

SUMMER 2013

City of Isanti isantian



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A Community For Generations.
Isanti 



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Letter from the Mayor



**Mayor
George A. Wimmer**

CITY **MEETING DATES:**

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

CITY COUNCIL
1st & 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 as needed

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

**PARKS,
RECREATION &
CULTURE BOARD**
4th Tuesday of the month
at 5:00 p.m.

**ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY**
4th Tuesday of the month
at 7:00 p.m.

Our summer will once again be filled with great events at our soccer fields, Rum River BMX, Redbird Baseball, Vision Wakeboard Park, Rodeo/Jubilee Days, Farmers' Market, Street Dances and many more. We have decided to bring back the Farmers' Market and Street Dances under City direction to help market our wonderful downtown area. We believe it is vitally important to support our local businesses by attracting potential customers to our business districts. By the City offering these events, we accomplish this principal Goal of the Council at a reasonable cost. Please visit downtown Isanti each Friday beginning June 14th from 2:30 to 6:30 p.m. weather permitting to support our new market and enjoy a free Street Dance on July 27th and August 24th.

A few changes you will be noticing in the next six months revolve around a reorganization of some City services and the anticipated cost of new State mandates. First, we are eliminating the costly, inefficient and poorly handled customer service outsourcing operation that has been handling our utility billing services. We are bringing this under City control, which will save us money, offer better control, and provide a better product to our businesses and residents. The Community Center grant the City applied for was denied. This along with the failed referendum last fall has left the Council with the tough decision. The Council could still vote to fund the needed repairs and continue to subsidize the facility but that would be directly opposed to the vast majority of voters' wishes last fall. The Center means so much to the numerous non-profit groups that have used it free of charge for years. The next item is the newly state imposed storm water regulations that we will be forced to comply with soon. This will add significant costs to the City, which is estimated at roughly \$250,000. We are looking at a storm water utility to pay for this which is what most other cities have implemented. The average estimated cost would be \$7 per month per home with businesses, multi-family units, empty plots and other buildings paying their equivalent share. These are very preliminary numbers and nothing has been approved by Council. A presentation on this issue will be provided at the 2nd Council meeting in June. The State is also increasing the cost of our water and sanitary sewer operations due to higher fees and greater restrictions.

Finally, I want to share the City of Isanti's 2012 Audit Report. The report shows how efficient and well run our City is when compared to peer communities. It points out that the Long Range Financial Plan I developed in 2007, and manage each year, has made us financially stable and improved our ratings in all categories through one of the worst economic crisis in our Country's history. I have listed a few of the highlights below:

- City Administrative cost 26% lower than Peer Cities
- Public Works 39% lower than Peer Cities
- Park and Recreation 38% lower than Peer Cities
- Public Safety 5% higher than Peer Cities
- Economic Development 380% higher than Peer Cities
- Net debt per Capita down 40% in last 4 years
- 2004 to 2007 Taxes per Capita rose 49%, since taking office in 2007 we have lowered it by 10%
- Net Taxes per Capita are now 26% lower than Peer Cities
- Net Cash to cover Debt is up 220%
- Cash on hand as a % of Budget is up 63% since I took office in 2007
- 2013 Budget is 14% less than the budget set in 2006 before I was elected Mayor
- Liquor Store operating income has risen 160% since I have become Mayor

Our Long Term Financial Plan is working and with each change we make we have made City operations in all areas more efficient and have provided a higher level of services. We have more police protection, higher rated fire protection, safer water supply after building the treatment plant, more efficient and lower cost administration, great parks and trails, a growing business sector and the list goes on and on ... we have so many things in the pipeline for our Great City that I am even more excited about serving Isanti as Mayor than I have ever been. Regardless of all the new State pressures and mandates, we will make Isanti as efficient and productive as possible. I look forward to all the challenges and opportunities we face in the years to come and hope to bring brighter days to all the Generations of our Community.

If you have any questions, concerns or comments please contact me at 763-442-8749 or email me at George@georgewimmer.com. You may also follow me and keep up to date on all things Isanti on Twitter at twitter.com/mayorwimmer, Facebook at www.facebook.com/MayorGeorgeWimmer or my blog at georgewimmer.blogspot.com

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City Offices & Staff Directory

City Staff

763-444-5512

Administration

City Administrator/City Clerk Donald Lorsung dlorsung@cityofisanti.us

Human Resources/Deputy City Clerk Karissa Henning..... khenning@cityofisanti.us

Building Department

Building Official Rick Sames..... building-inspections@cityofisanti.us

Finance

Finance Director Sarah Cotton..... scotton@cityofisanti.us

Economic Development

Economic Development Director Sean Sullivan..... ssullivan@cityofisanti.us

Municipal Liquor Store

Manager John Jacobi jjacobi@cityofisanti.us

Planning & Zoning/Park and Recreation

Planning & Park Director Lisa Wilson..... lwilson@cityofisanti.us

Public Works

Public Works Director Nick Fleischhacker..... nfleischhacker@cityofisanti.us

Police Department

Police Chief Ron Sager ChiefSager@cityofisanti.us

City Council Members

Mayor	George A. Wimmer	Cell 763-442-8749	e-mail: george@georgewimmer.com
Council Member	Dan Collison	Phone 763-444-4298	e-mail: djcollison@msn.com
Council Member	Steve Lundeen	Phone 612-203-8957	e-mail: sdlundeen@yahoo.com
Council Member	Sue Larson	Phone 763-286-9964	e-mail: larson2854@aol.com
Council Member	Adam Johnson	Phone 651-331-1084	e-mail: adam.johnson@sunlifesalon.com

