

Hiawatha!

Insights

August 2014

Volume 77

“State of the City” 2014

Hiawatha Economic Development Corporation (HEDCO), Brent Cobb opened the “State of the City” sharing Hiawatha’s story of continued growth and expansion both commercially and residentially. Cobb thanked several sponsors including Alliant Energy, ITC, Kirkwood Community College, Skogman Realty along with welcoming 173 attendees. Cobb spoke about HEDCO’s mission to create connections within the community and within the broader region. HEDCO promotes key community infrastructure such as the Tower Terrace Interchange, partnering with area development organizations and advocates sensible public policy. New this year is HEDCO’s website development, www.hedco.org, which promotes area businesses by including each business in their local business listing. In addition, it provides tools for advertising, after-hour business contact information for Hiawatha Fire and Police Departments to utilize and much more. You are able to make contact with HEDCO by blogging and now on LinkedIn.



Cobb introduced Mayor Theis who spoke of the City’s progress with the Tower Terrace Interchange. The City continues to move forward addressing the Federal Highway Commission in Washington, D.C. concerns little by little, with plans to update our local Department of Transportation (DOT) this fall of our progress small. Theis

points out the City is farther along than ever before even with the DOT’s new issues. Theis stated, “We will keep forging ahead because we know this interchange is the key to our economic development future for all our metro communities. Mayor Corbett has said that it took 25 years to get Highway 100 approved. I hope it doesn’t take that long for the Tower Terrace Interchange approval.”

The current North Center Point Road Project is almost complete with most of the detail items finished to the north. The City Council is excited to move forward with the final improvement to the street which is the Emmons Street/Center Point Road/Robins Road intersection. Property acquisitions have begun and Theis is happy to announce that the Barber shop and the Coin shop will be relocating in new quarters within the City. The City Council has tried to keep the disruption of business activity to a minimum. The plan is to purchase the properties that are necessary to redo the intersection and remove them as soon as possible to begin the necessary utility work. Actual road construction should begin in early 2016.

Theis gladly speaks of the private redevelopment of property between North Center Point Road and Robins Road. A number of older buildings have been removed and today a beautiful new office building is almost complete. This is the corporate offices for Hawkeye Communication and Hand in Hand Early Care and Education Center. This kind of redevelopment is exactly what the Mayor and Council had hoped would happen as Center Point Road improved. With the reconstructed intersection, the City hopes to see more of this kind of redevelopment.

Theis was proud to talk about the public/private partnership promoting development commercially and residentially with the new Dave Wright



Nissan/Subaru Dealership along North Center Point Road/Boyson Road, new business pods/warehouse growth along Tower Terrace/Stamy Road within the Tower Commerce Center and along Robins Road and residential developments along Loggerhead Road - Pines at Turtle Creek and Rolling Prairies. In time these developments will support a sound economy for the City.

Mayor Theis took a few minutes to recognize five of the top 25 fastest growing businesses located right here in Hiawatha as reported in the Corridor Business Journal: Midwest Microwave Solutions, Inc., Premier Staffing Inc., Ahmann Properties, Compass Commercial Services and Ready Wireless LLC. Mayor Theis also acknowledged City staff. He stated, “These individuals are the people who help keep our City moving forward.”

The State of the City ended with Keynote Speaker, Iowa Department of Economic Development Director Debi Durham. She is no stranger to economic development. She works diligently with the Governor and our legislators to restructure the department to create a public/private partnership to update and improve Iowa’s delivery of our economic development services. Debi shared Iowa successes and how Iowa is going to continue to grow and thrive in this economy by measuring its production of services and by providing incentives with Iowa’s strong entrepreneurs.

I-380 Cleanup with Rapids Reproductions

The City was looking for volunteers to perform a cleanup project along I-380 in the Hiawatha City limits, and it didn't take long to find some helping hands from a metro area business.

Jim Zobac of Rapids Reproductions in Cedar Rapids contacted the City to see if they needed help with a community project. Rapids Reproductions recently received a Blue Zone workplace designation, and each month their wellness committee comes up with a theme centered on promoting a healthy culture. The theme for June was giving back to the community, and Rapids Reproductions wanted to show support to the community by working on cleanup projects in the area. These types of projects also provide an opportunity to bring employees closer together.



Thank you to Rapids Reproductions employees for their act of service in dedicating an entire day to picking up trash along I-380 in the Hiawatha city limits on June 26th.

Hiawatha Library to Host Community Blood Drive

The Hiawatha Public Library will host a community blood drive from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Monday, August 11 at 150 West Willman Street, inside the Community Room.

