

## Letter from the Mayor



Mayor George A. Wimmer

## <u>CITY</u> <u>MEETING DATES:</u>

All meetings are held at City Hall: 110 1st Ave. NW

#### **CITY COUNCIL**

1 st & 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

#### CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION

Held at 5:45 prior to the 2nd City Council Meeting of the month

#### PLANNING COMMISSION

2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

#### PARK & RECREATION BOARD

4th Tuesday of the month at 5:00 p.m.

#### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

4th Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. I recently gave the State of the City presentation to the Isanti Area Chamber of Commerce and shared our past successes, current challenges and future goals. We discussed the tremendous achievement of the Water Treatment Plant and the excellent results of our water test. The raw untreated water tested at 6.42 pCi/L, which is over the federal limit of 5.42 pCi/L. The water processed at the treatment plant tested at .42pCi/L which is a fantastic result. The Water Treatment Plant is a great success and was built on time and under budget.

We talked about the success of the City's Foreclosure Management Program and the 136 foreclosed homes that sold. The tremendous results have our program hailed as the best in the state. We still have NSP (Neighborhood Stabilization Program) funds available to help in the purchase of a foreclosed home. There are still homes cycling in and out of foreclosure and we have a long way to go; but as Winston Churchill said, "I am an optimist. It does not seem too much use being anything else."

I discussed the openings of a number of local businesses in the past year and our replacing of the Economic Development Director. The City's first comprehensive Capital Improvement Plan and Multi-model plan were shared. These two plans lay the foundation for future budgeting and development. It is important that we start saving today for the inevitable replacement cost for all of the infrastructure that has been added to the City in the past decade. Planning today will save the City for decades to come.

We have all seen the dire reports of the State's finances and the seemingly constant drumbeat of cuts. Isanti is expected to lose 82% of our Local Government Aid (which is tax money we send to the state and they should be sending back) which equates to 13% of our total General Fund Budget. On top of this, property tax values are projected to decline across the board by 10% to 30%. Paying lower property taxes is a good thing on an individual basis but this also means a lot less money going to City government to provide services. We are facing a \$500,000-plus loss of revenue from LGA cuts and property tax devaluation. We also have over \$500,000 in non-paid taxes and assessments that have made budgeting even more difficult. Our total General Fund Budget is \$3.3 million.

We have been preparing for this moment for the last few years, as I have shared with you in past articles. Isanti is far ahead of almost every other community in the state with our LGA flip last year and the reserve fund we have built up. This will get us through to 2013 without a change in our level of service so long as the budget plan I set out is followed. It is also important to note that several projects will be moving forward such as Railroad Avenue paving, but this is being paid for out of Municipal State Aid funds and not Isanti property taxes.

I try to live by another Churchill quote: "It is no use saying, 'We are doing our best.' You have got to succeed in doing what is necessary." I know we will all do what is necessary to continue to move Isanti in the right direction

Now for some fun stuff! Isanti is an eventful City and 2010 will be packed. We have our amazing Rodeo and Jubilee Days, our Rum River BMX racing, with the State finals once again in our great City. The Redbirds will be making us all proud, and just down the road our Soccer complex will be humming with thousands of players all summer long. The newest great event to hit our City is the Isanti Farmers Market locating in Downtown Isanti. This is a fantastic April to October weekly event. For more information go to www.isantifamilyfarmersmarket.org/ and learn how to be a sponsor, as I am, how to be a vendor or most importantly, a weekly customer.

There is so much more but I have run out of space once again. As always, if you have any questions, comments or concerns please contact me at George@GeorgeWimmer.com or 763-444-7158 or my cell at 763-442-8749.





## **City Offices & Staff Directory**

## **City Staff**

<u>Administration</u>
City Administrator Donald Lorsung
City Clerk/Assistant City Administrator Irene Baueribauer@cityofisanti.us
Building Department
Building Official Rick Samesbuilding-inspections@cityofisanti.us
<u>Finance</u>
Finance Director Kristi Smith
Economic Development
Economic Development Director Sean Sullivanssullivan@cityofisanti.us
Planning & Zoning/Park and Recreation
City Planner Lisa Krauselkrause@cityofisanti.us
Public Works
Public Works Director Pat Meyerpmeyer@cityofisanti.us
Police Department
Police Chief Ron SagerChiefSager@cityofisanti.us

## **City Council Members:**

Mayor	George A. Wimmer	Phone 763-444-7158 Cell 763-442-8749	e-mail: george@georgewimmer.com
Council Member	Jim Kennedy	Phone 763-444-4650	
Council Member	Jeff Kolb	Phone 763-444-4304	e-mail: jeffery.kolb@hotmail.com
Council Member	Sue Larson	Phone 763-286-9964	e-mail: larson2854@aol.com
Council Member	Ross Lorinser	Phone 651-285-2763	e-mail: lorinser@hotmail.com





