

RIVER

Vol. 4 No. 1 May 2008

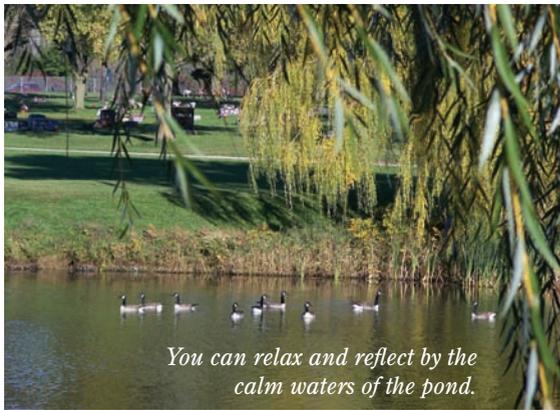
City News



Elmwood - St. Joseph

MUNICIPAL CEMETERY

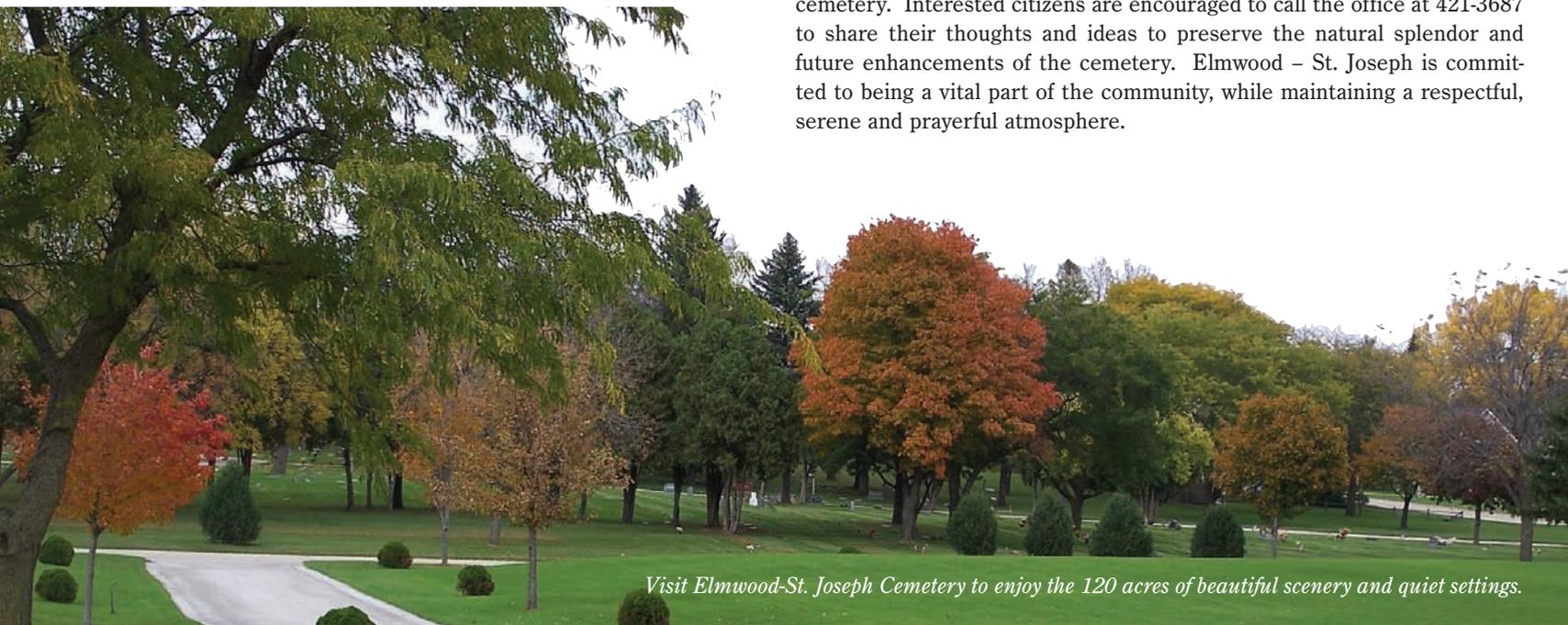
Natural Beauty with Never Ending Care



You can relax and reflect by the calm waters of the pond.



A peaceful place to meditate.



Visit Elmwood-St. Joseph Cemetery to enjoy the 120 acres of beautiful scenery and quiet settings.

