

# Hiawatha Parks and Recreation



**To:** Park and Recreation Commission  
**CC:** Mayor and City Council  
**From:** Angie Cole, Park and Recreation Director  
**Date:** April 11, 2013  
**Re:** Park and Recreation Report

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## **NW Territory Review:**

Included is a recommendation from the City Engineer Coordinator regarding the properties that have been discussed by the Commission. In order to move forward in contacting property owner(s) for possible purchase information a recommendation from the Commission is needed.

## **Truck Bids**

Vehicle #910, 2003 Ford F250 pick up was the truck that is used most regularly by parks employee Ted Olson. Rather than trading this vehicle, the Parks and Streets department recently converted this truck to a flat bed that can hold the water tank during the summer and the sander during the winter months. This takes the red truck that was used for watering last year back into commission for the streets department to use on a regular basis. There is \$25,568.00 in the equipment replacement fund to replace this truck. Bids will be sent out this month and will be on the May agenda.

## **RECREATION UPDATE:**

**Live Healthy Linn 5k** City of Hiawatha Parks and Recreation co-hosted the 10th Annual Live Healthy Linn 5K with its partner Linn County Public Health on April 6th, 2013 at 8:00am. The new location for this year's race was held at Guthridge Park in Hiawatha, Iowa located at 704 Emmons

Street. This event highlighted National Public Health Week and wrapped up the conclusion of the Live Healthy Iowa (LHI) 10-Week Wellness Challenge. The race brought in over 270 participants of all ages.

Awards were presented to the top female and male runners and walkers for multiple age brackets. A trophy was also given to the person who came closest to their guessed time as indicated on their registration form. The top finisher finished within 16:47!



This event had many sponsors including:

- FARMERS STATE BANK
- HIAWATHA BANK AND TRUST
- J & S FITNESS
- HY-VEE
- QUAKER OATS
- Z102.9
- RUNNING WILD
- HI-CREW KIWANIS
- WE RUN
- PANERAS
- GENERAL MILLS

Door prizes were provided by Wal-Mart, NewBo City Market, Running Wild, Cedar Rapids Kernals and the Cedar Rapids Titans. A kid's fitness obstacle course was also provided by the Kiwanis Club and J & S Total Fitness in Hiawatha. This event was successful as it was extremely rewarding to many of those that participated and improves overall quality of life in many ways. We look forward to this race again next year.

**We are proud to announce Hiawatha Parks and Recreation Director Angie Cole was elected vice president of the Iowa Parks and Recreation Association.** Her two year term as vice president is followed by two years as president began on April 10. She was installed during the Spring Conference Awards Banquet held on April 9 in Des Moines. Angie Cole has been with the city for 14 years, nine of which she held as the Parks and Recreation Director. She has been an IPRA and NRPA member since 2004 and served as a Director of the Association from 2006 to 2008 and Treasurer from 2008 to 2011. Angie received the Iowa Park and Recreation Association, Dr. Carole J. Hanson New Professional Award in 2008. Angie is a Certified Park and Recreation Professional (CPRP) through the National Recreation and Park Association. She was recipient of the IPRA/IFPR Fellowship to attend the 2012 NRPA National Congress with no cost to the city. She currently serves as secretary of the Iowa Foundation for Parks and Recreation (IFPR). Angie helps with the implementation of the IPRA Regional Rendezvous and now serves as the co-director of the Leadership Institute which encourages new park and recreation persons to get involved in the association.

Angie states: "The opportunity that I have been given to serve Iowa Park and Recreation Association has been very rewarding. We, as professionals, are the foundation of the association. I have been able to work with fellow professionals and develop a rapport with them that has led me to call them my friends. I believe we can build a better tomorrow by making good decisions today. I would like the opportunity to listen, learn and lead the Iowa Park and Recreation Association to reach our goals."

### **Movies in the Square 2013**

Kristi from New York Life and I have contacted all the businesses in Boyson Square to offer sponsorship for this event. So far we have raised an estimated \$6500 not including NYL's contribution. Attached is a draft of the flyer. Please check your calendar to see if you will be able to volunteer at this event.