## **CITY CONTACTS:**

763-444-5512

## **CITY HALL:**

110 1st Ave. NW PO Box 428 Isanti, MN 55040 763-444-5512 Fax 763-444-5560 isanti@cityofisanti.us www.cityofisanti.us

## **POLICE:**

Non-Emergency 763-444-4761 Emergency 911 Fax 763-444-4868

## PUBLIC WORKS:

763-444-0459 Fax 763-444-5125

MUNICIPAL LIQUOR STORE: 763-444-5063

Meeting dates as noted on page 2 and all changes will be posted on the website, at City Hall and the Post Office. Special Meetings & times will also be posted on the website, City Hall and Post Office.

## **Community Development**

### Wise Ways to Use Water

• Keep a pitcher of water in the refrigerator rather than running the tap until the water gets cold.

• Fixing that leaky toilet can save as much as 500 gallons a day.

• Repair dripping faucets by replacing washers. One drop per second can add up to 2,700 gallons per year.

• Use mulch around trees to slow evaporation.

• Direct downspouts and other runoff toward shrubs, trees and gardens.

• Use a broom instead of a hose to clean sidewalks and driveways.

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### Isantian Deadlines & Contact Info

The Isantian is published four times a year. The next edition of the Isantian newsletter will be sent out June 15th with an advertising deadline of May 21st.

If you would like to advertise in the Isantian, please contact Sue Beckman, 763-691-6035 or Karen Barth 763-691-6007 at the Scotsman/Isanti County News.

For additional information regarding any of the content of the Isantian, please see our website <u>www.cityofisanti.us</u> or contact the city staff at the numbers listed on Page 3 of this newsletter.

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### **Economic Development Authority**

763-444-5512

As spring begins, the Economic Development Authority and staff continue to work to positively affect economic development in our community. The City has a number of economic development tools either through local programs or partnerships that can assist businesses to expand or locate in our community. Local programs include Tax Increment Financing, Tax Abatement and a Revolving Loan Program. One of these programs, the Revolving Loan Program, is a more recent funding initiative and can provide gap financing for qualifying businesses looking at expansion. In addition to our local financing programs, development partners such as the East Central Region Development Commission and Minnesota Department of Economic Development, have other financial tools that may be available to assist with the project. A first step in this process is to contact our Economic Development staff to discuss business needs and see what assistance may be available. We will work to assist you with your needs.

#### **Neighborhood Stabilization Funds**

The City of Isanti continues to have funding for future homeowners to purchase vacant foreclosed homes under the Neighborhood Stabilization Program. The funding is available for homeownership of vacant foreclosed homes in targeted neighborhoods in Isanti. This funding is only available for a limited time. For more information, please contact Lenee Hoffman at Central Minnesota Housing Partnership at 320-259-0393.

### 2010 Census

On April 1, 2010; the United States will conduct the 2010 Census. Every household will receive a questionnaire and the Census Bureau is relying on you or a member of your household to respond. The questionnaire will be short-form only and will take only a few minutes to answer and return by mail. The information provided by each household will be protected by law and will remain confidential. A sample ballot can be viewed at City Hall during normal business hours Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The information provided on this questionnaire by each household is extremely important, as this information affects the funding that our community receives, affects our communities' representation in Congress as well as at the state and local level, and affects the decisions made by our communities' leaders. Additional information regarding the upcoming Census can be found at www. mn2010census.org or at www.2010.census.gov/2010census/. Remember "Every 1 Counts in Minnesota," so your participation is important to your community.

## Weed and Grass Nuisances

Summer is approaching and with that comes the season of lawn care. The City of Isanti would like to bring to your attention City Code – Chapter § 216 and the fees associated with this.

§216.2. H. Public nuisances affecting health: All noxious weeds and other rank growths of vegetation upon public or private property.

§216-6. Abatement: In accordance with the notification requirements of §216-6 of this chapter, and after seven (7) calendar days notice by the City, the Public Works Director shall implement the mowing and removal of noxious weeds and vegetation on the private premises.

§216-7. A. Recovery of cost: The owner of the premises on which a nuisance has been abated by the City shall be personally liable for the cost to the City of the abatement, including administrative costs.

§216-7. B. Recovery of cost: states all unpaid charges will be assessed to the property.

The costs associated with this are billed on a time spent basis. A \$25.00 non-compliance fee is charged in addition to the cost.

For complete copies of the Code and fee schedule visit our website at www.cityofisanti.us. This is enforced by Community Service Officer Wacha, 763-444-4761.



