



City of Polk City Newsletter

Volume 13, Issue 6

APRIL/MAY 2011

City Hall :

112 3rd Street
PO Box 426

Monday—Friday
8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Phone: 984-6233

Fax: 984-6177

E-mail: snickles@polkcity.org

Web site: www.polkcity.org

(Clerk, building permits and inspections, water billing)

Police & Fire:

309 W. Van Dorn

For an emergency dial 911

For non-emergencies:

Police: 984-6565

Fire: 984-6304

County Dispatch: 286-2333

Library:

1500 W. Broadway

P.O. Box 259

Phone: 984-6119

Mon.-Thurs.: 10 a.m.—8 p.m.

Friday: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m.—4 pm.

E-mail: library@polkcitylibrary.org

@polkcitylibrary.org

Web site:

www.polkcitylibrary.org

City Maintenance:

301 Northside Dr.

City Recycling Center:

409 E. Northside Dr.

Sunday—Saturday

7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

U.S. Post Office:

302 N. 3rd St.

984-6137

Bond Issue Vote May 3

On February 28, the City Council approved Resolution No. 2011-21 calling for a special city election on Tuesday, May 3, 2011. The ballot will ask “Shall the City of Polk City, Iowa issue bonds in an amount not exceeding \$4,060,000 for the purpose of building, equipping and furnishing a new multi-purpose sports field complex, redeveloping, equipping and furnishing the existing Sports Complex, and construction of recreational trails?”

Polk City residents may vote between 7 a.m. and 8 p.m. at the Community Room, located at 309 W. Van Dorn St.

There will be an informational meeting about the special election on Thursday, April 21 at 7:00 p.m. at West Elementary.

RISE Grant Received

City of Polk City received a RISE (Revitalization Iowa Sound Economic) Grant from the Iowa Department of Transportation in the amount of \$417,800 for the extension of East Vista Lake Ave. as part of the Big Creek Technology Campus Road Construction Project.

Curb Side Clean-Up May 21

The city’s curbside clean up will be Saturday, May 21. Place all of your clean-up items at the curb the night before, as collection will begin at 7 a.m. on Saturday. Please stack items rather than placing the items in a pile. Household furniture will be picked up. There is a weight limit of 150 lbs. per item and length limit of 6’ (except furniture).

The following items will not be picked up at the curb and will only be accepted at the Maintenance Shop at 301 E. Northside Dr.:

- Appliances: water heaters, kitchen appliances (appliances filled with food will not be accepted), lawnmowers, VCR’s, cell phones, air conditioners, computers & accessories, microwaves, furnaces, grills, humidifiers, washers and dryers.

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Flushing of Water Mains April 11-15

Residents could experience temporary discoloration of water and a loss of water pressure. Check water before doing laundry during this time. Rain date for water main flushing is April 22 - 29.

Continued from page 1—Curb Side Clean-up

- Oil & Batteries
- Vehicle passenger tires, with a limit of 5 tires. Agricultural tires will not be accepted.
- Televisions and computer monitors with a combined limit of 2

These items ***must be taken*** to the Maintenance Shop on May 21, 2011 between the hours of ***8:00 a.m. – noon***. Do not drop items at shop gates before or after hours.

The following items will not be picked up at the curb but may be allowed to be dropped off at the Regional Collection Center (515-967-5512) in Bondurant: dirt, sod, concrete, brick, railroad ties, vehicle parts, paint or thinners, solvents, anti-freeze, toxic materials, radioactive materials, compressed gas cylinders, hazardous wastes and ammunition. Tree limbs, landscape waste and brush are accepted year around at the city's Recycling Center, 409 E. Northside Dr. Recycling hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday through Saturday.

This service is for Polk City residents only. You must live within the corporate limits of Polk City.

For questions or additional information call City Hall at 984-6233 or Waste Management at 265-5267. Questions on appliances allowed to be taken to the Maintenance Shop call Midwest Recovery at 957-8000.

Missed Clean Up Day?

Did you miss the Clean Up Day? If so and you have appliances including microwaves and humidifiers, computer hardware and lawnmowers that you would like to get rid of, you may take them to the Regional Collection Center in Bondurant.

Didn't get a chance to get rid of those tires either? Metro Waste Authority does have year-round drop off containers at the following locations: Metro park East Landfill in Mitchellville, Regional Collection Center in Bondurant and Metro Park West in Perry. For information on times and cost call Metro Waste Authority at 515-244-0021 or visit their web site at www.MWAtoday.com.

North Polk Tennis Team To Use Courts

The North Polk Tennis team will be using the tennis courts to practice until May 18 from 3:45 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Compost It! Program

Did you know you could participate in Metro Waste Authority's Compost It! Bag and Sticker program? Residents have two options for Compost It!, standard and premium services.

