

City of Calmar  
P.O. Box 268  
Calmar, IA 52132

# City of Calmar Newsletter

MAY 2011

We are still accepting donations for these flower baskets.



## We are grateful to the following for their kind donations to our "City Beautification" Flower basket fund:

- † Edward & Elise Meyer in memory of Verna Meyer
- Security State Bank
- Schluter—Balik Funeral Homes
- † Ken & Sue Einck in memory of La Vonne Gehling
- † Kenneth Ehler in memory of Audrey Ehler
- † Mary Ann Humpal in memory of George & Marge Humpal
- † The Hoffert Family in memory of Jim Hoffert
- † Kevin & Kris Kulish in memory of Walter & Genevieve Kulish
- † Keith & Patty Frana in memory of Ed Frana
- † Ron & Phyllis Elsbernd in memory of Brenda, Gary & Edgar Wurzer and Kenneth Elsbernd
- † Calmar Veterinary Clinic in memory of our companions that have crossed the Rainbow Bridge
- Michael, Allanda & Emaleigh Gehling
- Don & Carol Nelson
- Dennis & Karen Kleve
- Larry & Marianne Huinker
- Wayne & Corrine Wiest
- Tom & Mary Welch
- Linus & DiAnn Hageman
- Dean & Dorene S. Peyton
- Various other community members that did not want their name published

**Calmar City Officials**

**Joe McCasland, Mayor**  
 Larry Huinker, Mayor pro-tem  
 Isaac Phillips, City Council  
 Corey Meyer, City Council  
 Dennis Kleve, City Council  
 Luther Anderson, City Council



The City of Calmar will have several council seats and the mayor position up for election in November. If you are interested the 2011 City Candidate's Guide is available at the city clerk's office.

**Police**

Joe Ward, Police  
 Lance Peters, Patrol Officer  
 101 S. Washington St.  
 563-562-3224 (non-emergency)  
 911 (emergency)

**Public Library**

Linda Crossland, Library Director  
 101 S. Washington St.  
 563-562-3010  
 Open 12-6 Mon.—Fri.  
 Saturday 10 A.M.—1 P.M.

**Public Works**

Junior Boyer, Superintendent  
 101 S. Washington St.  
 563-562-3349  
 319-361-2506 ( cell)

**Water/Wastewater**

Matt Bullerman, Superintendent  
 101 St. Washington St.  
 563-562-3150  
 319-361-2505 (cell)

**Calmar Swimming Pool**

Annie Rude, Manager  
 Hwy 24  
 562-563-3148  
 319-361-8532 (cell)

**City Clerk**

Michele Elsbernd  
 101 S. Washington St.  
 P.O. Box 268  
 563-562-3154  
 563-562-3903 (fax)  
 319-361-2507 (cell)  
 calmarcc@calmaria.com (email)  
 Calmaria.com (web site)

**SUMMER AIR CONDITIONING TIPS & HOME HUMIDITY: MAINTAINING YOUR COMFORT ZONE**

If you're cooling a single room or a small apartment, a window air conditioner can inexpensively provide the relief you need on hot days. Here's how to maximize your unit's efficiency:

- \*Select an efficient unit. For the greatest energy savings buy an ENERGY STAR certified unit.
- \*Pick the perfect spot: Install the unit in a north or east facing window
- \* Size it up. Allow for 20 (Btus) for each square foot of living space you need to cool. If the air conditioner is too small, it won't cool sufficiently, and if it's too big, it won't cool uniformly.
- \* Hibernate during winter. If possible, remove the unit in late autumn and store it until summer to prevent chilly drafts.

Humidity is the amount of moisture present in air—measured and expressed as a percentage. Generally, most people are sensitive to the amount of humidity in the air since it affects the ability to cool down when the temperatures soar. When the temperature is 75 degrees, with a relative humidity of 100%, for example, the temperature feels like 80 degrees F. When the temperature is 75 degrees and the relative humidity is 0%, however, the temperature feels like 69 degrees F.

During the summer, humidity levels often exceed 60%, which may not only make you feel uncomfortable, it can damage the interior of your home, causing musty odors, mold growth, condensation on windows and mirrors, stains on walls and ceilings, and more. Other factors raise the humidity levels inside your home as well, including cooking, clothes drying, bathing and showering. Dehumidifiers work to reduce the excess humidity in your home by pulling moisture out of the air.

