

WINTER 2014

# City of Isanti **isantian**



visit us at: [www.cityofisanti.us](http://www.cityofisanti.us)

A Community For Generations.  
**Isanti** 



Letter from the Mayor **2**

City Office & Staff Directory **3**

Community Development **4**

Public Works/Engineering/  
Police Department **6**

Community Events **8**

## 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.

**PARKS,  
RECREATION &  
CULTURE BOARD**  
4th Tuesday of the month  
at 6:00 p.m.

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

Isanti has started to see significant improvements in residential and commercial development. In order to aid in this development, we have created a comprehensive pavement management plan and an asset management plan, which focuses on the long-term management of our water and wastewater treatment facilities. These plans will help ensure the long term health of our infrastructure over the next 10 years. We have wrapped up another election year, with Council Member Dan Collison being re-elected and gaining a new Councilmember, Paul Bergley in January. Mr. Bergley will be the 11th Councilmember I have worked with in my 9 years as Mayor. Upcoming December and January City Council Meetings will be very critical in determining the City's direction over the next few years.

Isanti had 37 new single family house permits issued in 2014, which is more than the previous 5 years combined. We have gained over two dozen new & expanding businesses in Isanti, bringing us to over 150 businesses, employing over 1,500 people. The list of new businesses will be offering a wide range of services, products, and employment opportunities. We have many more in the pipeline for our Community which will continue to expand and diversify our commercial/industrial tax base.

The 10 year pavement and asset management plans will ensure that our infrastructure is maintained as efficiently as possible. The cost to completely rebuild a road is \$253 per sq ft, mill & overlay is \$70 per sq ft, and simple seal coating is \$9 per sq ft. We have fine-tuned our pavement management plan to ensure roads that need the most work are priorities for the City. Roads such as Palomino will be the first to be improved. Performing annual maintenance will save the city significantly in the long term. Per the pavement management plan, the cost of improvements over the next 10 years will be approximately eight million dollars. We will be able to utilize two million dollars in State funding, leaving approximately six million for the City to pay. One major area of contention from the last street and utility improvement project was assessments. Depending on what exactly is being done in each project, the property owner can be assessed approximately 25-35% of the total cost. We will be reviewing the assessment policy to make sure it is the fairest way to proceed. I will layout the funding plan to the City Council at our Goal Setting Session in late January. Once the Council has reviewed the plan, we will hold public meetings for input on the both the pavement and asset management plans, assessment policy, and funding strategy. This is expected to take place by late spring. We will hold at least one daytime session and one evening session so all members of our community will have a chance to provide their input.

At our first Council meeting in December, Council approved a plan to reach out to each Township Board and try to come to an agreement on the two main concerns the City has in regards to the Fire District. These concerns are the funding formula and the need for unanimous votes to make any changes to the Joint Powers Agreement. We need to bring more fairness to the funding formula so the City of Isanti is paying only for the services it receives and not subsidizing our neighboring Townships. We have seen our costs go from \$83,000 in 2006 to over \$180,000 in the 2015 budget, which is, on average, over a 10% increase each year. We have had to cut other departments to meet this escalating cost which we can no longer sustain. As the Fire District charges us more, we will need to raise taxes in order to pay for the services provided. While other decisions of the Fire Board require a unanimous vote, the budget requires only a simple majority. Even though the City Of Isanti is currently paying for over a third of the cost, we only have 14% of the votes on the Board. As our share of cost escalates higher each year, our vote total stays the same. With anticipated increases in Fire District spending and the escalating increase in the City of Isanti's share of this cost, based on the current run based formula, Isanti's share could rise to over \$300,000 in the next few years; there has to be a unanimous vote of all 7 voting members to change the formula.

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

**Scotsman**

234 South Main Street, Cambridge

763-689-1981

[www.isanticountynews.com](http://www.isanticountynews.com)

**MORE offices.** Get MORE at  
**MORE ATMs.**  
**MORE hours.** Minnco  
CREDIT UNION

Your Community Credit Union.™

Cambridge • Isanti • Cub Foods • North Branch • Andover



# City Offices & Staff Directory

## City Council Members

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

## City Staff

### 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

Community Development Director Roxanne Achman..... rachman@cityofisanti.us

### Community Events Manager and Parks Coordinator

Josi Wood..... isantiparks@cityofisanti.us

### Public Works

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

### Police Department

Police Chief Gene Hill ..... ChiefHill@cityofisanti.us

## 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  
After Hours  
763-689-2141  
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.

**FREE TO OVER  
12,500 HOMES**

**ISANTI COUNTY NEWS**

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

**STRIKE**  
FUNERAL HOMES

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  
www.strikefuneral.com

**Isanti County  
Equipment**



763-444-8873 **JOHN DEERE**

www.mnequipmentsolutions.com

**LANDMARK  
Community Bank**

**Isanti**

711 6th Ave. NE  
763-444-5528

FDIC  www.landmark-bank.net

## Community Development

### NEW Snow Removal Policy

Effective 1/27/2014, the City of Isanti will be removing snow from all public sidewalks and trails within the city limits. A full copy of the City Code can be found on the city's website at [www.cityofisanti.us](http://www.cityofisanti.us).

