

WINTER 2012

City of Isanti **isantian**



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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 if needed

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

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

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

I want to congratulate Steve Lundeen, Dan Collison and Adam Johnson on winning their elections. Everyone who ran should be commended for wanting to make Isanti a better place to live, work and play. With this election there are two new Council Members out of our existing four Council Member positions. Our upcoming Goal Setting Session with our new members will be very important in determining the City's direction over the next few years. Please contact the Council or myself with any issues or concerns you would like to see addressed by the City.

The Community Center Levy vote presented by the Isanti Community Center Task Force failed with only 35% of the City voting in favor of increasing taxes to make needed improvements to the facility. This will put the operation of the Community Center in jeopardy past 2013. The Task Force is still working diligently to find a financial solution to this problem. The final decision will be in the hands of the new Council in 2013.

I want to thank the Sponsors for this year's Mayor's Great Yard Award. Above All Rooftops to Remodeling, Inc. was our 1st place sponsor and is an amazing business located on Main St. in Downtown Isanti. StarTac Construction has been our 2nd place sponsor for several years and in my opinion is one of the best contractors/builders around. KJD Signs is also a multi-year sponsor whose work has graced Isanti in numerous ways. Thank you to all our gracious sponsors for making the program a success. Over the 6 years, since I initiated the Award, we have had 54 winners collecting a total of \$3,150.

Legacy Park Trail, located in our City's northwest quadrant, was opened this fall with great success. I continue to hear from our residents who use and love this unique community asset. I am working with our local Scouts to further enhance this gem in our Park and Trail system. It's important to note that we negotiated to receive the land for free from the Bank that owned it. The trail construction was paid for from park and recreation dedication fees, which are paid by a developer in accordance with State Statute. We have developed an amazing Community Asset, in an incredibly cost effective manner.

Housing and business development activity is on the rise. With 387 foreclosed properties sold to date, we have 37% fewer occupied and unoccupied foreclosed homes in Isanti. Our Rental Ordinance and Maintenance code continue to ensure that rental properties are maintained to appropriate standards. This is more important each year as more homes are being converted to rental properties. We have seen the number of non-homesteaded properties from 2010 to 2011 nearly double; and this trend will continue into the future.

The Council continues to move forward with the necessary completion of road and trail improvements along South Passage SE and Railroad Avenue SE. This project will improve the safety of drivers, bikers and pedestrians. We continue to make progress in making Isanti a safer and more efficient City regarding transportation improvements.

After years of trying to get the sidewalk completed on CSAH 5 through traditional methods, I proposed a new approach to the Council. I asked for support in developing a plan that could get us past a major hurdle – the lack of City easements along CSAH 5. We are developing a design that would not take away any business or property owners' usable land. This took a leap of faith that we could accomplish this project. We, through the work of our City Engineering firm Bolton-Menk, have been able to make this a reality. We then used this plan to get support from the County who owns and controls activity on CSAH 5 and from all the affected property owners. We have successfully received our last needed easement and a show of strong support from all involved continues. We have a lot of heavy lifting to do in the area of finding funding for the project but I am confident that the need for this safety improvement should gain overwhelming support from the Council, County and Community. I will keep you updated on our progress.

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 on Twitter at [twitter](https://twitter.com/mayorwimmer). com/mayorwimmer Facebook at www.facebook.com/MayorGeorgeWimmer or my blog at georgewimmer.blogspot.com

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WILLS & ESTATES

CAMBRIDGE • 763-689-4101

ISANTI • 763-444-9271

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 Pat Meyer pmeyer@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	Jim Kennedy	Phone 763-444-4650	
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	Michael Streiff	Phone 612-940-6804	e-mail: mgstreiff@bremer.com



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ISANTI COUNTY NEWS
234 South Main Street, Cambridge
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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

PUBLIC WORKS:

763-444-0459
Fax 763-444-5125

MUNICIPAL LIQUOR STORE:

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.

Community Development

Water Shutoffs

Due to the upcoming change in seasons, and on-coming cold weather, if your home is going to be vacant for any 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.

