

2014

Annual Report



City of Lake Park

&

Lake Park Municipal Utilities

CITY OF LAKE PARK, IOWA



OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR
Wade R. Wagoner, AICP LEED GA
217 Market St. • PO Box 536 • Lake Park, IA 51347
(712)832-3004 • Fax (712) 832-3669

MAYOR
John
ENGEL

January 12, 2015

**CITY
COUNCIL**

Dear Mayor, Council and Utility Board:

Lance
HEIKENS
MAYOR PRO TEM

Clark
REEKERS

Art
SCHUMACHER

Gary
TABER

Julie
BAUMGARN

**UTILITY
BOARD**

Brent
JACOBSEN
BOARD PRESIDENT

Tony
LEMKER

Carl
GOCHNAUER

Vivian
LaLone

Carol
JOHNSON

The staff of the City of Lake Park and Lake Park Municipal Utilities are pleased to be able to present to you and the citizens of Lake Park the 2014 Annual Report. The purpose of this report is to give you and the citizens an overview of the vast array of projects and regulations we are involved in on a daily basis. This report represents the half-way point of the 2014-2015 fiscal year, and while the fiscal year mid-point budget numbers will be discussed, a more thorough budgetary report will be compiled after June 30, 2015 (the end of the fiscal year).

We feel that 2014 was another year of exciting new projects. The report contained herein will summarize the projects and successes of the City of Lake Park and the Lake Park Municipal Utilities during the 2014 calendar year and look forward to the goals of 2015.

We take this time to thank the Mayor, City Council, and Utility Board for their assistance and support. We would also like to thank the volunteer commissioners, board and committee members, and all volunteers in the City who have donated their time to our numerous organizations.

Sincerely,

Wade R. Wagoner, AICP LEED GA
City Administrator

MAYOR

John E. Engel

2014 City Council

Lance Heikens, Mayor Pro Tem
Clark Reekers
Art Schumacher
Gary Taber
Julie Baumgarn

2014 Utility Board

Brent Jacobsen, Board Chair
Tony Lemker, Vice Chair
Vivian Lalone, Secretary/Treasurer
Carl Gochnauer
Carol Johnson

FULL TIME STAFF

Wade Wagoner, City Administrator



City: (712) 832-3527

Marie Matthiesen, City Clerk (As of April 14, 2014)
Brandon Ehret, Street Department*
Jeff Jacobsma, Street Department
Joe Hoover, Police Chief
Tony Urwin, Police Officer***
Zachary Harris, Police Officer**
Vernette Palmer, City Clerk (Retired May 30, 2014)



Utilities: (712) 832-3667

Linda Treharne, Utility Clerk
Todd Doeden, Gas Superintendent
Lane Sether, Electric Superintendent
Jeremy Rasche, Water Superintendent

- * Brandon Ehret also serves as the City's Volunteer Fire Chief
- ** Employment ended with the City in June 2014
- *** Employment with the City began September 2014

2014

ANNUAL REPORT INDEX

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Park Board Annual Report

The Park Board is a group of volunteers that is appointed by the Mayor subject to Council approval. The Park Board is an advisory board that advises the City Council on matters concerning the design, development, maintenance and operation of parks, playgrounds, open space areas, campgrounds, the swimming pool and the Community Center in the City of Lake Park.

The Park Department budget is set by the City Council, but once set, the Park Board is responsible for that portion of the City's Budget.

2014 Accomplishments:

1. Added internet to the City Campground.
2. Removed 23 stumps with volunteer labor.
3. Installed two new mirrors and shelves in the campground bathrooms.
4. Cleaned up growth on the shoreline.
5. Received Environmental Planning Award from the Iowa IPA.
6. Improved north side entrance to the community center with hard surface.
7. Purchased a new mower with attachments in partnership with Lake Park Municipal Utilities.
8. Made four new picnic tables at the park.
9. Christmas decorations at the Community Center.
10. Improved the bat problem in the shelter house.
11. Changed street loop in park to improve safety and create hard surfaced picnic area by lake.
12. Completed Concession Stand and seeded the area around it.
13. Hired John Hough to replace Arlan.
14. Submitted more detailed & lengthy annual report to City Council as required by the City Code.
15. Installed a sign by Knox Cabin, and other informational signs installed.
16. Painted all of the posts in the park with the help of Orange City Boy Scouts.
17. Painted the old concession stand to match the new one.

2015 Goals:

1. Compile & display a list of donors for concession stand.
2. Fix drainage problem in SW corner of campground.
3. Log cabin/First Lake Park home maintenance.
4. Develop long term plan for swimming pool.
5. Bat intervention at shelter house.
6. Move horseshoe pits to shelter house area.
7. Frisbee golf course layout and donor sign.
8. Hosting Carroll Iowa Symphony.

2014 Park Board:

Nancy Puhrman, Board President
Lisa Bowden, Secretary
Jolene Ehlers
Terry Morrow
Billi Niemeier

2014 Park Staff

Larry Rusch & John Hough, Parks
Larry & Caron Dalton, Campground Host
Tricia Rueter, Swimming Pool Manager



Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Puhrman

Nancy Puhrman
Board Chairperson



Certificate of Award

The American Planning Association
Iowa Chapter hereby awards

City of Lake Park
Parks Department

*Environmental Planning
Silver Lake Native Prairie Shoreline Restoration*




Benjamin Champ, AICP
APA Iowa Chapter President

10/23/2014
Date

Library Board Annual Report

The highlight of the year for the Lake Park Public Library would be the Summer Reading Program. We had a variety of performers here to promote the theme, "Fizz, Boom Read!" We had about 64 kids registered and they had the opportunity to fill out a reading log and receive prizes for their completed logs.

The library hosted a story hour with Jean Gross on Wednesday mornings during the summer. Saturday mornings also found Justin Dekkenga here with his library dog, Mia.

We have an Adult Book Club open to anyone, with 8 current members that meets once a month. There is a flyer in the entry way telling what book we are discussing for the month. Books can be checked out from the library.

We are still at Tier 3 accreditation level of the Direct State Aid program. There are 3 tier levels, with Level 3 being the highest. This program exists to encourage the on-going development of high quality public library services in Iowa. An application had to be sent in with all the standards checked that are met by our library. Our Long Range Plan 2013 was updated last year and emailed to the board members for approval.

There are 3 forms for the E-Rate discount that I fill out throughout the year. It is a significant savings for our phone bill.

I completed the Public Library Management Classes in May of 2013 and am currently a Level IV Certified Librarian in the State of Iowa.

Our library provides eBooks and AudioBooks through a program called WILBOR. It went into effect May 1st of 2013 and is available to anyone who has a library card and resides in the incorporated areas of Lake Park. Anyone interested in using this service needs their library card number and an e-reader.

We have an annual book sale filled with donated books and books pulled from our shelves. This is held the first couple weeks of the summer.

Throughout the year we had various activities for elementary age kids including Valentine's Day, Mother's Day and Halloween.

That briefly sums up the activities for the public library in 2014.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane Duitsman

Diane Duitsman, Director
Pam Kruger, Librarian

2014 Library Board

Rachel Popken, Board President
Justin Dekkenga
Doug Otto
Kathy Winters
Judy Siemers



Clerk's Report

The City Clerk & Utility Clerk/Treasurers are responsible for accounts payable, accounts receivable, billing, financial reports, payroll, City Council and Utility Board and other meeting minutes, budget preparation and management, ordinances, resolutions, and general office management. While the two entities are technically separate, they are housed under one roof and the City Clerk and Utility Clerk work very closely together, both in physical proximity to one another and to accomplish the goals of the City of Lake Park and Lake Park Municipal Utilities.

2014 Accomplishments:

1. Hired new City Clerk Marie Matthiesen. Transition went well during Vernetta Palmer's retirement.
2. Accomplished major software conversion back to Power Manager. Things are working much more smoothly.
3. Primary support staff to all accomplishments listed herein.

2015 Goals:

1. Now that front façade is near completion, play a major advisory and participatory role in the interior renovations of City Hall.
2. Continue to convert to "Radio Read" meters (water, gas, electric).
3. Offer E-billing to our customers.
4. Creating a City of Lake Park/LPMU monthly newsletter.

Long Term Goals:

Work with the City Administrator to ensure the long term fiscal stability of both entities.

Respectfully Submitted,



Marie Matthiesen
City Clerk

Respectfully Submitted,



Linda Treharn
Utility Clerk



Police Department Report

The Police Department is responsible for providing general public safety for Lake Park and the surrounding area (population 1,105), for all of the people who visit or travel through our community and to all who pass through on U.S. Highway 9 and M-27. We provide general patrol and provide general business security door checks. We work together with the school to provide training presentations on bike safety, gun safety, K-9 police dog, and meet your local police officer. We also provide security at local events like Farmers Appreciation Days, Labor Day Biker Bash, school events, summer softball, and baseball events.

This year we had 760 calls for service. We also had an officer resignation on 06-05-14 and that started hiring process. The hiring board decided to re-hire Anthony Urwin. Officer Urwin was re-instated and started employment on 09-17-14. I have conducted a hiring process including interviews, background investigations of Anthony Urwin.

2014 Accomplishments:

I have been working diligently to stay within the budget for the hiring of an officer and replacement uniforms and equipment. I also have been working with the City to create a benefit and retention package for the Police Department which is more competitive with the surrounding communities in Dickinson County. The cost of living is greater here in Dickinson County than outside the IA Great Lakes Area (Dickinson County). Historically the city has based employee salaries and benefits from those areas outside of Dickinson County using census numbers of cities/towns. Typically these towns have lower housing and living expenses in these areas which tend to reason why they pay a little less than here. The Police Department historically has gone through chiefs and officers within a short period of time. Mostly they get certified and leave as soon as another job opening occurs. Reasons for leaving are low pay, lack of insurance as competitors offer affordable family insurance, medical, optical, dental plans, comp time, more time off, and no on call time. Another reason for leaving is other law enforcements departments do not require their officers to be on call. They work their shifts and go home to go about their personal lives. Lake Park requires police employees to work 40 hour work weeks and an additional 45 hours each week on call where they are not allowed to leave the general area, restricting the employee and also their families/family life which can cause an unstable family life which can lead to frustration, burnout, and loss of productivity. I have been working with the Mayor, City Administrator, Wage & Comp Board and the City Council to voice my concerns, provide them with direction and solutions to help resolve this issue. This process is in progress.

In 2014, a number of investigations led to several persons being arrested for a multitude of charges.

I updated the business security contact list.

I purchased a new preliminary breath alcohol tester (P.B.T.) replacing the oldest unit. I purchased new radar to replace the oldest unit and installed it in the 2007 Ford Expedition. I had

applied for and received grant funds to allow for the purchase of the new equipment. I applied for and received funding from the State Tobacco Grant Fund for office improvements including new storage cabinets and counter tops.

I am working closely with the Lakes Area Hiring Coop, and the IA Great Lakes Drug Task Force, serving on the Executive Board for both groups. I am also on the Lakes Regional Hospital Disaster Coalition Board for preparation of emergency services in Dickinson County.