Elmwood - St. Joseph Municipal Cemetery is a fascinating place filled with natural beauty and historical significance. The rolling landscape, consisting of 120 acres in the heart of Mason City, is a perfect place for people to meditate and reflect on life. Community members are encouraged to enjoy the beautiful grounds by strolling through the picturesque scenery, watching the wildlife by the pond or exploring the rich heritage and genealogy that exists there.

The St. Joseph and Elmwood Cemeteries, which date back to the 1860's, were combined into one containing a reflection of the cultural heritage and diverse religious faiths of the many families in Mason City. The cemetery also has great historical significance with respect to city founders, war veterans and famous citizens. In 1949, the City took over the operation of the cemetery to assure its existence on a permanent basis.

Plans will be implemented in the near future to improve the outreach to the general public about the amenities available at the cemetery. A walking tour highlighting points of interest, the addition of landscaping at the main entrance, and an educational guide identifying the various trees and shrubs located on the grounds will be developed. The receipt of a charitable gift in honor of a loved one will enable the design and construction of a meditation and reading area.

More public participation is desired in the development and care of the cemetery. Interested citizens are encouraged to call the office at 421-3687 to share their thoughts and ideas to preserve the natural splendor and future enhancements of the cemetery. Elmwood - St. Joseph is committed to being a vital part of the community, while maintaining a respectful, serene and prayerful atmosphere.

2-3 Projects Update

- City Council Goals
- City Projects

4-5 Community Notes

- 3rd Annual Cannonball Day
- Animal Shelter Construction Project

6-7 Update of City Happenings

- New Faces
- Upcoming Events & Meetings

City Council Goals and Priorities for 2008

The City Council of Mason City approved goals to outline their vision for the community in 2008. Priorities were also designated that will direct the day-to-day operations of the City in the upcoming months.

City Council Goals 2008:

- * Green City
- * Fun City for Amenities
- * Attractive Community
- * Planned and Controlled Growth
- * Sound Infrastructure

City Council Priorities 2008:

- * Infrastructure – sewer and water lines
- * Downtown housing – market rate
- * Partner with Mercy Hospital for a west anchor to downtown
- * Trails and sidewalks as a system
- * Public campaign in community clean-up
- * Marketing campaign – growth discussion
- * Indoor aquatic park
- * Missouri or Illinois Avenue, Roosevelt and 4th Street, Bergo Farm street extensions
- * Venue for a multipurpose arena
- * Determine location for the police station

For more information about the goals and priorities, contact your City Council member listed on page 8 of this publication.

City Awards and Achievements

Mason City Police Department Personnel Receive Recognition

Mason City Police Officer Steve Klemas received the Sullivan Brother's Award of Valor from Governor Chet Culver in a ceremony held at the Capitol Building in Des Moines on December 19, 2007. His efforts were honored because of his actions during a Special Operations Group response in Dows during the summer of 2007.



Officer Klemas receives a congratulatory handshake from Governor Chet Culver.

The Sullivan Brothers Award of Valor is awarded to individuals who distinguish themselves in an official capacity by the performance of a heroic act in excess of normal demands of service, fully aware of the threat to the individual's personal safety.

The Noon Exchange Club honored Mason City Police Officers Jason Stiles and

Dustin Buck for their efforts in helping rescue occupants from a house fire on September 4, 2007. Their efforts were recognized as above and beyond the call of duty. Congratulations to both officers for their dedicated service!

Finance Department Awards

The Mason City Finance Department was awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting and the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award. Finance Director Kevin Jacobson received the Award of Financial Reporting Achievement for the preparation of the comprehensive annual financial report as well as the Certificate of Recognition for Budget Presentation.

Mason City Fire Department Awarded Service of the Year

The Iowa Emergency Medical Services Association presented the Mason City Fire Department the 2007 Career EMS Service of the Year Award. The award is a result of the dedication, professionalism and commitment of the members of the department to deliver quality patient care to those served. The services are strengthened by the wide approach to a successful delivery of medical service by the partnerships of the system including dispatchers, First Responders, other transport services, Mercy Medical Center - North Iowa and Mercy Airline.

City Employee Receives Service Above Self Noon Rotary Award

Fire Chief Bob Platts was recognized as the Service Above Self Award recipient sponsored by the Noon Rotary Club. The award is presented to the city employee that exemplifies a commitment to the mission of public service. Bob is a 25 year veteran of the Mason City Fire Department, serving as the Fire Chief since November of 2002.