CITY CONTACTS:

CITY HALL:

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PO Box 428
Isanti, MN 55040
763-444-5512
Fax 763-444-5560
isanti@cityofisanti.us
www.cityofisanti.us

POLICE:

401 1st Ave. NW
Non-Emergency
763-444-4761
Emergency
911
Fax 763-444-4868


PUBLIC WORKS:

100 Isanti Pkwy NW
763-444-0459
Fax 763-444-5125

MUNICIPAL LIQUOR STORE:

400 W Dual Blvd NE
763-444-5063
Fax 763-444-8044
www.isantiliquorstore.com

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.

 **Elim**
Baptist Church
PO Box 96, 114 Dahlin Ave. NE,
Isanti, MN 55040
763-444-9221
www.elimisanti.org
Ryan O'Leary, Senior Pastor
Worship Time: 9:30 a.m.
(Nursery Provided)
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to help others know and love Him.

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Community Development

Garage Sale Regulations

Spring and summer lead to warm weather; and garage sale events. City staff has received many inquiries regarding regulations for garage sales. Garage sales are permitted within each of the residential zoning districts; however, there are rules that have been established with regards to the duration, signage, and number of events; which include the following:

- The number of sales permitted per individual property is not to exceed four (4) per year.
- The duration of a garage sale is not to exceed three (3) consecutive days.
- Any related signage shall be limited to the premises and to other residential property provided that the property owner's permission has been obtained to display such signage, shall conform to the sign ordinance, and shall be removed at the termination of the sale.

If you have additional questions regarding the ordinance provisions for garage sales, please contact Lisa Wilson, Planning and Parks Director.

County Road 5 is now Heritage Blvd

In August 2012, the City had received notice from the Metropolitan Emergency Services Board and Isanti County Sheriff's Department regarding issues with duplicate addresses along the County Road 5 corridor within the City limits of Isanti. Based upon further information received by these entities and review of the limited options presented; in order to ensure the health and safety of City residents, businesses, and visitors, the City Council approved the renaming of County Road 5 within the corporate limits of Isanti. As of June 1, 2013, the change has officially taken effect. If anyone has further questions regarding the County Road 5 name change, please contact the Planning and Parks Director at (763) 444-5512 or via e-mail at lwilson@cityofisanti.us.

Economic Development

ssullivan@cityofisanti.us • 763-444-5512

City of Isanti SAC and WAC Deferral Development Incentive Program for 2013 Development Update

In December 2012, the City Council of the City of Isanti adopted a new SAC and WAC deferral program. This program is designed to help increase both commercial/industrial and residential development within the City limits of Isanti. Generally speaking, the program allows these specific development costs to be financed "interest free" for a period of 120 days. Three new single family housing permits have been pulled in 2013 and all three projects have utilized the new deferral program. The term of this incentive program has not been guaranteed to exist after 2013 so be sure to take advantage of it now. To learn more about this development incentive please contact Economic Development Director Sullivan.

Commercial development is on the rise in Isanti. In 2013, Therapy Associates and China House both pulled commercial building permits for projects to be constructed this Spring/Summer. Therapy Associates is building a new 4,800 square foot office just east of Community Pride Bank, East of Hwy 65. China house has been diligently working on a fantastic build-out to open a take-out Chinese restaurant in late May. Pat's Small Engine Repair continues to work on its expansion and two additional manufacturers have purchase agreements to buy existing buildings in the City of Isanti. One manufacturer, Cylinder Head Express, is scheduled to move into its new facility by August 2013 at 101 Isanti Parkway NE. This project was made possible by the business owner, City and bank working together on a financing package that included participation by the City of Isanti and its Revolving Loan Program. The improvement in the economy is certainly impacting the City of Isanti in a very positive way.

Mayor's Employer Celebration Luncheon

The Isanti Economic Development Authority is a proud sponsor of the Mayor's Employer Celebration Luncheon held on June 18, 2013 at Isanti City Hall from 11:30-1:00. This annual event thanks Isanti Employers for providing jobs and services in Isanti and recognizes milestone anniversaries for some of these businesses. A gratis picnic lunch is provided for all Isanti employers and their employees. In 2013, the following Employers will be recognized for milestone anniversaries with the years in parentheses: Bohnen Chiropractic Center (30), United Parcel Service (30), Isanti Rental (20), Johnson's Decorating (20), SHR Sales (20), Embroidery and Ink (10), Great Clips (10), Isanti Physical Therapy (10), Charisma Boutique (5), North Metro Judo and Ju Jitsu Club (5), and Room in a Day (5).

The City of Isanti is home to 145 businesses. These businesses employ approximately 1,470 people within our community. The five largest employers in Isanti are: United Parcel Service, Rum River Ornamental, McDonald's, Advanced Telemetry Systems, and Cambridge-Isanti School District 911. Our vibrant business community provides quality jobs, a substantial tax base and is actively involved in the community. Invites went out via email and US Mail the first week in May. If you are an Isanti business and you haven't RSVP'd, please do so to Economic Development Director Sullivan no later than June 13th.

