



The Clear View

A newsletter for the Citizens of Clear Lake

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www.cityofclearlake.com

Fire Department Serving Pancake Breakfast October 9th

To kick off this year's National Fire Prevention Week and to help promote the theme, "Don't Wait! Check the Date! Replace Smoke Alarms every 10 years.", the Clear Lake Fire Department will be hosting its 18th annual pancake breakfast on Sunday, October 9th. 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.

Recycling Drop-off Location Guidelines

In addition to the City's Curbside Recycling Collection Program, the City of Clear Lake offers recycling drop-off boxes for **residents** to use at their convenience. The recycling drop-off boxes are located on the grounds of the City's public works building, just outside the entrance/exit at 4th Avenue South.

RECYCLING DROP OFF GUIDELINES

- Separate all recyclable materials to the appropriately labeled receptacles.
- Please do not leave boxes, bags, or other materials outside of the trailers.
- If containers are at capacity, please take all items that cannot fit into the trailer back home with you until they have been emptied or utilize curb-side recycling.
- This service is funded by the City of Clear Lake and is available to **residents** of Clear Lake **ONLY**.

This service is provided as a convenience for our residents. The City has begun law enforcement monitoring and will issue citations to those found dropping off ineligible items or dropping off items outside of the drop boxes.





Mayor Nelson Crabb

Dealing with public criticism isn't science – it's an art

One of the things I have learned throughout my career in public service is that you need to be able to strategically respond when dealing with public criticism. Dealing with public criticism is truly an art. I have witnessed some people who are really good at it and some who have come up short in their efforts.

You are going to be criticized when you are required to make decisions that impact others; it is inevitable. It is unrealistic to expect that we can make everyone happy and if you try, you undoubtedly will fail in the process. How we, as public officials, respond to criticism can define the opinions that our constituents form of us, right or wrong. The English author Ernest Bramah once said, "A reputation for one-thousand years may depend upon the conduct of a single moment."

Today, elected officials are under more scrutiny than ever before.

Criticism can take shape in a variety of forms: emails; letters to the editor; and blogs to name a few. It is not unfair that citizens expect a lot from their elected officials. Public officials who respond to such criticism by throwing temper tantrums, making inappropriate statements, or who resort to over-the-top bullying are doing a disservice to their constituency. Likewise, criticism that turns into a personal attack never deserves more than just simply to be ignored.

One of the most important steps in learning to deal effectively with public criticism is to know how to "move on." For some, this is easier said than done.

Lastly, turn the experience into a positive. As entrepreneur and philanthropist Bill Gates was quoted as saying, "Your most unhappy customers are your greatest source of learning."

As always, it is my great pleasure to serve as Mayor of this wonderful City!

City's Large Item Cleanup Will Be Held in October

The 2016 Fall Large Item Pickup will take place October 10th to October 13th. 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 5th, listing the dates the City will pick up in your area and the items that will and will not be picked up.

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 October 5, 1935. Member present: Mayor Phillips and Councilmen Ott, DeBruyn, Scherf, Wright, and Andersen. R.R. Rogers tendered his resignation from the office of City Clerk, to take effect as soon as he can be released, or not later than November 1, 1935. Motion was made by Ott and seconded by Anderson that the resignation of R.R. Rogers as City Clerk be accepted, as of November 1, 1935. Motion was carried, all voting aye. Motion was made by DeBruyn and seconded Scherf that Ralph C. Ingersoll be appointed as City Clerk for the unexpired term left by the resignation of R.R. Rogers, at the salary of \$130 per month. Motion was carried, all voting aye."



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 12th.** 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 13th. Please have appliances with stickers attached by the curb by no later than 7:30 a.m. on October 13th.

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, mouses 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.

Officer Gute and Kilo Patrol Together



Officer Cory Gute is the department's canine (K9) handler. He and his partner Kilo, a single-purpose narcotics detection Black Labrador retriever, have worked together since 2012. They are the only dog team operating in Cerro Gordo County. You can usually find them on patrol in the evening. However, they are available to respond to an agency request 24 hours a day.