Fire Chief Bob Platts

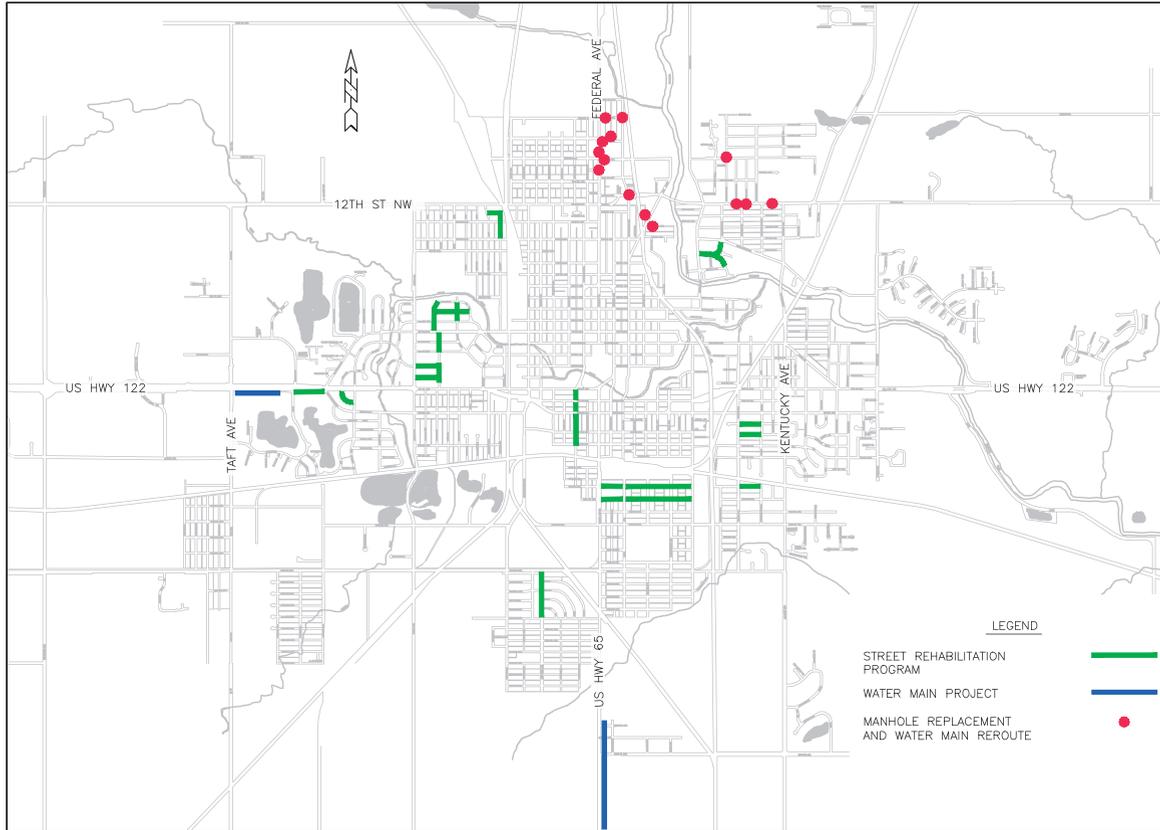
Engineering Department Receives Smoothness Award

The Asphalt Paving Association of Iowa (APAI) presented the Smoothness Award for Municipal Street Resurfacing to the City of Mason City as the owner and Heartland Asphalt, Inc. as the contractor for the 2007 Street Rehabilitation Project from 12th Street Northwest & North California Avenue, which was completed in 2007.



Smooth surface on 12th Street NW

Projects Update



Seasonal Infrastructure Projects

Each year, the Engineering Department identifies projects to be completed during the summer months. These projects are essential to the upkeep and maintenance of the City's infrastructure system.