Isanti Family Farmer Market Returns to Eagle Park in Historic Downtown Isanti

A sub-committee of the Isanti Area Chamber of Commerce created the Isanti Family Farmer's Market in 2010. For two full years the market flourished at Eagle Park until it ended in the Fall of 2011. The City of Isanti and the Economic Development Authority have brought the Farmers Market back to Isanti on Friday afternoons from 2:30-6:30 p.m. at Eagle Park starting June 14th. The Isanti Area Chamber and former market director have helped the City revive this great community event. The late spring has delayed the planting and harvesting for many producers this year but the Isanti Market is prepared to offer local growers and artisans the opportunity to sell their produce and products at this year's market. For more information please visit the City website at: www.cityofisanti.us or the new website dedicated exclusively to the Isanti Family Farmers Market at www.isantifamilyfarmersmarket.org. We are always looking for new vendors, artisans and performing acts. This year the Isanti Family Farmers Market will be spotlighting a new Isanti business each week. Please come out and see what the Market has to offer; it's a great way to start your weekend and to support your local economy. Please contact Sean Sullivan or Holly Buboltz at City Hall for additional information.



The City of Isanti would like to take the opportunity to thank the following sponsors of this year's Farmer's Market. Without their generous support, this event would not be possible.

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— SILVER SPONSORS —

George Wimmer

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Community Pride Bank	Ye Old Firehouse & Antiques
Minncro Credit Union	Isanti Municipal Liquor Store
Isanti Rental	Isanti Subway
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Community Development

Isanti Industrial Sites "Shovel Ready Certified"

The City of Isanti completed the "Minnesota Shovel Ready" certification process for its vacant industrial sites in 2011. This program removes hurdles often in place that delay property acquisition that can lead to prospects selecting other locations. This certification puts Isanti in a more competitive position and should lead to more interest in developing our industrial park and bringing in new businesses and job opportunities. The past year has seen an increase in industrial activity in Minnesota and the nation. Isanti is positioned well to attract expanding businesses. The City of Isanti has Minnesota Shovel Ready Certified lots available in the Isanti Centennial Complex Business Park with lots ranging from 1.21 acres to 15.49 acres. All city utilities and fiber optic service are to the curb at each site which makes your decision to locate to the City industrial park easy. You can't beat lots for \$1.00 and the lower property taxes Isanti boasts over neighboring cities. The City has a number of economic development tools in place to help businesses make the move to Isanti or to remain within the community. If you want to learn more please contact Economic Development Director Sullivan at ssullivan@cityofisanti.us or 763.807.4339.



Street Dances Return in 2013

The City of Isanti EDA has sponsored two street dances to be held in Historic Downtown Isanti at the intersection of 1st Avenue and Main Street. The Killer Hayseeds will be performing the evening of July 27th. Boogie Wonderland will be performing on August 24th immediately following the Isanti Weekly Car Show Finale (Facebook "Isanti Weekly Car Show"). The street dances do not have a cover charge and are free to the public. Be sure to stop on by to hear some quality music and spend an evening with your neighbors. Information about the two events will be on the City Website at www.cityofisanti.us. Contact Sean Sullivan or Holly Buboltz for additional information.



Building

763-444-5512

Spring arrived late in Isanti, but summer will be here by the time you read this issue of the Isantian. Below are a number of items to pay special attention to during the warmer months of the year:

Swimming Pools- A pool with a capacity of 5000 gallons or more and a depth exceeding 24" requires a permit and a gated enclosure. Please call the City Building Department for further details.

Sand Point Wells- Sand point wells can be used for supplemental water supplies but must be completely independent from the City potable water supply. This type of well is required to be registered with the Minnesota Department of Health and the City of Isanti. Forms are available from the Building Department or at the front desk at City Hall.

Back Flow Preventers- Protection of your home and the City's water supply is very important. The Minnesota Plumbing Code requires domestic water supplies to be protected from lawn irrigation systems by a registered backflow device designed and approved specifically for that purpose. A permit and inspection are required.

Recreational Fires- Can be a very enjoyable part of a Minnesota summer evening. There is no permit requirement but the State Fire Marshall Office does have some requirements. The requirements state that the fires shall be placed inside a 3' maximum diameter fire ring, kept a minimum of 25' from any combustible structures, and the flames shall not extend higher than 3'. Here's a new twist for a traditional treat around the campfire; when making a S'mores treat try exchanging a peanut butter cup for the piece of chocolate (unless you have a peanut allergy, of course).

Rental Licensing- The City of Isanti has a Rental Licensing Ordinance. If you have a home and are interested in using it as rental property, please contact my office. If you are a tenant or a potential tenant with intentions to rent property in Isanti and would like to know if it is currently licensed please contact my office to verify.

New Home Construction- There are six new homes currently under construction within the City limits. Three of those homes were issued permits in 2013. For the entire 2012 season, only four residential building permits were issued.

Commercial Construction- The China House Restaurant has recently completed construction and will be opening soon at 303 Credit Union Drive NE. The Therapy Associates Inc. building has completed the footings and foundation work for their new building to be located at 904 6th Avenue Court NE.

