

Neighborhood Services' Newsletter

620 Mulberry, Waterloo, IA 50703

Phone: 319-291-9145

Fax: 319-291-4431



Volume 9, Issue 5

November 2008

Upcoming Events

Trick Or Treat

Friday October 31
Waterloo and cedar
Falls, IA
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

End of Daylight Savings Time

November 2nd
2:00 a.m.
Set your clocks back
one hour

National and Local Elections

November 4th
Don't forget to vote

Waterloo Center for the Arts Annual Holiday Arts Festival

Sunday, November 9
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Veteran's Day November 11th



Thanksgiving

November 27th

Public Informational Meeting

There will be a public informational meeting that the City of Waterloo will hold to answer questions and pass along information regarding the Structural Acquisition (Buy Out) Program. The City of Waterloo is planning to apply for Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funds through the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division (HSEMD) to buyout homes that were damaged or destroyed by the 2008 floods.

The public informational meeting will be held on **Thursday, November 6, 2008 at 5:30 p.m.** in Peterson Town Hall located in the Center for the Arts, 225 Commercial Street, Waterloo. The meeting will be open to the public, so if you know of any neighbor or affected property owners who has not received this notice, it would be appreciated if you would inform them of this public meeting.

The Structural Acquisition (Buy Out) Program is voluntary, and property owners will not be required to sell their property. If a property owner is interested in considering a buy out and wants the City of Waterloo to include their property on the City's application to Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division (HSEMD), then the attached "**Statement of Voluntary Transaction**" must be filled out, signed, and returned to the City of Waterloo. Please note that this agreement in no way commits a property owner to selling their property, and all property owners will an opportunity to accept or reject a buyout offer if the City of Waterloo is awarded funds under the program. The agreement lists what the City has determined the fair market value (FMV) of your property to be. Please note that this value is based on 110% of the assessed value of the property, but that this number is subject to change based on appraisal information. Please return the "Statement of Voluntary Transaction" by **Thursday, November 20, 2008.**

If you would like to discuss the matter, or if you should have any questions, please contact us at the Planning & Zoning Department at 715 Mulberry Street or call (319) 291-4366.

Goal Setting

1. Develop a **DESIRE** to achieve the goal.
2. **WRITE** your goal down.
3. **DEADLINE** your goal.
4. **IDENTIFY** the obstacles
5. Take all the details of steps 3 and 4 and make a **PLAN.**
6. Get a clear **MENTAL PICTURE** of the goal already accomplished.
7. Back your plan with **PERSISTENCE** and resolve.

<http://www.about-goal-setting.com/blueprint.htm>

Make the Gift of a Lifetime TAX FREE Before 2009

Plus a 20% TAX CREDIT for Community Foundation Endowments

There is good news for Community Foundation donors 70^{1/2} and older and for the communities they care about. A new law makes it possible to give individual retirement account (IRA) assets to charity for the remainder of 2008 **free from federal tax**. Formerly, all lifetime distributions from IRAs were taxed - even those given to charity. ***In addition, this donation is also eligible for the Endow Iowa 20% state tax credit for gifts to community foundation endowments.***



This means that now our donors can give far more with less. This may be an attractive giving option for you if you are:

- Over 70^{1/2} and now receiving minimum IRA distributions - but do not need the extra income.
- Interested in making a significant lifetime gift.

In 2008, the new law allows those age 70^{1/2} and older to transfer up to \$100,000 from an IRA to charity tax free each year. If married, each spouse has been able to transfer \$100,000 from his or her IRA each year.

Mary Ann Burk, Foundation President and CEO, states, “We’re ready to help our donors take advantage of this legislation and make gifts during their lifetimes. Our personalized service and local expertise helps donors address the issues most important to them.”

Using IRA assets to make a gift during your lifetime, as opposed to giving via bequest in your will, enables you to experience the joy of making a major gift. *But you must act fast as this legislation is only scheduled to be in effect until December 31, 2008!*

Find Out More

The Community Foundation is a permanent, growing endowment built by gifts both large and small from individuals, families, organizations and businesses. Contact the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa at 287-9106 or visit www.cfneia.org.

Holiday Arts Festival

The Waterloo Center for the Arts’ annual **Holiday Arts Festival** will be held Sunday, **November 9 from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.** The Festival is a great way to start off your Holiday shopping, with free admission, entertainment throughout the day, and over 50 Midwest artists with one-of-a-kind gifts available for purchase. In addition to several returning artists, this year’s festival features fifteen new artists from across the Midwest. Each artist has their finest merchandise available for sale during the Festival, from wood, jewelry, metal, clay, glass to photography, print, painting and more!