Street Rehabilitation Project:

The replacement of sanitary manholes and storm sewer structures, rerouting of water mains, pavement and curb patching, and mill and overlay of existing pavement. The streets and limits scheduled to be resurfaced are as follows:

Street	From	To
South Taylor Ave	4th Street SW	2nd Street SW
2nd Street SW	South Pierce Ave	South Taylor Ave
3rd Street SW	South Pierce Ave	South Taylor Ave
Taylor Ave	1st Street SW	North Crescent Drive
3rd Street NW	North Taylor Ave	North Crescent Drive
North Jackson Ave	9th Street NW	11th Street NW
11th Street NW	North Jackson Ave	North Van Buren Ave
Country Circle	4th Street SW	South Garfield Ave
Lakeview Court	Lakeview Drive	Cul-de-sac
South Jefferson Ave	23rd Street SW	19th Street SW
South President Ave	8th Street SW	4th Street SW
6th Street SE	South Virginia Ave	South Rhode Island Ave
6th Place SE	South Virginia Ave	South Rhode Island Ave
12th Street SE	South Virginia Ave	South Rhode Island Ave
12th Street SE	South Federal Ave	South Carolina Ave
13th Street SE	South Federal Ave	South Carolina Ave
8th Street NE	North Carolina Ave	North Hampshire Ave
North Hampshire Ave	7th Street NE	9th Street NE
4th Street SW	South Grover Ave	Cerro Gordo Way

Water Main Project:

The installation of water mains of various sizes and lengths, hydrants and valves at various locations throughout the City.

Manhole Replacement and Water Main Re-route Project:

The removal and replacement of sanitary manholes and re-routing of the water main around the manhole throughout the City.

MacNider Campground Prepares for a New Look

Margaret MacNider Campground, operated by the Mason City Recreation Department, will be closed for renovation during the 2008 season. The City received a FEMA grant to construct a storm shelter at the campground which will include showers, family changing areas, restrooms and laundry facilities and will house 370 people in case of a severe storm.

Infrastructure improvements to the campground include new water & sanitary sewer lines to the camp sites, upgraded electrical service, new park lighting, roadways, dump station, picnic shelters and tables, managers' office and camp store. The park will be divided into various areas to accommodate larger campers, popup campers and tent camping.

Construction is scheduled to begin in late May or early June of 2008, with completion scheduled by January of 2009. The campground will re-open in April of 2009.

Volunteers Help Make Mason City "Sparkle"

Painting Projects Put New Life Into City Buildings & Structures



Before

Volunteers interested in enhancing the southern entrance into Mason City donated time to spruce up the old fire engine 2 station located on South Federal Avenue. Staff at Diamond Vogel Paint Center assisted with the project by donating painting supplies and matching the paint color so it ties in with the trim on the other municipal buildings located near the station. Worn boards over the windows were scraped and a panel over the front door was replaced. Trim and boards were then painted. The result helps make a more pleasing impression to visitors entering Mason City from the south.

Volunteers in the past year were essential to the graffiti cover-up project under several bridges throughout the community. Individuals walking the trails next to these bridges now are greeted with clean surfaces. Bridges in the project included the 12th Street Overpass, North Carolina Bridge and



After

Delaware Bridge located in West Interstate Park.

We are currently seeking volunteers to continue maintaining the newly covered areas as well as volunteers interested in curb painting. It is helpful if volunteers have the ability to transport materials and supplies between projects. Please contact Mary Zishka, City Volunteer Coordinator by phone at 421-3372 or by e-mail at mzishka@mason-city.net for these and other volunteer opportunities.



Volunteers Kathy Helland and Doug Montgomery were two of three volunteers who donated time in the fall to painting over graffiti under three bridges within the community. These photos were taken before & after the Delaware Bridge painting.

The City Volunteer Program is the recipient of a grant awarded in the amount of \$3,938 from the Iowa Department of Transportation through their Keep Iowa Beautiful program. The City is one of only nine communities and non profit organizations to be awarded funds through this program. The funds will be used to implement a year-long anti-litter campaign to increase awareness and participation in helping to keep our city clean.

3RD ANNUAL CANNONBALL DAY TO INCLUDE KIDS FUN RUN!



Come celebrate the 3rd Annual Cannonball Day Saturday, June 28! Bring the family for all kinds of activities sure to be enjoyed by everyone in attendance, including rides on Smokey the Train, inflatable playgrounds and obstacle course, Chuggy-Choo-Choo, and new to the event this year, a Cannonball Kids Fun Run in East Park. Kids ages 5-12 years will run routes and in groups categorized by age. After the race, all finishers will receive a t-shirt and healthy snacks. Pre-registration is requested with an entry fee of \$7.00 to be mailed to the YMCA, 1840 South Monroe Avenue, Mason City. Registration deadline is June 12.