To donate, please contact Molly Rach at (319) 393-1414 or rachm@hiawatha-iowa.com or visit www.bloodcenterimpact.org.

Potential donors must be at least 17 years of age (16 with parental permission form available through www.bloodcenter.org) and weigh more than 110 pounds. A photo I.D. or MVRBC Donor Card is required to donate. Donors who last gave blood on or before 6/16/14 are eligible to give at this drive.

Blood donation is a safe, simple procedure that takes about 45 minutes to one hour. Individuals with diabetes or controlled high blood pressure may be accepted as eligible donors.

The Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center is the provider of blood and blood components to more than 87 hospitals in Illinois, Iowa, Missouri and Wisconsin.



Library Hires New Staff

The Hiawatha Public Library would like to extend a warm welcome to our two new library assistants, Erin Zaputil and Sandy Raley. Erin has been working at the library as a page with her primary duty shelving library materials. She was promoted as library assistant due to her outstanding service with patrons and excellent knowledge about reading and libraries. She facilitates our romance book club, and will be helping with other programming that the library offers. Sandy is another familiar face. She worked at the Cedar Rapids Public Library as a library assistant for 26 years. Most recently, she worked on loan to our Hiawatha Public Library during the flood. Since her retirement from the CRPL, Sandy has been a regular volunteer at the Hiawatha Public Library. Stop in and say hello to both of them!

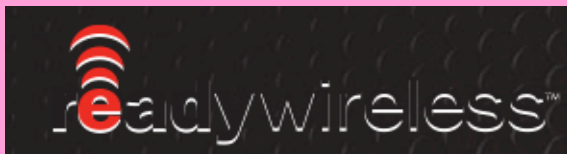


Hiawatha Recognizes Two Area Businesses

Ready Wireless is a wireless telecommunication company with headquarters in Hiawatha, Iowa. The company employs about 60 people nationally.

The company operates as a US based MVNE (Mobile Virtual Network Enabler), powers devices, services, and systems on a multi-carrier wireless platform for resale to wholesale private label customers. The company has developed the Ready Wireless MVNO Engine providing integrated billing, operating systems, infrastructure and feature packages. The platform delivers high quality product experiences and solid margin to our partners.

The company was founded in 2004 and operates on a national basis through retail, direct to consumer and wholesale distribution channels. They are located at 955 Kacena Drive, Ste A, call them 294-6080 or visit their website www.readywireless.com.



Wholistic Wellness Clinic & Spa is a chiropractic based office.

We have much more to offer than your typical chiropractic office. We offer chiropractic adjustments, acupuncture, nutritional supplements, laser therapy, Zerona (fat reducing laser), ASA Energy Balancing Laser (which is great for allergies), Infrared Sauna, Ion Detoxifying foot baths, and much more. We also offer spa services such as massage, facials, and microcurrent to help reduce fine lines and wrinkles.

At Wholistic Wellness Clinic & Spa, we strive to help people better understand the importance of the mind/body connection to their health care. We believe a wholistic approach to wellness is necessary. Our Mission is to help you regain your inner strength, physically, emotionally and nutritionally. We want to help you be the BEST you can be. Located at 1731 Boyson Road, you can reach them at 365-1141 or visit their website www.wholisticwellness.com.



Hiawatha Protects Wetland to Reduce Flooding

As part of our National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System MS4 program, the City of Hiawatha oversees erosion control on construction sites, the design and installation of storm water management plans, and maintenance of the City's overall storm water drainage system. The system includes erosion control measures, detention devices, retention basins, and wetlands. All of these components help to control storm water runoff thus reducing erosion and preventing runoff and pollutants from reaching our Iowa streams, rivers, and lakes.

One of our largest wetlands is located northwest of Alwine Court and Ashworth Court and north of Willowood Drive. In the past the creek bed filled with silt and debris due to construction and drainage flow in the area. In 2010 citizens living next to the creek asked the City to dredge the original stream that ran through the wetland to reduce the water that was coming into their yards during heavy rains.

In 2011, after researching the benefits of wetlands, the City hired an engineer who drew up a plan to dredge the original stream using guidelines provided

by the Corp of Engineers. The City spent approximately \$250,000 to have a contractor dredge the original stream and channel the water into the middle of the wetland. The original top soil was replaced and new wetland plants were installed. In 2013 the City put up signs designating the area as an environmentally sensitive area and asking people to keep out of this area.

Wetlands act as natural retention basins. The plants slow the flow of water from the area and protect properties and reduce possible downstream flooding. The plants in the wetland reduce soil erosion by holding the soil in place. Finally, the wetland provides habitat and food for animals such as deer, fowl, fox, turkey, and other wildlife.

