



The Clear View

A newsletter for the Citizens of Clear Lake

Volume 14 - Number 6
November 2016
www.cityofclearlake.com

Colby joins Clear Lake Police Force

Captain Mike Colby's first day with the Clear Lake Police Department was on August 22, 2016. Mike, along with his wife Jennifer and their three children, moved to Clear Lake from West Des Moines. Mike was a 15-year veteran of the Clive Police Department, where he served in a variety of police positions.

"Since August 22nd, Mike has hit the ground running. He has been working on upgrading our in-car camera technology, overseeing the patrol lieutenants, investigations, and working with the clerk of court's office on the department's e-filing procedures. Captain Colby has been a welcome addition to our staff," said Chief Pete Roth.

Mike has also been busy meeting members of the Clear Lake and Ventura communities, as well as the officers from the area law enforcement agencies. He recently joined the Clear Lake Noon Lions.

Mike's family has vacationed at Clear Lake for several generations. While off-duty, he enjoys boating in the summer and hunting upland game in the fall and winter. Mike is looking forward to the snow this winter and the great white North!



Newsletter Dedication In Memory of Nels Larsen

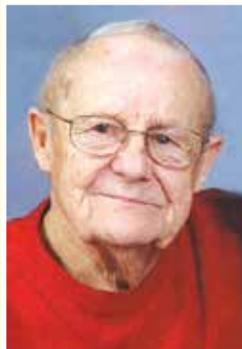
Clear Lake recently lost a dear friend and former Clear Lake City Councilman. Nels Larsen passed away on October 4, 2016. He was 92. His public service career spanned nearly his entire adult life, serving on the Clear Lake City Council from 1988 to 2003.

Reflecting on his time with him, City Administrator Scott Flory shared the following thoughts: "Nels was on the City Council when I was hired as City Administrator in 2001. Nels was a guy, as well as an elected official who never took things lightly. When he made up his mind to do something, he was very committed to seeing it through to the end. He preferred to do his job "behind-the-scenes", with as little fanfare as possible.

He and I developed a bond quickly. Nels and I usually spent a few hours one afternoon each week going over items for the Council agenda; checking on project construction activities; and looking into citizen concerns. In his 16 years on the City Council, I would doubt he missed more than a handful of meetings, if that. He took the job of an elected official very seriously and was a role model for others to follow."

The building of a new City public works facility in 2002 was something that Nels was instrumental in seeing come to fruition.

All of us extend our heartfelt condolences to the family of Nels Larsen. It is the intention of the Mayor, City Council and City Administrator of Clear Lake that this newsletter be dedicated in memory of Nels Larsen.



Daylight Savings Time Ends

On August 8, 2005, former President George W. Bush signed the Energy Policy Act of 2005. This Act changed the time and dates for Daylight Savings Time in the United States, beginning in 2007. Daylight Savings Time will begin on the second Sunday in March and end the first Sunday in November. So, before you head off to bed on November 5th make sure to turn your clocks back one hour.

The Fire Department reminds us that this is also a good time to change the batteries in all of your smoke detectors.



Mayor Nelson Crabb

Oh, Say Can You See O'er the Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave

The words found in the title of this article are undoubtedly known to all. They are the beginning and ending words of the first verse of the Star-Spangled Banner, of course. As long as I am alive, they will always give me goose bumps and get my adrenaline pumping.

Most people that know me know that I am a big sports fan, in particular major league baseball; high school, college, and pro football; high school and college wrestling, golf, and, well, you get the picture. I remember attending games with my father and, following in his footsteps, taking my own son to games. My father instilled in me the tradition of standing tall and proud, with my hand over my heart, during the playing of the national anthem. I explained to my son at a very early age the significance of standing for the national anthem was about showing unity for the flag, military service men and women, and our Nation.

As a coach in high school athletics, it made me proud to be an American as I would look at our athletes; the sons and daughters of our Community's citizens as the national anthem played. Now, granted, I was raised in a different time and my children now have children of their own. So, I know that times have changed, but I am proud to be guilty of being a "throw back" to a different era.

I am proud to be a civilian participant/observer of our Community's veterans as we observe Veterans Day this November 8th. I ad-

mire the men dressed in their uniforms – standing tall and proud. At these moments, I recall telling my son why we stand for the national anthem.

The Flag Code addresses how we are to act during the playing of the national anthem. The code states that: "persons present are expected to stand and face the flag, if there is one. Civilians should stand to attention with right hand over heart, while military personnel in uniform and veterans should salute throughout."