Following the Fun Run there will be an opportunity for kids to show their musical talents at Karaoke on the Muse-Norris portable stage. Free entertainment will be featured throughout the day and into the evening, highlighted by Kit Ryan and Working Class.

A chicken BBQ dinner sponsored by the Mason City Evening Lions Club and HyVee will be served from noon until 7:00 p.m. A concession stand will also be open for snacks and drinks.

For more information about the event contact Dennis Wilson at 423-5328.



Mayor Roger Bang reads to eager listeners at the Hobo Jungle during the 2nd Annual Cannonball Day, June 23, 2007.

Community Notes

Partnership Begins Construction Phase

The new Mason City Animal Shelter is under construction after five years of planning. The 3,300 square foot facility will cost approximately \$773,000 and will have space for 22 dogs and 32 cats and kittens. In addition, there are special accommodations for puppies and three spaces for animals that need to be quarantined.



Ground breaking for the new Animal Shelter in November of 2007.

This project is a unique partnership with the Humane Society of North Iowa (HSNI). The shelter is located at 2750 Birch Drive on land donated to HSNI by the Charles MacNider family. HSNI in turn gave the City a perpetual easement on the property for the new shelter. The two groups will be under one roof with separate areas when HSNI builds their new adoption center in the future.

HSNI staff will manage the City facility when it opens late spring/early summer 2008. The shelter was designed by Waggoner and Wineinger Architects and the general contractor for the project is Larry Elwood Construction, Inc.



Construction is in progress for the new animal shelter scheduled to open July 1.

Animal Basics 101

Animals are prone to discomfort in the hot summer months just as humans are. Pet owners need to take precautions to ensure the safety from the dangers pets can encounter during the warm weather months.

Never leave your pet unattended in a parked car for any period of time since temperatures can reach 120 degrees in a matter of minutes – even with the windows partially open. Pets can quickly suffer brain damage or die from heatstroke or suffocation when trapped in high temperatures. If you see an animal in a car exhibiting any signs of heat stress, call Animal Control at 421-3664 or the Police Department at 421-3636, press 0.

For more tips about pet safety, visit www.masoncity.net and click on the Public Safety button, then select Animal Control from the drop down menu.

Mark your calendars now – Fire Prevention Week

BEGINS OCTOBER 5, 2008



A future fire fighter practicing at the October 2007 open house.



Mason City Fire Fighters demonstrate the Jaws of Life at the October 14, 2007 open house.

The Fire Bureau of the Fire Department will again have a host of events and activities for children during National Fire Prevention Week. The Fire Bureau meets with all Mason City preschool and grade school aged students distributing color books and fire safety tips during the week. Students in third grade from area schools take a tour of the station to see how fire fighters work and live.

The highlight of the Fire Department's activities for Fire Prevention Week is the open house scheduled for Sunday, October 12, 2008. Holding a fire hose, crawling through a smoke-filled house, sitting on a real fire truck, and dressing up in real fire fighter gear are some of the activities that kids enjoy during the event. The Mason City Fire Fighters plan for the open house all year and always have several

fire demonstrations, including the popular Jaws of Life and kitchen fire demonstrations.

However, the most popular event is the drawing at the end of the open house. All Mason City elementary school children at the open house can enter for a chance to win a ride to school for them and a few of their friends on the antique fire truck. The Mason City Fire Department hopes everyone will come out and see what's new at the Fire Department on October 12, 2008!

MacNider Arts Festival 2008

Travel the world with the MacNider Arts Festival on June 7th and 8th. This year's theme *Passport to Imagination* will take visitors young and old all over the world. Listen to new musical sounds of Celtic, African, Turkish, and Andes Mountain music on the lawn Saturday and Sunday. Kids can learn about new cultures by creating a variety of multi-cultural art activities including Vacation Treasure Boxes, Mankala (an African counting game), Norwegian Trolls, Vietnamese Dragons, and an International Dress-up Station. On Sunday, take the opportunity to purchase an original piece of art at the Art Market. All this and much more will make the 2008 MacNider Arts Festival an extraordinary experience!



Festival attendees enjoy entertainment and tasty food at the 2007 MacNider Arts Festival.

Update of City Happenings

New Faces



Joshua Eernisse joined the Mason City Police Department as a Police Officer in February of 2008. He is a graduate of Edgerton Public High School in Edgerton, Minnesota, and earned a Bachelor of Science in Law Enforcement from Minnesota State University.

