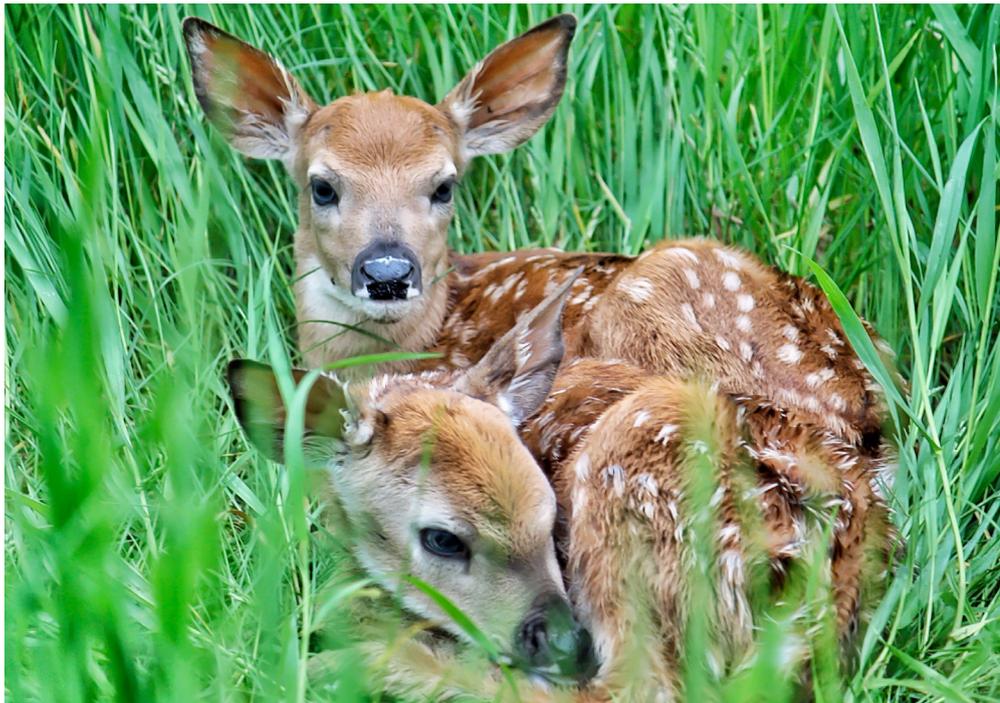




Bayport News

SEPTEMBER 2013, ISSUE 23



"Inspiration Newborns" taken by Don Hoyer was one of the winning photos in last year's "Focus on Bayport" Photo Contest.

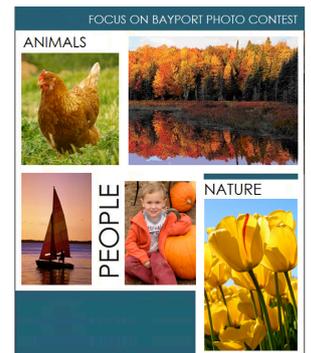
Public Boarding Dock Debuts at 4th Avenue Public Boat Launch

Better late than never! Our long-awaited boarding dock for the public boat launch was finally installed on August 20. Unfortunately, extensive ramp repairs, along with excessive rain and high water conditions, significantly delayed the installation of the boarding dock from last year.

Use of the courtesy boarding dock is for the temporary loading and unloading of passengers and watercraft, for up to 20 minutes. The dock will be available until November 1, weather permitting, from 6:00 a.m. – 11:30 p.m.

Grab Your Camera for the "Focus on Bayport" Photo Contest

It's time to give us your best shot and capture your favorite images of Bayport! The "Focus on Bayport" photo contest is a great opportunity to showcase and celebrate the beauty, character, and spirit of our city!



The photo contest is open to Bayport residents of all ages. 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, 2013.

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. Happy snapping!

A Message from the Mayor *by Susan St. Ores*



It's no secret why many choose to live, work, or play in our great city, but some may not realize how impressive Bayport ranks in comparison to other communities in

the state. The latest U.S. Census reported that our home value growth is higher than both the state and national average, and the quality of our public school district exceeds the state average. Bayport also received the highest ranking in the Twin Cities Metro Area for the number of people who enter the city each day for employment, compared to our population.

These statistics say a lot about our community. The support of residents, businesses, organizations, and schools are why Bayport is a great place to be.