There are three ways to use the Standard Service program:

1. Placing yard waste into Compost It! bags – no stickers required.
2. Placing yard waste in generic, store-brand paper bags – must attach a Compost It! sticker to each bag.
3. Attach Compost It! stickers to brush bundles too large to fit in the bags – each bundle must have a sticker attached.

Yard waste acceptable items are grass clippings, leaves, garden waste and twigs. Brush bundles must be no more than 18 inches in diameter and no more than four feet long. Bundles and bags cannot weigh more than 40 pounds.

The bags and stickers can be purchased at local grocery, hardware, home improvement, and other stores in the metro area.

Premium Service offers residents the convenience of a wheeled container for the weekly collection of yard waste. Residents are provided a 96-gallon wheeled container and annual program sticker to attach to the container. The sticker confirms the use of the container for a one-year yard waste collection season and must be renewed annually. The annual cost for the 96-gallon cart is \$100. Starting July 1 the cost will be \$103. You can contact City Hall for this service or if you are already participating to purchase your 2011 sticker.

The Compost It! Premium Service containers are only to be used for yard waste. This includes grass clippings, leaves, branches, yard and garden trimmings and brush. Yard waste is collected weekly on your regular garbage collection day. Yard waste containers are placed at the curb the same way trash containers are placed at the curb. Excess yard waste can be put in standard service Compost It! bags or stickered bundles and placed with the wheeled container at the curb.

Don't forget that residents of Polk City may also drop off yard waste, leaves, tree limbs and brush at the city's recycling center, 409 E. Northside Drive, at no charge. The center is open 7 days a week between the hours of 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

North Polk Senior Art Exhibition

An opening reception for the North Polk Senior Art Exhibition will be Thursday, May 12 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Timbered Putter Golf Co. located at 101 Second Street. The reception is free to the public. The display will be open to the public on Friday, May 13 from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, May 14 from 9 a.m. to noon.

The exhibition will display artwork by the high school seniors who live in Polk City. It is being presented by the Ankeny Art Center's Friends of the Arts as part of their outreach program that introduces students to the gallery setting and preparing them for careers in the arts.

An agreement between Ankeny Friends of the Arts and City of Polk City was passed last year at the June 28 city council meeting. The agreement states the Ankeny Friends will hold two art shows a year, made up of Iowa artists in the community along with working with West Elementary.

Participate In "DART Forward 2035"

The Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority (DART) would like the public to give their input on how they think the Greater Des Moines transit system should be developed over the next 25 years. There are two ways for you to express your input.

You can fill out a survey by going online to www.surveymonkey.com/s/DARTforward. Or attend a meeting at Ankeny City Hall, 410 West First Street on Thursday, April 7 at 5:30 p.m.

The survey results and public comments will help DART move into the next phase of planning study; developing draft service recommendations. Once those are developed, DART will hold a second round of public meetings in July to get the public's feedback on the recommendations.

For more information is available on the DART Forward 2035 web page: www.ridedart.com/dart-forward-2035.cfm.

MPO Host Meeting On Passenger Transportation Plan

The Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning organization will host a public meeting to receive comments on the Passenger Transportation Plan (PTP) – Fiscal Year 2012 Update. The meeting starts at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 28, 2011 at the Urbandale Public Library located at 3520 86th Street, Urbandale.



Farmer's Market Begins

The Farmer's Market will begin May 12 and run through the middle of September. The market is held on Thursday

evenings from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on the Square

New vendors are welcomed. Contact Mary Kaye Madden 984-6597 or 238-2850 for vendor or other information.

Community Garage Sale

The 5th Annual Polk City Community Garage Sale will be held Saturday, June 25 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. rain or shine.

The cost is \$10 which includes your location on the map with three items listed and ad placement. Ads will be placed in the Des Moines Register, Tri-County Times, Bull's Eye and Ankeny Register/Press Citizen, Boone and Nevada papers.

Those who would like to participate need to register by May 23 to be included on the city-wide map. Registration forms are available at local businesses, city hall or on the city's web site. Contact Charlotte Loter 984-9258 or Teresa Miller at 984-6316 for information.

Big Creek Historical Museum Open

The Big Creek Historical Society's museum located at 112 Third Street will be open Sunday, April 10 and Saturday, May 14 – Iowa Museum Day from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

On April 10 the museum will have a Civil War display in recognition of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. At 2 p.m. a Big Creek Historical representative will present anecdotal information on Civil War veterans buried in the Polk City Cemetery. The tour of the cemetery will begin at the museum.

