

City of Hiawatha

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Hiawatha Insights

Neighbors Helping Neighbors Campaign

Hiawatha's "Neighbors Helping Neighbors" Campaign Contributes \$176,150 to Cedar Rapids Flood Relief

Hiawatha has concluded a very successful six-week campaign to raise money to assist small businesses in Cedar Rapids and 1800+ displaced students recovering from the devastating June flood. Although Hiawatha was not impacted by the June flood, there was an acknowledgement of "the need to get the area's economic engine back on track," according to Hiawatha Councilman and fundraising coordinator Dick Olson.

"It is clear to all that the flood recovery effort is determination rich and dollars poor. Hiawatha's fundraising campaign was a way to help contribute much needed dollars to assist Cedar Rapids businesses and students recovery from the flood," said Olson.



Mayor Tom Theis and Olson served as facilitators for the Hiawatha business community calling on 40 business partners to collect donation checks totaling \$80,450. These donations were matched by the City of Cedar Rapids, resulting in a combined Hiawatha contribution of \$160,900 to the Jobs & Small Business Recovery Fund.

"We did not fully realize the significance of the Hiawatha donation until Dan Baldwin, President and CEO of the Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation, informed us that the fund was nearly depleted," said Mayor Theis. "We are very pleased to shore up the fund with nearly \$161,000 and provide immediate assistance to small businesses resolutely struggling to get back to business," concluded Theis.

Baldwin emphasized the importance of Hiawatha's support as "a testament to putting aside competitive differences in favor of the Metro area as a whole." He further commented on "how gratifying it is to Hiawatha businesses giving to a fund that could assist their competitors in Cedar Rapids."



(To be continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

The campaign concluded on September 6th with a day of fun, food and music in Hiawatha's Guthridge Park to raise funds to assist the 1800+ students displaced by the June flood. "It means so much to us to know that the people of Hiawatha care enough about the displaced children that they would go to great lengths to host an event to support our foundation's flood recovery efforts," commented Amy Geiger, Executive Director of the Cedar Rapids Community Schools Foundation.



The September 6th Flood Fest '08 event was co-chaired by Fire Chief, Mike Nesslage and Parks & Recreation Director, Angie Cole. The event's steering committee members included Rob Archibald, Chelsea Forbes, Dave Saari, Molly Keating, Byron Tabor, and Dennis Marks. Many thanks to these individuals for their above and beyond volunteer commitment to making the event a success. Thanks also to Brian Middendorf and his Hiawatha Bank team for collecting funds throughout the day. Last, but certainly not least, many thanks to Rod Jasa and his Public Works Department team for the event's set up and take down work. The volunteer spirit is alive and well in Hiawatha!



A total of \$15,250 was raised to help meet the needs of the students. "Every dollar makes a difference. The money will certainly be put to good use as we assist the students throughout the school year," stated Geiger. The Cedar Rapids Community Schools Foundation will administer the distribution and use of the funds raised for the flood impacted children through their School Flood Relief Fund.

Successful Park & Recreation Summer Programs



The recreation department has had an exciting and successful season. Thank you to all the volunteer coaches that led our Blast ball and Soccer programs. The numbers of participants in these programs increase each year. Our Playground and Tot-lot programs also had a great year which included new themes each week, guest speakers and field trips. One highlight of the program was a jam session that was held with our senior citizens.

We tried some new programs that went well this season, including offering tennis lessons on our courts at Guthridge Park and a dance clinic in the Community Center. These programs will be offered again next year along with some new ones. We are continually adding to programs offered in the afternoons at the Community Center, including Master Gardener speakers, Healthy Headlines speakers with additional activities for senior citizens.



Hiawatha's special events dominated this summer with four entertaining concerts in the Park, our new Memorial Day Bike Rodeo and Parade, along with the Fill the Sandbag Flood Festival that fundraised money for the Cedar Rapids School District Foundation.

