



The Clear View

A newsletter for the Citizens of Clear Lake

Volume 18 - Number 3
May 2020
www.cityofclearlake.com



New Playground Equipment to be installed in City Park

City crews have dismantled and removed the piece of playground equipment in the upper northeast section of City Park in preparation for the installation of new playground equipment later this spring or summer. As a reminder, due to COVID-19 restrictions implemented by Governor Kim Reynolds, all playground equipment is closed for use by the public.

This “upper” playground equipment was installed more than 22 years ago and has been recommended for replacement by the City’s insurance carrier. Additionally, the cyclone slide feature on this piece of equipment had been damaged, and the cost to replace that component alone represented more than half

the cost of purchasing an entirely new piece of playground equipment. The average lifespan for a modern piece of playground equipment is 20 years, and considering the volume of use this piece of equipment has seen in City Park, it has definitely served the community well.

City crews will begin the subgrade work on the site to prepare for the installation of the new playground. Unfortunately, with the outbreak of COVID-19 the exact date of installation will remain unknown. Rest assured however, when installed the new equipment will offer new generations of youngsters’ decades of enjoyment to come. We thank everyone for their patience and look forward to offering this new amenity in the near future.

City begins live streaming of Council meetings

On Monday, April 6, 2020, the Clear Lake City Council began live streaming City Council meetings. Anyone, with a computer, smartphone or tablet, and internet access is now able to watch the City Council meetings as they are happening and can also view previously streamed meetings on-line.

Citizens interested in viewing the meetings live on-line can go the City website at www.cityofclearlake.com and click on the link that reads: *City Council Meeting Live Stream*. The livestream appears on the City’s YouTube Channel. Links are posted beforehand on the City’s Facebook page.

The Clear Lake City Council holds its regular meetings on the first and third Mondays of each month at 6:00 p.m.



The 2020 Clear Lake Farmers Market Continues to Bring Safe Local Options for Customers & Vendors

Vendor applications for NEW, returning, and youth vending are available now at www.clearlakefarmersmarket.com with opening day still scheduled for Saturday, May 16th.

We are keeping up to date with public health recommendations and will be modifying the market as needed in the coming weeks but please plan to come out and support local farmers, vendors and our entire community.

Watch for information about the NEW Curbside Market. Online ordering for pickup at the curb will be available. Also watch our website, Facebook and Instagram for updates on special events and

activities as we know more.

With the great spring weather, expect to see beautiful early produce, delectable baked goods, artisanal breads, beef, pork, and poultry. And as always, local honey, chicken eggs, duck eggs, handcrafted soaps, lotions, bug repellent, handmade jewelry, hand sewn items, beautiful glass and pottery creations, beautiful cut flower arrangements, and much more!

It’s no wonder that Best Things Iowa named the Clear Lake Farmers Market one of the Top 10 farmers markets in Iowa! We’re very thankful for how the market has grown

over the last couple of years and excited to see what’s next at the Clear Lake Farmers Market.

SO.....mark your calendars for Saturday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to noon beginning May 16th through October 24th at the Surf Ballroom parking lot.

If you’d like to get involved or donate, email us at clearlakefarmersmarket@gmail.com or visit our website at www.clearlakefarmersmarket.com or follow us on Facebook to stay up to date on the upcoming events. We invite you to shop local on the turf at the Surf and support our local economy.



Mayor Nelson Crabb

We are all in this together

I was just a young boy in the early 1940's, living in New Jersey. The Great Depression was finally beginning to subside and the American economy was starting to pick back up again. Across the pond, things were not as optimistic. Germany had invaded France and England was under heavy bombardment. Most were of the

opinion that it was not a matter of "if", but "when" the United States would become involved in "The Second World War".

The Great Depression, World War II, and September 11, 2001 are all events that changed our society. In some ways, the crisis that our Country faces today with the coronavirus (COVID-19) bears similarity. Citizens all came together in a unified spirit that defines our Country in a time of crisis to overcome these challenges.

No one can predict when the impact from the coronavirus will subside and our society will return to what it was previously. But undoubtedly, our Country will be changed as a result. Many businesses have been forced to almost re-invent themselves in order to survive during this crisis. Restaurants, movie theaters, schools, banks, small independent Main Street retailers, and even government have had to learn new ways to do business and serve customers.

