

# HUXLEY

## COMMUNITY AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT EVENTS

Volume III, Issue IV

April 2007

### Huxley Public Library News:

Spring has sprung and appropriately enough, April is ripe with interesting facts and events. Of particular interest this month: National Library Week during the 2nd week of April and Reading is Fun Week during the 3rd week of April.

Friday April 6<sup>th</sup> is Good Friday and April 8<sup>th</sup> is Easter Sunday

Question: If April showers bring May flowers, what do May flowers bring? (Find the answer at the end of HPL News).

- April 1 April Fools' Day
- April 2 1792 - The Coinage Act is passed establishing the United States Mint.
- April 3 1996 - Suspected "Unabomber" Theodore Kaczynski is arrested
- April 4 1975 - Microsoft is founded, 1994 - Mosaic (Netscape) is founded
- April 5 1994 - Kurt Cobain commits suicide
- April 6 1938 - Teflon is discovered
- April 7 1969 - The Internet's symbolic birth date: publication of RFC 1.
- April 8 1974 - Hank Aaron breaks Babe Ruth's record by hitting his 715th home run
- April 9 1770 - Capt James Cook discovers Botany Bay in Australia
- April 10 1925 - The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald is first published
- April 11 1905 - Einstein reveals his Theory of Relativity
- April 12 1996 - Yahoo! Goes public, selling 2.6 million shares at \$13 each
- April 13 1997 - Tiger Woods becomes the youngest golfer to win Masters Tournament
- April 14 2000 - Metallica drummer Lars Ulrich filed a lawsuit against Napster
- April 15 1912 - Titanic sinks, 1955 - The first McDonald's restaurant opens
- April 16 1972 - Apollo 16 blasts off for the moon
- April 17 1973 - Federal Express delivers its first package
- April 18 1923 - Yankee Stadium opens
- April 19 1938 - NBC begins television broadcasts, 1987 - The Simpsons make their debut
- April 20 1999 - Columbine High School massacre
- April 21 1910 - Mark Twain dies
- April 22 1970 - First Earth Day celebrated
- April 23 1564 - William Shakespeare is born
- April 24 1981 - The first IBM PC is introduced
- April 25 1983 - Pioneer 10 travels beyond Pluto's orbit
- April 26 1986 - Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant creates the world's worst nuclear disaster
- April 27 1981 - Xerox PARC introduces the computer mouse
- April 28 2003 - iTunes Music Store sells 1,000,000 songs in its 1st week.
- April 29 1974 - Watergate Scandal, 1992 - Los Angeles riots
- April 30 1993 - The World Wide Web was born at CERN

*To learn more about these people, places and things; please visit your local library.*

### **Please help support the Friends of the Public Library!**

#### **<3 <3 <3 Adopt – A – Book <3 <3 <3**

You can show your support by adopting a book. When you "adopt" a book, you are paying for books purchased by the Friends, for the library. A special name plate with your name on it goes inside the cover of the book to show all future readers of that book that you care enough to support literacy and your local library.

### **Please help support the Friends of the Public Library!**

Browse our online book sale:

<http://shops.half.ebay.com/friends-of-hpl>

The library needs used (or new) bubble mailers/envelopes in any/all sizes.

We can always put slightly new & gently used books to good use as well.

We have raised over \$1,850 since February, 2006 thanks to YOUR support!

### **Summer Program:**

The theme for the Summer Program at the Huxley Public Library this year is "Get a clue at your library". Please contact Jessica Leeds for more information at 597-2552

We will post more information when the schedule & planning is complete.

### **FYI:**

Did you know that you can renew materials 24 hours a day – 7 days a week? Just send a renewal request to: [huxlib@huxcomm.net](mailto:huxlib@huxcomm.net) All renewals are retroactive to date received.

The Huxley Public Library encourages people of all ages to celebrate the freedom to read!

If you have any other questions, comments, concerns, requests, etc. please do not hesitate to contact me; I am here to serve you! My checked-daily email address is [huxlib@huxcomm.net](mailto:huxlib@huxcomm.net)

## **Parks and Recreation Department's Monthly Report for February and March**

Hello, I am Mike Bushman, your new Park and Recreation Director. Let me take this opportunity to express my excitement in joining the staff here in Huxley. My family and I did have an opportunity to meet a few of you and look forward to meeting more as time goes on. I hope, all of you will become acquainted with me and my family. I would also like to invite all of you to stop in and visit. I look forward to getting started with the daily business and running of the department and the present and future planning of various recreational and leisure activities. I hope to have many well organized and run programs that this department will offer to the citizens of Huxley and the other participating communities.

