

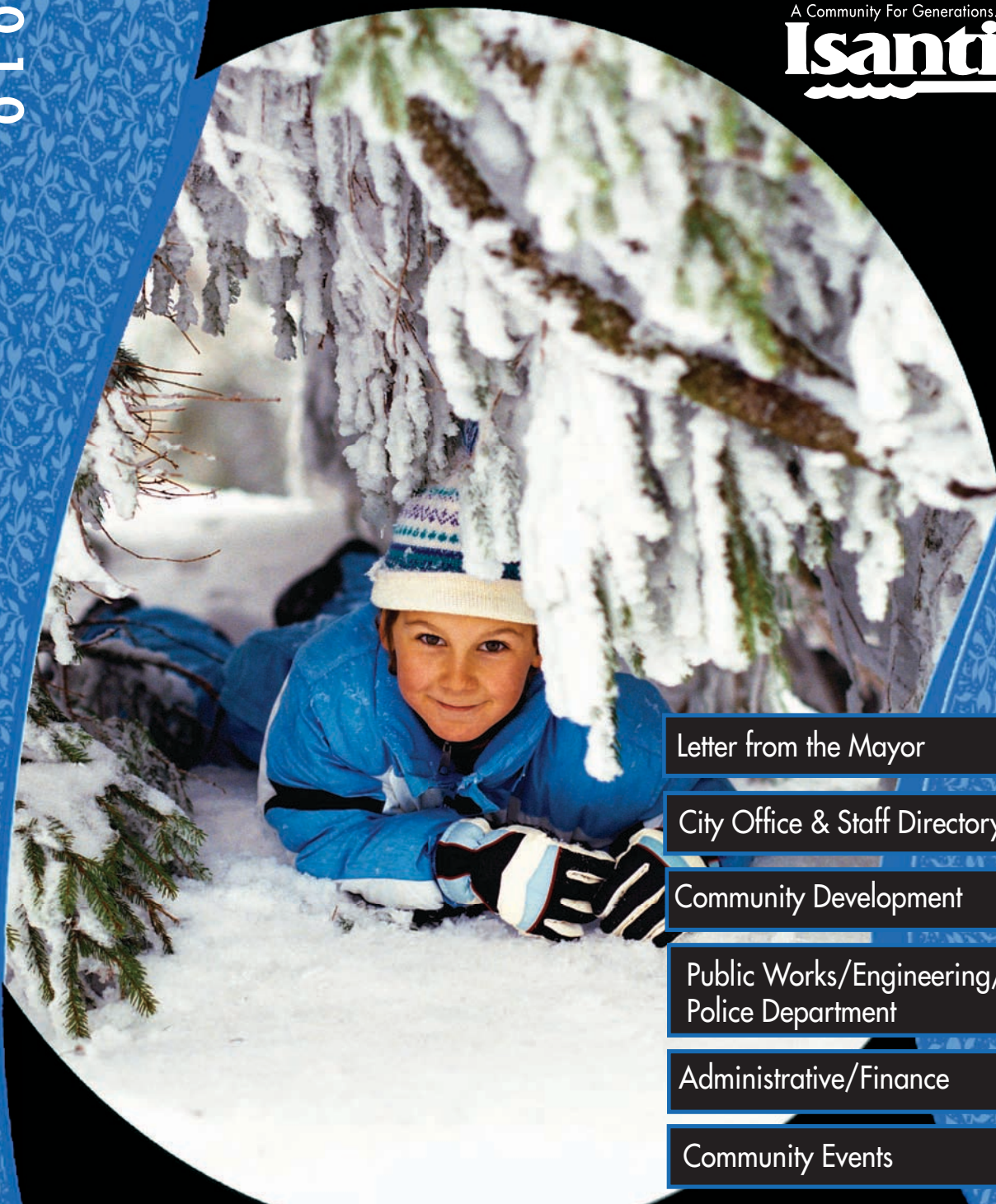
WINTER 2010

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

**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.

We have concluded another election with Council Members Larson and Lorinser being re-elected to 4 year terms on the City Council. We have one more seat to fill and that is the open seat left by a Council Member's resignation. That election will proceed in January. We will have a great deal of work to do in the New Year as we deal with the State's continued inability to rectify their \$5-\$8 billion deficit. Cities, Counties and School Districts all become the State's rainy day fund as they raid our designated funds to balance their budget.

