



City of
St. Francis

NEWSLETTER

FALL 2016 | VOL. 1, NO. 3

"St. Francis Forward"

The City is preparing a redevelopment master plan! We need to hear what you would like to see in St. Francis, where you would like to see development, and how we can help make it happen. Please join us Wednesday, October 19 at St. Francis High School from 6:00 - 8:00 pm to provide valuable input.

The City is excited to begin work with the community and HKGi, our consultant, to create the "St. Francis Forward" plan. This is a process that will take a look at opportunities to create and improve businesses along Bridge Street and Highway 47. The objectives that will be met will include developing a vision with the help of the community. This plan will also provide a guide to public and private development and find project ideas for key sites along those corridors. To create this plan, a comprehensive public process will be conducted. The City will look for public input through resident workshops and stakeholder meetings. As not everyone will agree on every aspect of change, this process establishes common ground to move forward. Also, using past reports, mapping tools and data we will create a strategy for revitalization of the key areas. This type of planning is common in communities to organize a vision and a strategy to guide important areas of the city. This is a step that benefits not only the residents but brings the importance of both existing and future business needs to the community as a whole.

Message from your Mayor



The summer Olympics in Brazil are over and our very own Olympian, Kiana Eide, is back in the country. The fact that she made it to the U.S. Olympic Team is a monumental achievement, especially considering this is the first time in 20 years the U.S. has sent a rhythmic gymnastics group to the Olympics. The many years of practice and dedication to the Dynamic Gymnastics program have been very successful for Kiana. Also, I need to mention the support her mother, father and sister have given during this time is a very integral part of her success. Join me in congratulating the whole family on this truly amazing accomplishment.

Pioneer Days is now long over. I would like to take this moment to thank all of those who were involved and helped to make this a very successful weekend. A special thanks to the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce for taking over this event and doing such a wonderful job planning and implementing this event. As you travel around town to shop, thank the business owner members of the Chamber of Commerce for a job "well done".

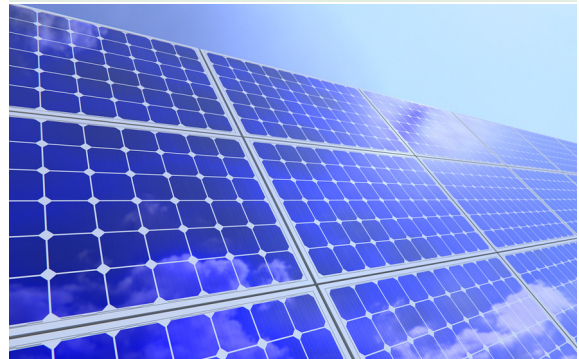
The Pederson Drive corridor has come a long way over the past few years as pedestrian safety drove several projects to upgrade the corridor. Under Mayor Tveit's administration, we were able to get a pedestrian pathway built to get pedestrian traffic off of the roadway. Under the current administration, we were able to get the roadway updated for a much safer

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Waste Water Treatment Plant Material Facts

1. Approximately 8,500 cubic yards of concrete have been poured, which is about 93% of the project total.
2. By the end of August, about 40% of approximately 24,250 feet (4.6 miles) of conduit will be installed.
3. By the end of the month, about 30% of approximately 140,000 feet (26.5 miles; basically a marathon) of wire and cable will be installed.
4. To date, about 23,550 square feet of precast wall panels have been installed which is approximately 1,740 tons. Including the estimate for the Pretreatment Building, the project total is about 28,000 square feet of pre-



Waste Water Treatment Plant Progress

All structures and buildings on the project have now been worked on. Major progress since the last spring/summer update includes:

- Operations building construction is complete with nearly all process equipment and piping also completed. Current sub-trades are working on electrical and mechanical installation and also finishes.
- Tertiary building structures/shell construction is nearly complete. Work moving forward in this building will be process equipment installation and sub-trade work.
- Final clarifier equipment is installed and dome installation is ongoing.
- Aeration basin has been painted and process equipment installation is nearly complete.
- Bio solids tank is prepped for painting and aeration equipment installation will follow.
- Pretreatment building basement concrete is completed and the contractor is working on backfilling and foundation work for the main level of the building.
- The backwash holding tank structure has been poured and backfilled.
- The re-aeration tank base slab and exterior walls have recently been poured.
- The influent lift station wet well structure has been poured.
- Approximately 80% of all process pipes have been installed.
- The facility generator has been set.

