

Employee CONNECTION



Aug 14, 2017

TABLE OF CONTENTS

City Manager & Director Updates	2
Sustainability	3
Fire Bowl	4
Wellness Info	4-6
Blue Zone Cook Off	5
IPERS Info	6
Avoid Identity Theft	6
Golf Sign Up Form	7

Employment Opportunities

Police Records Supervisor
Permit Technician
Solid Waste Recycling Laborer Extra
Driver
Automotive Equipment Mechanic II

If you have questions about any of the opportunities, please contact Jenelle Sisneros, 286-5001.

[Here is a link to view and print all job postings](#)

Employee News

New Employees

Jacob Pederson, PW – Sewer Maintenance Worker effective Aug 7. Jacob joins the City from the Iowa Army National Guard.

Natalie Struecker, LIB – Library Branch Manager effective Aug 7. Natalie joins the City from the Atlantic Public Library.

Joel Parker, PW – Public Works Laborer effective Aug 7. Joel joins the City from Pirc-Tobin Construction.

Employee Transfers and Promotions

Marcus Quaas, UTIL – promoted to Solid Waste & Recycling Driver / Collector I effective Aug 5. His previous position was Solid Waste & Recycling Laborer Extra Driver.

Curtis Heinle, TRAN – transferred to Transit Service Worker Supervisor effective Aug 7. His previous position was Service Worker.

Derek Turner, UTIL – transferred to WPC Maintenance Repair Worker I effective Aug 7. His previous position was Sewer Maintenance Worker.

Employee Retirements

Richard Keller, Vets – retiring Aug 31. Richard started with the City Aug 22, 1988. His current position is Building Maintenance Worker II.

Burl Hunt, CRFD – retiring Sept 4. Burl started with the City Jan 3, 1990. His current position is Firefighter.

City Manager and Director Update

Technology Training Rooms

The Mt Vernon Technical Training Room in City Hall is back online starting Monday, Aug 14. You should notice some functional and aesthetic improvements to that room. IT will begin offering a standard list of technology based training classes this Fall and on regular frequencies throughout the year. You should see this roster of classes by the next Employee Newsletter. This room is available as a room resource that may be requested for reservation subject to IT approval to ensure that it does not conflict with other classes. In addition, IT is working to bring a second training facility located at the CSC building online by the end of October.

Fireworks Recommendation

On Tuesday, Aug 8, a presentation was provided to the Public Safety and Youth Services Committee regarding the use and sales of fireworks. The information included statistics and an assessment of issues that occurred with the legalization of fireworks from June 1 - July 8, 2017 in Cedar Rapids. The Committee unanimously agreed to recommend to City Council a ban on the use of fireworks in city limits and allowing sales of fireworks in Industrial-zoned areas only. A resolution to proceed with establishing these recommended policies will be presented for consideration at the August 22 City Council meeting.

We have received a number of questions regarding the location of property currently zoned Industrial in relation to the sale of fireworks. Attached for your reference is a zoning map showing the areas of the City with an industrial zoning designation. There are significant industrial areas to the south, but also small pockets throughout the City. Staff will be presenting more specific policy options to further define which industrial areas are appropriate for the sale of fireworks, based on safety issues and the compatibility with surrounding land uses. As an example, the City of Des Moines restricts sales of fireworks to industrial-zoned properties and also does not allow sales of fireworks in the Downtown Overlay District. Another approach is a required separation distance from residential property. These approaches will be explored by staff and presented to City Council in greater detail for discussion.

Transit Changes

The transition to the city bus route changes that went into effect on July 31 has gone very well with relatively few issues. The bus routes are staying on schedule and we have received generally favorable feedback, especially in regard to the increased service frequency along 1st Ave east and more service and transfer options at Lindale, Westdale, and the NE and SW Walmarts. A few complaints have been received regarding longer travel times on a few routes, reduced service in low-use areas, frustration that changes were made, or not being aware of the route changes. The largest number of complaints have been in regard to the new circulator route in Marion. However, the changes in Marion were primarily a result of the City of Marion's request to expand service to the industrial park east of Hwy 151. We offered to provide the level of service that the City of Marion was willing to finance, including a direct connection between downtown Cedar Rapids and uptown Marion, but the City of Marion declined.

Development Services Manager

Ken DeKeyser begins as our Development Services Manager on Monday, Aug 14. He replaces Joe Mailander in this position, leading the Development Services team. Ken comes to the City from Hall & Hall Engineers, where he was a vice president and survey department lead, and also served as City Engineer for the City of Urbana. Ken is also a former City employee, serving as a Project Engineer in the Public Works Department from 1998 – 2009. Ken received a degree in civil engineering from Iowa State, and a masters in civil engineering from the University of Kansas. Ken reports to Sandi Fowler, and will be working closely with local developers to encourage investment in our community.

