

Welcome to the City of Shell Rock's OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

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Mayor: Larry Young

Council Members: Glen Kliebenstein, Dick Smith, Carol Gomez, Steve Nieman, Greg Woodley

City Clerk: Marilyn Hardee

Public Works Director: Mike Tellinghuisen

City Employees: David Green, Rachel Nieman

Library Director: Diane Harms **Library Assistants:** Deb Heidemann, Sue Kaus

City Attorneys: Karl Nelson, Bruce Toenjes

Governor Vilsack Visits Shell Rock

On August 30, 2006 Mayor Young, 5th & 6th grade students from the Shell Rock Elementary and the public welcomed Governor Tom Vilsack to Shell Rock on his "Walk Across Iowa." After a time of questions and answers, the Governor walked to the museum house where he planted a Burr Oak tree on the museum property.

Keeping Trees Trimmed To Avoid Obstruction

Ordinance Number 151.08 Obstruction. It is the duty of any person owning or occupying real property bordering on any street upon which property there may be trees to prune such trees in a manner that they will not obstruct or shade the street lights, obstruct the passage of pedestrians on sidewalks, obstruct vision of traffic signs, or obstruct view of any street or alley intersection. The minimum clearance of any overhanging portion there of shall be eight (8) feet over sidewalks and fourteen (14) feet over all streets.

Trick or Treat Night

Trick or treat night is tentatively set for Tues. Oct. 31st from 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm. (pending city councils approval on Oct. 3rd) Please leave your porch light on if you want children to trick or treat to come to your house.

Shell Rock Riverfest A Huge Success

Riverfest is a go for 2007! Check out pictures of the events through the city's homepage under *Shell Rock Riverfest 2006*. We will continue to have our annual event the Saturday following the start of school. In January, when the start date for 2007 WSR school year is set, the Riverfest 2007 date will be determined. Fun Facts: "Forty kids participated in the fishing contest. Mason Bloes won First Fish Caught. Two different bluegills, both 3 1/2 inches, were caught by Ashley and Jacob Downing for the Tiniest Fish, and Chris Martin won a new fishing pole for the most unique catch, 9-inch FROG!"

Want to be a part of Riverfest 2007? Click on CONTACT US on Riverfest's webpage.

Policy's on Burning and Tree Trimming

There shall be no burning on the asphalt streets.

The City shall provide the service of chipping of tree limbs and trees under the following circumstances:

Tree limbs removed by property owners in light tree trimming and light storm damage (limbs not to exceed 6 inches in diameter);

Trees used for seasonal interior decoration (i.e. Christmas tree);

Trees removed from City parking along streets (not alleys). All such removal of trees must be done with approval of the Tree Board under Chapter 151 of the City Code.

The City shall not provide the service of chipping of tree limbs and trees under the following circumstances.

Branches or trunks from any tree not on city property larger than 6 inches in diameter, whether removed by the property owner or by a tree service.

Limbs and trees set out for chipping shall be set cut edge to road on the street side of the property (not alley side) on or near the parking, in single file (perpendicular) or bundled with string or twine. Bundles may be no more than 10 inches in diameter, and no more than 12 bundles or 12 single limbs may be set out at a time.

The Tree Board, the Council, the Mayor, or the Superintendent may authorize additional tree limb or tree removal and chipping in the event of heavy storm damage or other emergency. The City may chip and remove trees on its own property pursuant to Chapter 151 of the City Code.

Housing Assistance Deadline Extended

Need help fixing up your house? Does your income fall within the guidelines listed below? If so, you could be eligible for a state housing rehabilitation grant. Shell Rock needs residents to pre-apply for the Iowa Department of Economic Development's Housing Rehabilitation Program so we can demonstrate that the town has a need for assistance. The pre-application form is short (2 pages) and easy. All information is kept strictly confidential. The application deadline was Sept. 15 but has been extended into early October. This is a terrific program that helps homeowners improve their residences through grants- the homeowner doesn't pay anything. Typical repairs to house include new roofs, siding, windows, doors, plumbing and wiring. If Shell Rock receives a grant, the application process starts over, but please don't "wait and see," if you are interested-if we don't get enough applications at this stage, we won't even be in contention for a grant. Also, people who pre-apply will be notified so they can apply again for actual repairs. (Re-application is easy-it's basically the same as the pre-application!) Applications and additional information are available at City Hall. If you have questions please contact Jim Rodemeyer at INRCOG.

Gross Household Income Guidelines

| 1 Person | 2 People | 3 People | 4 People | 5 People | 6 People | 7 People | 8 People |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 30,050 | 34,300 | 38,600 | 42,900 | 46,350 | 49,750 | 53,200 | 56,650 |

Low-Interest Loans Available

Low-interest loans through the USDA are available for qualified families to repair or improve their homes or to use toward purchasing a home (or land on which to build a home). Income guidelines are below. Stop by City Hall for brochures. Contact Brandon Shaw in the Iowa Falls USDA Rural Development office if you have questions (641-648-5181, press 4).