I applied for a federal grant for the Cops Hiring program attempting to hire another full-time Peace Officer. I successfully submitted the grant application but found the program was only able to fund a few law enforcement agencies mostly urban areas with a significant amount of violent, gun, drug, sex crime activity. Our request was denied for this grant period.

2015 Goals:

Continue to provide the best community protection possible for this community.

Continue working on a benefit and retention package and retention plan for Police Department employees.

Continue to increase police department personnel.

Continue to acquire police equipment.

Continue to acquire additional training.

Respectfully Submitted,


Joe Hoover
Chief of Police



Street and Wastewater Department Report

The Street and Wastewater Departments are in charge of maintaining and monitoring our wastewater lagoon system and the various lift stations and sewer mains throughout town. This includes weekly monitoring and testing of wastewater and working with the DNR to meet the correct limits for discharge of our system into the West Branch of the West Fork of the Little Sioux River. The Department is also charged with maintaining the structural integrity of our streets (including snow removal) and our storm sewer system. The Department also maintains the swimming pool.

The City of Lake Park's sanitary system has the capacity to accommodate a population of 3,000 residents, affording us some capacity to grow.

2014 Accomplishments:

1. Assisted 6 new houses with sanitary sewer hookup.
2. Ordered a new 2015 Ford pickup (pictured to the right).
3. Finished replacing street name signs at intersections.
4. Cleaned one road ditch and two drainage ditches.
5. Brought manholes and storm drains to grade.
6. Crack sealing along Lake Avenue.
7. Began adding two additional bays to shop on Railroad Street.
8. Leveled and sealed approximately 6 blocks of our asphalt street system.
9. Worked with Beck Engineering to complete FEMA project at sewage lagoons and install discharge structure. (See next page)



2015 Goals:

1. Crack sealing City streets (potentially hire outside assistance).
2. Continue level and seal City streets project (About 15 blocks to go, do 6-7 blocks in 2015).
3. Make recommendation to City Council on level and seal program to ensure repair cycle aligns with how fast the streets are deteriorating.
4. Bring additional manholes and storm drains to street grade.
5. Finish adding bays to city maintenance shed on Railroad Street.

Long Term Goals:

1. Replace motor grader (33 years old), and dump truck (21 years old).

Respectfully Submitted,

Handwritten signatures in blue ink. The first signature is for Brandon Ehret and the second is for Jeff Jacobsma.

Brandon Ehret & Jeff Jacobsma
Street and Wastewater Department



Wastewater Department's FEMA Lagoons Project



Before



After, with improved slope and rip rap.

2014 Accomplishment:

July 9-14, 2011 severe storms and straight line winds and flooding caused significant damage to the City of Lake Park. Three days of heavy rains (up to 11 inches) caused severe flooding of and damage to the wastewater treatment lagoon. Cell 4 of 4 is the downstream filtration cell which released into the adjacent West Branch of the West Fork of the Little Sioux River. Water levels were raised 36-48 inches above normal causing significant damage.

The City worked with Beck Excavating, FEMA, and the State of Iowa's Department of Homeland Security to repair the structure and install mitigation measures to prevent damage in the future. This was a \$208,000 repair. The City secured 85% of the cost of the repair from FEMA as this event was declared a federal disaster.

In addition to making the repair, the time was right to improve the facility (this was not covered by FEMA). The City spent \$20,000 improving the outflow structure. This will allow our sanitary sewer personal more control over their ability to discharge treated water (when water levels in the West Branch of the West Fork of the Little Sioux are high enough.) This structure will also mitigate future flooding events by allowing our personnel to discharge during a flooding event as opposed to running after emergency pumps. This time savings could prevent future damage to our system. Improving our ability to control the water level should also help with cattail and other wetland plant growth in the final cell (the wetland cell). The wetland cell further improves water quality before discharge.

The City completed this project during the 2014 calendar year.

Water Department Report

The Water Superintendent is in charge of two water systems in town; the “old town” system and the Country Club Drive system. Daily tests are performed on both systems to ensure potability. Water levels in the main tank by the water plant and the water tower level are monitored daily for fire safety. Daily usage logs are recorded. Periodically mains are flushed to ensure cleanliness and adequate fire protection.

The Lake Park Municipal Water Utility has the reserve capacity for about 2-3 days. The DNR requires 2. Lake Park’s water system has the capacity to accommodate moderate future growth.

2014 Accomplishments:

1. Completed mapping of water system with DGR and Osceola Rural Water, our maps are updated and digital.
2. Completed hydraulic model with DGR and Osceola Rural Water, which will help us show where the best position for a new water tower could be. This map is necessary to apply for grants to assist in site selection and construction of new water tower. This model is also helping us to determine the proper pump size at the water plant.
3. Seven new residential services became active.
4. Logged hours towards becoming journeyman lineman (electric).
5. One meter route nears conversion to radio read.
6. Installed digital fill switch in the clear well to better control the water level.

2015 Goals:

1. Convert additional routes to radio read.
2. Valve maintenance and repair.
3. Fire hydrant maintenance and repair.
4. Complete book 2 in apprenticeship program & start book 3 for Electric Lineman cross training.
5. Install meter pit in City Park for Park Department.
6. Install new pump for filling the water tower in our meter pit.

Long Term Goals:

1. Work with DGR (our engineer) and Osceola Rural Water (ORW) on future water tower plans.
2. Continue to help Electric Department and log hours toward apprenticeship program.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jeremy Rasche



Gas Department Report

The Gas Superintendent is in charge of daily gas usage in the City of Lake Park and maintaining and updating 11.2 miles of mains and services for the Lake Park Municipal Utilities. We currently have 614 services. Daily odor levels are monitored for correct levels so if a leak occurs it is noticeable at 1/5 of the lower explosive level by a normal human nose. The Gas Department has the ability to accommodate moderate residential growth, and even supported a large expansion at Die Cast and an additional grain dryer at the CEA Elevator. Future expansions may require infrastructure expansions.

2014 Accomplishments:

1. Researched peak shaving (In a nutshell, peak shaving is the process of reducing the amount of energy purchased from the suppliers during peak hours when the charges are highest). This system proved to not be feasible for our size of community.
2. Roughly nine new services added.
3. Played a major role in working with Administrator, Wastewater Department, FEMA, and Beck Engineering in repairing the sewage lagoons damaged by the July flood of 2011.
4. Approved and installed another (doubled the system) grain drying system at CEA Elevator.
5. Act as City Administrator in the event of Wade being on vacation or away at meetings and conferences.
6. Converted one meter route to radio reading.
7. Installed Silver Spring fountain in Soddy's Cove.
8. Reviewed Public Awareness Plan.

2014 Goals:

1. Review Public Awareness Plan.
2. Work on Distribution Integrity Management Program (DIMP) Plan.
3. Convert other routes to radio read.
4. Install any new services as necessary.
5. Install any new mains as necessary.

Respectfully Submitted,



Todd Doeden,
Gas Superintendent



Electric Department Report

The Electric Superintendent is in charge of maintaining a safe and reliable electrical distribution system. There are currently 759 electric meters in town. This does not include Beachcomber, Country Club Drive, or West Bay Road, as these are located in the Alliant Energy's territory. We have a 4 megawatt generation back up plant that has the capacity to power the entire system in the event of a power outage to the primary transmission system. This back-up system is a luxury few towns our size can boast. The average usage in the City of Lake Park is 2 megawatts with the peak usage being around 3 megawatts.

2014 Accomplishments:

1. Converted multiple house services from overhead to underground.
2. Gained 2 more residential services.
3. Finished the Catalytic Converter project at the electric back up plant.
4. Finished installation of new 750 KVa transformer at Northern Iowa Die Cast.
5. Converted one meter reading route to radio read.

2015 Goals:

1. Finish "wrecking out" the old copper line along Railroad Street thereby beautifying downtown.
2. Install new radio read meters on other routes.
3. Install and upgrade services as necessary.
4. Convert old streetlights to new LED heads.
5. Tree trimming in Silver Lake Park and around power lines.
6. Complete Arc Flash Study with DGR's assistance.
7. Research possible new LED decorative street light fixtures for Market/Main Street.

Respectfully Submitted,



Lane Sether,
Electric Superintendent





Lake Park Municipal Utilities

217 Market-PO Box 536
Lake Park IA 51347-0536

e-mail: lpmu@lakeparkia.com
Phone: 712-832-3667
Fax: 712-832-3669

Rates Effective 04-01-2012

ELECTRIC

Residential *

Service Charge	\$ 13.00
All kWh - May-October*	\$ 0.1054
All kWh - November - April*	\$ 0.0989

Seasonal*

Service Charge	\$ 20.00
All kWh- May - October*	\$ 0.1054
All kWh - November - April*	\$ 0.0989

Commercial *

Service Charge	
Single Phase	\$ 17.00
Three Phase	\$ 25.00
Energy Charge May- October*	\$ 0.1064
Energy Charge - November - April*	\$ 0.1004

Large Commercial *

Service Charge	\$ 36.00
Energy charge	
All kWh	\$ 0.0574
Demand charge	\$ 11.60

* Note: This rate is subject to Power Factor Adjustment

Street lighting

Service Charge	\$ 15.00
All kWh	\$ 0.10

Security Light

150 watt hps	\$ 7.000
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RESIDENTIAL GARBAGE

flat rate - 48 gallon container	\$ 14.00
flat rate - 65 gallon container	\$ 20.00

COMMERCIAL GARBAGE

flat rate - 48 gallon container	\$ 16.00
flat rate - 65 gallon container	\$ 22.00

SEWER

Service Charge/Sewer Maint	\$ 7.50
First 1,000 Gallons	\$ 9.00
Next 1,000 Gallons	\$ 6.00
Next 298,000 Gallons	\$ 3.00
Over 300,000 Gallons	\$ 2.00
Minimum per month	\$ 16.50

Electric & Gas: 712-832-3176

Light Plant 832-3176
Water Plant 832-3308
Office 832-3667
Gas Warehouse 832-3036

Water: 712-832-3308

GAS

Residential **

Line Charge	\$8.00
First 999,999	\$ 0.42773

Commercial **

Line Charge	\$8.00
First 999,999	\$ 0.42773

Crop Drying **

Line Charge	\$105.00
First 999,999	3.68MCF

Industrial **

Line Charge	\$105.00
First 999,999	3.1939MCF

Industrial II

Line Charge	\$105.00
First 999,999	3.99 MCF

Gas Air Conditioning

Residential **

Line Charge	\$8.00
First 999,999	.31939CCF

Commercial **

Line Charge	\$8.00
First 999,999	.31939CCF

** Note: This rate is subject to Purchased Gas Agreement

WATER

Service Charge	\$8.50
First 1,000 Gallons	\$9.00
Next 1,000 Gallons	\$6.00
Next 2000 - 25,000 Gallons	\$5.00
Over 25,000 Gallons	\$4.00
Minimum per month	\$17.50

Second meter bulk rate

Line Charge	\$ 18.50
Per 1000 gallons	\$ 5.00



Budget Expenditures Midpoint Summary (City)

Department	2014 Amount Budgeted	Dec. 31, 2014	YTD
Library	\$47,025	\$17,481	(37.17%)
Park	\$73,700	\$52,426	(71.13%)
Pool	\$56,680	\$27,654	(48.79%)
Community Center	\$60,000	\$5,794	(9.66%)
Storm Sewer	\$3,400	\$1,009	(29.66%)
Garbage	\$100,290	\$51,100	(50.95%)
Street Department	\$278,554	\$144,688	(51.94%)
Police Department	\$121,625	\$52,133	(42.89%)
Fire Department	\$45,650	\$13,135	(28.77%)
City Clerk Salary	\$33,000	\$16,266	(49.29%)
City Administration Salary	\$65,670	\$34,345	(52.30)
Lake Park Rescue	\$19,606	\$11,810	(60.24%)
Clerk/Administration expenses	\$104,695	\$56,107	(53.59%)
Street Lighting	\$23,600	\$11,607	(49.18%)
Council Salaries	\$3,000	\$980	(32.67%)
Mayor Salary	\$3,600	\$1,800	(50%)
TOTAL FUND	\$1,040,095	\$498,335	(46.94%)



Budget Expenditures Midpoint Summary (Utilities)

Department	2014 Amount Budgeted	Dec. 31, 2014	YTD
Electric	\$1,250,000	\$510,102	(40.8%)
Water	\$258,525	\$79,468	(30.8.0%)
Gas	\$583,700	368,919	(63.2%)
TOTAL FUND	\$2,092,225	\$958,489	(45.9%)

Administrators Report

The City Administrator is ultimately responsible for all of the City policies and the Utility policies. The Administrator is responsible for continuous study of the City government operating procedures, organization, and facilities and recommendation of fiscal and other policies to the Mayor, Council, and Utility Board.

