

The Arlington Report

ARLINGTON TOWN & COUNTRY DAYS IS FRIDAY & SATURDAY, JUNE 18 & 19

Town and Country Days will kick off on Thursday, June 17 with the Miss Arlington Coronation at the Arlington Community Center (7 p.m.). The remaining schedule is as follows:

Friday, June 18

Breakfast on the Farm -- 6:30 a.m. - 10 a.m. at the Brad and Jackie Odenthal Farm.

Band-Lost Cause -- 8:30 p.m. - 12:30 a.m. at Four Seasons Park. \$5 cover charge. Purchase a raffle ticket and get into the dance free (must show ticket stub).

Saturday, June 19

All events at Four Seasons Park unless noted.

Arlington Roadstar Classic Walk & Fun Run -- 2 Mile Run (8:30 a.m.), 4 Mile Run (8:35 a.m.), 4 Mile Walk (8:35 a.m.), Kid's Fun Run for Ages 12 & under (9:45 a.m.).

Kid's Baseball Clinic -- For boys and girls at the Arlington A's Baseball Field. Ages 6-10 will be from 9 a.m. to Noon and ages 11-15 will be from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. First 25 kids in each age group will receive a free T-shirt. Root beer floats provided.

Kickball Tournament -- Tournament starts at 9 a.m. with a 12 team limit. Call Katie Rickert at 320-510-2390 to sign up. Deadline is June 14.

Bean Bag Toss -- Team sign-up is at Noon. Tournament starts at 1 p.m. \$20 entry fee, 48 teams. Call 964-2211 to sign up. Deadline is June 12.

BANKO Games -- Starting at 3 p.m.

Arlington Youth Music & Entertainment -- Starting at 4:30 p.m.

Smoked Windsor Pork Chop Dinner -- 4 p.m. - 7 p.m. \$8 per dinner. Sponsored by the Arlington Area Lions.

"The Newlywed Game" -- 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m. Bob "Eubanks" Thomes, Emcee. Come and see how well newlyweds (and not so newlyweds) really know their spouse! Playing for the Charity of "The Newlyweds" choice.

Medallion Hunt -- 6:30 p.m.

Raffle Drawing -- 8:00 p.m.

Band-Blurred Vision -- 8:30 p.m. - 12:30 a.m. \$5 cover charge. Purchase a raffle ticket and get into the dance free (must show ticket stub).

Be a part of the Fun! Additional kids games, food vendors, and beverages will be available at Four Seasons Park. Arlington Town and Country Days is sponsored and put on by the Arlington Chamber of Commerce.

PRAIRIE LINE TRAIL PICNIC

The public is invited to attend the Prairie Line Trail Picnic on Thursday, June 3 at 6:00 p.m. at the Arlington Sportsmen's Park. The Sibley County Prairie Line Trail committee has secured funding for the installation of the first few miles of trail from Arlington to the Sportsmen's Park. Attend the event and hear about the start of the Prairie Line Trail with the first few miles of the trail to be constructed in 2013/2014. Also hear about the trail system and enjoy a free picnic sponsored by the trail committee and SHIP (Statewide Health Improvement Program). Bring your own lawn chair for the meeting following the picnic.

MMPA OFFERS EDUCATIONAL WEBSITE ON ENERGY, INCLUDING WIND TURBINE

Energy is an exciting field with interesting educational topics for students and adults of all ages. Minnesota Municipal Power Agency (MMPA), Arlington's energy supplier, supports energy education in the communities it serves. In an effort to provide this education to communities, MMPA has established the following website, www.mmpa.org/Energy-Education.aspx, to assist educators, students and residents alike. Visitors to the website can find information about wind energy, the Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator (MISO), and MMPA's Hometown WindPower turbines, including live turbine data of the turbine here in Arlington and other MMPA communities. Along with the live turbine data, the site also contains wind energy information on historical and current wind energy generation, a current wind map, and information on the Faribault Energy Park. The site also has a section for educators, which includes a collection of energy-related teaching tools and lesson plans.