As always, if you have any construction or housing questions, please do not hesitate to give my office a call. The calls are free and if I do not have the answer, I will try to find someone who does.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer!
City of Isanti Building Official, Rick Sames

Restrictive Watering Ban in Force

Per City Code Chapter 325-2, during the period from May 1st through September 1st annually, all property with addresses that end with an odd number may be sprinkled on odd-numbered days only. All property with addresses that end with an even number may be sprinkled on even-numbered days only. 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 Chapter 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.

Are you cleaning up after your pet?

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 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 Development

2013 Mayor's Great Yard Awards

The Parks, Recreation, and Culture Board will be kicking off its seventh year of the "Mayor's Great Yard Award". This award recognizes the hard work, dedication, and creativity of our residents to help maintain a beautiful City. The awards are open to all Isanti City residents. You may nominate yourself or any property within the Isanti city limits. The Parks, Recreation, and Culture Board will judge all entries and make recommendations to the Mayor for award winners. Awards will be presented for June, July and August. You may not win consecutive awards. All Parks, Recreation, and Culture board members as well as City staff and their immediate family members are not eligible.

This year's awards are sponsored by the following businesses: First Place (\$100) Alan Duff, Duff Consulting, LLC; Second Place (\$50) Aaron Zdon, Startac Construction, Inc.; and Third Place (\$25) Aaron Andrews, My Geeky Guy, Inc.

Nominations will be accepted through Park staff, Lisa Wilson, who can be contacted at by phone at (763) 444-5512, via e-mail at lwilson@cityofisanti.us, or by mail or drop off at City Hall, 110 First Avenue N, PO Box 428, Isanti, MN 55040. You may nominate yourself or any property within the Isanti city limits. All nominations must be received by 4:30 p.m. on the third Wednesday of the month. The awards will be presented by the Mayor at the following Council meeting.

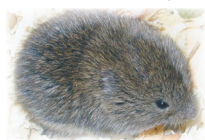
If you dig a hole:

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

Turf damage from rodents - How do I know what rodent is causing the damage and how can I solve it?

Ground foraging rodents create a number of different problems for home owners. Some rodents create above ground grassy runways in the turf areas while others burrow just under the surface or create mounds. All of them damage lawns in one way or another. If you see these types of runways it is possible that you may have one or more rodents living and feeding in your yard. Voles, moles and gophers are three of the most common lawn and garden pests. Sometimes there is confusion figuring out what type of pest(s) you have because all three of these pests live the majority of their lives underground and are seldom seen.

Lawn Voles (also called Field Mice)



During late March and April we get many calls about voles and vole damage in grass areas. Unfortunately, the name 'vole' is close to the name 'mole' causing some confusion and miscommunication. Voles are a pest in turf and landscaped areas for two reasons: they tunnel and burrow above the soil in the turf areas, and they gnaw on the trunks and roots of various trees and ornamental plants in search of food.

There are two reasons why these pests are in your lawn. First, the environment provided from lush lawns are also a prime breeding and feeding area for lawn insect pest, grubs (or insect larvae) and earth worms. The rich, well-irrigate soil in which the turf grasses grow are a haven for crickets, worms, grubs and insects which feed on lawns. Voles eat these insects and worms. Second, many homeowners with vole infestations usually live close to a wooded area or wetland. As development decreases these natural areas, the voles look for new habitat in your maintained yards.

Lawn Moles



Since voles are not the only animal pests responsible for runways in lawn and garden areas, they are often confused with moles. Moles produce two types of runways in your yard. One runway runs just beneath the surface. These are feeding tunnels and appear as raised ridges running across your lawn. Moles have a similar diet to voles which consists of worms, grubs and insects. The second type of runway runs deeper and enables the moles to unite the feeding tunnels in a network. It is the soil excavated from the deep tunnels that homeowners find on their lawns, piled up in mounds that resemble little volcanoes. These mounds are a dead giveaway that your problem is not voles, but moles. Voles leave no mounds at all behind.

Lawn Gophers (also called Pocket Gophers)



Pocket Gophers are vegetarians that feed on roots of plants and grasses. Mounds are formed as the gopher digs its tunnel and pushes the loose dirt to the surface. The mounds they create are usually fan shaped and clustered in an area which is characteristic evidence of their presence. Mounds of fresh soil are a sign of pocket gopher presence within a tunnel system. The hole, which is off to one side of the mound is usually plugged, keeping intruders out of burrows. One gopher can do a lot of damage; it may look like your yard is infested with these critters when in reality it's only one!

Recommended Treatment

There are a number of products that can be used to help reduce the damage caused by these pests in your yard. One of the most effective solutions to drive voles, moles and gophers away from your yard is to use a **granular deterrent** with 'castor oil' as the active ingredient. Not only do the granules drive the rodents away, but it's also beneficial for your lawn and garden. You can do your entire yard at once, or distribute the granules in sections to drive the moles or gophers out a specific exit. To herd these pests away, just start at the farthest point from your desired exit and apply a third of the granules. A few days later, cover the next third, then the final third a few days after that. Water will activate the scent that annoys these pests, so either water well after applying the granules or let the rain soak your yard.

Another effective method to help eliminate the desire for rodents in your yard is to use a **turf insecticide** with active ingredients such as Acephate or Talstar. This will reduce the food source and potentially the desire of the pests to enter your yard. These type of products can be purchased at your local hardware or farm supply store.

For either of these options please follow the precautionary instructions on the product bag for application rates and proper handling. To administer either of these products you can contact a local listing under Pest Control Contractors.