**CHOOSING THE RIGHT DEHUMIDIFIER FOR YOUR NEEDS**

When purchasing a dehumidifier, be sure to choose the right size for your needs. An oversized dehumidifier will waste energy, while an undersized dehumidifier will not operate efficiently. ENERGY STAR, recommends that you purchase a dehumidifier based on the square footage of your space and how much moisture is normally in the air.

Dehumidifiers that carry the ENERGY STAR label have been tested and proven to have more efficient refrigeration coils, compressors, and fans than conventional models, which means they will use 10—20% less energy. It is also recommended that you look for a model that does not use Chlorofluoro carbons (CFCs) as the chemical for refrigeration — choosing a dehumidifier that does not use CFCs will reduce your environmental impact and protect the ozone layer as well.

Opening a window or using an exhaust fan while bathing or showering; covering pans and using an exhaust fan while cooking; and venting your clothes dryer to the outside will also help to reduce the moisture levels in your home, and help your dehumidifier work more efficiently. Keeping roof gutters clean to direct water away from your home, repairing any cracks in your home's foundation, and waterproofing basements walls helps as well.

## Summer Fire Safety

The month of June was identified as “Home Safety Month” By the Home Safety Council, but practicing safety doesn’t stop on June 30th.

### Barbecue Safety



U.S. Fire Departments respond to an average of 7,900 home fires involving grills, hibachis or barbecues per year, including an average of 2,900 structure fires and 5,000 outside fires.

Follow a few safety precautions while enjoying outdoor cooking by:

- When using barbecue grills on decks or patios, be sure to leave sufficient space from siding and eaves.
- Always supervise a barbecue grill when in use
- Keep children and pets far away from grills
- With charcoal grills, only use charcoal starter fluids designed for barbecue grills and do not add fluid after coals have been lit.
- With gas grills, be sure that the hose connection is tight and check hoses carefully for leaks. Applying soapy water to the hoses will easily and safely reveal any leaks.
- Always follow the manufacturer’s instructions and have the grill repaired by a professional, if necessary

### Home Safety



Summer is often a time when children are left alone, or have limited adult supervision causing an even greater potential for fire and injury. Parents are urged to make sure children know how to call their emergency services number to report a fire or injury, to never touch matches and lighters, and to get out, and stay out if their home does catch fire.

REMEMBER to install and maintain smoke alarms in every room and practice your emergency escape routes. Having a properly working smoke alarm can double your chances of surviving a fire by notifying you of the fire more quickly, giving you more time to escape.

HAVE A SAFE SUMMER!

## Lighting our Little League Field



*Work has progressed nicely on the lighting of our Little League field. We have received some very nice donations toward the project. These donations will be published in a future newsletter and you will probably read about them in our local newspaper. We are still accepting donations as this is a fairly expensive project. Games will be able to be played this season “with lights” if needed.*

The City council voted at the April meeting to proceed with installing a “Radio Read” water meter reading system. This conversion will begin shortly and city employees **WILL** need to access every building that currently has a water meter to install a radio receiver on top of the current water meter.



This receiver will allow employees to do a “drive by” meter reading. The system will also provide other data regarding the users water use. In the event that you are not home when employees need to install this device you may find a notice on your door stating that you should call the clerk’s office to make an appointment for the installation.

This will take only a few minutes to install. **Your co-operation will be appreciated to get this project completed in a timely fashion.**



**For those with Mediacom Cable TV, our local station is still there. IF you have an older TV, and have to have a converter box to receive the signal, it is on channel 81. If you have a digital TV the local station will be on station 79.2. The clerk has prepared an accurate listing of the digital station’s numbers. Pick them up at the clerk’s office.**



The 2010 Calmar Water Quality Report has been prepared and published in the Calmar Courier as required. The report is also available on our web site: [calmaria.com](http://calmaria.com). The report is located in the NEWS area of the web site on the home page. Anyone wanting a paper copy can get one at the clerk's office.

## A FEW



## REMINDERS!

You can burn leaves from April 1st.—May 15th, between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 6:00 P.M. No burning on the blacktop or hard surface of any street or alley or in curb & gutters.

**When you mow, DO NOT blow the clippings into the street, this is BECAUSE, when you blow grass in the street, and it rains, the water and grass go down the storm drains. Our storm water discharge eventually ends up at Lake Meyer. Grass clippings cause a water quality problem when they reach the lake.**

Now as the weather improves, walkers & bikers should BE VISIBLE. Wear your reflective clothing or clip-on lights for YOUR SAFETY! If you walk with your dog, remember to clean up behind the dog! This is in the Calmar City Code, Chapter 55. Section 55.16.