Winter Parking Restrictions

Parking of vehicles is not allowed on city streets between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. from November 1st through March 31st of every year. Parking is permitted on streets between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. provided that snow removal has been completed or there is no snow. Parking is not permitted in the City's downtown municipal parking lot (located south of Main Street W and west of the BNSF railroad tracks) between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. Your cooperation will help make the snow removal process more efficient and effective.

Building Department

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

Home Safety Tips

It's that time of the year again when we have our homes "closed up" a larger percentage of time each day in an effort to keep us warm and cozy. Unfortunately, the warmth and coziness we enjoy brings with it a silent danger known as Carbon Monoxide (CO). All homes in Minnesota are now required to have Carbon Monoxide detectors within 10' of each room "used for sleeping." That verbiage is purposely imposed by the State to include more than bedrooms. It is to include any room that contains a pull out couch/bed or the like where someone might take a nap, occasionally sleep, etc. The only exception would be a home totally absent of any CO producing appliances. If you are unsure if your home needs them please give me a call and I would be happy to talk it over with you. CO is a deadly, odorless gas given off by all fuel burning appliances during combustion. Hot water heaters, furnaces, gas and wood fireplaces, stoves, and ovens are amongst the most common types of these appliances. When these appliances malfunction or are improperly vented, CO may accumulate in our homes causing flu like symptoms, brain damage or possibly even death. If you have not yet done so, please consider purchasing and installing CO detectors per the above referenced law. Batteries in Carbon Monoxide detectors as well as smoke detectors should be replaced every six months. A good way to remember battery replacement is to do it whenever we turn our clocks back or ahead. Smoke and Carbon Monoxide detectors themselves have a life span and most require replacement every 5 to 6 years. This information can be found on the underside of each detector.

Permits

The total number of permits issued in any given year (residential plus commercial) can be seen in the following matrix. Roofing and siding permits were the busiest category again this year; which has been the case each year since 2008. The Building Department issued four new home permits this year compared to two last year at this time. We have two commercial projects that are slated to start soon, which consist of an addition to an existing industrial building and a new business working towards opening in the Union Crossing Mall.

YEAR	# OF PERMITS	COMMERCIAL	VALUE
2008	258	3	\$8,412,064
2009	274	0	\$1,227,615
2010	243	0	\$2,363,212
2011	322	2	\$3,124,785
2012	268	6	\$1,911,643

Residential Rental Properties

Since May 2008 the City of Isanti has enforced a Residential Rental Licensing program. Today, we have 540 rental units in the city of which 165 are single family homes. If you are renting and are unsure if the owner has a license, please call my office and I'll check on it for you. If you own a residential rental property and are operating without a license please contact my office as soon as possible. To operate without a rental license is a violation of City Code, which can be prosecuted as a misdemeanor.

Foreclosures Status

Since starting to track foreclosed properties in June 2008 through November 2012 statistics show that 387 homes have gone through the foreclosure process and have been resold. Our statistics also show 37 homes remain unoccupied. This is the lowest number of unoccupied homes since we started tracking foreclosures. One reason why the City tries to monitor this segment of the housing market is to turn the water supply off to the homes as soon as possible upon being vacated, in an effort to prevent water damage from frozen water pipes. As the weather gets colder, time becomes extremely important. If you are going to be vacating your home or you are aware of a recently vacated home; it would be greatly appreciated, if you would call City Hall and let us know.

Have A Very Special and Safe Holiday Season!

Building Official-Rick Sames



ISANTI & CAMBRIDGE CHAPELS

Isanti Chapel - 409 E. Broadway - 444-5212

Cambridge Chapel - 720 1st Avenue E. - 689-2070

Hugo and Brian Strike, Directors and Owners

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Community Development

Minnesota Manufacturer's Week Celebrated in October

Mayor Wimmer issued a proclamation for October 22-26 to be recognized as Minnesota Manufacturer's Week in the City of Isanti. Eighteen local manufacturers provide a combined 292 well paying jobs within the City of Isanti city limits. As part of the business recognition for 2012, City Staff presented Certificates of Commendation provided by the Governor's office to each manufacturer. The following businesses were visited and recognized by City Staff/Officials: Advanced Telemetry Systems, American Manufacturing, Benny Machine, Boeke's Woodshop, Conveyor's Direct, Diamond Welding, Ever Cat Fuels, Freeport Finishing, Granger Machine, KJD Signs, Manufactured Component Resources, Metal Coatings and Manufacturing, Numedis / Insight Bio Med, Reller Signs, Rum River Ornamental, Water Works Manufacturing and YCC Cabinets and Millwork. Thank you all for what you do for the residents of the City of Isanti, the State of Minnesota and the United States of America.

