



# The Clear View

A newsletter for the Citizens of Clear Lake

Volume 14 - Number 1  
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www.cityofclearlake.com

## 2015 City of Clear Lake Municipal Election Results

### Ebeling Elected to 1st Ward, Boehnke & Callanan Re-elected to 3rd Ward and At-Large

Mark Ebeling was elected to the position of Ward 1 City Council member on November 3rd. Incumbents Jim Boehnke and Mike Callanan were also re-elected to their respective 3rd Ward and At-large seats on the Council. Each will be administered the oath of office in late-December, 2015. Their respective 4-year terms begin on January 1, 2016 and expire on December 31, 2019.

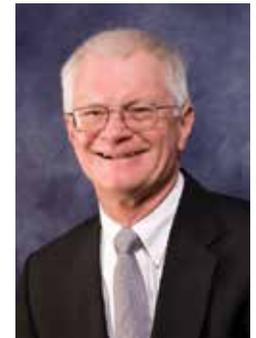
The City would like to extend its thanks to City Council Member Dana Brant for his service on the City Council. Mr. Brant's term expires on December 31, 2015.



Ebeling



Boehnke



Callanan

## Police Department sports new – “old” look on squad cars

The Police Department took delivery of two new police patrol vehicles in the fall of 2015. During the discussion of outfitting the

vehicles with the electronic equipment, it was suggested that the old logo from the 1958 Ford be used going forward. After several designs were created, the new design was selected by officer vote.



The department has received numerous positive comments about the “new” look. The comments have come from community members and other law enforcement officers from various agencies. Most say it is a “cleaner more professional look.” Chief Roth stated, “the new look allowed us to honor the traditions of the department, while looking ahead to serving two great communities.”



Mayor Nelson Crabb

## 2015 – Taking stock of where we’ve been, but looking forward to where we’re going

It was once again my honor and privilege to serve this Community as Mayor in 2015. Clear Lake is a great place to live and remains the premiere recreational and tourist destination of North Iowa and Southern Minnesota. Undoubtedly, it is a fun and exciting time to be part of such a dynamic City.

As I write this article, 2015 is nearly in full view in my rear view mirror. Like many of you, it is an appropriate time for me to pause and recall all the special things that were accomplished this past year. It was a year of progress on many City priorities. Likewise, groundwork was laid for many future initiatives.

Some of the highlights:

- A. Purchase of a new loader-mounted rotary snow blower (\$150,000);
- B. Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Project (\$300,000);
- C. W. 7th Avenue N Water Main Project (\$400,000);
- D. Hiring of a new Building & Zoning Official;
- E. Adopted a budget with no tax rate change for 5th consecutive year;
- F. City Hall/Police Department renovation (\$1.4 million);
- G. Assignment of Development Agreement from Windmill Realty LLC to McKesson;
- H. Kwik Star Commercial Development – Traffic Signal & Intersection Improvements;

- I. 12th Ave S Street Resurfacing Project (\$250,000);
- J. Renewal of Police Services Agreement with Ventura;
- K. Approved two 3-year Collective Bargaining Agreements with City unions;
- L. Water Treatment Plant High Service Pump Project (\$400,000);
- M. N Shore Drive Street Re-construction Project (\$2.6 million);
- N. NW Water Tower Project completed (\$2.5 million);
- O. N 6th Street Re-construction Project completed (\$160,000);
- P. Hiring of a new Police Chief;
- Q. Early Retirement Incentive Program.

I would like to wish all a “Happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year!” We look forward to seeing many of you at community events this year and, of course, we encourage communication with us throughout the year.

It is rewarding to look back on 2015 and say, “wow”, we did accomplish a lot. I have been honored to serve as Mayor over this past year and look forward to continuing my service to the community.