With this in mind we will be conducting several Community Meetings to inform the public and to receive input from our Citizens and Taxpayers. The dates and times will be posted on the City website in January. It is crucial we have an open and frank dialog regarding our City's future and the level of services we expect.

Isanti is facing the repercussions of decisions made by previous Councils and Mayor to load up on development debt during the "boom" years of growth. Even though this was not my decision, I am left with the terrible chore of helping to clean up this mess. This development debt was financed by overly optimistic sewer and water hookup rates from new construction. With the collapse of the housing market this funding stream has dried up. We have been trying to refinance this debt but the State has added so many roadblocks and extra cost it no longer makes sense to refinance this portion of our debt, as the long term cost would outweigh the short term benefit. The only other avenue to fund this debt is through user fees. This will be one of the critical discussions at our community meetings in the new year as we work our way out of this mess.

Our preliminary 2011 General Fund budget is \$3,062,368 which is an 8% real dollar cut from 2009. The largest share of this budget is the Police Department at \$976,635 or 32% of the total budget. This is an increase from 2007 when it was at 24% of the total budget. Our Streets budget has gone down from 12% of our budget in 2007 to just 9% in 2011; this is one example of what is getting cut to offset our Police Department employee cost. I also want to note that all City Employees except our Police Union have accepted a greater share of their health care cost which has helped the City balance our current budget and will have long term benefits as well. We will have to reduce employee cost at the Police Department to ensure that other critical City services are not put in jeopardy.

On a positive note, we have been able to reduce our 2011 and succeeding general obligation debt payments to help alleviate some of the financial pressures due to City revenue being slashed by the State and falling property values. The City of Isanti is the only community in our area that has not planned to raise property tax levy rates. The expected debt payment of \$515,000 or 17% of our 2011 budget has been cut to roughly \$400,000 or 13% of our budget. This is just one example of what we are doing to make sure our tax rates can be as low as possible.

The last item is about our City Website. For the last few months we have had to transition from one provider to another and many items on our City website were not properly maintained. That has been fixed and we are up and operational once again.

Any questions, suggestions or concerns please contact me at george@georgewimmer.com, call or text me @ 763-442-8749. You may also follow me on Twitter @ <http://twitter.com/MayorWimmer>, Facebook @ <http://www.facebook.com/GeorgeAWimmer> or my blog www.georgewimmer.blogspot.com

We have some difficult years ahead of us but together we can overcome any challenge.



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City Offices & Staff Directory

City Staff

763-444-5512

Administration

City Administrator Donald Lorsung dlorsung@cityofisanti.us

City Clerk/Assistant City Administrator Irene Bauer ibauer@cityofisanti.us

Building Department

Building Official Rick Sames building-inspections@cityofisanti.us

Finance

Finance Director Kristi Smith ksmith@cityofisanti.us

Economic Development

Economic Development Director Sean Sullivan ssullivan@cityofisanti.us

Planning & Zoning/Park and Recreation

City Planner Lisa Wilson lwilson@cityofisanti.us

Public Works

Public Works Director Pat Meyer pmeyer@cityofisanti.us

Police Department

Police Chief Ron Sager ChiefSager@cityofisanti.us

City Council Members:

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Mayor | George A. Wimmer | Phone 763-442-8749 | e-mail: george@georgewimmer.com |
| Council Member | Jim Kennedy | Phone 763-444-4650 | |
| Council Member | Louise Duff (Interim) | Phone 763-444-8807 | e-mail: Louise.Duff@anokaramsey.edu |
| 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:

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

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Fax 763-444-5125

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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

CITY PARKS:

RIVERSIDE PARK

503 Rum River Drive NW
Corner of Rum River Drive NW & Hillock St.



RUM RIVER

MEADOWS PARK

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



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.



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.



