



The Clear View

A newsletter for the Citizens of Clear Lake

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www.cityofclearlake.com

New police chief takes the reins in Clear Lake

Clear Lake Police Chief Peter J. Roth had his first day on the job Monday, August 3rd. The 45-year-old married (Lisa) father of two worked for the University of Iowa as a police captain, overseeing 22 sworn officers, four lieutenants and two sergeants in the University's uniformed patrol division. Prior to joining the Iowa City University's public safety division in 2008, he served the previous 10 years with the Clive Police Department. He has a Bachelor's degree from the University of Iowa and a Master's in Public Administration from Drake University. He began his career in law enforcement in Johnson County, Kansas and the City of Mission, Kansas. He was sworn in by Mayor Nelson P. Crabb at the City Council meeting on August 3rd.

"It is my privilege and an honor to lead the men and women of the Clear Lake Police Department. Their dedication to protecting and serving the city's residents and visitors is unwavering and the Community support we receive will continue to ensure Clear Lake remains one of the safest towns in Iowa and the Midwest," said Roth.

The selection of Roth followed a four-month recruitment process. "Both Mayor Nelson P. Crabb and I were really comfortable at the end of that lengthy analysis that Mr. Roth was the right candidate for the City of Clear Lake," Flory said.

The city has been without a permanent police chief since former Chief Greg Peterson retired in April 2014. Interim Chief Rex McChesney died of cancer on December 26, 2014.



The Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce has some exciting new things planned for the 11th Annual Harvest Festival. This "ever-expanding" event has become a premier destination opportunity to relax and experience the Midwest tradition of celebrating bountiful harvests.

The 11th Annual Harvest Festival is shaping up to be the biggest and best yet, according to Chamber Executive Director Tim Coffey. "The planning committee has been meeting since February to put together a great event for the residents and visitors to Clear Lake. Downtown Clear Lake will be filled with activities all day long, including: wine tasting,

grape stomp contests, salsa contests, great music, and much more," Coffey said.

Each 11th Anniversary Souvenir Bag will contain a wine glass to use for wine samplings at various locations throughout Clear Lake. The bag also contains gifts from Clear Lake businesses and a special gift. Only 1,000 bags will be available on a first come first serve basis and these bags always sell out, so you will want to order yours early.

This year's Harvest Festival Bag is priced at \$25.00 and they can be purchased online at www.harvestfestivalcl.eventbrite.com, in person at the Chamber Office, or by phone with credit or debit card. All sales are final and no refunds will be given. For full event details visit www.clearlakeiowa.com or contact the Chamber office at 357-2159.



Mayor Nelson Crabb

Improved Lake Water Quality IS Economic Development

The 2001 “Clear Lake Restoration Watershed & Diagnostic Report”, prepared by Iowa State University, outlined the need and demand for improved water quality for Clear Lake. It also identified strategies for water quality restoration and potential associated cost estimates. Some of the most substantial improvement projects included dredging of “Little” Clear Lake and restoration of Ventura Marsh.

In January, 2008, a bid letting for the hydraulic dredging of the “Little Lake” portion of Clear Lake was held and later a construction contract awarded to the low bidder, L.W. Mattensen of Burlington, Iowa, in the amount of \$6,453,000. Dredging commenced in late spring of 2008 and was completed by late summer of 2009. Contractors removed a total of 2.4 million cubic yards. Overall, the water quality of Clear Lake has shown substantial improvement over the past ten years that watershed and lake improvements have been implemented.

Clear Lake residents and visitors have long valued water quality. The Association for the Preservation of Clear Lake, a non-profit organization, has been in existence for well over 100 years. However, it has really primarily been within the past 12-14 years that the greatest initiatives to make Clear Lake a safe and healthy lake once again have

been underway. Clean and healthy lakes create ecological and recreational benefits, which, in turn, create economic development opportunities.

Lakes with better water quality contribute to local economic development, increased property values, and promote a higher quality of life. As a result of the water quality projects completed over the past 12-14 years, Clear Lake has become a recreational destination in Iowa and the “go-to” place between Des Moines and Minneapolis. It was not so long ago, that carp and other less desirable fish were more dominate and destroying aquatic plants. Without those plants to tie-up phosphorus in the water, algae blooms became a problem. Now, for example, as an indicator of improved water quality, camping and park use at the Lake’s two (2) State Parks has never been higher. Those visitors contribute to our local economy.

The total estimated cost of Lake restoration activities to date is approximately \$19.0 - \$20.0 million. Restoration efforts and improvements in water quality have the potential to double the annual economic return that Clear Lake generates to the local economy. The Center for Agriculture and Rural Development at ISU has projected a significant benefit to cost ration from lake and watershed restoration at Clear Lake. Restoration of Ventura Marsh has improved the water quality of Clear Lake and helped keep the Carp population under control. Local groups continue to pursue watershed projects that have the potential to decrease sediment delivery to Clear Lake.

