

SERGEANT BLUFF SCOOP

•CITY OF SERGEANT BLUFF NEWSLETTER•

www.cityofsergeantbluff.com



City Hall to Relocate Temporarily

As many of you may have heard, the City of Sergeant Bluff recently received a grant from the State of Iowa to remodel City Hall. This remodeling project will involve some growing pains, including the need to move City Hall staff (and utility bill payments) to the Bluffs Area Family Center located

at 903 Topaz, during the construction period. The City offices will be in the east part of the building, which has a separate entrance from the main entrance. Signs will be posted to help you find our office. We appreciate your understanding and patience during this period of renovation. The exact date of the move is

not yet known, but is expected to be in late March 2010 and to extend through the majority of the year before we will be able to move back. We will provide additional information at City Hall and on our website as the date approaches to keep you updated on exact timing of the move.

Water Treatment Plant Update

Have you recently noticed drilling occurring in the Park complex or on a vacant field south of Warrior Road? This drilling is for new wells in connection with a proposed new water treatment plant for our community. For those of you who are unfamiliar with the project, the City Council began a preliminary study two years ago of whether to continue to have an arrangement for the purchase of water from Sioux City or if it would be beneficial to build our own water treatment plant that can meet the complete needs of our community. Based on the results of that study, the City Council made a decision in November 2008 to begin design

work on a new water treatment plant at an overall cost of approximately \$6 million. We have since been awarded a forgivable loan, or grant, of approximately \$1.7 million of federal funds through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) towards this project. The Council has also spent a considerable amount of time in selecting a site for this new water treatment plant. They made a decision to purchase 10 acres of land south of Warrior Road on the east side of South Lewis Boulevard, and have annexed this area into the City in anticipation of construction. The well drilling is the first por-

tion of the construction steps. We are drilling three new wells, one in the Park complex and the other two on the land recently purchased by the City. The well drilling, if not complete by the time of the printing of this newsletter, is anticipated to be complete fairly soon afterwards. Construction on the actual water treatment plant and pipes connecting it to the wells is expected to begin as soon as weather will allow the contractor to do so, which is anticipated to be in March 2010. We will see construction activities occurring in this area, in one form or another, throughout the entire year and even into 2011.



Inside this issue:

Recycling Calendar	2
Snow Removal	2
Mayor's Corner	3
Bluffs Area Family Center	4
Police Chief Chat	4
Parks & Recreation	5
Live Healthy Iowa	5

Dale Petersen Mayor's Corner

Well, on Tuesday it will be the shortest day of the year and after that day passes we can look forward to Christmas, New Year's Day, lots of football games, and the coming of spring, provided we are able to "weather" the winter.

I am pleased to report that the City of Sergeant Bluff began operation of the Bluffs Area Family Center December 1st! Parks and Recreation Director Brent Brown, along with the rest of his staff, will continue to offer the same programs and activities that you have participated in and will expand and offer some new and exciting recreation, entertainment, and educational opportunities in the near future. This is a new adventure for us all and will be a positive addition and a wonderful place to use our future leisure hours.

A small group of our

community and business leaders have formed a new and exciting organization named the Sergeant Bluff Community Development Corporation whose goals are to foster and develop those housing and business opportunities that in essence will promote the Sergeant Bluff Community Builder Plan's vision statement that begins, "Sergeant Bluff is the City of choice, progressive, unique, and growing". There will be a formal announcement and educational meeting for the community early next year with the opportunity for businesses and individuals to join the organization and be a part of creating our community's future.

At our first Council meeting on January 12th we will welcome Ron Hanson as our newest City Council member. Ron is a lifelong community resident and I know he will be an asset and will

add new vision and vitality to the Sergeant Bluff City Council. We will also seat returning Council members Larry Kollbaum and Sid Seward. I expect their experienced leadership and knowledge of City government to be invaluable as the Council addresses the important issues and establishes the policies necessary for efficient government. As I return as your Mayor, I promise to bring all the energy for the job and passion for the community as I always have and dedicate the next four years to continually strive to improve the community. As always, if you have any issue that you feel has not been resolved by the City staff, please feel free to contact me or any Council member. I only ask that you be courteous and respectful, not only to the elected officials, but to the City staff as well.