As a reminder – pushing snow onto property other than your own is prohibited. This includes onto city lots and into the right-of-way.



\*\*\*\*\*

### 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 co-operation will help make the snow removal process more efficient and effective.



### Building Department

[building-inspections@cityofisanti.us](mailto:building-inspections@cityofisanti.us) • 763-444-5512

#### Home Safety Tip

Since 2009, any home in Minnesota, regardless of when it was constructed, has been required to have a Carbon Monoxide (C.O.) detector within 10 feet of every "room used for sleeping." The exception would be if a home doesn't have any C.O. producing appliances. The most common C.O. producing appliances in a home are wood or gas stoves used for heating or cooking, gas water heaters, gas dryers, gas fireplaces, and gas space heaters in homes or garages. That "room used for sleeping" does not have to be a bedroom. The code language is intentional, and meant to include any room that may be used only occasionally for sleeping such as a TV room with a futon or a pull-out bed. C.O. is a gas that is released from incomplete combustion when oxygen is burned. In a perfect world that C.O. gas is properly exhausted to the exterior of the home or exterior of the garage where it becomes diluted in the outside air. There are things that can reduce or eliminate that proper exhaust from taking place such as negative pressure, (more commonly a "back draft"), the vent or chimney becoming compressed or disconnected, (this sometimes occurs when a roof is re-shingled), or even snow covering or clogging the vent. Because C.O. is an odorless and invisible gas, it is important that C.O. detectors are installed and maintained.

**Total number of permits** (residential and commercial) issued thus far in 2014 can be reviewed in the following matrix below. This matrix shows a marked improvement in the construction industry in Isanti. 37 new home permits have been issued as of November 24, 2014. That is more new home permits than were issued for the full calendar years 2009 through 2013 combined. Two new commercial buildings are also being constructed, and 19 permits have been issued for commercial remodel or additions. That number includes 11 tenant changes.

Year	#of Permits	Commercial	New Homes	Value
2009	302	0	3	\$1,291,735
2010	263	0	12	\$2,425,341
2011	357	2	1	\$3,132,685
2012	300	0	4	\$2,277,723
2013	297	1	14	\$2,638,592
2014	442	2	37	\$14,621,172

#### Vacant Homes - Please Report

The number of foreclosures has been greatly reduced to the point where we now have a level of vacant homes similar to levels before the area foreclosure crisis. This is great news. The City Building Department would still appreciate a call from you if you are vacating a home or aware of a recent vacated home in your neighborhood. This helps the City monitor this improving foreclosure situation and the condition of housing stock in the city.

**Thank You and Have a Very Special Holiday Season!**

### Seasonal Tips from Isanti's Safety Committee

**\*Slow down.** Increase following distance to three car lengths away to allow sufficient distance to stop safely.

**\*Winterize your vehicle.** Make sure your car has had a tune-up and proper checks to ensure start-up and safe travel. Keep your gas tank at least half full to avoid gas line freeze-ups.

**\*Winter survival kits.** Assess and update your home and vehicle emergency kits. Visit the Federal Emergency Management Agency Website for comprehensive emergency supply lists at [m.fema.gov/before-winter-storms-extreme-cold](http://m.fema.gov/before-winter-storms-extreme-cold).

**\*Be prepared for the elements.** Frostbite and hypothermia are potentially life-threatening. Dress appropriately in light weight layers and water proof insulated gear to keep you and your loved ones warm.

**Have a safe winter season!**



**ISANTI**  
**TIRE & AUTO**  
**CARE, INC.**

**33 W Heritage Blvd Isanti**

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

**763-444-6641**

**JOSLIN & MOORE LAW OFFICES, PA**

Clark A. Joslin • Patrick B. Moore • Heidi A. Swisher

<b>PERSONAL INJURY</b> • Auto Accidents • Wrongful Death • All Types of Personal Injury	<b>REAL ESTATE</b>  <b>BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS</b>  <b>FAMILY LAW</b>  <b>WILLS &amp; ESTATES</b>
--	---

**CRIMINAL DEFENSE**  
 • DWI • Traffic • Civil Litigation  
 • Felonies & Misdemeanors

CAMBRIDGE • 763-689-4101      ISANTI • 763-444-9271

# Community Development

## Economic Development

ssullivan@cityofisanti.us • 763-444-5512



### Isanti Welcomes New Businesses and Facilities in 2014

WillowBridge Center, a full service salon, spa, boutique and wellness center, opened in October of 2014. Relocation of this business from Cambridge to Isanti has led to the commitment of additional investment in Isanti. On November 18, 2014, the City of Isanti approved a loan from its Revolving Loan Fund to Minnesota Organic Merchandise Store (MOMS) to open up a new restaurant/café at 4 Enterprise next to the new and beautiful WillowBridge Center. MOMS currently operates City Center Market and City Center Café in Cambridge but the café in Isanti will be a new concept. The new concept will offer coffee, espresso, tea, smoothies and a variety of other drinks, breakfast sandwiches, bagels, muffins, hot soup, a selection of made to order sandwiches and salads in addition to grab and go foods, baked goods, fresh produce, ice cream cones, shakes and sundaes. The Isanti café is working to have the sale of wine and beer available by the glass. All employers at 4 Enterprise are estimated to bring in excess of 40 jobs to the City of Isanti.

