



# The Clear View

A newsletter for the Citizens of Clear Lake

Volume 12 - Number 3  
July 2014  
[www.cityofclearlake.com](http://www.cityofclearlake.com)



## *John Severtson to serve as Parade Grand Marshall*

The Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce 4th of July Committee is pleased to announce that John Severtson will serve as the Grand Marshall for this year's July 4th parade. Severtson recently retired as the CEO of Opportunity Village. The committee wanted to honor Severtson for his long tenure of service to Opportunity Village and they are also using it as an oppor-

tunity to honor the Village itself. The theme of this year's parade will be "Community of Opportunities."

The Clear Lake 4th of July parade and fireworks show are regarded as the "granddaddy" of all local celebrations. One of the major highlights of the evening is, of course, the spectacular fireworks display over Clear Lake, which begins at about 10:00 p.m. The 4th of July parade will begin at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, July 4th, at the corner of Main Avenue and 20th Street. The 4th of July celebration begins on Wednesday, July 2nd at 5:00 p.m. and concludes on Sunday, July 6th. For a full schedule of events visit the Chamber website at [www.clearlakeiowa.com](http://www.clearlakeiowa.com).

## Iowa Storytelling Festival 2014

Three storytellers are coming to Clear Lake to celebrate the Iowa storytelling Festival on July 25th & 26th. Tim Tingle, of Canyon Lake, Texas is a Choctaw author and storyteller. His ancestors walked the Trail of Tears in 1836. He is very proud of his Native American heritage, meeting often with tribal elders to collect Choctaw stories. Tingle is an in-demand performer for festivals and storytelling events throughout the Country. His first novel for adults "House of Purple Cedars" has recently been published. Sara Slayton, LaCrosse, Wisconsin, has been telling stories to audiences of all ages for more than 30 years and is the co-founder and chair of the LaCrosse Storytelling Festival. She is well versed in traditional tales but also loves to share personal stories, and especially enjoys telling tales of growing up as a baby boomer. Pat Coffie, of Waverly, shares humorous stories of growing up on an Iowa farm with her rambunctious siblings, but also shares tales focusing on the challenges of being a grown-up in today's world. She has a vast repertoire of traditional stories and enjoys incorporating puppetry into her storytelling.

A workshop called "Going to the Frogs" will be in the Lakeview Room on Friday, July 25th, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Participants will leave with bibliographies and tools including story and song examples and some frog crafts to use immediately with children, youth, and families in their professional and personal lives. This workshop is sponsored by the Storyteller Roundtable of the Iowa Library Association and there is a cost of \$5 for non-members to attend.

On Friday, July 25th, at 9:00 p.m., the popular "Ghost Boat" cruise will feature three Festival performers sharing eerie stories aboard the Lady of the Lake paddlewheel boat. This event is intended for ages



ten through adult. Children under age 17 must be accompanied by an adult. Tickets for the "Ghost Boat" are \$15.00 and advance purchase is recommended. Tickets are non-refundable. In case of threatening weather, the ghost stories will be presented at the Lakeview Room.

On Saturday in the Story Tent in beautiful Clear Lake City Park there will be two performances by our featured storytellers: "Stories for Kids of All Ages", at 10:30 a.m., and "Teller's Choice", at 2:00 p.m. Persons of all ages are welcome to both performances and young families are particularly encouraged to attend the morning session. Other visiting storytellers will be performing at the "Story Exchange" in the park at noon.

The Iowa Storytelling Festival is funded by the Clear Lake Public Library Foundation, with assistance from the Friends of the Library. For more festival information, or to sign up for the story exchange, contact the library at 357-6133 or [clplib@netins.net](mailto:clplib@netins.net).



Mayor Nelson Crabb

# A BRIGHT IDEA?

Back in 1993/94, the City began reconstructing its downtown streetscape with brick paver sidewalks and decorative street light fixtures. Since that time, the City has changed the way the brick paver sidewalks are

constructed in order to reduce or eliminate the potential negative effect of individual paver settlement over time. Many of the sidewalks downtown will likely be addressed at some point in the future to enhance their safety.

