

Volume 31  
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# Hiawatha Insights

## Fire Prevention Week

As a member of the fire service for 27 years and your Fire Chief, I have seen all too many times the devastation fire can inflict on people. Watching a household lose their most valued possessions is simply heartbreaking. But there's no greater horror than to witness a family suffer the aftermath of one or more loved ones who have perished in a fire. What's most frustrating about so many of these incidents is that the fatal outcomes often could have been prevented with the presence of properly installed, working smoke alarms.

Each year, nearly 3,000 people die in home fires; many of those deaths could be avoided with the proper smoke alarm protection. Statistics show that while working smoke alarms cut the chance of dying in a fire nearly in half, roughly two-thirds of all home fire deaths result from fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no *working* smoke alarms.

Recommendations include a smoke alarm installed in all bedrooms, at least one on every level of a home (including the basement), and outside all sleeping areas. It is also recommended that smoke alarms be interconnected, so that when one sounds, they all do. Smoke alarms should be tested monthly, and the battery replaced yearly. Smoke detectors have a life span of about 10 years....after which they should be replaced.

The Hiawatha Fire Department is visiting schools and daycares in Hiawatha during the month of October promoting fire safety. True safety lies with Hiawatha residents and their willingness to take the steps needed to protect their homes and families from fire. Our sincere hope is that everyone takes the time to check their smoke detectors, and start working toward a community safe from fire.

## Save the Date!!

SAVE THE DATE!  
Hiawatha Fire Department Annual Chili Supper  
Saturday November 6, 2010 from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
Adults: \$5.00 and children 12 & under: \$3.00  
Hot dogs, Dessert, and all you can eat chili, mild and hot!



## New Online Voter's Registration!

November is just around the corner with general elections. Linn County Electronics Services have implemented a new tool for our residents to find voting and election information based on your residential address. You can even find your polling place, current registration and much, much more.

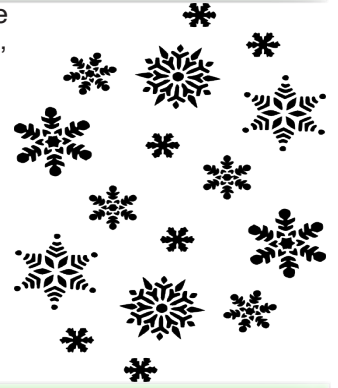
Go to [www.linncountyelections.org](http://www.linncountyelections.org), fill in the address search. Click on your address to view your voting and election information, your polling place, names of elected officials from the local level to the Federal level.

If you are unsure of your registration, click "Are you registered to vote". From there you will find your registered information or the voter's registration form with instructions. Complete the form and mail it into the County Auditor's office or register on election day. To register on election day, you must provide proof of who you are and where you live. The best form of I.D. is a valid driver's license with your current address printed on it.

Election day is November 2, 2010.

## Snow Ordinance 2010-2011

Snow and ice control operations for the 2010-2011 winter have been made easier to follow by using the 24 hour predictions of the National Weather Service (NWS). The City also monitors other local sources, however, the NWS officially becomes our backbone for planning efforts. Residents should know we unofficially have used this tool in the past and have made the NWS part of our policy.



### Remember - Don't park in the street if:

The 24 hour (or less) prediction by the NWS is for three (3) or more inches of snow,

Three (3) or more inches of snow has fallen and/or your street has not been cleared.

Also, the City will not generally conduct snowfall clearing operations for a snowfall of less than two (2) inches. This policy remains unchanged from prior years.

## Be Prepared! Winter is Coming!

### Safe Winter Driving Tips

**Clear snow and ice from all windows and lights** - even the hood and roof - before driving.

**Pay attention** - Don't try to out-drive the conditions. Remember the posted speed limits are for dry pavement.

**Leave plenty of room for stopping** - Brake early. It takes more time and distance to stop in adverse conditions. If your car is equipped with anti-lock brakes, do not pump brakes in an attempt to stop. The right way is to "stomp and steer!"

**Leave room for maintenance vehicles and plows** - The law requires you to slow down or move over when approaching emergency or maintenance vehicles, including snow plows, parked on the side of the road when they have their flashing lights turned on. If you approach a parked emergency or maintenance vehicle during a winter storm and decide to change lanes be extra careful. The passing lane may be in worse shape than the driving lane. There may also be a snow ridge between the two lanes. Avoid making an abrupt lane change. If approaching a snowplow, stay back at least 200 feet (at least 15 car lengths) and don't pass on the right. Snowplows plow far and wide - sometimes very wide. the front plow extends several feet in front of the truck and may cross the centerline and shoulders during plowing operations. Plows turn and exit the road frequently. On multiple lane roads, watch for snowplows operating in either lane. Snowplows can throw a cloud of snow that can reduce your visibility to zero in less time than you can react. **Drive smart.** Never drive into a snow cloud - it could conceal a snowplow. A snowplow operator's field of vision is restricted. You may see them but they may not see you.

