

Volume XXXVI

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Number # Two Hundred Ninety Two



### *Strategic Planning*

The city council established the areas and goals to review the role of the Heritage Preservation Commission and preservation within the city. Several meetings have occurred developing an action plan to implement helping with organization, communication and associated processes involving the preservation of the City of Carver.

A list was comprised of concerns with current methods utilized. Improvement processes were reviewed. Input was reviewed from various sources. Some changes were implemented to the action plan. Further review will be done. The next steps will be the review of the Preservation Action Plan worksheet and get, as well as give feedback. The council will adopt the Preservation Action Plan in the future. Discussion was also held concerning minimum maintenance expectations and application to all properties. The attorney clarified that the Equal Protection calls for enforcement of an ordinance to apply to all if an ordinance is created. Suggestion was made for a funding program being investigated versus spending funds on regulation and enforcement.

### *Minnesota River Crossing Project*

The city planner reviewed the current updated information available regarding the MN River Crossing Project. More information is available on line, if you have a computer. It can be found on the city's website or on the Department of Transportation website under road projects. As the project progresses and more information is available, it will be available at the county's level, cities' levels, state and the newspapers will continue to give more details, as well.

### *Municipal Utilities*

The council discussed the item involving the municipal utilities connection required with a new owner. Initially the hook-up had not been resolved with the previous owner leaving the purchaser in an awkward predicament. Owner proposed solution not in agreement with the city personnel. Disclosures by the previous owner were discussed. Property tax records possibly would have alerted a purchase as well. Impression was that the municipal utilities were in place. Septic and well passed compliance inspections as well. The disclosure issue would be the recourse. However, that is an initial start up cost without recovering attorney costs. Discussion was held regarding previous letters sent and proof. The council was of the opinion that a resolution could be reached but it would not be a cost free resolution. The council would work with new property owners. The end result still remained that municipal utilities are required. The city's fees would be on a resolution. The appropriate personnel would be scheduled to meet with owner and a resolution put into place. This type of situation should also be reviewed so as not to be repeated in the future with safeguards put into place.

### *Carver Fire Department*

The fire chief reviewed with the council the provisions included in the Standard Operating Procedures Manual. Motion was made and carried with all ayes approving the Standard Operating Procedures Manual.

"Courage: the most important virtue of all the virtues because without courage, you can't practice any other virtue consistently"

~~~ Maya Angelou

### *2013 Spring Clean Up Day*

The City of Carver residents will once again participate in the Spring Clean up Day. When you say? The date will be May 18<sup>th</sup> beginning at approximately 7 AM. There will be residential curbside pick up by Elite Waste Disposal. If you have a computer, you can see the flyer with all the details associated with the event, like what can and can't be disposed of. No computer or no computer access? Contact the city's staff at 952.448.5353 and ask for details. They'll be happy to help you. So remember, May 18<sup>th</sup> is curbside pick up for clean up in the city.

### *Carver's 'Little Free Library'*

Thanks to #112 Community Education, Funky Minds and the Brownie Troop #15959 there is a 'Little Free Library' available in Gazebo Park! Have you seen the ads on television? Did you know that this program began in 2009? The originators of this social enterprise are Todd Bol and Rick Brooks? The 'Little Free Library' comes in all shapes and sizes and constructed of all kinds of materials. The mission of the 'little free library' is to promote literacy and the love of reading by building free book exchanges worldwide. To build a sense of community by sharing skills, creativity and wisdom across generations to build 2510 libraries as many as Andrew Carnegie and to keep going. The greatest achievement for those responsible for Carver's library is they have now put the small community on the map, along with thousands of other free libraries. Be sure to thank them.

### *Red Cross Blood Drive*

Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> from noon until -6 PM at the Carver Village Hall> If you are interested in making an appointment online-[www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org). Or you can call Linda directly at 612-987-5454. Walk-in's are welcome but appointments are preferred.

Our Red Cross Rep told me that there is an enormous need for blood donations now due to the number of flu cases this winter. Sick people means fewer donations. The Red Cross depends on 17,000 donations every single day of the year in order to keep a healthy stock of 36,000 units available each and every day. Also- I would also like to add a few more names to my list of volunteers. If you have the time to volunteer, we have 3 blood drives per year and perhaps you could carve out 3 hours of your time to help on one of the drives. It's easy, fun and a truly rewarding experience. Again, call Linda @ 612-987-5454. Thank you

### *Highway # 41*

The city council listened to the overview given by the City Planning involving the highway river crossing pertaining to the Environmental Impact Statement written in 2007. The immediate action at this time is to review the 2007 letter and identify what large issues still exist and comment or emphasize former issues from previously. New comments will not be accepted. All governmental units involved agreed to work together. Request for an updated map of the area involving the interchange was requested. Additionally discussion was held regarding current interchange, merge issues and relevant concerns. The council was assured by the City Planner that the city's concerns were identified previously. The City Planner will draft a supplemental/review of the 2007 letter and information for the council members.

"No human being can really understand another, and no one can arrange another's happiness."

