



The Bridge—Volume 121

CITY OF ROCKFORD

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

School is out and now summer begins. Congratulations to all the Rockford graduates and to the graduates from the surrounding schools! We wish you all the best as you begin a new adventure and make all your dreams come true.

I am pleased to announce our new team member at Public Works, Mike Hoppe. He recently joined our team as our Mechanic and Streets Worker. Welcome to the team Mike!

We are happy to say the Riverside Park shelter building project is going along very well. It is expected to be ready at the end of June, barring any weather delays, and will be available for graduation, anniversary, family reunion, retirement and other celebrations.

Mark your calendars for the Rockford River Days Celebration August 7, 8 and 9! Please come to Riverside Park with your family and friends to enjoy the festivities – Live Band Friday and Saturday night, Duck Drop, Fire Dept. Waterball Competition, Market Place, Carnival Rides, 5K Run, Volleyball, Food, Coronation and Parade (Sunday @ noon).

Movie in the Park will continue this year if we have enough volunteers and sponsors. This is a positive family event offered to our community. Please contact Audra at City Hall (477-6565, press 2) if you would like to volunteer or sponsor a movie this year.

Enjoy your summer!

Renee Hafften



OUTSTANDING SENIOR CITIZENS

Nominate a Senior Citizen you know! They are looking for a male and female over 70 years of age and a Minnesota resident. These seniors are people full of love, patience, concern and a desire to help others...and are considered extremely valuable!

Nominate someone you know for the honor of **Outstanding Senior Citizen!** Send a recommendation of a senior fitting the description above to:

Nancy Betzler, Director
Wright County Fair Board
3623 156th Street NW
Clearwater, MN 55320

Questions, call Nancy at 320-558-2431
Nomination form can be found at:
www.wrightcountyfair.com or www.mnstatefair.org

Nominations are due June 29, 2015

MOVIE IN THE PARK

Movie in the Park will be held at Riverside Park located at 8220 Elm Street, if the weather is bad, the movie will be postponed.

Fridays: June 26, 2015 (at dusk)
July 24, 2015 (at dusk)
August 28, 2015 (at dusk)

ROCKFORD FARMERS MARKET

Fridays June 5th to October 2nd (3pm to 6:30pm)
Rockford City Center Mall Parking Lot:
8900 Walnut St. (north side of State Highway 55)

Market will be closed in case of severe weather.

www.rockfordmarket.weebly.com

For more information contact Nancy
(763) 202-0024 or
nancars14@gmail.com



PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION OPENING

Planning and Zoning Commission has an opening for a term expiring 12/31/2015. If you are interested in applying, submit a Commission Application and return the completed application to City Hall as soon as possible. Applications are available at City Hall or on the City's website.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Welcome to Summer!

There is a lot to look forward to in the City of Rockford these days. Summer time marks the beginning of several months of barbecues, enjoying the great outdoors and attending all the events that go with great weather. The Park Shelter is nearing completion and the city's parks are ready and waiting for fun in the sun.

The city's housing market has rebounded very well this year, with the twin cities real estate market hitting pending sale levels not seen since 2005. Here in Rockford, the city has doubled pending sales and closings

since this time last year. We also have had a lot of interest from different developers who consider Rockford a good place to build or locate their business.

Finally, the city's budgets ended well according to the 2014 Audit, and we are closely tracking our finances as we begin our budgeting process for 2016. The Water and Wastewater Utilities appear to be operating on track thus far, we will continue to monitor their performance throughout the summer.

Best wishes, and enjoy all the fun that summer time brings!

RIVERSIDE PARK SHELTER UPDATE

The new Riverside Park Shelter is under construction. This project is expected to be finished by the end of June.



ROCKFORD RIVER DAYS AUGUST 7TH-9TH

As summer quickly approaches this year many changes are happening at Riverside Park.

Most notably the new and improved shelter and picnic area. This new building will not only fulfill the needs of our residents but upgrades in power will improve the Rockford River Days celebration as well.

Speaking of the River Days celebration which occurs August 7,8,9th this year the Festival Committee is in need of people willing to help out by volunteering their time and effort to bring the best of what Rockford has to offer. We specifically need help this year with the Bean Bag tournament on Saturday and also help with the parade on Sunday.

I have been involved with this great celebration for more years than I care to remember but it would be great to get fresh ideas and volunteers to share the work load and make it easier for everyone involved.

Please consider becoming a part of a fun filled weekend. The River Days Festival meets every 3rd Tuesday at 6pm in suite 700 at the Rockford Mall. You can contact me @ rickm@cityofrockford.org or call me @612-875-1356

Thank You, "Rockford Rick Martinson"
2015 River Days Festival Coordinator

ROCKFORD SENIOR CITIZENS

The Rockford Seniors meet the 2nd Monday of each month at different locations. Attend and find out more information about activities or call Bonnie Pool (763) 477-4468. Membership is \$10 per year. Upcoming meetings:

- Monday, July 13th**-Rockford Mall in Rockford
- Monday, August 10th**-Delano Senior Center
- Monday, September 14th**-Rockford Community Center

S T O R K H O U S E

The Ames-Florida-Stork House is located at:
8131 Bridge Street
(763) 477-5383 Email: storkhouse@cityofrockford.org
www.rockfordmnhistory.org

Open for tours: June to August: Tuesdays & Wednesday 10am-4pm, and Thursdays 10am-7pm OR by appointment. Note—office hours are subject to change. If you would like a tour or need to communicate with the Director, please call or email the address listed above.

