



The Bridge—Volume 115

CITY OF ROCKFORD

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

The 2013 River Days celebration was a memorable weekend and enjoyed by many. The weather was perfect, bands great, beer and pop cold, tournaments fun, awesome food, newly crowned ambassadors and wonderful people to meet. We had the largest parade ever with 88 units and thousands of spectators. Kudos to the Fire Department and the City Public Works, especially Darcy Desens, for the extra time and effort put forth leading up to and during the weekend.

Thank you to everyone on the River Days committee, chaired by Christina Schultz, and their family/friends who dedicated so much time and energy to deliver a successful community event.

We appreciate everyone's patience with the road closure on County Road 33 while Wright County

fixed a culvert and the city prepared for replacing water mains. Next year the road will be under more construction for a longer period of time when the county improves the road during the Summer.

The council continues to work with staff on planning a new building for Riverside Park. A final plan is expected to be approved by October.

I wish all of you and your family a wonderful Fall!

Sincerely,

Renee Hafften



ROCKFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT



On Halloween **October 31st** beginning at dusk, the Rockford Volunteer Fire Fighters will be driving through Rockford to hand out free glow sticks to the Trick and Treaters.

Rockford Fire Fighter Explorers Post 3053. **Fire & Emergency Service Career Exploring** is open to young men and women ages 14 (and completed the 8th grade) and not yet 21 years old with an interest in learning more about careers in the field of Fire & Emergency Services. For more information contact Ron Harkins at (612) 965-0850 or fill out an application, available at City Hall or on-line (same as the Fire Department Application.)

The Rockford Fire Department Women's Auxiliary is looking for members. If you are interested in joining or helping their organization, please contact Deb Buoy at (612) 760-8755.



CROW RIVER CLEAN UP DAY

The annual Crow River Clean Up is scheduled for **Saturday, September 21, 2013** (8am-noon). If you are interested in volunteering you are asked to arrive at Riverside Park on Main and Elm Street. Volunteers should wear gloves and sturdy shoes. Please contact Dan Nadeau (763) 682-1933 Ext. 122 for further information.

The Crow River is a beautiful resource located right in our own city. The annual river clean up event is a way for you and your family to volunteer a few hours to help preserve the quality of this wonderful asset!



Call the Sheriff's Department to report vandalism!

EMPLOYEE CORNER

Mary Huettl a long time city hall employee retired on June 28th after 13 years of service. Mary was the city's finance clerk and was also responsible for programming our government channel, fire billing, fire board liaison, charitable gambling, ordering office supplies, etc. Mary's sense of humor will be missed!

Chris King our newest public works employee has become the new "safety representative". The city is teaming together with other local cities through the League of MN Cities holding monthly training and quarterly safety meetings with other cities. The goal is to provide a safer working environment for our employees.

The city welcomed a new Finance Clerk to City Hall, Jennifer Swendsen. Jennifer started with the city on June 25th. Jennifer has municipal experience and many years of finance experience. Jennifer started at the right time when the general fund budget and the preliminary tax levy is being prepared.

The city recognizes our employee's every five years for their service. This past quarter in June Audra Etzel the Deputy Clerk was recognized for her five years of service. Audra is responsible for elections, licensing, permits, planning and zoning liaison, newsletter, the email blast, etc.

Crow River Food Co-op



The Crow River Food Co-op continues to get out in the community to increase awareness about the efforts being made to open a local grocery store in the Rockford area. There are currently 148 members to date and our goal is to have 500 members before we open the doors. This summer we served free root beer floats at the Movies in the Park, attended National Night Out, participated in the River Days parade, and every Saturday attended the Community Market in Delano. Members will be going out door to door this fall to increase our membership. The co-op has received a grant from Allina Healthy Communities which will be used to fund neighborhood cookouts to increase membership and to provide some healthy tips to the participants. The Crow River Food Co-op holds their business meeting on the second Monday

of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the China Buffet (Lee's Kitchen) at the Rockford Mall. The group is talking about a fall event such as a community pot luck and a silent auction to help us raise money. We are also working on a video that will air on the website which will help answer some of the questions we hear from future members. If you have not yet joined please do so today, the one time membership is \$200 and the application is online, and is also available at the library, city hall, and Bank West. The local grocery store will strengthen our economy, spend your dollars locally for fresh fruits, vegetables, meats, etc.

