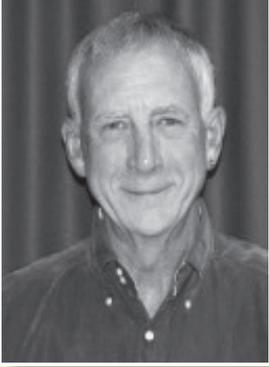
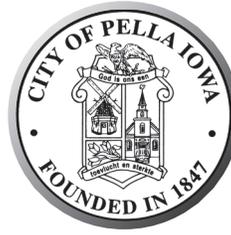


City of

AUGUST 2015

Pella



Leadership Letter

Recently, the issue of trees has been a hot button subject for your City government. A good tree canopy is generally viewed as desirable, not only because it contributes to a pleasant living place, but also because it is environmentally beneficial. However, due to pests and diseases, our canopy of bread and butter tree species is under pressure and will gradually die off.

At the City level, we regularly have state forestry people come in and advise us as to which trees to remove, which ones to monitor carefully, and to recommend species for replanting.

Now comes the question, how do we get you, the property owner, to plant trees? City Staff made us aware that a number of communities have put ordinances in place requiring the planting of trees and shrubs. Staff created a draft ordinance that went to Planning and Zoning for their consideration. At P&Z, concern was expressed that the proposed ordinance could be an unnecessary intrusion into private property rights. The proposal was eventually sent on to the City Council on a split vote. At the Council level, the same concerns were expressed, and the item was tabled to allow time for further consideration. When the proposed ordinance was brought back to the floor, it died for lack of a motion. No one supported the concept strongly enough to bring it to a vote.

So, we are back to the question, how do we encourage you to plant trees? The Mayor, Council, and Staff are open to your suggestions for getting property owners motivated in this direction. Remember, this is not about us, but for future generations.

– Mark De Jong

Fall Elections

City elections in Iowa are held in odd-numbered years. On November 3, 2015, in Pella, the Mayor seat and three Councilmember seats are up for election – Ward 2, Ward 4, and At-Large. If you are interested in running for office, the candidate filing period is from Monday, August 24th through Thursday, September 17th.

New this year – The Marion County Auditor is now the filing officer for the City of Pella elections. Candidates must file their nomination petitions in Knoxville with the County Auditor, who will be responsible for reviewing and accepting or rejecting them.

Elected City of Pella officials serve four-year terms. Each candidate must complete and submit an affidavit of candidacy along with nomination papers signed by at least 25 eligible electors. If you want further information about the election process, please contact the City Clerk at 628-4173.



Water Rate Increase

The water rate increase approved by Council in July will be appearing for the first time on the August utility bill, due September 20th. For the average residential customer, these increases will amount to approximately \$2 per month. This increase is necessary to fund the City's long term water supply plan, which includes a new 3.0 million gallon per day (MGD) reverse osmosis (RO) treatment process, an additional Jordan Well and new water main, and improvements to the existing lime softening treatment plant. The last rate increase for the water utility was over five years ago.

August Meeting Dates

8/4: 7:00 p.m.
City Council,
Police Training Room,
614 Main St. (rear entrance)

8/11: 4:00 p.m.
Library Board,
Pella Public Library

8/12: 5:30 p.m.
Community Development
Committee, Public Works
Conference Room

8/18: 7:00 p.m.
City Council,
Police Training Room,
614 Main St. (rear entrance)

8/21: Noon
Community Services Board,
Community Center,
Room 204

8/24: 7:00 p.m.
Planning & Zoning
Commission,
Police Training Room,
614 Main St. (rear entrance)

8/28: 7:00 a.m.
Airport Committee,
Airport Terminal,
Meeting Room

August Special Dates

August 19 All Day
Free Brush Pickup
by City

See the City's website
www.cityofpella.com
for information
on the new
recycling totes.

2015-16 SCHOOL YEAR ART CENTER PROGRAMS

Does your child have a creative side? Are you always going out and buying the supplies? Why not register your child for an art class. We have been offering an interdisciplinary visual arts program for students in Kindergarten - 12th grade at the Community Center since 1990. The Art Center encourages students to explore their individual creative needs by defining their own projects. Mediums include collaging, weaving, sculpting, print-making, paper-making, painting and puppet-making side by side. At the Art Center, we help our students develop an appreciation for the value of learning. The choices at the Art Center are extensive and our teachers are prepared to provide the inspiration and information necessary for students to reach their individual goals. Register early to get your desired class. Contact the office at 628-4571 with questions or concerns.

