



Citizen's Brief Newsletter

City of Urbandale • November 2011

3600 86th Street
Urbandale
278-3900

www.urbandale.org

Contact Us

MAYOR

• **Bob Andeweg**

283-3106 • bandeweg@urbandale.org

CITY MANAGER

• **A.J. Johnson**

278-3900 • ajohnson@urbandale.org

Scan this QR code with your smart phone to go to the city contact page.



Calendar

Scan this QR code with your smart phone to see a complete calendar.



How to Use QR Codes

Download a QR scanner app on your smart phone or iPhone. Launch the new app and center the code in the viewfinder on the screen. The scanner will decode the QR code and provide you with the URL address for our site.

LEAF DROP OFF

Leaf drop off on Saturdays, November 5 through November 19, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Drop off leaves at Public Works, 9401 Hickman Road. This event is free for Urbandale residents.



Animal License Changes Prompt Extending 2011 Licenses

In a response to declining ratings from the citizen surveys, the Police Department has been working to improve the quality of animal control services. The first step was moving from the old "dog catcher" system to a functional and responsive animal control service. To accomplish this change, the City has signed a contractual agreement to combine animal control services with the cities of Clive and West Des Moines. The goal is to improve the human handling, care and disposition of domestic animals.

Second, to create a unified three city service, the Police Department proposed changes to the licensing program. In an effort to solidify animal control services between Urbandale, Clive and West Des Moines, the current licensing system in Urbandale has been put on hold.

All Urbandale residents owning a dog or cat will be receiving license information in the first quarter of 2012. All 2011 tags will be valid until the new licensing system is completed, which is anticipated by the end of March 2012. As of November 1, 2011, the City of Urbandale will not issue any new licenses or take renewals for 2012 licenses. For additional details contact the Urbandale Police Department, Support Services, Sergeant Lang at (515) 331-6895.

Plum Drive Extension Completed

On Monday, October 24, the Urbandale Development Association (UDA), the City of Urbandale and the Urbandale Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting for the completion of Plum Drive. The ribbon cutting celebrated the extension of Plum Drive from 86th Street to 100th Street.

The ribbon cutting was held at the Holiday Inn Express and the event showcased the new opportunities created by extending Plum Drive. "The completion of Plum Drive opens up a key commercial development area within Urbandale," noted Mayor Andeweg.

The Plum Drive extension project created approximately 4,200 feet of new roadway with a 15-foot median. The extension links the area just west of Interstate I35/80 off 86th Street to 100th Street. This area has seen significant retail development over the past five-years and the extension of Plum Drive will create additional development opportunities.

Potential Tragedies Reinforce Lessons of Safety

During the month of October, the City of Urbandale was in the national news for two events. On September 29, an Urbandale resident had a medical emergency and went unconscious. The resident's four-year old son, realizing his mother was in need of medical assistance called 9-1-1. Due to this young boy's quick actions and knowing how to call 9-1-1, he saved his mother's life. Urbandale police officers encourage parents to teach young children how to call 9-1-1 during an emergency. When officers talk to children, they reinforce this point. This mother can be very thankful that her little hero did just that. He stayed calm while he spoke to the dispatcher and helped get his mother the medical attention that she needed.

Then, on October 8, a four-year old and his seven-year old friend were playing in a driveway. Meanwhile, a neighboring two-year old child got into a pickup truck and, by some unknown means, managed to put the truck into gear. The truck then rolled backwards striking the seven- and four-year old children that were out playing in the driveway. The truck's tire ran over the four-year olds head. Thankfully, the four-year old had just gotten off his bicycle and kept his helmet on. The helmet took the force and pushed his head to safety. The seven-year old was hit but thankfully no wheels ran over his body. This incident shows the importance of wearing a bicycle helmet. If the young boy did not have the helmet on, the end result could have been clearly different. It's also a stark reminder to parents to lock their vehicle when children are playing nearby.