BLUEBIRD PARK

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



KEY

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

Invest In Isanti Initiative Generates Growth

In the last edition of the Isantian the City of Isanti announced it had \$350,000 in special economic development funds to spur investment for projects to be built within the City. 6 Projects were submitted to the City for review and 4 projects were ultimately selected to receive the economic development funds. All of these projects are required to break ground prior to July 1, 2011. The projects include:

18 unit (20-resident) senior memory care project located on 6th Avenue NE. The owner of this project will be Prairie Senior Cottages, LLC.

8,250 square foot childcare facility located on Golden Way St NE. The owner of this facility will be Krayola Kids Childcare Center, Inc.

960 square foot expansion for Wintergreens on Credit Union Drive. The facility will continue to be owned by Stawski and Stawski, Inc.

21,600 square foot expansion for American Manufacturing on 1 Enterprise Avenue NE.

On November 16, 2010 the City Council approved the site plans for the first three projects clearing the way for construction to commence this year. Weather permitting, these projects will break ground in November and be completed next year. American Manufacturing has submitted a site plan application and is seeking all required city approvals in December 2010.

It is exciting to see a new business deciding to locate in Isanti and the expansion of three of our own. All of these projects increase city tax base, create local jobs and provide a service or product that residents can utilize. Total value for these projects is estimated to be \$3,000,000 with over 30 new jobs likely being created over the next few years. Welcome to Isanti.

New Businesses for Isanti in 2010

The City of Isanti is proud to recognize some new business for our community in 2010. Keller Williams and Water Works Manufacturing have been added to the list of new businesses this year. They join Insight Printing and Apparel, Coulson Marketing and Racing, KJD Signs, Isanti Variety Store, Purity Solutions, Johnson Law Office, Demorie Alterations, Pzazz Apparel and Farmer's Insurance. Please make these entrepreneurs and business owners feel welcome and remember to support local businesses in Isanti. If you are a new business to the community that hasn't been recognized this year, please contact the City so that we can get you on our business list. During these tough economic conditions it is nice to see our community continuing to grow and support each other.

Economic Development Authority

The Isanti Economic Development Authority's function is to promote, market, and assist the development and redevelopment within the City of Isanti. The Isanti Economic Development portion of the City website is being updated to provide more useful information for both business and residents. Completion of this project is anticipated to be in December 2010. Business retention and allowing for the expansion of existing Isanti businesses is vital to the success of our community. The Mayor and City Staff are continuously making visits to our local businesses to see what the City can do to make the business climate positive and to help them grow. A number of economic development tools are in place to help businesses make the move to Isanti or to remain within the community. For more information please contact Economic Development Director Sullivan at ssullivan@cityofisanti.us or 763.444.5512 X 111.

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Community Development

Building Department

building-inspections@cityofisanti.us • 763-444-5512

Home Safety Tips

The winter heating season is now upon us and that makes it a good time to test your Carbon Monoxide (CO) and Smoke detectors. If you have not replaced the batteries recently now would be a good time to do that. Furnaces, fireplaces, and water heaters are just a few of the appliances that produce CO and if they are not venting properly the CO can accumulate to dangerous levels quickly. State law requires each home with combustion appliances to have an operating CO detector within 10' of the door to each room used for sleeping.

Growth in Isanti

The following building permit statistics are from the 1st of the year through October 2010. Isanti issued 12 new home permits in 2010 compared to 3 in 2008 and 3 in 2009. Eleven of the twelve homes have been completed and sold. Building permit comparisons for the last three years are below:

| Year | # Residential permits | Value | Commercial permits | Value |
|------|-----------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|
| 2008 | 229 | \$4,080,453 | 36 | \$3,061,801 |
| 2009 | 258 | \$1,077,161 | 20 | \$150,454 |
| 2010 | 223 | \$2,244,431 | 20 | \$118,781 |

These statistics indicate that although we are considerably below the permit values in 2008, we more than doubled our residential permit values from 2009 to 2010. Our commercial permit values also are below 2008 values but they only trail slightly from 2009. There are some additional commercial projects in the pipeline that could request permits before the end of the 2010 that will bolster those statistics.

Home foreclosure numbers remain relatively stable. We do not have comparable statistics for 2008 but in October of 2009 we had 145 homes in foreclosure with 45 known unoccupied. In 2010 we had 150 homes in foreclosure with 56 known unoccupied. Our records show that since June of 2008, 203 foreclosed homes have been resold.