The Administrator works with the Clerks to prepare and administer the City and Utility annual operating budgets, keeping all informed on the progress of programs and policies. The Administrator supervises all City and Utility personnel.

The City Administrator also serves as the City's Zoning Administrator and the CEO of the Lake Park Housing Authority.

Many of the other accomplishments and goals listed herein, the Administrator had a hand in. Sometimes several departments played a role and it was difficult to decide which section of this report accomplishments and goals belonged.

The City Code requires the City Administrator to give monthly reports to the City Council. All of the monthly reports are on file at City Hall and are available for you if you should like any additional information.

During the 2014 calendar year, the City Administrator attended a total of 130 meetings, ranging from City Council regular and special meetings and budget workshops, Utility Board regular and special meetings and budget workshops, Park Board meetings, Freedom Rock meetings, Legionnaire meetings, Library Board meetings, Economic Development meetings, Dickinson County Board of Supervisors meetings, City Administrators meetings, Federated Women's Club meetings, Historical Society meetings, and a host of other meetings to promote the City of Lake Park.

The following pages will hit the highlights of each quarter throughout the year.

Respectfully Submitted,



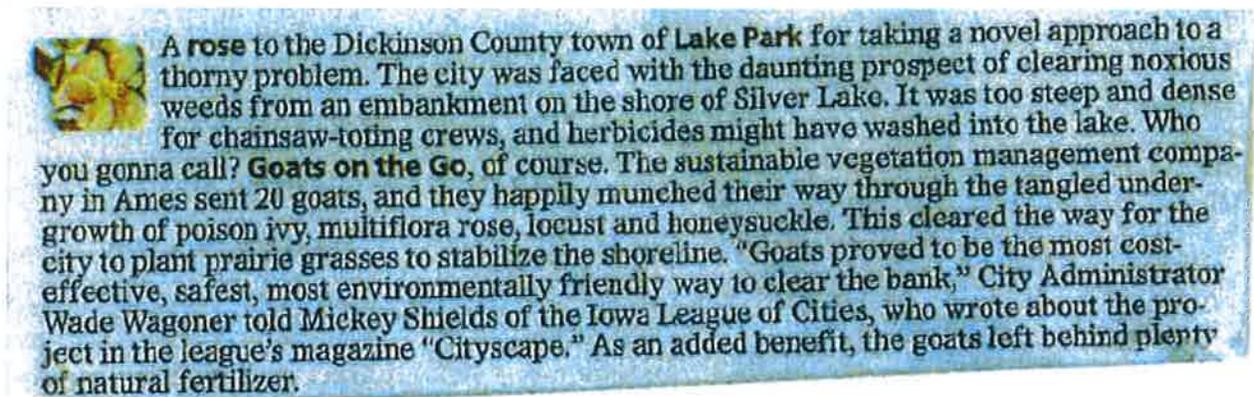
Wade R. Wagoner, AICP, LEED GA
City Administrator

January-March

- City and Utility Budgets set
- Completed and distributed the first ever (2013) Annual Report
- Brick work and sign without City Seal completed.



- Marie Matthiesen hired as City Clerk.
- Newsletter regarding Lake Park Housing Authority accepting bids during month of March.
- Newsletter regarding primary drainage ditch leading to Trapper's Bay.
- Drainage District action resolving sequence developed.
- Presentation to Osceola County Board Chairman regarding drainage ditch.
- Presentation to Osceola County Soil and Water Commissioner's regarding drainage ditch.
- Launched art contest for City Seal.
- Applied for sovereign lands permit with DNR to locate our fountain in Soddy's Cove
- Appeared in Cityscape Magazine where our shoreline improvement project was on the cover. (See article)
- City receives a rose from the Des Moines Register



Except from Des Moines Register

VISIONS FOR LOCAL LEADERSHIP IN IOWA

CITYSCAPE

Iowa League of Cities

| www.iowaleague.org

| February '14



IN THIS ISSUE:

Property Tax System Overview
Human Resources
Council Meetings

Goats (yes, goats) help restore Lake Park shoreline

By Mickey Shields

They say necessity is the mother of invention, and if you pay close enough attention city officials can be an innovative bunch. In trying to provide citizens quality services in the most efficient way possible, cities frequently come up with new and improved methods for getting things done. And just when you think you have seen it all, another city comes up with a clever way of completing a project. That is what happened in Lake Park when the city hired goats to chew away unwanted vegetation on the shore of their lakeside city park.

You are forgiven if it is a little difficult to picture how a city could hire a herd of goats as they are not often seen within city limits. However, their taste for certain types of weeds and brush was put to good use in Lake Park, where city officials were faced with a difficult problem of clearing overgrown vegetation on a steep bank in City Park. The park is one of the treasures in the north-west Iowa community of 1,105, offering citizens a baseball field, tennis and basketball courts, sand volleyball, a disc golf course, new playground equipment, a fishing dock and a shelter house. In addition, the park overlooks Silver Lake, a favorite of fishers in the area.

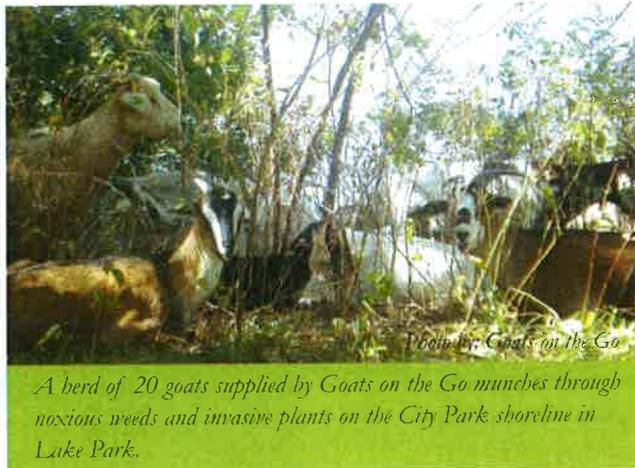
Views of the lake from City Park, however, had become obstructed as invasive weeds and nuisance plants grew along the shoreline. The bank had also become susceptible to erosion. It

was clear that the overgrowth needed to be removed, but city officials found the work area to be unsafe due to the steep slope of the bank. The city along with its park board had plans to complete a \$5,000 shoreline restoration project that would include the planting of native prairie, but first needed to find a way to safely clear the weeds and brush. Faced with this dilemma, city officials took an unusual path and hired Goats on the Go, a sustainable vegetation management company in Ames, who sent a herd of 20 goats to work on the shoreline.

The goats quickly dug in, feasting on the poison ivy, multiflora rose, locust, honeysuckle (a goat favorite) and other noxious weeds along the bank. The herd is able to clear a half-acre of dense brush in 3-5 days. While they do not leave behind a perfectly manicured area, they are able to get into crowded areas that are dangerous for workers with chainsaws. The goats are also better for the environment as no gasoline is needed to run equipment, carbon dioxide is not put into the air and there is no need to use herbicide. There is

also little risk of erosion from using the light-footed animals.

The use of goats cost about \$1,000, and while it might not have been the first option considered by the city, it ended up being the best one said Wade Wagoner, city administrator for Lake Park. "Goats proved to be the most cost effective, safest, most environmentally friendly way to clear the bank." The project also



A herd of 20 goats supplied by Goats on the Go munches through noxious weeds and invasive plants on the City Park shoreline in Lake Park.

provided some educational benefits to elementary classes that took field trips to the site.

Removing the invasive plants allowed the city to move to the next part of their shoreline restoration project and plant native prairie grass. As large trees and shrubs take over a shoreline, sunlight is no longer able to get through to the ground surface, resulting in grasses dying off and exposing soil to wind, rain and wave action. This can lead to bank erosion, gully formations and bank collapses. The prairie grass has deep roots, reaching 5-15 feet in depth, that help hold soil in place and protect the bank from erosion and collapse. The grass will stand 2-3 feet tall, returning the bank to its natural state while giving park users a view of Silver Lake. To top it off, another benefit from the goats will aid in the growth of the prairie grass: valuable natural fertilizer.

Wagoner said the community response to the shoreline restoration project has been "overwhelmingly positive" as citizens enjoyed learning about Goats on the Go and how the native prairie grass will improve the bank. They also look forward to continuing to use the many features in City Park, but with a clear view of the lake.

Maintaining and enhancing valuable recreation areas is an important facet of city government. Like any other city service or project, finding creative ways to improve these areas might require some innovative thinking, but is well worth it in the long run.

Mickey Shields is the League's assistant director of membership services and may be reached at (515) 244-7282 or mickeyshields@iowaleague.org.

Photo by: Goats on the Go



With the bank cleared of overgrown weeds and plants, workers in Lake Park plant native prairie grass that will stabilize the bank while offering views of Silver Lake.



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Iowa APA Planning Firm
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April-June

- Maric Matthiesen began April 14, 2014, trained by Vernetta Palmer.
- Hired John Hough to replace Arlan as part time park employee.
- Accepted 15 applications for Lake Park Housing Authority's Rehabilitation Program.
- Newsletter regarding City Seal Art contest
- Drainage district engineering study language developed.
- Newsleaders interview with Jeff Thee.
- Attended Iowa Municipal Finance Officers meeting.
- Letter to Stakeholders for next phase of Shooting Park
- Appeared in Our Iowa Magazine
- Attended County Planning and Zoning Conference
- Converted City and Utilities to Power Manager accounting and billing software



- **Water Breaking Ceremony held May 20, 2014 for Silver Spring.**
- **Received \$246,000 grant for Housing Rehabilitation from Iowa Economic Development Authority.**
- **Received first ever Dickinson County Award for environmental stewardship (see park board section)**
- **Joint Dickinson/Osceola Supervisors meeting on improving long term water quality of Silver Lake.**
- **Created City Seal selected via art contest.**



First Place winner (Mike Ehret)



R. Lev 2014

Second Place overall submitted by Rebecca Lev

The vote was very close, 3-2.