Construction has commenced on an 8,352 square foot retail building at 391 Cherrywood Street NE for Family Dollar Store. The company has communicated a late March 2015 grand opening date which is a bit later than originally anticipated due to the early onset of winter construction conditions and delays on the delivery of construction materials. Traditionally, each store employs between 8-10 Team Members and the company looks to hire the best from the neighborhood. This business will provide additional shopping and employment opportunities for Isanti residents.

Construction on the Isanti Indoor Arena – Home of Rum River BMX, continues to proceed on schedule. This 75,000 square foot indoor all season arena will serve as the home for Rum River BMX Association. National, Regional, State and local events will fill this venue for years to come with an anticipated opening in January-February of 2015. Please contact Kevin Riedemann of Rum River BMX Association at 763-444-5429 to learn more about the operation of Rum River BMX, track schedule and how to become part of this locally based organization. This project has received national recognition and it will be another way to bring in visitors and investment to Isanti while providing a great venue for our residents to enjoy.

In addition to the projects mentioned above there has been a lot of activity in 2014. New business arrivals include: Riversbend Salon and Spa, Isanti Pet Clinic, Isanti Lettering, Cambridge Upholstery, North Woods Finishing, Nada Hair Electrolysis, Natures Way Chiropractic, Classical Homeopathy, Natural Health Design, Soothing Touch Massage, Sherry Longley Photography, Sam Heldman Photography, TSI Plastics, and the Art and Science Academy (Charter School). In addition to these new business arrivals there have also been some expansions for existing companies such as Isanti Bicycle and Repair and Miller Tax Service and more. There are more business leads that the City is working on to help Isanti continue to grow and provide more services and employment opportunities to its residents. It is sometimes easy to focus a lot of attention on the next new thing and sometimes what we already have in our city gets overlooked. It's important to note that the City of Isanti is home to over 150 businesses that employ 1534 people. Many of these businesses have been here for decades or more. Thanks to old and new businesses for choosing Isanti and making it a great community.

### City Launches New Website and Updates Banners on Main Street

The City of Isanti has a new presence on the Web. In November, 2014 the City of Isanti launched its new website. The new website is on a new platform which should help visitors have a better experience from their desktop or mobile devices. The site has been reorganized in order to make access to the information you need quick and intuitive. The City recently upgraded community banners on historic Main Street and continues to work to revitalize our wonderful community. The City added blue City of Isanti banners modeled after the City flag to compliment the traditional black railroad themed ones in Historic downtown.

### Housing Market in Isanti Stays Strong

As of November 24, 2014, 37 new housing permits have been pulled. In 2013, 14 housing permits were pulled for the entire year. The momentum in the housing market that started in 2013 has increased in 2014. More housing projects, including multi unit products are on the horizon for Isanti in 2015. The City of Isanti has participated in a Housing Market Study which can be used to identify more potential housing investment opportunities in the Isanti Market. Stable, sustainable growth in this market will add to the appeal of Isanti to businesses looking to expand operations or enter new markets.

## City Offices Closed

### December 24

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

### December 25

Christmas

### January 1

New Year's Day

### January 19

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

### February 16

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 four times per year.

\*\*\*\*\*

## If you dig a hole:

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



# Public Works/Engineering/Fire Department/Police Department

## 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 Police Department

Chief Gene Hill • 763-444-4761

I hope everyone had a great Fall and were able to enjoy family and friends since Winter arrived early this year...again!

It has already started snowing and I think it is here to stay. Again we are reminding all citizens of the City's Winter Parking Ordinance. There is NO street parking after 1:00 a.m. starting November 1st, 2014, you can see the entire ordinance on the City's website at [www.cityofisanti.us](http://www.cityofisanti.us). If you have any questions or concerns about the ordinance please call.

Just a friendly reminder, last year we had some complaints of snowmobile misuse. Snowmobiles are not allowed to drive on another's property without permission. Please keep your snowmobile on the trail or right of way. All property in Isanti is owned by someone. Snowmobiles may not be driven in the City Parks or on school property unless it is part of a marked state or local trail system. There is an ordinance that governs their operation within the City and that is also available from the website.

