

# The Front Line

For and About the City of Des Moines Employees



Volume 5 — No. 9 September 2002

Amelia Hamilton-Morris, Editor

## City of Des Moines Mission Statement

*To provide and maintain essential services that meet the collective basic needs of the citizens of Des Moines and to identify and seize opportunities for a higher quality of life.*

### THIS ISSUE

**EPA Awards Grant to City**

**Fleet Service Operations**

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# September 11, 2001

**We will remember!**

## Standing Tall 2002

The City of Des Moines is invited to commemorate the September 11, 2001 attacks on our country at a special ceremony, *Standing Tall 2002*. The community wide Patriotic Celebration will be held at Sec Taylor Stadium, 350 Southwest 1st Street on Wednesday, September 11, 2002. The gates will be open at 6:00 p.m. with entertainment beginning at 7:00 p.m. It will be an opportunity for the Des Moines metro area as well as the entire state to come together to commemorate the year past,

show our gratitude for our freedoms and our country. The admission is free.

The evening's activities will start with a parade from the Iowa State Capitol to Sec Taylor Stadium. The parade will begin at 6:00 p.m., proceed down Walnut Avenue and turn south on First Street to the Stadium. Police, fire, and military organizations from across the state are encouraged to participate. Parade applications are available online at <http://www.ci.des-moines.ia.us/StandingTall2002FORM.pdf>.

Standing Tall 2002 is a "Patriotic

*(Continued on page 6)*

## Lieberman Visits Des Moines

By Kandi Reindl



Senator Joseph Lieberman at the podium. L to R: Mayor Eugene Meyer, WDSM, Mayor Preston Daniels, Acting Fire Chief Doug Rubin, Lt. Gov Sally Pedersen, City Manager Eric Anderson and Police Chief William Moulder.

Connecticut Senator Joseph Lieberman, Chair of the Governmental Affairs Committee visited Iowa for the first time on August 15. He met with several elected officials in the Des Moines metro area and their staffs.

Senator Lieberman, along with Lt. Governor Sally Pederson and Attorney General Tom Miller met with the Mayors, City Managers, Police Chiefs and Fire Chiefs of Des Moines and West Des Moines as well as Sheriff Dennis Anderson of Polk

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## City Receives Smart Growth Award from EPA

By Robin Paul



L to R: James Gulliford, EPA Region VII, Mayor Preston Daniels, Ellen Walkowiak, Economic Development, Councilman Archie Brooks Ward 4 and Eric Anderson, City Manager.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) awarded a \$45,000 Smart Growth grant to the City of Des Moines and \$115,000 to the Des Moines Water Works for Homeland Security preparations in a ceremony at the Des Moines Agrimergent Technology Park on Thursday, August 8. The ceremony took place at Diamond Animal Health, one of the Park's major anchor tenants. Both grants will be used for vital initiatives that will protect the public health and environment as well as help farmers find new markets for their commodities.

James Gulliford, EPA Region VII Administrator, came to Des Moines to present both checks. Des Moines is one of only 9 communities in the nation to receive the Smart Growth award. Smart growth balances development and environmental protection by accommodating growth while preserving open space and critical habitat, reusing land, and protecting water supplies and air quality. Smart growth is smart development that serves the economy, the community, and the environment by recognizing

the critical connections between development and quality of life. The grant will assist in the creation and application of innovative sustainable design concepts in the Agrimergent Technology Park, a 1,100-acre signature brownfield redevelopment project located in southeast Des Moines.

EPA also has a long history of working cooperatively with local communities to ensure that drinking water is safe from contami-



L to R: James Gulliford, EPA, Louise Moon, Water Works Board, Mayor Preston Daniels and Dr. L.D. McMullen, Des Moines Water Works

nants and chemicals that could pose a risk to public health. Safeguarding drinking water supplies

*(Continued on page 4)*

## Fall Sludge Stroke 2002



**Friday October 4, 2002**

**Shotgun @ 9:00 AM**

**Woodland Hills Golf Course  
NE 14<sup>th</sup> Street  
Cash Prizes**

**Entry Fee- \$50.00/person  
includes cart and beverages**

**Deadline  
for entry/payment**

**September 20, 2002  
no exceptions.**

**Contact Jim Zahn for entry  
forms and make checks pay-  
able to EAC GOLF.**

**Mail to:  
EAC GOLF.  
C/O WRF**

**3000 Vandalia Road  
Des Moines, IA. 50317  
Tel: 515-323-8038  
Fax: 515-323-8052**

**E-mail: [jd Zahn@ci.des-moines.ia.us](mailto:jd Zahn@ci.des-moines.ia.us)**

# Come Share the Fun

## Regency Homes CityMix



Regency Homes CityMix is a NEW four-week concert series held on Friday evenings in August and September featuring nationally recognized disc jockeys providing music and state of the art visual technology to create an atmosphere that will truly excite those in attendance.