## **Community Development**

#### Building Department building-inspections@cityofisanti.us • 763-444-5512 City Service Billings

To give you some idea of what the housing market is doing in Isanti I have compiled the following statistics of issued permits.

In 2008 we had 6 new homes and 3 new commercial buildings, in 2009 we had 3 new homes and no new commercial buildings, and to date in 2010 we have one new home permit issued. In 2008 we issued a total of 148 permits, in 2009 we issued 165. A majority of those permits were for roofing, siding, windows, decks, and lower level finishes.

The City's foreclosure statistics are as follows: In January 2009 there were 148 homes in some form of the foreclosure process and 76 of those homes were vacant. In January 2010 there were 165 homes in some form of foreclosure and of those 45 were vacant. During that same 12 month period 135 foreclosed homes have been resold and reoccupied.

Many of you are keeping up the lawns, shoveling sidewalks, and reporting any suspicious activity while these homes are vacant. That goes a long way in helping us and it also maintains your own property values. Thank you!

Some of these homes are being purchased and then rented until the market comes back and then they will be sold. The City of Isanti has a Rental Licensing Program. If you or someone you know rents or owns a home used for rental purposes that does not yet have a rental license, please contact us so we can get the licensing process started.

In 2009 the State of Minnesota adopted a new Energy Code as well as updated versions of the Building, Mechanical, Fuel Gas, Plumbing and Accessibility Code along with some significant changes to the electrical code. Before you get started on that future project, please call to see if it requires a permit and to get the latest code requirements. It's always safer and less expensive to get it right the first time.

### New Economic Development Director Hired

On February 16, 2010 City Council unanimously approved a resolution offering Sean Sullivan the Economic Development Director position. Sean will begin his employment with the City on March 4, 2010.

Previously Sean worked for the City of Ramsey, Minnesota as the Economic Development Coordinator. For the past 9 years he gained experience in the recruitment of bringing in business and coordinated redevelopment in the Ramsey community.

Sean resides with his family in Oak Grove, Minnesota. We welcome Sean as an employee for the City of Isanti.

### Sign Regulations

As a reminder to current business owners and any other individual looking to construct or place a sign upon their property, the City of Isanti has adopted regulations for signage. The ordinance regulates the location, size, and various features of signs to enable the public to locate goods, services, and facilities without difficulty or confusion; to prevent the wasteful use of resources in competition among businesses for attention; to prevent hazards to life and property; and to ensure an aesthetic value of the City.

Property owners looking to construct signs are required to obtain a sign permit from the City prior to construction and/or location of a sign. All sign applications are reviewed by City Staff to ensure compliance with the sign ordinance regulations. Signs constructed without a permit or signs found to be in violation of ordinance requirements and standards may result in a revocation of the sign permit for that particular business and/or issuance of a citation due to non-compliance with City Ordinances. Please contact the Planning Department for all questions and concerns regarding sign regulations.

### **Restrictive Watering Ban in Force**

City Code Chapter §325-2. Annual sprinkling restrictions. During the period from May 1 through September 1 annually, all property with addresses that end with an odd number may be sprinkled on oddnumbered days, and property with addresses that end with an even number may be sprinkled on evennumbered days. During this time period, no sprinkling shall be allowed from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. each day.

This provision shall automatically apply unless superseded by action of the City Administrator. If the City Administrator determines that a water shortage exists, the City Administrator is authorized under City Code §325-1 to restrict the sprinkling of lawns by posting a notice at City Hall setting forth the restrictions.

A new property owner may request an exemption of the restrictions for the sprinkling of new sod. To request an exemption please contact Rick Sames, Building Official.

For a complete copy of the Code visit our website at www.cityofisanti.us. This is enforced by Community Service Officer Wacha, 763-444-4761.

As of December 2009 City Services have been billed separately. Previously City water and sewer services were consolidated and billed with other utility services and separate invoices were sent for nuisance billings. The City is now able to provide one invoice including all City services.

If you would like to sign up for paying via ACH or to receive your statement via e-mail please complete the form available on the City's website, www.cityofisanti.us and mail to City of Isanti, PO Box 251340, St. Paul, MN 55125. Forms are available at City Hall.

If you have any questions regarding your City Services bill please contact Customer Service at 651-255-0993.

In the future we will be exploring options such as online billing and online payments.

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### Library Link

Through the efforts of the Friends of the Isanti Library, the East Central Regional Library now hosts a Library Link at City Hall. The Link Site is open on Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Contact ECRL Librarian Heidi 763-689-7390.

### If you dig a hole:

Please call Gopher State One Call at 1.800.252.1166 to Locate your utilities for Free!