~~~ Graham Greene

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## *Overhead Utilities*

The council listened to an overview of the Sixth Street West project by Xcel Energy's representative at the council meet-ing. The utility lines are the result of a new substation. The residents were also then made aware of the necessity for tree trimming on the north side of the street being discussed. Much discussion has been held on overhead or buried lines. Additional feedback resulted in reexamination by the council.

Clarification was requested concerning the new substation. The engineer clarified that there was a back up with Chaska Public Utilities. With the new substation, Chaska will be able to keep connection to resolve any potential power issues. An overload transmission line at the Community Park will service the new substation.

The council reviewed spacing locations, height and costs regarding the two alternatives. A design fee would be necessary to obtain a more precise cost. The city engineer stated that the estimated price included information relating to the Fourth Street project. Overall the Fourth Street was more expensive in comparison. Additionally there were concerns relating to safety and trail location of lines.

The goal was to attain a design decision to proceed. It was necessary to relieve the Chaska substation load.

Residents input, concerns and opinions were heard. The council reviewed the details of a Surcharge Program. The city attorney stated that the surcharge was more a financial than economic item. It has been looked at in the past and will be most likely come into discussions again in the future. The end result remains that the city still pays extra to bury lines and decisions will affect future decisions. Alternatives include franchise fees to assist building funds rather than a surcharge. Regardless which method, the city retains the extra cost burden for burying the lines.

The question of reliability was asked. Xcel responded that troubleshooting is much quicker with overhead lines. The life expectancy of underground lines is estimated to be thirty years approximately. Generally overhead lines last longer making it difficult to gauge which is the absolute best route. The major pointed out that the council has been very conscientious concerning communication with the public.

Question was asked if the lines would be underground the entire length. Xcel responded that the poles above ground would be left and burying could be done at a later time. Comment was made regarding the aesthetic value of trees and the impact to homeowners on both sides of the street. The comment was also made concerning the beauty of the street. Suggestions was submitted to re-examine the decision as it would preserve the integrity of the entrance into the city. Question was asked if aesthetics was a enough of a reason since that decision was tough involving the street that is and always will be the entrance into the city. The same thought processes, agreements and decisions should apply to both and any areas.

The attorney relayed to the council that an answer to the resolution/bond issue was not available at the present time. However, the project would be added to the Chapter 429 Public Improvement Bond. The city needs to assess at least twenty percent of the overall project cost in order to sell the bonds. The necessary data to answer specific questions was not available for the meeting, but modifications could be done in time. The end result is that the feasibility study needs to be reviewed further in order to see the possibility of adding the item.

Motion was made and carried with all ayes and one abstention authorizing the burial of the new utility lines down Sixth Street West. Motion was made and carried with all ayes and one abstention approving the design fee for Xcel Energy to study the costs of burying power lines on both Sixth Street West and Fourth Street.

Discussions continued regarding utility lines on Sixth and Fourth Streets. The staff had been directed to return to the meetings with financing options for the burial of utilities. The City's Bond Counsel verified costs associated with the burial of utilities could be included with the Fourth Street West Improvement Project by resolution. Also verified that his additional project cost maintains the city's ability to issue general obligation bond, At least twenty percent of the cost must be specially assessed in order to issue general obligation bonds.

Since the city has a number of utility project scheduled and an inter-fund loan would be a less desirable funding option. Local Government Aid funds have been and have been and will continue to be an unreliable source of revenue for the city. Therefore, the most reliable funding option is to include the Fourth Street Bond project. This will also includes the County Road # 11 trail project from Fourth Street West to Carver Bluffs Parkway. Question was asked of the resolution included the burying of lines on Fourth Street. The resolution did not include burying lines on the Fourth Street project. Statement was made for the necessity to stay consistent and bury the lines on Fourth Street too. The cost estimate for Fourth Street is include din the request from Xcel. Decisions on Fourth Street would be made in the future. This is a separate decision process. The funding options will be investigated further if and when that decision is made. The estimated costs to bury lines on Sixth Street were discussed.