Elementary 1st Place
Abby Bannor



Elementary 2nd Place
Kelly Luitjens



Elementary 2nd Place (tie)
Hannah Harmon



Middle School 1st Place
Maddie Norman



Middle School 2nd Place
Peyton Christenson



Middle School 2nd Place (tie)
Juan Ayala

July-September

- Refinanced General Obligation Bonds from 2007
- Sold property to the east of the City maintenance shed to Keith McClure
- Worked with Steve and Lori Eggers to improve visibility at the NE corner of Lakeside Lane and Lakeside Avenue.
- Gutters installed on new concession stand.
- Implemented weekly written departmental reports
- Initiated Farmer's Market Planning with Park Board and Bonnie Boetel for next season.
- Participated in Police Deputy interviews.
- Successful Farmer's Appreciation preparations.
 1. Mosquitos sprayed for with extra attention given to park and downtown.
 2. Flushing of creek.
 3. Parade with Mayor.
- Several additional City Hall façade improvements completed, including:
 1. window sills,
 2. brick washed and sealed,
 3. awnings installed, &
 4. City Seal added to sign.



- Commissioned first City Medallion



Boyer Bridge signage updated

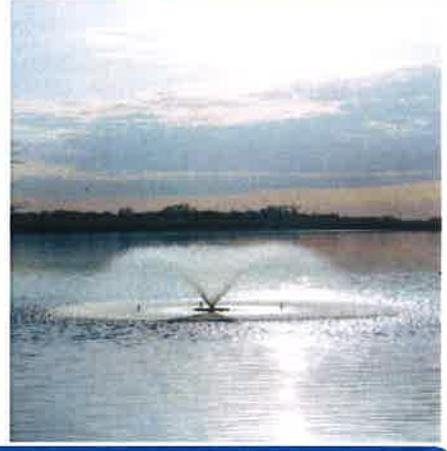


- Silver Spring signage installed Northwest of the 2nd Street Bridge.

Silver Spring

Silver Lake is a great place to spend your weekend or even a lifetime.

Silver Lake is a natural glacial lake. It has always been a great place to boat, fish, swim and enjoy other outdoor activities. In 2006, Silver Lake was placed on the DNR Impaired list due to high turbidity from sediment erosion. In efforts to restore Silver Lake, the community has come together to focus its efforts on the Silver Lake Watershed. Silver Spring is a beginning step to restoring Silver Lake to its natural beauty.



Sediment running off surface areas carries nutrients to the lake and causes algae blooms to occur. Silver Spring is an aeration fountain that moves oxygen into the water reducing algae blooms in Soddy's cove.

- Installed additional cooling & exhaust fans in concession stand and improved appearance by putting stone at the base of the pillars.



Before



After

- Conducted 2 Medallion Hunts which will now be an annual event.



- Appeared in Pheasants Forever publication regarding Silver Lake and our economic development model, later reprinted in Dickinson County News (see section on economic development)
- Worked with H-LP schools to put out flags prior to first home football game



- Installed all blue lights in the fountain prior to the first home football game



- City and Utility Flags Created.
- Flag raising ceremony held at City Hall (program on following pages). Flag poles are courtesy of Councilman Gary Taber.





Program:

LAKE PARK Flag raising ceremony, City Hall August 29, 2014

Invocation: *Pastor Emmanuel Naweji*

Raising US Flag: *Larry Rusch* – Larry saw active duty from 1965-67 during the big build up in Vietnam as an army artillery officer. He served as state side support as a Fire Distribution Air Defense Controller.

He was City's Street Superintendent and Waste Water Superintendent for over two decades from 1984 to 2006. Since then he continues as seasonal help in the City's Park. Earlier this year he received a proclamation from Mayor John Engel honoring his help clearing the streets during an early April snow storm while the City was shorthanded. He volunteers his time by being on the City of Lake Park's Board of Adjustment, and just recently has been assisting Lake Park Housing Authority as a construction consultant. Larry has a long history of serving his country and community.

Singing of National Anthem: **Harris Lake Park Girls Quartet – Kaelyn**

Byers, Morgan Eggers, Mikaela Heikens, Alexandra Luitjens This group sang the national anthem to begin the Saturday session of the Iowa high school boys/girls state track meet in Des Moines last May. They were selected through a taped audition.



My design for the seal for the City of Lake Park incorporates the history of the city. Lake Park was formed by people who believed in family, faith and farming. The cabin shown here is that of C.B. Knox who moved to the area from Wisconsin around 1869 with his wife and six children¹ and built the first home in Lake Park. Farming has always been an important part of the community and this is illustrated by the farmer and the horse-drawn plow. Finally, the church illustrates the faith of those who not only settled the area in the 1800s, but continue to live in our community today. The building shown here is the original Methodist Church, which was the first church built in Lake Park in 1891². The rest of the seal depicts the things that make up our community: Silver Lake, the wildlife and the stately oak trees that surround the lake.

¹ James R. Knox, J. (2013). Charles B. Retrieved from Knox Society: <http://knoxsociety.org/265627.htm>

² Smith, R. A. (1902). A History of Dickinson County, Iowa. Des Moines, IA, USA: The Kenyon Printing & Mfg. Co.

— Submitted by **Michael Ehret**



Raising of Iowa Flag – Jeff Jacobsma - Jeff is the City's

longest tenured full time employee with a quarter of a century of work for the City of Lake Park. Jeff began his career with the City as a deputy for then Chief, Greg Baloun. Jeff became Police Chief on January 1, 1993 and held that post for 15 years. Jeff currently works for the Street Department and has for the last 7 years.

The flag of the state of Iowa is a vertical tricolor of blue, white, and red. It is taken from France's flag, reflecting Iowa's history as part of the French Louisiana Territory.

The image of a bald eagle represents our Nation's national symbol, with a long ribbon reading "Our liberties we prize and our rights we will maintain", taken from the Seal of Iowa, is centered in the middle white stripe. Unlike the French Flag, Iowa's middle white stripe is twice the width of the red and blue vertical stripes.

The flag was adopted in 1921; it was first approved in May 1917, by the Iowa State Council for Defense. It was designed in 1917, by Knoxville, Iowa, resident Mrs. Dixie Cornell Gebhardt, of the Daughters of the American Revolution of Iowa. In state flag visual preference contests, the Iowa flag consistently places towards the top.



Raising of the City/Utility Flag – Honorable

Mayor John Engel. The City and Utility Flag has the City's new logo on one side. The City's new logo was designed by Mike Ehret in 2013. Mike serves as Dickinson County's emergency management coordinator and as the City's website manager. The City Flag features Silver Lake on the left (west), with the City's skyline on the right (east). The position of the lake on the west and skyline on the east is geographically accurate.



Utility Board President Brent Jacobsen.

The other side of the flag is Lake Park Municipal Utilities logo also designed by Mike Ehret. The similarity of the logos is intentional, symbolizing the team work between the two entities to improve the quality of living in Lake Park. Inside the P you will notice a natural gas flame; the M represents electrical lines, and the U is a water tower.

October-December

- Developed work order spreadsheet to better respond to public concerns.
- Knox Cabin signage installed East of cabin.

KNOX CABIN - 1869

In 1869, Charles B. Knox and his wife, Rhoda and six children left Wisconsin in their wagon for north-west Iowa. They would end up settling on the northeast shore of Silver Lake and built the cabin you see before you that same year. The cabin served not only as the Knox home, but as the first schoolhouse in the newly formed township. Later, a new schoolhouse would be built nearby and named the Knox Schoolhouse. In 1872, a post office was established with C.B. Knox being the first postmaster. At this time, the settlement was called Austin. The railroad was built through here in 1882 and at that time, the name was changed to Lake Park. It would be another 10 years before the town would be incorporated.



- Insurance meetings held regarding employees health care package.
- Attended welcome signage south of town subcommittee meetings.
- Attended Professional Developers of Iowa Meeting.
- Upper Midwest Conference where City was awarded Environmental Planning Award
- Closed out FEMA Lagoon Disaster application from 2011 flood and received nearly \$200,000 to help city make necessary repairs.
- Gave presentation to Spirit Lake Rotary Club about efforts to clean up Silver Lake and our economic development model focusing on outdoor recreation.
- Produced staff jackets, t-shirts, and hats with new logos. Will be made available for sale to general public.

2015 Administrator's Goals

- Update welcome sign south of town at the intersection of Highway 9 and M27
- Work with Rick Hopper, Silver Lake Improvement Association, the City Council, and Paul Johnson and the board of supervisors to implement the drainage assessment performed by Jacobsen-Westergard for the main drainage ditch entering Trappers Bay/Silver Lake.



- Continue to improve Main/Market Street by eliminating overhead wires and improving facades and streetscape. Work with consultants to write a grant to Iowa Economic Development Authority for the improvement of Market Street.
- Design a Capital Improvements Program for the City.
- Suggest changes for the Zoning Ordinance and Comprehensive Plan.
- Work towards Citizen's Trap, Skeet, Sporting Clays, Pistol and Archery Range.
- Have a stocked trout pond in Lake Park; potentially use Trapper's Bay and a fish barrier between the lake and the bay, which may require dredging of Trapper's Bay.
- Implement a farmer's market here in Lake Park.
- Work with Mayor as he takes the lead in restoring Knox Cabin.
- Keep up certifications for AICP and LEED.
- Get commercial driver's license to help with snow plowing and other city and utility tasks.
- Participate in Junior Achievement program with the elementary school.
- Ongoing economic development activities and further promotion of Lake Park.
- Embark on the interior renovations of City Hall.



Lake Park Housing Authority Report



Lake Park Housing Authority Board:

Lance Heikens, Board President
Gregg Gunderson, Treasurer
Joy Rasche, Secretary
Joe Hornick
Lori Eggers
Dick Packebush
Wade Wagoner, CEO

Currently Lake Park Housing Authority has the ability to allocate approximately \$500,000 of funds that have been generated by Tax Increment Financing Districts (Silver Shores and West Bay Estates) in the City of Lake Park. The funding, up to a maximum of \$24,999, is available to low and moderate income property owners who meet eligibility guidelines for residential rehabilitation and down payment assistance. Information about eligibility guidelines and the application process is available at the City Administrator's office in City Hall.

Goals and Objectives

The primary goals and objectives of the Lake Park Housing Authority, Inc. are:

- To preserve and/or stabilize the community's housing stock that is affordable to low and moderate income persons;
- To ensure safe, decent, and sanitary housing for the community's residents who do not have the financial wherewithal to make repairs to their own dwellings;
- To improve the general aesthetics and attractiveness of the community's housing stock;
- To maintain or increase the community's residential tax base;
- To assist in the promotion and attraction of economic and community development opportunities; &
- To increase owner occupied housing.
- The lifetime maximum amount to be given per property is \$24,999.

