

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. www.facebook.com/cityofsaintpeter



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MAKES ME WONDER (BY CITY ADMINISTRATOR TODD PRAFKE)

Soon will be the time of change...I think. The way we govern ourselves was established locally more than 150 years ago. It was done

with many things in mind, one of which was proximity.

It was simple really. How much area government was responsible to take care of based on where we could see, where we could send supplies, where we could build infrastructure, and how much money we had to build it. Could you ride your horse there in half a day?

Here is a great example that many folks don't know about. Fire Department service areas very much followed the local telephone exchange. Why was it set up that way? Practicality. When you called to get help for a fire on your farm you didn't what to go through a couple of different operators to get the message out. You wanted to call your operator who then patched you into the Fire Department. Barriers such as operators, jurisdiction lines, and ability to get information will all impact the future of how we govern ourselves.

This is all about how we will change the way we govern ourselves. Next week I will write a bit about what I think will happen in communities relative to governance. The changes in how we govern ourselves will be different for different things we want done and for the different services we expect from our government. Here's a hint....it will be based on communities, but you might be surprised by how communities will be defined.

It makes me wonder.....

2011 HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD WINNER – St. Peter Choral Society Director Sara McKay has been named the recipient of the 2011 Human Rights

Award by the Saint Peter Human Rights Commission.

Mrs. McKay was honored by the members of the Commission for her work to ensure that the facilities for practice and performances of the Choral Society are accessible for all performers and audience members regardless of any physical limitations.

Commission Chairperson Michelle Twait, along with several other members of the Commission, presented the award to Mrs. McKay at the November 13th City Council meeting.

WASHINGTON AVENUE LINK PROJECT –

****Update**** - The City of Saint Peter encourages the public to attend a **Public Open House and Hearing** for the North Washington Avenue Realignment Project (SP 165-126-005) on **Monday, November 19, 2012 from 4 to 6 PM at the Saint Peter Community Center, Senior Center Room (600 South Fifth St, Saint Peter)**. A brief presentation will begin at approximately 5:30 p.m... The purpose of the open house is to provide current information on the project and the anticipated schedule and to encourage the public to comment and ask questions. Maps, drawings and the Draft Environmental Assessment will be available for public inspection at the public hearing.

Some time has passed since the City was last able to provide detailed information on the proposed extension of North Washington Avenue to Dodd Avenue. This project has been in the works for some time and is continuing through the Federal approval process. Area property owners may be interested in a review of the project and the proposed route for extension of the roadway. Check out this link for more information...

<http://www.bolton->

menk.com/SaintPeter/PDFs/11062012%20Website%20Update.pdf

For more information on the Washington Avenue Link Project, please contact the Public Works Department at 934-0670.

HOLIDAY CANCELLATIONS/CLOSURES – All non-emergency City offices, including the public library, will be closed Thursday-Friday, November 22-23, for the Thanksgiving holiday. Regular office hours will resume on Monday, November 26th and the library will reopen on Saturday, November 24th at 9 am.

The closures will be repeated for the Christmas holiday from Monday-Tuesday (December 24-25th) and on New Year's Day (January 1st).

The City Council has also taken action to cancel the December 24th regular meeting and the December 31st workshop session.

BLOOD DRIVE HELD TO SUPPORT HURRICANE SANDY

- An outpouring of support since Hurricane Sandy has helped stabilize the American Red Cross blood supply. However, there is still a demand and the need increases for the holidays. The American Red Cross is asking all eligible donors to step up, roll up a sleeve and give blood or platelets as soon as possible.

River's Edge Hospital & Clinic and the American Red Cross are working together to host a blood drive from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., on Friday, November 23rd, at the Hospital which is located at 1900 N. Sunrise Drive.

The donating process takes just over an hour and while appointments are recommended, they are not required. (Donors with appointments donate first!)

To schedule an appointment or for more information, please call River's Edge Hospital & Clinic at 931-2200, or go online to www.redcrossblood.org.

ELECTION RESULTS – Whether your candidates won or lost....whether you got your way on the constitutional amendments or not, this election season is finally behind us and the close races were exciting to be part of.

As usual, Saint Peter had a very good turnout in all four of our precincts. The City had a 79.5% voter turnout rate and Election Judges registered over 1,600 new voters on Election Day.

Special thanks to County Auditor/Treasurer Bridgette Kennedy and her crack staff for the election assistance provided to the City and to all of the City's wonderful Election Judges for their hard work on a very busy election day!

If you would like to see specific election results for Saint Peter, Nicollet County or the entire State, the info is available on the Secretary of State's website at www.sos.state.mn.us. Just click on "UNOFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS" on the home page and follow the prompts to find the information you are interested in.

