



City of Polk City Newsletter

Volume 12, Issue 3

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2009

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 p.m.

E-mail: library

@polkcitylibrary.org

Web site:

www.polkcitylibrary.org

City Maintenance:

301 Northside Dr.

Benefit Pancake Breakfast For Deputy Fire Chief Roy Bingham



The Polk City Fire Department is hosting a benefit pancake breakfast for Roy on Saturday, October 31 from 7 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the Fire Station. Along with the pancake breakfast there will be a silent auction.

In September, Roy was diagnosed with cancer in his lungs and liver. Roy has been a member of the department since 2002. He lives in Polk City with his wife Rebecca and their daughters Alex and Addison.

The benefit is to help support Roy and his family, with 100% of profits going to the Bingham family.

Open Burning October 15 – 31 Continues This Fall Only

The council at their September 14 meeting had a discussion on banning open burning of yard waste. A motion was made by Councilman Rhoades to direct legal to prepare an ordinance to ban open burning of yard waste and was second by Councilman Anderson. The motion was passed with Councilman Rhoades, Anderson, Dvorak and Mordini voting yes and Councilman Lane voting no. It was the consensus of the council to allow the two week period for open burning of yard waste this fall from October 15 – 31, due to the changes requiring an amendment to the current ordinance which requires three readings.

Citizens are encouraged to use the city's Recycling Center at the 301 E. Northside Dr. The center is open 7 days a week from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Leaves, grass clippings, brush and tree limbs may be brought to the center.

If you choose to burn during this period remember there should be no open burning before 8:00 a.m. and the fire must be fully extinguished by 8:00 p.m. Also, during this two-week period only waste from your property may be burned.

Based on weather and other conditions, a committee consisting of the city administrator, police chief and fire chief may at their discretion cancel, change, extend or shorten the times allowed for burning. The public will be notified of any changes.

Burning of recreational fires within a fire pit or other protective structure is not prohibited.

If you have any questions, please contact Fire Chief Jason Morse.

Ground Breaking For Big Creek Technology Campus

A ground breaking ceremony for the Big Creek Technology Campus was held on October 7. City Administrator Gary Mahannah says the campus will stabilize a commercial/industrial tax base and bring jobs. The campus will be used for business and light industrial. Also in the plans is a proposed new recreational complex, including soccer fields.

The campus is a joint effort of Knapp Properties and the city. The city is funding 75% of the project and Knapp Properties 25%, with the city receiving all the TIF (Tax Increment Financing).



Winter Parking

A snow ordinance is in effect from November 1 to April 1 of each year. Therefore, no person shall park, abandon or leave unattended any vehicle on any public street during a snowfall which has accumulated one inch or more of snow or for a period after the termination of such snowfall if parking such vehicle impedes snow removal operations.

Snow & Ice

With winter weather not far off, the city would like to remind you that it is the responsibility of the property owner to remove all natural accumulation of **snow and ice** from the sidewalks within a reasonable amount of time after accumulation. In the event that the snow or ice remains on sidewalks and is not removed for more than 24 hours after the end of the snowfall or ice storm, the city may remove it and assess the property owner.

***Mark Your Calendar for the Annual Square Lighting
Tuesday, December 1.***



Mayor And City Council Election November 3

Two council seats, along with the mayoral position will be on the November 3 ballot. Mayor Gary Heuertz and Councilmen Dan Lane and Rob Mordini are running for re-election. The races are uncontested and have four-year terms.

The mayor's position is paid \$6,000 per year, payable monthly. The council's salary is \$2,500 per year. Both the mayor and council positions shall receive a reimbursement of 50% of the cost of a single membership to a fitness center located within the city limits of Polk City. Prior to June 22 of this year the mayor salary was \$5000 and the council positions were paid \$50 for each regular or special Council meeting attended and each committee meeting called by Mayor attended.

The polling place for the election will be at the Community Room, 309 W. Van Dorn. Hours are 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eligible voters may vote early at the Polk County Election Office, 120 2nd Ave, Des Moines.

No Parking Zones Added

No parking signs will be going up in the next couple of weeks on W. Van Dorn and Winding Creek Circle. There will be no parking on the north side of W. Van Dorn between Booth Street and 4th Street. There will also be no parking on the south side of W. Van Dorn between 4th Street and a point 60 feet west. The Winding Creek Circle will have no parking through the cul-de-sac.

