



The Clear View

A newsletter for the Citizens of Clear Lake

Volume 15 - Number 5
September 2017
www.cityofclearlake.com

13th Annual Harvest Festival to be held October 7th

The Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce has some exciting new things planned for the 13th Annual Harvest Festival. This event has evolved over the last 13 years and has become one of the regions premier destination opportunities to relax and experience the Midwest tradition of celebrating bountiful harvests.

New in 2017 will be samplings from local breweries, along with a signature drink sampling from an Iowa distillery. "The 13th Annual Harvest Festival is shaping up to be the biggest and best yet," said Chamber Executive Director Tim Coffey. "The planning committee has been meeting to put together a great event for the residents of North Iowa. Downtown Clear Lake will be transformed and will be filled with activities all day long including tastings, grape stomp contests, salsa contests, great music and much more," he said.

Each souvenir bag will contain a sampling glass to use for samplings at various locations throughout Clear Lake. The bag also contains items from Clear Lake businesses, as well as a special gift. There are 5 chances to win some great prizes, including \$500 in Clear Lake Chamber Bucks. Also, one lucky person that finds the "special" token in their bag will win a trip for 2 to Chicago with round trip tickets provided by Air Choice One.

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 100 participants. With the VIP bag you receive extra wine samples, musical entertainment, food, 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.clearlakeiowa.com or contact the Chamber office at 357-2159.



Golf Carts given the green light for expanded use on City streets

Obviously, no one who has lived in Clear Lake very long would confuse it with a California or Florida retirement community. However, a growing number of states in the US have passed laws that allow local governments to allow golf carts on their City streets. Like Iowa, other states outside the Sun Belt, such as: Minnesota, Wisconsin, Nebraska, and Illinois permit golf carts on City streets.

Iowa state law (see: Iowa Code Section 321.247 – Golf Cart operation on City streets) enables local jurisdictions to determine if they wish to allow the operation of golf carts on City streets. In June, the Clear Lake City Council voted 3-1 to approve an Ordinance, similar to many other Iowa communities, to ease its restrictions and allow the expanded operation of golf carts on most City streets. Previously, the City code restricted the operation of golf carts "to and from" the golf courses only "using the most direct route".

There are, of course, some limitations, however, such as: being equipped with a slow moving vehicle sign and a bicycle safety flag; operating on the streets only from sunrise to sunset; only being allowed on streets that have a maximum posted speed limit of 25 m.p.h; not allowed on certain streets, such as 8th Street; US HWY 122; 4th Ave S. (8th Street to the eastern City limits). Golf carts may cross those streets, but it is recommended that be done at signalized intersections.

"Golf carts just seem to fit into the recreational character of our community. I have heard from several residents that have

responded that they are not only a good fit for the city, but also are environmentally beneficial; economical for those taking short trips to shop, attend church or an event in the park; or even a short trip to visit friends," said Mayor Nelson P. Crabb.

Police Chief Pete J. Roth stated that, "although there is only a very small percentage of the public that drives them on City streets, those that do speak very highly of the ability to do so."



Golf cart owners will need to pay an annual registration fee of \$25, which will include passing an inspection according to the ordinance. Drivers must also be insured and will be given a detailed map outlining where it will be legal to operate carts.

Volunteers key to RAGBRAI success



I believe it was Albert Einstein that said, “time flies when you’re having fun”. I recall Scott (Scott Flory, City Administrator), Mike (Mike Callanan, Council Member and Mayor Pro-tem), Libbey Hohn (Chamber of Commerce Tourism Director), and I all

attended the RAGBRAI announcement event in Des Moines back in late-January. I was pleased to learn Clear Lake had been selected as an overnight stop. However, I was also thinking that the next 6 months would pass by relatively quickly because of it.

Clear Lake is known for many wonderful things. In my humble opinion, the most unheralded asset is its indefatigable spirit of volunteerism. This summer, that spirit was on full display again. Despite hosting countless events and festivals throughout the year, community residents once again rolled-up their sleeves to ensure another successful RAGBRAI visit.

Trust me when I tell you, the success of RAGBRAI is predicated upon the “herculean” efforts of countless volunteers. I have heard numerous times now from riders and guests that Clear Lake was the most well-organized of all the host communities.

This marks the third time that RAGBRAI has been 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 regular session on November 5, 1934, as Board of Health at 8:00 o’clock P.M. There were present Mayor Phillips, Councilmen Ott, DeBruyn Scherf, Wright and Andersen and Health Officer Dr. N.W. Phillips. The Health Officer reported that conditions in the City were good and that there were no cases of sickness in quarantine. He with the State Inspector had inspected the Dairy herds and Dairies and found them generally satisfactory and a few minor changes were suggested. After a discussion of the advisability of requiring the milk on sale in the City to be tested regularly it was decided to learn what arrangement could be made with the Mason City Laboratory to make the tests. There being no further business the meeting adjourned.”

since 2010. In 2010, Clear Lake was an overnight stop and in 2014, Clear Lake was a pass through community. Like many of you, each RAGBRAI creates its own unique memories for me personally. Undoubtedly, the plentiful sunshine and celebratory mood contributed favorably to new memories for our visitors and guests as well.