Question was asked about Fourth Street decision being made at a later date. Administrator responded that there was a six month time format allowed for new or amended resolutions on this decision. Question was then asked if it still would coincide with Xcel's time schedule. The administrator stated that it was more an internal function regarding funding. Decisions regarding Fourth Street's future would not change in details of the current bond issue for the Fourth Street project. Other funding options need to be investigated if the decision to bury lines on Fourth Street were made. The mayor pointed out too that burying a new utility feeder line on Sixth Street was not an indication that the city would start burying existing lines in the future. The cost estimate to be presented will include quote pertaining the burial of the lines on Fourth Street. Motion was made and carried with all ayes approving the burial of utilities on Sixth Street.

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## *Planning Commission*

The Planning Commission members continued the Public Hearing involving the amendments to the City Zoning Ordinance. A portion of the proposed revised ordinance was discussed, but the entire zoning ordinance would be continued to be reviewed in the future. The members discussed the document and will continue the reviewal process.

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## *One Hundred Years From Now*

- Forest Witcraft

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“One hundred years from now, It won't matter, What kind of car I drove, What kind of house I love in, How much money I had in the bank, nor what my clothes looked like; BUT, The world may be a little better because I was important in the life of a child. “

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## *Park and Ride*

The Planning Commission held a Public Hearing on the Carver County Community Development project involving the Park and Ride Facility and related items included with the facility. The City Planner reviewed the first two phases of the project, the park and ride facility and single-family homes that will be completed simultaneously, but by different entities. The City Planner explained the engineering plans for the streets included in this phase and area part of the preliminary plat approval. The third phase is not scheduled at this time with Outlot D containing the proposed apartments for the property being discussed. The City Planner stated that the development requested approval for rezoning from agricultural to residential and Public Institutional, a planned residential development and the preliminary plat for development of single family homes, outlots, right of way and related improvements. A plan for the use and development of the open space would be provided with the application of the Final Plat and recommended that the Outlot A be developed as a tot lot. The City planner explained the variances for the city zoning ordinance requirements for the single family lots approved. The Planning Commission members recommended approval of the rezoning request. Motion was also made and carried recommending approval of the preliminary plat for said property with conditions as stated.

The council reviewed the action involving the Joint Powers Agreement between the county and the city for the construction of the Park and Ride Facility, internal street and utility improvements, as well as the improvements to the intersection of County Road # 11 and Ironwood Drive contingent upon the final approval of the agreement. The agreement with the Carver County Community Development Agency had already been approved to proceed with a Park and Ride facility located on the agency's property along the west side of the county road. This project is partially funded through the Federal Congestion Mitigation Air Quality program. The funding schedules and requirements include the utilities, collector streets, park and ride site, shelter and trails on the agency's property. This construction is tentatively scheduled to begin in late summer of 2013. The trail project south of the agency's property and the pedestrian underpass will not be constructed until 2014 due to easement acquisition timelines through the federal process. The county did not have any changes to the joint powers agreement.

Due to federal guidelines and requirements the project requires that Carver County act as the contracting agency and administrator. The city will draft the plans and specifications, acquire right-of-way and easements and provide the necessary surveying and construction inspection services. The governmental units have been meeting. The 2014 work is not included in this agreement.

The county and city cost percentages were reviewed. The most recent proposed cost sharing policy form improvements are not part of the county's five year capital improvement plan. The improvements projected for the area involve local streets and county roadways, as well as a new signal at the intersection of Ironwood Drive and the county road. The joint powers agreement is required to be approved by both parties so that MN DOT will approve proceeding with the right-of-way acquisition process. This process needs to begin in early April to meet project funding requirements for 2013 construction projections.

Cost allotments were reviewed with different phases involving the various work to be done over the time frame involved with the project. Related boards have also been reviewing the various items involved in the different areas. The staff recommended the authorization of the joint powers agreement.

Question was asked to clarify what the Congestion Mitigation Air Quality program will be responsible for. The city engineer explained that the agreement outlines what costs the Congestion Mitigation Air Quality program will cover. The engineer reviewed the breakdown with the council. The Congestion Mitigation Air Quality will cover eighty percent of the construction and right-of-way costs up to a certain amount which was outlined in the original grant application. The remaining twenty percent will be covered by local funds, indirect costs such as engineering services that are not covered as part of this agreement. The Congestion Mitigation Air Quality is paying an estimated amount plus construction costs and an estimated amount plus operations costs. Motion was made and carried with all ayes and one abstention approving the joint powers agreement between the city and the county for the Park and Ride and country road improvements contingent upon final approval by the county.