**Know the current road conditions** - Call 511 or log onto the Iowa DOT winter road conditions web page. [www.iowadot.gov](http://www.iowadot.gov).

**Watch for slippery bridge decks** - even when the rest of the pavement is in good condition. Bridge decks will ice up sooner than the adjacent pavement.

**Don't use your cruise control in wintry conditions** - Even roads that appear clear can have sudden slippery spots and the short touch of your brakes to deactivate the cruise control feature can cause you to lose control of your vehicle.

**Don't get overconfident in your 4x4 vehicle** - Remember that your four-wheel drive vehicle may help you get going quicker than other vehicles but it won't help you stop any faster. Many 4x4 vehicles are heavier than passenger vehicles and actually may take longer to stop. Don't get overconfident in your 4x4 vehicle's traction. Your 4x4 can lose traction as quickly as a two-wheel vehicle.

**Look farther ahead in traffic than you normally do** - Actions by cars and trucks will alert you quicker to problems and give you an extra split-second to react safely.

**Remember that trucks are heavier than cars** - Trucks take longer to safely respond and come to a complete stop, so avoid cutting quickly in front of one of them.

**Drive with your headlights on.**

**Go slow** - especially when approaching intersections, off-ramps, bridges or shady spots. These are all candidates for developing black ice - a thin coating of clear ice that can form on the pavement surface and may be difficult to see.

### Tips on Snow Removal

**Please, please, please** - do not push, plow, pile, or deposit snow from your residential or commercial driveway, sidewalk, or parking lot onto the street. This is a violation of City Code 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. Keep driveway and sidewalk snow in your yard behind the sidewalk. If you have a contractor plow your driveway, sidewalk, or parking lot, please remind them of this. If you have no place to put the snow then you will have to have it hauled away. We will be issuing warnings and possible fines to violators. It is recommended that you don't 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 required so pedestrians and school children have safe routes to walk on. If you want to report a sidewalk that needs to be cleared, call 393-1515.

**Check your mailbox** - be sure that your mailbox is 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 for reimbursement 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 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.

**Keep your vehicles** - in your driveway or parking lot during snow events, per City Code Chapter 69, Parking Regulations. This makes it easier for the plow trucks to clear the street curb to curb.

**Direct sump pumps and downspouts away** - from hard surfaces so that water doesn't build up and freeze creating slippery conditions on driveways, sidewalks, or streets.

## Halloween Safety

For your Halloween safety - follow these tips recommended by your Hiawatha Police Dept:

- 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.
- Walk when crossing the street.
- Wear reflective clothing, 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.
- Report suspicious activity to the Police Department
- Hiawatha does not regulate a day or time for Halloween Trick or Treating.



## History Commission presents Hiawatha Lumber Company

The Hiawatha History Commission is going back in history. The Hiawatha Lumber Company was one of the very first businesses located in Hiawatha. The business was started by Fay Clark in 1952 to help young families build their first homes after the war times.

A few months later Fay Clark sold the business to Robert Cook. Norman Cook joined his brother Bob in the lumber business after serving with the U.S. Army in Germany.

Bev Daws worked at the lumber yard as a bookkeeper and secretary in the early days of the company. Jim Wheeler was also employed as a bookkeeper and truck driver after serving in the U.S. Marines in 1959.

Dick Larson and Bob Watson worked out of the Lumber Company as the Hiawatha Garage Builders. Truck drivers Dick Larson, Louis Lutz and Larry Davis would unload the lumber by hand from a railroad boxcar on a siding at the terminal at the Louisa Crossing just south of Hiawatha and bring it to the yard.

Nelson Cook worked for his sons Bob and Norm as part of the paint and tool department. Later the Lumber Company set Nels up in a satellite hardware store in Robins, Iowa known as Cooks Hardware.

The Lumber Company was sold to Russ Bartels and Andy Anderson on Dec. 16, 1960. Gary Donow and Russ Bartels owned the business for a short time; it was then sold back to Andy Anderson and Russ Bartels.

The City of Hiawatha purchased the Lumber Company building in 1983. It was extensively remodeled and became a part of City Hall, Council Chamber, Police Dept., and Library. It was located behind and one tier below the City Hall on the southwest corner of N. Center Point Rd and Emmons St.



## Hiawatha Businesses

**Crystal Group Inc.**, is located at 850 Kacena Road in Hiawatha, occupying a 48,000+ ft manufacturing facility. The company formed as Emerald Engineering in 1987 and incorporated as Crystal Group Inc in 1991. Crystal Group is a veteran-owned small business. The company designs and manufactures rugged computing equipment such as computer servers, displays (monitors), data storage devices, networking equipment (switches & firewalls), and embedded computers for vehicular use. Crystal Group employs 68 people from the great Cedar Rapids metro area. We design and manufacture equipment for deployment into all branches of the military, most Prime contractors (including Rockwell Collins), and many other governmental, non-governmental, and industrial customers. More information about Crystal Group is available at our website: [www.crystalrugged.com](http://www.crystalrugged.com).