With little doubt, the event has grown almost beyond recognition since its inception and inaugural ride in the early 1970’s. Once again, for Clear Lake, the downtown and Lake itself were the focal points. The shows, vendors, activities, and musical performances all come together to create a unique festive experience.

A huge “Thank You” is owed to all those who volunteered and “congratulations” on a job well done. This is not just for those who participated on July 25th, but for all those who were involved in any aspect of the event planning and organizing. It is a massive task to say the least, but so many people were able to enjoy it safely because of “your” efforts.

As always, it is my pleasure to work for you as Mayor of this wonderful community

Fire Department Serving Pancake Breakfast October 8th

To kick off this year’s National Fire Prevention Week the Clear Lake Fire Department will be hosting its 18th annual pancake breakfast on Sunday, October 8th. 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.

Please note that City offices will be closed in observance of the Labor Day holiday on Monday, September 4th.

The City Council will meet on Tuesday, September 5th, at 6:30 p.m., due to the holiday.

Dispatch Spotlight



Pictured left to right are T. Kappmeyer, W. Hill, N. Pate, Supervisor C. Yates, K. Stephens, M. Olson, and L. Bartusek.

One of the more unappreciated and least visible positions in public safety is the emergency communications dispatcher. The Clear Lake Police Department (CLPD) staffs a 24-hour dispatch center comprised of dedicated professionals.

The emergency communications center, also known as dispatch, can be a busy place. It is the focal point for all public safety radio and telecommunications for our community. They dispatch all police, fire, and ambulance units for the Clear Lake and Ventura area. The department currently has five full-time dispatchers, one part-time dispatcher, and one supervisor.

To be a dispatcher one must possess multitasking and communication skills. They have to be able to speak to a person on 911, answer an officer calling over the radio, handle issues from individuals that walk into the station, all while remaining calm. Dispatchers, full and part-time, must meet many state and federal guidelines as well as attend mandated annual training.

Dispatchers answer a myriad of phone calls on a daily basis. For example, on July 19, 2017, the center handled nineteen 911 calls and answered 298 phone calls. The majority of the calls were pertaining to the City-wide power outage caused by a severe thunderstorm that rolled through the area. During the 4th of July celebration, the center answers questions about the community activities, such as the fireworks display and parade, in addition to their public safety responsibilities.

Other skills and abilities of a CLPD dispatcher include:

- Knowledge of the Clear Lake and Ventura area.
- Achieve and maintain certification in the IOWA/NCIC System – the digital databases for criminal records, missing persons, driver's license, vehicle registrations, etc.
- Work with a variety of technology; computers, phone systems, fire paging, etc.
- Provide information to visitors.
- Monitor and operate a multi-channel radio system.
- Relay emergency and weather related information over the radio, teletype, social media, and activate outdoor warning sirens when necessary.

Tera Kappmeyer has been dispatching for 11 years, seven with the CLPD. "Dispatch is unlike any other job you will have and I take pride in the fact that I am the calm voice on the other end of the phone. Dispatching allows me to work with some amazing people who truly care for the community," stated Kappmeyer.

Miranda Olson has been with the City almost two years and as one of our newest dispatchers, she has handled many calls while working the 3:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. shift. "I enjoy dispatching because I get to help people in need," said Olson. She likes working and speaking with different people, knowing that each day will provide unique challenges.

If you are ever at the Clear Lake Police Station, you will most likely meet one of our emergency communications staff.

City Hires New Office Clerk

Felicia Bredeson was recently hired as the new Office Clerk for City Hall. Bredeson began her duties with the City on June 12th.

Felicia is a native of Fertile and graduated from Forest City High School in 2010 and from NIACC with an Associates Degree in 2012. Prior to accepting the position with the City she worked from Trinity Health Systems.

Felicia resides in Clear Lake and has been enjoying all of the activities and events that Clear Lake hosts during the summer months. Felicia stated that "I am thankful for the privilege to work for the City of Clear Lake and look forward to serving the Clear Lake residents for many years to come."



14th Avenue N. Street Improvements Completed

After several months of construction, 14th Avenue N., between Logan Drive and N. 8th Street is once again open to through traffic. The Project entailed the complete reconstruction of this street segment. Improvements included: 7" PCC street paving (31' wide back-of-curb to back-of-curb); 4' wide PCC sidewalks on the south side of the street, with ADA compliant ramps; new PCC driveway approaches; storm sewer & intakes; and 6" longitudinal sub-drain. Previously, the street segment was largely "unimproved", with no curb & gutter, street pavement width of just 24', no sidewalks, and no storm sewer, intakes, or sub-drain.



