



Bayport News

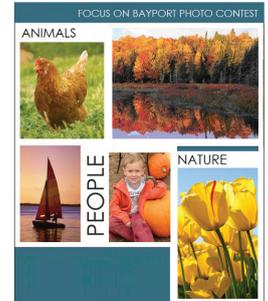
OCTOBER 2014, ISSUE 27



The fall season is here! Photo entitled "Bluff Views" taken by resident Don Hoye.

Enter the "Focus on Bayport" Photo Contest

It's time to capture your favorite images of Bayport! The photo contest is open to Bayport residents of all ages and is a great opportunity to showcase and celebrate the spirit of our city!



Entries must feature a city resident, animal, place, or object captured within Bayport. All photos must be submitted as 5 x 7 inch prints and received at City Hall by 4:00 p.m. on October 15, 2014. Complete contest rules and categories are posted on the city's website and at City Hall. Winning photos will be published in an upcoming edition of the city newsletter.

A Message from the Mayor by Susan St. Ores



Over the past few years, the City Council has made a genuine effort to focus on the beautification of our city and we are very proud of the results.

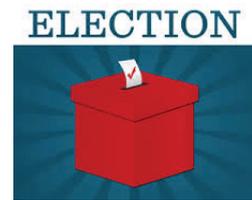
Besides visual benefit, beautification can add so much more to the community, by creating a safer place for families to live and play, attracting events and visitors, and sustaining a healthy and diverse business district. Investing in our community yields increases to tax capacity and property values, which benefit all property owners. Beautification and valued amenities, such as a well-maintained public park system and an appealing business corridor also create a desired destination for visitors, which generate valued revenue for the city's businesses.

renovations to the ball field will come to fruition this fall. These, as well as other improvements, will not only create a more attractive recreation destination in the city's central corridor, but also improve Perro Park's safety, accessibility, and functionality.

Another much anticipated project is the installation of a Bayport identification sign and landscaping improvements at the north end of the city, generously donated by First State Bank and Trust (see page 4). These enhancements will be a friendly way to welcome residents and visitors to our community. Thanks to all who have contributed to the city's beautification projects. We look forward to continuing these efforts, so we all can enjoy a safer, more beautiful community!

The city's latest beautification project is the continued improvements at Perro Park (see page 3). Thanks to a partnership with the Bayport American Legion,

General Election to be Held on November 4



★ ★ 2014 ★ ★

The Bayport Mayor and two Councilmember seats will stand for election on November 4.

The Mayor seat is currently held by Susan St. Ores, who is running unopposed for her third term. The two Councilmember seats are currently held by Michele Hanson and Patrick McGann, who are both seeking re-election for another term. Candidate Brian DeLisle is also seeking election for a Councilmember seat. The designated polling place for all Bayport residents to vote is City Hall. Polls will be open for voting 7:00 a.m.—8:00 p.m. Visit the Washington County website for election information at www.co.washington.mn.us.

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Community Programs and Events

No-Interest Home Improvement Loans

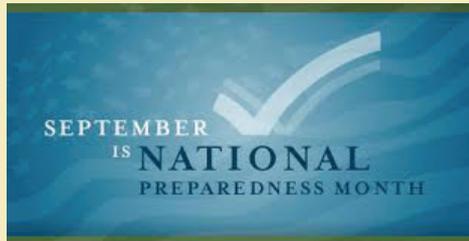


Washington County and the Greater Metropolitan Housing Corporation (GMHC) have partnered to create an Owner-Occupied Residential Rehabilitation Deferred Loan Program to assist residents with interior and exterior home improve-

ments. Deferred loans up to \$18,000, with no interest and no monthly payments, are available to qualifying households and may be used to finance projects to make homes safe and livable. Contact the Housing Resource Center at 651-486-7401 for more information.

Be Disaster Aware and Take Action to Prepare

September is National Preparedness Month, which aims to educate and empower families to prepare for emergencies such as a fire, flood, power outage, and severe weather. A communication plan is critical to your family's safety and should include a list of emergency contact phone numbers and identify an emergency meeting place. It is also a good idea to establish a primary emergency contact person for the entire family, such as a neighbor or out of town relative, and be sure to memorize their phone number so you can contact them from any phone at anytime. For more information on family communication plans and other emergency preparedness tips, visit www.ready.gov.



