

CITY OF SAINT PETER HOT SHEET



All the City news you need to know and a little bit more!
City Info Line 507-934-0675 TDD #711



The City of Saint Peter is an equal opportunity provider.

The following information is a publication of the City of Saint Peter, City Administrator's Office, 934-0663, 227 South Front Street. Please contact us at barbaral@saintpetermn.gov

07/28/10

CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS – Action taken by the City Council at the regular meeting of July 26, 2010 included a public hearing and subsequent action for the City to serve as a conduit for the issuance of bonds to finance construction of a senior housing facility by Benedictine Health Systems; approval for modification of the balloon payment date for two revolving loans for Chippewa Packaging; a presentation on and action to accept the 2009 audit of the City's financials; approval for purchase of hospital surgical equipment to be used in bariatric lap-band surgery; and approval for the unbudgeted purchase of VendingMiser equipment which has been installed on all soft drink machines in City owned buildings to save energy costs.

The next regular meeting of the City Council will be Monday, August 9, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the Governors' Room of the Community Center. For more information on City Council meetings, please contact the City Administrator's office at 934-0663. Copies of the agenda and Council packet are also available on the City's website at www.saintpetermn.gov/city.



MAKES ME WONDER (BY CITY ADMINISTRATOR TODD PRAFKE) – KFAN. So the story goes that one of my friends is a big KFAN fan. He was listening to KFAN as they talked about their soon to occur pilgrimage to Mankato for the Vikings training camp.

They solicited callers to give their opinion about the one thing you need to know if you are a first time attendee. Someone called in and said, "Don't speed through Saint Peter."

Now they meant it in a negative way, but I think that it's a bit of a positive. What would make someone think they should speed through our community? I still get about the same number of complaints that we are not enforcing speed laws enough as I get complaints that we are too stringent. I guess it depends on who you talk to. It will be interesting to see the traffic increase. Let's hope for a safe rest of summer and that if you are Vikings player you worry more about getting us to the Super Bowl than being late and getting to camp on time. Will Brett show up at camp? It more than makes me wonder.....!



3rd from 5-7 p.m. Mayor Strand has proclaimed August 3rd as "Night To Unite Day" in Saint Peter.

"NIGHT TO UNITE" EVENT
- The Saint Peter Police Department is joining with the Minnesota Crime Prevention Association to sponsor a "Night To Unite" event in Gorman Park on Tuesday, August

This is the second year for Night to Unite in Saint Peter and the event is about neighbors joining together to stay in touch with each other as part of an overall crime prevention program. The program replaces "National Night Out" in Minnesota and August 3rd is the day events are scheduled all across Minnesota.

In Saint Peter residents will join together to learn about crime prevention, personal safety and to reinforce the strong partnership between police and community. Refreshments will be available for purchase. There will be lots of fun activities for the whole family.

For more information please contact Police Officer Arpin at the Police Department at 931-1550.



PET OF THE WEEK – This week's featured pets include a Rat Terrier named Pork Chop, a female Black Lab, and even more kittens. The grey kitten is named Ash and the tiny tiger stripe kitten is called Oakland. The adult cat and Black Lab pictured below



haven't been named because we are hoping the owners will come and claim these two. If they will be up for

We don't have on these pound are all loving and are special someone to family. If you can pound animals a your life will be enriched immensely!



don't however, they adoption. much information animals, but they looking for that make them part of a offer any of these warm, loving home,

Please contact CSO Malinda Meyer at the Police Dept. at 931-1550, or Kind Veterinary Clinic at 931-4700 if you can adopt one of these animals.



And if you would like to become a Pound Pal and help out with the pound pets during their stay, please contact CSO Meyer for further information on that program.



POLLING PLACE REGULATIONS - On election day, Tuesday, August 10th, the Community Center and the Armory become polling places. State law prohibits campaigning within 100' of a polling place or, if the polling place is in a public building, anywhere on the property. As elections become more contested, more and more people are including bumper stickers on their vehicles or signs in the car windows in support of their favorite candidate. On election day, vehicles displaying campaign materials will not be allowed in any of the parking

lots at either the Armory or the Community Center. Voters are encouraged to remove the campaign materials from their vehicle prior to voting, or to park on the street and walk to the polling place. Thank you for your cooperation with this election law!

CITY CODE....COMING TO THE INTERNET SOON! - The Saint Peter City Code will be online beginning August 1st. The Code has recently been codified and the updated version will be available for public review and use beginning August 1st. The Code will be available at www.saintpetermn.gov under the Council/Administration section.

If you haven't heard of the City Code before, the book is a collection of all the laws of the City of Saint Peter. The City Council adopts Ordinances (laws) which are then incorporated (codified) into the City Code.

The online version of the Code will be completely searchable. Type in a key word and you will be directed to all references for that word or phrase. Having the Code online could be a great benefit to the community and it will save staff time that had previously been spent looking up regulations for the public. Staff will continue to be available to assist with questions and research as the need arises however.

The Code will be codified on at least a quarterly basis and anyone with questions about the City Code should contact the City Administrator's office at 934-0663.



HIGHWAY 169 RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT – Last week installation was completed on one of the last amenities along the newly reconstructed Highway 169.....bike racks. The bike racks shown in the photo here, are in a different design than you may have seen in the past, and were installed downtown near the new trees and benches. The bike racks provide an opportunity to secure the bikes for those who choose to pedal to their downtown destination versus

drive.

In addition, a bit of remedial work will be done on several catch basins, but contrary to the rumor that has sprung up around town, this work will not involve excavation of the highway surface. A bit of the curb along the highway has to be redone to ensure the catch basins are properly recessed so they don't get hit by snowplows. The inside lanes are expected to be closed to traffic for two weeks which may result in traffic delays.