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 an adjourned session at 4:30 ‘clock P.M. on September 18, 1959 with the following members present: Mayor Secory and Councilmen Nesbit, Jorgenrud, Eddy and Johnson. Absent: Anderson. The Council ordered parking meters removed at the following locations in accordance with the Traffic Safety report submitted by Fred Ulish of the State Department of Safety: at the intersection of 1st Ave South and South 4th Street abutting the Shell Oil Station property; at the intersection of South 3rd Street and 1st Ave South in front of Chevrolet Garage and the one in front of the Ford Garage.”

Police Department hires new officer

The Clear Lake Police Department is pleased to announce the academy graduation of Officer Brandon Heinz, on August 7, 2015. He successfully completed 14 weeks of training at the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy in Johnston, Iowa. Officer Heinz is assigned to patrol and will now undergo 12 weeks of field training prior to being assigned a shift on his own.

Brandon graduated from Clear Lake High School and holds a BS degree in Criminal Justice Administration from Bellevue University in Nebraska. Prior to being hired at the police department, Officer Heinz spent four years in the United States Air Force as a member of the security forces. He also worked as a jail sergeant at the Cerro Gordo County Sheriff’s Office.

Brandon lives in Clear Lake with his wife Kasey and his two daughters. Officer Heinz enjoys hunting, watching football, and spending time with his family.



N. 6th Street Improvement Project - US Hwy 18 & 10th Ave. N.



Before street improvements



After street improvements

In September of 2014, the City Council awarded a construction contract to Heartland Asphalt (Mason City) in the amount of \$145,559.21 for the reconstruction of this segment of N. 6th Street. The project included: 155' of new 8" diameter PVC sanitary sewer main; pre-cast concrete manhole; PVC sanitary sewer services; 265' of 8" watermain; water services; new 8" and 6" HDPE sub-drain pipe and services; new concrete driveway approaches; sidewalks; grading; modified sub-base; sodding; and a 31' wide (back-of-curb to back-of-

curb) HMA paved street, with PCC curb & gutter.

The Project was accepted as complete by the City Council in July, 2015. The total cost of the Project, included legal, administrative, and engineering costs was \$168,400.46. Special assessments against the adjacent properties totaled \$53,313.25 (32% of the Project cost). The cost to the City, minus the special assessments, was \$115,087.21 (68% of the project cost).

Watermain Flushing Schedule Set For Fall

The Clear Lake Water Department will begin flushing watermains in September. Flushing will be done the week of September 28th, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Why does the City flush watermains? Watermain flushing is performed to maintain the distribution system to desired standards. Flushing is used to remove iron and other deposits that may build up over time in some parts of the system and is performed to bleed the system of air pockets. Flushing moves water through parts of the system where it may have lost the desired concentration of chlorine and fluorine due to relatively low water usage. It also allows Water Department crews an opportunity to inspect hydrants for tampering and verify they are operating properly for fire protection.

How often does the City flush watermains? Water Department personnel generally perform flushing operations twice a year, usually in the spring and fall. Flushing may also be performed after repairs have been made to fix breaks or new lines that have been added to the water distribution system to ensure the system is properly disinfected.

What should residents expect when the City is flushing watermains? Residents may experience low water pressure and some discolored water when the Water Department crews are flushing in their neighborhood. Any change in the direction or rate of flow of the water due to watermain break, fire use, heavy sprinkling, and flushing can cause naturally occurring deposits in the pipe to be churned up and mix with the water, affecting its appearance. In most cases, the "rusty" water is temporary and will go away within about 5 minutes by letting the water run through an unfiltered cold water tap until the system clears. While discolored water may not look pleasant, it is not a health risk. Residents may also notice the water is cloudy or has a chlorine smell. Tiny air bubbles may be trapped in the water by the churning action causing it to look cloudy. The churning



action may also cause chlorine to be released from the water, affecting smell and taste.

Notice of flushing is placed in the Clear Lake Mirror Reporter. If you have no water pressure during flushing operations, please notify the Water Department at 641-357-5267.

Please note that City offices will be closed in observance of the Labor Day holiday on Monday, September 7th. The City Council will meet on Tuesday, September 8th, at 6:30 p.m., due to the holiday.