If you have a building or code related question, please don't hesitate to give me a call. I will do my best to answer it or find someone who can.

~Building Official Rick Sames

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.

Additional Sign Reminders

- The City would like to remind local businesses that handwritten signs, whether temporary or permanent, are prohibited. All signs must be professionally made.
- Signs shall not be placed upon on any public utility pole.
- Signs are not permitted within the public right-of-way.
- Temporary off-premises signs are permitted within the "B-1", "B-2", "B-3", "CBT", "RC" and "I" zoning districts, providing written permission is granted by the property owner and a temporary sign permit has been approved by the City. Temporary signs are allowed by an annual renewable permit.

Water Shutoffs

Due to change in seasons and on-coming cold weather; if your home is going to be vacant for whatever reason, please call City Hall to have the water shut off to prevent freezing pipes and other water damage.

City Code section 325-9 E. authorizes the City to disconnect services due to electric and/or gas utility services being shut off between October 15 and April 15 and the City determines in good faith that the premises has been vacated by the former account holder and no transfer of the account has been made.



Attention Dog Owners

Please be reminded that dog licenses are due March 31, 2011. 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, 2011. City Code states that any property owner who has more than two dogs must obtain a kennel permit. Please contact City Planner Lisa Wilson regarding information on obtaining a kennel permit at 763-444-5512.



ISANTI & CAMBRIDGE CHAPELS
Isanti Chapel – 409 E. Broadway – 444-5212
Cambridge Chapel – 720 1st Avenue E. – 689-2070
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Scotsman

234 South Main Street, Cambridge
763-689-1981
www.isanticountynews.com

Public Works/Engineering/Police Department

Vandalism in City Parks

The City has seen a rash of vandalism to city park equipment and amenities. The City works hard to provide and maintain the amenities found in City parks. These amenities should be valued and respected, so they can be enjoyed by all park users. If you witness vandalism taking place, please contact the Isanti Police Department at (763) 444-4761.

Winter Parking Notice

Winter Parking City Code Chapter 227-4

Winter parking. No person shall stop, stand, or park any vehicle or permit it to stand on any City street including the snow emergency routes from November 1 through March 31 of each year, between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. Parking will be permitted on the streets between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. providing that the snow removal has been completed or in the absence of snow. Parking will be permitted on the snow emergency routes, providing there is no snow emergency in existence. Parking will not be permitted in the City's downtown municipal parking lot between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m.

*Vehicles in violation of winter parking restrictions during a snow emergency in which snow plowing needs to be done will automatically be ticketed and towed.

Isanti Police Department

ChiefSager@cityofisanti.us • 763-444-4761

How do we make our community a safer, active, growing community? The best things in life that we enjoy are nature, art and the daily things we take for granted. Nature has a wide variety of colors, species and types of plants, animals, trees and scenery. The most popular movies that we watch have the best graphics and special effects. They both show vibrant colors, different ways to view things and provide the best visual perceptions that you could imagine. Advertisers spend millions of dollars on how to make things look appealing. When we look at things that are the most beautiful to us, we describe them in their shapes, their colors and their variety. When we want to decorate our homes, we use vibrant colors, contrasting features and special designs to bring out the best.

Where we are lacking in Isanti is we do not use that same worldly concept when we're dealing with people. When we deal with people we have a tendency to look at what color are they, where are they from and how do they differ from us. If Isanti wishes to continue to grow, to develop and to be a community that truly is "A Community for All Generations," we are going to have to change the way we think.

The most interesting people are not just one type or style. When we're working with our neighbors, community members, business partners, we need to keep in mind that nature has given us many options to choose from. Nature shows us every day how great it is to be different and varying; besides, who has ever heard of a one colored rainbow? If we want Isanti to really grow into a "Community for All Generations", we need to look at why companies are spending millions of dollars to convince us that different colors and styles are a wonderful thing. For this community to prosper, we need to widen our perspectives and remind ourselves that the most fascinating thing in this world is the variety we are provided with.

The Isanti Police Department has a policy that is enforced to prevent biased policing. There are also state laws in effect that make a criminal matter more severe if it is based on a bias or hate crime. If you feel you have been treated unfairly due to race, color or creed; if you feel you are a victim of a bias crime, I would like to know about it.

