



Windsor Wave

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Windsor Heights
the heart of it all

JUNE 2011

City of
Windsor Heights
1133 66th Street
Windsor Heights, IA 50324
(515) 279-3662
www.windsorheights.org

Help keep our storm sewer and waterways clean!
When mowing your lawn, please do not blow your grass clippings
onto your street, sidewalk or driveway

WINDSOR HEIGHTS RECEIVES AN AWARD

The City of Windsor Heights is pleased to announce that it is the recipient of the International City/County Management Association Program Excellence Award in the Strategic Leadership and Governance Category for 2011 for its Comprehensive Citizen Engagement program. ICMA Program Excellence Awards are presented to local governments and their chief administrators in recognition of their innovative and successful programs. Strategic Leadership and Governance Awards recognize the innovative and successful local government programs or processes that have significantly affected a local government organization’s culture or strategic direction.

The ICMA Program Excellence-Strategic Leadership and Governance award is given to Windsor Heights for the Comprehensive Citizen Engagement program. The City is being honored for undertaking activities that inform, educate and involve citizens in a variety of mediums and in creative ways. One example of how the city accomplishes this is through the Takin’ It To The Streets program, which has the City Council holding meetings on the street and following them with refreshments. This program not only promotes citizen involvement, but encourages neighbors to get to know each other. Another example would be the Community Coffee Club. Community Coffee Club is held one Saturday per month and the City Administrator and a Council Member invite citizens to join them for coffee at a local coffee shop. It provides another chance to support citizens’ desire to keep themselves current on community events. In addition, Windsor Heights was one of the first cities in its metropolitan area to utilize Facebook and Twitter to keep citizens engaged with city business.

“The City of Windsor Heights has been working tirelessly to identify creative and inexpensive ways to keep people involved and informed,” said Mayor Jerry Sullivan. “It is exciting to receive the award honoring the Council’s and my desire to work with the citizenry and keep them informed and engaged and highlighting staff’s effort in making that a reality.”

The award will be presented at the annual ICMA Conference in September in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The International City/County Management Association has 9,000 members nationally and an additional 2,000 members in 23 countries worldwide. Founded in 1914, ICMA (International City/County Management Association) is the premier local government leadership and management organization. Its mission is to create excellence in local governance by advocating and developing the professional management of local government worldwide. ICMA provides publications, data, information, technical assistance, and training and professional development to thousands of city, town, and county experts and other individuals throughout the world.

MUSIC IN THE PARK

Upcoming performances. Shows begin at 7:00 p.m.

June 28	Sacred Heart Sax and Brass
July 5	Urbandale Adult Community Band
July 12	Jazz in July: John Krantz Quartet (related events start at 5:30 p.m.; no free stuff that night)
July 19	Ballyhoo Foxtrot Orchestra
July 26	Hold On

Concerts are free and will include free beverages provided by Bankers Trust; free snow cones by the Windsor Heights Lions Club; free popcorn from the Windsor Heights Foundation. There will be door prizes and also opportunity for attendees to make a donation to the Foundation. The Jazz in July event is under the auspices of Metro Arts Alliance of Greater Des Moines and is designed to be family-friendly, with food concessions, art vendors and activities for children. Those events begin at 5:30 p.m., with the 90 minute concert starting at 7:00 p.m.

MOVIES IN THE PARK

Movies in the Park is back again this year in Colby Park. A huge thanks to this year’s sponsors, Walmart and Sam’s Club. All movies begin at dusk. Here is a schedule of upcoming movies:

June 24	Despicable Me
July 8	The Karate Kid
July 15	Antz
July 22	Iron Man 2
July 29	Blindside

JULY MEETING CHANGES

Because of the July 4 holiday, the meeting that would normally be held on the first Monday of the month, July 4, has been cancelled. The next meeting will be on July 18.

TAKING IT TO THE STREETS CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

We are excited to have the return of the *Taking it to the Streets* program in 2011. This award-winning program started three years ago and involves the city holding a city council meeting in the various neighborhoods. Our second *Taking it to the Streets* meeting will be on July 18 at the round about at Del Matro Court, located between 67th Street and 68th Street. If the weather is poor, we will move inside back to City Hall. Following the meeting we will have cookies for everyone to share and get to know their neighbors a little better. As always, the meetings will start at 6:00 p.m. Please remember to bring your lawn chair.