The Isanti Police Reserves and Officers will be hosting two Snowmobile Safety Classes (CD Version only) starting January 10 and on February 21st, 2015. To obtain the Snowmobile Safety Training CD contact the police department at (763) 444-4761, or for general information, please call the MnDNR at (888) 646-6367, (651) 296-6157, or (800) 366-8917, or email your name and address to [info.dnr@state.mn.us](mailto:info.dnr@state.mn.us). Duplicate snowmobile certificates can be obtained by calling (888) 646-6367 or (651) 296-6157. Minnesota requires snowmobile certification by law for anyone born after December 31, 1976. Adult snowmobile safety certification is for snowmobile operators age 16 and over. The adult course is designed to show the student the most common causes for snowmobile accidents in Minnesota, and how to avoid becoming an accident statistic. Upon successful completion of the Snowmobile Safety Independent Study CD, the student prints a "Temporary Adult Snowmobile Certificate." They mail in the \$10 course fee along with a copy of the 'Temporary Certificate' to Camp Ripley.

The City Council passed an ordinance to allow golf-carts and Class I ATV's (ATV's that you straddle) to be operated within the City under permit for a fee of \$25.00 per year. Class II ATV's (side by side) are already permitted by law but need further licensing from the State. The application and permit can be obtained from the Police Department and is good for one year. For further information, please call or stop by for more details.

The Isanti Police Department concluded its 2014 schedule of ATV Safety training on October 9th. We offered four class sessions throughout the year certifying over 100 area youth. All Minnesota ATV operators born after July 1, 1987 are required to have a MnDNR ATV Safety Certificate to legally operate on public lands or waters. If you have any questions regarding ATV's, you can stop at the office to pick up a DNR booklet with all the rules and regulations.

The Isanti Police Department received another grant to conduct Safe & Sober enforcement 2014-2015, focusing on DWI, seat belt usage and other high risk traffic violators. Please ask your bartender to call Safe Cab if you need a ride home if you feel you have had too much to drink this holiday season.

Thanks to all who attended the City wide National Night Out event at the Isanti Community Center. The Isanti Police Reserves put on another great program with a good attendance. Thanks to all the businesses through the Isanti Chamber of Commerce who donated door prizes to be handed out to the attendees. I hope you liked the venison brats and root-beer floats. We have committed ourselves to another National Night Out next year on August 4th, 2015 and hope that you can join us.

Lastly, since the cold weather is approaching many of us tend to warm up our vehicles by letting them idle. Often we see vehicles running while still parked in the garage. Many garages are attached to residences and the carbon monoxide that comes out of the exhaust could still enter the home even if the garage door is open fully. Carbon monoxide poisoning occurs after enough inhalation of carbon monoxide (CO). Carbon monoxide is a toxic gas, but, being colorless, odorless, tasteless, and initially non-irritating, it is very difficult for people to detect. Carbon monoxide is a product of incomplete combustion of organic matter due to insufficient oxygen supply to enable complete oxidation to carbon dioxide (CO2). It is often produced in domestic or industrial settings by older motor vehicles and other gasoline-powered tools, heaters, and cooking equipment. Symptoms of mild acute poisoning include lightheadedness, confusion, headaches, vertigo, and flu-like effects; larger exposures can lead to significant toxicity of the central nervous system and heart, and even death. Carbon monoxide can also have severe effects on the fetus of a pregnant woman.

**Happy Holidays to everyone!**  
**Respectfully, Chief Gene C. Hill**

## East Central Sanitation & Recycling

- Commercial • Residential • Roll-Off Containers
- Rear-Load Containers • Recycling • Refuse Hauling



**ECS**

PO Box 248  
Isanti, MN 55040

763-444-9862 • 763-689-2171 • 800-439-2171



**CALL US FOR ALL YOUR RENTAL NEEDS**

421 W. Dual Blvd  
Isanti, MN 55040

763-444-RENT(7368)  
[www.isantirental.com](http://www.isantirental.com)

# Public Works/Engineering/Fire Department/Police Department

## City Engineering News

### 2014 Construction Projects

The City of Isanti has three construction projects wrapping up this winter. The "Bluebird Park & Public Works Site Improvements", the "Isanti Indoor Arena" and the "Unity Lift Station Improvements" projects. The Isanti Indoor Arena will enable the BMX track to be used all year long and bring commerce to the City year round. This will be the only sanctioned indoor BMX track within 100 miles of Isanti. The building will be a City owned facility and the BMX league will lease it for the foreseeable future. This site is located on the north end of Bluebird Park along Isanti Parkway.

The projects include the following improvements:

- A paved parking lot has been constructed in Bluebird Park to provide additional parking to the BMX track and be available for public use to access the city trail system and all other facilities within Bluebird Park.

- A paved parking lot has also been constructed at the Public Works Building to improve the existing gravel parking area on the site.

- A 75,000 square foot Building will enclose the existing BMX track and stands 30 feet tall.

- The building also includes public restrooms and a warming house located along the existing trail at the southwest corner of the building that will be available to all Bluebird Park users year round.

- A new lift station has been constructed to replace the existing lift station located at the corner of Unity Boulevard NW and 1st Avenue NW.