We need more volunteers to help with our efforts. Please join us at a meeting or send us an email: us.crowriverfoodcoop@gmail.com or the website: www.crowriverfoodcoop.com for more information.

COMPOST SITE

The compost site on Elm Street/CR 33 is scheduled to close on November 2nd until about April 15th, depending on the weather. **You do not need to check out a key at city hall.**

Hours of operation:
Monday—Friday 7:30am-3pm
Wednesday Evenings 4:30pm-dusk
Saturday 8am-noon



Items accepted: grass clippings, leaves and brush no larger than 3" in diameter. All bags used to transport composting must be removed.

SIDEWALK SNOW REMOVAL

In the interest of public safety, the City of Rockford reminds you of the importance of keeping your walkways cleared of snow and ice. City Ordinance 901.04 states that all snow and ice must be removed from public sidewalks 24 hours after the snow or other precipitation causing the conditions.



The throwing or placing of snow or other material in the streets, sidewalks and other public ways is a public nuisance and an ordinance violation.

RIVERWORKS UPDATE

RiverWorks—Community Helping Community!

RiverWorks is looking for volunteers to help at the food shelf and the thrift store. If you are interested, complete a volunteer application: www.riverworksonline.org



5th Annual Steak Fry & Auction— Saturday, October 26, 2013. 100% of the proceeds benefit RiverWorks Community Development.

For more information contact Denise Kesanen (763) 477-9803 or dkesanen@riverworksonline.org

STORM SEWER SYSTEMS

Fall season is coming soon and with the fall weather the trees start shedding their leaves. In order to ensure that our storm sewers do not get clogged with leaves and debris we want to remind our residents to please remove the leaves from your property quickly if possible. The city and county storm sewers play an important role in removing rain from streets, sidewalks and driveways. Please do not rake leaves into the gutters.

The city also has storm water ponds in many of our newer developments which the public works staff maintains and inspects on a regular basis. These ponds are dredged on as needed basis to make sure that they drain adequately.

If you notice any frozen ice or accumulation of debris blocking the city storm sewers please contact Public Works at 763-477-4346. Thank you for taking pride in your property and for maintaining it properly.

STORK HOUSE

The Ames-Florida-Stork House is located at: 8131 Bridge Street 763-477-5383 Email: storkhouse@cityofrockford.org www.rockfordmnhistory.org Open for tours through September: Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays (10am-4pm) and by appointment. PROGRAMS/EVENTS: Annual Meeting & Volunteer Recognition 9/10/13 6-8pm Stork House Harvest Celebration 10/4/13 5-7pm Greenfield City Park Harvest Celebration 10/12/13 1-4pm Stork House Ornament Making 11/9/13 10am-2pm Lion's Building Family Christmas Event-12/14/13—more details to follow Formal Christmas Tea-12/15/13—more details to follow



ROCKFORD LIBRARY

Located at: 8220 Cedar Street (763) 477-4216 www.griver.org



Library Hours: Mon 2pm-8pm, Tues 2pm-8pm, Wed 10am-6pm, Thurs 3pm-8pm, Fri 3pm-6pm, & Sat 10am-1pm

HAPPENINGS:

Preschool Story Time on Wednesdays 11:15am-noon NO Story time on 11/27 or 12/25 Learn about GRRL Digital Library 9/19 6:30-7:30pm Read to a Dog 9/28 & 10/26 10:30am-noon Friends of the Library Book and Bake Sale: October 7th to October 12th during library hours. Donations accepted year round! Zombies! Zombies! Zombies! 10/24 6:30-7:30pm Library closed: 11/11 for Veteran's Day, 11/27 at 5pm Eve of Thanksgiving and 11/28 for Thanksgiving Day.



Medical Clinic Survey

The city is interested in your input regarding medical services. Please complete the short survey which will help us plan. It is easy, just go to this link. https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/RockfordClinic Also available from the city's web site.