Spinning begins at 7:00 p.m. at the Simon Estes Riverfront Amphitheater on the banks of the Des Moines River. Admission is \$6 per concert per person. All ages welcome. Beer and food are available for purchase with proper ID.

This event is sponsored by FORCE, Des Moines Parks and Recreation, Regency Homes, KPWB TV23, KDPS 88.1, and Pointblank.

### 2002 Schedule

(Concerts begin at 7:00 p.m.)

#### August 23

**Mixin Marc** (Chicago, IL)

Flash (DSM)

Damon Dangerously (DSM)

#### August 30

**Mystre** (San Francisco, CA)

**Mars** (San Francisco, CA)

Bay 51 (Minneapolis, MN)

James D. Stark Live P.A. (DSM)

#### September 6

**Steve Thorell** (Kansas City, MO)

**Bill Pile** (Kansas City, MO)

Tim Grimes (DSM)

Kelix (DSM))

Sleepy Giant (DSM)

#### September 13

**Soundproof Coalition DJ's:**

Phase II (DSM)

Universoul (DSM)

A-Roc (DSM)

## Regency Homes Outdoor Movies

Remember Drive-in movies? At least the mention of them? One of Des Moines' favorite parks is bringing back the fun of seeing movie favorites on the big screen. Gray's Lake Park is the destination; blankets and lawn chairs are welcome so come on down, "kickback" and enjoy movies on a 30-foot screen complete with surround sound. Admission is free. Popcorn, pop, and ice cream will be available for purchase.

This event is sponsored by Des Moines Parks and Recreation, Regency Homes, FORCE, Star 102.5, Lite 104.1, Oldies 93.3, and the Press Citizen-Shopper.

**Movies begin at 8:00 p.m.**

#### September 7

Grease

#### September 14

Willy Wonka

The Chocolate Factory

#### September 21

The Never Ending Story

#### September 28

Free Willy

Jaws



## Regency Homes Iowa Artist Celebration

Celebrate Iowa's talented artists! Regency Homes Iowa Artist Celebration presents its inaugural event that offers homegrown local Iowa artists an outlet to display and sell their works.

Admission is free. The location is Ewing Park on Indianola Road south of the Lilac Garden.

Visitors will have the opportunity to enjoy and purchase a variety of works of art from artists who reside within the state of Iowa. A wide range of local performing artists will showcase their talents throughout the celebration. Local food vendors will also be present during the event.

This event is sponsored by Des Moines Parks and Recreation, Regency Homes, FORCE, V-106.3 Smooth Jazz, and the Press Citizen-Shopper.

#### September 20

**5:00-8:00 p.m.**

#### September 21

**10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**



# Reduced Dechlorination Expenses

By Phil Koundakjian and Pat Kozitza



*A Community-wide recognition of City Employees.*

Wastewater Reclamation Facility (WRF) staff started its annual Disinfection Process on April 1, 2002. WRF teams, lead by Automated Control Center #2 (ACC2), had been exploring ways to make full use of the increased discharge permit limits for Total Residual Chlorine by improving chlorination control. These efforts resulted in 100% compliance with permit limits and a reduction in chemical costs from \$5.46 to \$2.35/million gallons of flow. Normal flow to the treatment plant averages at 45 million gallons per day. At this rate of savings, for the disinfection season that ends October 31, 2002, the estimated reduction in expenses is \$30,000.

Other staff innovations included a switch from liquid to gas chlorination, a step that will improve safety and decrease system maintenance without compromising treatment. Additional system improvements are scheduled for first quarter of 02/03 which will further improve safety, quality control and further reduce operation and maintenance costs.

## LETTER TO MUNICIPAL ARBORIST

May 9, 2002

Dear Skip Moore,

Skip,  
I just wanted to tell you and your crew again thank you for the fine job that was done in the Children's Forest. I have had a lot of good compliments this spring.