The Park and Recreation Department also offers a wide range of discount amusement park tickets, Farmer's Markets on Sundays, and we are beginning our series of Kids Movie Nights. If you would like to be informed of Hiawatha special events and programs, please send your email address to parkdirect@hiawatha-iowa.com. For a list of our current recreational opportunities or community center information, please check out our website at www.hiawatha-iowa.com.

Guthridge Park & Tucker Park Splashpads



Splash pads usually open around the 15th of April and close the 15th of October. Weather permitting.

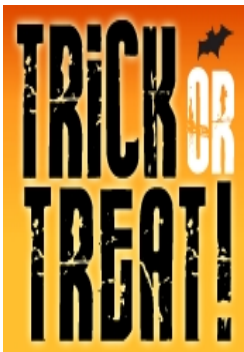
School Time Safety from your Hiawatha Police Dept.

Now that school has started, all drivers are urged to “drive safe” and student pedestrians are urged to “be smart” and make safety a priority. Here are some general safety tips:

- The speed limit in Residential and school zones is 25 miles per hour. You should drive with added caution when children are present.
- Obey all traffic signals, signs and markings whether walking, bicycling or driving.
- Do not park or stop to unload children in no parking zones or on the roadway. Use the school’s designated drop off and pickup zone. This will help cut down on the potential for accidents during periods of congestion.
- Have your children enter and exit vehicles on the passenger side of the car and only in loading areas or next to the sidewalk when legally parked.
- Remind your children to look in all directions before crossing the street.
- Cross the street only in a marked crosswalk or at a corner, not mid block.
- When riding a bicycle, you should always wear a helmet.



The Hiawatha Police Department monitors specific areas near Hiawatha and Nixon elementary schools and violators will be issued citations for unsafe driving.



With Halloween upon us follow these easy tips to help keep you and your children safe:

- Trick or treat in a group with others and only in your neighborhood.
- Young children should be accompanied by an adult at all times.
- Set a time limit for children to trick or treat.
- Wear reflective clothing or use glow sticks or flashlights.
- Do not eat any candy until it has been inspected by a parent or guardian.
- Never go inside a stranger’s house or car.



For October Fun, Pencil in Hiawatha Public Library

Great American Art on Display at Hiawatha Public Library

From October 2008 through July 2009, prints from the Picturing America collection will be displayed at the Hiawatha Public Library in the Youth Services area. The reproductions will be appreciated by children and adults, but kids will especially enjoy the I Spy rhyme that accompanies each print. Like the Jean Marzollo/Walter Wick I Spy books, kids are encouraged to seek certain items in each work. This activity provides a great opportunity for adults and children to experience each print together.



Every two-three weeks, new prints will be exhibited so be sure to check out the Picturing America wall each time you come to Hiawatha Public Library.



Fall in Hiawatha conjures up images of plump, juicy pumpkins. That means delicious pumpkin pie cannot be far behind. Join us for The Pumpkin Pie-letter Project on Tuesday October 14, at 4:15 pm. First through fifth graders will concoct their own sweet treat and learn a little pumpkin history. Lovers of the big orange might even enjoy a pumpkin tale.

Parents and care providers, are you too busy to catch a weekday story time? Hiawatha Public Library offers a solution. Super Saturday Story Time begins October 18 at 10:30 am. Preschoolers are invited to listen to stories, sing songs and learn finger plays.

Children Reading to Dogs is back for its second year at Hiawatha Public Library. A program for new readers, Children Reading to Dogs brings children and books together to create happy, confident readers. Join us on Thursday, October 23 at 6:30 pm. Sessions are limited to 15 minutes and are filled on a first-come/first-serve basis, ending at 7:00 pm.