Construction on the Isanti Indoor Arena is planned to continue into January, 2015 with the first indoor BMX races planned to begin in February 2015.

The Bluebird parking lot and Public Works parking lot have completed their planned work this season. In the spring of 2015 the contractor will return to finish the site grading and pave the final lift of bituminous pavement on both parking lots.

The new Unity Lift Station will be online this winter and the final site grading will occur next spring.

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



## Other Isanti Area Recreational Sites

Soccer Complex

BMX Track

Isanti Ice Arena

Martin's Landing

(DNR Canoe Landing)

Redbirds Baseball Field

**For links visit:**

**[www.cityofisanti.us](http://www.cityofisanti.us)**

\*\*\*\*\*

## School For All Seasons partners with City of Isanti

The School For All Seasons has partnered with the City of Isanti to explore nature and learn science using Legacy Park as a classroom. We have made two visits this year already in August and October. We plan to visit in the winter and spring to see how nature and the park changes over the four seasons. We would like to thank the City of Isanti for their help and support of this project!

\*\*\*\*\*

## Isanti Fire Department

The above graph shows Isanti Fire District's call volume in the City of Isanti, January through October for 2012-2014. This year the firefighters responding to the City of Isanti maintained the same 4 minute response time average as last year in spite of the 17% increase in call volume over the last 3 years.

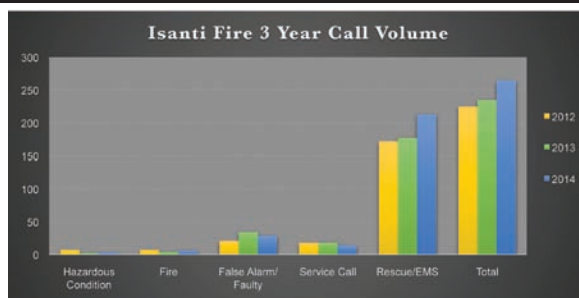
Looking back at this year, overall the firefighters have had a great year. Our roster of 27 firefighters are sharing duty shifts overnight and weekends to make sure someone is prepared to respond to calls at a moments notice. The makeup of the fire department and the way it responds to calls for service continue to get adjusted to meet the demands of those calling 911.

Other changes we track at year end and adjust to are statewide trends. If heavier populated cities experience a rise in a type of emergency, we can generally expect an influence of that situation in our area as well. The fire service in MN is overall busier, as Isanti is, but at a rate of 3% busier (compared to our 17%). Kitchen/cooking areas are hugely the leading ignition point of residential fires. Isanti Fire experienced 2 fires this year due to cooking, 1 was saved by a quick attack by the occupant using a fire extinguisher. Do you have an extinguisher, and do you know how to use it? Another trend is portable heaters. Please be respectful of these portable devices, and ensure your little ones and pets are protected from them as well.

Our area has not had any fire related deaths this year, nor has any member of the fire department received any department related injuries. This is a trend we are very grateful for as there are departments in our region who unfortunately can't say the same. As we know, and as we tell kids all October long, fire doesn't care who or what is in its path. The best way to fight fire is to prevent it.

Thank you to all of you reaching out to us with support this year, from the picture art from the kids to the attendance at the Isanti Firefighters Annual Rodeo, we appreciate every bit of it.

**Happy Holidays from Isanti Fire!**



## 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.



## Community Events



### 2015 Street Dances and Farmer's Market Ahead

The Downtown Isanti Street Dances and Isanti Family Farmers Market are scheduled to return in Summer 2015. Watch for more details in the next Isantian!

\*\*\*\*\*

### 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 our local businesses this holiday season.

To get involved in any Chamber activities, please contact our office at 763-444-8515 or [admin@isanti-chamber.com](mailto:admin@isanti-chamber.com)



### Isanti Ambassadors

The Isanti Ambassadors have had a busy fall. Hannah, Maddie, and Kiely have been visiting multiple communities since taking reign in July. The ambassadors have served as both volunteers and representatives for the Isanti Community. Some highlight events reported by the ambassadors are "Step up for Downs Syndrome", a charity event that the ambassadors participated in this September as well as a "Crowning Achievements" pageant for special needs children in November. Between balancing school, Maddie and Hannah seniors at Cambridge Isanti High School and Kiely a freshman at UMD, family, work and ambassador activities these ladies seem to accomplish it all. They are currently scheduled for several volunteer activities to help spread holiday cheer this season. In January the Ambassadors will be spending several days in St. Paul for the Winter Carnival festival. Here the ambassadors will learn about the rich heritage our state has and the exciting festival traditions. Kiely says, and it's likely she is speaking for all three, that Winter Carnival is something they are most looking forward to this year to meet so many other festival representatives and share about our great community. The ambassadors can be reached via email at [isantiambassador@yahoo.com](mailto:isantiambassador@yahoo.com) or via the Isanti Ambassador Facebook page.



