



**OCT-DEC
2009**

VOLUME 3 ISSUE 4

City of Ely
1570 Rowley Street
P. O. Box 248
Ely, Iowa 52227

www.elyiowa.com

Ely Community TV
Channel 217
South Slope Digital Video

Phone/Fax: 848-4103
After Hours Emergency
Only: 848-7603

Regular business hours:
Monday – Friday
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Council Meetings:
2nd Monday each month
7:00 p.m. in the Council
Chambers 2nd floor.
Public is welcome and
encouraged to attend.

City Hall Holiday Hours:
November 26 & 27 -
Thanksgiving Day and
Friday After – Closed
December 25
Christmas Day – Closed
January 1, 2010
New Years Day – Closed

Ely Expression

2009 Ely City Council Election

The election for two positions on the Ely City Council is Tuesday, November 3, 2009. Candidates for the two City Council openings are:

- Kay Hale, 1265 Parkview Lane
- Dale Stanek, 1700 E. Pacific Street

The Tuesday, November 3, 2009 Ely City Council election will be at the Ely Public Library at 1595 Dows Street. The election site will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. You can register to vote at Ely City Hall or the Linn County Elections Office at Linn County West, 2500 Edgewood Rd SW in Cedar Rapids. You decide the outcome - vote November 3!

Absentee Ballots for November 3, 2009 Election Now Available

Absentee ballots for the November 3, 2009 Ely City Council election are available now from the Linn County Elections office at Linn County West, at the Westdale Mall, 2500 Edgewood Rd SW in Cedar Rapids. Voters may vote absentee in person at the Linn County Elections office Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Voters may also request absentee ballot forms from the Linn County Elections office, or they may be downloaded from the Linn County Auditor's Website at www.linncounty.org/auditor. Absentee ballots must be post-marked by Monday, November 2, 2009.

Watch for Kids and School Busses

Yep, it's already "Back to School Time" in the Ely area, and we will once again see kids waiting for the bus at various locations and sharing the road with school buses, among the plethora of stuff "back to school" means for us and our families. So, please drive safely and watch for kids on their way to and from the school bus stop. Also, please be safe around school buses and STOP when the school bus' flashing red lights are on and the "STOP" sign extended. Running through a school bus' stop sign and flashing red lights comes with a fine of \$195.00; the school bus drivers can, and will, ticket you. "Safety is no accident", after all (and can even save you a few bucks).

Backyard Burning

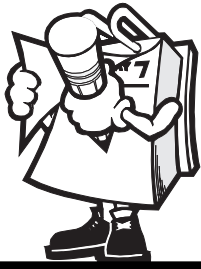
Outdoor burning of household rubbish is not allowed in Ely, however it is still okay to burn yard waste on your property. Ely City Ordinance prohibits the burning of residential garbage, whether the burning is done in the open or in a burn-barrel.

The City Council prohibited burning of residential waste for several reasons; including the composition of stuff that is being burned, effect of smoke and chemicals in the smoke on neighbors; and risk to the health of people who are susceptible to breathing related health problems.

You might be asking yourself "So, how do I get rid of my leaves Mr. Smarty Pants Newsletter Guy?" This is an excellent question. You could set up your own compost pile or maybe you know someone who can use them for animal bedding or similar alternate uses. Or, you can drop them off at the Ely Compost Pile by the Ely WWTP, for FREE! Alternatively, call City Hall at 848-4103 and arrange for them to be picked up for \$2.00/yard waste bag or if you need directions to the WWTP.

2010 Census – Help Ely and Iowa

A very important way you can directly help Ely, Linn County and all of Iowa is to complete and return the 2010 Census questionnaire. Taken every 10 years, the census affects political representation and directs the allocation of billions of dollars in government funding. Census data directly affects how more than \$300 billion per year in federal and state funding is allocated to communities for neighborhood improvements, public health, education, transportation and much more. Census information helps determine locations for schools, roads, hospitals, child-care and senior citizen centers, and more. Businesses use census data to locate supermarkets, shopping centers, new housing and other facilities. The census determines how many seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives as well as the boundaries of legislative districts. Please do your part to make sure Ely, Linn County and all of Iowa are counted when it really counts - complete and send in the census questionnaire next April. More information is available online at <http://www.census.gov/>



Mark Your Calendar

October 31 Halloween

Ely Volunteer Fire Department glow-sticks for trick-or-treaters

Tuesday November 3 City Council Election

7:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m.
Ely Public Library
1595 Dows St.