Recreational Vehicle Parking Ordinance

Chapter 227, Article II of the Isanti City 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 RV's (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 at <http://www.ecode360.com/ecode3-back/getSimple.jsp?guid=IS2802>. If you have questions regarding the ordinance provisions, please contact Steve Wacha, Community Service Officer, at (763) 444-4761.

Engineering Project Updates

County Road 5 Lift Station Replacement

Replacement of the County Road 5 Lift Station near the Subway restaurant is essentially complete. In addition to replacement of this lift station, seven other wastewater lift stations were upgraded with a SCADA system that provides for remote monitoring of these lift stations. Pump operations, water levels and system alarms can now be monitored from a computer at the wastewater plant.

Railroad Avenue Improvements

Railroad Avenue was opened to traffic in November. The street was widened to 28 feet with bituminous pavement and curb and gutter. In addition, a pedestrian/bike trail was built on the west side of the street. An additional lift of bituminous pavement will be constructed in June of 2011. This project was funded primarily through the City's Municipal State-Aid System account, which receives its funding from state gas tax revenues.

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

Administrative/Finance

VOTE FOR ONE CITY COUNCIL SEAT AT THE UPCOMING SPECIAL MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

Special Municipal Primary Election Tuesday, January 11, 2011

The City of Isanti published and posted notices for filings of Affidavits of Candidacy for a vacant Council Seat and said filings closed on November 9, 2010.

City Code provides that when more than two filings are received for a City Council Seat, a Primary Election shall be held.

Three filings of Affidavits of Candidacy were received for the vacant City Council Seat, therefore a Special Municipal Primary Election will be held. At the Special Municipal Primary Election registered voters of the City of Isanti will have the opportunity to vote for one candidate. The candidates who filed and will be voted on are as follows:

Dan Collison
Steve Lundeen
Michael G. Streiff III

A Special Municipal Primary Election is scheduled for Tuesday, January 11, 2011; the polling place for the Special Municipal Primary Election will be at City Hall, 110 1st Avenue NW, Isanti MN 55040; polls open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 8:00 p.m. The office to be voted for shall be for one vacant Council Seat. The two candidates receiving the most votes at the Special Municipal Primary Election will be placed on the ballot for voters to vote on at the Special Municipal Election.

Special Municipal Election Tuesday, March 15, 2011

A Special Municipal Election is scheduled for Tuesday, March 15, 2011; the Polling place will be at City Hall, 110 1st Avenue NW, Isanti MN 55040; polls will open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 8:00 p.m. The office to be voted on is one Council Seat with the term ending January 7, 2013.

Absentee Voting

Special Municipal Primary Election. Absentee voting for the Special Municipal Primary Election opens on Thursday, December 9, 2010 at 8:00 a.m. at City Hall, 110 1st Avenue NW - 763-444-5512.

Special Municipal Election. Absentee voting for the Special Municipal Election opens on Thursday, February 10, 2011 at 8:00 a.m. at City Hall, 110 1st Avenue NW - 763-444-5512.

Absentee Application Process

Voters are able to vote in person at Isanti City Hall or by mail. An application is required before an absentee ballot can be issued. Applications must be signed by the person requesting the ballot. If the person requesting the ballot is unable to sign, they may make their mark, use their signature stamp, or ask another individual to sign for them while in their presence (second individual also signs by voter's name). Power of attorney does not apply to voting.

If the applicant is not registered, they will need to register as part of the absentee voting process.

Voter Registration / Eligible Voters

Registered voters in the City of Isanti precinct are eligible to vote in the upcoming special elections. Voters who are not registered and live in the City of Isanti can register on the day of the election and vote upon providing proof of residence as follows:

- Valid MN Driver's License, Learner's Permit, MN ID card, or receipt for any of these that has a current name and address in the precinct.

See Municipal Elections on Page 8

2011 Budget

Isanti City Council will act on the proposed 2011 budget and property taxes at its December 7, 2010 meeting. The proposed budget for 2011 is \$3,062,368 which is less than the 2010 amended budget of \$3,225,290. Proposed property taxes for 2011 are \$1,949,996 which is a decrease of 10.0% from 2010. The property tax rate for 2010 is 55.873% and it is Council's intent to not increase the rate for 2011. The 2011 budget will be available on the City's website once approved by council.