Dale Petersen - Mayor of Sergeant Bluff since 2002.

Meet Your City Council Members

January will see some changes in the makeup of the Sergeant Bluff City Council. Mayor Dale Petersen, Mayor Pro Tem Sid Seward and Council Member Larry Kollbaum were all re-elected to 4-year terms in November. Their terms expire in January 2014. Ron Hanson, a newcomer to the City Council

but a lifelong Sergeant Bluff resident, was elected to a 4-year council term as well. His term will expire in January 2014. He replaces Deb Huser, who departs the City Council after 4 1/2 years of service. Huser originally filled a vacancy in July 2005 then was elected to a 4-year term in November 2005.

Don Wood and Walt Wendel are currently in the middle of their 4-year terms, which will expire in January 2012.

Our City leaders will be starting the new year off working on the fiscal year 2010-2011 budget in cooperation with department heads and administration.

City Assumes Ownership of Bluffs Area Family Center

To inquire about events or to make reservations for the Bluffs Area Family Center, please contact Brent Brown at 943-5800 or brent@cityofsergeantbluff.com

The City has received a generous gift from the Winkel Family Foundation. As of December 1, the Bluffs Area Family Center was gifted to the City by the Winkel Family Foundation. We are very thankful to the Winkels for donating such a great facility to the City for use by young and old alike. The facility has been very busy with activities this first month and we hope to continue that into the future. We will be very busy in the upcoming months planning a schedule of events, updating our website to make it more user-friendly and just learning the ins and outs of the facility. For those of you with children who have winter birthdays, and not wanting the mess of a party in your house, the facility can be rented on Friday nights, Saturdays

and Sundays for parties. Call for availability and pricing. Basketball practices will continue on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings through the winter. Step Up Dance's new home is going to be the family center for classes on Thursday nights starting in January and going through March. Anyone interested in taking a Yoga class? Elaine Knudson will be offering two sessions on Wednesday nights starting January 20 and will run for 6 weeks. If you're interested in Latin Dance and a great aerobics work out, ZUMBA may be for you. Classes are on Tuesday nights from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the Fire-side room. On Sunday nights, the Sergeant Bluff Table Tennis Club meets. All skill levels are welcome; you just need to

bring your own paddle. The first time is FREE. The yearly membership will start after the first of the year.

Sensing a need for more after school and weekend activities for the family center facility, City leaders have been busy interviewing applicants for the Recreation Coordinator position, a person to help run facility. We had many qualified applicants and narrowed our search down from 120 applicants to 8 interviews. We have hired Dan Hospers. Dan has a recreation background, working with youths in before and after school programs and will be a great asset to the facility. He brings with him a lot of new ideas to increase the use of the facility. Dan begins his employment in January.

Police Chief Chat **Chief McFarland**



David McFarland, Sergeant Bluff Chief of Police since 1998.

Winter has truly arrived in Iowa. I want to take a moment to remind everyone of the Sergeant Bluff Routine Snow Removal and Snow Emergency declaration ordinance. Ordinance 69.10 states: No person shall park, abandon or leave unattended any vehicle on any public street, alley or city owned off-street parking at any time within 48 hours after a snow fall of 2 inches or more.

If a Snow Emergency is declared it will remain in effect for 48 hours after the cessation of the storm. This gives the city crews time to clean up the

streets. Snow Emergency declarations will be advertised on the local news channels and put on the city information signs.

If there are any questions you may also contact the police department or city hall to determine if a snow emergency has been declared or if vehicles must be off the streets.

If your street has been cleared prior to the 48 hours you can then park in the street. Please keep in mind that this means the streets have been cleared from curb to curb and not just a pass down the street

by the city plow.

Whether a snow emergency or routine snow removal is needed, the best practice is to move your car off the street when it snows more than 2 inches until plows have cleaned the streets.

Your cooperation will insure quick clean up of the streets and you will also be guaranteed not to get a ticket for interference with snow removal.

The police department will be issuing tickets to vehicles that interfere with snow removal. If a vehicle has prior violations the vehicle may be towed in lieu of a ticket.





Parks & Recreation Update

Winter is a great time to get ACTIVE and stay ACTIVE.