The city reviewed the rezoning and preliminary plat for the Community Development Agency's Park and Ride property. Three resolutions were discussed involving the rezoning the proposed property to Public Institutional, rezone the remainder of the property to residential and approval of the preliminary plat. The agency owns approximately thirty six acres. The proposed development involves the Park and Ride facility, single-family homes, and apartments. The planning commission reviewed the issue. The staff recommended approval of each of the associated planning actions.

The City Planner gave an overview to the city council pertaining to the three resolutions involving the preliminary plat and rezoning of the Community Development Agency's project identified as the Park and Ride Facility proposal. The ordinance relating to this will be presented to the city at a later time. One resolution involved rezoning the remainder of the property to Planned Residential Development regarding the density transfer from single family housing to future multi-family housing location. Then the council was being asked to approve the preliminary plat by resolution. Motions were made and carried with all ayes approving three resolutions involving rezoning issues and preliminary plat approval.

## *Dahlgren Township*

At the Dahlgren Township annual meeting the consensus of the participants voted on motion to return fire protection with the cities of Carver and Cologne.

The township's annual meeting participants were given a presentation by the commander with the Carver County Sheriff's Department involving coverage by a contract for police protection. Currently only major issues, accidents and/or robberies are responded to. If the township retained a contract they would have fifty two hours per year of a Community Service Officer. The township would also receive a percentage of issued citations within the township and a portion of state funds that departments pay into annually. Costs were reviewed. Motion was made and carried with all ayes contacting with the sheriff's department.

The township participants discussed roads and bridges in the township boundaries. The road repairs that were made in 2012 were discussed, along with budgeted projects for 2013. Motion was made and denied changing cost share for dust control back to one third township and two thirds residents' shares. Motion was made and carried with all ayes that the dust control will remain one hundred percent paid by resident. Motion was made and carried with all ayes to apply dust control twice during the summer and not one application.

After a lengthy discussion involving the abandonment of 154<sup>th</sup> street between County Road # 40 and County Road # 43 motion was made and carried with all ayes not to abandon the discussed street.

The next annual meeting was scheduled for the second Tuesday in March of 2014 by motion. The meeting times were also voted on to change the meeting time to 7 PM. These changes will be in effect at the start of January 2014 meeting.

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## River Bluff Estates Second Addition

The Planning Commission held a Public Hearing involving River Bluff Estates Second Addition requesting a Comprehensive Plan Amendment, Rezoning, residential development and preliminary plat. The Chestnut Group requests approval for redevelopment of twenty seven single family lots on the site that previously approved townhome units. The Comprehensive Amendment is from medium density to low density residential and rezoning downsizing. The proposed project would replat the existing townhome lots and outlot A into single family lots with a reconfigured Outlot A. The private road would remain as is. The utility services located within the development are city owned and the service lines already exist. The developer requested that the excess service lines be allowed to remain, however the Public Works personnel recommends removal of the unnecessary service lines. The Metropolitan Council provides flexibility for existing uncompleted projects. The City Planner recommended tabling the issue involving the Comprehensive Plan amendment pending the redesign of the project. The Planning Commission reviewed the rezoning. Each residential development has its own specific standards contingent upon developing the property conforming to approved plans. Again the city planner recommended tabling the issue until revised plans are presented and outstanding comments are addressed.

## Carver Country Flowers

What's happening at Annette's place? If you have a computer, be sure to check out her website. For those of you who don't have a computer, will try to keep you up to speed with information.

On April 11<sup>th</sup> through the 14<sup>th</sup> at the shop is 'Prom Open House and Guys Night Out Weekend'.

Prom Open House & Guys Night Out Weekend - April 11-14:

Thursday, Apr 11th, 5 - 8 PM - Guy's Night Out

Friday, Apr 12th, 10 AM - 5 PM - Prom Open House

Friday, Apr 12th, 5 - 8 PM - Guy's Night Out

Saturday, Apr 13th, 10 AM - 5 PM - Prom Open House

Sunday, Apr 14th, 10 AM - 5 PM - Prom Open House



(Of course, you can shop for your corsage on Thursday or Friday evening if it's more convenient for you; and guys, you can come in for a tux fitting during the day if that works better for your schedule)

## What's Been Goin' On?

It's Our 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!! It doesn't seem possible that we've had our shop in downtown Carver for five whole years already! Stop in this weekend for cake and coffee! And get a 20% discount on all merchandise (except consignments) as our way of saying Thank You!