Friday, December 18 Santa Claus Comes to Town

7:30 p.m.
Ely Fire Station
1300 Main St.



More Front Page News

Please Be Kind to Your Storm Sewers!

A humongous request from your City staff, please don't leave grass clippings or leaves in the street in front of your house. We do not have equipment to collect these items so they ultimately end up either in the yard across the street, or in the storm sewer system. Leaves and grass clippings can block storm sewer intakes or clog the pipes, both of which can result in difficult problems that are expensive to fix. You can dispose of your grass clippings and leaves for free at the Ely Compost Pile by the WWTP.

At Your Service ... Sewer Problems

Residents experiencing slow drains, sewers, and/or sewer backups are encouraged to call City Hall at 848-4103, or after office hours and on weekends at 848-7603, as soon as possible. A random blockage in the City's main may be creating the problem. Ely Public Works will check the main and clean any blockages in the main. Blockages located in the home sewer system are the responsibility of the homeowner. Ely has a scheduled inspection and maintenance program of the sanitary sewer system. Please be aware that, according to case law, if a city maintains an inspection and maintenance program they cannot be held responsible for any damage resulting from sewer main back-ups.

Halloween

School has started, Fall Fest has come and gone, so Halloween is just around the corner. The Ely Volunteer Fire Department is continuing their tradition of giving glow-sticks to Ely's trick-or-treaters to help them be more visible while going about their ghoulish rounds, and so everyone has a spooktacular time. Glow sticks will be handed out to trick-or-treaters at the Ely Fire Station from 4:30 to 8:00 p.m. Another great thing our dedicated and hard working Volunteer Fire Department does for the Ely community!

There are not official trick-or-treat hours in Ely, but, trick-or-treaters are encouraged to do their eerie errands between 4:30 and 8:00 p.m. Please remember to make sure costumes have some bright colors, reflective tape or other reflective material so they are visible when crossing the street. Also, please remember to make sure masks do not inhibit vision. Please remember to turn your front light on so the ghosts, goblins, pirates and princesses know you are home and ready to be tricked-or-treated.



When It Snows & Snow Emergencies (when it snows a LOT)

With the leaves having just started to turn it is almost difficult to accept that the snow and ice season approaches. Snow removal can be very challenging for our Public Works Department. Our goal is to remove snow and ice from the streets safely and quickly. Please help by keeping vehicles off the streets during snow removal whenever possible. The Mayor may declare a Snow Emergency during or immediately after a very heavy snow to assist the snow removal crews further. No parking on city streets will be allowed during a snow emergency from its proclamation though the duration of the snow or ice storm and for a 48-hour period after the storm has stopped. Parking will be allowed within the 48-hour period only if the street has been fully opened on both sides of the street. Snow Emergency notices will be announced on the local TV news channels in the same manner school and other closings are televised.

A Courtesy Reminder about Snow and Ice

It is the duty of property and homeowners to keep sidewalks abutting the property clear of natural accumulations of snow and ice. Sidewalks need to be free of snow and ice within 24 hours of the accumulations. With everyone's cooperation, our sidewalks will be safe for families, friends and visitors.

The 2nd Annual



**Saturday,
September
26, 2009**

We are sending a HUGE Ely Thank You to everyone who helped with Fall Fest '09! We couldn't have done it without you. Another HUGE Ely Thank You to everyone who came to Ely and joined in this year's Fall Fest fun. We sincerely hope you had a great time, and will join us again next year!

The 2009 Fall Fest Kickball Tournament was GREAT! 16 teams got together at Ely City Park for great fun, great competition and an overall great time! The Company Store (of Ely) won the tournament and took home the big trophy with Multiple Scoregasms as runner-up; Average Joes came in third place and Champion Seed in fourth. See YOU next year!

More people participated in the 5K and 1-Mile runs than last year. Nate Canton set a new course record as the overall winner of the 5K, with Amanda Weyer this years Fall Fest 5K women's champion! Taylor Rasmussen won the 1-Mile run, with Makenzie Mudd in hot pursuit to bring home second.

Complete 5K and 1-Mile results are available online on the Fall Fest page at: www.elyiowa.com.