Polk City Gets Annexation Approval

The State of Iowa's City Development Board approved 891 acres to be annexed into Polk City municipal boundaries. Most of the annexation is to the east of present city limits. City Administrator Gary Mahannah says there no immediate plans for the development in the new part of the city, but it fits the future plans for growth. A portion of the annexation will remain a nature preserve and wildlife area controlled by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Areas east of the reserve will be zoned agricultural for now, but in the future will be developed as medium density residential.

A map of the annexation is available to view at City Hall.

Broadway Construction Focus Will Change

Polk County's Broadway Paving Project has been focusing on Broadway between Tyler Street and Third Street. The focus will now be between Tyler Street and the Big Creek Park entrance. Over the next three weeks there will be numerous water shut downs due to replacing fire hydrants and valves. A 24-hour notification will be given before water is shut off. This portion of the project will also cause more disruption of traffic flow in this area.

Replacement of fire hydrants and valves needs to be done before surfacing can be done. November is the projected target date for the re-opening of Broadway for the winter. The majority of it will be hard surface with some areas of rock patches. There will also be areas of narrowing due to storm sewer intakes. Paving will not be done until 2010.

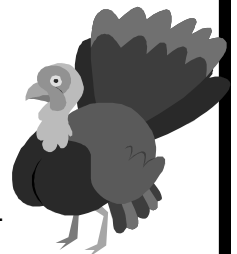
Maintenance Facility Gets New Additions

The maintenance facility at 301 E. Northside Drive is adding a new shop building and a sand and salt storage unit. The new maintenance building will be used for more storage of equipment and more workspace.



City Offices to Close for Thanksgiving

The city offices, including the library will be closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday on Thursday, November 26 and Friday, November 27. The library will be open on Saturday, November 28.





Happenings at the Library

Program By "Commander Alex The Booster Seat Boy Warrior"

radKIDS – Self Defense For Kids Ages 8 – 12

Join Commander Alex the Booster Seat Boy Warrior on Saturday, October 17 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. He will entertain children with coloring pages and a video while their parents receive advice about booster seats. They will also receive a free inspection of the seat. The event is made possible by the Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau and is in conjunction with the Polk City Police Department.

The Polk City Police Department will be offering radKIDS; a self-defense classes for children ages 8 –12 at the Polk City Community Library. radKIDS is an organization of adults that want to help make sure ALL children are safe. The classes will be held on Tuesdays October 20 and 27, November 3 and 10 and the final class on Monday, November 16. Classes are from 7:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. Class size is limited and re-registration is required by Friday, October 16. The cost is \$15.

Knitting Reunion

No previous class is required and everyone is welcome to come and knit scarves for the ICADV (Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence) on Thursday, October 15 at 6 p.m. Please bring any extra yarn to share. The library will also be collecting personal care product items for ICDV. A list is posted at the library.

The class curriculum includes topics: home, school and vehicle safety; out and about safety; realistic defense against abduction; good-bad-uncomfortable touch and more; stranger tricks (including physical defense against abduction; and self-realization of personal power).

radKIDS, Inc. has been committed to providing education that enhances the ability of children and parents to utilize knowledge, skills and power to protect themselves from violence and harm. Questions about the program may be directed to the Polk City Community Library staff at 984-6119 or to Sgt. Dustin Bjornson at 984-6565.

Gingerbread House Competition

From October 19 through November 16 the library will be holding a Gingerbread House Competition. The two categories are real gingerbread house and paper gingerbread house. All houses need to be handed in by November 16. The public will then vote for their favorite house. Entry forms and more details are available at the library.

Teen Read Week

During the week of October 10 – 24 the library will be hosting Teen Read Week. There will be prizes of books and gift cards. More details are available at the library.

They're Back! – Iowa Ghost Hunters

Join us if you dare! On Thursday, October 29 at 6:30 p.m. the IPART (Iowa Paranormal Advanced Research Team), "Iowa Ghost Hunters" will be sharing personal spooky experiences, pictures of the paranormal and the equipment they use to capture things that go bump in the night! See IPART's display case this month.

Come and Go Craft

Stop in for a craft project that you can take home. Join us on Wednesday, October 21 from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. (early dismissal) and again on Wednesday, November 18 from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. All ages are welcome.



More Happenings at the Library

Gem Show

Start your holiday shopping early with unique, one-of-kind treasures from the earth. Artists from the Central Iowa Mineral Society will be selling crystals, hand-made jewelry, fossils and minerals for the “gem” in you life. The show will be Friday, November 20 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and on Saturday, November 21 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Pockets Full Of Fun!

