



The Clear View

A newsletter for the Citizens of Clear Lake

Volume 15 - Number 4
July 2017
www.cityofclearlake.com

Betty Sherman to serve as Parade Grand Marshal

The Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce 4th of July Committee is pleased to announce that Betty Sherman will serve as the Grand Marshal for this year's 4th of July parade. Betty and her husband developed the Oak Hills Golf Course and also operated the Lake Theatre for 40 years before selling the business in 2016. Theatre patrons were accustomed to seeing Betty positioned at the ticket window welcoming guests to the theater.

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 Tuesday, July 4th, at the corner of Main Avenue and 20th Street. The 4th of July celebration begins on Thursday, June 29th at 5:00 p.m. and concludes on July 4th. For a full schedule of events visit the chamber website at www.clearlakeiowa.com.



Bicycles, Blues & BBQ and Brews on the Beach to Follow 4th of July Activities

The Bicycle, Blues & BBQ Festival is heading to Clear Lake once again this July 6th – 9th. 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 Pre-Party will be held on Thursday, July 6th, at the Surf District Rock 'n Roll Grill, and will be featuring Blue Rooster. The party continues on Friday night, at 5:00 p.m., in City Park, with the BBQ vendors opening at 5:00 p.m. and free music for you to enjoy from the Brian Naughton Band; Rachele Coda; and the Joe Moss Band. The Cash Box Kings, who will entertain you on Saturday evening, boast an array of talent to satisfy any blues lovers.

On Saturday, there will be an Omnium Race, Criterium Race, and a Free Kids Race. The "Brews on the Beach" craft brewfest will be held again this year and will feature 25 Iowa craft breweries with their best brews. Space is limited to 800 attendees and VIP ticket holders gain access to the event at noon; general admission ticket holders get in at 1:00 p.m. to sample beer until 4:00 p.m.

All events, with the exceptions 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 the popular City Beach, picnic areas, and exceptional boutiques, antique shops, and restaurants.

For additional event and registration information visit www.bicyclebluesbbq.com. Proceeds from the event will be used to help build bicycle and hiking trails in North Iowa.



City Will Once Again Spray For Mosquitos

The City will 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 p.m. to 12:00 a.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 the Public Works Department at 641-357-6135.

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

Additional information about the City's Mosquito Spraying program can be obtained from the City of Clear Lake's website at www.cityofclearlake.com.



Mayor Nelson Crabb

Some Interesting Facts About Clear Lake's Favorite Holiday

All Clear Lakers love the 4th of July and the sense of patriotism it invokes. We enjoy the gathering of family and friends to enjoy the best parade and most fabulous fireworks in the State of Iowa. But how many of us truly understand what we are celebrating? I realize that few Americans are running around with a pocket-sized Declaration of Independence on their person. Although, from time-to-

time I do see a few people dressed from head-to-toe in red, white, and blue and doing their best Uncle Sam impressions. So, as we embark on celebrating our America's 241st birthday, the educator in me would like to pass on the following, perhaps, little known facts about Independence Day.

JULY 2nd: Independence Day. So, what are we actually celebrating? If you were to ask our Nation's 2nd president, John Adams, we have been celebrating the wrong day for the past 241 years. For it was on July 2nd, that the Second Continental Congress voted to declare independence from Britain. It was on July 4th, that Congress' president John Hancock signed the Declaration of Independence. Adams opined, "The Second day of July 1776, will be the most solemnized with Pomp and Parade, with Shews, Games, Sports, Guns, Bells, Bonfires and Illuminations from one End of this Continent to the other from this Time forward forever more."

Three of America's first five Presidents died on July 4th. John Adams, the second president, and Thomas Jefferson, the third president, died hours apart on July 4, 1826. James Monroe, the fifth president, also died on July 4, five years after Adams and

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 5:00 o'clock p.m. on July 2, 1936 with the following members present: Mayor Phillips and Councilmen Hunting, DeBruyn, Scherf, Wright and Andersen. Fire Chief, P.W. Fistler, and members of the Fire Dept., were present and talked over the proposition of the City purchasing a boat and motor, to be used by the Life Guard, who is hired by the local Red Cross. Motion was made by Hunting and seconded by Wright that the City purchase boat and motor from Henry Billman, for \$200.00, with payment of \$100.00 now, and balance to be paid in the Fall. Motion carried, all voting aye."

Jefferson in 1831. Our Nation's 30th president, Calvin Coolidge, was born on the Fourth of July in 1872.

An official holiday! It was not until 1870, nearly 100 years after the fact, that Congress made the Fourth of July an official holiday. Federal employees did not receive the day off as a paid holiday until July 4, 1938. However, Boston led the way by becoming the first city to designate the Fourth a city-wide holiday in 1783.