Building permits are necessary for any outside structural change such as a new house/business, addition, porch, deck, etc. Permits are also needed for fences and sidewalk repair or replacement.

Check the schedule for daily morning and evening lap swimming and instructor-led water exercise classes. Opening day will be Monday, May 30, Memorial Day. Watch for special events at the pool all summer long as we plan to have themed days and mini parties! Additionally, consider donating coloring books, crayons, junior reading material, and word games so that we may offer enriching, downtime activities for kids at the pool when needed.

### OPENING MAY 30

Daily Open Swim	1:00 – 4:30 PM
Swim Team	9:00 AM & 4:30 PM
Laps M-W-F	7:00 AM & 8:00 PM
Evening Open Swim	5:30 - 8:00 PM
Water Exercise M-W-F	8:00 AM
Water Exercise T-TH	8:00 PM
Weekend Open Swim	1:00 – 6: 00 PM

Note: Evening open swim schedule is subject to occasional changes for the duration of events such as group lessons and swim meets. Changes will be publicized.

### Swimming Lessons 2011

Qualified, Certified Instructors

Smaller Classes

Two Week Sessions \$35.00

Private Lessons By Appointment – 5 lessons \$60.00

Daycare Group Lessons By Arrangement

Session I Group Lessons June 13-23

Session II Group Lessons July 5- 15, 10&11 AM,  
7&8:00 PM

Session III Group Lessons July 18-28 10 & 11AM  
7&8:00 PM

Red Cross Levels 1-6 : Lessons are held on Monday – Thursday; all makeup days will be on Fridays. Feel free to sign up for any/all sessions. For more information or to schedule, contact Annie Rude, Pool Manager at 319-361-8532 or email [calmarcc@calmaria.com](mailto:calmarcc@calmaria.com)

## Calmar Swimming Pool Information 2011 Season



The pool staff is looking forward to a busy and safe swimming season. You will see new faces on staff, as well as the familiar friendly faces of guards and instructors you know. We are eager to serve Calmar and the surrounding communities by offering a full range of summer swimming programs for all ages.

**Fees** This year's general admission will be \$3.00 for all ages. The baby pool is free for 3 years of age and under; the guardian pays \$1.00 per visit. Non-Transferable Season Passes are \$70.00 for individuals, \$165.00 for a family of 2 or 3 people, and \$195.00 for a family of more than 4. This pass is not transferable, and does not include neighbors, relatives, or sitters who are visiting the pool with your family.

Transferable general admission punch passes are available this year at the reasonable price of \$35.00 for 15 swims. The transferable Lap Swim Punch Pass is \$20.00 for 10 visits; that is for use during lap swim times only. Exercise Class Punch Passes are \$30.00 for 10 classes. You may purchase any of these pool tickets at the pool on opening day, or anytime after.

**Programs** Private Lessons for adults and children are available by appointment for the price of \$60.00 for 5 lessons. 2011 American Red Cross Group Lessons are being offered in morning and evening sessions throughout the summer. The fee for these lessons will be \$35.00. Additionally, group instruction for child care facilities is available by arrangement with the Pool Manager, Annie Rude. Schedule all lessons by email, [calmarcc@calmaria.com](mailto:calmarcc@calmaria.com) or phone 319-361-8532.

The pool is available for lifeguard protected private parties. The fee is \$100.00 for the first hour, then \$60/hour for up to 3 hours. Call for availability.

Calmar Area Swim Team (CAST) is eager to prepare for another strong season; contact Jenny Johnson at 562-3611 for further information.

## The following tips are taken from the National Emergency Number Association

### 911 Tips Guidelines

**CALL 911 FOR EMERGENCIES ONLY.** An emergency is any serious situation where a law enforcement officer, fire fighter, or emergency medical help is needed right away. If you are unsure, go ahead and call 9-1-1, the call taker can determine if you need emergency assistance and can route you to the correct location.

**IF YOU HAPPEN TO CALL BY ACCIDENT.** Stay on the line until you can tell the call taker that you called by accident and there is no emergency. This saves the call taker from having to call you back and confirm there is no emergency or sending police with lights and sirens to check your address for an emergency.