2013-14 Successes:

- Nearly \$257,000 in down payment assistance and residential rehabilitation funds allocated in 2013-14, with another \$75,000 ready to be allocated once the approved repairs are complete.
- Awarded \$246,000 Housing Grant from Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA)

2015 Goals:

- Work with Northwest Iowa Planning and Development Commission to implement the grant.
- Continue with the enormous successes of the past two years.

Respectfully Submitted,
Wade R. Wagoner,
CEO Lake Park Housing Authority



Zoning Administrator's Report

Planning Commission:

Ryan Rowe, Ron Sterler, Neil Watje, Jason Heikens, Missy Gemblar.

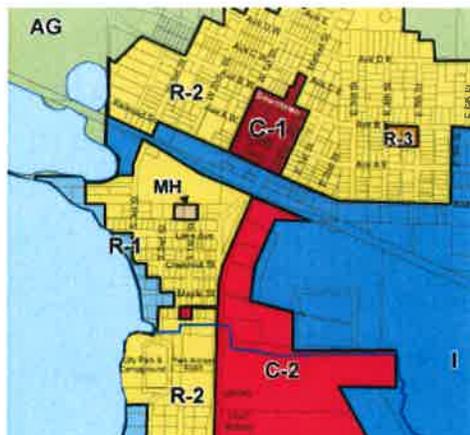
The main purpose of the Planning Commission is to advise the City Council on land use policies and laws. A five member Commission appointed by the Council is charged with developing the City's Master Plan, Zoning Ordinance, and subdivision (plats) review. Documents have to have final approval by the City Council. The Planning Commission (also sometimes referred to as the Planning and Zoning Commission or Zoning Board) meets as necessary.

Zoning Ordinance last updated in 2009.

Master Plan last updated in 2003.

2014: No Planning Commission meetings were held.

2014 Goals: Consider updating Master Plan and review Zoning Ordinance for areas that need changes.



Board of Adjustment:

Herb Stewart, Larry Rusch, Mike Treharne, Dallas Heikens, Pam Wingert

The Board of Adjustment is charged with review of the Zoning Administrator's decision(s). To decide Special Exceptions as outlined in the Zoning Ordinance, and to grant variances to the Zoning Ordinance where the exception won't be contrary to the public interest & creates a hardship for the applicant.

2014 Board of Adjustment meetings:

January 23, 2014 - for a variance request for Neal and Rebecca Luitjens at 106 E. 8th Street.

August 12, 2014 – for a variance request for Curt and Lori Harms at 315 E. 7th Street.

October 29, 2014 – for a variance request for Nick and Rachel Tanner at 120 Country Club Drive.

November 19, 2014 – for a variance request for Nick and Rachel Tanner at 120 Country Club Drive.

2015 Goals: Provide input to Planning Commission for portions of Zoning Ordinance that need changed.

City of Lake Park Building Permits Issued in 2014

Permit #	Date	Name	Address	Building Type	Square Feet	Fee
	1/3/2013	Neal Luitjens	106 E. 8th Street	Variance for addition	NA	\$200
2014-01	3/4/2014	CEA Elevator	204 E. Railroad Street	750,000 Bushel Bin	8,654 ft ²	\$1,600
2014-02	3/26/2014	Ronald Jacobson	109 Avenue D. West	Front Entry	50 ft ²	\$50
2014-03	4/14/2014	Arlan Voss	314 E. 3rd Street	4' tall privacy fence	NA	\$50
2014-04	4/15/2014	Brian Gilmore	306 E. Railroad Street	Wood Frame House	2,204	\$719
2014-05	4/16/2014	Vision Builders	1706 Lakeside Avenue	Wood Frame House	2,140	\$535
2014-06	4/22/2014	Kembe Hulstein	192 Country Club Drive	Room Addition and cover a deck	633	\$158.25
2014-07	4/22/2014	Nick and Rachel Tanner	120 Country Club Drive	New Home	1740 ft ²	\$435.00
2014-08	4/29/2014	Northern Iowa Die Casting	702 E. Railroad Street	Pole Sign	32ft ²	\$50
2014-09	5/14/2014	Rhonda Brunz	309 E. 5th Street	Fence	NA	\$50
2014-10	5/20/2014	Dave Hobson	288 Country Club Dr.	Lake Landscape	NA	\$40
2014-11	5/30/2014	Colleen B. Meyer	110 Avenue C. West	Fence	NA	\$50
2014-12	6/3/2014	Judy Harmon	119 West Bay Road	3 Season Room	154	\$50

2014-13	6/5/2014	Sara Reimers	111 Avenue D. West	Shed	80	\$50
2014-14	6/19/2014	Randal Buchman	212 E. 5th Street	Porch enclosure	7x16	\$50
2014-15	6/24/2014	Harris Lake Park School	905 S. Market Street	School addition	12,600	\$2,000
2014-15	6/25/2014	Donna Gerdeman	18 Avenue D West	Deck	144	\$50
2014-16	7/22/2014	Bruce and Inez Hasara	268 Country Club Drive	Deck	8x16	\$50
2014-16	7/22/2014	Ken Smith	212 Beachcomber Drive	New Home	2,250	\$562.50
2014-17	7/24/2014	Lacour Machine	108 E. 8th Street	Bld Addition	200	\$50
2014-18	8/1/2014	Gary Rost	311 E. 7th Street	Fence	30 linear	\$50
2014-19	8/8/2014	Todd Meyer	304 S. 3rd Street	New Entryway	48 ft2	\$50
2014-20	8/8/2014	Ryan Rowe	312 E. 6th Street	New Deck	200ft2	\$50
2014-21	8/13/2014	Larry Rusch	108 E. 8th Street	New Building	936ft2	\$93.60
2014-22	8/14/2014	Curt Harms	SE Corner of Avenue A and E 8th Street	Move old garage	280	\$50
2014-23	8/14/2014	Curt Harms	315 E. 7th Street	New Garage	672	\$168
2014-24	8/20/2014	SBA Communications	E. 8th Street	Antennae co-located	NS	\$50
2014-25	8/25/2014	Jann M. Gregory	710 Anenue D. East	Small Privacy Fence	NA	\$50

2014-26	8/26/2014	Arlen Voss	314 E. 3rd Street	Small addition	40	\$50
2014-27	9/3/2014	Vision Builders	1706 Lakeside Avenue	Landscaping Permit	NA	\$40
2014-28	10/1/2014	Marie Matthiesen	101 E. 4th Street	shed	178	\$50
2014-29	10/2/2014	Jake and Amanda Money	1203 Clayton Avenue	New Home	2,580	\$870
2014-30	10/2/2014	Anita Kuehl	1703 Lakeside Avenue	New Home	2,352	\$813
2014-31	10/17/2014	Rhonda Roseboom	303 W. 1st Street	New Deck	117	\$50
2014-32	10/17/2014	Jacob Benson	204 E. 1st Street	Breezway	120	\$50
2014-33	11/6/2014	Seth Hellinga	1007 Clayton Street	Deck	200	\$50
2014-34	12/22/2014	Timothy Trick	1010 S. Market Street	Shed	160	\$50



Lake Park Development Corporation/Economic Development

The Lake Park Development Corporation, comprised of an eight-person board of directors, is committed to furthering economic development opportunities for the community. Incentives include financial assistance for rental, purchasing, and façade improvement incentives. To qualify, a business plan must be submitted to the Lake Park Development Corporation. Contact Richard M. Packebush at United Community Bank at 832-3296.

Downtown Lake Park Incentives:

- Tax abatement: Arranged with City on individual bases.
- Sewer and Garbage Rebate: 50% rebate not to exceed \$200/month (up to one year).
- Utility Rebate: 50% of utility bill rebate not to exceed \$500/month (up to one year).
- Announcement of new business in utility bills.

2014 Accomplishments:

- Secured \$246,000 Housing Grant.
- Progress towards making trap and skeet club a reality.
- Administrator featured in Pheasants Forever Publication because of Lake Park's economic development model.
- Forged a friendship with new Director of Iowa Lakes Corridor Development Corporation Kiley Miller. The corridor's mission is *"To foster, encourage, promote, aid or otherwise assist in the economic growth and development of the four-county region."*
- Attended Professional Developers of Iowa Conference at Lake Rathbun.

2015 Goals:

- Create a plan and work towards a grant for a downtown makeover
- Continue working towards a 5 Trap and 1 Skeet shooting park.

With shooting sports growing in both youth and adult participation throughout Iowa and the country, the time is right for Lake Park to develop a shooting facility and build upon Lake Park's strength as a recreational hotbed. This new facility could serve as home to high school trap teams, registered competitions, corporate events, and recreation with family and friends.

Respectfully Submitted,



Wade R. Wagoner, AICP LEED GA
City Administrator



Spreading the Word

► *Continuation Page 1*

Wade R. Wagoner Benefits His Community

For me, conservation is about creating great places in which to live—a place where we can fish in clean water and places where there are pheasants and ducks to hunt. Pheasants Forever members have the opportunity to engage in activities like hunting and fishing—founding traditions of this great nation.

We have only one past, but many potential futures. What do we want? I stand for economic development, but not at the expense of the natural world. Conservation is about creating great places in which to live. Conservation is not a sideshow. Conservation is not something convenient for a politician to say they favor. Conservation is not an easy task.

So what do we do about it?

In the city of Lake Park, Iowa, we are using conservation as our economic development model. We seek to drive people to our community based on our conservation-minded economic development model, by improving water quality in area lakes for fishing and other outdoor pursuits, by building a trap and skeet range, and by marketing Dickinson County's vast amount of upland hunting ground.

As a passionate Pheasants Forever supporter, I challenge all Pheasants Forever members to join me in support of the things we hold dear by upgrading your membership to the next level. If you're a member, please become a Life Member and encourage others to do the same. If you're already a Life



Wade R. Wagoner, Lake Park City Administrator and Life Member from Lake Park, Iowa, with his brother Bret during a hunt in 1989

Member, please consider becoming a \$10,000 Patron Member supporter or joining PF's highest membership level, the \$25,000 Gold Patron level.

I hope my story will inspire others to do the tough things needed to create a conservation legacy by rallying their community around conservation-minded development. Thank you to my fellow Life, Patron, and Gold Patron Members for your consideration of providing additional support to PF's critical initiatives.

Pheasants Forever needs your help. Please consider upgrading your membership to the next level. Return the enclosed survey for more information.

By the Numbers

Since inception, Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever have:



IMPACTED MORE THAN
10 million
acres of wildlife habitat.

COMPLETED
474,225
wildlife habitat projects.



PERMANENTLY PROTECTED
173,779
ACRES

of wildlife habitat and opened those acres to the public.



MENTORED
OVER **300,000**
YOUTH.