Virginia Fransiscus began her duties as a Cashier in the Finance Department in March of 2008. She is a graduate of Freeport Senior High School in Freeport, Illinois and has attended Iowa Western Community College and Metro Community College. She is currently attending North Iowa Area Community College to pursue an Accounting degree.



Noah Friese was appointed to the position of Police Officer with the City in February of 2008. Noah is a graduate of Valley High School in West Des Moines, Iowa, and attended St. Ambrose University in Davenport and Iowa State University in Ames. He is a certified officer through the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy.

Scott Norby has been hired a Refuse Collector with the City's Sanitation Division of the Operations & Maintenance Department. Scott is a graduate of Rudd-Rockford-Marble Rock High School and began his duties in December of 2007.



Steven Olney was appointed to the position of Assistant City Engineer in December of 2007. He is a graduate of Iowa City High School, Metropolitan Community College with an Associate degree in Science Pre-Civil Engineering and the University of Nebraska with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. Steven also served in the United States Air Force.

Debra Riedle has been hired as the Administrative Assistant at the Police Department. She is a graduate of Fridley High School in Minnesota, and attended Anoka-Ramsey Community College. She completed the Administrative Secretary Course at North Hennepin Technical School and began her duties with the City in November of 2007.



Brandon Rottinghaus was appointed to the position of Assistant Greenskeeper for Highland Park Golf Course in October of 2007. Brandon is a graduate of Nora Springs-Rock Falls High School and Kirkwood Community College with an Associate of Applied Science degree in Golf Course Management.

Rick Sheese joined the Engineering Department in November of 2007 as an Engineering Associate. Rick graduated from Monmouth High School and has an Associate of Applied Science degree from Carl Sandburg College.



Donald Thorson was hired as a Meter Reader/Repair Person for the Water Supply Division of the Engineering Department. He is a graduate of Klemme High School and holds Operator Certifications for Water Treatment, Water Distribution and Wastewater. He began his responsibilities in January of 2008.

Dennis Westendorf began employment with the Water Reclamation Division of the City's Operations & Maintenance Department in March of 2008. Dennis is a graduate of Mason City High School.



Ward 2 Runoff Election

Residents living in the 2nd Ward of the City will have the opportunity to decide their next City Council representative. Candidates Mary Beth Greenan and Steve Tynan will be on the ballot for the runoff election to be held Tuesday, May 6.

Yard Waste Season

Residents may set out yard waste and tree branches on the day of regular sanitation pick-up. Any changes to this schedule will be made available to the public via media outlets in the City and at www.masoncity.net. If there are questions, please contact the Sanitation Division at 421-3691.

License Your Pet

A reminder for pet owners: All dogs and cats over the age of 6 months are required to be licensed. City licenses are available in 1, 2, or 3 year increments, and are renewable at area veterinarian clinics, City Hall, and the Humane Society of North Iowa. The fee is \$25 per unaltered animal, and \$5 for each neutered or spayed animal.

For more information about licensing your pet, contact the City Clerk's office at 421-3600.

DID YOU KNOW? Last year, shelter houses in Mason City parks were reserved 383 times. Reunions, birthday parties, graduations, and holiday gatherings kept the shelter houses busy throughout the spring, summer, and fall months.

Call the Recreation Department at 421-3673 to inquire about the cost and availability of reserving a shelter house.

TO CONTACT THE MASON CITY MUNICIPAL AIRPORT, CALL 421-3680.