*Wishing you much success in your endeavors for the year 2016!*

**The Clear Lake Police Department and the Public Works Department would like to remind everyone that the Snow Removal Ordinance is in effect through April 1, 2016.**

## Attention Pet Owners!

Dog licenses for the calendar year beginning January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016 are now due. The City Ordinance requires all dogs over six months of age to be licensed with the City of Clear Lake. Licenses may be purchased at City Hall, 15 North 6th Street. For licenses purchased before the March 31st deadline, the fee is \$3.00. The deadline for purchasing your 2016 dog license(s) is March 31, 2016 without penalty. On and after April 1, a \$1.00 penalty charge per month is added for each license. Proof of current rabies vaccination must be presented at time of licensing. Dogs kept in State or Federally licensed kennels, which are kept or raised solely for the bonafide purpose of sale and which are kept under constant restraint, do not need to be licensed. Please call 357-5267 with questions.



## 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 special session at 8:00 o’clock P.M. on February 15, 1968 with the following members present: Mayor Nesbit, Councilmen Crane, VerSteegh, and Jacobson. Absent: Secory and Johnson. The Fire Chief Pat Stork and the two Assistant Fire Chiefs discussed with the Council new equipment that should be purchased for the Fire Department. Needed are coats, boots, and helmets. It is the plan of the Fire Chief to issue one unit to each man, so they would have protective clothing when they go to a fire. Motion was made by VerSteegh, seconded by Crane, that the Chief purchase equipment up to \$1,500. Motion carried, all voting aye.”*

## Martha Boyes retires from the Clear Lake Public Library

Martha Boyes retired from the Clear Lake Public Library on December 18th. She began working as the head of the Youth Services Department in February of 2004. During her career, she started many of the popular programs the children's department currently offers. In the fall of 2006, recognizing the need to partner with the schools, she began a book delivery program to preschool and elementary school classrooms. Martha also organized the monthly Family Reading Club for 4th and 5th graders which later became Marvelous Mondays. In 2010, under her leadership, the children's department began offering storytimes as part of the community celebration of "Christmas by the Lake." She also established "Family Nights" to give working parents the opportunity to bring their children to the library for a fun and creative storytime experience. In addition to her work with young children, Martha was also involved in teen programming including: Teen Carnival, Harry Potter, and Hunger Games parties.

In May 2014, Martha stepped in as Interim Director after Jean Casey's retirement and remained in that role until a new Director was hired in January 2015. Soon after, she was promoted to Assistant Director. "I have wonderful memories and cherish my time at the Clear Lake Public Library," Martha commented. "Our library is very blessed with community support. The Friends of the Library's generous sponsorship of the summer reading programs, other children's and adult programming, technology, plus so much more always made my job easier."

"On behalf of the Library Board, Foundation Board, Friends of the Library, and the Staff of the Clear Lake Public Library, I would like to thank Martha for her years of dedicated service," stated Library Director Jill Pannkuk. "It was wonderful having her as part of our team, and she will be greatly missed."

## Barb Havill to retire from Police Department after 26 years

After 26 years of service to the communities of Clear Lake and Ventura, Dispatcher Barb Havill hung up the phone and went "10-42" on December 31st. A "10-42" is police radio code for ending a tour of duty, or in Barb's case, retiring.

Barb began working at the department as a part-time dispatcher in 1989, moving to full-time in 1991. Over her 26 years, she experienced numerous upgrades and changes in technology needed to dispatch public safety personnel. One of the biggest changes was the recent remodeling of the police department.

Chief Pete Roth said, "As the daytime dispatcher, Barb helped me get acquainted with the department and the community. She was extremely patient and kind when I would ask her many questions. Barb will be greatly missed by all at the department for her dedication and hard work over the years."

Barb has no definite plans for her retirement, but is looking forward to enjoying more time with her family.