1st semester – September 7 through December 18

Class times to choose from:

- **After School** – Monday or Tuesday 3:30-5:00 pm (K-12)
- **Home School Classes** – Wednesday 10:30 am–noon (must be at least 5 yrs old and in Kindergarten)
- **Junior Art Center** – Monday or Tuesday 9:00–10:00 am (must be at least 4 yrs old)
- **Art with Me** – Thursday 9:00–10:00 am (must be 3 years old, parent or guardian attends with child)
Fee: \$37/resident \$43/non-resident per semester.
- **Wednesday After School** – When school is dismissed 90 minutes early, the class will be held from 2:00–5:00 pm, otherwise class will be held from 3:30–5:00 pm.
Fee: \$55/resident \$66/non-resident per semester.

NEW FOR FALL OF 2015:

Coming in the fall we will be offering specialized classes from 4:00-5:30 pm. The following is a list of classes for the first semester.

Mixed Media Mandalas: Create colorful layered circles of paper and fabric, then cut them up and share with your art mates to make a beautiful mandala.

Date: September 17; Time: 4:00-5:30 pm; Fee: \$7.50 resident, \$9 non-resident; Ages: 8 & up

Funky Pumpkins: Make a colorful pumpkin out of fabric, paper or plastic. We will create bright, unique pumpkins because orange isn't as fun!!!

Date: September 24; Time: 4:00-5:30 pm; Fee: \$7.50 resident, \$9 non-resident; Ages: 8 & up

Circle Weaving: Fun projects will be made learning to weave in the round. Small coasters to bigger wall art using string, yarn, ribbons fabric and more.

Date: October 8; Time: 4:00-5:30 pm; Fee: \$7.50 resident, \$9 non-resident; Ages: 6 & up

Zombie & Monster Stuffies: Friendly little zombies and monster dolls will take over your home this time of the year! Soft, plush creatures will be made out of felt and fabrics.

Dates: October 15; Time: 4:00-5:30 pm; Fee: \$7.50 resident, \$9 non-resident; Ages: 8 and up

Collage Pumpkins: Bring your pumpkin to the art center to create a fun jack-o-lantern adding found pieces. Paint, bottle caps, buttons, fabric, and fun pieces can be used to create a non-carved pumpkin. Please bring a real or plastic pumpkin to decorate.

Dates: October 22; Time: 4:00-5:30 pm; Fee: \$7.50 resident, \$9 non-resident; Ages: 6 & up

Dia de Los Muertos: Celebrate the Mexican Day of the Dead with fun sugar skulls and skeleton dolls. Bright, non-scary crafts to celebrate with our neighbors south of the border!

Date: October 29; Time: 4:00-5:30 pm, Fee: \$7.50 resident, \$9 non-resident, Ages: 8 & up

Clay Villages: Make tiny clay houses to create a colorful village. We will even create a little house with a roof lid to hide your tiny treasures. Note: these will need to be fired in the kiln and picked up at a later date.

Date: November 12; Time: 4:00-5:30 pm, Fee: \$7.50 resident, \$9 non-resident, Ages: 6 & up

Painted Scarves: Paint a beautiful scarf using different techniques for different looks. This is a great project to give as a gift.

Date: November 19; Time: 4:00-5:30 pm, Fee: \$7.50 resident, \$9 non-resident, Ages: 6 & up

Whimsical Pompon Decorations: Get ready to decorate your home for the holidays with these whimsical branches and little trees.

Dates: December 10; Time: 4:00-5:30 pm, Fee: \$7.50 resident, \$9 non-resident, Ages: 8 & up

Merry & Bright Ornaments: Time to deck the halls and trim the tree! Create a variety of artsy, bright and funky ornaments unlike any you will find in a store.

Dates: December 11; Time: 4:00-5:30 pm, Fee: \$7.50 resident, \$9 non-resident, Ages: 6 & up

AUGUST LIBRARY EVENTS

- **Story Time** is offered every Saturday at 10:30 a.m. Saturday story time is suggested for ages 3 and up with parents.
- August 4 at 1:00 p.m.: **Book to Movie Book Club** for kids in grades 2-5. The group will meet again on August 11 at 1:00 p.m. to watch the movie.
- August 11 at 10:30 a.m.: **Bubble and Sidewalk Chalk Story Time.** Everyone is welcome to attend. The program will be held outside, weather permitting.
- August 19 at 3:30 p.m.: **Lake Red Rock Program** in the Meeting Room. Suggested for children in grades K and up.
- August 20 at 10:15 a.m.: **Genealogy Club** will meet in the Library Meeting Room.
- August 27 at 12:00 noon: **the Brown Bag Book Club** will discuss *Some Luck* by Jane Smiley.

Coming in September:

- The Fall Session of **Story Time, Tot Time and Lap Sit** will start the week of September 14.
- **Sign-up for LEGO Club** will begin on Monday, September 14. LEGO Club will be held October through April. Sign-up is required. For more information on dates and times for LEGO Club, please contact Katie at kdreyer@cityofpella.com.

For more information on any of these programs, please call the library at 628-4268.

Check this out! You can download audio books and e-books from the library's website. From the library's homepage at www.cityofpella.com/library, click on the link for Bridges (formerly called WILBOR).

