

# 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  
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@CityofStPeter

08/29/18

**CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS** – Action at the City Council meeting held on August 27, 2018 included authorizing City assistance for the Oktoberfest event; authorizing execution of an agreement for additional work by Five Bugles Design related to a Fire Station project; authorization for MVAC to develop a grant application on behalf of the City for Small Cities Development Program grant funds to help finance a housing rehabilitation program; approval to relocate the Ward 1 polling place from the Armory to Johnson Hall at the Fairgrounds beginning with the November 6, 2018 general election; accepting a donation from the Friends of the Library for stained glass hangings that will be installed in the tower at the library; approving a settlement agreement with Hunter Hardwoods for a revolving loan previously provided; authorizing City participation in and representation on Nicollet County's Project 33 Watershed Committee; and authorizing subordination of the City's revolving loan to St. Peter Food Coop.

The next regular City Council meeting will be September 10, 2018 beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Governors' Room of the Community Center.

**LABOR DAY CLOSURES** – All non-emergency City offices, including the Library, Community Center and Minnesota River Valley Transit system, will be closed on Labor Day.

In addition, the Community Center will be closed over the Labor Day weekend, (Saturday, September 1st–Monday, September 3rd) and the Library will also be closed on Saturday, September 1st.

Regular Community Center (non-summer hours) hours start Tuesday, September 2nd. The revised hours will be:

## LABOR DAY



Monday through Friday: 6 a.m.–10 p.m.  
Saturday: 8 a.m.–8 p.m.  
Sundays noon–8 p.m.

Enjoy your Labor Day holiday and if you are traveling, remember to put the cell phone down and buckle up!

### WARD 1 POLLING PLACE

**CHANGE** – Due to a major renovation project at the National Guard Armory, the City's Ward 1 (north) polling place will be changed to Johnson Hall at the Nicollet County Fairgrounds beginning with the November 6, 2018 general election.

WARD 1 POLLING  
PLACE CHANGE

All registered voters in Ward 1 will receive written notice (a postcard from the Secretary of State's Office) of the change to Johnson Hall in the next few weeks.

Upcoming editions of the Hot Sheet, as well as the City's website, Facebook and Twitter pages will include reminders of this change.

The polling place at the Community Center will not be impacted by the change to Johnson Hall.

## RIVER'S EDGE HOSPITAL • ST. PETER



**RIVER'S EDGE  
HOSPITAL NEWS**  
- River's Edge  
Hospital has  
been awarded

two 2018 Excellence in Patient Care Awards by Studer Group, a Huron solution. Specifically, River's Edge Hospital is being recognized for exemplary results related to discharge information as measured by the HCAHPS (Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems) survey.

Excellence in Patient Care Awards are presented annually to a select group of organizations from Huron and Studer Group's partner base. To be eligible for an award, an organization must

demonstrate outstanding performance and achievement in areas such as patient care and employee and physician engagement.

Organizations receiving this award achieved a ranking at or above the 90th percentile for patients discharged in 2017 as measured by the HCAHPS patient experience survey required by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The organization is also being recognized for achieving significant reductions in turnover in 2017.

In other Hospital news, River's Edge Hospital and Clinic's "I CAN Prevent Diabetes ®, a diabetes prevention program, has received reaccreditation from the Centers for Disease Control.

The class, led by Jennifer Donkin, registered dietician and Nicole Boelter, exercise physiologist at River's Edge, is a 12-month program for people who are at risk for type 2 diabetes. It focuses on weight loss and increased physical activity.

Evaluators from the CDC noted that River's Edge has met all the requirements for accreditation. Participants are eligible if they have had a blood test indicating pre-diabetes or by taking a risk assessment at their doctor's office. The next I CAN Prevent Diabetes® class is scheduled in February 2019. For more information, please contact Jennifer Donkin at 507-934-7694.

**RECREATION DEPARTMENT EVENTS** – Lots of offerings from the Recreation and Leisure Services Department in the next few weeks. Here's a sampling:

- Grandparent's Day – Bring the special "grand" in your life and celebrate two generations with Saint Peter Recreation and Leisure Services. Enjoy crafts, BINGO, interactive fitness activities and a photo booth, with coffee, lemonade and a light snack provided. This event is Friday, September 7th from 10-11:30 a.m. in Community Center Room 219. Cost is \$4 per couple and \$1 for each additional guest. To register for this fun event, please visit the Recreation Department in the Community Center or go online at [www.saintpeter.mn.gov/recreation](http://www.saintpeter.mn.gov/recreation).
- Annual Senior Expo—It's a Tasty Life! Stop by the Community Center for the annual Senior Expo on Thursday, September 20th between 2-5 p.m. The day will include flu shots, hearing tests, chair massages, entertainment, swag bags and guest speaker, Hy-Vee Dietician April Graff. This is a free event!