We must follow the advice of our public health officials in order to get through this difficult time, but we can come out of this

stronger than ever. Modern medicine is a miraculous thing and the world has effectively dealt with widespread infectious diseases such as Ebola, SARS, and HIV. I have confidence and am optimistic that our health and medical science community will deal as effectively with coronavirus as it did with those other diseases.

So, to conquer this pandemic will require sacrifice. Events have been canceled, schools and universities are closed. Social distancing and self-isolation have become the order of the day. But, if we follow the recommendations from our public health officials, we can contain this pandemic and mitigate its impact on others.

Stay safe and if you need help, reach out to your friends and neighbors, it is our spirit of Community that will get us through.

Until next time,

New Hires at the Police Department

The Police Department is pleased to introduce two new employees; Dispatcher Andrea Porter and Police Officer Jonathan Rogers. Andrea started on February 11th and Jonathan's first day was April 6th.

Andrea is a Clear Lake native and a Clear Lake High School graduate. She spent some time living in the Seattle, Washington area working for the Department of Defense at the US Navy's Submarine Base Bangor. Andrea moved back to Clear Lake to be closer to family. "I am excited to work as an emergency dispatcher and I like that each day is different," stated Andrea.

Officer Rogers is an Iowa certified police officer and began his law enforcement career at the Osage Police Department. Before working at the Osage PD, Jonathan served in the US Navy from 2012 to 2016 as a Aviation Structural Mechanic. Jonathan became a police officer because he wanted to make a positive impact on people's lives. While off duty, Jonathan like spending time with his family and fishing.

Both will be training in their respective fields over the next several months. Currently, they are both spending time on our evening shift with their training officers. We are excited to have them on our team.



Andrea Porter



Jonathan Rogers

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 as a Board of Health on October 16, 1918 at 8:00 o'clock P.M. Present: Mayor Knutson, Councilmen Palmeter, Boyd, Woodridge, Grimm.

The City School Board Supt. Huffman, & Health Officer C.E. Wright met with the Board of Health and after a very thorough discussion of the present "Influenza" situation and the local health conditions, it was decided to take no further action in the matter at the present time. The Board of Health however, decided to prohibit all dances, until further notice."

The Clear View Newsletter is printed on recycled paper



Work begins on 4th Ave. South & South 3rd Street Rehabilitation Project



Work on the City's 4th Avenue South and South 4th Street Rehabilitation Project began in April. The contractor, Heartland Asphalt, began the pavement removal and concrete related work on the project on April 20th. 4th Avenue South from South 8th Street to South Shore Drive and South 3rd Street from 4th Avenue South to 1st Avenue South will be closed to thru traffic during the duration of the project. Access will be maintained for property owners on these streets to the best extent possible during this phase of construction. However, during the asphalt work property owners should expect to park on side streets while the actual paving work is taking place. Patching work on Four Winds Drive is also scheduled to be completed as part of this project. With favorable weather conditions it is anticipated that work will be complete by late-May.



Changes made to Yard Waste and Recycling Drop off

The City's yard waste and recycling drop-off site located at our Public Works Dept. will be accessible from the 2nd Ave. S. gate during regular hours 7:30 to 4:30 Monday-Friday and will have extended hours to allow our residents additional access to the Site. The extended hours will be Monday & Wednesday until 7:00 p.m. and Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. As a reminder the cardboard dumpster is available for "CARDBOARD ONLY". Other items, such as plastics, glass, and tin are no longer accepted at this location but will continue to be picked up curbside only. The City also offers weekly curbside leaf and grass clipping collection within the city limits. Absolute Waste Removal will collect leaves and grass clippings in biodegradable bags or an open container on your regular garbage collection day. They will initially pick up your garbage and then return later the same day to pick up leaves and grass clippings. We appreciate your cooperation in abiding by the rules to allow us to continue to provide our residents these services.

Watermain Flushing

The Clear Lake Water Department will begin flushing water mains in May. Flushing will be done the week of May 11th, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Why does the City flush water mains?

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 they 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 water mains? 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 water mains?

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.

Clear Lake & Ventura

Outdoor Warning Siren

2020 TEST DATES

First Tuesday of the Month
@ 10:00 am

Test Dates: April 7 • May 5 • June 2

2020 Golf Cart / UTV Permit Information



The Police Department has resumed the City of Clear Lake's annual golf cart/UTV permit process. However, due to the department's current COVID-19 guidelines, the procedure for obtaining a 2020 permit has been modified.