### Friends of the Isanti Area Library

Our Friends of the Isanti Area Library group helped to establish and continues to support Isanti's Library Outreach Site, which is located in City Hall. The Librarian is there to serve you on Wednesdays from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. with books, movies, and audio books. Ask her about Children's Story Time and other library events planned for this season.



You are welcome to request items by phone or on the East Central Regional Library website, then pick them up here in Isanti. Checking out movies and DVDs for three weeks from the library makes it easy to catch up on past seasons of your favorite TV show, or have entertainment on hand without that last-minute return rush.

February is I Love To Read Month so mark your calendar for our Annual Used Book Sale on Friday, February 6th and Saturday, February 7th and watch for the official announcements on our web site and Facebook. We sell books, DVDs, and audio books to support our mission. Books will still be priced at only 25¢ or 5 for \$1.

All donations to the Friends of the Isanti Area Library are tax-deductible, and we gladly accept donations of gently used books, DVDs, audio books, occasionally other related items, and of course cash. (Please no Encyclopedias, Readers Digest Condensed Books, or VHS tapes) We especially need children's books and westerns.

We also greatly appreciate volunteers to help with various community events, and we are actively seeking new members. Interested adults are always welcome to attend our monthly Board meetings. Contact Susi McCune for more information: [Susi@IsantiLibrary.org](mailto:Susi@IsantiLibrary.org) or 763-444-4585.



Ever Cat® Fuels, LLC

**Blended Biodiesel  
(up to B99)  
Available in  
truckload  
quantity**

Contact Ben Harris  
763-421-1072, x242



PO Box 96, 114 Dahlin Ave. NE,  
Isanti, MN 55040  
**763-444-9221**  
[www.elimisanti.org](http://www.elimisanti.org)  
Ryan O'Leary, Senior Pastor

Worship Time: 9:30 a.m.  
(Nursery Provided)

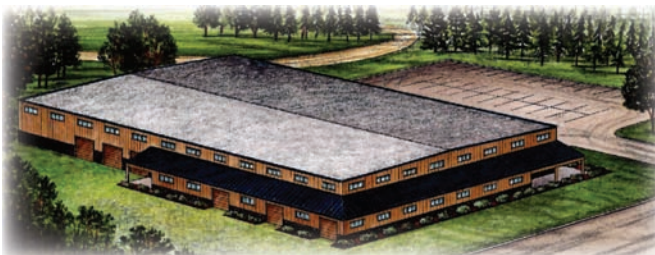
**OUR PURPOSE:**  
*Elim exists to know and love God and  
to help others know and love Him.*



## Community Events

### Isanti Indoor Arena - Home of Rum River BMX

The Isanti Indoor Arena construction project is moving along right on schedule; the facility will be open to BMX riders by early February, 2015 given all things continue as planned. Rum River BMX will be hosting their Grand Opening at their new indoor BMX track February 13-15th. Contact (763) 244-0314 or visit [www.usabmx.com/tracks/1549](http://www.usabmx.com/tracks/1549) for more information.



### 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 208½ First Avenue NW, next to City Hall. For information and reservations call City Hall at 763-444-5512 or email [isantiiparks@cityofisanti.us](mailto:isantiiparks@cityofisanti.us).

The Isanti area Meals on Wheels is looking for volunteers to deliver hot meals from the Isanti Community Center to residents in their home. Volunteers are needed from 11:30 - 12:30p.m. and can be as little as just one day per month. If you would like more information, please contact Edie, (763) 689-5992.



The ICC is located at  
208.5 1st Ave NW, Isanti  
(next to City Hall)

#### Enjoy Movies at the Isanti Community Center

**October 2014 – April 2015**  
**Movie starts at 7:00 p.m.**

Facility and Concessions open at 6:30pm  
Movie watching is free and open to the public  
cash accepted for onsite concessions

#### NOW SHOWING AT THE

#### ISANTI COMMUNITY CENTER

**December 12 : National Lampoons Christmas Vacation, Rated PG 13**

**January 16 : The Little Rascals, Rated PG**

**February 20 : Jurassic Park, Rated PG 13**

**March 20 : Honey, I Shrunk the Kids, Rated PG**

**April 17 : Planes: Fire & Rescue, Rated PG**

If you have any questions, please call 763-444-5512  
or email [isantiiparks@cityofisanti.us](mailto:isantiiparks@cityofisanti.us)

### Sign up for the Nature Detectives Club!



**Isanti Community Center, First Saturday of the Month**

**9:00am - 10:30am • Ages: 4-7 Cost: \$4 per child**

Only \$3 if you register ahead by calling 763-444-5512  
or emailing [isantiiparks@cityofisanti.us](mailto:isantiiparks@cityofisanti.us)

#### Upcoming Themes:

December 6 - Hibernation Station

January 3 - Cold Critters

February 7 - Frozen Forests

March 7 - Marvelous Maples

April 4 - Let's Get Grow'n

Each month kids will explore nature, make a take-home craft, and learn hands-on cool things from our knowledgeable Naturalist!