Likewise, significant advancements have been made in decorative street lighting technology. Contemporary fixtures, using LED's (light-emitting diodes), as opposed to the high pressure sodium lamps, consume only a fraction of the electricity; last potentially three times as long; and more efficiently direct the lighting downward – reducing wasted light and sky pollution.

Street lighting is a major annual cost for the City. Reducing our expenses in that area could result in more funding being available for street maintenance projects. The City switched to LED lights in its traffic signal lamps and the

intersection street lights co-located on them years ago and has been very pleased with the results.

The City will be experimenting with the new LED street lighting fixtures on a pilot project basis in the downtown. A total of eight City-owned fixtures with the three globe design will be retrofitted under this demonstration initiative. The best way to determine if this is something that will work for our City is to give them a try. Please feel free to give us your feedback on them. If the new design and technology is well received and results are positive, it is likely that this will be implemented on a much broader basis City-wide.

As always, it is my distinct honor and privilege to serve as your Mayor. **Enjoy the summer!**

## Tales from the Vault

by Jennifer Larsen, City Clerk

One of my responsibilities as City Clerk is to record and preserve the official minutes from the meetings of the Clear Lake City Council. Here are some excerpts from the minutes of a Clear Lake City Council meeting from the "old days" which you may find interesting.

*"The City Council met in regular session at 8:00 o'clock P.M. with the following members present: Mayor Petersen and Councilmen Hayden, Perkins, Myhr, Secory and Winnie. Motion made by Secory and seconded by Hayden that the following streets be roped off for July 4th: from the alley between State and Benton Streets to the alley between Main and South Streets on First Street; from the foot of Main Street to the corner of South Second Street and Main Street. On 4th of July for races, etc., North Third Street between Main and State Streets. Motion carried, all members voting aye."*

## Door-to-Door Sales

The City requires that all individuals traveling door-to-door selling products for commercial or business purposed (i.e., for profit) be licensed and register with the City Clerk.

As part of the licensing application review process, in order to better protect the public safety, City staff conducts criminal background checks on each individual selling. Upon approval, the City issues a license. If a peddler or solicitor comes to your door, do not hesitate to ask to see their license from the City to sell.

This activity is allowed only during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. There are a number of license exemptions, however, for route delivery persons, students, and civic organizations. Please check with the City Clerk to determine if a license is required.

If you do not want this type of activity on your property, you may display a sign on your property indicating "Peddlers or Solicitors Prohibited". If you encounter any issues or concerns with a peddler or solicitor, please contact the Police department at 357-2186.

City of Clear Lake Residents  
Let's Go PAPERLESS...



By getting your utility bills online

To sign up to receive your water bill by e-mail; please visit us at [www.cityofclearlake.com](http://www.cityofclearlake.com)

- Click the link on the left hand side that says "View/Pay Utility Bill"
- Under the heading that reads "How to VIEW Utility Bill" click the link "Click here to view your bill"
- The link will take you to our payment processor's website where you can register to receive your water bills by e-mail.



## New Northwest Water Tower

Construction crews from Landmark Inc. (Fort Worth, Texas) have been working on the new Northwest Water Tower. Construction on the new tower began in earnest in May of 2014 and is to be completed in November of 2014. The total project cost is roughly \$2.5 million.

The new 1,000,000 gallon tower will replace the old 250,000 gallon multi-legged steel water tower, which is located 600' to the west. The old water tower, which was built in 1959, will be demolished in the winter of 2015.

The Project is one of the final pieces of a Water Distribution System Improvement Plan that was developed seven (7) years ago. Over that time, the City has invested roughly \$8 million in major capital improvements to the City's water distribution system.



## Street Resurfacing Projects

As part of the FY 14 municipal budget, the City Council appropriated \$350,000 for a street resurfacing project. The project was designed and let for bid in March of 2014. The various street segments to be improved include: A) 2nd Ave N., between N. 3rd and N. 6th Streets; B) 3rd Ave N., between N. Lakeview Drive and N. 3rd Street; C) 14th Ave S., between S. Shore Drive and S. 8th Street; and D) 15th Ave S., between S. Shore Drive and S. 8th Street.