Lake Park 2014 Business Listing

Name	Position	Phone
A.C. Construction	Owner: Albert (Butch) Chiochon	712-832-3310
Alice Anderson Day Care	Alice Anderson	
Arco Dehydrating	Steve Krummen or Lance Heikens	(712) 832-3610
Bank Midwest Insurance	Agent: Jamie Engel	712-832-3210 or 712-336-0505
Blossoms and Blooms	Nona Joens, Owner	712-832-3050
Building Blocks Home Daycare	Owner: Sarah Bengford	712-832-4010
Buy Rite Foods	Owner: Eric Wahlman	712-832-9849
Cap'n Ken's Restaurant	Owner: Ken Fiala	712-832-3602
Carpe diem Massage	Brenda Hanson	712-330-7969 or 712-832-3056
Cohrs Construction	Bernie Cohrs	712-832-3714
Colleen Meyer Day Care	Colleen Meyer	
Cooperative Elevator (CEA)	Manager Bob Frank	712-832-3621
Cutting Edge Lawn Service	Owners: Greg Sheeler	712-330-1573
Division Pub	Ashley Woizeschke	
EDP renewables	Chris Muggle	712-832-3143
Engel's Lakeside Bed & Breakfast	Owner: John & Sharlene Engel	712-832-3899
Five Star Roofing	Harvey Olson	712) 832-3660
GCC Ready Mix		(712) 832-3322
George Hiveley Construction	George Hiveley	712-330-3541
Gilly's Salon	Janice Gilmore, Owner	712-832-3559
Great Lakes Countertops & Kitchens	Pete Danielson	712-832-3197
Great Lakes Insurance	Owner: Jerry Block	712-832-3626
Greg's Electric	Greg Wildeman	712-832-3152
Gunderson's Restaurant and Sliver Lanes Bowling	Grant Gunderson	712-832-3410
H&S Service	Herb Stewart	712-832-9555
Headstrong Salon	Julie Baumgarn, Owner	712-832-3091
Heartfelt Creations	Kevin and Joni Roslansky	712-832-3202
Hemphill Family Care Center	Nurse Practitioner: Denise Hemphill	712-832-9559
Jaycox Implement	Ray Jaycox and Denny Puhrman	712-832-3151
Jones Law Office P.L.C.	Carrie S. Jones	712-832-3227
Junk Ease	Brian and Jamie Kelly	712-320-3507

Name	Position	Phone
LBR Enterprise	Tony Lemker	712-832-3352
LaCour Machine & Welding	Brian LaCour	(712) 832-3109
Lake Park Auto Body	Joe Hornick	712-832-3496
Lake Park Auto Repair	Al Detlefson	712-832-9619
Lake Park Car Wash	Brian and Jamie Kelly	712-320-3507
Lake Park Care Center	Administrator:	712-832-3691
Lake Park Farm and Home Center		712-832-3581
Lake Park Realty	Realtors: Randy Rowe and Deanna Rowe; Broker: Jeri Prins/Elgersma Agency	712-832-3112
Lake Park Welding & Machine Shop	Owner: Gary Taber	712-832-3051
Lakes Property Shop	Duane Gaudian (Realtor)	712-320-2456
Laura Fiebig Daycare	Laura Fiebig	712-832-3285
Lev's Mowing	Owners: John & Becky Lev	712-832-3526
M & R Construction	Owners: Randy Rowe & Mel Zevenbergen	712-832-3306
Main Street Salon	Lori Stahly	712-832-9535
Market Street Tire	Randy & Regina Johnson, Owners	712-832-9563
Marlene (Digger) Gillette Day Care	Marlene Gillette	
Mary's Cleaning	Mary Schmidt	712-331-1455
Maxi Tan	Maxine Anderson	712-330-5754
Mel's Insurance	Owner: Mel Zevenbergen	712-832-3306
Midwest Cabinet Creations	Brent Jacobsen and Mike Treharne	712-330-3375
Midwest Youth Football League	Brent Jacobsen	712-212-1767
Mulder Mechanical	Kris Mulder, Owner	712-832-3137
Murphy Electric LLC	Owner: Gerald Murphy	712-832-3170
Napa Auto Parts	Jamie Fredrickson	712-832-3652
NIDC (Die Cast)	Jeff Skalbeck	712-832-3661
Niemeier Spine & Sports Chiropractic	Owner: Dr. Chad M. Niemeier D.C.	712-832-3056
Noteboom Implement (John Deere)	Wayne Untiedt	712-832-3686
Personal Indulgence	Owners: Patti McNab and Deanna Rowe	712-832-3152
Professional Radon Management Team	Brent Jacobsen and Mike Treharne	712-212-1767 or 712-330-3375
Rebecca Luitjens Daycare	Rebecca Lutjens	712-331-1975
Robertson Mechanical	Scott Robertson	712-832-3372
Savings Bank	Gregg Gunderson	712-832-3030
Silver Lake Chiropractic	Owner: Dr. Lee A. Ditsworth	712-832-3118

Name	Position	Phone
Silver Lake Country Club	Grant Gunderson	712-832-3213
Silver Pines Nursery	Carl Gochenaur	712-832-3394
Stan's Corner	Patty McNab	712-832-3420
A Stitch in Time alterations	Lorraine Nelson	712-832-3107
Suds and Duds Laundromat	Neil Watje	712-330-6166
Susie's Place and Silver Lane's Bowling	Susie Zick	712-832-3410
Ties that Bind Custom Screen Printing and Embroidery	Paula Jacobsen	712- 832-3193
Town and Country Tree Service	Brian Gillmore	712-832-9785
Town and Country Trash Service (for Dumpsters)	Brad Beyenhof	712-472-2493
TransAmerica Insurance and Investments	Greg and Terry Scheeler	712-832-3341
Travel Central	Patti McNab	712-832-3152
Tri-R-Ag	Trevon Howard	712-832-9500
Treharne Construction	Mike Treharne	712-330-3375
Turner & Jenness Funeral Home	Jerry Turner & Greg Jenness	712-832-3543
Watje Construction and Snow Removal	Neil Watje	712-330-6166
United Community Bank	Richard Packebush	712-832-3296

Organizations:

- American Legion and Auxiliary
- Churches (Methodist, Presbyterian, Lutheran)
- Dinner Date
- Federated Women
- Fire Department and Auxiliary
- Garden Club
- Girl Scouts
- Iowa Lakes Saddle Club
- Kiwanis
- Lake Park Historical Society
- Lake Park Development Committee
- Mason's Club
- Northwest Iowa Youth Athletic Association
- Royal Neighbors of America
- Silver Lake Trails Team and Dickinson County Trails Board
- Silver Lake Watershed (Dickinson & Osceola Co.)
- Sportsman's Club
- Town and Country Boosters
- Trees Forever (ISU Extension Landscape Architecture)
- Harris-Lake Park Community School



2014 LIST OF CONTRACTORS

This is a list of local contractors in Lake Park, Iowa. If you are using one of these contractors for work in conjunction with Lake Park Housing Authority (LPHA) improvements, the contractor must be a bonded/insured contractor. Contractors outside of the City of Lake Park can also be used provided they are bonded/licensed. **Do it yourself work cannot be considered for LPHA work.**

Professional Radon Management Team: Brent Jacobson and Mike Treharne 712-832-3152. This company does Radon Abatement

Robertson Mechanical: Scott Robertson 712-832-3372
This company does Plumbing, Electrical and HVAC (Heating Venting & Air Conditioning)

Town and Country Tree Service: Brian Gillmore 712-832-9785
Specializes in Tree Removal and Trimming

Town and Country Trash Service (for dumpsters) Brad Beyenhof 712-472-2493
Can provide a dumpster to your property to assisting in clean up

Treharne Construction: Mike Treharne 712-330-3375
Carpentry work

Watje Construction and Snow Removal: Neil Watje 712-330-6166
Remodels, new construction, cement work, and general contracting

Lake Park Farm and Home Center: Trevon Hesebeck 712-832-3581
For your building supply needs

M&R Construction: Randy Rowe and Mel Zevenbergen 712-832-3306
Carpentry work and general contracting

Midwest Cabinet Creations: Brent Jacobsen and Mike Treharne 712-330-3375
Kitchen cabinetry and counter tops

Mulder Mechanical: Kris Mulder 712-832-3137
Plumbing and Electrical

Murphy Electrical L.L.C: Gerald Murphy 712-832-3170
Electrical

A.C. Construction: Albert (Butch) Chiochon 712-832-3310
Carpentry work

Cohrs Construction: Bernie Cohrs 712-832-3714
Gravel and Dirt hauling

Five Star Roofing: Harvey Olson 712-832-3660
Roofing

GCC Ready Mix: 712-832-3322
Concrete

George Hiveley Construction: George Hively 712- 330-3541
Carpentry

Great Lakes Countertops & Kitchens: Pete Danielson 712-832-3197
Kitchen Cabinetry and counter tops.

Greg's Electric: Greg Wildeman 712-832-3152
Electric

H&S Service: Herb Stewart 712-832-9555
Contractor

Ray Von Holdt: 712-832-3562
Remodling

Duitsman State Line Plumbing Denny Duitsman 507-945-8451
Plumbing

A.R.T. Flooring: Mike Dennert 712-330-4142
Flooring

John Delaney 712-330-2650
Remodling

J&J Plumbing: Bob Joens 712-330-8825
Plumbing

Jeff Kruger 507-360-8204
Remodling

Darren Voss 712-832-3141
Remodling

Heating, Ventilating Air Conditioning R. Duhn 712-336-5506
HVAC

Signature Builders Company Incorporated, Adam Bradshaw, 712-441-7138

Silver Lake Park Improvement Association Report

Silver Lake Park Improvement Association Board

Scott Mitchell, Board President

Richard Packebush, Treasurer

Jared Herbert, Secretary

Gary Taber

David Hobson

Herb Stewart

Jeff Rolfes

Brandon Ehret

John Wills, Silver Lake Watershed Coordinator



Silver Lake is a terrific lake filled with great activities such as fishing, skiing, swimming, and many other things. The lake is one of the reasons for the growth of Lake Park however, it does have problems. There is an excess amount of phosphorous reaching the lake from many sources that cause green and gross algae to grow and make the lake smelly. That phosphorous comes from farm fields, shoreline erosion, lawn fertilizer, and from the bottom of the lake itself.

2014 Accomplishments:

- Installation of Silver Spring
- Joint Drainage District 1 study on main drainage ditch to reduce sediment and phosphorus reaching the lake
- Environmental Stewardship Award presented to City of Lake Park by Dickinson County Board of Supervisors.
- Grade stabilization structure built on North Shore reducing 109 tons of sediment/year from reaching the lake.
- 4 Water & Sediment Control Basins in Osceola County reducing sediment reaching the lake by 100 tons/year.
- 350 acres of cover crops planted which reduces sediment by 50% and improves soil quality.



Pictures from the May 20th Water Breaking Ceremony, Mayor John Engle accepts award from Paul Johnson and Mardi Allen for Environmental Stewardship (left), Harris-Lake Park Senior of the Year Bailey Heikens turns on Silver Spring for the first time (center), Silver Spring on May 20 looking back towards the on lookers on the bridge (right)

2015 Goals:

- Implement Jacobsen-Westergard's study on the main drainage ditch leading to Trapper's bay.
- Install debris screen on Silver Spring fountain.
- Annual startup of Silver Spring in May done by H-LP senior of the year.
- Monitor prairie seed growth at shoreline restoration project.
- Maintain the rain garden.
- Protect 600 feet of shoreline with different protective measures.
- Determine if Grade Stabilization Structure on West side of the lake is feasible and potentially construct it.
- Close 40 tile intakes with underground outlets making farming easier and reducing phosphorus loading.