**Saturday, September 24
Noon - 2 p.m.**

**St. Francis Bottle Shop
23307 St. Francis Blvd. NW
-- Paper Shredding Only --**



Bridge Street Roundabouts Update

We're nearly done! By the end of August, the roadway portion of both roundabouts will be completed. Some bike path installation may still be going on at that time. It was relevant to get the roadway open first and then get those bike paths at the high school completed. Some permanent roadway markings and signage will still need to be installed; this work will be completed to not interfere with the daily school traffic. Street lighting specifically for the roundabouts will be placed during the month of September. Turf restoration along the project corridor will also be addressed in early to mid-September. This project provided many utility obstacles, primarily for the sanitary sewer installation which was 20 feet deep at the intersection of Poppy Street and Bridge Street.



Radon Kits

Radon is a colorless, odorless radioactive gas that seeps up from the earth. Long term exposure can lead to lung cancer and is the number one cause in non-smokers. Radon is everywhere and there is no known safe level.

Radon gas is produced from the natural decay of uranium that is found in nearly all soils. Uranium breaks down to radium. As radium disintegrates it turns into a radioactive gas.... radon. As a gas, radon moves up through the soil and into the air you breathe. The best time to test your home, as recommended by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), is during the heating season.

Radon kits are available from Anoka County.

To obtain a "short term" radon kit:

- Complete and print the form via the website AnokaCounty.us/cd
- Mail the completed form along with your \$5 payment to:

Anoka County Community Development
Attention: Barb McKusick
325 East Main Street
Suite W 250
Anoka, MN 55303



What are my storm-water fees used for?

Stormwater fees include the maintenance of ditches, city-owned culverts, piping, curb and gutter, ponds and catch basins.



Replacement of city-owned culverts due to deterioration (Nacre/233rd) in early spring.

School Year Safety Tips

The summer is coming to a close and back-to-school time is upon us. The St. Francis Police Department would like to give everyone the following safety tips for the new school year:

- Students that are riding their bikes to school should make sure to use a bike lock.
- Please have your child keep their helmet in their locker.
- If they are crossing Hwy 47, please inform them to use the crosswalk located at Pederson Drive and Hwy 47 and to make sure traffic is stopped before crossing.
- When they are at the crosswalk, please encourage them to push the button to activate the crosswalk flashing lights. This gives motorists a warning that the crosswalk is being used and to yield to all pedestrians.
- For students driving to school, please avoid keeping valuables in your vehicle.
- School buses mean "children". Be aware of frequent stops and the flashing stop arms when buses are picking up and dropping off.
- Allow yourself extra time when traveling before and after school to account for the increased amount of traffic that we will encounter with school being back in session.
- The safety of our community and our children is very important to us. By following these tips, you will assist the police department in making sure that everyone has a safe and successful school year.
- Also, please be aware of the lowered speed limit on Pederson Drive which is now 35 MPH.
- The installation of the new roundabouts on Bridge Street should make traffic flow much smoother through town, especially when traffic is very heavy before and after school hours. Please be sure to use caution and follow signs when using the roundabouts as it may take a few times through to get the hang of it.

Finally, the police department would like to thank everyone for all of your support and kindness over the last few months. The officers will continue to take pride in serving and protecting the citizens of the City of St Francis. Stay tuned to the city website for upcoming events that the police department will be involved with.

Todd Schwieger
Acting Chief of Police
St. Francis Police Department

Mayor...from page 1

traffic flow in the corridor. Crosswalks have been added in several areas where there weren't any in the past and the speed limit has been dropped to 35 mph. Pederson Drive is a Minnesota State Aid road, which means the roadway improvements were paid for by the State of Minnesota.

A gap in the County Road 9 trail currently exists between Oak Grove and Bridge Street. The County Park Department has been working on finishing this trail segment for some time. This will connect the county regional trail dead end in Oak Grove to the new trail that is ending at the roundabout project. This should be completed by this fall and is a shared project between the County, Oak Grove and St. Francis.

QUARTERLY SPOTLIGHT:

Todd Schwieger started with the St. Francis Police Department in 2002 when he began as a reserve officer. In the fall of 2004, Todd was hired as a licensed police officer for the department and worked in the schools and then an overnight shift. In 2008, Todd changed course and started as the department investigator where he would conduct investigations for the next 5 ½ years. In 2015, Todd was promoted to Sergeant and is currently serving as the interim chief. Todd and his family moved to St. Francis in the late nineties and have lived in the area ever since. In his spare time, he enjoys fishing, hunting and family time. Todd enjoys living in the community in which he serves and continues to strive to keep the St. Francis community a safe and great place to be through good police work conducted by the great Police Officers of the St. Francis Police Department.