This work was done to maintain and improve the driving surface and roadway drainage of the existing streets. The need for the Project was based on information from the City's Pavement Management Plan that was completed in 2007. The Project general contractor was Heartland Asphalt (Mason City) and the cost was roughly \$325,000 to complete.

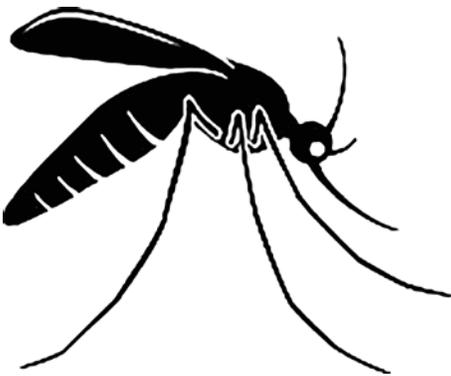
## City will once again spray for mosquitos

The City will once again begin spraying for mosquitos, as determined to be necessary by the City, and will continue through the summer and fall as long as justified by mosquito population counts.

Sprays must be conducted during favorable weather conditions and wind speed no greater than 10 mph; therefore, exact dates for sprays cannot be given. Spraying will tentatively occur between Monday evenings and Saturday mornings, from the hours of 7:00 to 11:00 p.m., but may occur as late as 1:00 a.m., and from 4:00 to 7:00 a.m. in order to complete an area.

Any persons not wanting the spraying to occur in the vicinity of their property must contact Joe Weigel, Public Works Director, at 641-357-6135.

The City will also be spraying on the South Shore at Grand View Point, Bell Harbor, Dodges Point, Whispering Oaks, PM Park, and Camp Tanglefoot.





Come to downtown Clear Lake for Thursdays on Main! This Chamber event features live music, featured entertainment, classic cars, a bounce house, hand-powered kiddie train rides, our retail stores stay open late, vendor street and farmer's market, topped off with a movie in the park!

Thursdays on Main will continue after the 4th of July activities on July 10th and will be held every Thursday until August 21st. Activities on Main Avenue begin at 6:00 p.m. and conclude at 9:00 p.m. and are free, thanks to the generous sponsors. The schedule for the months of July and August are as follows:

**July 10th** – Cross fire will perform on the 400 block of Main (next to Larson's Merchantile) from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.; Special Entertainment by the Clear Lake Drum Line on the 300 block of Main (SE corner of City Park) at 6:30 p.m.; and the Movie "Planes" (rated PG) in the City Park bandshell at 9:00 p.m.

**July 17th** – The Duovers will perform; Special Entertainment by Turbo Tumbling/Zumba Kids; and the movie "The Great Gatsby" (rated PG 13).

**July 24th** – Jesse Allen Stewart will perform; Special Entertainment; and the movie "Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs" (rated PG).

**July 31st** – Randy & The Classics will perform; Special Entertainment by Drum Corps; and the movie "Last Vegas" (rated PG 13).

**August 7th** – Spenser Rahm/Scott Larsen will perform; Special Entertainment by Denny's School of Dance; and the movie "Lego" (rated PG).

**August 14th** – Midwest Rock & Soul Review will perform; Special Entertainment by the Clear Lake Dance Team; and the Movie Despicable Me 2 (rated PG).

**August 21st** – Bill Dewey will perform; Special Entertainment by Sheltered Realty; and the movie "Hunger Games – Catching Fire" (rated PG 13).

For the latest information visit the Clear Lake Chamber of Commerce website at [www.clearlakeiowa.com](http://www.clearlakeiowa.com).