2006 Income Limits for USDA Housing Loans and Grants

| Family Size | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-----------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Home Repair Program | 18,750 | 21,400 | 24,100 | 26,800 | 28,900 | 31,050 |
| Home Purchase Program | 30,050 | 34,300 | 38,600 | 42,900 | 46,350 | 49,750 |

Halloween Carnival

The Shell Rock Women's Club is sponsoring their 3rd annual Halloween Carnival on Sat., Oct. 28, 2006 from 4:00—5:30 p.m. in the Everson Auditorium at the Boyd Building in Shell Rock. Ages 0-10 yrs. Old are welcomed to attend. There will be food, games and LOTS OF FUN!!! At the Halloween Carnival, a costume contest will be held for the most unique, cutest, funniest, scariest and group/family categories for ages 0-10. The costume judging will be at 5:00 p.m. Hot dogs and drinks will be available for \$1.00. **A parent or adult MUST accompany the child.**

New for this year, they are asking the community to donate Halloween Costumes for infants through adults. Please drop off your costumes before Tues. Oct. 17th at the Benny Gambaiani Public Library in Shell Rock during regular library hrs. The costumes will be available for a \$5.00 rental fee on Thurs. Oct. 19 from 6-8 pm & Sat. Oct. 21st from 9-11 am at the Library. Rental fee money will be used towards ongoing Women's Club project. After using the rental costume, you may return it to the library by Thurs. Nov. 1st.

Annual Shell Rock Town Christmas Open House

The Annual Shell Rock Town Christmas Open House & Bazaars will be held the Friday and Saturday before Thanksgiving. On November 17th & 18th. The **Shell Rock Women's Club** will be in the Boyd Community Building. They will host tables for home based parties and businesses. If you would like to reserve a spot contact **Claire Munson at 885-4655**. **Faith Lutheran Church** will have tables available for crafters, bake sale items, etc., for more information or to reserve a booth, contact **Kim Diercks at 885-4104**. If you have a location in your home or business that you would like to include in our open house event contact **Lorraine Kramer at 885-4511**. This would be a really good time for service organizations to host bake/craft sales for fund raising, also we will be starting to organize this event very soon so make your contacts ASAP.

1st Annual Meeting of Shell Rock Community Historical Society

The meeting for the 1st Annual Shell Rock Community Historical Society will be Tuesday, Oct. 17th at 7:00 p.m. This meeting is for 2006 Honorary SRCHS members (included are those who donated to fundraising) and prospective 2007 SRCHS members. Our guest speaker will be Mike Kaus, who will give a program o the history of his home, located at 905 S. Cherry St. The large, 6-bedroom home was built in 1900 and has housed many interesting families during many different eras. The Kaus family has owned it since 1993, and has worked to restore the home. Following his program, a business meeting will be held that will review what has happened this past year and discuss our future plans. Refreshments will be served. New 2007 memberships will be for sale at the meeting.

International Walk to School Day Wednesday Oct. 4

The Iowa Department of Transportation invites our community to celebrate International Walk to School Day Wed., Oct. 4, 2006. All children who can safely walk or bike to school that day are encouraged to do so. The purpose of Walk to School Day is to create interest in safer routes for walking and biking. Also, walking or biking to school is a way to build connections between families, schools and the broader community. Walking to school also promotes physical activity and health. Adults can support Walk to School Day by walking their children to school or by walking as much as possible throughout their day. Help build our bodies and our sense of community. Support Walk to School Day Oct. 4.

Shell Rock Residents Serving in the Military

Heath Bohlen

Ben Cousins

Doug Iserman

Chad Johnson

Jim Kaus

John Soldwisch

Cody Woodley

Pictures of Museum House

If anyone has pictures or video of the museum house being moved would you please contact Linda at 885-6687.

150 Anniversary Book

The Shell Rock Historical Society has taken over supplying the 150th Anniversary Books. A new order is being printed at this time. If you did not get a book earlier, this is your chance. Order forms are available at the City Clerk's office or the library, or you can send your money to P.O. Box 57, Shell Rock, IA 50670. Make checks payable to the Shell Rock Historical Society. The books are \$48 each plus \$6.00 if shipping is needed. If you have any questions call Linda at 885-6687.

The Benny Gambaiani Library has put together DVD containing the pictures from the Shell Rock 150th Anniversary Book. The DVD has over 600 pictures, and will be in a slide-show format. The more current pictures are in color. Proceeds from the sale of the DVD's will go toward the purchase of new storage shelves, which will store scrapbooks from organizations in town. The DVD will cost \$12.00, plus shipping where needed. If you are interested stop in at the Library and purchase your copy.