The Clear Lake Fashion Police

It's out with the old and in with the new as the Clear Lake Police Department officers are changing attire from the old, two-tone, blue uniforms to a more modern style: Navy blue slacks with a black stripe, to coordinate with their shirts. While many other police departments also feature navy blue uniforms, unique to the CLPD will still be its custom patches and buttons, which lend their own unique flair to the officers' ensemble. The new uniform pants are also made of more "breathable" material and are machine washable, as opposed to dry clean only. The former pants were French blue, with a navy stripe. Each officer has received three (3) pairs of the new pants at a total cost of \$255 per officer.

"An officer's uniform is nearly as traditional as the profession itself. A great deal of research suggests that the public's perception of an officer is strongly influenced by appearance. When interviewing for a professional job we are often advised to wear a 'dark business suit,' because it is perceived to be associated with power and strength. Navy blue is often selected as a police uniform color because of its association with feelings of 'security,'" stated Clear Lake Police Chief Peter J. Roth.



Large Item Cleanup Program In October

The 2015 Fall Large Item Pickup will take place October 12th to October 15th. Residents are encouraged to use this opportunity to dispose of large items that cannot be discarded through their weekly garbage service.



The Large Item Pickup map will appear in the Clear Lake Mirror Reporter on October 7th, listing the dates the City will pick up in your area and the items that will and will not be picked up.

City residents can have old appliances and/or electronic items picked up during Large Item Cleanup for a cost of \$15 an item. **Stickers can be purchased for \$15 each at Clear Lake City Hall, 15 North 6th Street. Stickers must be purchased by 5:00 p.m. on October 14th.** Items that require a sticker are: furnaces, air conditioners, refrigerators, freezers, dehumidifiers, dishwashers, stoves, washers, dryers, microwaves, copy machines, water heaters, fluorescent light fixtures, televisions, computer monitors, and printers. Pickup of appliances in all areas will be on October 15th. Please have appliances with stickers attached by the curb by no later than 7:30 a.m. on October 15th.

Please also be aware that the City WILL NOT pickup any items that may be recycled through the Landfill of North Iowa's electronic waste-recycling program. Landfill customers may drop off VCR's, DVD players, stereo equipment, clock radios, gaming equipment, computer towers, mice and keyboards, input devices, scanners, video surveillance cameras, fax machines, and cordless phones for recycling. Many of the above items may be recycled free of charge at the Landfill.

Fire Department to Hold Annual Pancake Breakfast October 4th

To kick off this year's National Fire Prevention Week and to help promote the theme, "Hear the Beep Where You Sleep", the Clear Lake Fire Department will be hosting its 17th annual pancake breakfast on Sunday, October 4th. The event will begin at 7:00 a.m. and continue until 1:00 p.m. The menu will include fresh grilled pancakes from our famous secret recipe, sausage links, coffee, milk and orange juice. The breakfast is prepared and served by members of the Clear Lake Volunteer Fire Department. Tickets are available from any Clear Lake Firefighter, or at the door the morning of the breakfast. Tickets are \$5.00 for adults and children under 12 eat free if accompanied by an adult.



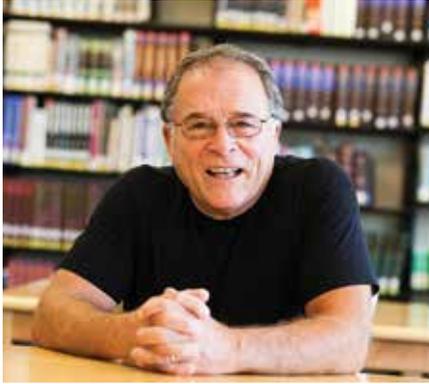
Proceeds from this year's fundraising activities will include education programs within the school, the purchase of equipment and tools needed for the diverse requirements of fire and rescue operations, and projects designed to get out in our community to improve our response and service time to those we serve.

Firefighters and emergency medical staff will be available to answer questions about the services provided by the Department, as well as meet the citizens they so proudly serve.

The Clear View Newsletter is printed on recycled paper



CLHS Alumnus Dave Ellingson Book Signing at CL Library Sept. 19



Clear Lake High School alumnus Dave Ellingson has authored a book, “Paddle Pilgrim” following his 2012 kayak trip traveling the entire Mississippi River. He will be at the Clear Lake Public Library Saturday, Sept. 19, at 11:30 a.m. in the meeting room talking about his experiences and signing his book. “It had been on my bucket-list since

I was a boy and read Huck Finn,” reports Ellingson, college professor and pastor, of his kayak journey. “Paddle Pilgrim” recounts experiences from basking in a sublime sunset in Minnesota to dancing with a snake on an Arkansas sandbar. In addition to painting a kaleidoscope of vivid word pictures of river scenery, Ellingson writes movingly about the “interior landscapes” of solitude, silence, prayer, and communion with creation.