## Tuxedo Rentals

Check out our Tuxedo Rental Display! Prom will be here before you know it, so if you need a tuxedo for Prom, why not simplify your life and get it close to home! We have over 50 styles to choose from, by famous designers, in five price ranges. And the accessories color palette is almost endless! See coming events in the right-hand column and stop in!

## Space Available

Our Toy tenants are leaving at the end of April. If you know of anyone who would like to share some space in our shop, effective June 1, please have them contact us.

## What's New?

After 5 years in business, we're introducing our BRAND NEW "6-Box" customer loyalty program. Your business is so important to us, that we're going to reward you for your purchases. It's a "no brainer."

Each time you shop with us (in person or by phone), we'll pull out your VIP card, fill in the date, the receipt# and the amount spent (before sales tax).

After six transactions, we'll add up the amounts and give you store credit on your next purchase equal to 10% of the total -- then we'll start a new card for you so you can keep earning. It's that EASY!

## Carver-on-the-Minnesota, Inc.

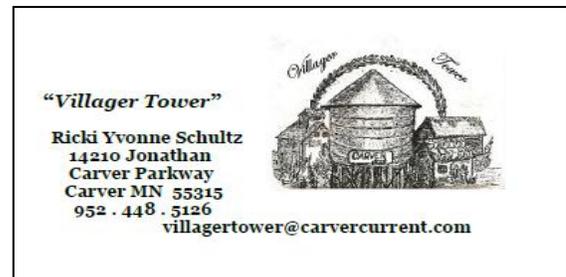
Carver on the Minnesota, Inc. will be holding a fundraising silent auction in conjunction with the Carver Lions Club Pork Chop Dinner at the Carver City Hall on the afternoon and evening of Friday, Apr. 26, 2013. Donations are being solicited for the auction, and it makes for a great opportunity to advertise goods, events, products, restaurants, services, and crafts, while at the same time bettering and serving the community. Donated items are tax deductible and can be dropped off during normal business hours at Carver Country Flowers and Gifts at 109 Third Street East in downtown Carver. Item pickups can also be arranged by calling John at 952-361-3149. Carver on the Minnesota, Inc. is a nonprofit organization founded in 1969 and dedicated to beautifying, restoring, and improving historic Carver, its nature trails, riverfront, cultural, artistic, historic, and educational amenities, its business climate, and environment. Among current goals: Reconstructing Riverside Park's Lost Victorian Pavilion and facilitating trail monuments and informational kiosk signage.

## Disclaimer

The "unapproved" minutes of the council and the township have been referenced for the purpose of creating this information for residents in the City of Carver and the townships surrounding the city. © 2013

## Carver Current

Be sure to check out Dan's website for his news and the news from the *Villager Tower*, as well as others. There is a lot of interesting information on his website. Also, when you need to get information out, contact Dan to submit. It's another great way for sharing information. What is the website again? [www.carvercurrent.com](http://www.carvercurrent.com)



## Carver Community Youth Baseball / Softball Association

Submitted: Jane Thon

Carver Community Youth Baseball Softball Association (CCYBSA) T-Ball Registration Deadline is April 23rd.

Baseball Registrations are closed.

• We will have 2 teams playing with the Waconia 3rd and 4th grade division this year.

• We have 6 teams in the Minor division. We will play with Victoria and working on getting some games with Waconia.

• This is a step forward in getting Baseball back to Carver. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Softball Registrations are closed. We still have some openings for girls that are in the 7th/8th grade or the 9th thru 12th grade. If interested please contact Jane at [ccybsa.reg@gmail.com](mailto:ccybsa.reg@gmail.com). The rest of the teams are being formed and we are excited about our upcoming season.

Our games for T-Ball are the month of June on Tuesday and Thursday. They are played at the Carver Community Park. Baseball games are on Tuesday and Thursday at the Carver Community Park.

Girls softball games are: 2nd/3rd grade at Lions Park on Tuesday and Thursday

Rest of the games are on Monday and Wednesday with games at Carver Lions Park and Carver Community Park.

Come on out and support the leaders of the future and get a good game of ball. They appreciate your support.

A BIG thank you goes out to all who have volunteered to be part of our Coaching Staff. Without these dedicated volunteers we would not be able to provide our youth an option to play ball.