HURRICANE SANDY ASSISTANCE – In 1998, the Saint Peter community was fortunate to receive tornado recovery assistance from utility, public works, police, fire, and other law enforcement agencies from all over Minnesota and neighboring states. We have long sought a way to be able to return that favor by providing disaster recovery assistance for someone else.



On November 2nd, two of the City's Electric Linemen left for Long Island, New York to assist with reconstruction and repair of the electric utility distribution system there. The City's Linemen are joining a contingent of electric utility professionals from cities around Minnesota in the recovery effort which has been coordinated by the Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association. Saint Peter is a member of MMUA and MMUA was instrumental in providing assistance for restoration of the City's electric system following our tornado.

Linemen Brian Shellum and Pat McShane volunteered for this duty and they are driving one of the City's trucks in the convoy to New York. They are fully stocked with all the equipment and supplies they may need and they will be gone approximately two weeks.

TV station KAAL in Austin recently aired a story on the trip as the crews were getting ready to depart for the East Coast. The story link is:

<http://kaaltv.com/article/stories/s2821981.shtml?cat=10151>

It's not often in life that we get a chance to pay back a good deed that was done for us and it's great to be able to "pay it forward" once again.

****Update**** - After two very long weeks, working extra-long days in sometimes horrible weather conditions, the Minnesota contingent will be on their way home at the end of this week and we are pretty sure they will be happy to sleep in their own beds. (The Saint Peter Linemen reported they slept in sleeping bags in a parks shelter without electricity or heat for some of the time they were on the east coast.)

The Long Island Power Authority (LIPA) website indicated that on any one day, almost 5,000 Linemen and 4,500+ tree workers were deployed in the communities within the LIPA service territory

and the City crew was proud to be a small part of that restoration effort.



CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHT RECYCLING – It’s a bit early to be thinking about Christmas, but if you have old holiday lights to dispose of, here’s an option for you.

Old, used, broken, tangled holiday lights can be dropped off in the front lobby of the following City building

locations:

- City Hall (227 South Front Street)
- Community Center (600 South Fifth Street)
- Public Works (405 West St. Julien Street)
- Arrow Ace Hardware (201 South Minnesota Avenue)

Beginning November 15th, just look for the green plastic bins in these buildings and drop off your old light strings. This free program to recycle your old lights and electrical cords will continue through January 31, 2013.

TRANSIT SYSTEM - Since the beginning, the City’s Transit system has been a welcomed addition to the many services provided by the City. Over the years the system has seen significant increases in ridership and the City continues to work on improving the system.

One of the questions most asked by riders is, “How long will it take before the bus can pick me up?”

Unfortunately, the answer depends on a number of factors...call volumes, the location of the pick up and drop off, and even the weather.

The next most asked question is, “When is the best time to call”?

Again, there is no easy answer and the same factors impact the best time to call for a ride.

In general if you have to schedule an appointment, your best time to do so is when there are two buses on the road (Monday – Friday 10:00 am – 5:00 pm and on Saturday from noon – 3:00 pm). In most cases a bus can be at your location 10–15 minutes after you call, but keep in mind it may take longer depending on the call volume.

The Saint Peter Transit operates during the following hours:

- Monday – Friday 7:00 am – 8:00 pm
- Saturday 10:00 – 5:00 pm.

And here’s one more thing you might not know about the transit system.....residents can rent the bus. Whether that is for a wedding or some other event, the buses may be rented out on an hourly basis. For questions or for more information on renting the bus, please contact the Transit Coordinator at 934-0668.

CALENDAR

Monday	November 19	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Monday	November 19	7:00 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Thursday-Friday	November 23- November 24		THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY – City Offices Closed
Monday	November 26	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	November 27	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission
Wednesday	November 28	12:00 noon	Hospital Commission
Thursday	November 29	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority**
	(**Note rescheduled date due to Thanksgiving holiday)		
Friday	November 30	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Monday	December 3	3:30 p.m.	Housing and Redevelopment Authority
Monday	December 3	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Monday	December 10	5:00 p.m.	Human Rights Commission
Monday	December 10	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting



Tuesday	December 11	6:00 p.m.		Library Board
Monday	December 17	5:30 p.m.		City Council Workshop
Monday	December 17	7:00 p.m.		Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Monday- Tuesday	December 24 - December 25			CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY–CITY OFFICES CLOSED
Thursday	December 27	12:00 noon		Economic Development Authority
Friday	December 28	8:00 a.m.		Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Tuesday	January 1			NEW YEAR'S DAY HOLIDAY – City offices closed