



November 2018

Volume 128



Groundbreaking for Library Expansion

On behalf of the Hiawatha Public Library Board of Trustees and Library staff, I would like to thank all who joined us at the Hiawatha Public Library on October 1, 2018 for the ceremonial groundbreaking for the Library expansion. We had a wonderful turnout with many smiling faces! Thank you to our business community, our city leaders, our donors, and the many volunteers who worked tirelessly to make this essential project a reality. We are grateful that we will have a better, larger library in order to provide the services so necessary to this community.

This ceremony was a pivot point in the project as we turn toward the actual construction of the new space. We are in the process of finalizing the design details and making decisions in order to be good stewards of the generous support we have received from the citizens of Hiawatha and from our many donors. Our plans are to start the bidding process in early 2019 with construction to begin in the spring. The construction will likely take fourteen months. The construction of the addition to the west of the current building will take place first. When that portion is complete, we will move into the new space while we renovate our current building. This two-phased approach is necessary so that we can continue to serve the community during the building process. Our plans are to be as minimally disruptive to service and to remain open as much as we possibly can.



Stay tuned for news of progress as we embark on this adventure!

Robins Road Resurfacing Completed

The 2018 Robins Road Pavement rehabilitation project has been completed by LL Pelling Company from North Liberty. The project includes reclamation of the existing stone base and placement of a new asphalt surface between the Bali Hai Mobile Home Park and Stonegate Court in Hiawatha. The project was funded using local option sales tax funds. For further information contact the City Engineer at jbender@hiawatha-iowa.com.

Tower Terrace Road Alignment Under Study



The Metropolitan Planning Organization is finalizing the Tower Terrace Roadway Corridor Management Plan update. The third steering committee meeting was held in September with a public open house held October 30, 2018 in Hiawatha City Hall. Approximately 100 metro community residents attended the meeting. The plan is for this roadway to provide a safe, efficient, and aesthetically appealing transportation route for many years to come.

Edgewood Road Set to Open North of Blairs Ferry Road

This section of Edgewood Road just north of Blairs Ferry Road is constructed and is in final stages of completion. The plans for the paving project include the extension of Edgewood to serve the new development under construction in the Peck's Landing First Addition. Minor changes to the traffic lane configuration along with traffic signal modifications are needed at the Blairs Ferry/Edgewood Road intersection to accommodate traffic access to the north. Please be aware that these changes will be completed in the next few weeks. For further information contact the City Engineer at jbender@hiawatha-iowa.com.



Crystal Group Ribbon Cutting

Crystal Group held a ribbon cutting Thursday, October 18 celebrating their latest milestone. An employee-owned company that manufactures network servers and switches designed to operate in extreme environment such as military humvees, tanks and submarines. An almost \$20M facility houses administrative, engineering, compliance testing and manufacturing operations totaling 223 employees with room to grow. Along with making computers that can withstand tough conditions, Crystal Group is also working on making self-driving cars. Clients include the Navy and other science and aerospace companies.

“Crystal Group has been an asset to the community and to its employees; who work hard to make the best product. Congratulations on your accomplishments,” Mayor Bennett.

Crystal Group has plans for a 30,000 foot expansion in the next five years.

Board and Brush Ribbon Cutting/Grand Opening

Board & Brush celebrated their ribbon cutting/grand opening on October 18 located at 1709 Boyson Road. Dana and Jeremy Rinkenberger owners of the Board & Brush a Do it Yourself franchise whose goals is to bring out the creative side of people. This couple is living their dream owning their own business and creating a fun environment for people to enjoy their masterpiece whether it be a wood sign with their last name painted on it or a rustic painted Christmas tree that becomes a gift for a friend.

Are you looking for a night out with friends? Is your inner DIY itching for a fun new project without having to buy all your own supplies and make a mess at your house? Then search out Board & Brush Creative Studio in Hiawatha, next to Lucky Penny.

Congratulations Board & Brush!



What do your kids need to know about fire? By Fire Chief Mike Nesslage

Hiawatha Firefighters made more than 30 separate fire safety presentations to preschool and elementary age children during the month of October. Our activities won't stop now, we will return to many of the elementary classrooms throughout the year. However, we can never teach everything the kids need to know in the short time we spend with them. We are fortunate that many of our teachers cover fire safety before and after our visit. Even then, the real lessons in fire safety should be reinforced at home. With that in mind, here are the top three things kids should know about fire safety.

1. When the smoke detector sounds, “Get out and stay out!” Every household should have a fire escape plan; kids should be taught two ways out of their room and along with that how to open their windows. A family meeting place outside should be established so that everyone can be accounted for. When the smoke alarm sounds, get out and stay out. And remember, it's up to you, as the adult, to make sure batteries get changed and old detectors get replaced.
2. “Close before you doze!” Research has shown that a standard household door can keep the flames and smoke at bay for some time. We should sleep with our doors closed to provide additional time if a fire breaks out. If trapped, children should keep the door closed and get to a window, where they can either escape or wait for rescue. Closing the door isn't a replacement for working smoke detectors and an exit plan, but it will add valuable time to escape.
3. Matches and lighters, along with candles and other sources of flame, are “Tools, not toys.” Although statistics vary depending on the study, there is clear evidence that fire play accounts for a significant number of residential fires, and more frightening, pediatric fire deaths. It is important to teach young children that lighters, matches, and candles are tools, not toys, meant to be used by adults. Much has improved with the onset of “childproof” lighters, but it is still important to keep them out of reach of children. Teach children that if they find a lighter or matches, to leave them alone, and go tell a grown-up.