Upcoming Events & Meetings

			3	9:00 p.m.	Municipal Band Concert, Mohawk Field, High School
			4		Independence Day holiday (<i>City offices closed</i>)
May, 2008			8	6:00 p.m.	Park and Recreation Board
1	12:00 noon	Human Rights Commission	8	7:00 p.m.	Planning & Zoning Commission
1	4:30 p.m.	Historic Preservation Commission	9	4:00 p.m.	North Iowa Diversity Appreciation Team
3	9:00 a.m.	Annual Police Auction, Monroe Storage	10	8:00 a.m.	Elmwood-St. Joseph Cemetery Board
6		Ward 2 Runoff Election	14	4:00 p.m.	Airport Commission
6	4:00 p.m.	Zoning Board of Adjustment	15	4:15 p.m.	Public Library Board
6	7:00 p.m.	City Council	15	7:00 p.m.	City Council
8	8:00 a.m.	Elmwood-St. Joseph Cemetery Board	15	7:00 p.m.	MacNider Museum Board
12	4:00 p.m.	Airport Commission	25-26		Up in Smoke BBQ Bash, East Park
13	6:00 p.m.	Park and Recreation Board			
13	7:00 p.m.	Planning & Zoning Commission	August, 2008		
14	4:00 p.m.	Cable Commission	5	4:00 p.m.	Zoning Board of Adjustment
14	4:00 p.m.	North Iowa Diversity Appreciation Team	5	7:00 p.m.	City Council
15	TBA	Peace Officer Memorial Day, location TBA	5	TBA	National Night Out
20	4:15 p.m.	Public Library Board	7	12:00 noon	Human Rights Commission
20	7:00 p.m.	City Council	7	4:30 p.m.	Historic Preservation Commission
20	7:00 p.m.	MacNider Museum Board	11	4:00 p.m.	Airport Commission
22	6:45 p.m.	Municipal Band Concert, Southbridge Mall	12	6:00 p.m.	Park and Recreation Board
23-25		Band Festival weekend	12	7:00 pm.	Planning & Zoning Commission
26		Memorial Day holiday (<i>City offices closed</i>)	13	4:00 p.m.	Cable Commission
26	TBA	Memorial Day ceremony at Elmwood-St. Joseph Cemetery	13	4:00 p.m.	North Iowa Diversity Appreciation Team
28		Sanitation pick-up for Memorial Day holiday	14	8:00 a.m.	Elmwood-St. Joseph Cemetery Board
17	1:00 p.m.	Opening Day for the 457 Cannonball Locomotive, East Park	15-17	TBA	Civil War Encampment, East Park
			19	4:15 p.m.	Public Library Board
			19	7:00 p.m.	City Council
			19	7:00 p.m.	MacNider Museum Board
			September, 2008		
June, 2008			1		Labor Day holiday (<i>City offices closed</i>)
1	7:30 p.m.	Municipal Band Concert, East Park	2	4:00 p.m.	Zoning Board of Adjustment
3	4:00 p.m.	Zoning Board of Adjustment	2	7:00 p.m.	City Council
3	7:00 p.m.	City Council	3		Sanitation pick-up for Labor Day holiday
5	12:00 noon	Human Rights Commission	4	12:00 noon	Human Rights Commission
5	4:30 p.m.	Historic Preservation Commission	4	4:30 p.m.	Historic Preservation Commission
7-8		MacNider Summer Arts Festival	8	4:00 p.m.	Airport Commission
8	3:00 p.m.	Municipal Band Concert, MacNider Art Museum	9	6:00 p.m.	Park and Recreation Board
9	4:00 p.m.	Airport Commission	9	7:00 p.m.	Planning & Zoning Commission
10	6:00 p.m.	Park and Recreation Board	10	4:00 p.m.	North Iowa Diversity Appreciation Team
10	7:00 p.m.	Planning & Zoning Commission	11	8:00 a.m.	Elmwood-St. Joseph Cemetery Board
11	4:00 p.m.	North Iowa Diversity Appreciation Team	16	4:15 p.m.	Public Library Board
11	7:30 p.m.	Municipal Band Concert, Southbridge Mall	16	7:00 p.m.	City Council
12	8:00 a.m.	Elmwood-St. Joseph Cemetery Board	16	7:00 p.m.	MacNider Museum Board
15	7:30 p.m.	Municipal Band Concert, East Park	October, 2008		
17	4:15 p.m.	Public Library Board	2	12:00 noon	Human Rights Commission
17	7:00 p.m.	City Council	2	4:30 p.m.	Historic Preservation Commission
17	7:00 p.m.	MacNider Museum Board	7	4:00 p.m.	Zoning Board of Adjustment
22	7:30 p.m.	Municipal Band Concert, East Park	7	7:00 p.m.	City Council
25	7:30 p.m.	Municipal Band Concert, Southbridge Mall	8	4:00 p.m.	North Iowa Diversity Appreciation Team
28	TBA	Cannonball Day, East Park	9	8:00 a.m.	Elmwood-St. Joseph Cemetery Board
29	7:30 p.m.	Municipal Band Concert, East Park	13	4:00 p.m.	Airport Commission
			14	6:00 p.m.	Park Board
July, 2008			14	7:00 p.m.	Planning & Zoning Commission
1	4:00 p.m.	Zoning Board of Adjustment	21	4:15 p.m.	Public Library Board
1	7:00 p.m.	City Council	21	7:00 p.m.	City Council
2		Sanitation pick-up for Independence Day holiday	21	7:00 p.m.	MacNider Museum Board
3	12:00 noon	Human Rights Commission			
3	4:30 p.m.	Historic Preservation Commission			

Automotive "Do-It-Yourself" through the Public Library!