City Manager's 1 Bag Challenge Summer Clean-Up Event

Saturday, Aug 19 1:30-3 p.m. McGrath Amphitheatre

Take the challenge! We're challenging local leaders, elected officials and community members to take the City Manager's 1 Bag Challenge and clean up litter around the City of Cedar Rapids. Volunteers will meet at the McGrath Amphitheatre to get supplies, organize into groups, take a quick photo and head to designated locations to collect litter. Then come back to the Amphitheatre for a post-clean-up photo and snacks. The first 50 participants will receive a City of Cedar Rapids mini Frogg Togg cooling towel!

Annual Growing Sustainable Communities Conference

Dubuque, IA, October 3-4

The Midwest's premier sustainability conference is coming up, and registration is open at www.GSCDubuque.com. One-day or two-day registration is available. Come enjoy the expert panel discussions on topics including - to name a few - affordable housing, tree canopy goals, urban agriculture, alternative fuel vehicles, streetlight conversions, equity, urban resilience, climate action plans, and integrating sustainability metrics into city operations. Presenters join the conference from around the Country. Two City of Cedar Rapids employees, Sandy Pumphrey and Eric Holthaus, will be presenting on green infrastructure and STAR Communities, respectively.

Solar Group Buy

Now until the end of September

The Cedar Rapids and Linn County Solar Group Buy has passed the halfway point in the program. Two weeks ago, the program hit its first milestone with 50kW total in contracts signed (7 homes). The program is now only 2-3 homes away from its second milestone of 150kW. Each milestone triggers a price reduction for all participants (current and future).

Learn more about the program and sign-up for information by heading to www.SolarizeLinnCounty.com. Or, attend a Solar Power Hour, where basics of solar and the program are discussed, and your questions are answered by the solar installer and utility representative. Upcoming locations and dates include:

8/14/2017, Monday, 6:30 PM

Cedar Rapids Downtown Library – Beems A

[Facebook event here](#)

8/17/2017, Thursday, 6:30 PM

Kirkwood, Linn County Regional Center

1770 Boyson Rd, Hiawatha, IA 52233

[Facebook event here](#)

8/23/2017, Wednesday, 11:30am

Jean Oxley Linn County Public Service Center, Conf. 1A/1B

935 Second St. SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404

[Facebook event here](#)

8/29/2017, Tuesday, 6:00 PM

Linn County Farm Bureau

1323 Boyson Rd, Hiawatha, IA 52233

[Facebook event here](#)

9/7/2017, Thursday, 6:30 PM

Mt. Vernon City Hall

213 1st ST NW, Mt. Vernon, Iowa 52314

[Facebook event here](#)

Wellness Activity Incentive Program.

It's not too late to join!

Let's Move Cedar Rapids! Summer is here and it's not too late for you to get active and earn an incentive point by joining the City's incentive program for the remainder of 2017.

Every quarter employees and spouses must enroll in the new quarter. See the steps below for how to register for Quarter 3 – ensure that your device is synced (see below) and that you have manually back-entered activity starting July 1.

- Log in to your personal Health Solutions account
- Under the "Challenges", click "Choose"
- Select the Quarter 3 Activity Challenge
- Click "Enroll"

Milestones: Average Steps Daily	Quarterly Goal 2,000 steps = 1 mile	Drawing chances earned
5,000	Qtr 1: Baseline	N/A
7,500	Qtr 2-4: same as Qtr 1	1 chance
10,000	Qtr 2-4: advance to next milestone	2 chances
12,500		



CRFD Fire Bowl

The 2017 Cedar Rapids Fire Department Fire Bowl is Saturday, Sept 16, and will be a volleyball tournament at Volley's on Blairs Ferry Road. The tournament starts at 10am and runs until around 8pm. It is a 6 versus 6 format. The 6-player entry fee is \$260, which includes a t-shirt for each player and a guaranteed five games. It will be a pool play, single elimination tournament. The Fire Bowl is open to anyone and everyone—not just Public Safety/Emergency Medical Services teams—so feel free to tell your family and friends so they can put a team together!

The Fire Bowl began in 2010 as a charity 7-on-7 flag football tournament. It was created by members of the Cedar Rapids Fire Department and is a program operated by the Cedar Rapids Firefighters Foundation. The mission of the Foundation is to have a direct impact on the social, mental and physical well-being of families living in Iowa. The non-profit organization has donated more than \$150,000 through this event to organizations that assist children right here in Iowa. In 2016, the event format changed from flag football to sand volleyball. The sand volleyball tournament features 100, 6-player teams.

There are many charitable organizations that could use the Foundation's support, so each year there is a new cause to support. This year, the Firefighters Foundation has teamed up with the Cedar Rapids Police Protective Charity and will help fund the Santa Cop program. Held annually at the Target store on Blairs Ferry Road NE, Santa Cop matches underprivileged children in our community with Cedar Rapids police officers to shop for winter necessities.