Help keep the children in your life safe by reinforcing these important fire safety lessons.

Hiawatha Council Action

The Hiawatha City Council meeting minutes may be obtained on-line at www.hiawatha-iowa.com/government/city-council-documents/ or by request to the City Clerk's Office at City Hall.

Dodson Completes City Government Training



Steve Dodson, Council Member for the City of Hiawatha, is among 192 city officials from across the state to be recognized for their participation in the 2017-2018 Municipal Leadership Academy (MLA). The workshop series is conducted every other year after the regular municipal elections and is the only training opportunity that gives city officials in Iowa a broad-based look at the many aspects of city government. Topics covered during the workshops included council meeting procedures, city budgeting and economic development.

Over 500 city officials attended parts of the MLA workshops; however, to graduate an official needed to attend three out of the four MLA sessions. Graduates receive a certificate and lapel pin honoring their completion of the training.

MLA offers a comprehensive overview of municipal government and is presented by staff of the Iowa League of Cities - and the Office of State and Local Government Programs at Iowa State University Extension and Outreach.

MLA participants demonstrate a commitment to leadership worthy of special recognition; often taking time out of their personal lives to attend trainings on evenings and weekends.



Santa Claus at the American Legion

Santa will be at American Legion Post 735 at 207 Robins Road in Hiawatha on Saturday, December 8, 2018 from 10:00 AM until 12:00 PM.

There will be drawings for toys and gift bags for all the kids. Santa hopes to see all of you there.

The Hiawatha History Committee Presents

Thank you to all Veterans for your service to our country and Hiawatha - In the picture on the right it shows some members of the Hiawatha American Legion dedicating the flagpole the Legion donated to the Hiawatha Library in 2008.

Do you have pictures for the Hiawatha History Book? Call Pat at 319-721-9730 or email her at se_me@live.com.



Yard Cleanup Dates

- November 19 - **Leaves Only Pick Up**

Please have leaves in lawn/yard bags. Please keep lawn/yard bags limited to 20 pounds. Items must be to the curb by 7:00 AM.



November Calendar

- 03 Chili Supper from 11:00 AM - 7:00 PM at the Fire Department
- 05 Leaves ONLY Pick Up
- 07 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM
- 12 History Committee Meeting 1:30 PM
- 12 Board of Adjustment Meeting 5:30 PM
- 13 Parks Commission Meeting 6:15 PM
- 13 Library Board Meeting 7:00 PM
- 14 Council meeting airs 6:00 - 7:30 PM Ch 4 (IMON) 7:00 PM Ch 18 (Mediacom)
- 19 Leaves ONLY Pick Up
- 20 Water Board Meeting 5:30 PM
- 21 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM
- 22 Holiday - City Hall Closed
- 23 Holiday - City Hall Closed
- 26 P&Z Meeting 5:30 PM
- 28 Council meeting airs 6:00 - 7:30 PM Ch 4 (IMON) 7:00 PM Ch 18 (Mediacom)

December Calendar

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- 10 History Committee Meeting 1:30 PM
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- 31 Holiday - City Hall Closed

Snow Ordinance Reminder

Our snow ordinance is in effect when the National Weather Service (NWS) predicts a snowfall in which three (3) or more inches of snow are expected. While the Snow Emergency is in effect, **there is no parking on any city street**. Vehicles found parked in violation of this ordinance will receive a \$25 parking ticket and/or be impounded. During overnight snow removal operations, vehicles found in violation on City streets will be towed. The Snow Emergency declaration will be sent to all the local media including but not limited to: KGAN (Channel 2), KCRG (Channel 9) and KWVL (Channel 7). The declaration will also be posted on the City website, www.hiawatha-iowa.com. Your cooperation is appreciated.

REMEMBER - Don't park in the street if:

- The 24 hour (or less) prediction by the NWS is for three (3) or more inches of snow.
- Three (3) or more inches of snow has fallen and/or your street has not been cleared.

When in doubt about parking, just move your vehicle off the street.

City will **NOT** conduct snowfall clearing operations on all streets for a snowfall of less than two (2) inches.

Sidewalks must be shoveled within 24 hours of the cessation of snowfall, clear snow from around fire hydrants that are near your property, check with your neighbors regarding snow removal and direct sump pumps and downspouts away from hard surfaces so that water doesn't build up and freeze, creating slippery conditions on driveways, sidewalks or streets.

Sign up on the Hiawatha website (www.hiawatha-iowa.com) to receive notifications for snow emergencies to your cell phone or email.