The City asks that people help protect our wetlands by not mowing the area, by not cutting or planting trees in the area, and by not making trails in the area because this leads to erosion. The City appreciates the help of the wetland neighbors and the citizens of Hiawatha in preserving our City's natural habitats and its natural resources for the benefit of all future generations.



Fire Inspections

The mission of the Hiawatha Volunteer Fire Department is to enhance our community by providing services and programs to protect lives, property, and the environment. We will accomplish this by being pro-active by providing fire and life safety education and fire prevention programs to reduce the incidence of injury and fire, and by providing emergency response services to reduce losses in life and fire when an event occurs. A fire can have a devastating effect on a community. We protect the community by preventing the loss of life or property... simply said, we want a safe community.

One of the ways we do this is by conducting fire inspections. Our primary focus when performing these inspections is life safety-preventing injuries or death. After that we want to prevent loss of property to fire. While our focus isn't on "enforcing the code", we do follow the 2009 International Fire Code that is used similarly throughout the area. The City "adopts" the code and makes minor changes that fit Hiawatha in Chapter 160 of the Code of Ordinances.

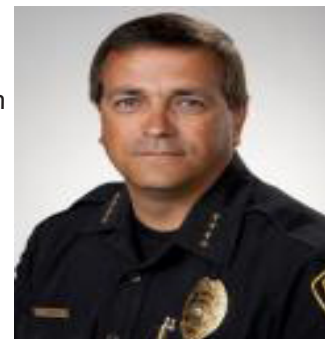
Recently the Fire Department began using an important tool. As our goal is a fire and life safe environment, we now provide a "Fire Safety Checklist" to businesses prior to a scheduled inspection. This list provides an overview of items that will be reviewed during an inspection. Businesses can then prepare for the inspection ahead of time, at their own pace, improving safety and compliance. This improves the efficiency of the inspection process and provides a year round reference for businesses to refer back to. Please remember, our intent is always to protect life and property, through prevention, education, and response. If you are a business owner and have not received a "Fire Safety Checklist", feel free to contact Deputy Fire Chief Andrew Sweeney by phone or email at 319-393-4180 or asweeney@hiawatha-iowa.com.

Hiawatha Congratulates Staff on Degree

Police Chief Dennis Marks was awarded a Bachelor of Business Administration Degree from Mount Mercy University during graduation ceremonies on May 18, 2014. Chief Marks said, "I am so grateful for the support of the City in reaching this personal and professional goal. The long nights in class and the many papers written culminated in being able to hold this degree in my hands."

Chief Marks began attending Mount Mercy in the Spring of 2011. He had previously earned an Associate of Arts Degree from Indian Hills Community College in 2006 and is a Kennedy High School graduate.

Congratulations Chief Marks!



Area Firefighters Train Together

On Sunday June 29, 2014 several fire departments participated in a house burn and tanker drill. This house burn, coordinated by the Monroe Township Fire Department, was at a vacated house on Toddville Road about one mile west of Toddville. The house was set on fire numerous times and then extinguished by crews for training purposes. A key component of this particular drill was a "tanker drill". Many areas outside of the City limits do not have fire hydrants, so fire departments work together to deliver water during the fire. Fire Departments from Hiawatha and Monroe Township, along with Robins, Palo, Walker, Alburnett, and Springville participated in the drill.

Fire Departments don't often work together, except during emergencies. Fighting the fires, and hauling water in realistic circumstances, such as in this drill, allow the departments to learn about the equipment each agency has and determine what obstacles to working together exist. In this case, coordinating a large number of water tankers, delivering to the same location, from multiple fill sites, was a challenge, and the departments learned from it.

Even though the City of Hiawatha has fire hydrants, there are a few areas protected by Hiawatha Fire Department that don't. This kind of training also serves as a backup in town, should the water system be impaired and water must be hauled to a fire.

Firefighters to Collect for MDA

Members of the Hiawatha Fire Department along with the Muscular Dystrophy Association, will kick off the firefighters' annual Fill the Boot fundraising campaign to benefit children and adults affected by muscle disease throughout Hiawatha.

Members of the Hiawatha Fire Department will fan out around Hiawatha with boots in hand for this year's drive. Watch for the Firefighters at intersections around Hiawatha starting the weekend of August 22, and at other events and locations in the weeks leading up to Labor day.