## 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

Collette Colucci  
763-552-7284

#### ISANTI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Tracy Neifert  
763-444-8515

#### 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](http://cambridgeisantisoccer.net)

#### ISANTI HOCKEY

Robyn or Fred  
763-444-6432

#### MEALS ON WHEELS/ SENIOR DINING

Edie Frison  
763-689-5992

#### FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Susi McCune  
763-444-4585

#### VFW

Cecely - Manager  
763-444-9787

#### 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](http://www.cityofisanti.us)

## Community Events

### Isanti Intermediate School

Isanti Intermediate School has been focusing on the five character traits of honesty, compassion, self-discipline, respect and responsibility. We also have been focusing on meeting the needs of every learner by providing individualized learning for all of our students in reading and math. We are also in year two of our technology pilot and also working very closely this fall with our arts integration specialist Esther Samsa to enrich our curriculum. Esther is shared with School For All Seasons and Cambridge Intermediate School. Follow us on Twitter @IISFAS and like us Facebook!

\*\*\*\*\*



### Memorial Blood Center

Memorial Blood Center will hold blood drives on December 23 & February 26 at the Isanti Community Center 11:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. Walk-ins welcome but registration is preferred. Call (651) 332-7000 or visit [www.mbc.org](http://www.mbc.org)

### Calendar of Events



#### **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13 - 21 - ISANTI LIONS CHRISTMAS PROJECT**

The Isanti Lions, local stores and the community have provided Christmas dinner & toys to local children and over 300 Isanti County families annually. Contact Joe, (612) 790-9529, to find out how to donate, adopt a family or volunteer wrapping and helping with other needs to make this project another great year.

#### **THURSDAY, JANUARY 1 - ANNUAL ATV/ SNOWMOBILE PARADE**

Isanti's annual New Year's Day Parade is scheduled for 3:00 p.m. with the lineup at the Isanti Middle School at 2:30 p.m. The Parade route will be determined by the Isanti Police Dept. A chili fundraiser will be served following the parade at the Isanti Community Center. Everyone is invited to come and join the fun - whether you are on a machine, watching the parade, or eating chili! There is no entry fee and no need to pre-register. All ATVs and snowmobiles are welcome. Call (763) 444-8515 with questions.

#### **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7 - SPECTACULAR BRIDAL FAIR**

Hosted by the Isanti Area and Cambridge Chamber of Commerce at the Cambridge Middle School; The Bridal Fair will feature local vendors providing everything a couple needs to plan a beautiful day. There will be a runway show by Cynthia's Bridal, prizes at every booth, as well as a Grand Prize drawing. Brides can register by calling 763-444-8515 or emailing [admin@isantichamber.com](mailto:admin@isantichamber.com) to receive a complementary gift bag



#### **FRIDAY-SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13-15 - RUM RIVER BMX GRAND OPENING**

Rum River BMX is hosting a Grand Opening of their new indoor track at the Isanti Indoor Arena! Come as a spectator or rider and be a part of the Celebration. Watch their website [www.usabmx.com/tracks/1549](http://www.usabmx.com/tracks/1549) or their Facebook page (Rum River BMX) for more information.



#### **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28 & SATURDAY, MARCH 1 - ANNUAL ARCTIC PLUNGE**

Registration and festivities begins Friday at Captains on Long Lake. Saturday, events take place beginning at 10:00 a.m. with the Arctic Plunge beginning at 2:00 p.m. Events include vintage snowmobile race, old fashioned ice cutting demo, helicopter rides, food and live entertainment! The event raises money for charities and organizations. Find out more information by visiting [www.arcticplunge.com](http://www.arcticplunge.com), email: [info@arcticplunge.com](mailto:info@arcticplunge.com) or contact Sue at (763) 234-9691.

#### **FRIDAY, MARCH 13 - STEM SUMMIT**

Area businesses are encouraged to get involved in the STEM Summit. Business representatives share with the 8th graders in our community how Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) is used in their professions.

#### **SATURDAY, MARCH 14 - COMMUNITY BUSINESS EXPO**

Don't miss the Community Business Expo Saturday, March 14, 2015 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Isanti Intermediate School. Come to find out what our great local businesses and organizations can do to serve you!

#### **FRIDAYS, DEC THRU APRIL - COMMUNITY MOVIE NIGHTS**

On select Fridays, a free movie will be showing at the Isanti Community Center at 7 p.m. Concessions will open at 6:30 p.m. Check out page 9 for movie selections and dates. Contact Josi (763) 444-5512 for more info or to find out how your local, non-profit organization can volunteer to help out.

#### **SATURDAYS - NATURE DETECTIVES CLUB**

First Saturday of the month, 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., kids will spend time with a naturalist exploring cool nature and animal facts. They will also play fun activities, games and make a take-home craft. \$4 per child. See page 9 for more information. Contact Josi (763) 444-5512, [isantiparks@cityofisanti.us](mailto:isantiparks@cityofisanti.us) to register.