The Clear View Newsletter is printed on recycled paper



## Help the Fire Department Help YOU!

When the snow falls, we would appreciate all the help we can get from our residents and property owners. While you are clearing snow from your sidewalks, please be mindful of any fire hydrants near or on your property. Do not pile snow on or around them as this hides



the hydrant from street view. Fire personnel are always on the lookout for the nearest hydrant as they approach a fire scene and if it is hidden behind a large snow pile or worse, totally buried, this can cause significant delays in attacking a fire quickly and effectively. Would

you unofficially "adopt" the hydrant in front of your house? Make sure that emergency personnel can locate it quickly by keeping the snow cleared around it.

Private snowplow operators are also asked to be mindful of hydrants on both public and private property when moving snow, as well as not piling it against the back doors of buildings. Snow thaws and refreezes, which can make emergency exits unusable for building occupants. It is the property owner's responsibility to maintain their walkways. Liability issues may arise if delays in attacking a fire, or being able to escape a fire, can be directly attributed to improper snow removal operations.

**Please note that City offices will be closed on the following days:**

New Year's Day, Friday, January 1st

President's Day, Monday, February 15th



## Chamber Annual Meeting

The Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce will hold its Annual Meeting & Awards Presentation Tuesday, January 26, 2016, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Surf Ballroom. The cost of this event is \$25 per person.

Call the Chamber office at 357-2159 to make reservations or reserve online at [www.clearlakeiowa.com](http://www.clearlakeiowa.com) with your membership login. Reservations are required by Wednesday, January 21st. Cancellations require 24-hour advance notice.

## Jonas Westover to Present Surf Ballroom History



On Friday, February 5th, Clear Lake native Jonas Westover will present the program, “The 1950’s at the Surf Ballroom,” at the Clear Lake Public Library, beginning at noon.

Interviews to collect personal stories about the Surf Ballroom will begin at 1:00 p.m.

After completing a survey of the full decade of the 1950’s, his lecture will provide a larger look of the Surf during that time, pinpointing several

events that made it an ideal, if last minute, location for Buddy Holly’s tour.

The defining event for the Surf Ballroom was the tragedy that followed the Winter Dance Party of 1959, but for people in North Iowa, the Surf held a different meaning as a center for cultural and civic events. Westover will discuss how the Surf’s managers found ways to keep the venue rousing for the variety of music styles popular in the 1950’s.

Westover will focus on the musical experiences of three separate artists to create a backdrop as musical life transforms over the years, providing stories of success, struggle, and adaptation, as 1959 drew to a close.

## If You Haven’t Us Yet, We Hope You Will Soon

The City uses a variety of social media sources to share news and information with residents of the community, visitors, and businesses. The goal is to share information that is time-sensitive, easily accessible, and cost-effective. Printed publications, local access channel (CLVision), City’s web site, and social media all deliver information in different ways to different audiences.

Through social media the City can post information quickly and interested parties can receive it much faster than if only print media and other more traditional sources were utilized. Common social media announcements include: reminders about events and policies, press releases, news, construction updates, pictures, videos and links to relevant information. Not only is social media fast, but it’s also cost-effective for the City to use and for residents to access. Residents and visitors don’t even need to have their own social media account to view the City’s sites.

The number of community members who follow the City on social media is growing rapidly. New followers aren’t the only measure of a successful social media strategy, however. The City has also seen increases in the number of times posts are viewed or commented on, links are clicked, and posts are shared.

Social media can encourage improved civic engagement. The City plans to continue to use social media to offer an online venue for residents to quickly obtain information and interact with the City and fellow community members.