## Burning Code

City Code § 119 permits burning by reference of MN State Statute 88 and the MN Uniform Fire Code. Campfires are permitted if applied as follows: A campfire is a fire set for cooking, warming, or ceremonial purposes, which is not more than three feet in diameter by three feet high and the ground surrounding the fire has been cleared of all combustible material twenty-five feet from the base of the fire.

# Public Works/Engineering/Police Department



### Pet Clinic

Does you pet need shots? Bring your pet to the Pet Clinic Saturday, April 24, 2010. The Pet Clinic will be held at the Isanti Ice Arena and will run from 1-4 p.m. The Ice Arena is located 2 blocks north of the intersection of 1st Avenue and County Road 5. Park and access the building on the south side. No late fee for dog licenses obtained at the clinic.



## Attention Dog Owners

Please be reminded that dog licenses are due March 31, 2010. All dog owners must license their dogs annually. License fees are \$10 per year for fixed dogs and \$15 per year for non-fixed dogs. A late fee of \$5 will be charged if licensed after March 31, 2010. City Code states that any property owner who has more than two dogs must obtain a kennel permit. Please contact Lisa Krause, City Planner regarding information on obtaining a kennel permit at 763-444-5512.

## **Engineering Project Updates**

#### Isanti Water Treatment Facility

The Isanti Water Treatment Facility went into service in September of 2009. The new water treatment plant is treating the City's drinking water to reduce radium, manganese and iron from the drinking water. The Environmental Protection Agency and the Minnesota Department of Health allow for a maximum level of radium in public drinking water source of 5.4 pCi/L. The newly treated water leaving the Water Treatment Facility has been tested and the resulting levels of radium in the drinking water are now at 0.42 pCi/L. These test results show the Isanti Water Treatment Facility is removing the radium from the drinking water to a level well below the federal drinking water limit!



#### **County Road 5 Lift Station Replacement**

The sanitary sewer lift station located near Subway along the south side of County Road 5 will be replaced starting in May of 2010. The structural integrity of the concrete structure has deteriorated to the point of failure. Portions of the walls of the structure have lost over half of the thickness due to the corrosion from the sanitary sewage over time. We are currently working on the final design of this project. The project will involve the replacement of the deteriorated lift station and forcemain. The forcemain will be routed along Credit Union Drive and connected to the existing sanitary sewer system along Main Street. Construction is expected to begin in May of 2010.



#### **Railroad Avenue Improvements**

We are currently working on the final design of a project that includes the reconstruction of approximately 1750-feet of Railroad Avenue S.E. from Palomino Road S.E. to Towns Edge Road S.E. The project will include the paving of this segment of Railroad Avenue S.E. with the addition of a bituminous trail and trunk water line. Construction is expected to begin in July of 2010.



Please call City Engineer Brad DeWolf P.E. at 612-756-1032 if you have any additional questions.



Isanti Police Department

# Public Works/Engineering/Police Department

**ISANTI POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT** Reported Crime <u> 1999</u> 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 <u>% Change</u> 142 137 195 204 Theft 86 158 213 134 208 187 156 -17% Assault 40 50 31 59 54 43 73 78 39 33 44 33% 75 Vandalism 61 85 98 118 117 72 89 112 63 102 62% 13 24 47 49 27 23 61 48 40 26 Narcotics 24 -8% 21 23 23 19 22 28 33 25 31 -52% Burglary 11 15 41 36 41 61 70 49 52 52 64 74 104 41% Domestics 7 Crim Sex .5 14 11 11 9 6 7 10 13 11 -15% 0 Robbery 1 0 1 0 -100% 49 Loud Party 62 76 108 42% Traffic Offenses No Insurance 20 26 42 30 73 87 89 83 129 95 109 15% D.U.I. 42 33 24 38 36 62 80 77 80 49 46 -6% 71 71 46 67 85 7.5 28% Accidents 45 41 64 53 68 12 9 Hit & Run 6 5 12 14 14 16 11 6 6 0% Warrant P/U 20 21 43 54 47 45 67 49% 36 44 33 45 Speeding 113 167 151 163 237 183 257 247 318 259 125 -52% DAR/DAS 101 75 55 -27% Squad Mileage 23,744 56,868 84,399 110,354 06 Dodge 221 06 Dodge 222 82,891 16,512 54,305 112537 08 Dodge 223 14.037 38.044 15,923 73,399 105,656 126,189 137,755 2004 Ford N/A 98 Blazer 66700 71,052 75,977 82,751 90,024 96,953 103,107 70.529 Total Miles Drive 59,529 101,350 97,631 98,723 88,649 87,489

\*2004 Database lost, back up stats

## **Recreational Vehicle Parking Code**

Chapter 227 Article II of the Isanti Code; establishes regulations for the parking and storage of recreational and other equipment within residential areas of the City. Seasonal time frames have been established for those units, to include boat trailer and/or boat, camping trailer, enclosed trailer, flat bed trailer, and all other non-self propelled RVs, (except snowmobiles and ATVs) will be permitted from April 1st to November 30th. Fish Houses on wheels will be permitted from November 15th to April 1st. Snowmobiles will be permitted from December 1st to April 1st. ATVs will be permitted from June 1st to November 30th.