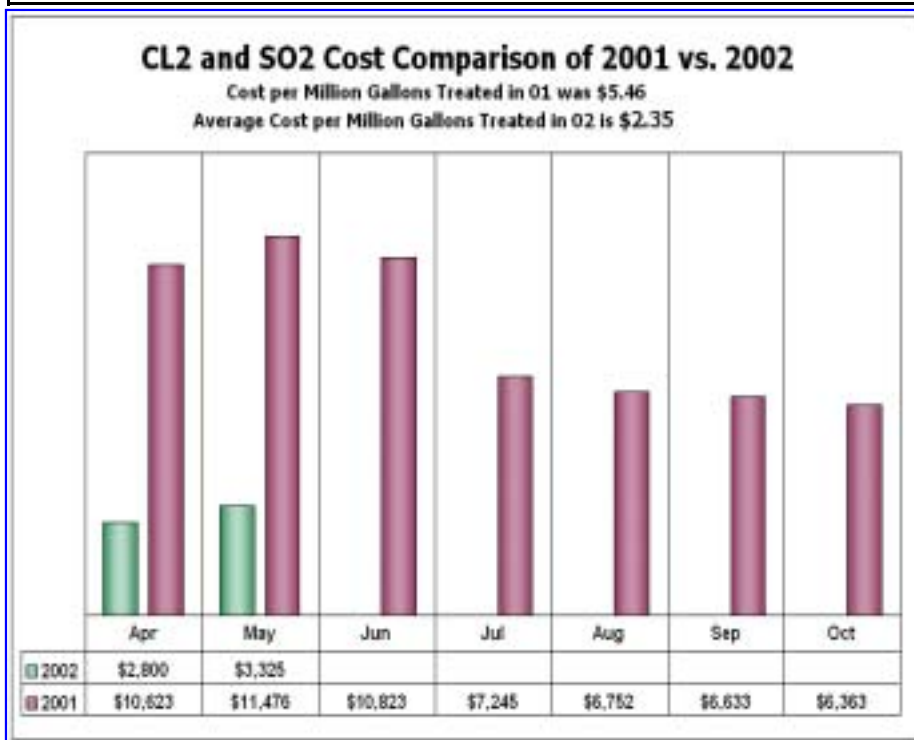
From John Rivas,  
Ewing Park

*(Continued from page 2)*

### Smart Growth Award

is a critical task. The Des Moines Water Works' \$115,000 grant will assist in the development of a vulnerability assessment in order to prepare for damage in the event of a terrorist attack. It will also be used to develop emergency operations plans and to design systems security enhancements.

The following chart illustrates the monthly expenses for last season's disinfecting period, and the two beginning months of this season



Public Works Director, Bill Stowe, commends the following employees who played a direct role in implementing this significant cost reduction improvement to the benefit of all system users: ACC2 team leader, Ed Huntoon, and team members John Averill, Wayne Frederes, Bertha Callahan, Robbie Gallinger, Jerry Dunham, Pat Ross, Fred Johnson, Jerome Stewart, Marvin Woolsey and Marty Harkin.

# Fleet Services Operations

By Dave Bair

It has been one year since the City assumed responsibility for the staffing and operation of the equipment maintenance center. For the 18 years prior to that date, private contractors were paid by the City to staff the facility and perform required equipment maintenance.

During the first year, mechanics and administrative personnel were hired to manage operations and perform mechanical repairs. Purchasing procedures and contracts were established to maintain a flow of over \$1 million in parts that are required each year to maintain the vehicles and equipment in the City fleet.

First year operational changes include the implementation of a system for computerized tracking of work assignments and associated maintenance costs. The Fleet Maintenance Center is now connected to the City's computer network. Through the network any City department can have real time access to the maintenance status of any equipment

that has been left at the Fleet Service Center (FSC) for repairs or preventive maintenance. The FSC also maintains the informational database that provides cost summaries for any equipment that is maintained by the FSC. This resource is available to aid in the management of the City fleet.

A concentrated effort has been initiated to both clean the facility and upgrade mechanical components. The City Building



Maintenance Section has installed new energy efficient heaters in the main shop. Interior walls have been painted and exterior lots and storage loca-



tions have been cleaned and organized. This has resulted in a much improved work environment. These activities have been part of a comprehensive employee driven work safety program.

The FSC's goal is to provide quality services in a timely manner for the lowest cost to the City. Savings during the first year of operations are projected at approximately \$500,000 over that which was previously budgeted for contracted services. The savings have been realized in the purchase of parts and services and lower management and administrative costs. Downtime of equipment has also been reduced from previous levels. It is projected that second year operations will continue to show cost savings.