## *Iris Valley*

Spring Spectacular at Iris Valley in Jordan MN on Eldorado Drive ( behind Rademachers ). Kathy says, "Spring is here? Pop in and take a look at our selection on clothing, purses, and handbags! Something for everyone!" Through April 15<sup>th</sup> there is a 20 % off on clothing, purses and jewelry! Stop in and check it out! At Iris

Valley coming up on Wednesday, May 8<sup>th</sup> there is a sample sale event scheduled at 4 PM until 8 PM. On Thursday, May 9<sup>th</sup> is Jordan Ladies Night Out starting at 4:30 PM until 8:30 PM. Join local business' offering specials and fun activities. On Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup> is Jordan's City Wide Garage Sales.

## *Unused Meds*

The Carver County Sheriff's Office is participating in the National Take Back Initiative Program on April 27<sup>th</sup>. This is the fourth time the Sheriff's Office has participated in this event. This is an opportunity for Carver County residents to dispose of outdated and unneeded prescription medications at any of the five locations from 10 AM until 2 PM on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>. There are no questions asked. The boxes are sealed, weighed and transported for destruction by the staff of the sheriff's office. What better way to dispose of items that we are no longer to dispose of the way we all did cons ago.

There are five locations throughout the county, they are the Carver City Hall at 316 Broadway Avenue in Carver. Hamburg City Hall at 1818 Broadway Avenue in Hamburg. Mayer City Hall at 413 Blue Ajay Avenue in Mayer. Two Permanent sites are located at the Chanhassen City Hall at 7700 Market Boulevard in Chanhassen and the Carver County Sheriff's Office at 606 East Fourth Street in Chaska.

"Prescription medicines are quickly becoming one of the most common drugs that are abused. The questions of what to do with unwanted prescriptions and medicines has become a concern of our citizens and community along with a crime prevention issue. In response to this, we sponsor two medicine take back dates during the year. Carver County and the City of Chanhassen have also installed two permanent collection boxes." States Sheriff Jim Olson.

The Take Back Initiative is sponsored by the US Department of Justice and Drug Enforcement Administration, who partner with county agencies and Carver County cities. More information can be found at

[www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug\\_disposal/takeback/index.html](http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/index.html)

## *Local Events*

The Victoria Fire Department invites everyone to join them in their centennial celebration coming up in July. There will be two bands featured, fireworks are planned, antique apparatus show, food and beverages and fun for the entire family. Watch for more details in the future.

Appliance Sales and Service has scheduled their 3<sup>RD</sup> Annual Bone Daddy Classic event on May 4<sup>th</sup> over on Highway # 169 at their Shakopee address. Just on the other side of the river and Chaska. Their ad calls for less rain and more shine in 2013. Despite the rain and cold last year they had quite the turn out for the event. This is an opportunity to learn from the area's best grill enthusiast. All grills are on sale at this event, as well.

The 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Carver Fun Run is in the works as well closer to home! This event is also scheduled for May 4<sup>th</sup>. This year's event is being hosted by the Zuhrah Cycle Corps and the Red Knights MN 7. Proceeds from this event benefit the Shriners' Hospitals for Children and the American Diabetes Association. Come Join the Ride! Rain or Shine they ride.

Registration is from 10 AM to Noon. If interested, be sure to check it out at [www.carverfunrun.org](http://www.carverfunrun.org).

Don't forget about the City of Carver Spring Clean Up Day on May 18<sup>th</sup>.

To kick off all the local events here is the April 26<sup>th</sup> Carver Lions Annual Pork Chop Dinner at the Carver Hall. Serving begins at 4 PM and goes until 6 PM on Friday evening. You can enjoy pork chops, sauerkraut, mashed potatoes, vegetable, beans, bread, desserts and a beverage. And don't forget the Silent Auction too.

## *Carver Lions*

Want to attend a Lions meeting? Need to know what night? Need to know when? The first and third Wednesday evening of the month at the Village Hall. No one will be turned away.

The newest venture the Lions are planning and getting ready for is the Carver Lions Pork Chop Dinner in April. I believe the date is the 26<sup>th</sup> and it will be from 4 to 8 PM. Details included.

The Lions are also still collecting gently used eyeglasses if you wish to donate them to the Lions. Don't know where to deposit them? If all else fails, drop them at City Hall. If memory serves me right, saw a collection box at Harvey's and Casey's. The staff at the City Hall would be happy to tell you where to find the collection boxes, as well. They can be reached at 952.448.5353.