Library patrons can now access two new web based centers assisting with automotive and small engine repair needs. The *Auto Repair Reference Center* and *Small Engine Repair Reference Center* provide a wealth of resources for citizens to access their reference needs on most major manufacturers of domestic and imported vehicles. Some of the features of the centers include comprehensive information

from reference books containing thousands of drawings and step-by-step photographs, service bulletins and recalls, wiring diagrams, routine maintenance assistance, extensive small engine repairs involving engine and transmission disassembly, plus much more.

New repair procedures and updates will be added continuously to keep current on the latest models and consumer needs.

Access the database through the computer terminals in the library or from home at www.mcpl.org, MCPL Databases: EBSCHOST by entering your library card number.

For more information, contact the library at 421-3670 or e-mail at librarian@mcpl.org.

Call the number below or e-mail cityinformation@masoncity.net to be in contact with knowledgeable staff to answer your questions or direct you to the appropriate department. Visit us on the web at www.masoncity.net.

421-3600

Zoning Ordinance Update Underway

Zoning is not complicated, but it can be confusing. So, what is zoning anyway? The zoning ordinance divides the city into districts containing compatible land uses and determines what you can build, where you can build and how you can use what you build within each district. These development rules should serve to protect the health, safety and welfare of the community. A good zoning ordinance also ensures that City resources are used wisely and that property values are protected.

The Growth Development & Planning Department is reviewing the City's zoning ordinance in advance of the first major update in nearly 25 years. The City will hire a planning consultant to work with staff and a local steering committee on specific ordinance language and a new zoning map. The new ordinance should provide:

- ✓ A user-friendly format that includes illustrations
- ✓ Easy online access to the ordinance
- ✓ Clear, concise and common-sense language
- ✓ New ways to mix land uses
- ✓ Regulations that define and promote "green" sustainable development
- ✓ Design standards that ensure attractive, long-lasting and quality development
- ✓ Development standards that promote healthy lifestyles
- ✓ Performance standards that control the impact of new development
- ✓ Decision-making that is "good neighbor" based

Citizens will have the opportunity to help shape the ordinance and are invited to attend focus group meetings and open houses over the course of the next 12 months. Please contact the Growth Development & Planning office at 421-3626 or visit us on the 3rd floor of City Hall for more information.

Mason City to Join Cities Nationwide for 25th Anniversary of 'America's Night Out Against Crime'

Neighborhoods throughout Mason City are being invited to join forces with thousands of communities nationwide on Tuesday, August 5, 2008 for the '25th Annual National Night Out' crime and drug prevention event. This event is sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch and is co-sponsored locally by the Mason City Police Department and the Community Policing Advisory Board.

National Night Out is designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness; generate support for and participation in local anti-crime efforts; strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

Starting a 5:30 p.m. on August 5th, residents in neighborhoods throughout Mason City are asked to lock their doors, turn on their outside lights and spend the evening outside with neighbors and police at East Park by the band shell. A variety of activities, demonstrations, and displays will be presented by local community and youth oriented organizations. Free food will be served and there will be a drawing for prizes. The event will conclude with a flashlight safety walk to show a unified stance against crime. Come out and join us to "Give Crime and Drugs a Going Away Party".



Citizens and peace officers share conversation during National Night Out in 2007.

HOW TO CONTACT YOUR MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor Roger Bang
(641) 421-3600
mayor@masoncity.net

At-large Max Weaver
(641) 423-6888
atlargea@masoncity.net

At-large Scott Tornquist
(641) 423-4803
Scott@TornquistForRiverCity.com

1st Ward Jeff Marsters
(641) 424-5845
wardone@masoncity.net

2nd Ward - position vacant -
wardtwo@masoncity.net

3rd Ward Don Nelson
(641) 423-3896
wardthree@masoncity.net

4th Ward John Jaszewski
(641) 423-6166
wardfour@masoncity.net

City of Mason City
10 First Street NW
Mason City, IA 50401

PRST STD
ECRWSS
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 35
MASON CITY, IA

Postal Customer