP for Fiscal Year 2011-2013 Auditing Services.**

**Resolution 11-020 - Approving Land acquisition of parcel located in the northeast quarter of Section 19, township 84 North, Range 7 West of the 5th Principal Meridian in the City of Hiawatha, Linn County, Iowa near the intersection of Loggerhead Road and Hunt Road in connection with the Northwest Water Main and Sanitary Sewer Project (land for lift station).**

**Resolution 11-021 - Adopting and levying Final Schedule of Assessments and providing for payment thereof for North Center Point Road Water Main and Sanitary Sewer Extension Project.**

**Resolution 11-026 - Requesting submission of question of imposition of a 1% Local Option Sales and Services Tax to the registered voters of Linn County for a period of twenty years.**

**Resolution 11-027 - Prohibiting firearms and weapons in and on property owned, leased or occupied by the City of Hiawatha.**

February 16, 2011

**Ordinance 698 - Amending Hiawatha Code of Ordinances Chapter 160 Fire Code 160.23 Fire Hydrant Installation.**

**Resolution 11-028 - Approving the plan of improvement for Tower Commerce Center First Addition to the City of Hiawatha, Linn County, Iowa.**

**Resolution 11-029 - Approving the three (3) year contract agreement between the City of Hiawatha and the Hiawatha Police Union Teamsters Local 238 effective July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2014.**

**Resolution 11-030 - Approving the three (3) year contract agreement between the City of Hiawatha and the Hiawatha Maintenance Union Teamsters Local 238 effective July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2014.**

**Resolution 11-031 - Authorizing ridge vent replacement to repair the roof of the Hiawatha Maintenance Building, at a total cost not to exceed \$12,286.37 from Wilgenbusch Construction of Manchester, Iowa.**

**Resolution 11-032 - Setting public hearing date (March 2, 2011) to consider proposed plans, specs, form of contract, estimate of cost and direct publication of notice to bidders for North Center Point Road Pavement Reconstruction from Stamy to Tower Terrace Road P.C.C. Pavement, Trail, Sidewalk, Water Main, and Storm Sewer Project.**

**Resolution 11-033 - Approving and making award of contract for the 2011 Thiher Drive Drainage Improvements Phase 2 Project to Dave Schmitt Construction Co. Inc., of Cedar Rapids in the amount of \$181,522.55.**

**Resolution 11-034 - Approving Police Department updates to audio/visual recording abilities for interviews conducted in the investigation room to correct minor issues with the security monitoring system, in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.**

**Resolution 11-035 - Approving an Electronic Recycling Event with Midwest Electronic Recovery on April 30, 2011 from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.**

**Resolution 11-036 - Approving a Community Shred it Day with Shred-it, Ltd. on April 30, 2011 from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.**

**Resolution 11-037 - Approving a Community Collection Event for Household Hazardous Waste on April 30, 2011 from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.**

**Resolution 11-038 - Approving relocation assistance for the occupant-tenant residing at 55 Boyson Road in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 in connection with the Boyson/Robins Road Intersection Project with payment not occurring until property is purchased or condemned.**

## Congratulations Cindy Kudrna!

Cindy Kudrna, Finance Director of Hiawatha, has earned the designation of Iowa Certified Municipal Finance Officer, which is awarded by the Iowa Municipal Finance Officers Association (IMFOA).

IMFOA grants the Certification for Municipal Professionals designated only to those municipal officers who complete demanding education requirements; and who have a record of significant contributions to their local government, their community and state. Additional requirements are: Finance Officer or related experience of 5 years, current member of the IMFOA for three years, attend the necessary conferences and 32 hours of class time.

On behalf of the Hiawatha Council and Mayor, we congratulate Cindy for her latest achievement.

We share your pride in this accomplishment and applaud your professionalism in your career.



## Dance Clinic Recap

On Sunday, January 23, 2011, the Hiawatha Parks and Recreation Department partnered with the Kennedy High School Dance Squad to offer a 'Lil Cougar Dance Clinic. The clinic was offered for children ages pre-kindergarten to 5th Grade from 1-3:30 pm in the Hiawatha Community Center. The girls spent the first part of the afternoon learning a routine to perform at the end of the clinic for parents. All the dancers were provided with a t-shirt. The children enjoy this annual event and always bring their smiles and spirit. Thanks to the Kennedy Dance Squad who did an excellent job facilitating, as well as performing their fight song for all in attendance.