Together For Youth

Together For Youth is our local community coalition that focuses on improving adolescent sexual health outcomes in Black Hawk County. There are multiple agencies that partner together to offer an array of services within the schools and local organizations to help teens avoid pregnancy & STIs. Topics such as abstinence, sexually transmitted infections, birth control methods, healthy decision making, and also creating awareness of local services & resources are just a few of the presentations that are available to our community.

Black Hawk County has experienced a significant decline in teen births over the past 10 years. However, despite the drop in teen pregnancies in Black Hawk County, we have seen an alarming increase in sexually transmitted infections among teenagers.

Despite being home to only 4% of the Iowa population ages 10-14, 13% of Chlamydia cases and 19% of Gonorrhea cases, in that age range, are in Black Hawk County. Similarly, Black Hawk County is home to 4% of the Iowa population ages 15-19. Eight% of the Chlamydia cases and 13% of the Gonorrhea cases, in that age range, are in Black Hawk County.

If you are interested in helping area teens lead healthier lives by hosting a Together For Youth program please contact Joni Spencer at 319-274-6768 x 1

An Evening of Jazz and Literature

Waterloo Center for the Arts celebrates
New York City Author and the Return of Bigfish

Waterloo, IA – The Waterloo Center for the Arts will be hosting a book signing of New York City author “Sadie” Jennifer Nardini’s new book “Road Trip Guide to the Soul” (*John Wiley & Sons, 2008*) together with a comeback performance from Bigfish Jazz.

Nardini is a former reporter for *The Courier* and previous owner of the Vibe coffeehouse in Cedar Falls. She is making a special trip to the Waterloo Center for the Arts on **Wednesday, November 5 from 6:30-9:00pm** to read from and sign her newest book. "Road Trip Guide to the Soul" is a personal guide to transformation on all levels. You are invited to “take a trip to find your inner strength and learn to rock your world from the inside out. You’ll shift every decision and relationship, including the one with yourself, your money and your health, in your own unique way!” (*Excerpt from sadienardini.com*) Signing of Nardini's new book will begin at 6:30pm, and she will read excerpts from her book throughout the evening. Copies of Nardini’s book will be available at the event, and are also available online at Amazon.com and Barnes & Noble. Bigfish Jazz will take the stage at 7:15pm, performing together for the first time after a long break. The ensemble includes Bob Washut on Piano, Bob Dunn on Guitar, Chris Merz on Sax, Jonathan Schwabe on Bass, and Janet Parrish, Vocalist.

The evening event is free and open to the public, and will also feature complimentary hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar.

The Waterloo Center for the Arts is located in downtown Waterloo at 225 Commercial Street. The Center works in partnership with the community to build a stronger appreciation for the arts and to provide cultural experiences for people of all ages. For more information, call (319) 291-4490 or visit www.waterloocenterforthearts.org.

2008 Cedar Valley Annual Conference on Human Rights

Keynote Speaker: Andre Koen

Andre Koen is an energetic presenter, a powerful communicator, and a dynamic teacher. His educational influence spans the North American continent. Andre integrates his abilities as an improvisational comedian, large group facilitator, keynote speaker, and classroom teacher to captivate and educate his audience. Andre currently serves as the EEO/Affirmative Action Diversity Coordinator for Anoka County, Minnesota; where he educates the community about the law and diversity issues. Prior to his work at Anoka County, Andre was the Academic Dean at the National American University, where he inspired mid-career adults to live their dreams and reach their potential. Andre believes that people possess the ability to empower themselves, and that belief is made manifest by his unique style of teaching.

WHEN: Friday, November 7, 2008

WHERE: Hawkeye Community College, Tama Hall

TIME: 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. (Registration from 8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.)

“Celebrating Change: A Decade Of Growth”

Mark your calendar, invite a friend, and notify your neighbors. This is your chance to learn skills and methods to address race and diversity.

Workshops: Girls Just Want to Have Fun, State of the Future, Abusive Lending and the Foreclosures Crisis, Yes We Can, God and those Bodacious Women, Postville and the Politics of Immigration, The Black Experience, Paths that Defines Discrimination, Ending Violence against the Women of the Asian Pacific Islander Community in Iowa, Street Violence and the Effect on the Communities (Panel), Connecting with the State of Iowa for Economic Success, Spread the Education...Not the Infection, The Voice of Prophets Promoting Change...Growth Occurs in the Wilderness, Immigration 101: Why can't they come the Legal Way, Change in Human Rights: Who, What and How

Registration deadline is November 5th

To register call or email the Waterloo Commission on Human Rights

Phone: (319) 291-4441

Fax: (319) 291-4295

E-mail: thad.graham@waterloo-ia.org

Twelve Step Fellowship Is Seeking A New Meeting Location

We would like to stay downtown as many since our attendees come from the Residential Corrections Facility or work downtown and attend during their lunch break. We are a small group and can't afford much; however, we don't require much space, either.

Please call 319-235-2465