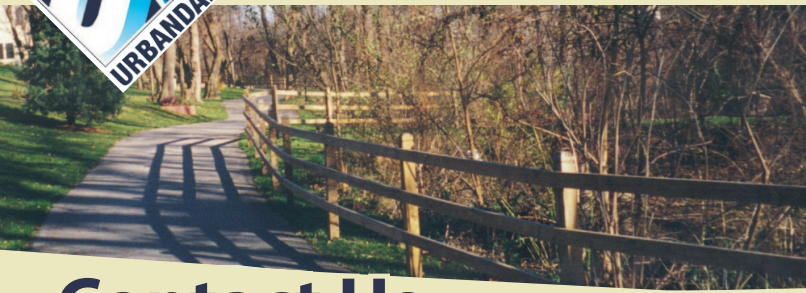




URBANDALE CITIZEN'S BRIEF

June 2011



Contact Us

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Mayor's Note By Robert Andeweg, Mayor

The Fourth of July will soon be upon us. It is always a hallmark event in Urbandale, and it is my favorite time of year. It is the one day of the year when I can allow myself to be swept up in complete celebration of the idea of "America". Every other day of the year is commonly marked by a healthy skepticism of government. It is the American way to be skeptical of government, while yet believing in the dreams that America was built upon. Though the concepts of liberty, freedom and equality are often taken for granted in the present, these were novel ideals in the 1770s. The reality of America is not perfect, but I wouldn't trade it for anything else. As Winston Churchill said, "Many forms of Government have been tried, and will be tried in this world of sin and woe. No one pretends that democracy is perfect or all-wise. Indeed, it has been said that democracy is the worst form of government, except all those others that have been tried from time to time."

July 4th reminds us what we strive to be. July 4th is a day to celebrate these ideals without judgment and to remember the strength of our forefathers. It is a time to remember all people who gave their lives in support of their declared ideals. The Fourth of July is a day when we should allow ourselves to place our judgments aside and to recall why America is a great and unique nation. With enough belief in oneself, dreams and hard work, America is the only country where a person can be anything that he or she strives to be.

Urbandale Public Library Welcomes New Director

The Urbandale Public Library has hired a new Director, Julie Wells of Norwalk. Julie comes from the Norwalk Easter Public Library where she has been the Director since 2001.

"In my new position as director of the Urbandale Public Library I will continue and enhance the quality services and programs offered to the citizens of Urbandale and the surrounding communities," says Julie. "I am looking forward to living and working in a growing, vibrant community."

Julie brings with her almost 20 years of library experience. In addition to her role at the Norwalk Easter Public Library, she has also worked in Adult Services, Technical Services, and System Administration at the Ottumwa Public Library. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from the University of Northern Iowa, a Teaching Certification in Secondary Education from Buena Vista College, and a Master's degree in Library and Informational Sciences from the University of Missouri.

"We are truly thrilled to have Julie lead the Urbandale Library into the future. She has such a passion and enthusiasm for the library," says Sheila Whalen, Urbandale Public Library Board President. Julie will start on June 7th.



Urbandale Police Department Adopts Zero Tolerance Policy for Illegal Fireworks

The Urbandale Police Department has adopted a zero-tolerance policy for the handling of illegal fireworks complaints. Officers will respond to resident complaints regarding illegal fireworks and issue citations to the violators. The City ordinance for illegal fireworks is 41.02(2). The simple misdemeanor charge is a non-scheduled fine requiring a mandatory appearance in court. Parents of children under 14 years-of-age will be cited if compliance to law enforcement directives is not followed.

The City of Urbandale grants a special permit to a licensed fireworks vendor to legally provide the spectacular fireworks display on the evening of July 4th. The Urbandale Police Department is a great supporter of the 4th of July festivities here in Urbandale and wants all the residents and visitors of our city to enjoy a safe and enjoyable holiday.

July 4th Celebration

The July Fourth Committee would like to welcome everyone to celebrate as we "Swing with Red, White and Blue". Festivities will take place starting on Saturday, July 2nd and culminate with the fireworks display on Monday, July 4th. The rain date for the fireworks display would be Tuesday, July 5th. The July 4th Celebration will continue to be held in and around Lions Park. New this year is the location of the fireworks display. Fireworks will be shot off from Walker Johnston Park and may not be viewable from Lions Park.

For residents and visitors around Lions Park and Walker Johnston Park there will be street closings and traffic delays during this celebration. Starting Thursday, June 30th at 6:00 p.m. Prairie Av-

enue will be closed from 71st to 72nd Street and 71st Street will be closed from Winston to Prairie. Aurora Avenue will be closed from 70th west to 72nd on Saturday, July 2nd and Sunday, July 3rd for the street dances. The parade route will close 70th from Urbandale Avenue north to Aurora Avenue, Aurora Avenue from 70th west to 86th, Douglas Avenue from 68th west to 72nd. In addition 71st



between Palm Drive and Roseland, Palm Drive from 70th to 71st Circle, Roseland and Maryland from 68th west to 72nd, and Oliver Smith Drive from 70th west to 72nd will be closed for the parade. During this event certain sections of Walker Johnston Park will be closed and several streets around Walker Johnston Park will be closed for the fireworks display. This includes Douglas Avenue from just west of 86th to 92nd Drive.

For all your July 4th Celebration information visit the official website at www.uniquelyurbandale.com/4th_of_July.

Calendar

The following meetings are held at City Hall (3600 - 86th Street) unless noted.

Planning & Zoning Commission Meetings
June 6th – 6:00 p.m.
June 20th – 6:00 p.m.
July 5th – 6:00 p.m.

Board of Adjustment Meetings
June 1st – 6:00 p.m.

City Council Meetings
June 14th – 7:00 p.m.
June 21st – 11:45 a.m.
June 28th – 7:00 p.m.

Parks & Recreation Commission Meetings
June 15th – 5:30 p.m.

Public Art Committee
June 14th – 4:00 p.m.

Library Board of Trustees Meeting
June 27th – 6:15 p.m. (@ Library)

Visit our website for complete calendar listings and more!
www.urbandale.org