New Businesses for Isanti in 2012

The City of Isanti is proud to recognize some new businesses for choosing Isanti to be home in 2012. Prairie Senior Cottages of Isanti, Miller Tax and Bookkeeping, Strong Tower Consulting, Conveyors Direct, Manufactured Component Resources (MCR), Marla Properties, Home and Away Chiropractic, Midwest Area Title, Town Board Shop and Realstar. Combined, these new businesses are estimated to provide over 37 jobs within the city limits. Please make these entrepreneurs feel welcome and remember to support new and existing local businesses in Isanti. Pat's Small Engine has commenced construction on a 3000 square foot expansion of its facility this year. Many other businesses have expressed interest in available buildings in Isanti and some are very close to opening in 2013. If you are a new business to the community in 2012 that hasn't been recognized this year, please contact the City so that we can get you on our business list and in this publication. During these tough economic conditions, it is nice to see our business community continuing to grow and supporting each other. Thank you to all Isanti businesses for providing the products and services that residents and the world need.

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 763.444.5512.



Attention Dog Owners

Please be reminded that dog and kennel licenses are due April 30, 2013. Dog and kennel licenses can be obtained through the Police Department located at 401 First Avenue NW. 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 April 30, 2013.

Isanti City Code does require that any property owner who has more than two (2) dogs must obtain a residential kennel license. A residential kennel license is \$50 per year. Please contact the Police Department to obtain information regarding a residential kennel license at (763) 444-4761.

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 property owners by removing the excrement deposited by your pet. City Code 87-5.1 requires pet owners to immediately collect and remove dog feces deposited by their animal on public or private property. A container 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.



ISANTI TIRE

2 Auto Care, Inc

(763) 444-6641

33 W CTY RD 5 • ISANTI

HOURS: Mon - Fri 7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.







LANDMARK

Community Bank

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• 711 6th Ave. NE • 29 West Main St.

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Public Works/Engineering/Fire Department/Police Department



Isanti Police Department

With winter upon us, please keep in mind our winter parking restrictions. The City has contracted with a towing provider and vehicles in violation may be towed. If you are having a gathering and someone has had too much to drink, our community also supports Cambridge Cab with their sober cab program. Please keep them in mind when you are celebrating.

We have seen an increase in domestic dispute calls. With the increase in economic stressors, family concerns, housing and employment; many factors have led to the increase. There are many resources available for families in need of assistance. Resulting to violence is not one of them. Domestic violence is the biggest change creator in families. When a person is arrested, order for protections filed or other civil actions; change to the family structure is eminent. Preventing family violence is a key component to a happy life.

Wishing you and your family a wonderful 2013!



Isanti Fire Department

Isanti Assistant Chief Al Jankovich normally writes these articles, but Al has been deployed to Albany New York to work in the New York State Emergency Operations Center to help with the aftermath of hurricane Sandy which hit the East Coast on October 29th. Assistant Chief Jankovich has been deployed as part of an EMAC Team (Emergency Management Assistant Compact). EMAC is state to state mutual aid, like local fire departments helping each other; this is Minnesota helping New York. Al is part of a 10 person strike team heading out as the seventh deployment that Minnesota has sent to New York for Hurricane Sandy. This 10 person team is a blended team of MN AHIMT III (All Hazard Incident Management Team) members and HSEM (Homeland Security and Emergency Management) Staff. The blended teams have worked very well in the past.

Isanti Firefighters have been providing assistance for several years at numerous different disasters. The Isanti Fire District has several Firefighters on the Minnesota FAST team (Fire Chief Assistant and Support Team) and AHIMT Type III team. Over the years these Firefighters have been deployed to the Yellow Stone National Park wildland fire, St. Peter Tornado, a chlorine rail car release in International Falls, a train derailment Benzene chemical spill in Duluth, the Pagami Creek wildland fire in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area, Red River Valley Floods in East Grand Forks MN, Fargo ND and Moorhead MN; Zumbro River floods in Owatonna and Zumbrota MN, Northeast Minnesota Floods in Moose Lake, Verso Paper Mill fire in Sartell MN and several other Minnesota and Wisconsin deployments to help Fire Departments who have had to deal with the unfortunate death of an active Firefighter.