OCTOBER 2008

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
			Council 7pm	Water Color Class Begins		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Arthritis Class Begins 9 weeks @ 9:00 a.m.	Smart Discipline Seminar 6:30 p.m.	Work Session 6pm			
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	History 1:30pm	Parks 6pm			Kids Movie Night 6pm Chipmunks	
Public Safety 6pm	Board of Adj 6pm	Library 7pm	Council 7pm			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
		Friends of the Library 6:30 pm				
		Water 6:30 pm				
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Last Farmer's Market		P&Z 6pm			Photo Contest Deadline 5pm	

NOVEMBER 2008

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
						Fire Dept Chili Supper 11am-7pm
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
			Council 7pm			
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	History 1:30pm	Parks 6pm				
Public Safety 6pm	Board of Adj 6pm	Library 7pm	Work Session 6pm			
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
		Friends of the Library 6:30 pm			Kids Movie Night 6pm	
		Water 6:30 pm	Council 7pm			
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30		P&Z 6pm				

Hiawatha Projects

Mitchell Drive Pump Station & Force Main Extension/By-Pass Design Project 2008

Awarded to Ricklefs of Anamosa, Iowa in the amount of \$448,880.00.

Project start date scheduled for: Sept 15, 2008

Projected completion date: May 11, 2009

This project is on schedule.



Demolition of Buildings and Grading of 94 & 98 Emmons Street

Awarded to Ricklefs Excavating Ltd of Anamosa, Iowa, in an amount not to exceed \$48,409.50.

Projected start date scheduled for: September 22, 2008

Projected completion date: November 1, 2008

This project is on schedule.

Completed Projects:

Willman, Heefner & 9th Ave Storm Sewer, Watermain and Paving final cost \$477,040.41.

Phase II Hiawatha City Hall Demolition & Grading

Final cost \$84,686.20.

Up Coming Projects:

8th Ave Watermain and Subdrain Project to begin this fall.

Ground Water Vulnerability

Hiawatha's water supply comes from deep wells that are drilled into a limestone formation called the Silurian-Devonian Aquifer. This bedrock formation is from 0 to 50 feet below the surface of the ground. You can see this type of formation in Hiawatha when you drive south on I-380 from Boyson Road. There is also a section along Dry Run Creek, just north of Tucker Park, where you can see this formation as well. The confining layers of soil over the bedrock are unconsolidated so water can move from ground level through the soil into the bedrock aquifer. Water as a general rule does not move through bedrock; it moves through the cracks in the bedrock formation.

Water will combine with contaminants and carry them into the aquifer rather easily. So anything that is put on the surface of the ground or below the surface may find its way into the aquifer. This makes the top part of the Silurian-Devonian Aquifer vulnerable to contamination. Hiawatha's wells have been drilled deeper to pull the water off the bottom part of the aquifer to lessen the possibility of contamination. However, just because these wells are deeper doesn't eliminate the need to protect our water supply. Everything we put into the ground has the potential to seep down, even to the deep wells,



Council Action Summary

September 3, 2008

Resolution 08-141 adopting plans, specification, form of contract and estimate of cost for Mitchell Drive Pump Station & Force Main Extension/By-Pass 2008 Design Project

Resolution 08-142 approving and awarding contract of Mitchell Drive Pump Station & Force Main Extension/By-Pass 2008 to Ricklefs of Anamosa, Iowa for \$448,880.00.

Ordinance 624 adopting amendment of UDC Sections 165.15:2 Land Use Matrix Figure I; 165.16:9(A) C-3 Highway Commercial District; 165.16:10(A) C-4 Central Service District and 165.16:13(A) I-1 Restricted Industrial District.

Resolution 08-143 authorizing Reformation of Landscaping contract for Center Point Road with Creekside Gardens.

Resolution 08-147 approving Policy and Procedures for City Council Meeting Preparation and Meeting Proceedings.



September 17, 2008

Resolution 08-149 approving Final Plat for Longfellow 7th addition, including the Development Agreement.

Resolution 08-150 approving and awarding contract for demolition of Buildings and Grading at 94 & 98 Emmons Street to Ricklefs Excavating LTD for \$48,409.50.

Resolution 08-151 authorizing engineer services proceeding with design plans and specifications, to obtain quotes for the 8th Ave Watermain and Subdrain project.

Resolution 08-157 approving Police 755 EMS Administrative: Hardship and Policy 756 EMS Administrative: Uncollectible Accounts regarding Ambulance services.