Like some of you, I have found this recent trend of kneeling, sitting, or raising a fist during the playing of the national anthem distasteful to say the least. I certainly support these athletes and others 1st Amendment right to protest and their desire to see our country a better place for all. But to me, this form of protesting really only serves to insult what the anthem itself stands for.

Legal scholar and Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg summarized such protests as follows: "I think it's dumb and disrespectful. I would have the same answer if you asked me about flag burning. I think it's a terrible thing to do, but I wouldn't lock a person up for doing it. I would point out how ridiculous it seems to me to do such an act."

My hope is that our young men and women athletes don't follow the lead of these others. Our children are special, but impressionable, and need good role models to guide them.

Until next time,

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 7:30 o'clock P.M. on March 3, 1955. The meeting was called to order by the Mayor, and the roll being called, there were present: M.A. Hintzman, Mayor, in the chair, the following named members of the Council: Floyd Nesbit, Seymour Hall and Harold Jorgenrud. Absent, E.L. Secory and F.L. Knutson. Mayor Hintzman appointed Nels Wm. Larsen as Chief of Police. Motion made by Hall and seconded by Jorgenrud that the appointment of Nels Wm. Larsen as Chief of Police be approved and his salary be set at \$285.00 per month. Motion carried, all members present voting aye."

Curbside Mailboxes sometimes suffer snow damage

During snow plow operations, particularly those that have wet and heavy snow, it is not uncommon for curbside mailboxes to be damaged. The damage is typically the result of the impact from heavy, wet snow being discharged from the plow blade. Although we are sorry for the inconvenience this causes, we must clean the entire road. This often means heavy snow will hit your mailbox as the trucks go by. It can snap your post and destroy the box and can easily crack and break the plastic mailboxes, if it is a bitter cold morning. There is no escape from some of the hardships of an Iowa winter. That includes the toll it takes on our mailboxes. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding in our efforts to keep our streets clear. Generally speaking:

- If a mailbox that conforms to City ordinance is damaged as a result of "physical contact" of a snowplow or other piece of snow removal equipment, the City will pay to offset the cost of replacing the mailbox with a standard issue mail box.
- If a mailbox is damaged as a result of the weight or impact of snow and ice being moved by a City snowplow, but there has been NO "physical contact" with the box by a piece of City equipment, the City will NOT assume responsibility for cost of repair or replacement of the box.

For guidance on proper curbside mailbox installation in order to reduce the likelihood that your mailbox might be damaged during snow plow operations, please contact the Public Works Department at 357-6135.



Paving for Water Quality

by Jim Sholly, CLEAR Project Coordinator

The City of Clear Lake recently broke ground on a parking lot improvement project for Veterans Memorial Golf Course along the north shore of Clear Lake. While one of the goals of this project is to provide better access, parking, and a new sidewalk around the club house, it also provided an opportunity to make a positive impact on water quality for our lake. Included in this project is a large area of PaveDrain pervious pavers that will intercept and infiltrate stormwater coming from both the parking lot and club house buildings. These non-traditional pavers are significantly larger than any that have been used in Clear Lake in the past, and thus do not cause some of the issues seen in other areas. These pavers are designed to allow water to infiltrate while maintaining a very stable base and surface. The ¼ inch gap between each paver lets water flow down while the underlying construction and design is ADA approved and eliminates any weight limitation for traffic. This project site will be used as a demonstration site for innovative urban stormwater management for our community and everyone visiting north Iowa. The



water quality benefits from projects like this will ensure Clear Lake remains a destination community and a safe place to play on the water for years to come. To find out more information about this project and ways you can protect and enhance our lake, please visit www.clearproject.net.

The “Invisible” Killer

Carbon monoxide or CO is the “invisible” killer due to it being a colorless and odorless gas. Every year more than 400 people in the US die and 20,000 visit the emergency room from unintentional exposure to carbon monoxide associated with consumer products. Carbon monoxide is produced by burning fuel, therefore, any fuel burning appliance in or around your home is a potential CO source. Examples of these are cars and trucks, lanterns, stoves, gas ranges and heating systems such as your furnace. It is even often hard to tell if someone has CO poisoning, because the symptoms may be closer to other illnesses or also can die simply if sleeping or intoxicated. The most common symptoms of CO poisoning are: headache; dizziness; weakness; nausea; vomiting; chest pain; confusion.