The Clear Lake Police Department (CLPD) canine program began in 2007. Since that time, the department has had three canines serve Clear Lake and Ventura. Officer Ryan Eskildsen and Bora were the original team nine years ago. The bond of working with a canine partner is something most officers will never experience. "I have been fortunate enough to be our K9 handler since 2010. Kilo is with me most of the time and I even find myself talking to him in the car sometimes. He is usually a good listener," stated Officer Gute.

Officer Gute graduated from Mid-Michigan Kennels, a five week basic canine handler school, located in Eaton Rapids, Michigan in spring of 2010. He returned to patrol, eager to work with his new partner and two days later he and Kilo found narcotics located in the trunk of a vehicle during a traffic stop.

The care of Kilo is provided through generous donations to the department and we would not be able to offer the services of Kilo without that support. The cost for food, veterinary visits, and miscellaneous equipment costs can add up and these donations help defray those costs.

In addition to searching for drugs, Kilo and Officer Gute are asked to present to various groups around the community and they visit the Clear Lake elementary annually. Officer Gute stated, "I enjoy visiting with the elementary students and just when I think I've heard or seen it all, a five-year-old asks a question that makes me smile."

Watermain Flushing Schedule Set for Fall

The Clear Lake Water Department will begin flushing watermains in October. Flushing will be done the week of October 3rd, 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.

Youth and Adult Programs offered at the Library

Marvelous Mondays will begin on October 10th and is an engaging program for 4th and 5th graders. This 7-week program runs from 3:15 to 5:00 p.m. and will conclude on November 21st. The format of the program includes a weekly theme that incorporates stories, a craft or activity, a snack, use of the library, and fun interaction with peers. The session is limited to 15 students and you can register prior to September 16th by phoning 357-0315.

Wonderful Wednesdays is a program for 1st, 2nd, & 3rd grade students hosted in the Children's Department and will begin on October 5th and conclude on November 16th. This program runs from 2:15 to 4:00 p.m. and is structured very similarly to its counterpart on Mondays. Stories, activities, a snack, and craft will follow a weekly theme for children to enjoy. Registration deadline is September 16th.

The Friends of the Library are pleased to present on Monday, September 12th at 7:00 p.m., an evening with best-selling crime fiction writer Donald Harstad, creator of the Car Houseman mysteries. During his years as a rural Iowa Deputy Sheriff, Harstad was a

patrol officer, the Department of Intelligence Officer, and eventually Chief Investigator. The many and varied experiences Don had during that time have provided him with a large base of information, which he draws upon for many of the characters and situations described in his novels. Don's first novel, *Eleven Days*, was nominated for an Anthony award as Best First Novel and his is currently published in nine languages in some twenty countries.

Historian Kathy Wilson returns on Tuesday, September 27th, at 4:00 p.m., with a program to be held at Central Gardens about the glamorous, scandalous life of author Frances Hodgson Burnett and the story of *The Secret Garden*. We'll learn about Hodgson's unconventional personal life and have the opportunity to ask Kathy questions about Victorian women's lives in general. Enjoy garden party delights such as finger sandwiches and fresh fruit, along with lemonade and iced tea. Dress up in garden-party attire or come as you are, but don't miss this entertaining afternoon at the gardens.

For more information on these and other programs at the Library contact 357-6133

Back to School Safety

While most of us cling to the last days of summer break, it is that time of year again and school has begun. The Police Department reminds motorists to drive cautiously and alert. Slow down and watch for school buses and students. Students that walk to school should walk with friends or in a group and are reminded to be alert and use sidewalks when possible. Children should know their address and how to contact their parents, a trusted adult, and 911.