CALL BEFORE YOU DIG!

Gopher State One Call
 Local: 651-454-0002
 Toll Free: 1-800-252-1166
www.gopherstateonecall.org

Solar: An Alternative Energy

In September, a new ordinance to further support solar energy systems goes into place. Until now, ground systems fell into accessory structures limiting the ability of properties to install them. Now, free standing solar systems have their own code to support size, placement and installation. This ordinance is the beginning, but both the Planning Commission and Council requested that further work be completed on this topic. It is a growing trend leading many cities to begin adopting codes to work with solar requests. If you are installing a solar system, a permit application should be completed. The City will work with zoning and building requirements specific to the project. Information on the solar code will be available on the City's website after September 30th.

From the Street to the Streams

Blowing leaves from your yard to the street causes plugged storm drains and can potentially cause water backup when it rains. Although leaves seem natural and harmless, excess leaves also pose a threat to the health of our waters. Leaves in the gutter in the front of your house are on the fast track to our lakes and rivers. When it rains, leaves are washed into storm drains and directly into the nearest body of water. Once they are in the water they begin to decay, then release nutrients that contribute to the green stuff or algae, you see on the surface of the water. An excess of algae can make recreation unpleasant. Also, an excess of algae will use up the oxygen in the water, which in turn suffocates fish and other aquatic species in the water.



other aquatic species in the water.

Local Offices on November 8 Ballot

Mayor - Two Year Term

Steven Feldman
 Jerry Tveit

Two Council Members - Four Year Term

Robert Bauer
 Tim Brown
 Joseph Muehlbauer
 Richard Orpen



Vote before election day! Absentee voting will begin September 23 and run through November 7, 2016. St. Francis residents are able to vote absentee by coming into city hall during regular business hours Monday - Thursday, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Saturday, November 5 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Some watershed-friendly alternatives to blowing leaves into the street:

- Compost leaves for a nutrient-rich fertilizer for your gardens.
- Mulch leaves with a mower and leave directly on the yard.
- Use chopped up leaves as winter mulch for your plants or gardens.
- Drop off leaves at the Anoka County Compost. Call for hours and prices at 763-767-7964; their address is 13285 Hanson Blvd Coon Rapids, MN 55448.

The distance between your yard and the water's edge is as close as the nearest storm drain. Keeping leaves out the street is an important act of protection for our waters.

Please remove your trash and recycle containers from the road right-of-way after your hauler comes through.



When do I need to pull a building permit?

Most new construction will require a building permit. Additions, decks, siding, roofing, windows, and basement finishes are just a few of the types of projects that require permits.

What is the purpose of a building permit?

Building permits are a requirement of the Minnesota State Building Code. The Minnesota State Building Code is a minimum set of construction standards that must be followed in the construction of buildings and structures we use and occupy. By issuing permits, the city can keep track of construction activity and help property owners benefit from at least a minimum level of construction safety. Although inspectors are not able to critique quality or make reference for materials or contractors, often times they help address any problem areas.

What is the permit process?

The permit process includes all the steps required for a building permit to be issued. These include the application and submittals, processing and approval, payment and completion of all required inspections. It is important to remember that all related documentation will become a permanent record of your project so be clear and accurate with plans and other required submittals. Permit application are accepted at city hall.

13 REASONS PROPERTY TAXES GO UP OR DOWN FROM YEAR TO YEAR

1. The market value of a property may change.
2. The market value of other properties in your taxing district may change, shifting taxes from one property to another.
3. The state general property tax may change.
4. The city budget and levy may change.
5. The county budget and levy may change.
6. The school district's budget and levy may change.
7. A special district's budget and levy may change.
8. Special assessments may be added to your property tax bill.
9. Voters may have approved a school, city, county or special district referendum.
10. Federal and state mandates may have changed.
11. Aid and revenue from the state and federal governments may have changed.
12. The state legislature may have changed the portion of the tax base paid by different types of properties.
13. Other state law changes may adjust the tax base.

Bridge Street Water Main Repair

The Public Works Department would like to thank the residents and businesses of the City of St. Francis for your patience as we worked through the Bridge Street reconstruction project this summer to improve our water distribution system.

As you know, during the reconstruction, there were several water main shut downs that may have interrupted your water service. While there is never a good time for this inconvenience, it allowed our crews to replace aging isolation valves and fire hydrants that will better serve the city's water distribution system into the future.