GARBAGE RATE ADJUSTMENT ALERT

Residents will notice a change on their garbage bills beginning in July. The Windsor Heights garbage rate will increase \$0.22 starting on July 1. Part of the increase is due to an adjustment in the tipping fee at the Metro Transfer Station, which is operated by Metro Waste Authority. The remaining cost increase is related to an increase in the CPI, which is included in the contract with the garbage hauler, Waste Management. Garbage rates are collected on water bills and then remitted to the contractor.

JULY 4th NEEDS YOUR VOLUNTEER HELP!

The Windsor Heights July 4th celebration is always a family favorite, but the celebration cannot take place without volunteers. You may sign up to volunteer by calling Tracy at 645-6821 or e-mailing tlevine@windsorheights.org. Feel free to bring your friends, family members, co-workers, workout partners and roommates. We would love volunteers to be part of a fun, energy-packed event. Volunteers are needed for parade lineup, concession stand, wrist bands, beverages, etc. Please share a couple hours of your time to help make the July 4th a wonderful event again this year.

THE CITY AT WORK FOR YOU

Over 58 tons worth of items were collected during the spring cleanup held in May... 67 bikes were collected during the bicycle collection drive that were donated to the Bicycle Collective for restoration... Tennis courts at Colby Park have been completely resurfaced... A road paint machine was purchased and now new lines are being completed across the city... New LED traffic lights have been installed, creating a massive electricity savings to the city and much more.

Please subscribe to the Windsor Wave, the electronic email newsletter that keeps you up-to-date on everything happening in Windsor Heights. Visit www.windsorheights.org/emailsignup.htm to sign up.

HICKMAN ROAD PROJECT UPDATE

As you may have recently noticed, the former *BP* gas station, *Little Cheaper Consignment Shop* and office building on Hickman Road have been removed. This is part of a larger economic redevelopment and road project. Starting this summer and into fall, additional turning lanes will be added along Hickman Road, 63rd Street and some other side roads. Once completed, this project will allow for a much smoother, safer, faster flow of traffic through the entire area around 63rd Street and Hickman Road. The city is also actively working to redevelop the entire area with new commercial and residential buildings and units in the future years, making a significant reinvestment within our city.

REMEMBER YOUR BUILDING PERMIT

Do you have a project on your to do list around the house? If you plan on doing any remodeling or additions to your home, most likely you need a building permit from the City of Windsor Heights. Building permits are important so that the city can insure any work done in a home in the city is done up to the most current building code. Examples of work that needs a building permit include any electrical and plumbing work and anything that will add square footage to a structure. Decks and fences also require a building permit. It is always better to ask if you need a permit than to do the work without a permit and find out later you needed one; this may result in a fine from the city. Please call Dave Breese, City Inspector, at with any questions or email at dbreese@windsorheights.org.

WINDSOR HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH QUARTERLY MEETING

The Windsor Heights Neighborhood Watch will be holding its Quarterly Meeting On Saturday, July 16, 2011 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the *3E* building north of the freeway at 953 - 73rd Street. The meeting will be held in the large conference room.

All residents of Windsor Heights are more than welcome to attend. Children are welcome at meetings when accompanied by a parent or adult. There is no cost or obligation to attend or to join the Neighborhood Watch. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Bill Shepherd 515-650-3100 whneighborhoodwatch@gmail.com

DO YOU OPERATE A HOME-BASED BUSINESS?

Please remember to register your home-based business with the City of Windsor Heights. When registering your business, several questions will be asked to help determine whether your home-based business is permissible under the Windsor Heights City Code. If a home-based business has a minimal impact on traffic and neighborhood infrastructure, it is likely a permissible business. It is also important for the City to know the locations of such businesses for zoning and public safety purposes. The form can be found at <http://www.windsorheights.org/Documents/HomeBased-BusinessRegistration.pdf> and registration costs just \$10.00 per calendar year.

Take your Home-Based Business to the next level – join the Windsor Heights Chamber. The Windsor Heights Chamber’s mission is to promote and support members, local business and organizations through advocacy, publicity and education, while working to promote the growth of our members, economic development and the quality of life in Windsor Heights. Visit www.windsorheightschamber.com for more information!