Public Safety Open House on October 31



October is Fire Prevention Month! Join the Fire and Police Departments to celebrate the importance of fire safety and prevention at the annual public safety open house on Halloween Eve, Friday, October 31 from 5:00–8:00 p.m. at the Fire Hall. Tours of the city's emergency vehicles, resource materials, and

Halloween tricks and treats will be provided by city public safety staff. Be there, if you dare!

St. Croix Crossing Bridge Update

The landscape is constantly changing at the site of the new St. Croix Crossing bridge, which means progress is happening! All 5 river pier locations are now built to the height of the bridge crossbeam, which is the element that connects the pier columns to support the bridge deck. In addition, 19 of the 23 land piers have also been constructed to full height. This fall, single-lane traffic will extend south to Pickett Avenue, while crews complete median work and construct the approach bridges near Highway 95. Minnesota approach work will be substantially complete by the end of 2014. Visit the project website for more information at www.dot.state.mn.us/stcroixcrossing/.



Many Thanks to Youth Safety Camp and Night to Unite Volunteers and Donors

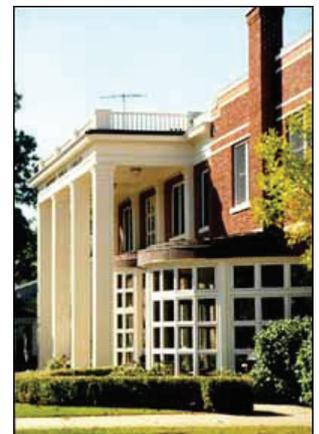


Over 30 area businesses and residents donated funds, goods, services, and time to support this year's annual Night to Unite and Youth Safety Camp in early August. The city gratefully acknowledges the value of these donations at \$4,000 and thanks everyone who helped participate in and sponsor these important community events!

Strategic Plan for the Bayport Library

In April, several members of the community were invited to a 1 day planning session to lay out a 3-5 year strategic plan for the library. Discussion focused on what services we offer, what our place is in the community, and what new ideas we could explore.

With the help of Library Strategies, we came up with four focus areas: 1) Building & Collections; 2) Community, Programs & Partnerships; 3) Public Awareness; 4) Foundation & Volunteers. Some of the goals to be accomplished over the next few years include increased hours, expanded programming, and a greater focus on outreach to the community, to help shape and mold the future of the library. We already know we have a great library, but we look forward to making it even better! Visit www.bayportlibrary.org to view the complete strategic plan.



City to Proceed With Deer Culling Event This Fall

Despite efforts to control excessive deer populations via public education and the adoption of an ordinance prohibiting artificial feeding, deer continue to be a public safety concern in the city. To help address the situation, the city has partnered with River Valley Deer Management (RVDM), a non-profit group of professional bowhunters to conduct a hunt in the vicinity of Point Road, near Andersen Corporation and Xcel Energy, to help minimize the herd in this area. Specific dates have yet to be determined, but the hunt is anticipated to take place in late September or early October, during dawn and/or dusk hours.



RVDM will be performing the hunt at no charge to the city. The meat will be available to residents on a first come, first served basis through RVDM. Excess meat will be donated to local food shelves. Property owners near the hunt area can expect to receive more detailed information regarding hunt dates/times, safety precautions, and to attain trespassing permission, if necessary. All residents are encouraged to be aware of the hunters and use caution in this area through mid October.

Perro Park Phase II Improvements Near Completion



Construction on the second phase of improvements for Perro Park began in late August and are quickly nearing completion. As part of this phase, the tennis courts will be reconfigured to allow two full-size courts, with a north-south orientation. The courts will also be resurfaced and striped for both regulation tennis and pickle ball. New fencing and a tennis practice board

will also be added to the courts, and one basketball goal will be retained at the west court for practice.

The ball field has been re-graded to allow for better drainage, and new aggregate will be added to the infield. Fencing along the 1st and 3rd base lines and backstop will be replaced and two new player benches will also be added.