It is an honor to have your leadership or mitigation skills requested to assist with the efforts of an emergency situation or natural disaster of this magnitude. Isanti's Firefighters have always met the challenge and will continue to provide aid whenever requested; be it our neighbors in Isanti, neighboring Counties, or anywhere in the United States.

Your Isanti Fire District Firefighters have had a busy year. We sponsored and manned the Minnesota State Fire Chiefs Association's Kitchen Fire simulator at the Isanti County Fair this past July and we had several positive comments. Again, this year our Fire Education program reached out to approximately 2,200 citizens. We target mostly children but we also present fire education to 4-H, Scouts, Day Care Providers and senior organizations.

This year we added an additional engine, new ladder truck, 500 gallon per minute well, dry hydrant on Horseleg Lake in the Southeast portion on the County, 5 new radios, 1 new Lucas hydraulic rescue tool, 2,000 feet of 5" hose, technical rescue trailer equipment, and new portable generator / light plant. Through grants, gifts and equipment the Fire District has received, we increased the value of the Fire District by approximately \$219,500 in equipment and infrastructure. We have received a donation of an AED "automatic external defibrillator" from Oxford Township. This donation brings the total number of AED's in the fire district vehicles' to 10 units.

The Fire District added 5 Firefighters in 2011. These Firefighters are done with Firefighter 1 and Hazardous Material Operation classes. They have finished the DOT first responder's classes and been issued their licenses. They have started Firefighter II. These Firefighters will be licensed by the State of Minnesota in the fall of 2012. We had 20 Firefighters complete 2 US Fire Administration Wildland Fire Courses. These Firefighters are now certified with FEMA for Wildland firefighting incident command. We had 16 Firefighters complete an Engine Operator Certification class; this class finished on August 12th with everyone successfully passing and receiving State Certification.

The Fire District is done with the 2011 ISO testing and, our new rating will go into effect 12/01/2012. We will be a class 4 city, and a class 7/10 rural (more than 1000 feet from a hydrant and less than 5 miles from a fire station are a 7, more than 5 miles from a station is a 10). This involved a tremendous amount of physical work, time and equipment but will allow the property owners in the Fire District to save "Thousands" of dollars in insurance premiums.

The Minnesota Fallen Firefighters Memorial has been completed and the dedication was held on September 30th with approximately 5,000 people attending the ceremony. This Memorial was built entirely by donations, mostly by Firefighters; the theme was "by Firefighters for Fighters". Isanti Firefighters made a donation of \$100.00 dollars per Firefighter to the help make this Memorial possible. The Isanti Fire District had 5 Firefighters take part in the dedication as part of the general ceremony and also presenting the American flags to the families of the Fallen Firefighters. The Isanti community was also a large part of the Memorial construction; the skid loaders for setup and tear down, the portable restrooms, the roll off dumpsters for garbage disposal, and the inscriptions of the Fallen Firefighters on the columns were all donated by Isanti Companies. Isanti businesses not only support the Isanti Fire District, they also support the Minnesota Fire Service state wide and we can never thank our business partners enough.

Administrative/Finance

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 on the city's website at www.cityofisanti.us. If you have questions regarding the ordinance provisions, please contact Tanya Nuss, Community Service Officer, at cso@cityofisanti.us or (763) 444-5512.

Snow Removal

It is the homeowner's responsibility to clear sidewalks abutting or serving their property that are not on a designated school route. City Code §284-14 states that "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 website: www.cityofisanti.us.

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



Legacy Park

On October 2nd, 2012, the City held a ribbon cutting for the official opening of Legacy Park. The park consists of a 20 acre natural wooded area located within the northwest corner of the City. A trail system surfaced with crushed limestone with some side trails consisting of simple grass turf surface meander through this area. The area provides a unique opportunity for area residents to experience the fauna and flora that line the Rum River and Isanti Brook. In the upcoming months, the Park and Recreation Board will be working on locations for picnic tables and benches as well as signage. For additional information regarding Legacy Park or to obtain a copy of the park brochure and trail map, please visit the City website at www.cityofisanti.us.