*(Continued from page 1) -  
Lieberman Visits*

County. They discussed homeland security issues in this area, specifically the cities and county's role of being first responders in disasters.

As was presented to Senator Lieberman, federal, state and local agencies are partners, each with their own role. Each is distinct, relevant, and critical for effective preparation and response. The local government's role is that of a "first responder." It may be more accurately described as being the front line of response, first in and always closest to the incident. Because local governments have the

most intimate knowledge of the communities they serve, they must be allowed to assess their needs and allocate resources to meet them. They must have the personnel, training, equipment and systems to successfully respond to any incident.

With that in mind, the group proposed to the Senator a need for integrated incident command training, integrated communication systems, integrated mapping systems and federal, state, and local funding streams to support these needs.

The group met at the Airport's Emergency Operation Center for about 45 minutes and then held a press conference afterwards at the airport.

(Continued from page 1)



Ceremony" coordinated by Des Moines Fire and Police Departments and the Iowa National Guard. The evening's activities will include:

- ★ Music by the Iowa Army National Guard's 34th Army Band and local musician Pat McManus.
- ★ Presentation of the U.S. Flag flown from a Musco Lighting Company Truck at the Pentagon and World Trade Center.
- ★ A fly-over by the Iowa Air National Guard's 132nd Fighter Wing.
- ★ Remarks by Governor Tom Vilsack, Mayor Preston Daniels and local fire and police union leaders.
- ★ The ceremony will be topped off with a spectacular fireworks displays.

The "Musco" flag is believed to be the only US Flag that was flown at both locations during the initial recovery operations. Police, Fire, Military, and Emergency Response Personnel are requested to wear their uniforms to the Standing Tall 2002 event.

For more information about Standing Tall 2002 activities, the public may call 515-283-4901. Points of contact for this event are: Lieutenant Kelly Willis, Des Moines Police Department, 515-283-4902, John Tekippe, Des Moines Fire Department, 515-321-9588, and Colonel Robert King, Iowa National Guard, 515-252-4582.

## New Interns in the City Manager's Office



Tansy Hayward

As an intern with the City of Des Moines, Tansy Hayward works daily with Council Members and citizens of Des Moines to provide information and to address concerns. She also works very closely with city departments and programs including the Spirit of Des Moines Award program and the combined

charities campaign.

Tansy graduated from the University of Kansas with a degree in Political Science. As an undergraduate at KU, she served as co-founder and co-coordinator for the Alternative Weekend Break program at the university. In this role, Tansy organized volunteer opportunities for students throughout the states of Kansas and Nebraska.

Tansy is currently pursuing her Master of Public Administration degree at the University of Kansas. Prior to coming to the City of Des Moines, she held internships with the county administrator in Douglas County, KS and in the city manager's office in Olathe, KS and has been certified as a trained facilitator through the Mid-America Regional Council.



Mark Rotherth

Mark Rotherth graduated from Western Illinois University in Macomb, Illinois as an honors scholar with a BA in Political Science. As an undergraduate Mark served in various extracurricular organizations such as the Student Government Association, Associated Students of Political Science, and the Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity, which all helped to provide service efforts

to the local community.

As a first year graduate student in Public Administration at the University of Kansas, Mark served as a management intern for the City Manager's Office in Overland Park, Kansas while taking classes.

Now in the second year of the program, Mark interns for the City of Des Moines and assists the Mayor and Council in response to community needs. He also works closely with various city departments and programs such as the Greater Des Moines Sister Cities Commission and the Avoid the Rush campaign.

Mark will graduate with a Master's degree in Public Administration (MPA) in April 2003 and can be reached at 515/283-4202 or by email at marotherth@ci.des-moines.ia.us.

## Library Receives Links Textbook Project

The Des Moines Chapter of The Links, Incorporated, will host a presentation of textbooks at the Forest Avenue Library in honor of Link Elaine Graham Estes, former Public Library of Des Moines director, and in memory of Link Joanne Brown Nash. The event will be at 2:30 PM on Sunday, September 22. A welcome and introduction will be given by Mary Sconiers-Chapman, president, followed by remarks from Kay Runge, PLDM director, and Eric Witherspoon, Des Moines Public Schools superintendent.

Margot James Copeland, Central Area Director of The

Links, Inc. from Cleveland, Ohio will present the plaque for Elaine Graham Estes/Joanne Brown Nash Textbook Project to the Forest Avenue Library.

