

*City of Ames*

# - March Project Highlights - 2018

## Police

Police staff completed training in the use of Nasal Narcan on January 16, 2018. Since that time, we have had **three** Narcan administration/resuscitation situations. Medical attention is sought for these entire situation and we are examining "best practices" in the hope of encouraging treatment for those we encounter under these circumstances.

## Animal Shelter

Replacement and repair work has been completed on several of the access doors at the Animal Shelter. Staff have also assembled facility history and utilization information in anticipation of the professional review of the shelter facility.



## City Manager's Office

Preparations for collective bargaining – Ask Bob.

## Library

### **Staff Development Day Held Feb. 19**

Each year on Presidents' Day, members of the Library staff get together for a casual day of learning, comradery and (of course!) food. This year, about 70 members of library staff and two trustees worked with trainer Mollie Willis on use of the tenets of The Wakanheza (pronounced wa-kahn-ja) Project to create welcoming spaces and to help prevent or de-escalate stressful situations.

Employee years of service were celebrated over lunch. The afternoon was spent reviewing safety procedures and on-line security, hearing the City Council budget presentation, learning about library services to the homeless, enjoying a storytime-style presentation by our newly formed Novel Ideas Team (seeking innovative ideas that will help us serve our customers), and wrapping up in division work groups.

### **Spring Break Activities in March**

There's always something going on at the Library, but if you're looking for things to do over spring break, be sure to consider these:

#### Library Book Sale

- Thurs., March 8: 5:30 - 8:30pm (Admission \$2. Free admission and early entry starting at 5pm for donors to the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation at the \$20 level and above.)
- Fri., March 9: 9am - 6pm (Free admission)
- Sat., March 10: 9am - 6pm (Free admission)
- Sun., March 11: 11am - 5pm (Admission \$1 and take as much as you like for free!)

*Presented by the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation. Proceeds are used to enhance Library programs and services.*

### Drop-in Crafts for Teens

- Mon. - Thurs, March 12-15: 3pm – 8pm
- Fri., March 16: 3pm - 6pm

This is an on-going program, but if your teens have time on their hands over break, encourage them to visit the Teen Space, where they can craft something to take home. The Library will provide all the supplies and some inspiration.



### Girls Who Code

- Mon., March 12: 6:30pm  
Teens are invited to a coding club to talk about topics such as robotics, video games, web sites, and apps. This program is offered every week for those who want to meet other people interested in coding, hearing from experts, and getting hands-on experience.

*Provided in partnership with Ames High School Girls Who Code and Workiva*

### Waking Up White: A Community Book Study

- Tues., March 13: 7pm – 9pm  
The goal of this community book study is to unpack long-held beliefs about race: colorblindness, being a good person, and wanting to "help people of color" through reading and reflecting on the book ***Waking Up White*** by Debby Irving. The discussion will be facilitated by Riley Drake, a school counselor at Sawyer Elementary in Ames and graduate student in ISU's educational leadership program. Additional discussions are scheduled on Tues., April 10 and Tues., May 8.

*Provided in partnership with the Anti-Racism Collaborative of Ames and supported by the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation.*



### Family Storytime & Maker Morning

- Wed., March 14 – Fri., March 16: Family Storytime starts at 10:30. Drop into the Youth Maker Space from 11am – 12pm to create a craft based on the Family Storytime theme. (These are also on-going programs that your children may not regularly be able to take advantage of.)

### Big Bluestem Audubon Society Presentation

- Thurs., March 15: 7pm – 9pm  
Big Bluestem Audubon Society members will share experiences from their trip to the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas last fall.

*Provided in partnership with the Big Bluestem Audubon Society.*

### Opera at the Library!

- Sat., March 17: 1pm – 4pm  
Watch the Metropolitan Opera's *The Magic Flute* (2006) starring Nathan Gunn and Matthew Polenzani.

## **Water & Pollution Control**

### **Water**

Bids will be received at the end of March for the planned improvements to the low head dam in North River Valley Park.

Staff will continue moving forward with the acquisition of the 2.81 acres identified for the planned North River Valley Well Field project. The current timeline has the work being ready for bids later this summer.

A fencing project along the lime ponds/ash pond property will be initiated. The work will be jointly funded between the Water and Sewer utilities

Council will be asked in March to initiate a Notice to Bidders for a new 5-year Lime sludge disposal contract.

The general contractor for the new Water Plant continues to make progress on the remaining punch list items. However, the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) tasks still appear to have several weeks of work remaining.

Staff issued a Request for Proposals on February 9 to undertake the Nutrient Reduction Feasibility Study. The RFP was sent to 11 firms. Responses are due back by March 8. By the end of February, three firms had indicated they were highly interested and anticipated submitting a proposal. Three other firms had met with staff to discuss the project, but were still evaluating whether or not they had the necessary expertise to successfully undertake this specialized evaluation.

### **Planning and Housing**

The State Legislature passed House File 524 last year to permit the sale of medical cannabidiol. It requires a permit from the State to dispense. The cannabidiol is available only to persons with a prescription. For zoning purposes, the City must okay that a proposed dispensary location is meeting zoning use requirements. Under current zoning the dispensary is a retail trade use similar to a Pharmacy. This means the use could be established in all Commercial Zoning Districts.

### **Public Works**

#### **Resource Recovery**

Audra Duster, DMACC Teacher Academy Instructor for Story County Active Learning Experience (SCALE) in Bio-Science and Renewable Energy, partnered her high school students with Lorrie Hanson at Resource Recovery Plant. Students Kyle Wilson, Shelby Smith, and Riley Mailey created a diorama featuring the Resource Recovery Plant and the power plant. The diorama was a huge success at Fellows Science Night February 23 and Meeker Science Night March 1. Mark Peebler and his daughter Addyson are explaining the scene to a Fellow's parent.



Lorrie's also been working with another instructor, Julianne Manock, Teacher Academy Instructor, SCALE Business Communication and Technology, and her high school students on redesigning glass recycling bin decals, website modifications, brochure upgrade, and a coloring book.