Oleander is a botanical flower deterrent that can also be used to control moles and gophers. Many people will line the edge of their mole or gopher prone areas with this plant, as the rodents seem to dislike them, although it's unclear why. In any case, Oleander is certainly a pretty flower, likely to compliment any lawn or garden.



There are also a number of rodent poisons and traps on the market. Keep in mind when using poisons not all of them are legal, and none of them are safe around kids or pets. It's recommended that you contact a local professional pest control company to review these options before using them.

In closing, most cases the turf is only temporarily esthetically damaged as the roots are still in place and will grow out as time allows, so be patient and your lawn will restore itself to the original beauty in no time at all. Some situations may require additional restoration work including topsoil placement, fertilization and seeding.

Sources: Mole Control at: www.volecontrol.com; Moles vs. Gophers at: www.ehow.com/how_4864628_identify-mole-gopher.html; Home Pest Control: Vole Control and Identification at: www.landscaping.about.com/cs/pests/a/vole_control.htm.

Public Works/Engineering/Police Department

City Engineering News

2013-Railroad Avenue & Walk Improvements

The City of Isanti is currently advertising to receive bids on the "2013-Railroad Avenue & Walk Improvements" project. This project involves the construction of multiple infrastructure improvements this coming construction season. The Minnesota Department of Transportation and the City Council have approved the use of Municipal State Aid (MSA) funds on all eligible items. This will greatly reduce the burden on the City and the taxpayers.

The proposed project includes the following improvements:

- A concrete sidewalk is proposed along the south side of Heritage Blvd NE from Elim Lane NE to Credit Union Drive NE to complete the sidewalk system from Hwy 65 to Whiskey Road NW to add a continuous safe walkway to the school. A cross walk will also be added across Heritage Blvd NE to East Dual Boulevard NE.

- Railroad Avenue SE was improved north of Towns Edge Road SE in the 2010 construction season. It is now proposed to extend that improvement along Railroad Avenue SE south from Towns Edge Road SE to South Passage SE. This improvement would match the layout of the 2010 project where the street would be reconstructed with curb and gutter and a 10-foot bituminous walkway would be added along the west side of the roadway for pedestrians and bicyclists. Street lighting is also proposed along the project to improve safety.

- A 10-foot bituminous walkway is also proposed along the north side of South Passage SE from Railroad Avenue SE west to the existing bituminous trail where it currently ends near Cimarron Trail SW. This improvement would complete the loop of the existing trail and walk infrastructure, connecting the southern trail to the eastern trail system. Concrete curb and gutter would also be installed along the north side of South Passage SE from Railroad Avenue SE to the railroad crossing. Street lighting is proposed along this project to improve safety as well.

The bid opening is scheduled for the end of May. Once the bids are received, the City Council will determine if the project will be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder. If the project is awarded, construction could start as early as mid June and is expected to take about three months to complete.

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

A message from Isanti Fire

Our Isanti Firefighters have numerous things going on, which indicates that summer is finally upon us. We had a fairly busy spring grass fire season, but by the looks of the much anticipated green grass, the threat is behind us. Grass and brush fires account for a total of 8 of our 19 fires and 253 runs total year to date. Residents in the City of Isanti can rest assured that none of these out of control fires were in the city, although some of them were close enough to be seen. I don't think I am too far off in saying that 100% of the grass fire calls that we extinguish, were not the result of a malfunction (a train or a car engine dropping hot connecting rods into the dry grass - true story!) where the people responsible for the fire did not tell us that it happened "so fast", they couldn't believe it, or that they had no idea that it would have happened. It happens very quickly, and most fire starters don't have resources readily available other than the local fire department to deal with a wild land fire once they realize they have started one. Please continue to be fire safe, and not take any chances. The city has arrangements to rid your leaves and grass clippings free of charge, and I would highly recommend utilizing it.

The last group of firefighters to join our team have recently completed "Firefighter 2" training, and received firefighter licensing with the State of MN. These firefighters carry the same credentials that a full time firefighter who works in a bigger city like Minneapolis, St. Paul, and Duluth do. This accomplishment is above and beyond the minimum level of qualifications we expect of them, and is ultimately a benefit to all of us, as our firefighters are highly trained in the event we should ever need their assistance. These people and their families have made a tremendous amount of sacrifice to their personnel lives to accomplish this. For that, I thank them as well as the residents, Mayor and Council in the City for supporting them. The next hiring phase that we will be undergoing will be in the fall of this year with an expected start date of January 1, 2014. If you are interested in taking the challenge of becoming a paid-on call firefighter, stop by our office at 401 1st Avenue NW or visit our website and fill out an application. Firefighter applicants must be 18 years old, have a felony free criminal background, and be able to pass a mental aptitude and DOT comparable physical agility test. Applicants must also be willing to respond to the often grueling and unpredictable schedule that comes with being an on-call Firefighter.

The Fireman's Rodeo Association is geared up for their 37th Annual Professional Rodeo in the City of Isanti on July 12-13. A lot of work goes into this event by your local firemen and women, their spouses, children and significant others. Several exciting changes have been made to accommodate our growing attendance. Additional seating arrangements, vendors, and methods to streamline entrance lines as well as additional personnel have been added this year. One way you can get through the entry gates faster and save a few bucks, is to purchase your tickets in advance. Advance over the counter ticket information is available on our website at www.isantifiredistrict.org. Another option is to purchase your tickets on-line through our website. Just click on the link, enter your payment information, and print your own ticket(s) right from home. Lastly, we also have firefighters selling advance tickets on foot throughout several events during Jubilee Days to save you time and money. See you at the Rodeo!