In order to maintain these ratings, it will require effort from everyone within the community. The City Council is committed to reinvesting in our infrastructure,

beautification of parks and property, and encouraging community involvement. We have demonstrated this commitment through several recent improvement projects, increased enforcement of city ordinances, and partnerships with local organizations. Residents and businesses can expand on these efforts by keeping up on property maintenance, respecting city ordinances such as those related to pets, noise, and parking, for the safety and good of your neighborhood, and participating in community programs and events.

With a shared vision for excellence, success is a natural outcome. We appreciate and look forward to your efforts to help maintain a beautiful, safe, and healthy community for all to enjoy!

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Community Programs and Events

Bayport Derby Days

Organized and sponsored by the Bayport Community Action League and volunteers, this annual festival on Saturday, September 21 celebrates the community and is fun for all ages! Events include the popular “Duck Derby” race on Perro Creek, “Taste of Bayport” featuring food from local eating establishments, and a fireworks display over the St. Croix River. For more event information or to volunteer, please email kathmott@msn.com.



Fire Department Anniversary Celebration



Join us for the Bayport Fire Department’s 125th Anniversary Celebration on Saturday, September 21 at Lakeside Park. The afternoon will include a display of area fire trucks, children’s activities, fire prevention and rescue demonstrations, and refreshments, followed by an evening of music, food, and fireworks display sponsored by Derby Days!

“Spooky” Public Safety Open House

October is fire prevention month and to celebrate, the Fire and Police Departments are hosting a public safety open house on Halloween Eve, Thursday, October 31 from 5 – 8 p.m. at the Fire Hall. Tours of the city’s emergency vehicles, resource materials, and treats will be provided by public safety staff. Be there, if you dare!



“Complete Me” Bench Project



The city recently installed decorative benches along Highway 95 and throughout the city’s downtown business district. However, the city is still seeking

an individual or organization to be recognized on each bench plaque, to complete this project. If you are interested in sponsoring a city bench, please contact City Hall. Hopefully all benches will soon be saying “You complete me!”

A Generous Grant Helps Fund New Hockey Rink System for Perro Park

In May, the city received a very generous grant in the amount of \$97,500.00 from the Fred C. and Katherine B. Andersen Foundation for improvements to the hockey rink at Perro Park. A recent assessment indicated the existing rink infrastructure is over 30 years old, severely dilapidated, a potential safety hazard, and is in desperate need of replacement.



The city’s goal in replacing the hockey rink infrastructure is to restore a valued community facility that will encourage wellness and provide a safe opportunity for children and families to spend time being active outdoors in the community. Look forward to new dasher boards, fencing, and lighting to be installed very soon!

Thanks to Local Donors and Sponsors!



The city would like to thank local residents, volunteers, organizations, and businesses for helping to support and coordinate this year’s Youth Safety Camp and Night to Unite in Bayport! These events would not be possible without the generous donations of funds, goods, and services the city was so fortunate to receive. Thank you for making these important community events possible!

New Construction on the Rise in the Inspiration Neighborhood

The city recently approved a final plat for Phase III-A of the development, which includes 16 single-family lots along Prairie Way South. Grading for the utilities and street infrastructure is underway and new home construction is anticipated to begin this fall. In 2012, a total of 25 new homes were built in Inspiration and 13 permits have been issued for new homes so far this year. With the increase in activity, residents are encouraged to use caution around construction equipment and abide by on-street parking regulations, to ensure adequate access for police patrol and emergency vehicles.



City Continues to Seek Methods to Deter Geese (and their Droppings) from Lakeside Park

If you are a frequent user of Lakeside Park, you may have noticed a recent increase in geese populations over the past few years. Although many residents and visitors enjoy seeing wildlife in our parks, most do not enjoy the droppings they tend to leave behind, which can contain disease and be a health concern.

In an effort to mitigate the problem, the city has experimented with different techniques to discourage geese habitat. Many of the techniques seem to work short-term, such as the use of a herding dog, but it has been difficult to identify both a long-term and cost effective control method. Residents and visitors who feed the geese also make it diffi-



cult to control populations in the community.

For the past two years, the city has applied a substance to the grass adjacent to the beach area in Lakeside Park, which has helped deter the geese. The substance is safe to both humans and animals, but creates an undesirable environment for geese habitat. Unfortunately, the substance costs \$400 to \$1,500 per application, and lasts about one month, which is why residents may still be encountering an occasional abundance of droppings in certain areas of the park.