The Links, Inc. is an international organization that has a national program for educational activities providing enrichment experiences for African American talented youth that are educationally disadvantaged and culturally deprived, as well as for the talented children who need aid. For more information, contact Barbara Oliver-Hall at 276-3990.

## Every Child Reads

The Polk County fall series of *Every Child Reads* will be presented at three public libraries this fall beginning September 7. The classes will be held on Saturday mornings from 10:00 AM to Noon. To participate, caregivers must be providing care and education to at least one child of the ages 3, 4 or 5 and willing to attend all twelve sessions. September classes will be held at the Johnston Public Library. October classes will be held at the East Side Library and November classes will be at South Side Library. For further information, contact Crystal Abbe at 286-3718.

### Career Moves

Name	Department
SPEIRS, DEBRA L.	Housing Services
LAMFERS, CYNTHIA E.	P & R Botanical Center
ARMSTRONG, RYAN K.	Police Patrol
BAGBY, KIRK D.	Police Patrol
CHIODO, DAVID	Police Patrol
COURTER, TAMERA A.	Police Patrol
GROSE, JENNIFER K.	Police Patrol
MORRIS, ERIC D.	Police Patrol
PAPIAN, JUSTIN M.	Police Patrol
POTE, TARRY	Police Patrol
ROBINSON, JEFF R.	Police Patrol
RODGERS, MATTHEW G.	Police Patrol
WALBURN, JEREMY R.	Police Patrol
YOUNG, JASON L.	Police Patrol
MILLER, CORDELL R.	Airport Detail
RIES, EFFIE E.	Police Special Operations
ROORDA JR, GREGORY D.	Airport Detail
SANCHEZ, STEPHANIE R.	Police Patrol
KIRBACH, ERIC M.	Police Patrol
CORTELYOU, LORI M.	P & R Blank Zoo



### Truancy Court

Wednesdays

4:00 PM

### Army Newswatch

Daily

1:00 PM

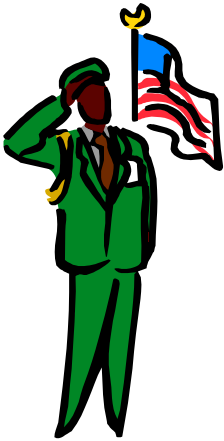
and

8:00 PM

### Job Postings

6:00 am and 7:00 am

## A Call for Veterans of the Armed Services



The Public Information Office is looking for City employees with Veteran status from any of the armed service organizations of the United States Government. We are compiling a list of Vets for a honorary video presentation in commemoration of Veterans Day coming up on Monday, November 11<sup>th</sup>. This special promotional spot will air on DMTV, City of Des Moines Cable Channel 7.

Veterans who work for the City of Des Moines are asked to please contact Gary Hagan in the Public Information Office by e-mail as soon as possible at [gphagan@ci.des-moines.ia.us](mailto:gphagan@ci.des-moines.ia.us).

The PIO will videotape each veteran and ask that he/she provide us with the following information — name, department, job title, branch of service, rank, length of service, duties, and finally, affiliation with a particular war or conflict.

You may also send the information by interoffice mail, or call 283-4513.

We look forward to hearing from all City veterans. Please contact us ASAP, and let us honor you publicly for your service to our great nation.



## EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION BREAKFAST

FRI DAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2002

6:30 A.M. - 8:30 A.M.

POLICE DEPARTMENT GARAGE  
(EAST OF POLICE STATION)

PANCAKES

SAUSAGE

MILK/JUICE/COFFEE

**FREE!!!!**

*THIS EVENT IS FOR CITY OF DES MOINES  
PERMANENT, CONTRACT, TEMPORARY, PART-TIME AND  
RETIRED EMPLOYEES ONLY*

## City Gears Up for Combined Charities Campaign

By Tansy Hayward

The 2002 Combined Charities Campaign will soon be under way. The list of charities participating in this year's campaign is currently being finalized. City employees can expect to see new additions to the charity list and a newly designed pledge form this year.

While concrete goals have not yet been set for the 2002 campaign, it is certain that the campaign will target employees who have not participated in the past. In 2001, City of Des Moines employees contributed \$104,031.64 collectively to charities of their choice and employees will be challenged this year to exceed this total.

Employees can expect to receive pledge forms early in October.



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Pat Kozitza, Public Works

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Amy McClintock, Parks & Rec.

Linda Rule, Wellness Committee