Al Jankovich, Assistant Chief Isanti Fire District

City Offices Closed

Thursday, July 4

Independence Day

Monday, September 2

Labor Day

Monday, October 14

Columbus Day

Isanti Police Department

ChiefSager@cityofisanti.us
763-444-4761

The Isanti Police Department will be working extra hours on traffic safety this summer. We have received a grant from the State to work over-time during holiday events to promote traffic safety. The biggest cause for injury related accidents are inattentive driving, not wearing seatbelts, and going too fast. If you concentrate on driving safely, this will ensure an uneventful summer.

As always our biggest crime during the summer months is theft from motor vehicles. If you have family and friends visiting, please make sure they keep their vehicles locked when parked outside. This will prevent a lot of headaches and problems in the future.

Some of the big events that we have coming up in the City of Isanti is National Night Out. This is a family fun day scheduled for Tuesday, August 6th, which is held at the Isanti Community Center at 6:00 p.m. This event is a potluck. There will be plenty of food and helpful information for the community.

Some events that we just finished up were Take a Kid Fishing and ATV Youth Safety Training. Lieutenant Hill will be putting together another ATV Safety Training and a Snowmobile Safety Class. If you would like more information about those events, please contact the Isanti Police Department for upcoming dates. Have a fun and safe summer.

Administrative/Finance

City of Isanti 2012 Annual Financial Report and Management Letter

At the April 16, 2013 City Council meeting council approved the 2012 Annual Financial Report and Management Letter. To view a copy of the 2012 Annual Financial Report, please check the City's website at www.cityofisanti.us.

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 to City Code Chapter 216 Nuisances; and the fines associated with violation of these provisions.

All noxious weeds and other rank growths of vegetation upon public or private property are prohibited within the City of Isanti. In accordance with the notification requirements of Chapter 216-6, 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. 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. If such costs are not paid by the property owner, 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. For questions regarding the Code Requirements, please contact Community Service Officer Tanya Nuss at (763) 444-4761 or cso@cityofisanti.us.

2014 Budget Process

City Staff will begin working on the 2014 budget in early May as individual departments begin determining their expected expenditures for next year.

May 2013	Department heads meet with the City Administrator and Finance Director and put together each department's budget.
July 2013	City's Finance Committee meets to review the entire budget. Individual Committees and Boards will review their budgets.
Mid July-August 2013	City Council work sessions are held to review each department's budget.
September 3, 2013	Isanti City Council to approve the 2014 Preliminary Budget and Tax Levy.
December 3, 2013	Budget Presentation and Isanti City Council to approve the 2014 Final Budget and Tax Levy.

Please check the City's website for updates to this schedule.

Wise Ways to Use Water

- Keep a pitcher of water in the refrigerator rather than running the tap until the water gets cold.
- Take shorter showers. A quick shower rather than a bath can save an average of 20 gallons of water. The Environmental Protection Agency recommends taking three- to five-minute showers.
- Garbage disposals use approximately 11.5 gallons of water per day. Try composting organic wastes instead.
- Use the dishwasher and washing machine only when you have full loads.
- Use mulch around trees to slow evaporation.
- Direct downspouts and other runoff toward shrubs, trees and gardens.
- Water lawns and plants early in the morning or during the evening when there is less evaporation.



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Community Events

Jubilee Days: July 11-14, 2013

The Isanti Area Chamber of Commerce and its 100+ members are proud to sponsor Jubilee Days, which coincide with the Isanti Firefighters Rodeo on July 12th and 13th, 2013. The 2013 Rodeo-Jubilee Days begin on Thursday, July 11th with one of the largest parades in the state. The parade begins at 6:30 pm at Main Street W and 5th Avenue SW with a flyover by the T-6 Thunder. Food and beverage vendors will be stationed along the parade route for spectator's convenience.

Rodeo performances begin at 6:30 pm on July 12th & 13th. Saturday July 13th, offers many activities including a Walk/Run, Kids Free Fun Day, Turtle Races, Lions Corn Feed, Out-house Races, Royal Box Lunch Auction, and food and craft vendors. The 2013 Isanti Ambassador Coronation will be held Sunday July 14th at 4:00 pm in the Isanti Middle School Auditorium.

Watch your local newspapers for a detailed schedule of all the activities. Thank your local business often because without their donations and hard work, these activities would not be possible. See you at the 2013 Isanti Rodeo-Jubilee Days! If you would like to be a part of the biggest Event in Isanti, please call the Isanti Chamber at 763-444-8515. We are always in need of volunteers.



Isanti Offers Year-Round Education Programs

Cambridge-Isanti Public Schools offer a Year-Round Elementary program at Isanti Intermediate School and a Year-Round Middle School Program at Isanti Middle School. The program is free and open to all residents of the Cambridge-Isanti School District as well as those seeking open enrollment. The program begins on July 31 and has 2-3 week breaks between each trimester. The programs emphasize science, technology, environment, arts, and mathematics. For more information contact the Elementary program at 763-552-8800 or the Middle Level program at 763-691-8600.