- Adult Pickleball Tournament - Did someone say friendly competition?! Saint Peter's first Pickleball Tournament is coming to town on Saturday, September 29th. Events include Mixed Doubles, Men's Doubles and Women's Doubles. Registration check-in begins at 7:30 a.m. and the games start at 8 a.m. Games will be played at both the High School and Community Center. Registration forms are available at the Recreation Department or on the City's website at [www.saintpetermn.gov/recreation](http://www.saintpetermn.gov/recreation). Cost is \$25 per person for the first event and \$5 per person for a second event.

### **CAMPAIGN SIGN RULES**

– Do you have a campaign sign in your yard? Sometimes the folks who deliver the signs haven't been told the rules and sometimes the property owner, wanting to make the sign more visible for their candidate, will move it onto the City owned boulevard. It's important to follow the rules for campaign signs to avoid causing problems for your favored candidate.

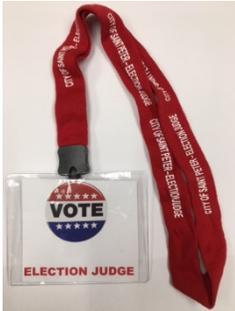


Here's what you need to know:

- Signs are not allowed anywhere on public property. This includes City, County and State owned rights-of-way, and parks; structures in the City-owned boulevard including light poles, street signs, traffic control devices like stop signs, trees, shrubs, rocks, and fences; or other City owned structures. Signs must be kept back from the City owned boulevard (or right-of-way) using these guidelines:
  - If a public sidewalk exists, signs may be placed behind the sidewalk; or
  - If no sidewalk exists, it is safe to assume that a sign placed twenty feet (20') behind the curb line will be on private property.
- If the sign is on a corner lot, the rules for placement include BOTH sides of the property as right-of-way's exist next to all City roadways.
- Signs can only be put on private property with permission of the private property owner. When asking private property owners to place signs, candidates are encouraged to review the rules with the property owner to ensure they don't move signs closer to the curb line.

- Signs must not obstruct sightlines for drivers. On corner lots, signs are asked to be 25' behind both curb lines to ensure vehicular traffic is not impeded.

For more information on campaign signs or election regulations, please contact the City Administrator's Office (934-0663).



**ELECTION JUDGES NEEDED –** Remember those helpful Election Judges you saw at the primary? How would you like to be one for the November 6, 2018 general election?

The City is actively seeking additional Election Judges to work in November. To be eligible for appointment as an

election judge, a candidate must be:

- eligible to vote in the State of Minnesota; and
- affiliated with a major political party; and
- able to read, write and speak English; and
- appointed by the City Council; and
- trained and currently certified as an election judge (training is scheduled for Wednesday, October 10th beginning at 6:00 p.m.)

An election judge cannot be:

- a candidate in that election (i.e. be running for an office on the ballot used in that precinct); or
- the husband, wife, parent, step relative, child, brother, or sister of a candidate or another judge in the same precinct; or
- a challenger.

We love kids! High school students ages 16 and 17 can be trainee judges and we love to work with them. (Students 18 and over can serve as full-fledged judges.)

Students must be in good academic standing, and have permission from their school and parents. Trainee judges perform most of the same duties as the adult judges (except those requiring judges of different political affiliations) and are paid for their service. Trainee judges cannot work past 10:00 p.m.

All Judges must attend a mandatory training session before the election and are paid at the rate of \$10.25 per hour for their service. While most judges work all day (6:00 a.m. – 8:30 p.m.) on election day, some positions will work from 5:30 p.m. until final counting is completed (which can go quite late for this year's election).

If you would like to be considered for appointment as an election judge, or for more information on

how you can serve your community in this way, please contact the City Administrator's office at 934-0663 or send us an e-mail at [barbaral@saintpetermn.gov](mailto:barbaral@saintpetermn.gov) to request an application. All applicants are required to state a major party affiliation.