Monday, November 23 from 3:45 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Lisa Laird and her pocket full of fun puppet friends will join us. The program will be about heroes and stars. All ages welcome.

Kindermusik

Wiggles & Gilles: Will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, October 5 through January 25. Kindermusik Our Time is designed for children 1½ years through 3 years of age, along with an accompanying parent or caregiver. The cost is \$130 for 15 sessions.

Sign & Sing: Is held at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, October 5 through January 25. Sign & Sing is designed for children 6 months through 2 years, along with accompanying parent or caregiver. The cost is \$100 for 15 sessions.

Story Times

Tummy Time - Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. for 5 months to 24 months with parent/caregiver starting October 20. This 20 minute program include stories, nursery rhymes, music and songs.

Mother Goose - Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m. is a 20-minute program that is filled with songs, finger plays, flannel board stories and other favorite stories for the toddler. Toddlers need to be accompanied by an adult. Mother Goose starts October 20.

Story Time – Fridays at 10:30 a.m. for preschoolers. This 30-minute program of book-related fun includes read-a-louds, flannel board stories, songs, and an activity. Story Time begins October 23.

Part-time Help Needed

The Polk City Community Library has an opening for part-time help 9 – 12 hours per week evenings and on Saturday. Minimum requirements include a high school diploma or equivalent. Please send resume` to Polk City Community Library, P.O. Box 259, Polk City, IA 50226. The city of Polk City is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Sit N Stitch

Come relax and chat on Thursday evenings from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. while you work on your current hook or needle project.

Join Us For Coffee!

How about a cup of coffee? Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to Noon join us for a cup of coffee as you relax and read a magazine, newspaper or a book. Maybe even start a bridge club. The possibilities are endless.

Monday Night Book Club

The Lucy One by Nicholas Sparks will be discussed on October 19. On November 16, join us for snacks and help select the books to read in 2010. Book Club begins at 7:00 p.m.

Saturday Morning Book Club

The Color Purple by Alice Walker is the book for discussion on October 10. On November 14, the book club will discuss *Twilight* by Stephenie Meyer. Book Club begins at 9:00 a.m.

Teen Gaming

Wednesdays from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. join us in the meeting room for Wii and other games. There will be a snack, too.



More Happenings at the Library

Usborne Books Fund-raiser

Friends of the Polk City Community Library will be holding a fund-raiser the month of November with Usborne Books. You can help make this a success by stopping by the library November 2 through November 23 and placing an order. All proceeds will go towards purchasing books for the library.

Donation Of Books Wanted

The library will again be accepting book donations for the Friends of the Library 2010 Book Sale. The books may be dropped off at the front desk during the library’s regular business hours. ***Do not place them in the book drop.*** If you have more books than you can carry, you may call 984-6928 or 984-9194 to make arrangements to have them picked up.

Sorry, but textbooks, encyclopedias, Reader’s Digest condensed books and magazines will not be accepted.

The Friends would like to thank to those who donated books and volunteers who helped with this summer’s sale. It is money raised from the book sale that allows the Friends to make donations of books, fund programs and buy equipment for the

Polk City Community Library Accredited

The State Library of Iowa has announced the Polk City Community Library has met the conditions for state accreditation as outlined in “In Service to Iowa: Public Library Measures of Quality, 4th ed.”

Achieving accreditation requires a significant, ongoing local commitment to high quality library services. Of Iowa’s 543 public libraries, 338-including the Polk City Community Library-are accredited. The Polk City Library has been recognized for its efforts in all areas of library administration including governance and funding; staffing; library collection; services; public relations; and access and facilities. The accreditation is valid through June 30, 2012.

Iowa’s accredited public libraries are recognized for being responsive to their communities and for exhibiting excellence in their provision of library services. Libraries are cornerstones of our communities. They reflect and help strengthen the economic health of communities, as well as the people who use them.

Accredited libraries receive a higher rate of compensation through the State Library of Iowa’s Enrich Iowa/ Direct State Aid program. They also receive an official Certificate of Accreditation signed by Governor Chet Culver, State Librarian Mary Wegner, and Iowa Commission of Libraries Chairwoman Monica Gohlinghorst.

Said Wegner, “The director and board of trustees of the Polk City Community Library and the city of Polk City are to be commended for this achievement and their commitment to excellence in public Library services for their community.”