Isantian Deadlines & Contact Info

The Isantian is published four times a year. The next edition of the Isantian newsletter will be sent out March 15th with an advertising deadline of February 23rd.

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 www.cityofisanti.us or contact the city staff at the numbers listed on Page 3 of this newsletter.

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

For links visit:
www.cityofisanti.us

Snow Removal

It is the homeowner's responsibility to clear sidewalks abutting or serving their property that are not on a designated school route as part of City Code §284-14. "No person shall permit an accumulation of snow or ice to build up or remain on any public sidewalk abutting or otherwise serving lots or parcels located in the City of Isanti."

A full copy of the City Code can be found on the city's web-site: www.cityofisanti.us.

If snow or ice is not removed, the City will hire a company to remove snow and ice and bill back to the owner or renter the fee of \$30 per incident for said removal and an additional \$25 non-compliance fee will also be billed to the owner or renter per incident.



If you dig a hole:

Please call Gopher State One
Call at 1.800.252.1166 to Locate
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MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS *Continued from Page 7*

1. Identification with current name and address in precinct. Voters may use the following IDs with their current name and address in the precinct:

- Tribal ID if card shows name, current address, signature, and picture issued by the tribal government of a tribe recognized by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Tribal band members are not required to live on an Indian reservation in order to use a tribal identification card to prove residence.

2. Photo Identification Plus a Utility Bill or Fee Statement. Voters may use the following photo IDs without their current address along with a document that lists their current address:

Photo ID:

- MN Driver's License. • MN ID. • U.S. Passport. • U.S. Military ID
- MN University, college or technical college ID.

- Tribal ID if card shows name and signature of the individual issued by the tribal government of a tribe recognized by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. o Note: The ID may be expired.

Acceptable bills; if they have the voter's name and current address in the precinct:

A. Utility bill (regardless if delivered electronically or by mail) due within 30 days of Election Day:

- Telephone (landline, cell, VOIP, etc), television (cable, satellite, etc), or internet service provider regardless of how the service is delivered.

- Electric, gas, water, garbage, sewer, or solid waste.

B. Current Student fee statement

C. Rent statement dated within 30 days of Election Day that itemizes utilities

3. Vouching for Residency (Oath of a Registered Voter in the Precinct)

If a voter is unable to provide the identification as stated above, a voter may register and vote by having someone who is registered in the same precinct "vouch" for their residence. The voucher may be pre-registered in the precinct or have registered on Election Day (but not by being vouched for). The registered voter signs an oath attesting (or vouching) to the new registrant's residence in the precinct.

City of Isanti Retains A+ Bond Rating

On June 10, 2010 the City of Isanti was notified by Standard & Poor's that a bond rating of A+ was issued. Through utilization of the Minnesota's credit enhancement program the bond rating was then enhanced to AAA. This bond rating was used to issue \$835,000, General Obligation Utility Revenue Bonds, Series 2010A. \$510,000 of these bonds were used for the CSAH 5 Lift Station and \$325,000 was used for water services in conjunction with the Railroad Avenue project.

On October 20, 2010 the City of Isanti was notified by Standard & Poor's that a bond rating of A+ was issued. This bond rating was used to issue \$1,835,000, General Obligation Improvement Refunding Bonds, Series 2010B. These bonds were issued to refund and restructure portions of the 2003 General Obligation Improvement Bonds and 2004 General Obligation Improvement Bonds.

Standard & Poor's provided the A+ bond ratings based on the following rationale:

- Access to the broader Minneapolis-St. Paul (Twin Cities) economic base;
- Good median household income levels; and
- Very strong financial operations, as evidenced by a very strong general fund balance.

Isanti Community Involvement Team

Thirteen years ago a small group of volunteers began meeting weekly known as the Isanti Community Involvement Team. The Team's primary objective was to plan intergenerational activities that would develop pride in our community, promote family, and provide opportunities to build friendships and appreciation for volunteerism. Members of the Team have decided to step down from this leadership role. The 2011 Annual ATV/Snowmobile Parade will be their last official event.