**WHEN CALLING 9-1-1 DO YOUR BEST TO STAY CALM AND ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS.** Staying calm can be one of the most difficult, yet most important things to do when calling 911. Stay as calm as possible and answer all the questions the 911 call taker asks, no matter how relevant they seem.

**KNOW THE LOCATION OF THE EMERGENCY.** The wireless 9-1-1 caller must be aware that the 911 center that answers the call may not be the 911 center that services the area that the wireless caller is calling from. Look for landmarks, cross street signs and buildings. Know the name of the city or county you are in. Knowing the location is vital to getting the appropriate police, fire or EMS units to respond. Providing an accurate address is critically important when making a wireless 9-1-1 call. Not all cell phones, towers and answering points are able to locate your call automatically.

**TEACH YOUR CHILDREN HOW TO CALL 9-1-1.** Be sure they know what 911 is, how to dial from you home and cell phone, and to trust the 911 call taker. When calling 911 your child needs to know their name, parent's name, telephone number, and most importantly their address.

**POST YOUR ADDRESS CLEARLY AND PROMINENTLY AT YOUR ENTRANCE AND ON YOUR HOME.** Posting your 911 address at the driveway entrance and your home will alleviate any confusion as to whether emergency responders have the correct location. Use something reflective or illuminative so it can be seen in evening as well as day. Report any missing street signs.

## Recipe Corner

**RHUBARB DESSERT**Crust

1 cup Flour; 2 T Sugar; pinch of salt; 1/2 cup butter

Filling

2 1/4 cup Rhubarb; 1 1/4 cup sugar; 1/2 cup half & half or 2% milk;  
2 T. flour; 3 egg yolks

Topping

3 egg whites; 6 T sugar; 1/4 tsp. cream of tartar

For crust, combine flour, sugar, salt and butter and press in a 8 x 10 pan. Bake at 325 degrees for 20-25 minutes. For the filling, cook together the rhubarb, sugar, half and half (or milk) and egg yolks. Add the flour when rhubarb is soft and cook until thick. (can use microwave in a glass bowl) Pour over bottom crust. For the topping beat egg whites, sugar and cream of tarter til stiff. Spread over top of cooked rhubarb mixture. Bake at 325 for 1-15 minutes of until browned. May be doubled for a 9 x 13 pan

**Calmar Lion's Park and Calmar Pool Park Shelters**

For your information, the City of Calmar **DOES NOT** reserve these shelters. The Calmar Courier graciously publishes the names and dates of the people planning to use these facilities. If you wish to use these shelters check the Calmar Courier to see if anyone has spoken for them or to have your name and date placed on the schedule.

## NORTHEAST IOWA REGIONAL HOUSING TRUST FUND

Their mission is to ensure that Northeast Iowa counties of Allamakee, Clayton, Howard, and Winneshiek County residents have access to well-maintained, safe and affordable housing in both the rural and urban areas of each county. They also have a program in place that provides forgivable loans for needed house repairs for low to moderate income families in the area. If you have a need call Upper Explorer Land in Postville for more information 563-864-7551

*Calmar Public Library News*

As the school year draws to a close, story hour will soon be ending for this year as well. We currently have two sessions of story hour each week at the library. Our session on Wednesdays is for three-year-olds & the session on Thursdays is for four-year-olds. Currently, we have 9 rambunctious three-year olds who enjoy their time at the library. We read a story, have a craft or activity followed by snacks, (which seems to be their favorite activity), plus they select books & movies to check out. Our session on Thursdays tends to be a little quieter with just two active boys. In addition to reading a story, craft or activity & snacks (their favorite also), the boys get to spend a little time on the computers to play games & learn how to use the mouse & computer. We will be saying good-bye to Mason Zweibohmer and Cody Meyer as they leave 4-year-old story hour in May to head off to Kindergarten this fall.

A new feature soon to be offered at the library by the end of May or early June, will be the ability to download e-books & audio books from a person's computer at home or to an e-reader, such as a Nook. Patrons can connect to a website that allows them to select from a wide variety of e-books & audio books and listen to them or read them from their computers, Nook, iPod, iPad, or MP3 player. This service is provided to the library through the NEIBORS (North East Iowa Bridge to On-Line Resource Sharing) Program. This service is free to patrons. Look for more information and details in the weeks to come.

Be sure to come in to browse the selection of new books that continue to be added to our collection regularly.