Submitted
by Wade and
John Wills

Long Term Goal: When the drainage ditch to Trapper's Bay is improved, we would like to divert the ditch directly into Silver Lake and dredge and clean Trapper's Bay. Once cleaned, the ditch would be diverted back to Trapper's Bay. This is all a part of the plan to reduce sedimentation, nitrogen, and phosphorus into Silver Lake making it a pristine body of water that is destination fishing and boating lake.

Join us at 7:30 a.m. at Mel's Insurance on the second Tuesday of every month. All are welcome.



Achievement Award

In honor of your outstanding performance and dedication we gladly present

CITY OF LAKE PARK, IOWA

With this Achievement Award for excellence in

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Awarded On 5 / 20 / 2014

Awarded By DICKINSON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Paul Johnson
William C. Leopold
D. A. Hoede
James H. Jordan
Wanda J. Allen

Lake Park Fire Department Report

The Lake Park Fire Department is responsible for 110 square miles that include Dickinson County in Iowa and Jackson and Nobles County in Minnesota. In addition to providing fire protection the LPFD also performs Jaws of Life rescue, grain bin and other ag related rescue, and hazardous materials response along with ice and surface water rescue. The LPFD provides mutual aid and any other call for help that is requested by any neighboring agency. The LPFD has 22 members who are all certified in Fire Fighter 1 and Hazmat Ops. (as per state requirement). Members are also certified at Driver Operator/Pumper & Fire Fighter 2. The LPFD runs about 20 calls per year.

2014 Accomplishments:

- Continued relationship with Lake Park Equipment on donation of Gator for wild land unit.

2015 Goals:

- Work with townships and City to come up with a plan to be able to budget for new equipment and keep updating equipment to stay in NFPA compliance and keep our firefighters safe.
- Get a plan in place for an addition to the Fire Station making it able to house the Lake Park Rescue and more room for equipment.
- Keep membership between 22-25 and keep all members up to date on training and physicals.

Long Term Goals:

- Keep to the truck replacement schedule.
- Construct said addition to Fire Station.

Respectfully Submitted,



Brandon Ehret, Chief



On behalf of

Neil Watje, Assistant Chief
Jarrold Wallace, Assistant Chief
Justin Kracht, Captain
Ryan Rowe, Lieutenant
Nick Fiebig, Engineer
Kevin Winters, Secretary
Randy Nicks, Treasurer
Josh Paskert

Harry Riesburg
Al Detlefson
Trent Claus
Ericka Ehret
Gib Zahren
Ryan Breitbach
Jim Hemphill
Greg Baloun

Tal Allen
Mel Zevenburgen
Kevin Delaney
Chad Niemeier
Austin Bobzien

Lake Park Rescue / Emergency Medical Services Report

The Lake Park Rescue (Emergency Medical Services) is responsible for taking care of the sick and injured in Lake Park and the surrounding rural area that are in need of first response care. In addition to responding locally, they also respond to the Spirit Lake area if other paramedic crews are deployed.

All of the individuals that serve in this organization are volunteers whose certification levels vary. The motivation for becoming a part of this group is to play a critical and often times thankless role in the wellbeing of the community and surrounding area. The ability to provide the necessary level of care requires countless hours of continuing education. Lake Park owes a debt of gratitude to these volunteers. Being a part of this group requires carrying a pager and responding around the clock. If you feel called to be a part of this group, please contact Steve Hopkins at 712-330-1144.

2014 Accomplishments:

- The Lake Park ambulance has been upgraded to advanced EMT level.
- Specific successes are private do to HIPPA laws.
- Responded to 87 calls.
- LIFPAC 12 purchased and in service.
- Two individuals taking EMT level classes.

2015 Goals:

- Continue to promote EMS in Lake Park.
- Add more volunteer staff to try to cover day time calls.
- New roof on the ambulance garage.



Long Term Goals:

- Hire 2 part time staffed EMT's which would collectively provide daytime coverage (too many volunteers work out of town).

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Hopkins, Paramedic, President

Lance Heikens, Emergency Medical Technician
Wanda Hopkins, Emergency Medical Technician, Secretary/Treasurer
Stephanie Whitrock, Emergency Medical Technician
Bonnie Boetel, Emergency Medical Technician
Josh Boetel, Emergency Medical Technician
Adam Nelson, Emergency Medical Technician
Richard Cother, Emergency Medical Technician (Retired in March of 2014)
Erika Ehret, Emergency Medical Technician
Carol Voss, Emergency Medical Technician/Registered Nurse
Dawn Kinkade, Emergency Medical Technician-Intermediate
Deb Schroeder, Emergency Medical Technician-Intermediate
Herb Stewart, Emergency Medical Technician-Intermediate
Roxie Cother, Emergency Medical Technician-Intermediate (Retired in March of 2014)

Ambulance Drivers:

Amanda Hopkins
Joe Hopkins
Brandon Ehret
Justin Kracht
Tony Irwin

Historical Society Report

The Depot Museum, Prairie House, and Old Jail, are located on the first block of Railroad Street, west of Market Street or just west of our downtown. In 1992 it was named the Heritage Square by the Historical Society. Our definition of this location is "*a place where we can touch time.*"

Many activities were enjoyed by all of us in Lake Park and the surrounding communities. Over 300 people toured, some as far away Tennessee, Florida, California, Colorado, Maine, Missouri, Minnesota and both Dakotas.

On May 26, Memorial Day, the Historical Society honored our servicemen and service women. All uniforms were displayed and an open house was held at the square. Lemonade and cookies were served. In May, the Lake Park Boy Scouts visited the square with their pack leader to learn about the history of the depot and Rock Island trains that traveled the Lake Park Railroad.

In June, it was ladies day out. It was held at the community center. This was an heirloom wedding gown style show. Wedding gowns from 1849 to 1964 were modeled. There were a total of 12 gowns modeled. Lunch and dessert followed. Musical entertainment was by the Alexander boys string trio out of Milford. The Federated Women's Club partnered with the Historical Society in putting on this event.

In August, the Historical Society held the first ever City Medallion treasure hunt, won by *John Hough*. During Farmer's Appreciated days, the Historical Society named Evelyn Hemmingson "*queen for a day*" for her 22 years of service to the Historical Society. An open house was also held in conjunction with Farmer's Appreciation.

In September, just prior to Labor Day, the Historical Society did a second treasure hunt for a medallion, won by *Patti McNab*. On Friday, Labor Day weekend was kicked off by a hot dog feed at the square, just prior to the flag raising ceremony at City Hall.

December 14, 2014 was our Christmas celebration "*Reason for the Season.*" It started with a meal being served at the Community Center by firefighters, a bake sale by the Federated Women's Club, and pictures and a visit with Santa by the Kiwanis. The Historical Society held a silent auction of unique, practical, and beautiful gifts for all ages. The gifts were donated by 25 local Lake Park businesses. A decorated Christmas Tree Fantasy Contest was held by the local youth organizations, the winners were 1st place, The Royals (Methodist Youth Group); 2nd place, The Shooters (FFA); 3rd place, Tiger Club (Boy Scout pack 71) Proceeds from this day help with the upkeep of Heritage Square properties. The Historical Society also uses proceeds to present a graduating senior with a \$200 scholarship.

A holiday lighting contest for Lake Park residents and businesses was conducted with the assistance with funds from the City Council. Judging took place December 20th. Headstrong Salon was the business winner, 2nd place was blossom and blooms and 3rd place was Great Lakes Insurance. the residential winners were 1st place B.J. and Jenna Boles; 2nd place was Gary Rost, 3rd place Vi Ihnen. 11 residents and three businesses entered the contest.

The Historical Society is a non-profit organization and all of the projects are done by volunteers with funds that are donated.

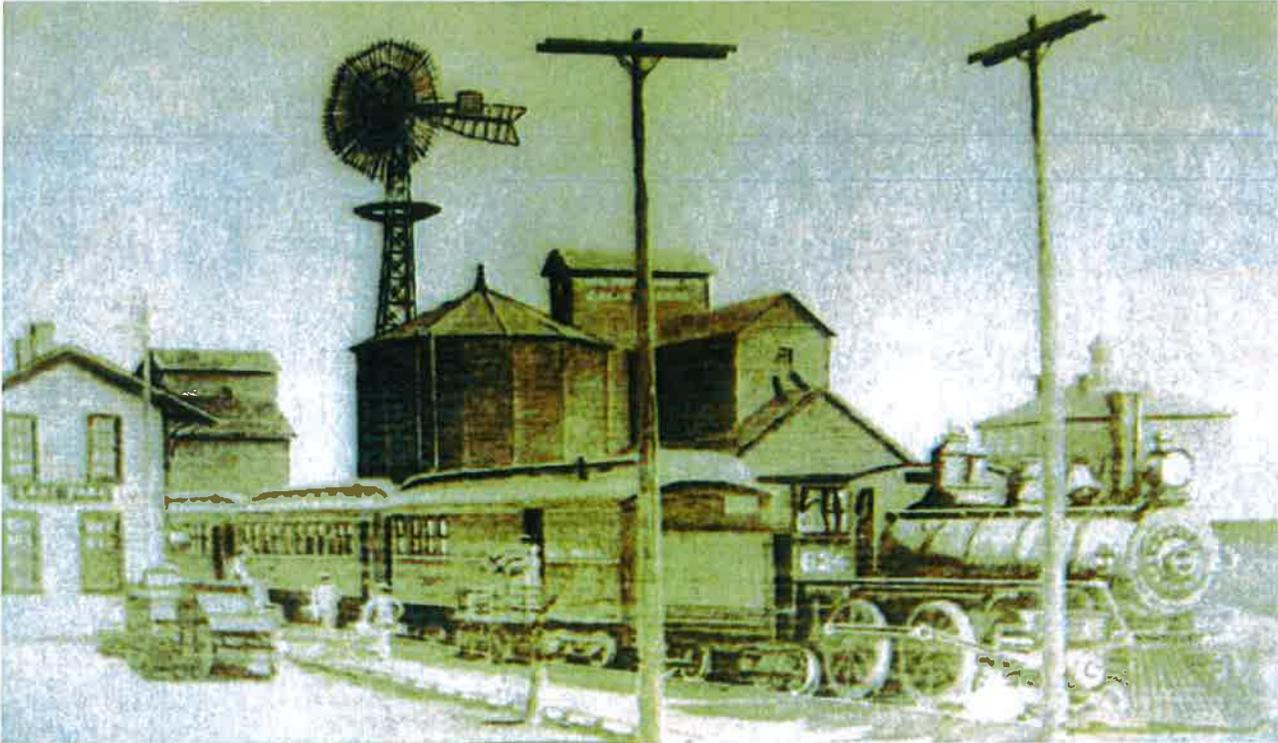
The Historical Society would like to thank the City Council and the Lake Park Municipal utilities for upgrades to the square which included electricity to the Prairie House and painting and repair work to the other buildings.

By giving to the Historical Society, you help to gather information about Lake Park's past and help to pass on our heritage to future generations.