Cambridge-Isanti Schools Offer Summer Programs for Students

Cambridge-Isanti Public Schools will be offering summer programs for students currently in grades K-7 starting July 22. The programs will be held at Isanti Middle School for current students in grades 3-7 and at Isanti Primary for current students in grades K-2 to allow students living in the city to walk to their programs. All programs will be held Monday-Thursday from 8:00-12:00. The programs will have a theme and integrate science, math, and literacy. For more information contact your child's school.

Isanti Ambassador

As summer quickly approaches, the ambassadors once again reflect on a busy year. Kirstin, Caitlin, and Mikayla are all looking forward to a fun filled summer and have begun participating with this year's candidates. The ambassadors and candidates will be doing many service projects and activities throughout the summer and the new 2013 ambassadors will be selected at coronation on July 14th. The ambassadors encourage everyone to stop by and say hello when they see them out at events. This pushes the candidates to branch out and the ambassadors truly enjoy meeting individuals of the community.

Each year the ambassador program selects one of their three ambassadors to represent the City of Isanti at the Minneapolis Aquatennial festival. This year's participant is Mikayla Miller. The ambassador program wishes her the best of luck. Please visit our Facebook page for more information on how to support Mikayla at Aquatennial. Here is to a wonderful summer and Rodeo Jubilee Days!

Contact isantiambassador@yahoo.com for more information.



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

Tracy Neifert
763-444-7368

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

MEALS ON WHEELS/ SENIOR DINING

Edie Frison
763-689-5992

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Susi McCune
763-444-4585

VFW

Kim - Manager
763-444-1787

ISANTI LIONS

Joe Mau - 763-444-4107

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

Community Events

CITY PARKS:

RIVERSIDE PARK

503 Rum River Drive NW
Corner of Rum River Drive NW & Hill-
ock St. NW



RUM RIVER

MEADOWS PARK

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



MATTSON PARK

311 5th Avenue NW
Intersection of Main St. W & 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.



VFW PARK

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



UNITY PARK

420 3rd Avenue NW
North of Unity Blvd. NW.



BLUEBIRD PARK

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



LEGACY PARK

NW corner of Villages on the Rum



KEY	
Skate Park	Swings
Picnic Shelter	Horseshoes
Picnic Tables	Trails
Tennis Court	Basketball Court
Softball Field	Volleyball Court
Toddler Equipment	Hockey Rink
	Playground Equipment

Calendar of Events

FRIDAY, JUNE 14

Farmer's Market, Eagle Park from 2:30-6:30 p.m. For details visit www.isantifamilyfarmersmarket.org.

TUESDAY, JUNE 18

Tribute to Dads Race, BMX Track, call 763-444-5429 for details. Sign up from 6-7 p.m. Free to spectators.
Mayor's Employer Recognition Luncheon, Isanti City Hall from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

THURSDAY, JULY 11

JUBILEE DAY PARADE, 6:30 pm

FRIDAY, JULY 12

37th Annual Professional Rodeo, Isanti Rodeo Grounds, 6:30 p.m.
For details see the website at www.isantifiredistrict.org



SATURDAY, JULY 13

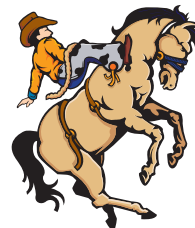
Fitness Run/Walk Event –Registration at 7:30 a.m., Start at Main Street W and First Ave NW,
Medals will be awarded

Pie social, corn feed, vendors, Isanti Community Center/City Hall Complex, All Day

Jubilee - Free Kids Day. Moonwalk, pony rides, games, City Hall Complex, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Outhouse Races on Main Street, Contact Tammy Hoveland at Lake State Federal Credit
Union for details, 2 p.m.

37th Annual Professional Rodeo, Isanti Rodeo Grounds, 6:30 p.m.
For details see the website at www.isantifiredistrict.org



SUNDAY, JULY 14

Isanti Ambassador Coronation, Isanti Middle School Auditorium, 4:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 27

Street Dance, Intersection of Main St. & First Ave., Music by the Killer Hayseeds, time TBD

TUESDAY, AUGUST 6

National Night Out, Isanti Community Center, 6:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 24

Street Dance, Intersection of Main St. & First Ave. Music by Boogie Wonderland, time TBD

OTHER EVENTS

Isanti Senior Dining, Catholic Charities sponsors the noon meal. Reservations can be made by calling Edie Frison at 763-689-5992 or the Isanti Community Center on Monday and Wednesday between 10 a.m.-11 a.m. at 763-444-6100 or the Food Preparation Center in Cambridge at 763-689-4691. There is a suggested donation of \$3.50 per persons 60 and older; or \$7.00 for persons under 60. This includes home delivered meals and/or site dining. Come join us!

Isanti Senior Blood Pressure Checks, Isanti Community Center, 2nd Monday of each month

VFW Fundraiser Pancake Breakfast, 9:00 a.m. to Noon, 2nd Saturday of every month

Isanti Senior Dining Bingo, every Monday

VFW \$1,000 Progressive Bingo Event, 6:00 p.m., Every Wednesday



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Cambridge Chapel – 720 1st Avenue E. – 689-2070
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Community Events

COACHES CORNER

Steve Allen, Isanti Redbirds

This is my twelfth year as the coach of the Isanti Redbirds! Last year, we were moved up to Class B and moved into the Metro Minny League. We had an excellent season, finishing the year with 33 wins and 9 losses.