Lastly, I want to recognize and thank all the City of Clear Lake and Chamber staff and the countless volunteers who work tirelessly to make this a special time in Clear Lake. Their day goes from early morning to the end of the fireworks display late at night – every year.

So, most importantly, have a Happy Independence Day and remember we live in a country where we are all free to pursue the "American Dream."

Guidelines for Pedestrians and Bicyclers

It's great to get out and walk and bike in our great city. But do you remember to follow these rules and guidelines?



PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

- Use the sidewalk whenever possible;
- If it's necessary to walk on the shoulder of the road, walk facing traffic;
- Share the sidewalk with children riding their bikes;
- When walking at night or before sunrise, wear something reflective;
- While crosswalks are the safest place to cross a street, they do not guarantee your safety. Always watch traffic while in a crosswalk;
- Don't walk or run into the road from between parked cars.

BIKE SAFETY

- Always wear a bike helmet;
- Bikes are required to follow the rules of the road;
- If riding on the sidewalk, remember to share with people walking;
- Keep both hands on the handlebars when riding;
- Don't talk or text on your phone while riding;
- When riding in the road, watch parked cars for doors opening or suddenly pulling out into traffic;
- Have a light on your bike at night.



Riding your bike on the sidewalk in the downtown is prohibited. For the safety of bicyclists and pedestrians bikes should be walked.



Police Department Receives Donation

Clear Lake resident, Ray Stewart, donated a Club Car golf cart to the police department. Stewart and Council Member Gary Hugi delivered the cart to Captain Mike Colby on May 25th. The golf cart will be utilized for the city's many special events. "We are grateful and appreciated Ray's generous donation to the department. It allows us some added flexibility with police operation," stated Chief Pete Roth.

WHAT'S UP WITH GRAFFITI IN MY YARD?

Undoubtedly, you have seen spray paint markings in your yard, on streets and sidewalks, or other public surfaces and wondered if there was a secret decoding device that unlocked their meaning. City Hall receives many calls every summer from people wondering why grass near their home is marked or what the markings mean.

Utility color codes are used to identify existing underground utilities in construction areas with the intent of protecting them from damage during excavation. This is done through flags or a special spray paint, neither of which will cause long-term harm to your lawn.

The American Public Works Association (APWA) Uniform Color Codes for temporary marking of underground utilities are listed below:

 RED Electric Power Lines, Cables, Conduit and Lighting Cables	 GREEN Sewers and Drain Lines
 YELLOW Gas, Oil, Steam, Petroleum or Gaseous Materials	 PURPLE Reclaimed Water, Irrigation and Slurry Lines
 ORANGE Communication, Alarm or Signal Lines, Cables or Conduit	 PINK Temporary Survey Marking
 BLUE Potable Water	 WHITE Proposed Excavation

Park Restroom Facilities



Pine Tree Park bathrooms

Legitimate questions from the public regarding restroom facilities in some of the City's parks were recently raised by park patrons who were troubled by the Parks department's decision to lock various bathrooms' use to the general public; restricting use to shelter rental patrons only. These have been the facilities that have seen significant vandalism issues, which cost the taxpayers valuable dollars.

Regrettably, unstaffed facilities such as park bathrooms have come to attract other uses, including: cover for illegal activities; theft of materials; and vandalism. Staff with limited resources try hard to respond to park user complaints that restrooms are dirty or dysfunctional; and restrooms in popular parks can remain closed for several days while broken porcelain fixtures and stolen copper pipes are replaced, graffiti is removed, or trash and waste are cleared out. The problem is not unique to Clear Lake; across the country, parks and recreation departments have seen their maintenance costs spike with a sharp rise in restroom misuse and all are struggling to find a solution.

A response to this solution is not simple. High-end sites - airport terminals, private amusement parks, some interstate rest stops - have resorted to public restrooms that are staffed during all the times that they are open. That works, but that is an expensive solution. Some parks systems have simply closed all their restrooms; that works to end misuse, but the result also punishes park users who simply desire the facilities.

Some basic underlying assumptions and considerations for the Parks department to address the matter include:

Restrooms are an important facility in a park serving the public; and Each restroom should reliably offer at least a minimum level of service, including being as safe, clean, and accessible as possible.

The Department has been considering various options, which it hopes to implement soon at bathroom facilities located within Mac-Gowan; Tourist; and Pine Tree Parks. The goal is to develop a strategy to maintain these facilities, as well as educate the public about the realities of park restrooms: no public restrooms will ever be kept perfect condition, but we can all understand and work towards a reasonable level of service in these facilities.

Please note that City Offices will be closed on Tuesday, July 4th. The regular City Council meeting scheduled for Monday, July 3rd has been rescheduled to Wednesday, July 5th at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

City Amends Golf Cart Ordinance

At a Special City Council meeting on May 29, 2017, the City Council adopted an Ordinance amending golf cart operation on city streets. The Ordinance only applies to operation with the city limits of the City of Clear Lake.