**Skogman Realty** is proud to be a part of the Hiawatha Community. The Hiawatha office is one of five Skogman offices and opened its doors at 1110 Dina Court in 2002. As a locally owned and managed organization, our mission is to remain the predominately recognized real estate company in our market-place. Annual sales exceed 500 million, which represents approximately 60% of all sales which occur in our market.



With associates and staff of 40+, we are always growing in numbers and exploring ways to support our local community. "Our office looks for ways each year to promote Hiawatha community service", says Pat Murphy, Vice President of Hiawatha Operations. Skogman Hiawatha is active in the local community by sponsoring needy families at Christmas, and local softball and soccer leagues.

## Council Action

September 1, 2010

Resolution 10-203 - Approve and authorize execution of an eight (8) year development agreement by and between the City of Hiawatha and Ahmann Properties, LLC.  
 Resolution 10-204 - Approving the FY 2010 Street Finance Report.  
 Resolution 10-205 - Awarding contract for City Hall irrigation system to Flemming Irrigation of Cedar Rapids, Iowa in the amount of \$20,740.00, including option 1.  
 Resolution 10-206 - Accepting temporary grading and construction easement for the Third Avenue from Marion St. to W. Clark St. Pavement Reconstruction, Water Main Installation and Sanitary Service Repairs Project agreement between the City of Hiawatha and Steven A. Spencer; Lot 33, Auditor's Plat No 281.  
 Resolution 10-207 - Accepting temporary grading and construction easement for the Third Avenue from Marion St. to W. Clark St. Pavement Reconstruction, Water Main Installation and Sanitary Service Repairs Project agreement between the City of Hiawatha and Roger L. Meskimen; Lot 0, Auditor's Plat No 281.  
 Resolution 10-212 - Amending the 2010 Employee Policy Manual Section II Exempt Employee effective August 19, 2010, to allow Department Head's, with the approval of the Mayor or City Administrator to pay overtime to FLSA exempt employees under special circumstances.

September 15, 2010

Resolution 10-213 - Amending Hiawatha Non-Profit Community Center Yearly Use and One-time Use Rental Agreement setting new rental fees.  
 Resolution 10-214 - Amending Hiawatha Park Pavilion Rental Fees and Park Rules.  
 Resolution 10-215 - Allocating \$250.00 financial support for a Community Attraction and Tourism grant application by Linn County Conservation Board for a proposed expansion to the Wickiup Hill Outdoor Learning Center.  
 Resolution 10-216 - Approving a Fire Protection and Ambulance Service Agreement between City of Hiawatha and Monroe Township agreeing to furnish fire fighting, fire prevention, ambulance and emergency medical services beginning 5/1/10 and continuing year-to-year until terminated as per agreement.  
 Resolution 10-217 - Authorizing City of Hiawatha to accept a Hold Harmless and Indemnification Agreement with Sattler Homes and Remodeling, Inc., and Northwood Development, LC for 225 Ridgewood Dr, Lot 3, Heritage Green 8th Addition to Hiawatha, IA.  
 Resolution 10-218- Authorizing City of Hiawatha to accept a Hold Harmless and Indemnification Agreement with Sattler Homes and Remodeling, Inc., and Northwood Development, LC for 235 Ridgewood Dr, Lot 4, Heritage Green 8th Addition to Hiawatha, IA.  
 Resolution 10-219 - Approving a 28E Agreement with Iowa Alcoholic Beverages Division for the purposes of providing and funding tobacco enforcement activities from 7/1/2010 through 6/30/2011.



## Hiawatha Police Department

### Neighborhood Watch Report

The Heritage Green residents held their first annual neighborhood watch meeting on September 14, 2010. The group organized early fall of last year and the annual meeting was well attended this year. Many good questions were asked and the members continue to take an active role in monitoring suspicious activity in their neighborhood.

### GTSB Report

July and August traffic contacts in conjunction with the Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau Grant:

Accidents:	13 Property Damage Only	3 Property Damage/Injury
Operating While Intoxicated (OWI)	43 contacts resulting in 13 arrests	
Seatbelt/Child Restraint Contacts:	56	Speeding Contacts 160

A semi-annual seatbelt compliance check was completed in August. 92% of the driver and front seat passengers were observed wearing their seatbelts. This is just below the state average of 93%.