## *Community Calendar*

## *April 2013*

- April 1<sup>st</sup> - Happy Birthday Joe!
- April 2<sup>nd</sup> - Happy Birthday Kelly!
- April 4<sup>th</sup> - Fire Department Drill Night  
Happy Birthday Wayne!
- April 8<sup>th</sup> - PTO Meeting  
Dahlgren Township Board Meeting
- April 9<sup>th</sup> - Heritage Preservation Commission Meeting
- April 10<sup>th</sup> - Late Start  
SteamBoat Committee Meeting
- April 11<sup>th</sup> - School Board Work Session
- April 12<sup>th</sup> - Happy Anniversary Kerri and Brad!
- April 13<sup>th</sup> - Happy Anniversary Aaron and Karen!
- April 14<sup>th</sup> - Happy Birthday Barb!
- April 15<sup>th</sup> - Drill Night  
Council Meeting
- April 17<sup>th</sup> - Lion's Meeting  
Happy Birthday Cheryl!
- April 18<sup>th</sup> - Planning Commission Meeting  
Happy Birthday John!
- April 20<sup>th</sup> - Happy Birthday Scott!  
Happy Anniversary Wayne and Michelle!
- April 21<sup>st</sup> - Happy Birthday Jim!
- April 22<sup>nd</sup> - Park and Recreation Board Meeting  
Happy Birthday Al!  
Happy Birthday Kitty!
- April 23<sup>rd</sup> - Earth Day  
Bloodmobile
- April 25<sup>th</sup> - Fire Department Meeting Night  
School Board Meeting  
Happy Birthday Aaron!
- April 26<sup>th</sup> - Arbor Day
- April 27<sup>th</sup> - Unused Meds Disposal
- April 30<sup>th</sup> - Happy Birthday Ron!  
Happy Birthday Arlan!

**SAVE THE DATE**

**VICTORIA FIRE CENTENNIAL**  
1913 2013

**JULY 13, 2013**

The Victoria Fire Department would like to invite you to join in our centennial celebration featuring:

- Two Bands
- Fireworks
- Antique apparatus show
- Food and beverages
- Fun for the family!

## *Pros and Cons for Firefighters Pensions*

Minnesota lawmakers are considering a bill to add a surcharge on every policy in the state involving homeowners and auto policies.

This action would help restore pensions for policemen and firemen. According to WCCO/CBS news the issue has become very controversial.

According to the news report, public pensions took a hit when the stock market had its own meltdown in 2008. Statement was made that the two categories being discussed can be fixed by legislation. Additionally, it was stated that police and fire pensions are already being paid with auto and homeowners insurance policies. The exact amounts were not disclosed. This issue was actually the first ever tax imposed by the State of Minnesota back in 1871 according to the news report. It was also stated that there is a large shortfall in pension funds for these two groups and there is no safety net. Police and firefighters do not qualify for regular social security nor disability.

The local fire department has composed their own fact sheet to distribute. The Carver Fire Chief requested distribution.



### **Funding Support For Volunteer Firefighter Pensions**

**February 13, 2013**

- Minnesota Ranks 45<sup>th</sup> in Per Capita Fire Expenditures (48<sup>th</sup> Per \$1,000 Income) in the nation. This is largely due to fact that 18,000 of the 20,000 firefighters in state are volunteers who serve with virtually no compensation other than their pension.<sup>i</sup>
- The vast majority of these volunteers will receive a one-time lump sum distribution of \$30,000 or less for serving their community for twenty (20) years.<sup>ii</sup>
- Fire State Aid peaked in 2006 at \$31,770,838 and has fallen to \$21,995,957 in 2012; a decrease of \$9,774,881 or more than 30%.<sup>iii</sup>
- This caused volunteer fire relief's plans to; go into an underfunded status, decrease or hold benefit levels for years, an increased municipal contributions.<sup>iv</sup>
- The volunteer fire pension has proven to be an incredibly effective recruitment and retention tool which the loss of state aid has resulted in negative impacts. There were 18,734 active volunteers in 1996 as compared to 17,187 in 2010. A decrease of 1,547 or 8%.<sup>v</sup>
- According to the State Auditor Compilation Report in 2010 68.3% of all volunteers were over the age of 35 with 18% of that being over the age of 50. Minnesota, similar to the rest of the nation is facing a critical shortage of volunteer firefighters.