2013 Proposed Budget and Property Taxes

Isanti City Council will act on the proposed 2013 budget and property taxes at its December 4, 2012 meeting. The proposed budget for 2013 is \$3,035,346 versus a 2012 budget of \$2,920,066. Proposed property taxes for 2013 are \$1,792,884. The property tax rate for 2012 is 65.523% and the preliminary property tax rate for 2013 is 66.408%. The 2013 budget will be available on the City's website once approved by council.

City Offices Closed

December 24

1/2 day Christmas Eve
(Noon-4:30)

December 25

Christmas

January 1

New Year's Day

January 21

Birthday of Martin

Luther King Jr.

February 18

President's Day

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 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.

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www.isantirental.com



Elim
Baptist Church

PO Box 96, 114 N. Dahlin Ave.,
Isanti, MN 55040
763-444-9221
www.elimisanti.org
Ryan O'Leary, Senior Pastor
Peter Talbot, Associate Pastor
Worship Time: 9:30 a.m.
(Nursery Provided)

OUR PURPOSE:
*Elim exists to know and love God and
to help others know and love Him.*

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

Isanti Ambassadors

The Isanti Ambassadors Caitlin, Kirstin and Mikayla have had one busy fall! They have been representing the community at events throughout Minnesota and Western Wisconsin. From assisting at Operation Christmas Child, greeting/registration at the local Bridal Fair, helping at the Veterans Parade to making Cambridge-Isanti's new teachers feel welcome, the ambassadors have volunteered graciously and made Isanti proud.

These three lovely ladies are very ambitious and have not only been busy in their Ambassador career but in school as well. Mikayla and Caitlin are seniors in high school and have kept busy with sports and academics alike. Kirstin is busy attending her first year of college in River Falls, Wisconsin. All three ladies excel in their pursuits and have been blessed as the selected representatives for this year. Despite their busy schedules, the Ambassadors have maintained a fabulous reputation for the City of Isanti and have managed to create several long lasting relationships since July. In the upcoming months the Ambassadors will give back to the community during the Holiday season and travel to the capitol representing Isanti at the St. Paul Winter Carnival. Please greet the Ambassadors at many of the upcoming activities in town, as they always enjoy meeting new people!



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. Our "Home for the Holidays" event highlighted businesses in Isanti the weekend of November 11th and 12th. 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 Bridal Fair at the Spirit River Community Center was a huge success! We had 34 Brides come through, talk to vendors, and look at all they had to offer. The Runway show by Cynthia's Bridal shop from Rush City was wonderful and they plan to have even more gowns to model next year!

The Chamber and volunteers invite you to attend Santa Day on December 1st at Harvest Christian Church. We will start at 9 am and go until Noon. Activities will include pictures with Santa and making crafts and decorations for the Town Tree which will be decorated later that day at 2:00 pm. The Isanti Ambassadors will also be there to lend a hand. This event is free to the public! The Snowmobile and ATV Parade will be held on New Year's Day. After the parade, enjoy a chili feed at the Isanti Community Center. Trophies will be handed out after the parade.

Watch your newspapers for these Spring events:

2013 Community Business Expo from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Isanti Intermediate School.

Spring Fling 2013 – Isanti Area Chamber of Commerce Dinner and Fundraiser at Spirit River Community Center.

SHOP LOCALLY

FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Community Events

Isanti Redbirds

Another baseball season has come and gone, memories were built and great baseball was played. The Redbirds want to thank everyone who supports the team, from our dedicated volunteers to our fans who come out to cheer on the team.

The Redbirds were especially proud to be asked to be the Grand Marshall of the Jubilee Day parade. It is extremely important to the Redbird organization that they are active members in their community and encourage everyone to become involved in our great community. As reigning champions of the Jubilee Day Outhouse race, the Redbirds captured the League's top spot sending them to the State Section 2 Playoff. In true Redbird style, the playoffs were packed full of excitement. In the end, the Redbirds were able to capture the top seed for Section 2 sending them to Super Sections. Unfortunately, the Redbirds were eliminated in the first round of the State Super Sections but look forward to redemption in 2013.