The Ordinance also establishes location, surface type, size limitations, and screening requirements as well. A copy of the ordinance can be found on the city's website at www.cityofisanti.us. If you have questions regarding the ordinance provisions, please contact Steve Wacha, Community Service Officer, at (763) 444-4761.

## **Overview of City Nuisance and Parking Code**

City Code Chapter 216, Nuisances, provides for maintaining a safe, healthy, and aesthetically pleasing environment to the citizens of Isanti. § 216-2 covers nuisances affecting health such as outside accumulation of rubbish, salvage materials, junk, unlicensed vehicles and other items causing a depressing influence on property values in the area.

City Code Chapter 227 regulates the outdoor parking and/or storage of vehicles, boats, trailers, RVs and other items. The City Code does include a listing of proper requirements for storage of such units (Exhibit A). They need to be parked on impervious or improved surfaces. There are also time limits for parking such units in the front yard. Units stored on side yard and/or back yard must be 80% screened from view of neighboring property or a public street.

For further information on these and other City Codes, you can go to www.cityofisanti.us. For questions please contact me at swacha@cityofisanti.us – 763-444-4761.

Bike, Skate & ChiefSager@cityofisanti.us • 763-444-4761 **Blade Code** 

> City Code § 99-1. Prohibited acts. It is unlawful for any person to ride a bicycle or use a skateboard or roller blades upon a sidewalk within the downtown commercial district along Main Street between 2nd Avenue and the railroad tracks between the hours of 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. It is also unlawful for any person to ride a bicycle or use a skateboard or roller blades in a careless, reckless, or negligent manner in disregard for the rights of safety or property or any other person anywhere within the City of Isanti.

City Code § 99-2 provides that if a violation of this chapter is observed that the City is authorized to impound the bicycle, skateboard, or roller blades.

For a complete copy of the Code visit our website at www.cityofisanti.us.

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## Flushing of Water Mains April 26-May 7

If you live in or near an area that is being flushed, your water may have some discoloration for a short period of time. You should avoid doing laundry at this time or running your water, as this can actually bring discolored water directly into your home's pipes. Run your tap after the flushing and it should clear up. Check our website: www.cityofisanti.us for updates as the schedule is subject to change daily.

## Administrative/Finance

# **CITY PARKS:**

**RIVERSIDE PARK** 503 Rum River Drive NW Corner of Rum River Drive NW & Hillock St. 🔁 🕥 <del>77</del> 🗛 🔏

### RUM RIVER **MEADOWS PARK**

1108 South Passage SW Along the north side of South Passage, just west of County Rd. 23.

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#### MATTSON PARK

311 5th Avenue NW Intersection of Main St. West & 5th Ave. NW



#### WHISPER RIDGE PARK

795 3rd Ave SW Nestled behind homes on the corner of Cottonwood St. SW & 3rd Ave. SW.

### **ISANTI TOT LOT**

518 Dogwood Street SW Nestled behind homes on the corner of Cedar St. SW & 6th Ave. SW.

77 AA 7

### VFW PARK

410 Railroad Avenue SW Intersection of Railroad Ave. SW and Palomino Road SW.

UNITY PARK 420 3rd Avenue NW

North of Unity Blvd. NW.  $\mathfrak{N}$ 

#### **BLUEBIRD PARK**

201 Isanti Parkway NW Intersection of 3rd Ave. NW and Isanti Parkway NW.



## City Wide Clean Up Day

## Saturday, April 24, 2010

8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Public Works Garage • 100 Isanti Parkway W, Isanti Directions: 3rd Avenue North to Isanti Parkway, right on Isanti Parkway to garage. Drop off on east side of garage. City residents ONLY. Must show driver's license. All items listed must be prepaid at Isanti City Hall, 110 1st Avenue NW (Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.).

#### **ACCEPTABLE ITEMS:**

Brush, yard waste, and small miscellaneous items will be accepted at no cost. NO HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE WILL BE ACCEPTED! Other acceptable items and related fees are as follows:

#### Appliances: \$10 each

Air Heat Pump, Freezers, Furnaces, Microwave Ovens, Water Heaters, Dishwashers, Garbage Disposals, Refrigerators, Washers, Dryers, Dehumidifiers, Trash Compactors, Vacuum Cleaners, Ovens, Stoves.Air Conditioning Units & Water Softeners \$20 each. Commercial & gas/ammonia appliance fees will vary.