Ellingson teaches courses in spirituality, environmental ethics, human development, and youth ministry at Trinity Lutheran College in Everett, Wash. He is a Lutheran pastor, Master Gardener, former distance runner and tri-athlete, and father of five grown children. He resides in Edmonds, Washington.

Park & Recreation Update

With summer winding down, the Clear Lake Parks & Recreation is gearing up for our Fall activities, with a variety of programs available to all ages. A youth basketball camp begins Monday, October 12th, and is available to kids in grades 3 through 6. The camp is a great way to improve fundamental basketball skills and build team principles. Another great, family friendly basketball program is the annual “Turkey Shoot”. Teams consist of one youth and one adult family member, and each team shoots free throws in an attempt to win a turkey for Thanksgiving dinner! This free event is held on November 8th, at noon, in the Clear Creek gym.

If basketball is not your sport, perhaps a friendly volleyball competition would suit you better. The adult “drop-in” volleyball program is played on Tuesday nights, from 7 – 9 p.m., beginning on October 20th, and is available to anyone over the age of 18. Registration can be done on site (at the Middle School gym), or you may pre-register with a season pass at the Parks & Recreation office or City Hall.

Another fun annual event is the free Halloween Parade for Kids. Participants show up in costume at City Hall and, after a few quick photos for the newspaper, a parade of ghouls and goblins proceed down Main Avenue to City Park where everyone is given a treat bag. No registration is needed for this free family-friendly event. The Halloween Parade will be held on Saturday, October 31st at 9:30 a.m.

For questions on these or any of our programs, please contact the Parks & Recreation office at 357-7010

Friends of the Library Annual Meeting Sept. 22

Colleen Bradford Krantz, director, co-producer and co-writer of the award winning documentary, “West by Orphan Train,” will speak at the Friends of the Clear Lake Public Library annual meeting at the Library Tuesday, Sept. 22 at 7 p.m. Krantz partnered with Clark Kidder to produce and write “West by Orphan Train” which was released in December 2014 and appeared on Iowa Public Television. Krantz will show excerpts from the documentary as well as tie this mass migration of orphans to local people and places.

Krantz spent 10 years as news reporter before shifting to the book and documentary world. She also wrote and co-produced the 2010 film, “Train to Nowhere: Inside an Immigrant Death Investigation.”

This program is open to the public and the Friends will give a short summary of their activities during the past year at 6:40 p.m. before Krantz speaks.



Back to School Safety

It is that time of year again. Many children (and parents) are anxious about the return of the school year. The City would like to offer some helpful safety tips to make the transition back to school a less complicated and safe one.

Parents, please take some extra time to work with your children on planning a safe route to school. Whether your child will be riding a bus, walking, or bicycling, it is a good idea to review and practice their route ahead of time. Not only should the child be comfortable knowing which direction to take, it is also important to know how much time may be needed and to have a backup route.

We would also like to ask all motorists on the road to take some extra time for travel and be careful. Iowa law requires all vehicles to stop when a school bus is loading or unloading children. Ten feet on either side of a school bus is the most dangerous area with regards to children being struck. As children near, a bus can be very predictable. It is important to visually ensure a child's whereabouts prior to continuing your travel.

Many children may also be on the road bicycling or walking to school. Make sure to always stop for pedestrians in the crosswalk. Be mindful not to stop directly in a crosswalk, which may place a pedestrian in the path of traffic. Taking some extra time and care allows both drivers and pedestrians to share the road safely.

City of Clear Lake Directory

CITY DIRECTORY

EMERGENCY911

Non-Emergency Police.....357-2186
 Building Inspection357-6135
 Cemetery357-6135
 City Administrator357-5267
 City Attorney357-2139
 City Clerk357-5267
 City Hall357-5267
 Fire Department.....357-2613
 Absolute Waste Removal357-4517
 Mayor.....357-5267
 Parks & Recreation.....357-7010
 Planning & Zoning357-6135
 Public Library.....357-6133
 Public Works.....357-6135
 Landfill of North Iowa.....357-5452
 Clear Lake Sanitary District.....357-2019
 Water Department357-3911

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 6th 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 2nd Tuesday of each month)

Tom Arndorfer	Jana Severtson
Scott Johnson	Bennett Smith
Diane Glynn	Pat Weigel
Elizabeth Cherry	

Parks & Recreation Board

(Meets 4th Wednesday of each month)

Tim Raber	Chyrl Bergvig
Brenda Anderson	Darron Jones
Linda Hopper	Amy Hogg
Scott Lester	

Planning & Zoning Commission

(Meets last Tuesday of each month)

Lori Broghammer	Julie Angle
Al Penfold	Arnold Prohaska
Chyrl Bergvig	Al Duea
Davin McLeod	

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.



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September 2015

Clear Lake, Where People Make The Difference



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