### **Current and Ending Programs**

One program finishing up is the youth Basketball programs. I will be reading the evaluations handed in by the coaches and parents about the program. These evaluations will be something that I will be doing with as many of the programs that warrant it.

We played the end of year tournament for the men's Basketball league on Sunday March 25th. We had 8 teams participate this Sunday at the 3C's from noon till 8:00 p.m.

The new schedule for the next session of group fitness classes is out. We had a few make up classes due to weather problems in late February and March but all instructors were notified and know the session needs to include all classes paid for by the participants.

The men's and co-ed dodgeball leagues are going great.

### **Upcoming programs**

Registration for the Spring U8 and U6 youth will be starting soon, registration has concluded.

Bam Bam Baseball registration is underway. A copy of the flyer and registration form has been sent to the "Dimensions" for publication. We hope to have participants from all surrounding communities. Flyers are also available at the 3c's and on the city web site.

We are waiting on word back from the Huxley Jaycees to see if they will help or assume the Easter Egg hunt activity. Their meeting was on March 27<sup>th</sup>. One of the 3C's staff is a member and took the information to the meeting for presentation and discussion.

I will be looking at the "City Wide Garage Sale" that was held in the middle of May last year with registration ending in Late April. We are getting calls and questions about this event and it seems to have been a great success last year.

### **Other Important Items**

A meeting with Shive-Hattery, the project engineer, took place on Tuesday, March 27<sup>th</sup> at Centennial Park. There have been personnel changes for each of us, so we are setting up this meeting so all of the current people of interest for the initial phase of the project can meet and finally put a face with the voice that they have been dealing with. Other city and community members involved with this meeting were Jeff Peterson and members of the Public Works staff, Matt Jensen with Con-Struct, the company awarded the bid to start the dirt work and Kurt Haun with COMTEC, the fiber optic company that will be lowering the fiber optic line, Traci Carney and John Ronca from the Parks and Recreation Board and myself were in attendance. Everything appears to be ready to go.

## **FIRST STREET RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT – PHASES I & II**

Now that the weather has improved, the contractor will begin putting the finishing touches on Phase I of the First Street project. The only work remaining on the first phase is finish grading, constructing the remaining sidewalks, and seeding the project corridor. Once the sidewalks are finished, the contractor will be doing a walkthrough of the project with representatives of the City and the Engineer to correct any deficiencies prior to making final payment on the contract. EcoTech Construction is the prime contractor for Phase I of the First Street Project. The contract amount for Phase I is \$848,611.40.

Phase II of the project will involve reconstruction of First Street from 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue to Main Avenue as well as possible water main improvements on Main Avenue from Railway Street to First Street. The reconstruction involves replacing the existing sanitary sewer and water main beginning in the intersection of First and Main and proceeding west to 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue. All sanitary sewer and water services will be reconstructed to the right of way line. The project also involves storm sewer improvements. A new 15-inch concrete sewer will be installed on the north side of the street with sump pump services stubbed out to each house. The existing street will be replaced with a new 31'-wide concrete street with curb and gutter. Each driveway approach and sidewalks along both sides of the street will be replaced. The final grading and seeding will be done in the fall. The project documents also include a bid alternate to construct water main improvements on Main Avenue from Railway Street to First Street. Once the bids are received, the City Council will make a decision on whether to do these improvements. The City will take bids on the First Street project on April 12<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm. A public hearing for award and approval of the construction contract will be held during the City Council meeting on April 24<sup>th</sup>. The project is planned to be constructed in two phases with the Main Avenue work being completed in the May-June timeframe before moving on to the rest of First Street.

### **SE ANNEXATION - PHASE II IMPROVEMENTS**

The SE Annexation project involves constructing infrastructure for the 340 acres west of I-35 and north of Highway 210 that was annexed into the City in early 2006. Due to the location of the area adjacent to the interstate, the City expects that this area is a prime area for development. This project involves constructing over 2 miles of sanitary sewer from the location of the proposed wastewater treatment plant northeast of the 315<sup>th</sup> Street bridge over I-35 to 560<sup>th</sup> Avenue at Highway 210 and paving a portion of 560<sup>th</sup>.

Construction on Phase II of the SE Annexation project is back in full swing. 560<sup>th</sup> Avenue has again been closed to traffic so underground utilities can be installed to Highway 210. The contractor will install the sanitary sewer and storm sewer first and then grade and pave 560<sup>th</sup>. The contractor will then finish grading and paving the side road that will lead to future developments north of Monsanto. Borings for the new sanitary sewer under Interstate 35 and the Heart of Iowa Trail have been completed and the contractor is continuing to construct the sanitary sewer between these locations. The project has scheduled completion date of June 1, 2007.