PLEASE DO NOT COME TO THE POLICE STATION to obtain a permit or drop off an application. The process is being handled electronically (email, fax, etc.), by mail, or other arrangements can be made, but issuing permits will not be conducted in person at this time. Our preferred method for beginning the process of obtaining a 2020 Golf Cart/UTV permit is by emailing police@cityofclearlake.org. You may also call 357-2186 to speak to or leave a message for the staff member processing the applications. You can download an application at www.cityofclearlake.com/police.

We appreciate your patience and cooperation



County Auditor Cerro Gordo County Courthouse

220 N Washington Ave
Mason City, IA 50401
www.cgcounty.org

Adam Wedmore, Auditor
641-421-3034
awedmore@cgcounty.org

Absentee voting and planning for Primary Election in response to COVID-19

Cerro Gordo County Auditor and Commissioner of Elections Adam Wedmore is encouraging those wishing to vote in the June 2 Primary Election to vote absentee by mail due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Voters are reminded they have the option to vote absentee by mail for their safety, the safety of our poll workers, and out of convenience for the voters.

The June 2, 2020 Primary Election will occur and polling locations will be open for voting, however there will likely be fewer polling locations than normal and process changes to meet social distancing guidelines. The Auditor's Office is working to determine what changes will need to be made and how those changes will be implemented.

To encourage absentee voting all registered voters will receive an absentee ballot request form in the mail from the Secretary of State's Office. Voters can expect to receive their absentee request in late April but may complete and return an absentee request form now. Forms are currently available on the Auditor's website at <https://www.cgcounty.org/departments/auditor> or may be obtained by calling the Cerro Gordo County Auditor's Office at 641-421-3041.

Absentee ballot requests must be received in the Auditor's Office by 5 pm May 22. Requests will be processed and a ballot with instructions will be mailed to the voter. Voters will be provided with a pre-paid return envelope to mail their completed ballot back. Absentee ballots will be mailed beginning Thursday, April 23, the earliest date allowed by law. In-person absentee voting at the Auditor's Office will begin Monday, May 4.

Voters are reminded for the Primary Election they must choose a political party on the request form in order to receive the correct ballot. For more information visit the Cerro Gordo County Auditor's website, Facebook page, or call 641-421-3041.

THINK BIG! SHOP LOCAL!

CLEAR LAKE BUSINESSES NEED YOUR SUPPORT

SHOP LOCAL! BUY GIFT CARDS! ORDER TAKEOUT!

TIP EXTRA! SHARE ONLINE!

WWW.CLEARLAKEIOWA.COM **#MyClearLake**

Digital services available from the Library

More people than ever are using our digital services including our large collection of eBooks and eAudiobooks. Although these services have become quite popular over the last several years, for many people, this may be their first time using these services. If you're looking for a book or magazine to read, or an audiobook to listen to right now, the Overdrive app makes it easy. Below is a visual guide for logging into the Overdrive app using your cell phone or tablet.

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Library ebooks on
Phone, Tablet, and
Kindle Fire

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OverDrive
ebook & audiobook app
if Libby is not available
for your device.

BRIDGES
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Clear Lake, IA 50428

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Borrow for 14 days
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No overdue fees

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Email: clpassist@gmail.com
Website: www.cllibrary.org

Set up the OverDrive app

- 1. Get the App**
In your app store, search for **Overdrive or Libby**, by **OverDrive**. Install and open the app.
- 2. Sign in**
Click on **SIGN IN**—even if you don't have an OverDrive login, you can log in with your library card here.
- 3. Find Clear Lake Public Library**
Search for Clear Lake Public Library by name or zip code.

Bridges is what we call our digital book collection! It's powered by the brand called **OverDrive**.

If you have any technical questions about any of our digital services or apps we provide, please contact the library at clpassist@gmail.com, or 641-357-6133.

May Book Chats to be held via Zoom

The Library will host a Book Chat on Tuesday, May 19th from noon to 1:00 p.m. and Books on Tap on Wednesday, May 20th from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Both will be held online via Zoom and links to the Zoom meeting rooms will be made available on the library's Facebook page and website.