"Throughout 2014 MDA and fire fighters are celebrating 60 years of proud partnership, joined together in the fight against life-threatening muscle disease", said MDA Representative Jillian Sharp. "Fire fighters in the Hiawatha area do more for MDA and the families we serve than any other group, dedicating countless hours of their time every year participating in Fill the Boot drives and at MDA Summer Camp. We're grateful for the support of these inspiring, selfless individuals who have made a profound impact on our families' health, wellbeing and quality of life, and we're excited to make this year's Hiawatha Fill the Boot campaign the most successful yet."

Funds raised through 2014 Hiawatha Fill the Boot event will help support MDA's programs of worldwide research, specialized health care services, and day-to-day support - which includes sending children affected by muscular dystrophy and related diseases to a week-long, barrier-free

MDA summer camp at Camp Courageous in Monticello, Iowa. Last year, Hiawatha Firefighters raised \$9,339 for MDA and hope to increase that amount this year.



Back to School Safety

School is beginning soon, all drivers are urged to "drive safe" and student pedestrians are urged to "be smart" and make safety a priority.

Here are some general safety tips:

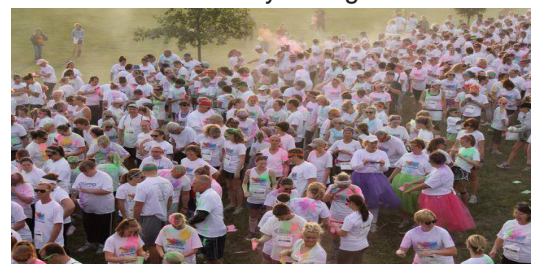
- Obey all traffic signals, signs and markings whether walking, bicycling, or driving.
- The speed limit in Residential and School Zones is 25 mph. You should drive with added caution where children are present.
- Do not park or stop to unload children in no parking zones or on the roadway.
- Have your children enter and exit vehicles on the passenger side of the car.
- Remind your children to look in all directions before crossing the street.
- Cross the street only in a marked crosswalk or at a corner, not mid-block.

Splash A Smile 5K Run/Walk with Color!



Splash a Smile is a non-competitive colorful fun run/walk to raise funds for the Community Health Free Clinic in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. This second annual event will be held **Saturday, September 20, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.** in Hiawatha, located in Fay M. Clark Memorial Park.

Register at <https://splashasmile.eventbrite.com>. For more information visit the Community Health Free Clinic website at www.communityhfc.org.



Hiawatha City Council Action

July 2, 2014

Ordinance 791 - Amend Code of Ordinances of the City of Hiawatha, Iowa, 1996, by amending Chapter 137 Vacation and Disposal of Streets §137.04 Findings Required.

Ordinance 792 - Approve the rezoning of property, 315 Robins Road Lot 1, Chaffee's First Addition to Hiawatha, Iowa.

Resolution 14-129 - Set public hearing date (July 16, 2014 @ 5:30 P.M.) to consider the disposal of vacated right of way Southeast Corner of Stamy Road and Tower Terrace Road - El Kahir Shrine.

Resolution 14-130 - Approve sidewalk and landscaping deferment 905 Tower Terrace Road, El Kahir Shrine.

Resolution 14-131 - Approve Final Plat for Tower Commerce Center Eighth Addition.

Resolution 14-132 - Approve Plan of Improvements in connection with R&S First Addition.

Resolution 14-133 - Refer proposal to vacate a Northerly portion (320 feet) of Kainz Drive right of way as described as Parcel A, Plat of Survey No. 1929 to the Planning and Zoning Commission for study and recommendation to City Council.

Resolution 14-134 - Set public hearing date (August 6, 2014 @ 5:30 P.M.) to consider the vacation of a portion of right of way, Northerly portion (320 feet) of Kainz Drive.

Resolution 14-136 - Approve Fire Department Job Descriptions for Fire Captain, Fire Lieutenant and Sergeant.

Resolution 14-137 - Approve Fire Department stipend rate for Fire Captains and Fire Lieutenant.

July 16, 2014

Resolution 14-138 - Approve disposal of vacated right of way in conjunction with El Kahir Shrine property located at 905 Tower Terrace Road.

Resolution 14-139 - Approve the sale of a portion of City right of way on the property located at 905 Tower Terrace Road.

Resolution 14-140 - Set public hearing date (August 6, 2014 @ 5:30 P.M.) to consider amending Hiawatha Code of Ordinances Chapter §153 Geothermal Well Standards §153.02 Definitions and §153.04 Application Procedure and §153.11 Open Loop Systems Prohibited and §153.12 Testing of System.

Resolution 14-141 - Approve the start of negotiations on a multi-family dwelling unit building project with Newbo Development, LLC.

Resolution 14-142 - Authorize the replacement of one (1) Hiawatha Police Department vehicle unit #820.