# MARCH 2011



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5 Womens Street Smart Self Defense 10 a.m.
6	7	8 Parks 6:30 p.m.	9 Council 7pm Council Airs 7p.m. Channel 18	10 Council Airs 10a.m. Channel 18	11 Kids Movie Night 6:30 pm	12
13	14 History 1:30 p.m. Board of Adj. 7p.m.	15 Library 7p.m. Water 6:30 p.m.	16 Loebsak Rep @ City Hall 12:00 - 1:00 pm Council 7pm	17 	18	19
20 	21	22	23 Senior Dance 5:30 PM Council Airs 7p.m. Channel 18	24 Council Airs 10a.m. Channel 18	25	26
27	28 P&Z 6p.m.	29	30	31		



# APRIL 2011



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6 Council 7pm	7	8	9 Activity Registration Day Community Center 8 a.m.
10	11 History 1:30 p.m. Board of Adj. 7p.m.	12 Parks 6:30 p.m. Library 7p.m.	13 Council Airs 7p.m. Channel 18	14 Council Airs 10a.m. Channel 18	15	16 Disc Golf Tournament Fay Clark Memorial Park
17	18	19 Water 6:30 p.m.	20 Council 7pm	21	22 Holiday City Hall Closed	23 Easter Egg Hunt 9:00 a.m. Guthridge Park
24 Farmer's Market Begins 11 am - 2 pm Guthridge Park	25 P&Z 6p.m.	26	27 Council Airs 7p.m. Channel 18	28 Council Airs 10a.m. Channel 18	29	30 City-Wide Clean-up Guthridge Park, 10th Ave. 9-11:00 a.m.

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Hiawatha, IA  
Permit No. 33

## Walk Sequence

# Postal Customer Hiawatha, Iowa 52233

**DELIVER BY:  
SATURDAY,  
3/12/2011**

### Projects

The Emmons Street Bridge Water Main Replacement is scheduled to begin the week of March 7, 2011. Two water mains under the bridge will be removed first. During the removal, one northbound and southbound lane on I-380 will be temporarily closed to make room for the removals. Lane closures should last two - three days. When the old water main is removed, the Emmons Street Bridge will be temporarily closed the week of March 21, 2011. The bridge approach pavement on the west side will be removed and a trench excavated. New pipes will be placed into the trench, through the bridge abutment, fed along the bridge beams by pipe rollers that held the old pipes, and reconnected to the existing water mains. Then the trench will be backfilled and pavement replaced. This contract was awarded to Ricklefs Excavating LTD of Anamosa with a project cost of \$168,755.00.

The Thiher Drive Storm Sewer Extension between the south end of Thiher Drive and Boyson Road is complete, with just seeding left to do. In June 2011, the next half of this project will begin by extending storm sewer from the south end of Thiher Drive to the north end. Intakes will be added to the street to collect surface runoff and about a quarter of the street must be removed and replaced to make way for the storm sewer. Intakes and pipe stubs will be laid at the Thiher Drive intersections with Clymer and Daws Roads to continue storm sewer extensions up these roads in the future. The construction contract for this work was awarded to Dave Schmitt Construction of Cedar Rapids with a project cost of \$181,522.55.

Ricklefs Excavating LTD of Anamosa has been awarded the contract for E. Clark St. Water Main Replacement and Storm Sewer Project with a project cost of \$169,712.00. The existing 4" water main on E. Clark St. will be replaced with an 8" water main. There will also be new 1" water services along with curb boxes, curb valves and fire hydrants. New storm sewer and catch basins will be installed as well as 6" subdrain tiles. The project is scheduled to begin April 1, 2011, with work being completed within 90 days, weather permitting.



### Thank You Len Struttmann



Len Struttmann, a resident of Hiawatha, has dedicated his time as an amateur photographer taking several pictures throughout the Hiawatha community, capturing moments in time of City events (most recently the parade honoring Sal Giunta) and additional locations throughout the community.

Len captured a moment in time this past Labor Day of the Avenue of Flags located along Emmons Street in front of City Hall. He was also able to snap a photo of the new City Hall in it's fall colors.



Len has graciously donated both photos to the City, which have been framed and are now hanging in City Hall for others to enjoy.