But, last year was last year! We now have another year of new challenges in front of us. The 'Birds will again play about 40 games this year. The Metro Minny is made up of some of the best Class B teams in the State: Anoka, Blaine, Big Lake, Champlin, Coon Rapids, East Bethel, Hamel, Isanti, Forest Lake and St. Francis. We will play each team twice. This will make for a very competitive schedule! We will also again be playing a very competitive non-conference schedule, playing some outstanding teams in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

The 2013 Redbird team will be made up of many veteran players and a handful of younger up-and-coming 'Birds of the Future. The 'Birds pitching staff is once again led by veterans Wade Reichmann, Adam West, Joe Ramberg, Dallas Nelson, Matt Duong, Brian Schultz and Tyler Schaff. Jake Johnson, who is a junior at the Cambridge-Isanti High School, should also be a big help to the pitching staff later in the summer. The 'Birds will have a lot of offense provided by the bats of Kyle Johnson, Nick Johnson, Jake Maros, Tyler Schaff, BJ Samuelson and Brent Burman. Dan Hamann, Wyatt Soderquist, Packy Lind, Matt Duong, Garrett Hedberg, Mitch Dunbar and Brian Schultz stabilize the defense. Over the winter, the 'Birds added two new players to their roster, Luke Scott and Jerid Adamson. Both players will be extremely valuable because they can play many different positions. (The 'Birds may add one or two additional players before the roster deadline). This year's team does have a lot of ability; however, playing the game as "a team" will always be the key ingredient to a successful season.

Come down to the ball park and enjoy a game or two!



ISANTI REDBIRD BASEBALL *The Legend Continues*

2013 Schedule

DATE	OPPONENT	PLACE	TIME
MAY			
5	Lyons Pub	Home	5:00 p.m.
12	Minneapolis Angels	Home	5:00 p.m.
15	Hinckley	Home	7:30 p.m.
17	Metro Merchants	Home	7:30 p.m.
19	Blaine	Away	2:00 p.m.
24	Anoka (Home Opener)	Home	7:30 p.m.
29	Osceola	Away	7:30 p.m.
JUNE			
1-2	<i>Sartell Tournament</i>	Away	TBD
5	East Bethel	Away	7:30 p.m.
7	Champlin	Home	7:30 p.m.
10	Elk River	Home	7:30 p.m.
12	Coon Rapids	Away	7:30 p.m.
14	Sauk Rapids	Away	7:30 p.m.
15	Mora	Home	5:00 p.m.
16	Anoka	Home	7:00 p.m.
19	St. Francis	Home	7:30 p.m.
23	Big Lake	Away	2:00 p.m.
26	Coon Rapids	Home	7:30 p.m.
28	Hamel	Home	7:30 p.m.
30	St. Francis	Away	Noon
JULY			
7	River Falls	Away	1:00 p.m.
10	Forest Lake	Away	7:30 p.m.
11	<i>Isanti Parade</i>	Isanti	6:00 p.m.
12	Hamel	Away	7:30 p.m.
13	<i>Outhouse Race</i>	Isanti	TBD
14	East Bethel	Home	7:30 p.m.
17	Blaine	Home	7:30 p.m.
19	Hinckley	Away	7:30 p.m.
21	Forest Lake	Home	7:00 p.m.
24	Big Lake	Home	7:30 p.m.
26	Champlin	Away	8:00 p.m.
27	St. Michael	Away	7:30 p.m.
AUGUST			
2	<i>Section Tournament Starts</i>		

Other Isanti Area Recreational Sites

Soccer Complex
BMX Track
Isanti Ice Arena
Martin's Landing
(DNR Canoe Landing)
Redbirds Baseball Field
Vision Wake Park

For links visit:
www.cityofisanti.us

"Skate Don't Hate" Night

The Isanti Police Department would like to invite kids throughout the community to join them for "Skate Don't Hate" night at the Isanti Skate Park. Every Monday evening from 3-5 p.m. beginning June 10th thru September 2nd, the Isanti Police Department will be providing a safe and welcoming environment for all those who wish to use the park. Sodas and goodies will also be distributed. For additional information, please contact the Isanti Police Department at 763-444-4761.

Isantian Deadlines & Contact Info

The next edition of the Isantian newsletter will be sent out September 9th with an advertising deadline of August 26th.

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

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

Friends of the Isanti Area Library



Our Library Link Site is located in City Hall and is open Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Check out books, movies, and audio books. You are welcome to request items and pick them up from the Librarian here in Isanti. Watch for Summer Events and reading opportunities on our new web site www.IsantiLibrary.org.

Isanti Community Center



The Isanti Community Center is a great place to hold your event! Dances, Luncheons, Graduation Parties, Fund Raisers, Seminars, Business Presentations, Birthday Parties, and many other activities are held year round. Located at 208 1/2 First Avenue NW next to City Hall, our rates are very reasonable. For more information and reservations call Joe Mau at 763-444-5070 or 763-444-4107.

Support your Community Center! Sponsorship opportunities available starting at only \$50. Call City Council Member Sue Larson for more information 763-286-9964.



City of Isanti
110 1st Ave NW • PO Box 428
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Fax: 763.444.5560

Email: isanti@cityofisanti.us

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