The Team would like to thank all the local businesses, volunteer groups, and individuals who have supported so many activities through financial resources, time, and energy for so many years.

The Isanti Area Chamber of Commerce recognized the importance of events already established and accepted the opportunity to assume leadership for the following events: Annual ATV/Snowmobile Parade & Chili Feed, Take-A-Kid Fishing and Santa Day. The Isanti community will continue to see members of the Team volunteering at our hometown events under the direction of the Chamber. Team members encourage anyone interested in developing, promoting and celebrating Isanti to contact the Chamber Office.

Community Events

Isanti Ambassadors

It has been just under six months since the 2010 Isanti Ambassadors were crowned during our annual Rodeo Jubilee Days Festival in July. Isanti Ambassadors: Amanda Wichman, Taylor Norberg and Caroline Hass (as pictured to the right) have been traveling the State of Minnesota! They have represented the community of Isanti at various events such as Northfield's Defeat of Jesse James Days, Cokato Corn Festival, Lino Lakes Blue Heron Days and the Anoka Halloween Festival. The Ambassadors have travelled as far as LaCrescent's Apple Fest spreading the joy and community pride of Isanti. They have also participated in home town events as well, such as the recent "Home for the Holidays" tour where they witnessed first hand the community spirit seen in our local businesses, as well as express their appreciation for Isanti. Coming up this winter the Ambassadors will partake in local holiday events, as well as participate in a much anticipated weekend at the St. Paul Winter Carnival in January, 2011. The Ambassadors wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season!



Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Update

The Isanti County Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Task Force continues to grow in its effort to provide support for our service members and their families. We have two current projects that deserve highlighting in this article.

First we are in the midst of working with the Isanti County News and Scotsman's annual drive to collect items to send packages to our troops that are currently deployed. This is a great cause and many within the community have generously supported this effort. If you know of someone in our county that is deployed please contact the Isanti County News/Scotsman at 763-689-1981 or our task force at 763-689 3591 and we will send them a package.

Our other project is making Camouflage quilts for our deployed service members. We have had our organizational meeting and have over 30 volunteers supporting this effort. Our training meeting to learn how to sew the quilts will be on December 11, 2010 at the Cambridge City Hall. Please join us at 9:00 AM on the 11th if you are interested in sewing, packaging or being part of the transportation team to pick up and deliver the quilts.

If you would like to know about the Isanti County Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Task Force go to www.beyondtheyellowribbonisanti.org. We also have yard signs; vehicle magnets and decals if you would like to show your support in this fashion. Thank you very much for your past, present and future support.



Bob Boone
BYR Task Force Chairman

Bike-Walk Trail

On Friday, September 17, 2010, the groundbreaking ceremony was held for the bike-walk trail that will link the Cities of Cambridge and Isanti. After many years of hard work and dedication, the long awaited project has become a reality for both communities. Construction has commenced and will continue with expected completion of the trail in the summer of 2011.

Library Link

Through the efforts of the Friends of the Isanti Area 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 Lisa 763-689-7390.

Isanti Area Friends of the Library Officers:

President Dwight Haberman; Vice President Sue Larson; Secretary Tina Voss; Treasurer Debbie Tilleskjaer; Immediate Past Pres Susi McCune; Communications Mark Ziebarth; Membership Diane Hudoba.



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Worship Time: 9:30 a.m.
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Community Events

OPENING: Outdoor Ice Rink

Winter has arrived and so have the opportunities for outdoor winter sports activities. The City is beginning its preparations for the upcoming ice skating season. Both the pleasure rink and hockey rink are located in Bluebird Park. While the warming house will not be available this season for public use, the goal is to have ice available the weekend before Christmas. Weather permitting, of course. If the City is able to make ice prior to this date, it will do so. The pleasure rink is open to the public during regular park hours, which are 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

The youth hockey association will also be preparing the outdoor hockey rink ice for the upcoming season. The youth hockey association will have exclusive use of the outdoor rink on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., November 1st through February 15th as well as exclusive use of the warming house being provided by the association. The public is permitted to use the hockey rink only, outside of these reserved times.