## Battle of Pleasant Hill Remembered

On the west side of City park is a large granite stone that was placed in memory of Lt. Tom Howard and the G.A.R. (Grand Army of the Republic) Post of Clear Lake who served during the Civil War. Soldiers from Clear Lake served in Company B of the 32nd Iowa. One of the battles they were involved in was the Battle of Pleasant Hill, in Louisiana, on April 9, 1864. Tom Howard and others from Clear Lake were killed in that battle. This year marks the 150th anniversary of that battle.

This past academic year, students from Clear Lake High School's Social Studies/Research History class began working with a graphic designer, as well as a professor from Louisiana State University – who is a leading scholar on the Battle of Pleasant Hill – to create commemorative informational kiosks that would encompass the granite stone and tell the stories of Company B, the Battle of Pleasant Hill, and Clear Lake in the Civil War.

The Project commemorative ceremony took place earlier this summer. Funding was primarily secured through private fundraising efforts on the part of the CLHS students involved with the Project.

Mayor Nelson P. Crabb stated that, "On behalf of the City of Clear Lake, I want to thank Beth Ann Schumacher (CLHS Social Studies Department Chair) for her efforts in coordinating all aspects of this Project. It serves as a lasting reminder of the bravery and sacrifice of those dedicated Clear Lake soldiers who served more than 150 years ago and just how immensely precious peace is."



## Summer Reading Program

There is still time to participate in the Clear Lake Library's summer reading program. Reading points need to be turned into the Library by Saturday, July 19th at 4:30 p.m. For every level completed, the participants earn "Book Bucks" that can be spent at the Scholastic Book Fair, held for ten days, between July 21st – 31st. The Book Fair is held in the library's meeting rooms. If you will be gone during that time, please come to the library and pick out your books from the list in advance.

The grand finale of the summer reading program is the "Bubble Show", on Wednesday, July 15th, at 6:30 p.m. Ben Jimenez creates beautiful, humorous, and mind boggling bubbles within bubbles, smoke bubbles, spinning belt bubbles, and geometric shaped bubbles. He can even put a person inside a bubble! Please phone the library at 357-0315 to register.



Get moving and get biking because the Bicycle, Blues, & BBQ Festival is heading to Clear Lake once again this July 11th – 13th. This year's event promises to surpass previous years with – more riding, more blues, and more

mouth-watering BBQ. Bicyclists of all ages and abilities are invited to combine their love of biking with the annual weekend event that includes great food and music.

The Blues Festival Kickoff is Friday night, with the BBQ vendors opening at 5:30, with free music for you to enjoy, featuring The Dee Miller Band and The Irresistibles. On Saturday, there will be a fun ride, Omnium Race, Criterium Race, and a Free Kids Race. The Clear Lake Lions Pride Club will be serving all-you-care-to-eat Chris Cakes Pancakes, from 7:00 to 11:00 a.m., and the BBQ Vendors will be open from 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Beginning at 8:30 p.m., you can enjoy the sounds of Sonny Landreth.

All events, with the exception of the Omnium Race on Saturday and Sunday's bike race, will begin and end in scenic City Park in downtown Clear Lake, located just one block from City Beach, picnic areas, exceptional boutiques, antique shops, and restaurants.

For additional event and registration information visit [www.bicyclebluesbbq.com](http://www.bicyclebluesbbq.com). Proceeds from the event will be used to help build bicycle and hiking trails in North Iowa.

## RAGBRAI to visit Clear Lake July 23rd

Clear Lake will welcome RAGBRAI XLII on Wednesday, July 23rd as Clear Lake has been designated as a "pass-through" town. The ride will be traveling from Forest City and it is anticipated they will begin arriving by 7:00 a.m., and according to "pass-through" town rules, all RAGBRAI related activities will end at 4:00 p.m.

Volunteers are still needed to do a variety of things. Individuals, organizations, and businesses are encouraged to be involved in some way on July 23rd. For more information about becoming a volunteer, contact Kym Barrett, Volunteer Chairman, at 357-3198.

Community members can show off their Clear Lake pride on July 23rd by wearing a Clear Lake RAGBRAI t-shirt. T-shirts are \$20.00 and are available for purchase at the Clear Lake Chamber of Commerce office.