Isolation valves (gate valves) are just like the valves that turn the water on and off in your home or business. They serve the same function with our water distribution system, they allow the Public Works Department to isolate smaller sections of the water main to perform maintenance. Also, in the event of a water main break, we are now able to isolate the break more



New Isolation Valves

efficiently and affect less residences and/or businesses along the Bridge Street corridor.

All of the isolation valves that we replaced were more than 40 years old; the hardware on the valves was deteriorating and they were becoming hard to operate.

Chamber Currents

A publication of the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce, St. Francis, Minnesota

FALL 2016

Sign up to be a location for Business to Business Trick or Treat

The Chamber will sponsor its 8th annual Business to Business Trick or Treat Monday, October 31, 3-5 p.m. Contact the Chamber if your business would like to open its doors to hand out treats and/or promotional items to area families on Halloween day. A list and map of participants will be available on the Chamber website.

This is a great opportunity to get potential customers through your doors. Contact the Chamber at 763-438-5163 or email chamber@stfranchischamber.org if you would like to participate.



Chamber to co-sponsor candidate forum October 11 & 18

The Chamber and St. Francis Women of Today will co-sponsor a forum for St. Francis mayoral, city council candidates & School Board. The event will be held Tuesday, October 11 & 18, 7 p.m., at the ISD 15 Central Services Center, 4115 Ambassador Blvd., St. Francis.

The forum is free and open to the public. Chamber President Joe Raus will moderate and ask questions from the audience. If you have questions for the candidates, email them to chamber@stfranchischamber.org. Remember to vote November 8!



Are you getting the Chamber's eNews?

Did you know the Chamber has an email newsletter? Chamber eNews is distributed one to two times per month; it is the best way to stay up to date on Chamber news and events. You are automatically signed up when you join the Chamber. If you haven't been receiving it, check your spam folder. Anyone can sign up to receive the newsletter. Let us know if you or someone you know would like to receive it.

The St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce exists to serve its members and better the community.

*To find out more or to become a member:
call: 763-438-5163
or visit us online:
www.stfranchischamber.org*

Quick Dates

Mark these dates on your calendar. Visit www.stfranchischamber.org for more details.

September 14	Breakfast
September 21	Board Meeting
October 11	Meet the Candidates
October 12	Breakfast
October 18	Meet the Candidates
October 19	Board Meeting
October 31	Business Trick or Treat
November 9	Breakfast
November 16	Board Meeting
December 14	Breakfast
December 21	Board Meeting
January 20	Annual Dinner

Thank you to our hole sponsors, donations, golfers & Hidden Haven Golf Club for making the 2016 Golf Tournament a great success!



St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce Members

ABC Newspapers	County Market	Minnesota Star Realty	St. Francis Physical Therapy
Ace Solid Waste, Inc.	Crown Electric, Inc.	North Anoka County	St. Francis True Value Hardware
Advanced Automotive Care	Custom Catering	Emergency Foodshelf	St. Francis United Methodist Church
Advanced Roofing & Siding Inc.	Dairy Queen/Orange Julius	North Anoka Plumbing, Inc.	St. Francis Veterinary Clinic
American Family Insurance - Mary Dresch	Dennis Philp Construction, Inc.	Northstar Outdoors, Inc.	Steve's Collision
American Mortgage and Equity Consultants Inc	Dugout Bar and Grill	Nowthen Plumbing	Subway - Oak Grove
Anoka Hennepin Credit Union	Dusty's Drain Cleaning, Inc.	Opp Family Chiropractic, P.A.	Subway - St. Francis
Anoka Ramsey Community College	Edward Jones Investments	Patriot Lanes Bar & Grill	Super America
Anytime Fitness	Elaine M. Mustari, CPA	Pillar Signs and Graphics	T & W Adventures
Barna, Guzy & Steffen, LTD	EZ TEEZ	Premier Specialties	TC Net-Works, Inc.
Beef 'O' Brady's	Gerdin Auto & Tire	Printing Unlimited	That Other Thrift Store
Bolton and Menk, Inc.	Goodrich Pharmacy	Reliance Electric	The Bridge
BTO Signs	Hidden Haven Golf Club	ReMax - Larry D. Anderson	The Oaks of Lake George
Captain's on Long Lake	Highland Money Management, Inc.	Rum River Tree Farm	The Ponds Golf Course & Restaurant
Casey's General Store	Isanti Retail Meats, LLC	Sara Sauer C.P.A., LLC	The Refuge Golf Club & Restaurant
CellOnly	ISD 15 - The Courier	Schroeder's Creekside Stables	Trinity Lutheran Church & School
Central Heating & Cooling, LLC	ISD 15	St. Francis Bottle Shop	Tru-Cut Lawns, Inc.
City of St. Francis	Lakeside Cabinets and Woodworking	St. Francis Collision & Glass	Tyrone Transportation, Inc.
Collision 2000	Legal Shield	St. Francis Dental Care, P.A.	Village Bank
Connexus Energy	Mansetti's Pizza & Pasta	St. Francis Fire Department	
	McDonald's	St. Francis Insurance Agency, Inc.	
		St. Francis Lions	

Welcome New Members!