The general contractor for the project was Wicks Construction. There were 5 bidders for the work. The final project construction cost (not including legal, engineering, and administrative costs) was \$254,741.22. The Project was, in part, funded by special assessments against the adjacent benefitted property owners.

City's Large Item Cleanup Will Be Held in October

The 2017 Fall Large Item Pickup will take place October 16th to October 19th. 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 11th, 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 18th.** 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 19th. Please have appliances with stickers attached by the curb by no later than 7:30 a.m. on October 19th.

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.



Fire Department Reminds Residents of Yard Waste Burning Ban

As the end of summer approaches, it will again be time for the leaves to fall and yard cleanup to begin. The Clear Lake Fire Department would like to remind you of the Open Burning Ban in the City of Clear Lake. The CLFD reminds you that:



- Burning of leaves and grass clippings are prohibited within the City limits.
- A recreational fire can be used for cooking and cannot be used for the purpose of burning trash.
- Recreational fires cannot be conducted within 50 feet of a structure or combustible material unless contained in a barbecue pit. Burning is permissible within 25 feet if the pile size is three feet or less in diameter and two feet or less in height. Conditions that could cause the fire to spread to within 25 feet of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition.
- Buckets, shovels, a garden hose or fire extinguisher with a minimum of 4-A rating shall be readily available for use at recreational fires.
- A person knowledgeable in the use of fire-extinguishing equipment shall constantly attend recreational fires. An attendant shall supervise the fire until it is extinguished.
- The Fire Chief (or his designee) is authorized to require that recreational fires be immediately discontinued if such fires are determined by the Chief (or his designee) to constitute a hazardous condition or neighborhood nuisance.

The Fire Department would encourage you to utilize the curbside pickup of yard waste on your regular garbage collection day. You can also drop off your leaves and other yard waste at the City's yard waste collection site located at 1419 2nd Avenue South behind the Public Works Department Building.

Fall Activities at the Clear Lake Library Children's Department

This fall, in addition to our weekly Wednesday story times at 10:30 a.m. and our after school programs on Monday's and Wednesday's, we also will be hosting special monthly events in the Children's Department that children of all ages are welcome to attend. Some of the events scheduled for September and October are:

- **Grandparents Day Tea – Saturday, September, 9th, from 10:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.**
This is a time for grandchildren to honor their grandparents by spending time with them to let them know how significant a role they have in their family.
- **Local Children's Author Collette Pahl Lorentzen visits – Saturday, September 23rd, at 11:00 a.m.**
Lorentzen will be the special guest reader and will be reading her new book called "Wilbur's Scary Day!" Come hear what it's like to write and illustrate your own story.

- **LEGO League begins – Tuesday, September 26th, from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.**
This new after school club will meet once a month for the entire school year and students will be bussed over from the school to the library. The focus of the club is to have fun while learning to apply STEM concepts. A snack will be provided. Monthly meeting dates are posted on the library website. Registration is required.
- **Annual Pumpkin Party – Thursday, October 26th, from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.**
In the open house event, families can come enjoy fun centers and a story time centered on our theme of pumpkins.

All programs will last 30-60 minutes and you are asked to register in advance by phoning 357-0315. Each event typically includes a story time, an activity, and a fun craft to take home.



Where did the summer go? Here are a few important reminders for the community now that school is back in session:

Motorists, please drive cautiously – NO TEXTING! Slow down and watch for school buses and students. Students who walk to school should walk with friends or in a group. Walkers also need to be alert and use sidewalks where possible. Know and practice your route to and from school. Children should know their address and how to contact their parents, a trusted adult, or 911.

The Iowa Department of Education suggests:

Drivers:

- When the bus's 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 moving in the opposite direction 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.



Farmer's Market

There is still time to enjoy the Clear Lake Farmer's Market before the season is over. The Clear Lake

Farmer's Market is open on Saturday mornings, from 9:00 a.m. to noon, through Saturday, October 21st in the Surf Ballroom Parking lot.

Watermain Flushing Schedule Set for Fall



The Clear Lake Water Department will begin flushing water-mains in October. Flushing will be done the week of October 2nd, 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 "rust" 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

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 Library357-6133
 Public Works357-6135
 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 Severson
Scott Johnson	Bennett Smith
Diane Glynn	Pat Weigel
Tamara Schwichtenberg	

Parks & Recreation Board

(Meets 4th Wednesday of each month)

Tim Raber	Laurie Calgaard
Linda Hopper	Amy Hogg

Planning & Zoning Commission

(Meets last Tuesday of each month)

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

Board of Adjustment

(Meets as needed)

Gail Robinson	Kirby Schmidt
Fred Muth	Bob Swanson
David Klang	

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



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September 2017

Clear Lake, Where People Make The Difference



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