Resolution 08-158 authorizing Mayor to sign the indemnification agreement with Hope United Church of Christ.

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Water Dept. Changes due to new Legislation

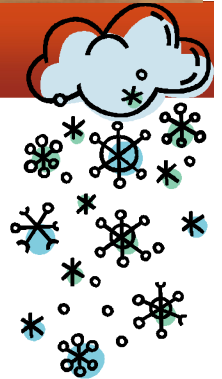
Effective immediately, the city water department will implement a new policy for customer sign-up for water/sewer service connection due to new legislation requirements (Section 114 of the Fair and Accurate Credit Transaction Act of 2003 16 C. F. R. § 681.2). The Hiawatha Water Department will no longer be able to allow new customers to sign up for services over the phone; before the new account can be put into an individual's name the customer will have to come into City Hall, show a photo ID, fill out an application card and pay a deposit. If a customer chooses to withhold their social security number the customer may be required to pay a higher deposit, pending water board approval.

Coming soon, the Water Department will no longer be able to take the customer's credit card information over the phone for payment of their water/sewer bill. We will be working with a company called Official Payments. If you call the Water Department to make a credit card payment over the phone, you will be given a phone number to call Official Payments directly to make a credit card payment for your water/sewer bill payment to the Hiawatha Water Department.



Winter is coming—Be Prepared!

The snow season is fast approaching. Let's hope this winter will not be as bad as last winter. That was one for the record books. Here are a few facts about last winter. We normally budget about \$46,000 for snow removal. Last year we spent \$116,000. In a normal winter, we use 200 tons of salt and 400 tons of sand. Last year we used 425 tons of salt and 1035 tons of sand. Our 5 person crew spends on an average 400 hours of regular time and 140 hours of overtime battling snow during a normal winter. Last winter, we spent 860 hours of regular time and 245 overtime hours doing snow operations. I do not recall what the final total snowfall was but I know it was close to 6 feet. Not to mention all the freezing rain!! Here are a few reminders for the upcoming winter.



- **Please, please, please**—do not push, plow, pile, or deposit snow from your driveway, sidewalk, and parking lot (residential or commercial) into the street. It is against our City Code to do this. Chapter 135.12. This includes pushing snow from your driveway across the street into your neighbor's right-of-way. The city snow plows will have to make extra passes to clean this up and the snow will end up in your neighbor's driveway. Try to keep driveway and sidewalk snow in your yard behind the sidewalk. Save as much room as possible in the right-of-way (area between the sidewalk and street) for street snow. If you have a contractor plow your driveway, sidewalk, or parking lot, please inform them of this. If you have no place to put the snow then you will have to have it hauled away. Because of the problems we had last winter, we will be issuing warnings and possible fines to violators. It is recommended that you do not clear the end of your driveway till the street has been cleared.
- **Property owners**—have 24 hours to remove snow from their sidewalks after the cessation of snow fall. City Code Chapter 136.03. The City can remove the snow and assess the costs to your property taxes. Bear in mind this is contracted out. This is done so pedestrians and school children can have safe routes to walk on. If you want to report a sidewalk that needs to be cleared, call 393-1515.
- **Check your mailbox**—to be sure that it is behind the BACK of the curb line, preferably about six inches. City Code Chapter 135.14. If a plow hits your mailbox and/or post, buy a new one if needed and bring the receipt to City Hall. You can be reimbursed up to \$50.
- **You can help out**—the Water Dept. and Fire Dept. by clearing snow from around fire hydrants that are near your property. This makes it easier for the firemen to find them during emergencies.
- **Check with your neighbors**—, especially the elderly, to see if they need help with shoveling their sidewalks and driveway. It's a great way to build community spirit and check on neighbors.
- **Safe winter driving tips**—will be published in the next newsletter. The City's Snow and Ice Control Policy will soon be available on the City website.
- **Keep your vehicles**—in your driveway or parking lot during snow events. This makes it easier for the plow trucks to clear the street curb to curb.