The survey will be available until September 20, 2013



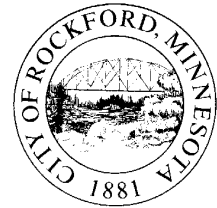
The next R-G Area Chamber of Commerce meeting is Thursday, September 12, 2013 (registration starts at 11:45pm) 12pm to 1:30 pm at Wright Hennepin Electric—6800 Electric Drive. RSVP to: inquire@rgchamer.org or call Joel at 612-791-1404

Also, the R-G Area Chamber of Commerce Morning Gathering is Thursday, October 10, 2013 (7am) at BANKWEST.

Open to ALL businesses!

www.rgchamber.com

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Upcoming Events

- September 9th—Crow River Food Coop Meeting 6:30pm-8pm at China Buffet (Rockford Mall)
September 12th—R-G Area Chamber of Commerce Meeting 11:30am—1:30pm
September 18th to December 18th—Preschool Story Time at the Library 11:15am on Wednesdays
September 19th—Learn about the GRRL Digital Library 6:30pm-7:30pm Rockford Library
September 21st—Crow River Clean-Up 8am-noon
September 26th—Wellness on Wheels at BANKWEST 2pm-6pm
October 6th to October 12th—Fire Prevention Week
October 7th to October 12th—Friend's of the Library Book and Bake Sale during library hours
October 10th—R-G Area Chamber of Commerce Meeting at BANKWEST 7:30am
October 12th—Stork House Harvest Celebration 1pm-4pm
October 14th—Rockford Senior Citizens 11:30am at Delano Senior Center
October 14th—Crow River Food Coop Meeting 6:30pm-8pm at China Buffet (Rockford Mall)
October 20th to October 26th—Manufacturer's Week
October 26th—5th Annual Steak Fry & Auction for RiverWorks Community Development (starting at 5pm)
October 31st—Wellness on Wheels at BANKWEST 2pm-6pm
October 31st—Halloween (Fire Department will hand out glow sticks)
November 9th—Ornament Making at the Lion's Building 10am-2pm
November 11th—Rockford Senior Citizens 11:30am at Riverside Park
November 11th—Veteran's Day: City Hall & Library Closed
November 28th and November 29th—Thanksgiving: City Hall Closed (see Library for their hours)

S N O W S E A S O N P A R K I N G

During the period from **November 1st to April 1st** it shall be unlawful for any person to **park a vehicle** on or **within six feet of the roadway** between the hours of **2 a.m. to 6 a.m.** and anytime after there has been ice accumulation, continuous or intermittent snow fall during which there has been **accumulation of two inches or more** of snow on any street until plowed or removed the whole width of the roadway. Vehicles parked in violation of this ordinance will be towed and stored at the owner's expense. **At NO TIME shall a vehicle be parked on ANY street from more than twelve (12) hours.**

SNOW PLOWING—It is unlawful to plow snow onto or across ANY city, township, county or state road. Doing so is a violation of state statute and you will be fined.

To receive the newsletter and city updates via email, send your email address to: audrae@cityofrockford.org



The City of Rockford is on Facebook. Join the group to keep up-to-date on news and events in the city.

The Public Works Department has been busy jetting the sanitary sewer pipes. During this process they have been finding large clumps of "wipes". These products claim to be flushable, but they are not. These wipes build up in the pipes causing damage and blocking the flow of the sanitary sewer. **Please DO NOT FLUSH "wipes" down the toilet, instead put them in the trash. THANK YOU!**



The **Rockford Senior Citizens** meet the 2nd Monday of each month at different locations. The cost is \$10 per year. Attend a meeting find out more about the group. For more information, call Bonnie Pool at (763) 477-4468. Their next meeting is scheduled for: Monday, October 14th at the Delano Senior Center.

M A N U F A C T U R E R ' S W E E K

The manufacturing sector is the backbone of Minnesota's economy, thanks to its strength, versatility and innovation. It represents one in seven jobs and has the largest total payroll of any business sector. *Manufacture's week is celebrated October 20th to October 26th.* The City of Rockford will be hosting a breakfast to celebrate Manufacturer's Week, the date and location is to be determined.