5K Run (Overall Results)

1. Nate Canton, Ely – 15:54
2. Travis Robertson, Iowa City – 16:04
3. Jeff Allen, Iowa City – 18:21
4. Jeff Engen, Center Point – 18:53
5. Chad Kroeger, Cedar Rapids – 19:33
6. Andy Breitsprecher, Ely - 20:07
7. Dave Beckman, Cedar Rapids – 20:12
8. Stephen Rifner, Davenport – 20:18
9. Andy Moeller, Mt Vernon – 20:20
10. Luke Turner, Hiawatha – 20:33
11. Dallas Robertson, Iowa City – 20:46
12. Amanda Weyer, Swisher – 20:55
13. Steve Mallicoat, Solon – 21:02
14. Raelyn Lamparek, Swisher – 21:05
15. Blake Kruger, Des Moines – 21:40

1-Mile (Overall Results)

1. Taylor Rasmussen, Ely – 6:35
2. Makenzie Mudd, Ely – 6:37
3. Mike Mudd, Ely – 6:37
4. Sam Lockart, Ely – 6:43
5. Elena Rasmussen, Ely – 7:34
6. Blake Krapfl, Ely – 7:40
7. Iralee Jewett, Ely – 7:46
8. Maycee Smith, West Branch – 7:53
9. Fuzzy Day, Ely – 8:05
10. Haley Harapat, Ely – 8:10
11. Neila Bell, Ely – 8:25
12. Connor Rains, Cedar Rapids – 8:37
13. Mathew Jordebrek, Ely – 8:45
14. Anna Penning, Ely – 8:47
15. Sydney Suthers, Ely – 8:47



FALL FEST '10

Fall Fest succeeds because people want to celebrate autumn in Ely and raise a little money for parks and recreation opportunities for our community. You can help Fall Fest continue to grow and improve with your ideas, energy and a bit of your time. Contact a Parks & Recreation Committee member, or send an email to elyparks@gmail.com, to share your thoughts and be part of Fall Fest '10.

See YOU next year!

CITY OF ELY

1570 ROWLEY ST
P. O. BOX 248
ELY, IA 52227

PRSR STD
POSTAGE
PAID
ELY, IA
PERMIT NO. 249

ECR WSS
ELY, IA 52227



C O M M U N I T Y N E W S

Ely's Holiday Lights

Can you see them now? The beautiful display of lights in Ely during the holiday season? A wonderful sight that brings warm fuzzy winter feelings! The entire display of lights, replacement bulbs, and any necessary repairs are paid for strictly by donations.

Our local volunteer fire department works each year to check the bulbs, hang them up at the beginning of the season and take them down at the end. The staff at Solon State Bank of Ely works hard to keep inventory of displays and supplies ready for the season. Please show your appreciation and send a thank you to them all! Your donations for Ely's holiday lights can be mailed or dropped off to:

- Solon State Bank of Ely, 1540 State Street, PO Box 166, Ely, Iowa 52227
- **Make checks payable** to "Christmas Decoration Fund"

Your support is greatly appreciated.

Cook's Corner

TB's Bodacious Bagel Dip

- 1 (16 ounce) container sour cream
- 2 cups mayonnaise
- 2 tablespoons monosodium glutamate (MSG)
- 2 tablespoons dried dill weed
- 2 tablespoons dried parsley
- 1 small white onion, chopped
- 2 (2 ounce) packages dried beef, chopped

In a medium bowl, mix the sour cream, mayonnaise, monosodium glutamate (MSG), dill, parsley, onion and dried beef. Refrigerate 1 hour, or until thickened and chilled. Cut bagels in to bite size dipping size pieces.

Website

Have you visited our website?

➔ elyiowa.com



Need a Space for Your Gathering?

The City of Ely offers the following areas for meetings, family gatherings, and other social activities at the Ely Community Center (1570 Rowley St.). The facility is a non-smoking facility.

Meeting/Activity Room:

accommodates up to 25 people.
\$15.00 1/2 day rental - \$25.00 full day rental
\$25.00 deposit, refundable (ask for details)

Gladys C. Holets Dining Room and Kitchen facility:

accommodates up to 60 people.
\$60.00 1/2 day rental - \$100.00 full day rental
\$25.00 deposit, refundable (ask for details)

Direct Payment Authorization — A More Convenient Way to Pay Your Ely Utility Bill

We now offer the option for you to pay your Ely utility bill by a Direct Payment Plan through your bank checking or savings account. It saves you time (fewer checks to write and mail), saves you money on postage (no stamps) and makes sure your bill is paid on time (so you don't have to pay late fees and so forth). You authorize your payment to be made directly from your bank checking or savings account automatically on the 10th day of the month. Contact City Hall at (319)848-4103 if you want more information about Direct Payment Authorization, or if you want to sign up.