# OCTOBER 2010



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Farmers Market 11:00a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	4	5	6 Council 7pm	7	8	9 Playing for Keeps Fund-raiser
10 Farmers Market 11:00a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	11 History 1:30 p.m. Board of Adj. 7p.m.	12 Parks 6:30 p.m. Library 7p.m.	13 Water 6:30 p.m. Council Airs 7p.m. Channel 18	14 Council Airs 10a.m. Channel 18	15 Kids Movie Night 6:30pm Movie: Percy Jackson	16
17 Farmers Market 11:00a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	18	19	20 Council 7pm	21	22	23
24 Farmers Market 11:00a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	25 P&Z 6p.m.	26	27 Senior Evening Dance Council Airs 7p.m. Channel 18	28 Council Airs 10a.m. Channel 18	29 Amateur Photo Contest Deadline	30
31 Final Farmers Market 11:00a.m. - 3:00 p.m.						

# NOVEMBER 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 Council 7pm	4	5	6 Fire Dept Chili Supper 11am - 7pm
7	8	9 Parks 6:30 p.m. Library 7p.m.	10 Council Airs 7p.m. Channel 18	11 Council Airs 10a.m. Channel 18	12 Special Needs Dance 6:30 pm	13
14	15 History 1:30 p.m. Board of Adj. 7p.m.	16 Water 6:30 p.m.	17 Council 7pm	18	19 Kids Movie Night 6:30pm Movie: TBA	20
21	22	23	24 Council Airs 7p.m. Channel 18	25 City Hall Closed Council Airs 10a.m. Channel 18	26 City Hall Closed	27
28	29 P&Z 6p.m.	30				

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Hiawatha, Iowa 52233  
Phone: 319-393-1515  
Fax: 319-393-1516  
www.hiawatha-iowa.com

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## Hiawatha's Annual Fall Leaf, Brush & Yard Waste Pickup

### Monday, October 25

Leaves & Yard Waste -

Must be in disposable paper bags and placed curbside by Monday before **7:00 a.m.**

Brush & Tree Trimmings -

These must be spread along the curb for shredding and removal.

Please do not park in front of leaf bags or brush piles. Do not sweep or rake leaves into City streets or storm sewers. This is a violation of City Ordinance. Violators of Hiawatha's leaf burning prohibition will be subject to fines.

Reminder - Please keep your trees trimmed nine (9) feet above sidewalks and 15 feet above streets.

### Monday, November 8

Leaves & Yard Waste Only -

Must be in disposable paper bags and placed curbside by Monday before **7:00 a.m.**

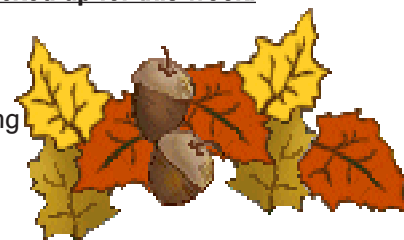
**No Brush or Tree Trimmings will be picked up for this week.**

### Monday, November 22

Leaves & Yard Waste Only -

Must be in disposable paper bags and placed curbside by Monday before **7:00 a.m.**

**No Brush or Tree Trimmings will be picked up for this week.**



## Recreation Report 2010

The Recreation Department had an exciting and successful season. We would like to thank all the volunteer coaches that led our Blastball and Soccer programs. The numbers of participants in these programs increase each year, with this year's numbers totaling almost 200 in each program. 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 the Youth in Parks program assisting Meals on Wheels. Our tennis lessons continued this year on the courts at Guthridge Park, partnered with Westfield Tennis Club. A dance clinic was held in the Community Center. We are continually adding programs offered in the afternoons at the Community Center with additional activities for senior citizens. Hiawatha's special events dominated this summer: four entertaining concerts in the Park, our Hiawatha Bike Ride Around Iowa, and Memorial Day Bike Rodeo and Parade. The Park and Recreation Department also offers a wide range of discount amusement park tickets, Farmer's Markets on Sundays, and we began our series of Kids Movie Nights in September. For a list of our current recreational opportunities or community center information, please find us on Facebook or our website at [www.hiawatha-iowa.com](http://www.hiawatha-iowa.com).

### **Volunteers and sponsors needed, even in the off season!**

**Are you a business or citizen that would like to get involved in your local community? Become a sponsor or help organize a Hiawatha event. There are lots of exciting opportunities for Hiawatha's businesses as well. Have some ideas of what you would like to see happen in Hiawatha?**

Contact Liz Goater, Recreation Coordinator or Angie Cole, Park and Recreation Director.

## Park Pavilion and SplashPad Closings

Just a reminder that our Pavilion rental season typically closes around October 15th. Once we have closed the season, the bathrooms will be closed and locked.

While we know everyone enjoys the splashpads for summer kid fun and entertainment, it is necessary for us to close them down before the evening temperatures get to cold. Water lines must be drained to prevent damage and guarantee that the splashpad will be available again next year. Splashpads are closed for the season, effective 9/30/2010.