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NO Tractor Tires will be acc	epted.
Tubes	Free
Motorcycle	\$1.50/Tire
Bicycle	\$1/Tire
Truck	\$8/Tire
Passenger Car/ATV	\$4/Tire

#### LARGE ITEMS:

Regular Sofas	\$15.00
Sleeper Sofas	\$25.00
Loveseat	\$10.00
Living Room Chairs	\$12.50
Mattresses	\$30.00
Box Springs	\$30.00



#### ELECTRONICS:

TVs 40" & under \$20.00; TVs over 40" \$40.00; Console TV \$55.00; Computer Monitors \$15.00; CPU Box \$5.00; Keyboard & Mouse \$5.00; Laptop Computers \$10.00; Scanner \$10.00; Copier \$25.00; Printers \$10.00

ECS

PO Box 248



## **Community Events**

### Isanti Ambassadors

The 2009 Isanti Ambassadors enjoyed a long weekend at the 2010 St. Paul Winter Carnival. The girls attended many activities for the visiting royalty who traveled from all corners of Minnesota. Some of the highlights of the weekend included ice skating in Rice Park, viewing ice/snow sculptures, participating in the St. Paul Grande Day Parade, and of course attending the St. Paul Winter Carnival Royal Coronation. In this photo Alicia Pankan, Courtney Moore and Amanda Domogalla pose by one of the snow sculptures in Rice Park.



## Isanti Ambassador Program

The Isanti Ambassador Program provides education scholarships to three individuals who are selected to represent the Isanti community as public relations ambassadors. The ambassadors attend functions at neighboring community festivals and celebrations, such as parades and coronations. Volunteerism is stressed by helping out local businesses and civic groups with fundraising and promotions in and around the community: painting faces at Kids' Day at the Isanti County Fair, Isanti Home Show, Chamber Expo Show, Santa Day, Snowflake Skate and Old Tyme Dances.

Applicants must be individuals between the ages of 17-22 (as of July 1, 2010). Candidates must graduate from High School by the year 2011 to participate in this year's program. All candidates must be single and have no dependents. Candidate Sign-Up will be on Thursday, May 20. Interested individuals will be selected on Sunday, July 11 at the Coronation Ceremony held in the Isanti Ice Arena.

Businesses interested in sponsoring a 2010 Ambassador candidate may contact JoAnn Welcome for details.

## Park Shelter Reservations

Park shelters are available in both Bluebird and Mattson Parks for reservation beginning April 1st through September 30th. Requests for reservations are accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis. Applications for such reservations can be made and submitted at City Hall, Parks Department, 110 First Avenue NW, PO Box 428, Isanti, MN; via fax at (763) 444-5560, or via e-mail to Ikrause@cityofisanti.us. If the reservation meets the definition of a special event, a special event permit would be required. Applications can be found on-line at www.cityofisanti.us. If you have questions regarding the application process, please contact Lisa Krause, City Planner/Parks Coordinator at (763) 444-5512.

## **Athletic Field Reservations**

Athletic fields are also available for reservation beginning April 1st through September 30th on a firstcome, first-serve basis. Applications for such reservations can be made and submitted at City Hall, 110 First Avenue NW, PO Box 428, Isanti, MN; via fast at (763) 444-5560, or via e-mail to Ikrause@cityofisanti.us. Requests for the use of the Unity Park Softball field will be charged a non-refundable fee of \$15 for residents and \$25 for non-residents. Fees are charged per day. Payment must be made by the individual or group requesting use of the facility. If the member filing the application can prove residency, a reduced rate will be applied. Applications can be found on-line at www.cityofisanti.us. If you have questions regarding the application process, please contact Lisa Krause, City Planner/Parks Coordinator at (763) 444-5512.



### Other Isanti Area Recreational Sites

Soccer Complex BMX Track Isanti Ice Arena Martin's Landing (DNR Canoe Landing) Redbirds Baseball Field *For links visit:* www.cityofisanti.us

## City Wide Garage Sale

The City Wide garage sale will be May 1, 2010. Please get signed up to get on the City Wide Map. There will be more details in the Scotsman/Isanti County News. Any questions call Hannah 763-444-5083.

## Are You Cleaning Up After Your Pet?

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It is your responsibility as a pet owner to clean-up after your pet. When taking your pet for a walk, please show courtesy to other public and private property owners by removing the excrement deposited by your pet. City Code 87-5.1 requires pet owners to immediately collect and remove dog feces deposited by their animal on public or private property. A container, equipment, or other device is required for transport of the fecal material to an appropriate disposal receptacle located on the property of the pet owner. Please help us in keeping our neighborhoods and public spaces clean and sanitary.