The Redbirds have been working hard to improve their home field during the off-season, starting with the replacement of the outfield fence this fall. Golden Hatchet Roofing, Remodeling and Siding of Cambridge was selected to work on the outfield fence after a lengthy bidding process. It was important to the Redbird organization to support our local businesses. The Redbirds continue to make improvements on and off the field to provide a great experience at the ballpark for everyone.

The Redbirds are hard at work planning events for the 2013 season. In 2011, the Redbirds provided a baseball clinic for area youth. Over 100 young baseball players, and possible future Redbirds, attended the clinic. The Redbirds hope to offer this clinic again in 2013.

The Redbirds plan to host their annual golf tournament on May 18, 2013 at the Purple Hawk Golf Course. Grab your clubs and join your favorite players in a round of golf. The Redbird Classic Baseball Tournament has been tentatively scheduled for June 14-16, 2013. It is a weekend of great baseball from teams all around the state.

Grab your lawn chair and come on out to the game. Admission is free. See you at the game!!



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

Seasonal Tips from Isanti's Safety Committee

1. Remember when you are driving this winter to maintain a safe distance. It is recommended to stay three car lengths away.

2. Do not leave your car running while unattended.

3. If you are going out on New Year's Eve, remember that a cab ride is cheaper than a DWI (DWI's can range from \$5,000 - \$10,000!!)

a. Consider using Safe Cab 763-552-TAXI (8294); ask your local bar if they participate in the program! You might be able to get a free ride!

* The Isanti County Safe Cab program offers rides home to patrons of participating bars and restaurants after an evening of drinking. Safe Cab services are provided by the local taxi company and are available Thursday through Saturday nights and on special occasions from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. The service is free to the patron for rides up to \$15; for rides exceeding that amount, the patron is responsible for the difference. To find out more about the service visit: <http://www.minnesotazd.org/network/state/saferide/examples/isanti.html>

Have a safe winter season!

Opportunity to Serve

Would you like to be more involved in the community? The City of Isanti has a number of vacancies on several boards and commissions and is seeking interested persons that are looking to make a difference in their community to be considered to fill these vacant seats.

Planning Commission

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

Two (2) vacancies; with said term of the vacant seats being to December 2013 and to December 2015. One of the vacant seats allows the member to reside outside of the city limits of Isanti.

Park and Recreation Board

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

Two (2) vacancies; with said terms of the vacant seats being to December 2015.

A student representative seat will also be available with said term of the vacant seat being to December 2013.

Economic Development Authority

Meets the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

One (1) vacancy; with said term of the vacant seat being to December 2015.

If you are interested in serving the community, an application and 'Conflict of Interest' form must be submitted and received by 12:00 noon, December 26, 2012 to the Human Resources/Deputy City Clerk at the City of Isanti, 110 1st Avenue NW, P.O. Box 428, Isanti, MN 55040. Application packets can be picked up at City Hall 763-444-5512 or www.cityofisanti.us

Community Events

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.cityofisantian.us

Calendar of Events

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15TH

LADIES AUXILIARY & MILITARY ORDER OF THE COOTIES KIDS CHRISTMAS PARTY WITH SANTA

12:00 p.m. (Noon) – 2:00 p.m. at the VFW. Call (763) 444-9787 for more details. A Cancer Fundraiser Bake Sale will be held at the same time.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19TH (TENTATIVE)

DISCUSSION ON NEED FOR TAX REFORM IN MN

11:30 a.m. at Spirit River Community Center. Lunch cost will be \$13.00. Please RSVP to the Isanti Chamber by December 17th, if you plan on attending (763) 444-8515.



MONDAY, DECEMBER 31 NEW YEAR'S EVE BASH

Isanti Civic Arena from 8:00 p.m. to 12:15 a.m. This is a free family event. Bring a dish to share for a potluck dinner.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 1

FUNDRAISER – CHILI COOK OFF

3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the VFW. For further details contact (763) 444-9787.

TUESDAY, 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 2012 Isanti Ambassadors 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) 444-8515 with questions.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24

LADIES AUXILIARY BENEFIT FOR SHERRY BOCKOVEN

Entertainment, food, and fun at the VFW! For more details, call (763) 444-9787.