**Easter Egg Hunt** The Hiawatha Parks and Recreation Department, partnered with Roasters Coffee House held the Annual 2013 Easter Egg Hunt. This event took place on Saturday March 30th at 9 AM in Guthridge Park. The Easter Bunny was in attendance to greet the approximately 500 children and parents with hugs and stickers. Children ages 1 to 4 were located in one section of the park and 5 to



7 ages were sectioned off in another to give every child an opportunity to collect the 5000 candy and toy-filled eggs. A special thanks to Deb Theis and the Hiawatha Parks Commission, the Hiawatha American Legion Post 735 and all the volunteers that came bright and early in the morning to make this event a success! Thanks again for all your help and please let me know if you have any suggestions on next year's event.

**Farmers Market** This year's Farmers Market is again sold out. We have most of the parking lot full with 34 seasonal vendors and will fill in their gaps and lots at the north end with vendors that show up the day of. Kelly and I have been steadily collecting paperwork and fees from all vendors since the last October market in preparation for this season. We are happy to be working with Dave Saari and Sandy Barnard (Market Manager from last year). Please stop out at our first market April 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Registration Numbers** With the new email system through Cogran we have seen an early increase in registrations. Numbers are as follows: Blastball 56, Soccer 76, Tennis 72, Adult Volleyball 23, Adventure Camp with first and second sessions combined Tot-lot 19, Playground 60, Youths in Parks 11.

#### **PARK UPDATE:**



The National Arbor Day Foundation and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources – Forestry Bureau are proud to announce that the City of Hiawatha has received the 2012 Tree City USA Growth Award at the 23rd Annual Community Forestry Awards Luncheon, held at the Stoney Creek Inn on April 2, 2013.

State Forester Paul Tauke commented, “The Tree City USA Growth award is a symbol for communities who have made a commitment to the management of public trees.” The city of

Hiawatha has provided an outstanding example for other Iowa communities, by enhancing our forest resources and demonstrating the great value of trees in providing multiple benefits for future generations.

Hiawatha was one of 24 Iowa communities to qualify for Tree City USA Growth status. To receive the award a city must meet four minimum requirements in the following categories: 1) Education and Public Relations, 2) Partnerships, 3) Planning and Management, and 4) Tree Planting and Maintenance.

\*Note dignitaries in the photo: Paul Tauke, State Forester (in suit with green shirt) Chuck Gipp, Director of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (suit with gray tie)

**Staff work** - Restrooms have been gone through and opened at all of the parks. Our first park pavilion rentals are this weekend at all three parks. All trash cans and picnic tables have been put out. Tennis court nets are up.

**Toyota Truck** - The Hiawatha Parks and Recreation Department received a 2012 Toyota Tacoma for summer use provided by Cedar Rapids Toyota. CR



Toyota provided this vehicle for a miniscule 1 dollar leasing cost to the City. The agreement started in April and will be returned in October with the City being responsible for insurance, fuel and maintenance. This very generous offer from Cedar Rapids Toyota is greatly appreciated and of vital importance to Parks Department's summer operations.

**Paypal activity**

|                     | Sales      | Fees     | Net<br>Revenue     | # transactions |
|---------------------|------------|----------|--------------------|----------------|
| July                | \$1,870.00 | \$66.11  | \$1,803.89         | 39             |
| August              | \$2,355.00 | \$78.94  | \$2,276.06         | 35             |
| September           | \$970.00   | \$31.78  | \$938.22           | 12             |
| October             | \$1,360.00 | \$43.10  | \$1,316.90         | 12             |
| November            | \$1,105.00 | \$34.48  | \$1,070.52         | 8              |
| December            | \$590.00   | \$18.63  | \$571.37           | 5              |
| January             | \$3,079.00 | \$103.91 | \$2,975.09         | 48             |
| February            | \$3,753.00 | \$122.45 | \$3,630.55         | 45             |
| March               | \$7,717.00 | \$247.38 | <b>\$7,469.62</b>  | 78             |
| <b>Annual Total</b> |            |          | <b>\$22,052.22</b> |                |