Weekly updates regarding RAGBRAI will be printed in the Clear Lake Mirror Reporter and updates will also be posted on the Clear Lake RAGBRAI facebook page.



## Tradition Continues with CLHS 4th Annual All Class Reunion

This year's All Class Reunion will be held September 18, 19, and 20 at the Surf Ballroom & Museum. The 3-day celebration, hosted by the Clear Lake Alumni Association, is an annual opportunity to reconnect with family & friends while supporting our community and future scholars. Pleased with the success of past reunions and determined to maintain this level of interest, organizers have again expanded the roster of entertainment and activities for the 2014 event. As always, all former students, faculty, and staff members are invited to participate.

Tickets are \$30 per person for Saturday's Alumni Banquet, which will be followed by an evening of entertainment, music, and dancing. Also included in the single ticket price is a welcome reception for Friday night and a copy of the 2014 reunion magazine. For more information, or to purchase tickets, please visit the Alumni Association's website at [www.clearlakeiowaalumni.org](http://www.clearlakeiowaalumni.org). Tickets may also be purchased at the

Clear Lake Chamber of Commerce. The deadline to enroll is September 1st, but early registration is recommended and appreciated.

## Open for the Season

The Clear Lake Farmer's Market is open for the season in the City Hall parking lot. Hours are 9:00 to noon.



# City of Clear Lake Directory

## CITY DIRECTORY

**EMERGENCY .....911**

Non-Emergency Police.....	357-2186
Building Inspection .....	357-6135
Cemetery .....	357-6135
City Administrator .....	357-5267
City Attorney .....	357-2139
City Clerk .....	357-5267
City Hall .....	357-5267
Fire Department.....	357-2613
Absolute Waste Removal .....	357-4517
Mayor.....	357-5267
Parks & Recreation.....	357-7010
Planning & Zoning .....	357-6135
Public Library.....	357-6133
Public Works.....	357-6135
Landfill of North Iowa.....	357-5452
Clear Lake Sanitary District.....	357-2019
Water Department .....	357-3911

City Council Meeting agendas are posted online and at City Hall. Rebroadcasts of City Council Meetings are available anytime online on the City's website and on CLVision Community Channel 1 on the 1st and 3rd weeks of the month as follows: Tuesday - 7 p.m.; Wednesday - 6 p.m.; and Saturday - 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

## Clear Lake City Council

			
Mayor Nelson P. Crabb 357-3839	At-Large Gary Hugi 357-6579	At-Large Mike Callanan 357-5911	First Ward Dana Brant 357-3992
			
Second Ward Tony J. Nelson 357-0049	Third Ward Jim Boehnke 357-7144	City Administrator Scott Flory 357-5267	City Clerk/Editor Jennifer Larsen 357-5267

**City Council meetings  
are the first and third Mondays  
at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall.**

Additional meetings are scheduled as necessary.

Meetings, except for the Parks & Recreation Board and Library Board, are normally held at City Hall, 15 North 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Council Chamber. For an agenda or to verify exact date and time, please call City Clerk's office at (641) 357-5267.

## Library Board

(Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month)

Tom Arndorfer	Jana Severtson
Scott Johnson	Dave Suntken
Diane Glynn	Bennett Smith
Elizabeth Cherry	

## Parks & Recreation Board

(Meets 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month)

Tim Raber	Chryl Bergvig
Brenda Anderson	Darron Jones
Amanda Korenberg	Amy Hogg
Scott Lester	

## Planning & Zoning Commission

(Meets last Tuesday of each month)

Michael Ritter	Julie Angle
Al Penfold	Arnold Prohaska
Chyrl Bergvig	Al Duea
Lori Broghammer	

## Board of Adjustment

(Meets as needed)

Mike Grandon	Cerise Sissel
Gail Robinson	Bob Swanson
Fred Muth	

**Visit The City Of Clear Lake Website at [www.cityofclearlake.com](http://www.cityofclearlake.com).**



## The Clear View

July 2014

Clear Lake, Where People Make The Difference



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