PREPARE FOR MOSQUITO SEASON!

With the mosquito season right around the corner and with past fears of West Nile and other diseases, residents can take measures now to prevent the spread of mosquitoes. Residents should try to get rid of all standing water and other places where mosquitoes breed. Make sure rain gutters are not plugged, empty out bird baths frequently, turn over wading pools and wheelbarrows when not in use. Keep swimming pools properly chlorinated and remove standing water from pool covers. Tires are a common place for mosquitoes to breed and should be removed. Spraying lawns may help, but please remember that spraying lawns is relatively ineffective and may be harmful to your health. Use a mosquito repellent when outside. Wearing light colored, loose fitting clothing can be helpful. When practical, wear long sleeves and pants.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Jim Kreft -- Mayor
Jim Pederson -- Council Member
Bob Pichelmann -- Council Member
Curt Reetz -- Council Member
Mike Vrklan -- Council Member
Galen Wills -- Council Member

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Matt Jaunich -- City Administrator
Dennis Schultz -- EDA Director
Lisa Tesch -- Deputy Clerk
Vicki Pomplun -- Admin. Ass't
Lana Woehler -- Community Center Coordinator
Dan Thomes -- Streets/Parks Supt.
Jeff Paine -- Maintenance Worker
Bruce Rovinsky -- Chief of Police
Scott Bennett -- Police Officer

CONTRACTED SERVICES

Ross Arneson -- City Attorney
Cynthia Smith-Strack -- Planning & Zoning Consultant
Darin Haslip -- Building Inspector
People Service -- Water/Wastewater
Joel Hawbaker (Bolton & Menk) -- City Engineer

PHONE NUMBERS

City Hall: 964-2378
Fax Line: 964-5973
After-Hours On-Call:
507-327-6601
Fire Garage: 964-2279
Police Dept: 964-5200
Library: 964-2490
Hospital: 964-2271
S.E. School: 964-2292
Post Office: 964-5503

OTHER SERVICES

Water/Sewer/Electric Services
City of Arlington (964-2378)
Gas Service
CenterPoint Energy (800-245-2377)
Cable Service
Mediacom (800-332-0245)
Internet/Phone Service
Frontier (800-435-1504)
Garbage Services
Waste Management (800-422-5785)
TCW (877-685-3815)
Renville-Sibley Sanitation (866-800-6244)

City of Arlington, Sibley County

Contact us at:
204 Shamrock Drive
Arlington, MN 55307

Phone: 507-964-2378
Fax: 507-964-5973
E-mail: cityhall@arlingtonmn.com



A Beautiful City Growing in Unity



CITY RECEIVES FINAL WORD ON BUDGET CUTS

After months of waiting, the City finally received word on the affect of the State budget deficit. Although lawmakers entered the 2010 legislative session with a projected \$994 million budget deficit, the Legislature had reduced the problem to \$535 million with the passage of the General Assistance Medical Care compromise, which included cuts of \$52.5 million to local government aid (LGA) and market value homestead credit (MVHC) payments to cities. However, the May 5 Minnesota Supreme Court decision that overturned the governor's unallotment of state special nutrition program called into question the validity of the entirety of the governor's July 2009 unallotment actions. As a result of the Supreme Court decision, the effective size of the deficit increased by roughly \$2.5 billion to a total of approximately \$3 billion.

To address the now nearly \$3 billion deficit, the legislature ratified the Governor's unallotment from 2009, or roughly \$2.5 billion. The remainder of the \$3 billion problem was addressed through cuts to Health Care and Human Services programs, an increase in the payment deferral for schools, and a delay in the payment of state corporate franchise tax and sales tax refunds. For cities, the legislation after the Supreme Court ruling did not include any additional cuts in LGA or MVHC distributions for the 2010 or future years.