May's book discussion choice is *Educated* by Tara Westover. Tara Westover was 17 the first time she set foot in a classroom. Born to survivalists in the mountains of Idaho, she prepared for the end of the world by stockpiling home-canned peaches and sleeping with her "head-for-the-hills bag". In the summer she stewed herbs for her mother, a midwife and healer, and in the winter she salvaged in her father's junkyard. Her father forbade hospitals, so Tara never saw a doctor or nurse. Gashes and concussions, even burns from explosions, were all treated at home with herbalism. The family was so isolated from mainstream society that there was no one to ensure the children received an education and no one to intervene when one of Tara's older brother became violent. Then, lacking any formal education, Tara began to educate herself. She taught herself enough mathematics and grammar to be admitted to Brigham Young University, where she studied history, learning for the first time about important world events like the Holocaust and the civil rights movement. Her quest for knowledge transformed her, taking her over oceans and across continents, to Harvard and to Cambridge. Only then would she wonder if she'd traveled too far, if there was still a way home. *Educated* is an account of the struggle for self-invention. It is a tale of fierce family loyalty and of the grief that comes with severing the closest of ties. With the acute insight that distinguishes all great writers, Westover has crafted a universal coming-of-age story that gets to the heart of what an education is and what it offers: the perspective to see one's life through new eyes and the will to change it.

Educated is available on Overdrive for download on your phone or tablet.



There's probably not an actual record book for keeping track of all the awesomeness of one town, but there should be. If said record book was an actual thing, at the very top in bright, bold letters it would read:

CLEAR LAKE!

As businesses were forced to shut their doors or alter their way of doing business, our community members, city leaders, and economic organizations banded together. Forming one cohesive unit to show support for our community in these uncertain times.

The Clear Lake Area Chamber developed the "Buy-In" program which pumped over \$25,000 into Clear Lake over the course of two days. The Clear Lake Kindness Project kicked off, spreading cheer through the community. Local deliveries of flowers, cookies, donuts and gift cards began to circulate, sparking joy and causing a ripple effect of good deeds.

See? Awesome. And that's just the tip of the iceberg. The North Iowa Recovery Fund has been established to help shift some of the burden from business owners. The City of Clear Lake donated \$100,000 to this cause. In addition, another \$100,000 was provided from Cerro Gordo County, along with a generous amount of private contributions. These funds will be dispersed in grants to small businesses in the area.

If this pandemic has done anything, it has restored our faith in humanity. In community spirit. In the importance of shopping local and supporting our hometown stores and restaurants. I've said it many times through this whole ordeal, but our little Clear Lake hearts are filled to the brim. Bursting with thankfulness to live in such a supportive, vibrant, wonderful community.

We can get through this.

We will get through this.

Together.

And while the everyday hustle and bustle of our lake-time activities have seemingly come to a halt, we will continue to update the public on postponements and cancellations to the best of our ability. Many of you have felt the pang of disappointment, having to cancel a planned event, but this too shall pass.

There will come a time when we open our doors and step back into the land of the living. A time when people will flock to our beautiful lake community to enjoy all we have to offer.

A time when Clear Lake will, again, come alive.



New Date for the 4th Annual TRI Clear Lake Triathlon Saturday, September 5, 2020

As the health, safety and well-being of our athletes and our community at large is our highest priority, we have decided to reschedule our TRI Clear Lake Triathlon to September.

We hope you will come out and support our athletes and volunteer Sept. 5.



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 Dana Brant 641-420-1180	At-Large Mike Callanan 357-5911	First Ward Mark Ebeling 641-201-0430
			
Second Ward Bennett Smith 651-271-5267	Third Ward Gary Hugi 641-903-1948	City Administrator Scott Flory 357-5267	City Clerk/Editor Jennifer Larsen 357-5267

**City Council meetings
are the first and third Mondays
at 6:00 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	Bev Currier
Allen Geilenfeld	Sean Moran
Diane Glynn	Pat Weigel
Tamara Schwichtenberg	

Parks & Recreation Board

(Meets 4th Wednesday of each month)

Tim Raber	Chris Hogg
Trish Fundermann	Carrie Shannon
Jake Kopriva	

Planning & Zoning Commission

(Meets last Tuesday of each month)

Lori Broghammer	Davin McLeod
Andy Meyer	Arnold Prohaska
Chyrl Bergvig	Mark Bale

Board of Adjustment

(Meets 1st Tuesday of each month)

David Klang	Kirby Schmidt
Fred Muth	Bob Swanson

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



The

May 2020

Clear View

Clear Lake, Where People Make The Difference



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Clear Lake, IA 50428**

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(641) 357-8711**

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