To register, please visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/8th-annual-crfd-fire-bowl-2017-tickets-35284502898?aff=es2>





Show us your healthy cooking chops by competing in the **Blue Zones Cook-Off Challenge** at the Annual Health & Safety Fair

Sept 27 from 1 pm – 4 pm.

The recipe category is **Sensational Snacks and Sides**.

Assemble your team with no more than 4 individuals.

- * Decide on your recipe, which must follow the Blue Zones Guidelines <https://bluezones.com.recipes/food-guidelines/>
At a minimum, your recipe must follow the Slash Sugar, Diminish Dairy and Go Wholly guidelines.
- * Submit your team name, team roster and your recipe for consideration to your department Wellness Ambassador **no later than August 31st**! Not sure who that is...contact Anji at Health Solutions at angelaantkowiak@hsi-rx.com

And then...

- * All recipes will be reviewed by the Wellness Committee and four teams will be selected to compete in the Cook-Off Event at the Annual Health & Safety Fair.
- * Each of the four teams will receive \$75 to purchase supplies to make 50 bite-sized samples of their recipe.
- * The first 50 Health Fair participants will vote on their favorite recipe to determine the winning team.



Identity Theft Assistance Services



From a lost wallet to full-on credit card fraud, having your personal information compromised is stressful. Madison National Life Insurance Company, provider of the City's Life Insurance

coverage, offers Theft Assistance Services through AMT Consumer Services, Inc. These services are free to all City employees via coverage under Base Life Insurance. The \$50,000 Base life insurance coverage is for all benefit eligible employees and is paid for by the City.

AMT Consumer Services' certified risk management specialists can assist you with:

- Accessing the scope of suspected or actual fraud
- Putting you in contact with law enforcement or local governmental agencies
- Filing the Identity Theft Victim's Complaint & Affidavit
- Assisting with credit bureau fraud alerts
- Guiding you through the resolution process

These Identity Theft Assistance Services can be accessed 24/7 at 855-860-3727.

First Annual Employee Golf Outing

Open to all City employees, their families & guests

Saturday, Aug 26 @ Jones Golf Course

8:00AM Shotgun Start 4-person best shot

Entry Fee: \$35 per person (includes golf, cart, lunch & prizes)

Not a golfer? You can still join in the fun. Come and play Ping Pong or Bags, or practice your putting on the practice green!

Fee for non-golfers to have lunch is \$6.

Entry deadline is Friday, Aug 11 at 5:00pm

Registration is limited to the first 18 teams.

The Registration form on last page of the newsletter.



Upcoming Individual IPERS Counseling Sessions

Aug 21-24

Kirkwood - Linn County Regional Center, 1770 Boyson Road, Hiawatha, Rooms 802 and 804

Nov 27-30

Residence Inn, 1900 Dodge Rd NE, Cedar Rapids

Dec 4-7

Coralville Country Inn & Suites, 2571 Heartland Pl

Pre-registration is needed to attend an individual appointment. Contact IPERS @ 1-800-622-3849 -- appointments fill quickly.



Health Solutions Info

Wellness Program Testimonial



"I really like coaching because it's for me, and with your guidance I wouldn't have gotten as far, and it helps me stay on track. If it wasn't for the coaching, I wouldn't have known about the elevated A1c and the pre-diabetes, and now I'm watching carbs and feeling more healthy and stronger."

-Michael Bideaux, Water Department

Share with us YOUR success story! How has the City of Cedar Rapids Wellness Program helped you achieve your best self? Send feedback to Anji, Health Coach with Health Solutions at: angelaantkowiak@hsi-rx.com



**1st Annual
City of Cedar Rapids Golf Outing
(Open to all City employees, families, and guests)
4 - Person Best Shot
Saturday, August 26th @ Jones Golf Course
8:00 A.M. Shotgun Start**

Entry Fee: \$35.00 per person (Includes: Golf, Cart, Lunch, and Prizes)

*Not A Golfer? You can still join in the fun as well!
Come and play Bags, Ping Pong, and practice your putting on the Practice Green!
Fee for non golfers to have lunch is \$6.00*

**Entry Deadline: Friday, August 11 @ 5:00 P.M.
Sign up immediately! Registration open to the first 18 Teams!**

Player #1 (First and Last Name): _____ Player #2(First and Last Name): _____ Player #3(First and Last Name): _____ Player #4(First and Last Name): _____ <p align="center">Don't have a Foursome? Sign up as a single below and we will pair you with a group.</p> Single: (First and Last Name): _____
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Makes check payable to City Treasurer and send to: (must be received by 5 pm August 11, 2017)

Ellis Golf Course
Attn: Mark McMahon, Head Golf Professional
1401 Zika Ave. NW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52405
Ext: 4589
m.mcmahon@cedar-rapids.org

City Hall / Human Resources
Attn: Heath Halverson
101 1st Street SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52401
Ext: 5110
h.halverson@cedar-rapids.org