



Bayport *brief*

Fall-Winter 2021

The mayor's minute



On October 15, I had the pleasure of attending a ribbon cutting celebration for the much anticipated opening of the new Washington County Heritage Center

located at 1862 Greeley St. S. in Stillwater (see photo at right). A project that has taken 17 years to plan and fundraise, the center is a modern museum and education facility showcasing high-quality artifacts and exhibits that tell the rich history of Minnesota's first county, including hands-on, interactive, and video/audio experiences. The center also offers classroom space, research area, and museum store.



Multiple foundations, citizens, and municipalities, including Bayport, contributed to the fundraising campaign to make the project possible and accomplish the historical society's mission "to collect, preserve and interpret" our history. The Heritage Center is now open to the public Tuesday through Sunday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Admission is free to members of the Washington County Historical Society or \$8 per adult and \$3 per child for non-members.

Building the Next Chapter: *bayport public library*



Exciting improvements are on the horizon for the Bayport Library, to improve access, functionality, and use of space for patrons. Key features of the remodel include updating restrooms for accessibility, expanding private study and children's areas, increasing small conference space, and reconfiguring the service desk. Entrances will be made more open and welcoming, new furniture will offer comfort, and lighting will be upgraded to be more efficient. The remodel will make our Library ready and relevant for the next generation, while also retaining the warm, traditional feel so many patrons come to enjoy,

such as the Mary Stout Reading Room. Many thanks to the donors who have contributed to our fundraising campaign and are helping to "Build the Next Chapter!" Improvements are slated to begin next spring. Contact Library Director Jill Smith at jsmith@ci.bayport.mn.us or 651-275-4416 with comments or questions.

Stillwater School District: *Election Results*



On November 2, the city conducted a special election on behalf of the Stillwater Area Public School District. Pete Kelzenberg was elected to an at-large seat on the school board (8,389

votes or 60.14%). Voters also approved a general revenue referendum (9,775 votes or 56.45%) and capital project levy for technology (8,921 votes or 51.53%). Visit www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting for other election results.

what's new? 20 MPH Speed Limit on City Streets

In October, the City Council approved a speed limit reduction on city owned streets from 30 to 20 MPH. New 20 MPH speed limit signs have been installed at jurisdiction gateways, which are areas where motorists transition from a county road (5th Ave. N.) or state road (Highway 95) onto a city street. The speed limit on county and state roads remains at 30 MPH. The topic of speed limit reduction was first brought before the City Council last year, following a 2019 change in state legislation granting cities authority to lower speed limits on streets under their jurisdiction. After much deliberation, conducting a public survey, and investing in an engineering traffic/speed study, the City Council approved the 20 MPH speed limit change. For more information, including the study and analysis, visit the city's website.



COMMUNITY EVENT *updates*

NOVEMBER 29 TO MID DECEMBER	TOYS FOR TOTS DROP OFF CAMPAIGN Help the United States Marine Corps Reserve this holiday season by donating a new, unwrapped toy to give to a less fortunate child in the community. Drop off boxes are located at City Hall, Croixdale, and First State Bank.
DECEMBER 1	HOLIDAY LIGHTING OF THE VILLAGE GREEN Village Green Park – 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Kick-off the holiday season with a night of festivities to make the season bright! Enjoy a bonfire, caroling, library story time, and a visit from Santa!
DECEMBER 11	REGIONS HOSPITAL CAR SEAT SAFETY CLINIC Bayport Fire Department – 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Contact 651-254-3564 to make an appointment.
JANUARY 11	CHILDREN'S STORY TIME AT THE LIBRARY Bayport Library – Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. Story time helps instill the love of reading and develop early literacy skills in children through song, puppets, and play. Children of all ages and their caregiver are welcome to participate in-person!

snow salt: Less is More for Lakes and Rivers



A growing concern for the St. Croix River and Perro Creek is pollution from excessive use of winter salt in urban areas. This winter, please be sure to clear sidewalks and driveways as soon as possible following a snow or ice event. This will reduce the amount of salt necessary to create a safe and accessible surface for vehicles and pedestrians. As a reminder, 12 ounces of salt (one heaping coffee mug) is enough to clear a 20-foot driveway or 10 sidewalk squares (250 sq. ft.). Also, keep in

mind that use of traditional salt (sodium chloride) is not effective when temperatures fall below 15 degrees. Finally, always sweep up excess salt to prevent particles from being carried into our water bodies with ice melt. For more on tips and tales for clean water, visit www.eastmetrowater.org.

city spotlight: New Public Access to St. Croix Clean Water, Land and Legacy Property

Recently, the city completed public access to the Clean Water, Land and Legacy conservation site located on the St. Croix River, adjacent to Andersen Corporation, between 4th Ave. N. and Central Ave. The city partnered with Andersen to allow an easement on the east portion of their "landing strip" parking lot for visitor vehicle parking and access via Central Ave. (look for the logo sign pictured right). Pedestrians are welcome to explore the site in its natural state sunrise to sunset, but are advised to use caution, as a formal trail system has yet to be constructed. Visitors should also be aware that the site is located to adjacent private property and to be respectful of "no trespassing signage" and property boundary markers. In addition to trails, potential future improvements also include relocation of the public boat launch and a picnic shelter. Look for updates to be featured in upcoming editions of the city's print and e-newsletters.



get involved: Library Board

Serving on a volunteer board is a great way to get involved and make a difference in your local government and community. Currently, the city is seeking a resident to fill a vacancy on the Library Board beginning January 1, 2022. The purpose of the Library Board is to approve expenditures of money collected for and contained within the Library fund, as it relates to operations of the Library building and grounds.



Library Board meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month. In addition to monthly meetings, members must be willing to commit additional time, as necessary, to fulfill committee assignments. Residents interested in being considered for appointment are encouraged to visit the Library's website or contact Library Director Jill Smith at jsmith@ci.bayport.mn.us. Applications will be accepted until December 15.

Fundraiser Success: *thank you!*



Many thanks to those who donated to the Bayport Fire Department's 2021-2022 calendar fundraiser! Proceeds were used to help offset the cost of upgrades to the department's thermal imaging cameras purchased earlier

this spring. Your generosity is sincerely valued and appreciated!

CITY CONTACTS *and resources*

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