**BACK TO SCHOOL SAFETY –**

Schools starts soon for Saint Peter students. That makes it a great time to review back to school safety tips for drivers and pedestrians alike.

This information is a compilation of materials put out by the Minnesota Department of Public Safety and the Minnesota Crime Prevention Association.



If your child is going to ride the bus to school you probably already know that buses are safer than cars. However, that doesn't mean the bus won't pose a danger for your child. To help prevent injuries involving school buses, here are some tips to pass on to your children:

- Have a safe place to wait for your bus, away from traffic and the street.

**CHILD SAFETY TIP**  
 Before departing with children/ grandchildren/kids to any event, take a second, pull out your cell phone and take individual pictures of each child. That way, if the unthinkable happens and a child gets lost, you have a picture of how they are dressed and what they looked like that day.

The photo can then be immediately sent to police to aid in locating the child. Seconds can be precious in this scenario, so take a second, make it a habit and take a picture!

- Stay away from the bus until it comes to a complete stop and the driver signals you to enter.
- When being dropped off, exit the bus and walk ten giant steps away. Remember that the bus driver can see you best when you are back

- away from the bus.
- Use the handrail to enter and exit the bus. Backpacks are heavy and can throw a child off balance when climbing steps. Using the handrail provides an extra measure of safety.
- Be aware of street traffic around you. Drivers must follow certain rules concerning school buses, however, not everyone does and it's better to wait until you see cars come to a complete stop before you try and cross the street.
- Only cross the street at corners in the crosswalk.

Not all children will be bused to school and if your child lives close enough to walk or bike to school, here's some tips to help limit their danger:

- Instruct your child to follow traffic signals and



instructions from the crossing guard and never cross the street against the light.

- Know your child's route to and from school and the time it takes. Ask them to not deviate from the

established path or timeline. If your child rides a bike to school or home, practice the route before the start of school and know where any crossing guards or help might be.

- Instruct your child to walk their bike through intersections.
- Instruct the child to walk with a buddy.
- Outfit your child with reflective material to make them more visible to traffic. Putting this material on their backpacks is also helpful. Remember that once daylight savings changes in the fall it might be dark in the mornings when they go to school or when they are coming home.
- Teach your children to lock up their bikes when they get to their destination, including when they get home. Bikes are often stolen from yards and unlocked garages.
- Get your child in the habit of always wearing a helmet when they get on their bike. Make yourself an example by wearing your helmet too.
- Ride with your child! Parents can always use the extra exercise, and a bicycle ride creates an opportunity for parent-child involvement and good quality conversation time.
- Have a safety contingency plan...just in case! Does your child know a certain neighbor whose home can be considered a "safe house" in the event of a bike or safety issue? Could your youngster carry a walkie-talkie or, if an older child, a cell phone (even if it's only for emergencies)? Parents should provide their kids with "what if" scenarios they can think through...just in case the unthinkable happens. When it comes to your child's well-being, there is no such thing as being



over-prepared.

As the driver of a vehicle, whether you are taking a child to school or not, it's important to be even more alert and aware because once school begins there will be significantly more traffic in and around school zones. Here are some tips to help everyone be safer:

- Wear your seat belt! Seat belts are the best form of protection in the event of a crash. And everyone needs to be buckled up properly. That means older kids in seat belts, younger kids in booster seats and little kids in child safety seats. And you, the driver? Set an example for your children and remember to buckle up yourself.
- Remember that in Minnesota it's illegal to pass a school bus with flashing red lights. And don't think you can get away with violating this rule just because there aren't any Police Officers around! Bus drivers can and will pass on the license number of a driver violating this rule to the Police!
- Reduce your speed in a school zone. Legal speed limits in these areas will be posted, but you can make it even safer by slowing down even further.
- Be alert for children who might dart out between parked cars. Remember they are smaller than most vehicles and you might not see them until it is too late. And parents, teach your child to always cross at the crosswalk so that this situation doesn't happen.

That's a lot of things to think about, but parents and children also need to be aware of personal safety. Here are a few more tips to keep your child safe:

- Never label or print your child's name on the outside of backpacks, lunches or clothing. Doing so will make it possible for criminals to learn your child's name and trick them.
- Establish a "SECRET CODE WORD" with your child. Explain to your kids never to go with anyone that does not know the "code word" regardless of the circumstances.
- Explain to your children to:
  - Never talk to strangers.
  - Never get in a car with strangers.
  - Never let a stranger into their home.
  - Never let a stranger touch them.
- Never allow your child to play in a dimly lit or unsupervised place.
- Remind your child to play and walk in a group. There is safety in numbers.
- Take a current photo of your child. Should the child go missing, having a current photo will help the Police.