Advanced Roofing & Siding Inc., North Anoka County Emergency Foodshelf,
Goodrich Pharmacy, Reliance Electric

Board of Directors

President:

Joe Raus (through 2016)
Premier Specialties,
president@stfrancischamber.org

Vice President:

Eric Schmoll (through 2017),
American Mortgage & Equity
Consultants, Inc.,
vp@stfrancischamber.org

Co-Treasurer:

Kerby Scherer, (through 2016)
St. Francis Subway,
treasurer@stfrancischamber.org

Co-Treasurer:

Brenda Jacobs, (through 2018)
St. Francis Dental,
treasurer@stfrancischamber.org

Secretary:

Shannon Mart (through 2018)
Anoka Hennepin Credit Union,
secretary@stfrancischamber.org

Directors:

-Joe Buhn (through 2017)
The Refuge Golf Club
-Sam Schudi (through 2017)
Pillar Signs & Graphics
-Lindsey Johnson (through 2016) -
St. Francis Physical Therapy

Service Representatives:

Tony & Carrie Derkos
TC Net-Works, Inc.
chamber@stfrancischamber.org

Promote your business at monthly breakfasts

Breakfast with the Chamber is held the second Wednesday of every month, 8-9 a.m. and is open to Chamber members and guests. Locations vary - Check the website for more details.

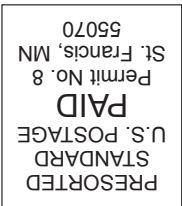
Upcoming Chamber breakfast dates:

- September 14 - TC Net-Works, Inc.
- October 12 - St. Francis Physical Therapy
- November 9 - St. Francis Dental
- December 14 - Open
- January 11 - Open
- February 8 - Open
- March 8 - Open

Would you like the opportunity to have 10 minutes to exclusively promote your business to others at an upcoming breakfast? Contact us if you would like to present information about the products and services you provide during our Sunrise Spotlight. This opportunity is ongoing, first come, first served.

ECRWSS POSTAL PATRON

www.stfrancismn.org
city@stfrancismn.org
St. Francis, MN 55070
23340 Cree Street NW



Events Calendar

- Sept 2: **Friday Nite Rally Car Show** 5 p.m.
- Sept 5: **Labor Day** (City Offices Closed)
- Sept 9: **Friday Nite Rally Car Show** 5 p.m.
- Sept 10: **City-Wide Garage Sale**, 8 a.m.
- Sept 10: **Military Appreciation Day**, American Legion 12 p.m.
- Sept 24: **Free Shred Event**, St. Francis Bottle Shop 12 p.m.
- Sept 24: **SFCDA Dash for Dreams 5K**
- Oct 10: **Columbus Day** (City Offices Closed)
- Oct 11: **Meet the Candidates** 7 p.m.
- Oct 18: **Meet the Candidates** 7 p.m.
- Oct 19: **"St. Francis Forward" Meeting** 6 p.m.
- Oct 31: **Business Trick or Treat**
- Nov 8: **General Election**
- Nov 11: **Veterans Day** (City Offices Closed)
- Nov 24: **Thanksgiving Day** (City Offices Closed)

City Council Meetings, 6 p.m. the first and third Monday of each month.
Planning Commission Meetings, 7 p.m. the third Wednesday of each month.
ISD #15 District Office, 4115 Ambassador Blvd NW

General Election

Vote before election day! Absentee voting will begin September 23 and run through November 7, 2016. St. Francis residents are able to vote absentee by coming into city hall during regular business hours Monday - Thursday, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Saturday, November 5 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The General Election will be held on November 8, 2016. Voting hours will be from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

To find your polling place, visit: pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us/

Poll locations:

ST FRANCIS P-1:
ST FRANCIS WARMING HOUSE
3948 229th Avenue NW
(St. Francis residents living west of Rum River)

ST FRANCIS P-2:
RUM RIVER NORTH COUNTY PARK
23100 Rum River Blvd NW
(St. Francis residents living east of Rum River)

Please visit the City's website www.stfrancismn.org/elections/ for more up-to-date information.

ELECTION JUDGES ARE NEEDED.