Resolution 14-143 - Authorize the replacement of one (1) Hiawatha Fire Department vehicle unit #280.

Resolution 14-144 - Authorize the Fire Department purchase of eight (8) sets of Firefighter Turnout Protective Gear.

Resolution 14-145 - Authorize purchase of one (1) used bucket truck.

Resolution 14-146 - Authorize City Staff to proceed with the sale of the 1993 International Truck with Teco Aerial Bucket, Unit #530.

Resolution 14-147 Approve and adopt a Public Works Facility/Cold Storage Building Emergency Action Plan.

Movies on the Square Rescheduled

Due to a weather cancellation, Toy Story was not shown in June for our Movies on the Square, held at Boyson Square. We have rescheduled the event.

What: Movies on the Square - Toy Story

Where: Boyson Square in Hiawatha (on Boyson Road behind the New York Life building)

When: Friday August 29th

Time: Food and Games at 5:30 p.m. Movie begins at 6:30 p.m.

**August Calendar**

- 01 Music in the Park: Lonesome Road 6:00 pm Guthridge Park
 - 03 Farmers Market 11-2 Guthridge Park
 - 06 City Council Meeting 5:30 pm
 - 08 Touch a Truck 5:00 pm
 - 08 Music in the Park: Do's and the Don'ts 6:00 pm Guthridge Park
 - 10 Farmers Market 11-2 Guthridge Park
 - 11 History Commission Meeting 1:30 pm
 - 11 Board of Adjustment Meeting 6:00 pm
 - 12 Parks Board Meeting 6:00 pm
 - 12 Library Board Meeting 7:00 pm
 - 13 Council Meeting airs 7:00 pm Channel 18
 - 14 Council Meeting airs 7:00 pm Channel 18
 - 15 Music in the Park: Two Buck Chuck 6:00 pm Guthridge Park
 - 16 HiBRAI
 - 17 HiBRAI
 - 17 Farmers Market 11-2 Guthridge Park
 - 19 Water Board Meeting 5:30 pm
 - 20 City Council Meeting 5:30 pm
 - 22 Music in the Park: Dogs on Skis 6:00 pm Guthridge Park
 - 24 Farmers Market 11-2 Guthridge Park
 - 27 Council Meeting airs 7:00 pm Channel 18
 - 28 Council Meeting airs 7:00 pm Channel 18
 - 29 Movies on the Square 5:30 pm Toy Story - Boyson Square
- September Calendar**
- 01 Holiday - City Hall Closed
 - 03 City Council Meeting 5:30 pm
 - 07 Farmers Market 11-2 Guthridge Park
 - 08 History Commission Meeting 1:30 pm
 - 08 Board of Adjustment Meeting 6:00 pm
 - 09 Parks Board Meeting 6:00 pm
 - 09 Library Board Meeting 7:00 pm
 - 10 Council Meeting airs 7:00 pm Channel 18
 - 11 Council Meeting airs 7:00 pm Channel 18
 - 12 Kids Movie Night 6:30 pm
 - 14 Farmers Market 11-2 Guthridge Park
 - 16 Water Board Meeting 5:30 pm
 - 17 City Council Meeting 5:30 pm
 - 18 Playing for Keeps Fundraiser 6-9 pm
 - 20 Splash a Smile Color Fun Run 9:00 am
 - 21 Farmers Market 11-2 Guthridge Park
 - 24 Council Meeting airs 7:00 pm Channel 18
 - 25 Council Meeting airs 7:00 pm Channel 18
 - 28 Farmers Market 11-2 Guthridge Park
 - 29 P&Z Meeting 5:30 pm

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Phone: 319-393-1515
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Bike Patrol

The Hiawatha Police Department began its bike patrol program in the spring of 2009. It was started with two officers attending the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy's one week long bike officer training class. The officers were outfitted with Cannondale police mountain bikes and appropriate bicycle patrol uniforms. The officers were instructed in the use of a police bike and how to ride a police bike in crowds, go up and down stairs, braking techniques, maintenance, and bicycle patrol tactics. Upon completion of this class, the two officers became certified bike officers. Another trained officer and bicycle were added in 2010 and another in 2011 for a total of four officers.

The bike patrol program has been a great asset to the department and the community when used for community events. It allows officers to have positive interaction with the public dur-

ing these events like Hog Wild Days, parades, 5K's, color runs, bike rodeo, and Hibrai. At these types of events, it allows officers to respond to problems faster than on foot and where a patrol car cannot go. Night patrol with a police bicycle is also very effective as it allows for a silent approach.

The bike patrol has been a success for the police department and the community has benefited from the department having a bike patrol program.



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Hiawatha!