## **Community Events**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### March 13

Old Tyme Dance – 7-9 p.m. Community Center

#### <u> March 31</u>

Senior Dining Easter Dinner 11:00 a.m. Isanti Community Center - Reservations required - contact Glenda 444-6320

<u>April 24</u> City Wide Clean Up

8 a.m.-12 p.m. Public Works Garage

> April 24 Pet Clinic

1 p.m.-4 p.m. • Isanti Arena

#### <u>May</u>

Redbirds Baseball Starts Check out schedule in this edition of the Isantian

<u>May 1</u> City Wide Garage Sale Contact Hannah 444-5083

#### <u>May 22</u>

Rum River BMX Spring Open House 10 a.m.-2 p.m. BMX Track

June 5 Take-A-Kid Fishing Day Martin's Landing

June 5 BMX Redline Cup National Qualifier - BMX Track

June 26 Royal BBQ, 5 p.m.-10 p.m. Isanti Rodeo Grounds

June 27 Rum River Float Noon, Country Camping/ Martin's Landing

> July 8 Jubilee Day Parade 6:30 p.m.

July 8-11 Isanti Rodeo-Jubilee Days

## Isanti Family Farmer's Market

A "Fresh Experience" is coming to downtown Isanti! The Isanti Family Farmer's Market will be located in our beautiful, historic downtown. As our name indicates, we are going to have a huge focus on family and the community. We have added some weekly features that to the best of our knowledge have never been seen before at a Farmer's Market. One of the unique features and staying true to our objective of giving back to the community, the Isanti Family Farmer's Market will donate one booth space per market day on a rotating basis to our local non-profit and community groups to raise funds or to build awareness for their respective organization.

Another foundation of our market is the many low to no cost youth activities that we have planned. We will have weekly fun as well as educational activities such as a Bluebird House building week, a Wood Duck house building week and a day where we teach kids how to grow plants starting with seeds for just a few examples. The market is designed so that while the parents are busy visiting with vendors they can keep an eye on their children by simply turning to the Community area in the middle of the market. We will also have different weekly "themes" such as "Health & Wellness," "Canning & Preserving the Harvest," "Planting & Growing," for just a few examples. So keep an eye on our calendar to plan for upcoming events!

You can also expect the familiar market features such as local naturally grown fresh produce. A variety of fresh food vendors, artisans as well as local acoustic musicians will also be sharing their musical talents. Last but not least, we would like to thank our very generous sponsors and supporters for without their support, this unique community oriented Farmer's Market would not be possible. So, please support our sponsors and also spread the word to help ensure the success of this wonderful community event!

Presented by: Community Pride Bank, Isanti

Gold Sponsors: Ace Solid Waste, American Family Insurance - Isanti, Cellular Experts, Isanti Rental, Spirit River Community. Silver Sponsors: Eagle Plumbing, Isanti County Area Arena, Isanti Subway, Minnco, Reller Signs. Bronze Sponsors: Charisma Boutique, GeorgeWimmer.com, David Wichman Agency, Isanti Hardware Hank, Isanti Municipal Liquor.

Every Saturday in Eagle Park starting April 10th through October 30th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (behind the Post Office).

www.lsantiFamilyFarmersMarket.org. 763-444-8515 X3

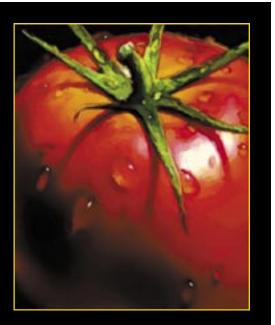
## Isanti Family Farmers Market

#### "A Fresh Experience"

Saturdays (Rain or Shine) April 10th ~ October 30th 9:00 ~ 1:00 pm Eagle Park Historic Downtown Isanti

www.lsantiFamilyFarmersMarket.com

A committee of: Isanti Area Chamber of Commerce



## **Community Events**

### **Coaches Corner**

The Isanti Redbirds are busy preparing for another fun season of amateur baseball this summer. The 'Birds don't sit still during the fall and winter months! New ag-lime was put on the field last fall and the outfield trees were pruned. During the winter, uniforms were repaired and games were scheduled – and what a schedule it is! The 'Birds are scheduled to play 37 games this year (prior to playoffs). This includes participating in three tournaments (Sartell-St. Stephens; Green Isle-Hamburg and the Isanti Classic) and once again, hosting the League All Star game.