The city will be increasing this budget line item for 2014, to allow for additional geese control. We will also continue to pursue alternative, cost effective options to mitigate the problem.



Resident Reminders: A Well-Maintained Lawn Leads to Happy Rivers and Lakes

Although leaves and grass clippings are natural, they contain high levels of phosphorus. When rain carries yard waste into nearby water bodies, it creates an abundance of algae. Just five bags of leaves and clippings can grow up to 500 pounds of smelly green algae!

Raking and composting leaves, twigs, and grass clippings helps ensure our favorite swimming holes and fishing spots stay clear and clean. Proper maintenance and yard waste disposal will also help improve your lawn, protect your street from flooding, and improve the health of nearby wetlands and waterways.

Not a fan of raking? Use your lawn mower to mulch leaves into the grass. Mowing is less work than raking and the shredded leaves act as a natural fertilizer for your lawn. Also, please refrain from depositing



leaves and yard debris on sidewalks or in the street, which can create a hazard for pedestrians or clog storm drains, and result in backups or flooding. Thanks in advance for maintaining your property and improving water quality in the community!



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CITY HALL OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

City offices will be closed to observe the following upcoming holidays in 2013:

Labor Day	September 2
Veteran’s Day	November 11
Thanksgiving Day	November 28
Christmas Eve Day	December 24
Christmas Day	December 25

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Meetings are held at 6:00 p.m. unless noted.

September 3	November 4
October 7	December 2

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS

Meetings are held at 6:00 p.m. unless noted.

September 16*	November 18*
October 21*	December 16*

**tentative*

LIBRARY BOARD MEETINGS

Meetings held at 6:00 p.m. unless noted.

September 19	November 21
October 17	December 19

2013 CITY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Farmer’s Market	July – Oct
Derby Days	September 21
Fire Dept. Anniversary	September 21
Library Book Sale	September 21
Public Safety Open House	October 31
Lighting of the Green	December 4



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New Traffic Signal Planned for Stagecoach Trail

Washington County has informed the city that a traffic signal will be installed at the Inspiration/St. Croix Preparatory Academy school intersection this fall. An increase in pedestrian activity and traffic on Stagecoach Trail associated with new residential development, the school, and St. Croix Crossing bridge construction have resulted in the need for additional traffic control in this area. Residents are encouraged to use caution and be alert for work zone signage and lane changes during installation.



School District Election to be Held November 5



An election will be held on November 5, 2013 for residents to vote on matters related to Stillwater Area Public School District 834. The district is proposing to increase their operating levy from \$11 million to \$16.2 million to provide additional support for students and classrooms. Bayport residents vote at City Hall and polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Please contact the district office at 651-351-8340 or visit www.stillwater.k12.mn.us for more information on the proposed levy increase.

Spotlight on New Administrator Logan Martin

The City of Bayport is pleased to welcome new City Administrator Logan Martin to our community! Logan started in late July and is responsible for the day to day operations of the city, including oversight of all departments and staff, as well as the city's annual budgeting process.



Logan comes to Bayport from the City of Oakdale, MN, where he worked for over 6 years in administration and community development, focusing primarily on economic development and redevelopment projects. He has a Bachelor's degree in political science from Gustavus Adolphus College, and a Master's degree in public administration from Hamline University, where he also completed a post-graduate certificate in economic development.

Logan is extremely excited to be working for the city, stating "I am honored at the opportunity to serve this great community, and look forward to working with the City Council, staff, and residents on continuing Bayport's tradition of being a great place to live, work, and play." Logan resides in Washington County with his wife and enjoys traveling, golfing, spending time with family and friends, and participating in local theater productions in his spare time. Please be sure to welcome Logan when you see him out and about in the community!

Grant Funding Inspires a Raingarden at City Hall!



The recently completed raingarden includes a dry creek bed and plantings, which are designed to capture and redirect rainwater away from the City Hall and Fire Hall. The raingarden will help prevent water from infiltrating into the building foundations and causing structural damage. The project was coordinated by the Washington Conservation District and Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization, and funded by a cost share grant through the St.

Croix River Association. The abundance of rain we experienced early this summer definitely put the raingarden to the test. We are happy to report that it has proven to be a great solution to the stormwater runoff problems in this area!