#### **OTHER EVENTS:**

- Lions Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser - Third Sunday of every month at the Isanti Community Center. Serving from 8 a.m. until noon.
- Isanti Senior Dining and Meals on Wheels - Monday thru Friday Catholic Charities sponsors the noon meal. Reservations can be made ahead and are recommended by calling Edie (763) 689-5992 or (763) 444-7539 between 10:30-1:00 p.m. The suggested donation is \$4 for persons 60 and older; \$7.50 under 60. Senior Dining will not be meeting in Isanti the week of Dec 15 - 19.

#### **SENIOR DINING SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES:**

- Dec 17 - Ham Dinner, Noon, North Branch Senior Center
- Dec 24 - Christmas Eve Brunch, 11 a.m., Isanti Community Center



## Community Events

### Fall Upkeep and Youth League Continue at Redbird Field



People think that when the summer ends, the baseball fields sit idle . . . not at the Redbird Field! This fall, there was fall-ball baseball being played by local youth teams on the weekends and there was a significant amount of upkeep and repairs that were going on! The fall-ball team was allowed to use the Redbird field if they gave the outfield fence a fresh coat of paint at the end of their season! One of the team's parents happened to have a spray paint gun that made this activity go very smoothly. But, the biggest upgrade that went on was with the field's bull pens and with the addition of new batting cages. The bull pens are where the pitchers warm up before and during games. They were doubled in size and provided with additional fencing that protects players and spectators in the vicinity. After over 20 years of not having batting cages (the Redbirds have had to roll out and carry out screens and cages onto the field by hand every time they wanted to take batting practice!) the Redbird Field now has two beautiful, state of the art batting cages! The "final touch" was a new fenced in play area for little kids who come to watch games with their parents. A special thank you goes out to Wade Reichmann, who supervised this huge undertaking and to David Englund, who assisted with a lot of the labor. Also, a special thank you goes out to the Redbird Board of directors for funding this project.

### Attention Dog Owners

Please be reminded that dog and kennel licenses are due April 30, 2015. 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, 2015.

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.

### OPENING: Outdoor Ice Rink & Isanti's NEW Warming House

The next cold snap will be perfect for making ice!! Public Works has been prepping and will be ready to flood the public hockey rink and also the pleasure rink as soon as we get continuing cold weather. Both rinks are located in Bluebird Park and are open during park hours 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Isanti's Indoor Arena, scheduled to be completed February 1, 2015, will also give Isanti's rink users a place to warm up in the new warming house that will also have public restroom facilities.



### \*\*\*\*\* CIVIC ARENA 763-444-6432

#### Open Skate for December

(Kids \$1, Adults \$2)  
Dec. 13...1:10-2:10 p.m.  
Dec. 26.....12-3 p.m.  
Dec. 29...3:30-5:30 p.m.  
Dec. 30...3:30-5:30 p.m.

#### Open Hockey (\$5 per player)

Dec. 23.....12-3 p.m.  
Dec. 31.....12-3 p.m.  
Jan. 1.....3-5:30 p.m.  
Jan. 2.....2:30-4:30 p.m.

**Skate w/the Bluejackets**  
(Kids \$1, Adults \$2)  
Dec. 22nd 2-3:20 p.m.

**Play Hockey w/the Bluejackets**  
(\$5 per player)  
Dec. 22nd 2-3:20 p.m.

**New Years Bash Potluck**  
(Free Skating)  
Dec. 31st 9 p.m.-1 a.m.



### Minnesota Owls Enter their 21st Season 2014-15 HOME GAME SCHEDULE:

December	January	February
12th, Hudson Crusaders	10th, Rochester Ice Hawks	6th, Hudson Crusaders
	16th, Forest Lake Lakers	8th, Ironwood Yoopers
	18th, Steele County Blades	13th, Ironwood Yoopers
	23rd, Maple Grove Energy	20th, Maple Grove Energy

Come cheer on the Owls and see "Fire on Ice!"  
[www.minnesotaowls.com](http://www.minnesotaowls.com)



Minnesota

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](mailto:isanti@cityofisanti.us)

Website: [www.cityofisanti.us](http://www.cityofisanti.us)



*Isanti City Flower: Rudbeckia*



PRSRT STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
ISANTI, MN  
55040  
PERMIT NO. 22

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

## BOLTON & MENK, INC.<sup>®</sup>

Consulting Engineers & Surveyors

Engineering in Civil, Water, Wastewater,  
Transportation, Water Resources and  
Surveying Services.

**763-433-2851** [www.bolton-menk.com](http://www.bolton-menk.com)  
7533 Sunwood Drive NW • Ramsey, MN 55303  
Eight offices serving the upper midwest

*DESIGNING FOR A BETTER TOMORROW*



Bradley DeWolf, P.E.  
City of Isanti City Engineer  
612-756-1032 (cell)