Santa's Workshop
North Pole

Letters to Santa



Add a little magic to the season and receive a letter from Santa, mailed directly to your child. Santa will write a letter to your child in an easy to read format. The letter will be mailed directly from Santa's workshop so your child will be overjoyed to see his/her name on the envelope with Santa's name and address in the corner. Santa would love to write to your children, grandchildren, nieces or nephews no matter where they live! So, let the elves know if you would like to receive a letter this year!

Letters are \$3 per child. Available: November 12th through December 17th. Register at Hiawatha City Hall or online at

<https://hiawatha-iowa.com/departments/parks-recreation/programs/>

**HIAWATHA REINDEER
FUN RUN/WALK**



*Stocking
Cap
included!*

Friends of Hiawatha Parks and Recreation

December 1st, 2018 at 9am
Fay M. Clark Memorial Park
\$20 registration fee
\$25 day of event



To register visit
www.imathlete.com



**DONATE YOUR
NEW UNWRAPPED
TOYS HERE!**



Deadline: December 7, 2018

For more information:
cedar-rapids-ia.toysfortots.org



Thank you to these sponsors:



Library Awarded Ramps and Pathways Grant

If your child has built a block tower and then gleefully sent it crashing down, you have an engineer in the making! Engineering career opportunities are expected to continue to grow over the next two decades and the Library wants to help cultivate your little expert. Enter Ramps and Pathways.

In May, the Governor's STEM Advisory Council awarded Hiawatha Public Library the STEM Scale-Up Award titled Ramps and Pathways. Valued at \$3,200, the award includes a set of wooden unit blocks, tracks and various movable materials.

Hiawatha Public Library will offer a variety of programs utilizing Ramps and Pathways materials over the next year. They will feature the engineering process, the mathematics of spatial thinking through the construction of various runs and the physics of force and motion through conversations and retesting. Join us on October 16 and November 20 at 4:00 PM when Ramps and Pathways will be an added building opportunity paired with Lego Club. In addition, Youth Services presents Little Engineers on Friday, November 16 at 10:30 AM. Kids will hear stories and tackle simple building challenges.

If you have questions, please email Youth Services Librarian Alicia Mangin at amangin@hiawatha-iowa.com or call Hiawatha Public Library at 319-393-1414.

Another Good Neighbor Policy

This is a reminder our City believes in maintaining a safe environment for our citizens and visitors through a good neighbor policy of sidewalk maintenance.

City Ordinance 136 deals with the construction and maintenance of all sidewalks in Hiawatha. This section of the code describes who is responsible for maintaining sidewalks, the standards for maintenance and the process for assuring the sidewalks are maintained.

A property owner is responsible for maintaining the sidewalk adjacent to their property (Sect. 136.04). This responsibility includes the maintenance of the sidewalk itself. Code Section 136.02 defines the "Defective Sidewalk" issues which must be corrected.

- Vertical separations equal to one inch or more.
- Horizontal separations equal to one inch or more.
- Holes, missing sections or depressions.
- Excessive spalling and cracking.

Currently the Community Development Department receives the complaints concerning unsafe sidewalks. Our department verifies the complaint and sends notice to property owners regarding unsafe sidewalks requesting them to be corrected.

For snow and ice accumulation, see the "Snow Ordinance Reminder" in the newsletter. If the owner does not clear their sidewalk, the City has authority to clear the sidewalk at the expense of the property owner.

For defective sidewalks, the City works with the owner to develop appropriate time frames for corrections. The City will assist property owners repairing unsafe sidewalks through our permitting and inspection processes. However, if the owner fails to fix the unsafe sidewalk the City has authority to repair the sidewalk and to assess the owner for the costs associated with the correction.

Preventive maintenance eliminates the need for additional city involvement through our complaint process. More importantly, it keeps our city safe. We encourage all property owners to maintain safe sidewalks as part of being a good neighbor in Hiawatha.

HACAP Appreciation Event

The Parks and Recreation Department raised over 800 meals for the Eastern Iowa Freedom From Hunger program during their summer special events. We are grateful to support HACAP and the families in need. Thank you Hiawatha residents for dropping off your non-perishable food items at many of our summer gatherings! Lets increase that number for 2019!



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www.hiawatha-iowa.com

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F **D** **FOR** **FINES**

Hiawatha Public Library Food for Fines

The Hiawatha Public Library is excited to once again offer Food for Fines. A partnership of the Metro Library Network, Food for Fines gives patrons the opportunity to remove library fines from their accounts while also helping their communities! All food donations will benefit the HACAP Food Reservoir.

From November 1 - November 30 patrons may donate one non-perishable food item for each \$1 owed. Food for Fines donations may only be applied to library fines for overdue materials, and may not be used toward lost or damaged materials. The libraries and HACAP will not accept dented cans, glass containers, or foods with past expiration dates.

All of the Metro Library Network libraries will also accept food donations from people who would like to share an act of kindness by helping pay someone else's library fines, as well as food donations from those who have no library fines but would like to help prevent hunger in our communities.

Through Food for Fines the Metro Library Network libraries have donated thousands of pounds of food to HACAP. We look forward to sharing our continued commitment to helping all families within our communities have access to food.

City Directory

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