The museum contains displays and artifacts of the Big Creek area. There is no charge for admission.



Happenings at the Library

Start A Total Body Walking Program

Step into Spring and start a total body walking program! Join Stephanie Kelsick's workshop and learn how to develop an individualized walking program, choose proper shoe wear, and address needs for women of all ages. Please wear comfortable clothes and bring your walking shoes! Stephanie is a physical therapist, specializing in orthopedics/sports and women's health.

Learn To Be Safe Program

The Polk City Police Department and library are teaming up to present "Stranger Danger" on Wednesday, April 6 from 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. (early dismissal). This program will help teach children (young or old) how to be safe. After the program, you will have an opportunity to make a DNA card.

Easter Bunny To Visit

The Easter Bunny will be visiting the library on Saturday, April 23 at 10:30 a.m. We will be making crafts in the meeting room. This will be part of the Kiwanis Easter Egg Hunt.

Ballerina Buns and More!

Join Laura Altena of Smart Style in Grimes and Mindy Mackey of All Seasons Salon & Spa on Thursday, May 12 at 6:30 p.m. as they demonstrate an elegant bun and several easy updos in this beginner's level workshop. Learn tips and tricks to finishing updo hair. With recitals not to far off this will be a great way to have your ballerina looking her best. Moms bring your girls; there will be practice time after the workshop. Laurie Lahr's *Enchanted Hairware* will be available for you to browse.

Space is limited **and pre-registration is required**. If you are 16 and younger, an adult must accompany you.

National Library Week April 10 – 16:

Genealogy Hunt – Who's In YOUR Family Tree?

On Wednesday, April 13 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. come see if you can find a lost branch on your family tree. There will be ten laptops computers available to the public to spend the day searching a dozen free genealogy sites. Free pedigree forms will be available. Members of the Big Creek Historical Society will be on hand part of the day to answer local historical questions.

E-mail For Beginners

Jamie Conley will be here on Thursday, April 14 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. to walk you through opening your very own e-mail account. Time permitting we will also touch on Face book. This workshop is for those who want to learn some basic computer skills in order to stay connected with the kids, grandkids and friends online. Come with questions, leave with answers on the ins and outs of using the Internet in today's world. It's easier than you think!

Space is limited and **pre-registration is required**.

Friends Of The Library Book Sale

The Friends of the Polk City Community Library will be holding their annual book sale on June 24 and 25. The Friends are accepting book donations at the library. If you have a large donation and would like for them to be picked up you may call 984-9194. Remember magazines, encyclopedias, text books or Reader's Digest condensed books are **NOT** accepted.

New Look For Our Web Site

Go to www.polkcitylibrary.org to see the changes.



More Happenings at the Library

Book Club

Monday Night Book Club will meet on April 18 to discuss *Three Weeks with my Brother* by Nicholas Sparks. *Salem Falls* by Jodi Picoult will be discussed on May 16. Monday Night Book Club meets at 7 p.m.

Saturday Book Club will discuss *PUSH* by Sapphire on April 9. Plan on the discussion to be intense. Discussion of Stephanie Kallos's *Sing Them Home* an All Iowa Reads will be on May 14. Saturday Book Club meets at 9:00 a.m.

The purpose of All Iowa Reads is to foster a sense of unity through reading. Iowans statewide are encouraged to come together in their communities to read and talk about a single title in the same year.

Snacks and tea or coffee is provided for both Book Clubs.

Crop Club Junkies

Crop Club Junkies is open to those you like doing scrapbooking and stamping. Join us on April 11 & 25 and May 9 & 23 from 4:00 p.m. to 8 p.m. There will be 6 foot tables to spread out on. You may use the side door of the meeting room to wheel in your materials.

Coffee by the Fireplace

Drop by for a free cup of coffee on Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Coloring pages for the kids. Bring a friend or two!

Sit N Stitch

Come meet us in front of the fireplace on Thursdays from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. All types of needlework welcome.

Registration For Summer Reading Program

Registration for the Children and Teen Summer Reading Program starts May 16. Summer Reading information may be found on line at www.polkcitylibrary.org and click the link "Kids." There are great new programs for you this summer. You may also register on line.

Novel Destination June 13 to August 13 is the Summer Reading Program for adults. Read 3 books to earn a finishers prize and be entered in the grand prize drawing to be held on August 15.

Tuesday's Storytime

This storytime is for children ages 2 and up and begins at 10:30 a.m. Introduce your child to books and reading. Each week, we read stories, sing songs and do movement activities.

Tummy Time

Tummy Time is for babies from birth to 12 months with their favorite adult on Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.. Enjoy songs, action rhymes, playtime and share a book together in each session. Perfect time for baby and parent to learn some new songs and meet other new parents.