Submitted by Jane Heikens, President. *Jane Heikens*

Members are:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Dolly Bahde | Beth Brandt | Marge Brueggeman |
| Ardith Ehret | Pearl Godfrey | Don & Betty Goodell (Treasurer) |
| Marvel Byers (Historian) | Leon & Gladys Goodell | Rod & Char Graham |
| Jeanne Gross | Jane Heikens | Evelyn Hemminston |
| Mavis Hornick | Carol Johnson (Secretary) | Wes & Vivian Lynn |
| Joan Miller | Bev Rush | Becky Schierholt |
| Janet Whitney | Jana Zahren | Diane Jacobsen |



Website & Emergency Management Report

The website for the City of Lake Park, www.lakeparkia.com, received 26,856 visits in 2014 from 16,290 different people. Each month averaged 2,238 visits. The days with the most visits were August 1 & 2, the days before Farmers Appreciation Days; the second-busiest day was June 6, the day before the city-wide garage sales.

Geographically, the vast majority of visitors were from our area. The top five states that visited our site were: 1) Iowa, 2) Minnesota, 3) Nebraska, 4) Wisconsin and 5) South Dakota. The top five countries that visited our site were: 1) USA, 2) Brazil, 3) Canada, 4) India and 5) Germany.

The top pages on the site for 2014 were: 1) Home Page, 2) Business Directory, 3) Farmer's Appreciation Day (schedule and downloadable forms for events), 4) City Hall/City Government, 5) City Council Minutes, 6) LPMU, 7) News, 8) Our Town, 9) Silver Lake, & 10) Camping.

The website was first launched in March of 2000.



The website in 2003 (left) and as it appears today (right).

2014 Accomplishments:

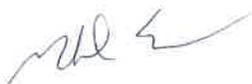
- Brought more traffic to the site by posting more information on a more regular basis
- More community events posted to the calendar

Goals for 2015:

- Improve the business directory to provide more information about the businesses in Lake Park
- Post Code of Ordinances on line

Emergency Management

- Specifically for Lake Park, DCEM requested assistance from the City in determining damages from severe thunderstorms and heavy rains that occurred from June 16-18. Dickinson County was eventually granted a Federal Disaster Declaration for the damages that occurred during this time. To date, a total of \$66,657 in damages has been submitted to FEMA from throughout the county.
- DCEM also assisted with the evacuation of the Lake Park Care Center by arranging for busses from Rides to transport residents to a temporary location.
- On a countywide level, DCEM participated and promoted Severe Weather Awareness Week in March and Winter Weather Awareness Day in November. DCEM has over 1,400 likes on our Facebook page and 173 followers on Twitter and regularly updates both with pertinent information for the public.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mike Ehret

Freedom Rock/Veterans Memorial

P.O. Box 121; Lake Park, IA 51347

The Freedom Rock/Veterans Memorial Committee in 2014 kept busy with fundraisers, gathering of donations and grants to place irrigation and lighting around the Memorial.

September 2, Greg's Electric installed lighting at the Memorial to honor the flags and make the Memorial accessible 24 hours a day.

Also in September the Committee accepted a grant from the Dickinson County Endowment to install irrigation around the Memorial. That project has not been completed yet, but is planned for spring of 2015.

In June the Freedom Rock/Veterans Memorial hosted the KICD Tractor Ride. Over 150 tractors along with a few riders stopped by the Memorial for lunch and tours of the site.

On Flag Day the Memorial hosted a Flag Disposal Ceremony hosted by the Lake Park American Legion Post #371, Cub Scout Pack #71 and the Committee.



In July a group from the Fort Dodge area toured the Memorial, this was conducted by Jim Ahart and they were all impressed.

Over the Labor Day Weekend the Combat Veterans rally visited the Memorial for a tour and pictures, the group plans to add this to their activities every year.

2015 Goals

1. Place lighting on the signage rock.
2. Put irrigation system around Memorial and Community Center.
3. Create website for the Memorial.
4. Host bus tours of the Memorial.
5. Replace the flags in the Memorial.
6. Video projector and screen to use during bus tours to showcase the town of Lake Park.

James Kessler Chairman



Freedom Rock/Veterans Memorial Committee:

James Kessler, Chairman
Clark Reekers, Vice-Chairman
Vince Elser, Treasurer
Carol Johnson, Secretary
B.J Ferguson
Nancy Puhrman
Wade Wagoner (ex officio)

SILVER LAKE TRAIL

A trail to get residents involved in the community to build friendships, improve health and enjoy the natural beauty of Lake Park.

Lake Park became a member of the Dickinson County Trails Board (DCTB) in 2007. The Dickinson County Trails Board is an organization that preserves, develops and improves multi-purpose public recreational trails in Dickinson County, Iowa. The DCTB is constantly working to develop and improve trails in our area to provide safe recreation for our citizens and visitors. The Silver Lake Trail was developed in 2010 on the south side of town connecting Beachcomber Ave to Country Club Drive. The trail is approximately a one mile multi-use recreational trail that connects the East and West sides of town. The trail was funded by a REAP grant, the city of Lake Park, DCTB and local donations. The new trail allows pedestrians to walk, bike ride or use golf carts. The recent addition of Lakeside Ave has provided a safe route to connect Lakeside Lane to the new trail. There is an annual bike ride in August called RALPH that invites people of all ages to get out and enjoy the trail with their family and friends. The future plans consist of connecting the Silver Lake Trail with all of the trails in the lakes area via the railroad. The DCTB has purchased the railroad and will be working on funding to get the trail paved and completed in the future.

The recreational trail in our community is a wonderful asset that improves the economy through tourism and civic improvement. The trails preserve and restore open space of our beautiful scenic views of Silver Lake and the wetlands in Lake Park. It provides opportunities for physical activity to improve fitness and mental health. Trails increase property values and attract more residents that want to live near a trail. A home near a trail can offer a pleasing view and quieter streets. The trail is a recreational opportunity for families to enjoy an activity together and a chance to get in touch with nature. Most of all make it will make Lake Park a better place to visit and to live.

Lake Park's location within the Iowa Great Lakes region is an asset to the community that can be strengthened in large and small ways. A recreational trail connection would be a long term commitment and would provide an obvious link to the region. These strengthened connections will all serve to give potential residents, visitors, and businesses the proper impression about the vast opportunities available near Lake Park for shopping, recreation and job opportunities.

(Taken from Lake Park beautification plan in 2003, submitted by Billi Niemeier)

Dickinson County Trails Board

Erin Reed, President
Barry Sackett, Vice President
Brad Jones
Matt Richter
Joe Miller
Billi Neimeier
Jeanne Sieh
Yvonne Taylor
Bill Mass
Jason Harrington

Jean Martin, Executive Director

Billi Niemeier

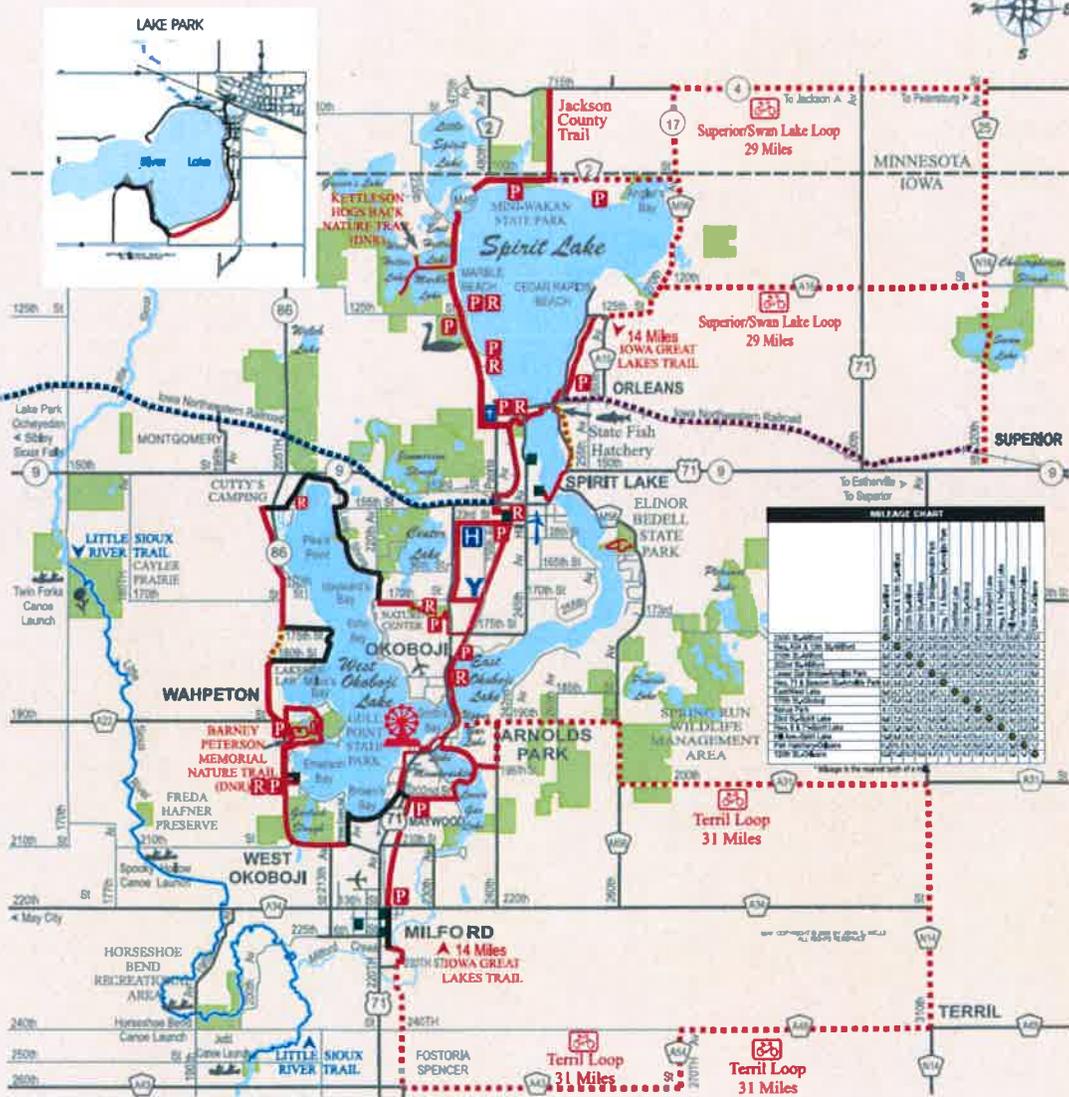




DICKINSON COUNTY RECREATIONAL TRAILS

MAP LEGEND

- Existing Trail
- Local Street Route
- Bicycle Loop Symbol
- Future Development
- Rail Trail West 24 miles to Sibley, IA (in development stage)
- Rail Trail East (in development stage)
- P Parking Area
- R Restroom
- A Arnolds Park Amusement Park
- W Wildlife Management Area/Preserve
- C City Park
- T Trumpeter Swan Observation Area
- ↑ Wind Generators
- ↔ Canoe Launch
- H Lakes Regional Health Care
- Y The YMCA
- ~ River With Canoe Route



Visit our website at dickinsoncountyrails.com



Please support Dickinson County Trails by sending your donation to: Friends of the Trails, PO Box 304, Okoboji, IA 51355. (Make checks payable to: Friends of the Trails) Thank you!