This is just a sampling of ideas that you can use to keep your children safe as they go back to school. Talking to your children before school starts, and giving them gentle reminders throughout the year is a good start to ensuring everyone has a safe and enjoyable school year!

**JOB OPENING:** The Civil Service Commission is currently accepting applications for the following position:

- **POLICE PATROL OFFICER** - The City of Saint Peter Police Civil Service Commission is currently accepting applications to establish an eligibility ranking for the position of Police Patrol Officer. Applicants must have a minimum of two year degree in Law Enforcement from P.O.S.T. accredited college or vocational school or five years experience as a police officer; Possession of a *valid* current Minnesota P.O.S.T. board license or eligibility to *immediately* receive a P.O.S.T. board license; possession of, or

eligible for a Minnesota Class D Drivers license; and satisfactory results on recruitment instruments designated by the Police Civil Service Commission, such as oral, written, physical, and psychological examinations. Desired qualifications include: four year Bachelor's Degree in law enforcement or related field; experience in working with a law enforcement agency; and specialized training or certificate in a law enforcement related field; customer service oriented employment history. Probationary pay rate has been established at \$26.77/hour. Applications may be obtained at, and must be submitted, along with a cover letter and résumé, to the Saint Peter Police Civil Service Commission, c/o Saint Peter Police Department, 207 South Front Street, Saint Peter, MN 56082, (507)931-1550, by 5:00 p.m. September 15, 2018. Faxed, emailed and/or late applications will *not* be accepted.

**CITY MEETING CALENDAR** - This calendar is subject to change. Should you have a question on a meeting date/time, please contact the City Administrator's Office at 934-0663.

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|-----------|--------------|--|---|
| Monday    | September 3  |  | LABOR DAY HOLIDAY – City Offices Closed |
| Tuesday   | September 4  | 5:30 p.m.  | City Council Workshop                   |
| Thursday  | September 6  | 5:30 p.m.  | Planning and Zoning Commission          |
| Monday    | September 10 | 3:30 p.m.  | Housing and Redevelopment Authority     |
| Monday    | September 10 | 7:00 p.m.  | City Council Meeting                    |
| Tuesday   | September 11 | 5:30 p.m.  | Library Board                           |
| Monday    | September 17 | 5:30 p.m.  | City Council Workshop                   |
| Monday    | September 17 | 7:00 p.m.  | Parks and Recreation Advisory Board     |
| Monday    | September 24 | 7:00 p.m.  | City Council Meeting                    |
| Tuesday   | September 25 | 5:30 p.m.  | Heritage Preservation Commission        |
| Wednesday | September 26 | 12:30 p.m.   | Hospital Commission                     |
| Thursday  | September 27 | 12:00 noon   | Economic Development Authority          |
| Friday    | September 28 | 8:00 a.m.  | Tourism and Visitors Bureau             |
| Monday    | October 1    | 3:30 p.m.  | Housing and Redevelopment Authority     |
| Monday    | October 1    | 5:30 p.m.  | City Council Workshop                   |
| Thursday  | October 4    | 5:30 p.m.  | Planning and Zoning Commission          |

|           |            |                 |  |
|-----------|------------|-----------------|--|
| Monday    | October 8  | 7:00 p.m.       | City Council Meeting                   |
| Monday    | October 15 | 5:30 p.m.       | City Council Workshop                  |
| Monday    | October 15 | 7:00 p.m.       | Parks and Recreation Advisory Board    |
| Tuesday   | October 16 | until 1:30 p.m. | CITY OFFICES CLOSED FOR STAFF TRAINING |
| Monday    | October 22 | 7:00 p.m.       | City Council Meeting                   |
| Wednesday | October 24 | 12:30 p.m.      | Hospital Commission                    |
| Thursday  | October 25 | 12:00 noon      | Economic Development Authority         |
| Friday    | October 26 | 8:00 a.m.       | Tourism and Visitors Bureau            |
| Monday    | October 29 | 3:00 p.m.       | City Council Goal Session              |
| Tuesday   | October 30 | 5:30 p.m.       | Heritage Preservation Commission       |