Craft Is Cool

Come to the meeting room to make a craft on the following Wednesdays: April 20 from 3:30 p.m. to 4:15 p.m., May 4 (early dismissal) from 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. and May 18 from 3:30 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.

Wednesday Wii

Wii Wednesday is for those in Grade 4 and up from 3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on April 12, May 10 and May 24. In addition to playing Wii there will be a craft and snack for you.

TAG

You can make a difference in your library by being part of TAG (Teen Advisory Group). TAG is for students in grades 6 and up. Meetings are on Tuesday, April 19 and May 17 at 6:00 p.m.

Would you like to be a volunteer this summer at the library? You will be able to sign up at the May 17 meeting. Each volunteer will get a t-shirt when summer begins.



Polk City Fire Department Recognizes EMS Week

(Submitted by the Polk City Fire Department)



Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week will be recognized nationally this year May 15-21, with the theme “Everyday Heroes.” EMS Week is a time to recognize the dedication of those who provide the day-to-day life-saving services of medicine's front line. The Polk City Fire Department will be recognizing EMS Week and asks community members to thank the emergency medical professionals in their lives and community during this time.

“Whether as a professional or volunteer, many EMS professionals train and work hard to serve their communities,” said Peg Back, captain and paramedic with the Polk City Fire Department. “This time of the year is a great time to extend a ‘thank you’ for all they do.”

May 18 is also Emergency Medical Services for Children Day. Back said community members should remember that children have unique medical problems and may display different symptoms from adults when they become sick or injured. Symptoms that are serious for a child may not be as serious for an adult, and vice versa. In addition, children may not be able to communicate what's wrong, which means their behavior needs to be interpreted. Signs of medical problems in children could include:

- Strange or withdrawn behavior , or any significant change from normal behavior
- Abnormal or difficult breathing
- Decreasing responsiveness or alertness
- Excessive sleepiness
- Irritability
- Feeding difficulties
- Confusion or delirium
- Skin or lips that look blue or purple (gray for darker-skinned children).
- Unconsciousness
- Uncontrolled bleeding
- Increasing or severe, persistent pain
- Fever accompanied by change in behavior (especially with a severe, sudden headache accompanied by mental changes, neck/back stiffness, or rashes)
- Severe or persistent vomiting or diarrhea

These are just some examples, and parents should ask a child's physician about other warning signs. Also, visit American College of Emergency Physicians website www.emergencycareforyou.org for more information.



PCFD Reminds Residents of Open Burning Ban

(Submitted by the Polk City Fire Department)



As spring time brings yard work and nights gathered around a fire pit, the Polk City Fire Department would like to remind residents of the year-round open burning ban, as adopted last year by city code 105.05. The ban prohibits the open burning of yard waste and other combustible materials within city limits “where the products of combustion are emitted into the open air without passing through a chimney or stack.” Violation of city code could result in the fire being extinguished by the fire department and a fine to the resident.

“While open burning of yard waste is no longer allowed under city code, residents are still able to enjoy the use of fire pits as before,” Fire Chief Jason Morse said.

Recreational fires are allowed as long as the pit area is 3 feet or less in diameter and 2 feet or less in height and fires are 25 or more feet from structures. Fires in approved containers (outdoor fireplace, barbeque grill, barbeque pit or wood-burning appliance) must be 15 feet or more from structures and openings must be protected with spark arrestors constructed of heavy iron, heavy wire mesh or other non-combustible material with openings no larger than 1/4 inch. All fires should be attended at all times by an adult familiar with fire extinguishing methods.

To inquire about obtaining a permit for burning prohibited by city code or with additional questions, contact Fire Chief Jason Morse at 984-6304 or Jason.Morse@polkcityfd.com. Residents can also consult city code 105.05 for instances when a permit may be obtained and more information.

City Joins Bravo

The city approved Resolution No. 2011-13 authorizing the execution of an agreement between the City of Polk City and Bravo Greater Des Moines, Inc. and to approve the membership fee of \$1,850.

Money is available through Bravo Greater Des Moines, Inc. Bravo is a not-for-profit corporation organized for the purpose of assisting the cultural communities of the Greater Des Moines area in providing increased cultural awareness, advocacy and funding. Funding comes from 2/7th of cities Hotel/Motel tax revenue.



Web Cam On The Square

A new feature will be coming to the city’s web site this spring—a web cam. It will be featured on the home page. Pictures of the Bandstand will be taken at intervals throughout the day and evening.

The picture of the Bandstand on the left was taken this past winter.



Memorial Day—May 30

A reminder all city offices and library will be closed.