**Open Skating at
the Civic Arena**

**Check the website for
dates and hours:**

www.isantiarena.org

Calendar of Events



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31 NEW YEARS EVE BASH

9:15 p.m.-12:15 a.m. New Year's Eve Bash at the Isanti Civic Arena. This is a free family event. Bring a dish to share for a potluck dinner.



SATURDAY, JANUARY 1 ANNUAL ATV/SNOWMOBILE PARADE

Isanti's annual New Year's Day Parade is scheduled for 3:00 p.m. with the line up at the Isanti Middle School at 2:30 p.m. The parade route will be determined by the Isanti Police Department. Chili will be served at the Isanti Community Center following the parade. Everyone is invited to come and join the fun – whether you are on a machine, watching the parade, or eating chili!!! The 2010 Isanti Ambassadors: Caroline Haas, Taylor Norberg, and Amanda Wichman will be on hand to help present the awards. There is no entry fee and no need to pre-register. All ATVs and snowmobiles are welcome. Call 763-444-4761 with questions.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12 ISANTI SENIOR ENTERTAINMENT

11:15 a.m. Isanti Senior Entertainment - Contact: Glenda 763-444-6320.



MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14 ISANTI SENIOR VALENTINE PARTY

11:15 a.m. at the Isanti Community Center - Contact: Glenda 763-444-6320.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20 SPECTACULAR BRIDAL FAIR

11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. at Spectacular Events Banquet Center – Contact Isanti Area Chamber of Commerce 763-444-8515.



BUSINESS EXPO

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26 2011 COMMUNITY BUSINESS EXPO

10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. at Isanti Intermediate School.



SATURDAY, MARCH 5 ARCTIC PLUNGE AT LONG LAKE

Event starts at 10:00 a.m. Arctic Plunge is at 2:00 p.m. Many events occur including Vintage Snowmobile Races, Englund Family Old Fashioned Ice Cutting Demonstration, Helicopter Rides, and Food Concessions. The event raises money for charities and organizations. To be a part of this event contact: Warren 763-234-3068; info@arcticplunge.com; www.arcticplunge.com.

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, MARCH 26 & 27 ISANTI HOME SHOW

Located at the Isanti Civic Center. Contact Debbie Bray at 763-444-8303 or check out the website at www.isantihomeshow.com.

Community Events



Minnesota Owls Home Games Schedule

Home Games are played
at the Isanti County Area David C. Johnson Civic Arena, 600 1st Avenue NW
www.minnesotaowls.com or www.isantiarena.org

December

Saturday, 4th, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, 31st, 6:30 p.m.

January

Friday, 7th, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, 8th, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, 14th, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, 15th, 7:30 p.m.

February

Friday, 18th, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, 25th, 7:30 p.m.



Uniting Family, Friends and Community

The Isanti Christmas Village began with a vision in 2009 with a small group of Isanti Chamber volunteers. After a lot of hard work from a few volunteers, Isanti enjoyed the 2009 vision coming together on Main Street. In 2010 the Village was expanded to County Road 5 with thirty more barn wood planters filled with harvested greenery. Take a stroll through our quaint town, and enjoy the warm sense of community developed after many volunteer hours.

Isanti Area Chamber of Commerce

The Isanti Area Chamber of Commerce wishes all residents and businesses a Happy Holiday Season. The Chamber reminds you to support your community by shopping local. When you shop independent businesses, 89 cents of every dollar returns to the community while only 39 cents of every dollar spent at a chain store returns to the community.

The Chamber and the Community Involvement Committee invites you to attend the Snowmobile and ATV Parade on New Years Day. After the parade, enjoy a chili feed at the Isanti Community Center.

Mark your calendars for these upcoming events:

Sunday, February 20, 2011 – Spectacular Bridal Fair – 11am – 3 pm, Spectacular Events Banquet Center

Saturday, February 26, 2011 – 2011 Community Business Expo – 10am-4pm – Isanti Intermediate School

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

MEALS ON WHEELS/ SENIOR DINING

Glenda Reynolds
763-444-6320

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



City of Isanti
110 1st Ave NW
PO Box 428
Isanti, MN 55040

Phone: 763.444.5512

Fax: 763.444.5560

Email: isanti@cityofisanti.us

Website: www.cityofisanti.us



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