Holiday Open House

An open house will be held at the library on Saturday, November 28 to kick off the holiday season. Between 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. there will be refreshments, music, door prizes and a free photo of your child with one of Santa’s helpers. Children will also be invited to make a tree ornament and help decorate the library’s tree.

A drawing for a DVD will be held at 1:30 p.m., 2:00 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. You must be present to claim your prize. At 3:00 p.m. everyone will be eligible to win the grand prize, a \$35 gift certificate at a local grocery store.

Non-perishable food items may be left at the read barrel in the entry way for the food bank.

Trick or Treat At The Library

Come in your costume anytime on October 29 and 30 and we will treat you! Tricks optional.

New Cake Pan

Bugs Bunny cake pan is now available to check out. Make sure your next party has that special cake to go with it’s theme. We have a cake pan for every occasion.



Polk City Police and Fire Department's

Fall Festival

Saturday, October 24

Community Building 309 W. Van Dorn

Noon to 4:00 p.m.—6th grade and younger

7:00 to 10:00 p.m.—7th -12 Grades

Activities will include:

Games, Haunted Tunnel

Food, Prizes

Costume Contest

And for 7th—12th grade

**A Haunted House, ooey-gooley games
and Dance**

Sponsored by the City of Polk City

And the surrounding businesses.

FREE TO ALL

City of Polk City Directory

Mayor:

Gary Heuertz 984-6950

City Council Members:

Ron Anderson 984-6365
Dave Dvorak 984-6502
Dan Lane 984-6931
Rob Mordini 984-9256
Tim Rhoades 984-6853

City Council meets the 2nd and 4th Monday's of each month, 6:30 p.m. at City Hall. Additional meetings are scheduled as necessary.

City Hall:

City Admin.: Gary Mahannah
City Clerk: Sharon Nickles
Deputy Clerk: Charlotte Loter
Finance Officer: Colin Adams
Summer Rec Director
Tami Leonard McCoy

Public Works:

Director: Mike Schulte
Supervisor: Randy Franzen
Staff: John Adams
Dennis Godfrey
Rick Riley

Police:

Chief: Mark Bowersox
Sergeant: Dustin Bjornson
Senior Patrol Officer: Ron Lamfers
Officer: Ben Johns
Officer: Philip Burrell
Officer: Matthew Untrauer
Reserve Officer:
Mark Schwalenberg

Fire & Rescue:

Chief: Jason Morse
Deputy Chief -Fire: Roy Bingham
Deputy Chief -EMS: Dan Gubbins

Planning and Zoning:

*Dennis Dietz 984-6343
Planning & Zoning meets the 3rd Monday of the month, 6:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Tree Board:

*Ken Morse 984-6735

Historic Preservation Comm.:

*Herman Poggensee 984-6042

** Chair of Board or Commission*

Community Library:

Director: Kim Kellogg
Asst. Director/ Adult Librarian:
Pam Witt

Children's Librarian:

Rene Blessman
Kelsey Blessman

Library Board:

*Maureen Mc Guire 984-6636
Library Board meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month, 7:30 p.m. at the library.

Park Commission:

*Denise Franck 984-6200
Park Commission meets the 1st Monday of the month, 6:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Board of Adjustment:

*Don Raker 984-6708
Board of Adjustment meets as needed.

City Newsletter:

Editor: Rosemary Hutton Taylor
984-6653
Photographer: Rich Taylor

All agendas and minutes can be found on the city web site: www.polkcity.org

Do You Know How To Perform Life-saving CPR?

If a cardiac arrest happened to a loved one or a close friend, would you know how to perform life-saving CPR? Surprisingly, for the vast majority of Americans the answer is no. Close to 80% of cardiac arrests occur in the home and are witnessed by family members who often do not know CPR. Immediate bystander CPR can double or even triple a cardiac arrest victim's chances of survival.

The Polk City Firefighters Association is offering a Community CPR program. The class is scheduled for Saturday, November 7 at 8:30 a.m. All instructors are American Heart Association certified and are trained to teach a variety of classes to individuals, families and groups. To sign up for the class go to the Fire Department's web site at www.polkcityfd.com. If you have questions or would like to know more about the classes you may contact Peg Back at 984-6304 or e-mail peg.back@polkcityfd.com.



Beggar's Night October 31

The City Council has set "Beggar's Night" for
Saturday, October 31.

If you would like children to trick-or-treat at your home,
please leave your porch light on
between 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