Ways of preventing CO poisoning in your home are as follows:

- Install a battery-operated or battery back-up CO detector in your home and check or replace the battery when you change the time on your clocks each spring and fall. Place your detector where it will wake you up if it alarms, such as outside your bedroom. Consider buying a detector with a digital readout. This detector can tell you the highest level of CO concentration in your home in addition to alarming. Replace your CO detector every five years.
- Have your heating system, water heater, and any other gas, oil, or coal burning appliances serviced by a qualified technician every year.

- Do not use portable flameless chemical heaters indoors.
- If you smell an odor from your gas refrigerator have an expert service it. An odor from your gas refrigerator can mean it could be leaking CO.
- When you buy gas equipment, buy only equipment carrying the seal of a national testing agency.
- Make sure your gas appliances are vented properly. Horizontal vent pipes for appliances, such as a water heater, should go up slightly as they go toward outdoors. This prevents CO from leaking if the joints or pipes aren't fitted tightly.
- Have your chimney checked or cleaned every year. Chimneys can be blocked by debris. This can cause CO to build up inside your home or cabin.
- Never patch a vent pipe with tape, gum, or something else. This kind of patch can make CO build up.
- Never use a gas range or oven for heating your home.
- Never burn charcoal indoors or use a portable gas camp stove indoors.
- Never use a generator inside your home or garage or less than 20 feet from any window, door, or vent.

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

- Veterans Day, Friday, November 11th
- Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 24th
- Day after Thanksgiving, Friday, November 25th
- Christmas Day, Monday, December 26th
- New Year's Day, Monday, January 2nd

City Crews Ready for Winter

Clear Lake's Public Works Department is ready for winter and prepared to keep approximately 87 miles of local streets and alleys clear of snow and in safe condition.

To keep traffic moving crews first plow collector and arterial streets that connect neighborhoods to State and County roads. Plowing stops if strong winds and drifting result in unsafe conditions; it resumes when conditions improve. The city calls a snow emergency after snow accumulates to two inches or more. However, an accumulation of consecutive snowfall events of less than two inches may initiate plowing.

Safety around snowplows

Efficient, effective snow removal requires public cooperation. For example:

- Reduce speed and keep a minimum distance of 50 feet from snowplows and sand trucks (frequent backing is necessary, and rear visibility is very limited).
- Never drive into a snow cloud or pass vehicles while they're plowing.
- Stay away from the end of a driveway when a snowplow is approaching.
- Never build snow forts or snow sculptures in the snow piles on the boulevard.
- Keep garbage cans and recycling carts in the driveway and off roadways and sidewalks if it snows on collection days.
- Listen to weather forecasts so you're not in transit when a storm hits.

Parking on public streets

Parking is prohibited on public streets after a snowfall of at least two inches, until snow has been plowed to the curb line. Vehicles in violation are cited by patrolling police. Vehicles found to be obstructing traffic or snow plows, and those still in violation after 24 hours, may be towed.



Snow Ordinance reminders:

Please remember to:
Drive cautiously and safely;
Do not park in the street;
Do not push or blow snow into the street;
Clear your sidewalks and areas around fire hydrants of snow/ice; and
Ensure your mail can be delivered by clearing snow and ice from around your mailbox.

Snow Removal Ordinance is in effect beginning November 1, 2016 through April 1, 2017.

Winter Driving

Whether you choose to believe it or not, winter driving is approaching. Now, before the snow starts falling, is a great time to discuss safe winter driving.

According to the Checklist and Tips for Safe Winter Driving by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) drivers should;

- Have your car serviced before it snows – complete routine maintenance and check for leaks, worn hoses, or other needed parts and repairs.
- Check the battery – battery power drops when the temperature drops make sure it will be up to the task starting your car during the winter.
- Check the car's cooling system – see your vehicle owner's manual for specific recommendations on coolant, especially in cold temperatures.
- Fill your windshield washer reservoir with "no-freeze" type fluid.
- Check your windshield wipers and defrosters to ensure the best visibility possible.
- Verify floor mat installation to prevent pedal interference – be sure to follow manufacture guidelines for mat installation.
- Inspect your tires and check tire pressure. Make sure each tire is filled to the vehicle manufacturer's recommended inflation pressure.
- Plan your travel and route – allow for plenty of time to arrive at your destination safely, check weather and road conditions (www.511ia.org).
- Stock your car – jumper cables, shovel, ice scraper, flashlight, and cell phone charger are a few items you should travel with during the winter.

Remember when traveling, always wear a seat belt, don't text and drive, and drive to the conditions of the road.