Below are a few additional safety tips from the Iowa Department of Education:

Drivers:

- When the bus' yellow flashers turn on, that signifies that it is preparing to have a child get on or off the bus. All vehicles behind the bus must come to a complete stop.
- If you are approaching a bus from the opposite direction, slow your speed to 20 mph when the bus turns on its yellow flashers.
- On a two-lane road, traffic in both directions must come to a full stop when the lights are flashing red.
- On a four-lane road, traffic moving in the opposite direction must slow down and proceed with caution when either red or yellow flashers are present.
- Stop your vehicle at least 15 feet from the bus.
- Remain stopped until the flashing lights are turned off and the stop arm is pulled back in.
- Failure to comply could result in a fine of \$250 plus court costs.

Students:

- Stop and look both ways before crossing a street.
- Make sure your bus driver can see you when you are crossing in front of the bus. If you cannot see the driver, the driver cannot see you.
- Never cross behind the bus.
- When getting on or off the bus, never cross the street until the bus driver signals it's OK to cross.
- If you drop something near the bus, do not pick it up. Instead, tell the bus driver what you dropped, and let the driver instruct you on what to do.

For more information about school safety please visit: www.iowadot.gov/schoolbus or www.educateiowa.gov.

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12th Annual Harvest Festival to be held October 1st

The Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce has some exciting new things planned for the 12th Annual Harvest Festival. This “ever-evolving” event has become one of the regions premier destination opportunities to relax and experience the Midwest tradition of celebrating bountiful harvests.

The 12th Annual Harvest Festival is shaping up to be the biggest and best yet. According to Chamber Executive Director, Tim Coffey, “I am constantly amazed at how big and successful the Harvest Fest has become. People from all over the Midwest come into downtown Clear Lake to be part of this annual event. This year’s event promises to be even better with new & different music venues, and the best wine tasting in Iowa! There is also a grape stomping contest, salsa contest, and so much more to make a fun day. I think all who come to Harvest Fest on October 1st will have a terrific time!”

Each Souvenir bag will contain a wine glass to use for wine



samplings at various locations throughout Clear Lake. The bag also contains items from Clear Lake businesses and a special gift. Only 1,000 bags will be available on a “first come first serve” basis. These bags always sell out, so you will want to order yours early. VIP bags are also available for \$55.00 and are limited to 75 participants. With the VIP bag you receive extra wine samples, musical entertainment,

food, chair massages, and more in a private VIP lounge.

This year’s Harvest Festival Bag is priced at \$30.00 and they can be purchased online at www.harvestfestivalcl.eventbrite.com, in person at the Chamber Office, or by phone with a credit or debit card. All sales are final and no refunds will be given. For full event details visit www.clearlake.iowa.com or contact the Chamber office at 357-2159



Clear Lake Chamber Introduces Free Mobile App

The Clear Lake Chamber has released a new mobile app! The app was designed to be a tool for front-line employees to assist visitors, and it is also proven to be very useful for locals. It has up to date store and restaurant info, including hours, menus, and phone numbers, plus attractions, things to do, directions, events, and more- like the newly expanded business directory.

All entries have a directional feature to give you the fastest route to your destination, including businesses, and attractions. It makes giving directions to popular locations like the Crash Site Memorial a breeze! Try it out today, you can get it free on the App Store or Google Play.

Please note that City offices will be closed in observance of the Labor Day holiday on Monday, September 5th. The City Council will meet on Tuesday, September 6th, at 6:30 p.m., due to the holiday.

Yard Waste Options



Residents are reminded that the burning of leaves and grass clippings is prohibited within the City limits. The City offers weekly curbside leaf and grass clipping collection within the City limits, as well as the City’s yard waste collection site as alternatives for disposal of yard waste.

Absolute Waste Removal will collect leaves and grass clippings in biodegradable bags or an open garbage container on your regular garbage collection day. They will initially pick up your garbage and then return later the same day to pick up leaves and grass clippings.

Alternatively, you may haul your leaves and grass clippings to the City’s yard waste collection site located at 1419 2nd Avenue South. Please contact City Hall at 357-5267 or Absolute Waste Removal at 357-4517 with questions. As always, your anticipated cooperation in keeping Clear Lake an attractive community is most appreciated.

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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.



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September 2016

Clear Lake, Where People Make The Difference



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