Residents might have noticed some of the newly planted Honey Locust trees in the medians and along the Highway seem to be turning yellow. Staff has discovered the trees have Spider Mites. This is a common pest problem with these types of trees....similar to aphids in your gardens.....and it puts the tree under stress. The mites become more prevalent during dry spells so the irrigation levels to the trees are being increased which hopefully will take care of the problem and eliminate the need for chemical applications. There is no danger to people, pets, or other trees in the area.

LAW CHANGE – The State Legislature has adopted a change in driving laws that will most likely affect a lot of people in St. Peter. Drivers who are waiting to turn left at a traffic light oftentimes pull into the intersection with the intent of turning as soon as traffic lets up. If the light turns red while the driver is in the intersection, the driver then proceeds to make their turn and continues on. Sometimes the driver gets trapped in the middle of the intersection and cross traffic is unable to continue which causes traffic backups. So, starting August 1st this won't be legal anymore and driver's could be ticketed. If you are at a green light waiting to make a left hand turn, you need to wait

to enter the intersection until you can immediately, continuously and completely move through the intersection. Violators of this new law will receive written citations.



WHERE DO I VOTE? – The State primary election is coming up in just two weeks (August 10th) and polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. Voters in Saint Peter are divided into 2 Wards consisting of two precincts in each Ward. Voters in Ward 1 (north) cast their ballot at the National Guard Armory located at 1120 North Swift Street. Voters in Ward 2 (south) will vote at the

Community Center. For specific information on your ward and precinct, voters are encouraged to use the Secretary of State's precinct finder at <http://pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us> or to call the City Administrator's office at 934-0663.

Additional information on elections is available on the City's website at <http://www.saintpetermn.gov/city/election.php>.

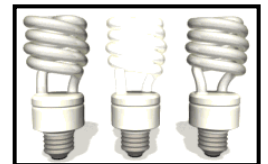
TRAUMA DESIGNATION FOR RIVER'S EDGE HOSPITAL - River's Edge Hospital & Clinic is one of 63 hospitals in Minnesota designated as a Level IV Trauma Hospital. To become part of Minnesota's statewide trauma system the process includes an outside review of the hospital's resources and capabilities to care for trauma patients. River's Edge Hospital & Clinic met standards of commitment, clinical and equipment resources and staff training. The Hospital also participates in a continuous performance improvement process.

For a severely injured person, the time between sustaining an injury and receiving definitive care is the most important predictor of survival – the "golden hour." The chance of survival diminishes with time; however, a trauma system enhances the chance of survival regardless of proximity to an urban trauma hospital.

For more information about the trauma system please see the Minnesota Department of Health website at <http://www.health.state.mn.us/traumasystem/>.

CFL BULB DISPOSAL – So you've done a good thing and purchased your compact fluorescent bulbs to save energy, but now those bulbs have burnt out and you have to dispose of them. Should you throw them in the garbage? Absolutely NOT!!!

Compact fluorescent lights (CFL) reduce energy costs and last up to 10 times longer than standard incandescent light bulbs, but due to the presence of a small amount of mercury, CFLs must be recycled. (In Minnesota, it is illegal to throw CFLs in the garbage.) The lessons we have learned in the past show mercury does not belong in a landfill and can be hazardous to both humans and animals who come in contact with it.



CFL bulbs must be disposed of properly and the City has scheduled special bulb collection programs in the past. We will again in the future and notice of those programs will be included in the City utility bill stuffer. But if you have bulbs at your home and would like to get rid of them sooner, you can always drop them off at any Menard's store and they will be happy to provide for proper handling and disposal free of charge. Just take the bulbs to the customer service counter.

Thank you for helping to protect our environment!

WATER TREATMENT PLANT PROJECT – The new water treatment plant is progressing nicely as the City Council witnessed while on a tour of the plant on July 19th. Construction of the plant is

expected to be completed by late September and be put on-line following a one week test period.

Low interest funding for the water treatment plant project was obtained through the Public Facilities Authority.

HOSPITAL CEO HONORED - HOSPITAL CEO HONORED - Colleen Spike, CEO of River's Edge Hospital & Clinic, recently received the Minnesota Rural Health Hero award for her role as a champion of small rural hospitals.

Spike began her career in Saint Peter as CEO of Community Hospital (now River's Edge Hospital and Clinic) and has been instrumental in changes in health care in the community including opening of the Benedictine Living Community of St. Peter nursing home adjacent to River's Edge Hospital,

development of River's Edge medical clinic, attracting the St. Peter Clinic to the hospital campus which now also includes the Live Well Fitness Center, the Mankato Chiropractic Clinic, and Quality Care Pharmacy. Spike's assistance also was instrumental in River's Edge receiving its Level 4 trauma hospital designation. Congratulations Colleen on this prestigious award!

CITY CALENDAR**

Wednesday	July 28	12:00 noon	Hospital Commission
Monday	August 2	3:30 p.m.	Housing and Redevelopment Authority
Monday	August 2	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Tuesday	August 3	7:00 p.m.	Planning and Zoning Commission
Monday	August 9	5:00 p.m.	Human Rights Commission
Monday	August 9	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	August 10		PRIMARY ELECTION DAY
Monday	August 16	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Monday	August 16	7:00 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Monday	August 23	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Wednesday	August 26	12:00 noon	Hospital Commission
Thursday	August 26	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority
Friday	August 27	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Tuesday	August 31	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission



For information on the location for these meetings, please contact the City at 934-0663 or visit the City's website at www.saintpetermn.gov.