FRIDAY, MARCH 1 AND SATURDAY, MARCH 2 11TH ANNUAL ARCTIC PLUNGE



Pre-registration begins on Friday with a chili feed with proceeds going to Beyond the Yellow Ribbon. The band on Friday evening is Jonah and the Whales. On Saturday, the event takes place on Long Lake beginning at 10:00 a.m. with the Arctic Plunge beginning at 2:00 p.m. Many events occur including Vintage Snowmobile Races, Englund Family Old Fashioned Ice Cutting Demonstration, Helicopter Rides, Food Concessions, and entertainment provided by the Killer Hayseeds. The event raises money for charities and organizations. To be a part of this event contact Warren at (763) 234-3068, via e-mail at info@arcticplunge.com; or visit the website at www.arcticplunge.com

OTHER EVENTS

- 2013 Community Business Expo – To be held at the Isanti Intermediate School from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The date has yet to be determined. Please watch the paper for further updates.
- 2013 Spring Fling – Isanti Area Chamber of Commerce Dinner and Fundraiser at Spirit River Community Center. Date and time has yet to be determined. Stay tuned for further updates.
- Exercise Class at the Isanti Community Center every Monday and Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. U Care Insurance sponsors the event, which is free and open to the public.
- 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 for persons 60 and older; or \$7.00 for persons under 60. This includes home delivered meals and/or site dining. Come join us!

Community Events



Open Skating at the Civic Arena

Check the website for current
dates and hours:
www.isantiarena.org



FREE SKATE SCHEDULE:

Friday Nov. 23rd	3:30pm - 5:30pm
Tuesday Dec. 4th	3:30pm - 5:30 pm
Thursday Dec. 6th	3:30pm - 5:30pm
Wednesday Dec. 26th	4:15pm - 5:30pm
Thursday Dec. 27th	3:30pm - 5:30pm
Friday Dec. 28th	1:00pm - 3:00pm
Monday Dec. 31st	8:00pm - 12:15am

NEW YEARS EVE SKATE (FREE)

Monday Jan. 21st	1:00pm - 3:00pm
Monday Feb. 18th	3:30pm - 5:30pm
Tuesday Feb. 19th	3:30pm - 5:30pm
Wed. Mar. 6th	3:30pm - 5:30pm
Thursday Mar. 7th	3:30pm - 5:30pm
Friday Mar. 8th	3:30pm - 5:30pm



The Minnesota Owls are midway through their 2012-13 regular season and find themselves thick in the hunt for home ice advantage in the race to the playoffs. The Owls have had a number of successful evenings with the most recent being their annual "Breast Cancer Awareness" night where almost \$3,000 was raised for the Harbor Room located in the Cambridge Medical Center. The money will be used to help people in our community who are actively receiving care for all types of cancer.

If you haven't been able to attend a game during the first half of the season, there are still plenty of opportunities. The Owls plan a number of other special events throughout the remainder of the year such as Ugly Sweater Night, Military Appreciation Night as well as a few other surprises. In addition, one game each month will be dedicated to youth hockey where kids 12 and under will get in free when they wear their team hockey jersey. Keep an eye on the Minnesota Owls web site for a complete list of special events for game nights. All game times are 7:30 p.m. with the exception of January 13, 2013 which is tentatively set for 3:00 p.m.

Owls Home Game Schedule

December

7th, Twin Cities Northern Lights
14th, Maple Grove Energy
29th, Steele County Blades

January

4th, Steele County Blades
11th, Twin Cities Northern Lights
13th, Ice Hawks
18th, Edina Lakers

February

8th, Steele County Blades
9th, Rochester Ice Hawks
15th, Maple Grove Energy
22nd, Hudson Crusaders
23rd, Dells Ducks

Come cheer on the Owls and see "Fire on Ice!"
www.minnesotaowls.com

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 is actively watching the weather to see if they can make ice this year. 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 outside of these reserved times.

Isantian Deadlines & Contact Info

The Isantian is published four times a year. The next edition of the Isantian newsletter will be sent approximately March 11th with an advertising deadline of February 28th.

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

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Minnesota

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Email: isanti@cityofisanti.us

Website: www.cityofisanti.us



Isanti City Flower: Rudbeckia



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City of Isanti City Engineer
612-756-1032 (cell)