Highlights of the new law are as follows:



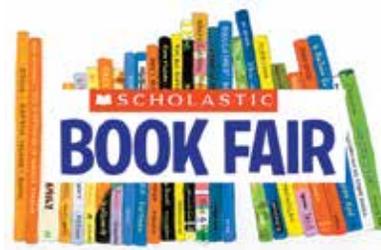
- A permit issued by the police department is required before operation on a city street.
- The permit is issued for a specific golf cart, valid for one calendar year, and must be affixed to the left (driver's) side rear fender or similar component. The permit fee is \$25.00.
- Only a valid Iowa licensed driver, at least 18 years of age, may operate golf cart.
- Before a permit is issued, an inspection will be conducted by a police officer that includes:
 - Proof the owner/operator has liability insurance covering city street operation in an amount not less than \$300,000 in coverage.
 - The golf cart is equipped with a slow moving sign (triangle), safety flag that is a minimum of five (5) feet above ground level, and a driver's side rear view mirror.
 - The brakes work properly.
- Occupancy shall not exceed the number of passengers designed for by the manufacturer.
- No one may stand in a golf cart while it is in operation.
- Golf carts cannot be operated upon any city streets with a posted speed limit of greater than 25 mph or on any city streets or parts of any city streets listed below:
 - US HWY 18;
 - Iowa HWY 122;
 - 4th Avenue S., between S 8th Street and the east corporate limits;
 - 8th Street from corporate limits to corporate limits;
 - However, golf carts may cross the aforementioned streets.
- They cannot be driven on trails, sidewalks, the portion of a street designated for parking, city parks, and city owned property.
 - The city council may authorize operation in parks and publicly owned land for special events.
- Golf carts may be operated on city streets only from sunrise to sunset. They cannot be parked overnight on city streets or at any time in alleys.

Golf cart operators must obey all traffic laws and drive in a safe manner. The permit to drive a golf cart within the city limits may be suspended or revoked if the owner/operator is found to be in violation of the ordinance. There is no refund of the permit fee and application for reinstatement is handled by the city council (must receive a majority vote).

The police department will honor 2017 permits acquired prior to the May 29th council meeting. However, the same ordinance requirements (e.g. safety equipment and permit affixed to golf cart) apply to those "grandfathered in."

Please contact the police department at 641-357-2186 with questions or for a copy of the Chapter 78 of the City Code regarding the operation of golf carts.

Children's Department to hold Scholastic Book Fair



The Children's Department at the Clear Lake Public Library will be hosting a two week long Scholastic Book Fair from Monday, July 31st through Friday, August 11th. The Book Fair will be open during normal library hours. Families

can enjoy browsing the book selections and purchasing all in one stop. There will be a great selection of various levels and genres of books. Your purchases are greatly appreciated as they in turn support the library programming. It is a fantastic finale to our summer reading program!



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, extended business hours at our retail and specialty stores, vendor street market, and a movie in the park!

Thursdays on Main will be held each Thursday through August 24th. Activities on Main Avenue begin at 6:00 p.m. and conclude at 9:00 p.m. and are free, thanks to the generosity of event sponsors. The schedule for the months of July and August are as follows:

July 6th – The Barnacle Bill Band will perform on the 400 block of Main (next to Larson's Merchantile) from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.; Special Entertainment by TBA on the 300 block of Main (SE corner of City Park) at 6:30 p.m.; and the movie "Alice Through the Looking Glass" (rated PG) in the City Park bandshell at 9:00 p.m.

July 13th – The Mockingbirds will perform; special entertainment by Denny's School of Dance; and the movie "Finding Dory" (rated PG).

July 20th – GRIN will perform; special entertainment by Turbo Tumbling; and the movie "Civil War-Captain America" (rated PG-13).

July 27th – 4th & Maeben will perform; special entertainment by Black Belt Academy; and the movie "Nine Lives" (rated PG).

August 3rd – Betty & The Gents will perform; special entertainment by The Magic of Mike Prestby; and the movie "The Jungle Book" (rated PG).

August 10th – Stage Write will perform; special entertainment by Denny's School of Dance; and the movie "Furious 7" (rated PG-13).

August 17th – Treetown All Stars will perform; special entertainment by Drum Line/CL Dance Team; and the movie "Ghostbusters" (rated PG-13).

August 24th – Rock & Soul Revue will perform; special entertainment by Sheltered Reality; and the movie "The Lego Batman Movie" (rated PG).

RAGBRAI XLV is Coming to Clear Lake



On July 25th, RAGBRAI will return to Clear Lake for the 5th time. About 20,000 bicycles will roll into town on N Shore Drive and to the three campgrounds at the High School, Clear Creek Elementary School, and the Outdoor Recreation Complex. About 45,000 people are expected to accompany the riders and to come and see the entertainment, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:15 a.m., on July 26th. By noon on July 26th, the streets will be cleaned, signs will be removed, and all the bikes and riders will be gone.