Your support of a \$5 surcharge on all homeowner policies will increase the fire aid to volunteer plans by approximately \$5.5 million or 34%. This will help to restore the funding decreases that have occurred over the past seven years

<sup>i</sup> Minnesota Taxpayers Association, How Do We Compare? 2010 Report

<sup>ii</sup> Minnesota State Auditor Volunteer Firefighter Relief Compilation Report, 2010, Page 28

<sup>iii</sup> State Fire Aid Distributions, Property Tax Division, Minnesota Department of Revenue

<sup>iv</sup> Minnesota State Auditor Volunteer Firefighter Relief Compilation Reports, 2006 to 2010

<sup>v</sup> Minnesota State Auditor Volunteer Firefighter Relief Compilation Report, 1996 and 2010



# Sponsors



**CCYBSA**  
Carver Community Youth  
Baseball Softball Association

*Where the ball game begins*

Find us on line at: [www.cityofcarver.com](http://www.cityofcarver.com)  
Questions? Email us at: [ccybsa.reg@gmail.com](mailto:ccybsa.reg@gmail.com)

Rob Hagerstrom  
[rhagerstrom@posconinc.com](mailto:rhagerstrom@posconinc.com)



**POSITIVE CONNECTIONS**  
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Fax 952-448-4135

*Carver Lions*



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2013 Occasional Sale Dates

- January 17 - 19
- February 21 - 23
- March 21 - 23
- April 18 - 20
- May 16 - 18
- June 20 - 22
- July 18 - 20
- August 22 - 24
- September 19 - 20
- October 17 - 19
- November 14 - 15
- December 5 - 7

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**The 16th Annual**

# **CARVER FUN RUN**

**Saturday May 4th, 2013**

**Hosted by: the Zuhrah Cycle Corps & the Red Knights MN 7**

Ride  
Proceeds  
Benefit



**Shriners Hospitals  
for Children™**



**American  
Diabetes  
Association**

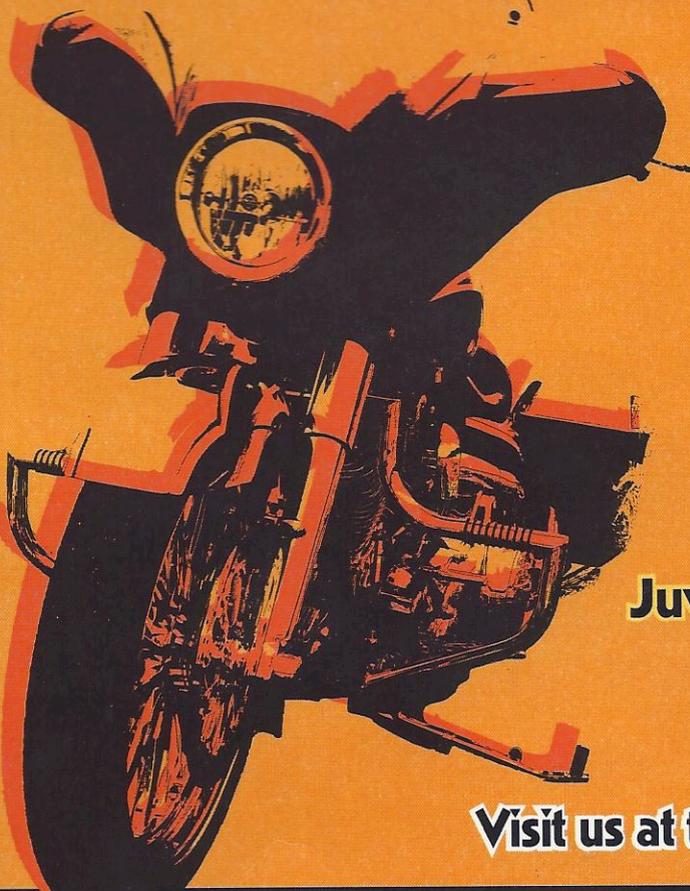
**Come Join the Ride!**

- **Rain or Shine We will Ride**
- **Date May 4th Registration from 10:00 to Noon**
- **Ride Departs at NOON sharp**
- **Ride will start and stop in Carver**
- **Food, Door Prizes,**
- **50/50 raffles etc. after the run**
- **All Ride proceeds benefit:**

**Shriner's Hospital for Children  
Juvenile Diabetes (Camp Needle Point)  
Suicide Prevention (SAVE)**

**Visit us at the Donnie Smith Bike Show in March**

**www.CarverFunRun.org or by calling our 2013 host sponsors:**



**Friday, April 26**  
**Carver Hall**  
**Serving 4:00pm - 8:00pm**



# **CARVER LIONS**

# **ANNUAL PORK CHOP DINNER**

*Enjoy pork chops, sauerkraut,  
mashed potatoes, vegetable, beans,  
bread, dessert & beverage.*

*PRIZE DRAWINGS!*

*Need not be present to win.*

*Carver on the Minnesota Silent Auction*

**Tickets:**

**\$8.00 in advance**

**\$10.00 at the door**

**Kids 5 & under eat free!**

Call Dean at 952-221-2884 for tickets.