Parks & Recreation Director Brent Brown

**Parks & Rec Office
Bluffs Area
Family Center
(903 Topaz Drive)**

Email:
brent@cityofsergeantbluff.com

Office Phone:
943-5800
Cell: 899-0930



Kickoff Event:
January 16, 2010
from 8:00 to 10:00
a.m. at the Bluffs
Area Family
Center.

**Community
Weight Loss
Goal: 4,000 lbs!**

Now that winter is here, it doesn't mean it's time to start slowing down! The Sergeant Bluff Parks & Recreation Department has a lot of exciting programs coming up that will get you off your seat and active this winter.

The New Year is coming up and with that comes our resolutions to lose some of that holiday weight! Well we have just the thing. The City of Sergeant Bluff received a grant from the Iowa Sports Foundation to get involved with the Live Healthy Iowa 100 Day Challenge. The event runs from January 14-April 23 with a huge Kick-off Event on January 16 at the Bluffs Area Family Center from 8-10 a.m. The community goal I've set for Sergeant Bluff is to have 400 people to be involved and lose a combined total of 4,000 pounds with over 400,000 minutes of activity totaled. If you're interested in the program and want to be on a team or starting your own team, contact the Parks & Recreation Department. As a **TEAM CAPTAIN** for the Live Healthy Iowa 100 Day Challenge, what you need to do is recruit others to make a team of 2-10 people, who will compete with others in Sergeant Bluff and across the state. After December 15th go to Hy-Vee on-line or in the store after January 4, 2010 to receive a \$5.00 registration discount that will

allow you to sign up for only \$15.00. Everyone that signs up will receive a t-shirt, fitness magazine of their choice, weekly nutritional emails and other great prizes. So the program more than pays for itself! Then go online to www.livehealthyiowa.com and sign up your team with the Group ID of **LHISB**. After that, you should be set for the Kick-off Event where all the teams will gather for a fitness expo and FITNESS HOUR on January 16. I am still in the process of finalizing all the details for the event but I hope to have different levels of fitness instructors there so your teammates can find a work out that suits them. Also, teams will receive their water bottles, free blood pressure screening and there will be other booths set up with info on local workout programs and facilities. We received a grant for \$700 and other monetary donations to buy incentive prizes for the team that accumulates the most minutes and loses the most weight on average. I am hoping the businesses in Sergeant Bluff that get involved will use the competition to give their employees group incentives to help promote healthy living. A couple of ideas would be the team that loses the most weight or accumulates the most minutes of activity in a week would be allowed to wear jeans the next day or week or the team(s) that reach their set goals are allowed to leave a half hour early on a Friday or have an extra half hour lunch.

Open Gym continues through April for kids and adults. On Wednesday nights there will be pick-up basketball games at the High School gym. Sunday hours are from 1-5 p.m. for K-12 students and 5:30-7:30 p.m. for Adult Basketball.

Another great event will be the 2nd Annual Adult/Child Hot Shot competition. Qualifying for the Adult/Child Hot Shot competition will be on Thursday night January 21st from 7-9 p.m. Teams will consist of an adult and child. They will have 45 seconds to make as many baskets from six locations on the floor as they can by alternating shots. Contest format will depend on the number of teams, if time allows they will participate in a round robin with 5-6 matches. The top two teams from each age division will shoot in the finals on Friday night January 23rd at the girl's and boy's halftimes. Cost is \$15.00/couple which includes two shirts.

In February look for information from the Sergeant Bluff Girls Softball and Little League Baseball programs for sign-up dates.

Also, we will be running a spring soccer league for girls and boys between the ages of 4-5 years old, and grades K-1, 2-3 & 4-5.

For more information on any of these upcoming programs or to contact me, go to the city's web page at www.cityofsergeantbluff.com or email me directly at brent@cityofsergeantbluff.com

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
SERGEANT BLUFF IA
PERMIT NO. 9

401 4th Street
PO Box 703
Sergeant Bluff, IA 51054
www.cityofsergeantbluff.com

Phone: 712-943-4244
Fax: 712-943-2106
Email: cityhall@cityofsergeantbluff.com



If you have something that you would like for us to consider including in a future newsletter, please email it to paula@cityofsergeantbluff.com

Visit:
www.cityofsergeantbluff.com
for a calendar of upcoming events

POSTAL PATRON
ECR-WSS