The goal is to promote Clear Lake and the steering committee cannot do this without the assistance from area residents. 1,000 volunteer tasks need to be filled. Volunteer opportunities are available from noon on July 24th to noon

on July 26th. If you are interested in volunteering you may fill out the form below and return it to the Clear Lake Chamber office, or contact Jane Lobdell at 357-2676 or janeyllobdell@gmail.com.

Another way Clear Lake residents can get involved is by hosting riders. If you have a home, or a yard, that you are willing to share with riders, please contact Jane Humphrey at 357-1136 or humphrey1971@ctel.net. Hosts can be very specific about what they offer and who they would like to host.

Area residents will be inconvenienced in some way on July 25th. Driving between north and south sides of Clear Lake can only be done by traveling on I-35. N Shore Drive, N Lakeview Drive, Main Avenue to 20th Street, N 20th Street from Main Avenue to 7th Avenue N, S 12th Street and some of 12th Avenue S will be closed to vehicle traffic from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Neighborhood volunteers will be stationed at each intersection along these roads to greet riders and to assist the riders, if needed. Maps will be published in the Mirror-Reporter. "With 20,000 bicycles on these streets, extreme caution needs to be used and the best way to provide safety to the riders is by closing the streets to other vehicles. It is advisable for people living on those streets will be ushered off of that street at the nearest available intersection. Anyone driving on those streets MUST drive east and south in the direction of the riders. Residents are also highly encouraged to greet riders from a safe distance away from the street and to keep dogs and children away from the street to avoid accidents", suggested Diane Thompson, RAGBRAI Steering Committee Chairperson.

It is important that the Clear Lake RAGBRAI Steering Committee makes July 25th a fun day, as well as a safe day for the riders. The best way to enjoy Clear Lake on July 25th is to get involved. Volunteer; host, come downtown for the entertainment; meet the riders; and promote Clear Lake. You will be glad you did.

I WANT TO HELP WITH RAGBRAI IN CLEAR LAKE!

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email Address: _____ I am over 21 ___ Yes ___ No

The following committees and tasks interest me:

_____ **Hospitality:** Place and remove signs, greet Riders at intersections along route*, bid farewell to Riders

_____ **Information:** Work at Information Centers at the Campgrounds (must be able to walk a fair distance)*

_____ **Beverage Garden** (must be 21): Sell tickets, serve beverages, check ID's, entrances and volunteer security

_____ **Campgrounds** (will be standing most of the time): Direct traffic, assist campers and support vehicles, mark grass for campers (Monday night), put up signage

I am available (circle any):

07/24 in the Evening 07/26 in the Morning
07/25 in the Morning 07/25 in the Afternoon 07/25 in the Evening

Volunteers are asked to wear a Clear Lake Ragbrai T-shirt which may be purchased at the Clear Lake Chamber for \$20.00. Volunteers are also asked to bring water, sun screen and a hat.

***BRING A CHAIR**

Questions???? Call Jane Lobdell at 641-357-2676 or email at janeyllobdell@gmail.com

Please turn in this form at the Chamber of Commerce Office or mail to Jane Lobdell, 808 7th Ave. N., Clear Lake, IA 50428



Iowa Storytelling Festival in July

The library's annual Iowa Storytelling Festival in Clear Lake City park will begin this year at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, July 22nd, with acclaimed Celtic fingerstyle guitarist, Jerry Barlow. Barlow is a virtuoso musician, a warm and accessible performer, and a world-class storyteller.

Barlow's music transports the listener across time and space on an imaginary journey to a rustic Irish fishing village,



Jerry Barlow

the misty Scottish Highlands or an enchanted English forest. In concert, Barlow brings the songs alive by sharing the history, legend and humor behind the music.

Beginning at 1:00 p.m., Sarah Uthoff will perform as young Laura Ingalls Wilder packing up to move to Missouri. As she is getting ready to leave, she is going through an old trunk. Each artifact in the old trunk holds a story, one story for each of the places that Wilder lived.

These stories are bridged with information about Laura's life. Uthoff is a respected national authority on Laura Ingalls Wilder and has a strong background in history education. She is an active Wilder researcher and has taught classes on Wilder at two community colleges.



Sarah Uthoff

The story exchange is from 2:30 to 3:00 p.m., when anyone can give storytelling a try. Contact the library if you are interested in performing your own storytelling during the story exchange.

The Iowa Storytelling Festival is funded by the Clear Lake Library Foundation with assistance from the Friends of the Library. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact the library at 357-6133

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
Mark Ebeling
641-201-0430



Second Ward
Tony J. Nelson
515-306-1223



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

JULY 2017

Clear Lake, Where People Make The Difference



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