The existing playground equipment will be relocated away from Perro Creek, to a more central location in the park. Safety surfacing and a concrete curb will help to provide a cushion and contain the play area.



Access will also be improved by adding steps at the northwest corner of the park, as well as adding asphalt paths to connect the warming house, tennis courts, playground, and parking area. Finally, a stone monument sign will be added along Highway 95 to identify and direct visitors to the park. Many thanks to the local foundations and organizations who have contributed funds to make these improvements possible!



CITY OF BAYPORT
294 North Third Street
Bayport, MN 55003

CITY HALL

Hours: Monday–Thursday
7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Phone: 651-275-4404
Fax: 651-275-4411
Email: khuftel@ci.bayport.mn.us
Website: www.ci.bayport.mn.us

PUBLIC WORKS

Hours: Monday–Friday
7:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Phone: 651-275-4410

UTILITY, FIRE, POLICE EMERGENCY

Phone: 911

City offices will be closed to observe the following upcoming holidays in 2014:

Veteran’s DayNovember 11
Thanksgiving DayNovember 27
Christmas Eve DayDecember 24
Christmas DayDecember 25
New Year’s Eve DayDecember 31

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

First Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m.
unless noted.

October 6
November 10
December 1

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS

Third Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m.

LIBRARY BOARD MEETINGS

Third Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m.

2014 CITY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday Farmer’s Market	June–October
Public Safety Open House	October 31
General Election	November 4
Lighting of the Green	December 3



CITY OF BAYPORT
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100th Anniversary Inspires Civic Project and Donation



This year marks the Bayport First State Bank and Trust's 100th Anniversary!

To celebrate this milestone and commitment to the community, the bank has generously donated a stone monument sign and landscaping to the city to welcome residents and visitors to Bayport. The sign is in the process of being manufactured and is anticipated to be placed at the north entrance of the city this fall. Thanks so much to the bank for their ongoing civic engagement and support in the community!

Architect Selected to Design Proposed New Fire Hall

After a thorough search and interview process, the city has selected the firm of Leo A. Daly Architects to develop a design for the proposed new Fire Hall. Leo A. Daly is a national architectural firm with a local office in Minneapolis, and they possess extensive knowledge and experience in designing public safety buildings. The selection was based on a recommendation made by the Fire Hall Building Committee, which consists of eight members of the Fire Department, who conducted the architect interviews and will work with Leo A. Daly to develop a building layout and design for consideration by the City Council.



A preliminary design concept is anticipated to be completed this fall. The 4 acre site for the proposed new Fire Hall is located at the intersection of 5th Avenue North and Stagecoach Trail, which was generously transferred to the city from the Minnesota Department of Corrections at no cost. Look for updates to be featured in upcoming editions of *Bayport News* and at City Council meetings.

"Bayport in Bloom" Winners



Many thanks to the Washington County Master Gardeners for organizing the "Bayport in Bloom" front

entry garden contest and to all who participated in this event! Congrats to our winners!

Public Winner
 American Legion Post 491,
 263 3rd St. N.

Planters/Pots Winner
 First State Bank and Trust,
 950 Highway 95

Residential Winner
 Tammy Jorgenson,
 102 State St. N.

Commercial Winner
 Inspired Chiropractic,
 125 3rd St. S.

Preliminary City Budget and Levy for 2015

The city's preliminary budget and levy for 2015 was adopted by the City Council on September 8. Approval of the preliminary budget and levy sets a maximum limit on the city's annual funding. The proposed 2015 budget is \$2,822,495, an increase of \$67,052, or roughly 2% from last year. The tax levy rate increase is 0.38%, which increases the levy amount by \$24,802. City staff and the City Council have worked diligently to develop a budget that is conservative, while still providing resources and funding to progress on numerous ongoing improvements and services, as well as accomplish several additional projects. Highlights of the 2015 budget include expanded library hours, the re-establishment of the sergeant position in the Police Department, and a comprehensive study of our city utility infrastructure.



The budget can be viewed on the city's website, and residents are encouraged to provide input via email to City Administrator Logan Martin at lmartin@ci.bayport.mn.us. A hearing to receive public comment on the 2015 budget will also be held at the City Council meeting on December 1.