Neighborhood Efforts Result in New Park

A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held on Aug. 23 for the new Sunset Ridge Park in west Ames. The park was made possible in part to due to the efforts of the Sunset Ridge Property Owners Association, which deeded the property to the city and raised funds needed in excess of those allocated by the city for park development.

Besides in-kind donations for grading, seeding, and tree planting, the neighborhood got additional donations and received a $5,000 Neighborhood Improvement Project Grant.

This accessible park, located at 325 Wilder Ave., includes a playground, picnic shelter with lighting, grills, drinking fountain, benches, and bike racks. The 1.3-acre park also features open green space and connects to a shared use path along Wilder Avenue.

Old Town NA News

Old Town Neighborhood Association’s annual Labor Day Picnic was not held this year due to COVID-19. Annual neighborhood association (NA) business, which includes election of officers for the year and discussion of neighborhood events, was instead conducted via an online meeting.

To promote neighborhood connections, the NA put chalk in Old Town Park and asked that neighbors chalk their sidewalk with art or messages. The association also designated 5:30 p.m. on Sept. 13, as a time for a socially-distanced neighborhood walk.

Another way that Old Town NA stays connected is through a newsletter. In addition to information pertinent to neighborhood issues, each newsletter also typically features a neighborhood pet. Dogs, cats, and even a pet snake have been featured.

Interested in Starting a Newsletter for your NA?

The City of Ames offers a Neighborhood Association Newsletter Grant of up to $1,000 to pay for the cost of printing or postage (but not both) for one fiscal year. For more information on grant criteria and for an application, visit www.CityOfAmes.org/Neighborhoods
**Mask Mandate in Effect Through Dec. 31**

A face-covering mandate is in effect in Ames through Dec. 31, 2020, unless the date is amended or the ordinance is repealed before then. Every person age 3 and older must wear a face covering that completely covers the person’s nose and mouth in any indoor setting or establishment where the public is invited in AND in any outside public setting where physical distancing of at least six feet isn’t possible. There are exemptions to this ordinance. Get more information at www.CityOfAmes.org/FaceCovering

**Important Dates**

- **Saturday, Oct. 31**
  - Trick-or-Treating, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

- **Saturdays, Oct. 31, Nov. 7 (includes brush), Nov. 21 & Nov. 28, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.**
  - No Charge Yard Waste Days
  - GreenRU, 400 Freel Drive

- **Tuesday, Nov. 3**
  - Election Day

- **Thursday, Nov. 5**
  - Town Budget Meeting
  - 7 p.m., City Council Chambers

- **Wednesday, Nov. 11**
  - Veterans Day
  - City offices closed

- **Thursday & Friday, Nov. 26 & 27**
  - Thanksgiving
  - City offices closed

- **Thursday & Friday, Dec. 24 & 25**
  - Christmas
  - City offices closed

For more events and meeting dates, visit www.CityOfAmes.org.