For further information about winter driving, or to see the complete checklist from NHTSA visit: www.nhtsa.gov/links/winterdrivingtips/ or contact the Clear Lake Police Department.

Join in the fun during the 22nd Annual “Christmas by the Lake” Celebration

The Annual “Christmas by the Lake” event is scheduled for Saturday, December 3rd and Sunday, December 4th. This year marks the 22nd Anniversary of one of the largest and most beloved City festivals. On Saturday, activities include: trolley rides; craft show; crowning of prince and princess; petting zoo; s’more’s for kids; Christmas Karaoke; visit with Santa; strolling Dickens characters; lighted parade; and fireworks over the lake.

The fun continues on Sunday with the annual Polar Bear Plunge and Kids Treasure Hunt. Other events throughout the weekend include: a holiday concert at the Surf Ballroom and the Festival of Trees at Opportunity Village.

Be on the lookout for more exciting new ways to celebrate our 22nd Anniversary of “Christmas by the Lake.” For a complete schedule of events visit www.clearlakeiowa.com.



Humanities Iowa History Series to continue at Library

“Humanities Iowa History Series: America at War, Iowa at Work” series will continue at the Library during the months of November and December. The series is about the critical role Iowa played in America’s wartime history. Attendees will learn of Iowa’s unique contribution (both home and abroad) to war efforts in World War I and World War II.

On Tuesday, November 1, at 6:30 p.m., the program “Working with the Enemy: German, Italian, and Japanese prisoners of war in Iowa during the Second World War” will be held. As part of a relatively quiet and underpublicized government program, thousands of enemy soldiers invaded Iowa in 1943. Professor Chad Timm, of Simpson College, will share the history of POW camps in Iowa during the Second World War: one in the Northern Iowa town of Algona and one in the Southwestern Iowa town of Clarinda (one of only two camps in the country to house Japanese soldiers). The story of POW interment in Iowa is a fascinating story of Iowans being confronted by the enemy; an enemy they not only needed in order to help meet their wartime goals, but that challenged them to find humanity in the eyes of the enemy.

“U.S. Railroad Operations during World War I” program will be held on Tuesday, November 15th, at 6:30 p.m. Dr. Rudy Daniels will be the “conductor” of this riveting railroad history tour. Trains played critical roles in both civilian and military aspects during World War I. Be prepared for an up-



lifting evening as Daniels shares the incredible and fascinating story of the railroad’s efforts to win the war.

“The Forgotten Generation: Iowa Children and the Attack on Pearl Harbor” will be held on Tuesday, December 6th, at 6:30 p.m. To commemorate the 75th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, Lisa Ossian, Professor of History, Des Moines Area Community College will address the impact World War II had on a generation of children unlike any other experience in the 20th century. From the days before Pearl Harbor, with quiet rumors of war; to the dramatic Sunday afternoon of December 7, 1941, to the continuing days and years of war work, to news of the atomic bomb, and finally to war’s end on V-J day, World War II challenged and transformed America’s (and Iowa’s) children.



**Aquatic Center memberships make a great holiday gift!
Discounted memberships are on sale now for the 2017 season.**



City of Clear Lake Directory

CITY DIRECTORY

EMERGENCY911

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 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
Tamara Schwichtenberg	

Parks & Recreation Board

(Meets 4th Wednesday of each month)

Tim Raber	Chyrl Bergvig
Linda Hopper	Darron Jones
Amy Hogg	

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)

Gail Robinson	Cerise Sissel
Fred Muth	Bob Swanson
David Klang	

Visit The City Of Clear Lake Website at www.cityofclearlake.com.



The Clear View

November 2016

Clear Lake, Where People Make The Difference



**15 North 6th Street
 P.O. Box 185
 Clear Lake, IA 50428**

**City Office
 (641) 357-5267**

**Fax
 (641) 357-8711**

**PRSR STD
 U.S. Postage
 Paid
 Clear Lake, IA
 Permit No. 2**

**Residential
 Postal Patron - ECRWSS**

The City of Clear Lake, Iowa publishes The Clear View 6 times a year. Copyrights are not exercised and there are no restrictions on the use or reprinting of any material appearing in this newsletter. The newsletter is produced on behalf of the City of Clear Lake by the City Administrator and City Clerk, printed by the Clear Lake Mirror Reporter, and provided to citizens of the City without cost. The newsletter's purpose is to disseminate information about the activities of your City government. No ads or commercial announcements will be published. The newsletter is printed in the months of January, March, May, July, September, and November each year.