The annual quilt raffle will take place during Rockford River Days celebration. This year the quilt is a Carpenter’s Star pattern. The tickets are \$5 each and will be available in July at City Hall and other local businesses.

**2 0 1 4 V O L U N T E E R O F T H E
Y E A R
L O U A N N E B E R S P A C H E R**

The City Council received many nominations for the 2014 volunteer of the year. Those mentioned included: Perry Buffie, Steve Huston, Lou Ann Eberspacher and Mike Pedersen

On March 24th the City Council selected Lou Ann Eberspacher as the 2014 Volunteer of the Year for her community spirit with the Rockford Area Schools, Thousand Hearts Crow River Serve Day, RiverWorks Community and many other volunteer activities.

Thank you Lou Ann and all of the volunteers for their dedication to make Rockford a great community to live and work!



(Lou Ann pictured with Mayor Renee Hafften)

S W I M M I N G P O O L S

All swimming pools with a capacity of five thousand (5,000) gallons and a depth greater than thirty (30) inches requires a permit and a yearly inspection. Contact City Hall if you need to apply for a permit.

R O C K F O R D L I B R A R Y

Located at **8220 Cedar Street** (763) 477-4216
For more information see their website: www.griver.org

Summer Reading Program—started June 8th (sign-up any-time during the summer)

1000 Books Before Kindergarten ongoing program
Summer Reading

Book Club—Mondays 6/15, 7/27, and 8/24 2-3pm

Writers Group—Wednesdays 6/17, 7/15, & 8/19 1-2pm

Battle of the Books—Thursday August 6th 4-5pm

Many more events, check with the library!

**T A L L G R A S S & N O X I O U S
W E E D S**

The city has an ordinance regulating the height of grass. The ordinances states that grass shall not exceed 12” and all noxious weeds and other rank growths of vegetation upon public or private property must be removed.

Typically 5 days are given for tall grass and less if there are noxious weeds.

Thank you for your cooperation and taking pride in the city!

D O G L I C E N S E S

The City of Rockford licenses dogs for a 2 year period. The current licenses expire June 30, 2016. You must apply for your new license at city hall between the hours of 8-4:30 p.m. A certificate that the dog has been vaccinated for rabies is required.

Fee’s for licenses are:

Spade/Neutered \$12

Other \$18

A kennel permit is required to have three dogs.

**R E N T A L D W E L L I N G
L I C E N S E**

If you are renting a residential property within the City of Rockford you are required by city code to have the property licensed.

If you already have an existing Rental Dwelling License it is time to renew it for 2015/2016. The City Council has established a fee for rental property licenses. Stop by City Hall or go on-line to obtain the license application. All applications need to be submitted to City Hall no later than June 29, 2015.

L A W N S P R I N K L E R S

Residents installing a lawn sprinkler system need to apply for a building permit before installation. A site plan with the proposed placement needs to be submitted with the permit and fee. The permit fee is \$55.00.



CITY OF ROCKFORD

6031 Main Street
Rockford, MN 55373
763-477-6565 office
763-477-4393 FAX
www.cityofrockford.org

Upcoming Events

- June 26th— Movie in the Park starting at dusk at Riverside Park
- July 3rd—City Hall Closed in observance of the 4th of July
- July 9th—R-G Area Chamber of Commerce Meeting 11:30am at Wright-Hennepin Electric
- July 13th—Rockford Senior Citizen's 11:30 am at Rockford Mall at 8900 Walnut Street
- July 22nd—Rockford Royalty Storytime 2pm at Rockford Public Library
- July 24th— Movie in the Park starting at dusk at Riverside Park
- August 4th—National Night Out (organize an event in your neighborhood)
- August 7th to August 9th—Rockford River Days Celebration
- August 10th—Rockford Senior Citizen's 11:30 am at the Delano Senior Center in Delano
- August 13th— R-G Area Chamber of Commerce Meeting 7:30am at BANKWEST
- August 28th— Movie in the Park starting at dusk at Riverside Park
- September 7th—City Hall Closed in observance of the Labor Day

RECYCLING

Randy's Environmental Services **collects recycling every other Wednesday**. The 2015 calendar is available on the City website or at City Hall.

Recyclables must be set out at the curb by 7 a.m. The next scheduled pick up is: June 24, 2015. See dates to follow:

- June 24, 2015
- July 8, 2015
- July 22, 2015
- August 5, 2015
- August 19, 2015
- September 2, 2015
- September 16, 2015
- September 30, 2015
- October 14, 2015
- October 28, 2015
- November 11, 2015
- November 25, 2015
- December 9, 2015
- December 23, 2015

ROCKFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Rockford Fire Department is looking for NEW members. Paid on call. No experience needed. Training will be provided. Applications are available at City Hall or online at: www.cityofrockford.org

Fire Fighter Water Ball Contest will be held Saturday, August 8th during Rockford River Days starting at 4pm at Cedar and Mechanic Street.

"Like" The City of Rockford on Facebook



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

R&G Rockford-Greenfield Area Chamber of Commerce

The next Rockford-Greenfield Area Chamber of Commerce meeting will be held on **July 9th** at Wright-Hennepin Electric located at 6800 Electric Drive, Rockford. Registration/networking starts at 11:30am with lunch and program at noon. The chamber invites all the businesses from the surrounding area to join them at their luncheon.

August 13th Chamber Coffee Meeting at BANKWEST at 7:30am

www.rgchamber.com