## Dr. Seuss Birthday Party

The Clear Lake Public Library is celebrating Dr. Seuss’ birthday with an open house on Monday, February 29th, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. A guest reader will read Dr. Seuss stories in the story corner at intervals during the evening. There will be door prizes, activities and games taken from Dr. Seuss stories. In honor of the event, the Cat in the Hat will make an appearance at the library during the first hour. Bring along your camera to take your child’s picture with the Cat in the Hat. If you have a Cat in the Hat hat, please wear it. You may register by phoning the Children’s Department at 357-0315. This event is sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

## Weekend Open Gym Schedule

The Clear Lake Parks & Recreation Department sponsors the open gym program each Saturday and Sunday until March 6th. Due to the increased cost of utilities, a nominal fee will be charged. Cost is \$1.00 per time or a family may purchase an unlimited gym use pass for \$50. Also, an individual may purchase one for \$25. The schedule is as follows:

### Clear Creek Gym:

1:00 to 3:00 p.m. (elementary students)  
3:00 to 5:00 p.m. (middle school students)

### Middle School Gym:

1:00 to 3:00 p.m. (high school students)



## Surf Ballroom & Museum Prepares for 2015 Winter Dance Party

The Surf Ballroom & Museum is pleased to announce the artists who are scheduled to appear at the “2016 Winter Dance Party” event, scheduled for Wednesday, February 3rd through Saturday, February 6th.

The event kicks off on Wednesday with a Winter Dance Party Family Sock Hop featuring entertainment by John Mueller’s Winter Dance Party.

Thursday night features Martha Reeves and The Vandellas, The Coasters, and The Talifins who are all first time performers to the Surf’s Winter Dance Party, along with Tommy Allsup, whom has an extremely strong tie to the event as the original guitarist on the 1959 Winter Dance Party Tour.

Friday night’s Sock Hop will feature Flash Cadillac, The Johnny Rogers Band, and the Holy Rocka Roolaz. “The Friday night Sock Hop continues to be a fun night for fans to dance to the songs they remember best from the era,” said Event Producer, Shane Cooney. “That tradition continues with our Friday evening entertainment line-up. Both Flash Cadillac and Johnny Rogers have been a part of our event a number of times and continue to be fan favorites. In addition, this year’s Sock Hop will feature special guests the Holy Rocka Rollaz, who impressed with their performance during the Winter Dance Party Record Hop and Luncheon last year. Their energy and passion for the music are evident during every performance and they are sure to keep the audience on its feet,” he concluded.

Saturday evening’s performance will feature a Tribute to Joe B. Mauldin, who was the bass guitarist for Buddy Holly and a longtime member of the Crickets. The tribute will feature an appearance by Sonny Curtis and J.I. Allison, along with live performances by Wanda Jackson, Jason D. Williams, and “Ricky Nelson Remembered”, featuring Matthew & Gunnar Nelson, along with a guest appearance by The Vee Brothers.

For complete weeklong series of events and the most current information about the event, please visit [www.surfballroom.com](http://www.surfballroom.com) or contact the Surf’s office at (641) 357-6151.

## *Winter Fun in Clear Lake*

Don’t let the winter doldrums get you down! You’ll banish seasonal affective disorder (SAD) as soon as you see the splashes of color, contrasted with the ice and snow, on the frozen waters of Clear Lake created by the flight of hundreds of bright kites at Color the Wind. Oh, and it’s all free!

Clear Lake’s Color the Wind Kite Festival promises to be bigger and better than ever this year with the addition of a massive Blue Whale to the mix of kites being featured. The stunt kite teams of 180GO and Fire & Ice will present demonstrations of their team flying skills with intricately choreographed kite “dances.” Join the “pros” with your own kite and then warm up with a hot lunch from the food vendor on site. If you don’t own a kite, you will be able to purchase one from the kite vendor in the Lakeview Room.

Don’t miss the fun on the frozen lake at the Seawall in downtown Clear Lake on February 20th from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For more information, go to [www.colorthewind.org](http://www.colorthewind.org) or call Larry Day at (641) 529-0693.



# 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  
Mark Ebeling  
641-201-0430



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 Severson
Scott Johnson	Bennett Smith
Diane Glynn	Pat Weigel
Elizabeth Cherry	

### Parks & Recreation Board

(Meets 4<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.cityofclearlake.com).**



## The Clear View

January 2016

Clear Lake, Where People Make The Difference



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