So what does this year's legislation mean for Arlington? The ratification of the Governor's unallotment means that the \$108,701 in budgeted LGA cuts for Arlington will remain in tact. The bill that included \$52.5 million in LGA and MVHC cuts means that an additional \$50,961 will be withheld from this year's state aid payments. While the original \$108,701 in cuts were included in this year's budget, the \$50,961 was not. The City will be soon amending its budget to account for the additional loss in state aid.

While any news of state aid cuts is not necessarily enjoyable, the news is somewhat good for the City. In February, Governor Tim Pawlenty released a supplemental budget recommending that an additional \$125 million in LGA cuts be installed. If that budget recommendation had been adopted, the City would have received an additional \$121,259 in cuts in 2010, on top of the \$108,701. While the City is somewhat relieved on the size of the cut, future concerns still remain with the State still facing a \$5.4 billion

deficit for the next budget biennium (2012-13). LGA accounts for about 46% of the City's General Fund revenue in 2010. Besides property taxes, LGA is the biggest "revenue" source for the City.

A REMINDER ON "PUBLIC NUISANCES"

With the spring and summer months upon us and people out and about, complaints on public nuisance problems become a bigger concern for residents and their neighborhood. Recently the Arlington Police Department conducted a "Spring Clean Up" sweep throughout town to identify violators of public nuisances. From the sweep, letters were sent to property owners notifying them of the violation and asking them to correct the situation. City Ordinances 126, 184 and 195 all deal with nuisances. The public should know these ordinances to avoid public nuisance complaints. Ordinance 126 addresses the storage of property in open yard areas and states that no used furniture, appliances, inoperable equipment, garbage, or other refuse shall be kept outside of an enclosed building or garbage disposal container. Residents should also be aware of the fact that during construction or repair of property, building materials shall be stacked or stored in a neat and orderly fashion, and in a manner so as to avoid presenting any danger to the general public. Refuse building materials shall be neatly piled or stored in garbage disposal containers. All building materials and refuse shall be cleared from the construction project no later than 90 days after the completion of the construction or repair. Ordinance 184 regulates vehicle parking and the parking of all-terrain, off-road, off-highway vehicles and snowmobiles and states that no vehicles may be parked or stored on the premises which are inoperable or unlicensed, unless such vehicles are kept in a fully enclosed structure or fully enclosed licensed trailer, so that no part of the vehicle can be viewed in public. No vehicles may be parked or stored on the premises which are advertised for sale or rent, except that one vehicle may be advertised for sale or

rent as an isolated personal transaction, and not in the ordinary course of business of sale or rent of vehicles, and such vehicle advertised for sale or rent must be operable and licensed. Ordinance 184 goes on to state that Licensed Off-Road Vehicles (ORVs), All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) and, Off-Highway Motorcycles (OHMs) shall not be parked on a street or on private property for more than 48 concurrent hours within a 7-day week time period, unless such vehicles are kept in a fully enclosed manufactured licensed trailer, so that the public can view no part of the vehicle. Car parts, accessories, tools, and other items used to work on, repair, or otherwise used for said vehicles shall also be subject to the above conditions. Snowmobiles shall not be parked in front yard of any residential property for more than 48 concurrent hours within a 7-day week time period. Ordinance 195 was put in place to control and eradicate noxious weeds, excessive growth of other weeds, and nonagricultural grasses. Ordinance 195 states that grass in excess of 12" and noxious weeds is prohibited and is considered a public nuisance. Public nuisances become more prevalent during the spring and summer months and residents should cooperate with the city to eliminate these "nuisances". Public nuisances can decrease the value of one's house, can effect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Arlington, and takes away from the beauty of one's neighborhood or town. Taking measures to avoid these nuisances benefits everyone. While the City does its best to identify these "nuisances" in advance, most are dealt with from citizen complaints. Citizens wishing to file a complaint about a public nuisance must do so in writing for any action to take place.