The 'Birds play in the Eastern Minny League. The Eastern Minny is one of the oldest amateur baseball leagues in Minnesota. The Eastern Minny is made up of teams from Princeton, Chisago Lakes, Milaca, Mora, Hinckley, Quamba and Isanti. In regular season play, the 'Birds will play each team three times. At the end of the season, the league will host a double-elimination tournament to determine which two teams move on to the Regional Tournament.

The 'Birds are a very close knit group of players who work extremely hard. It will hopefully be a team with significant depth, because with the amount of games that the 'Birds play, they'll need everyone – including the fans! So, please come out and enjoy a fun night at the ball park in Isanti!

May			June					July			
2	St. Croix	Away	1:00	2	Chisago	Away	7:30	2	Chisago	Away	7:30
5	Rockford	Home	7:30	4-6	Sartell Tourney	TBD		5	Princeton	Home	7:30
10	Ham Lake	Home	7:30	9	Chisago	Home	7:30	7	East Bethel	Home	7:30
12	Albertville	Home	7:30	11	Clear Lake	Home	7:30	9	Princeton	Away	7:30
16	Princeton	Home	7:00	13	Milaca	Away	4:00	10	Jubilee Days C	Outhouse	Race
17	Quamba	Home	7:30	14	Coon Rapids	Home	7:30	11	Mora	Away	4:00
19	Big Lake	Home	7:30	16	Hinckley	Away	7:30	14	Milaca	Home	7:30
21	Milaca	Home	7:30	18-	20 Isanti Redbirc	l Classic		16	Quamba	Home	7:30
23	Mora	Home	2:00	23	Quamba	Away	7:30	18	Eastern Minny	All Star	4:00
26	Coon Rapids	Away	7:30	25-	26 Hamburg/Gr	een Isle	Tourney	21	Hinckley	Away	7:30
28	Hinckley	Home	7:30	28	Anoka	Home	7:30	24	Playoffs Begin		
				30	Mora	Home	7:30				

### **Rum River BMX**

As the new year of 2010 is ushering in we draw ever closer to the start of the Rum River BMX racing season. Hi, my name is Kevin Riedemann and I am the track operator for Rum River BMX. I am very excited about the coming year at the track. We have a great season schedule shaping up with everything from clinics for new riders to family days. We will be hosting a spring open house on Saturday, May 22nd from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. It's free and open to the public, so bring your bike and come on down.

Some other events we will be hosting this year are: The Redline Cup national qualifier, the Rum River BMX state qualifier and The Minnesota State Championship Finals. Every year we also hold a charity race, "The Race for Life" and will be held on July 13th with registration starting at 5:30 p.m. The proceeds from this race go to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Last year we raised over \$4,000.00 for the cause. We will also be hosting a Redline Cup National Qualifier race on the weekend of June 5. The race will be a spectacular event at Rum River BMX and lots of fun. This race gives riders from around the central United States a chance to race and qualify for the national finals which are held in early October. One of the most exciting events of the summer will be the Minnesota State BMX Finals held on August 27, 28 & 29. Hundreds of racers from across the state will come to town and bring their families to take part in deciding the Minnesota State champions.

In order to keep up to date with all of the happenings at Rum River BMX, you will need to stay linked to our website www.rumriverbmx.com. It is a great source of information along with our facebook page and twitter blog. As always, our non-profit organization is working to provide a safe learning environment where kids can be challenged both physically and mentally as they ride. If you would like to be a part of the excitement happening at the track, just stop by the track and see what we are all about...spectators always watch for free. Our season gets started in early May and we hope to see you stop by!

Kevin Riedemann, Rum River BMX Track Operator

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Looking for something to do while helping your community at the same time? Please see below for some options. They can use your help and can be satisfying at the same time!

> FAMILY PATHWAYS Lori Damann 763-444-9551

ISANTI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Jan Peterson 763-444-8515

ISANTI COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT TEAM Sue Larson 763-286-9964

ISANTI COUNTY PARKS Barry Wendorf 763-689-8220

ISANTI COUNTY TRAIL & GREENSPACE

Bill Carlson 763-689-1442

ISANTI SOCCER ASSOCIATION

763-552-GOAL (4625) cambridgeisantisoccer.net

> ISANTI HOCKEY David Englund 763-444-6432

<u>MEALS ON WHEELS/</u> <u>SENIOR DINING</u> Glenda Reynolds 763-444-6320

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY Susi McCune

763-444-4585

<u>VFW</u> Steve Anderson 763-444-7185

ISANTI LIONS Joe Mau - 763-444-4107

If your organization is not listed, please contact City Hall at 763-444-5512 or <u>www.cityofisanti.us</u>

Isantian • Spring 2010



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