

City of Taylors Falls
637 First Street
Taylors Falls MN 55084
tfclerk@frontiernet.net
www.ci.taylors-falls.mn.us



To Call City Hall

465-5133
& dial these extensions:

City Clerk 21
Zoning Administrator 22
Sheriff's Dept 23
Public Works 25
Fire Department 27
Mayor 35 (message only)

CITY REPRESENTATIVES

City Council

Mayor - Mike Buchite - '14
Council - Ross Rivard - '14
Council - John Tangen - '16
Council - Larry Julik-Heine - '16
Council - Mary Jo Murphy - '14

Planning Commission

Chair - Gene Andersen - '13
Member - Lee Casperson '14
Member - Fred Bechtold, '15
Member - Lyle Johnson - '15
Member - Ross Rivard
Alternate - Irv Stolp
Mike Buchite, Ex-officio

Park & Rec Commission

Chair - Tana Havumaki - '13
Member - Rick Stafford - '15
Member - Leo Nelson - '15
Member - Don Hobson - '14
Alternate - Zara Kivi Kinnunen
Member - Larry Julik-Heine
Mike Buchite, Ex-officio

Heritage Preservation Commission

Chair - Julie Hildebrand - '13
Member - Leslie Peterson - '15
Member - Joanne Frank - '14
Member - Bill Scott - '14
Member - Alyssa Auten - '13
Member - Susan Heaven - '15
Alternate - Brian Pigott
Member - John Tangen
Emeritus - John Larson
Mike Buchite, Ex-officio

Economic Development Commission

Chair - Wade Vitalis - '15
Member - John Coffey - '13
Member - Barbara Nelson - '14
Member - Kelly Jorgensen - '15
Member - Open Position
Member - Open Position
Alternate - Open Position
Member - Mary Jo Murphy
Mike Buchite, Ex-officio



Library Board Members

President - Barb Anderson - '14
Member - Lori Stolp - '13
Member - Leslie Johnson - '13
Member - Julie Samuelson - '13
Member - Gerald Platzer - '15
Librarian - Diane Dedon

City Staff

Jo Everson, Clerk-Treasurer
Adam Berklund, Coordinator - Zoning Admin.
Jack Kramer, Building Official
Mike Kriz, PW Superintendent
Bill Neska, PW Maintenance Worker
Carson Eng, PW Seasonal Worker
Shaila Johnson, Custodian
Al Rivard, Fire Chief
Mike Erdman, Assistant Chief
Sheldon Magnuson, Assistant Chief
Shane Carroll, Sheriff's Sergeant



Tidbits from Taylors Falls

July 2013



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ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY IN TAYLORS FALLS?

Recently the City was approached by the Community Asset Development Group with a proposed Development Plan for a 24-unit assisted living facility in Taylors Falls (the Taylors Falls Senior Cottages project). The facility would be located on a seven acre parcel west of Mulberry Street on property that was donated to the Good Samaritan Society by Brian and Sandra Berg, and almost directly across the street from the Senior Living townhome development of Cedar Groves Estates. Although the facility will be constructed and owned by the Foundation, the intent is for Good Samaritan to manage it, just as they do the nursing home facility in St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin.

In order for the Project to move forward, it must obtain extensive approvals from the City - many of which will require public hearings. Notice of these hearings will be mailed to surrounding property owners, posted at the Post Office, and advertised in the Chisago County Press. Please keep in mind that the City is only in the very preliminary stages of discussions with these Developers.



**Proposed
Taylors Falls
Senior Cottages**



We will keep you informed as the Project progresses. If all goes well, they expect to break ground spring of 2014.

MAYOR'S FORUM

As everyone can see, there has been a lot of activity in Taylors Falls lately. We seem to have experienced our fair share of construction and rain. As the Hwy 95 project in our City moves closer to completion, I have to admit that our downtown looks great. There are some minor items that still need to be completed, but I believe the worst is over. The contractors have done a great job even amid the “weather challenges”. Our next and final paving project will be Ravine & Government Street. Once paved, Ravine Street parking will be changed to parallel, which will bring about a safer and less congested area.



We have the possibility of an “Assisted Living Facility” being built in Taylors Falls, as early as Spring 2014. This facility may consist of 24 units and would be located close to our current Senior Living housing on Cedar Court. There will be several steps during the process, including a meeting with the developers and interested residents. This meeting will allow residents to ask questions, make comments or gain information prior to any action taken by our City Council.

Remember - I am always available for questions, concerns or comments. Don't hesitate in calling or stopping me on the street when you see me! As always, I wish each of you Good Health and God's Blessings.

TOGETHER WITH FRIENDS CAMP

Together with Friends is holding its 17th annual Summer Day Camp for Kids this summer. Day Camp meets on Tuesday & Thursday mornings from 9:00 – 12:00 noon and continues through July 30th. There's still time to get in on the FUN! All kids entering 2nd - 6th grades in the fall are welcomed to attend. Kids can attend any or all of the sessions throughout the summer, and are asked to wear tennis shoes because we play games! Together with Friends is a cooperative effort of the Churches in TF, First Baptist, First Evangelical Lutheran and United Methodist, and it rotates from church to church throughout the summer. We've enjoyed our time at the Lutheran church and will be at the Methodist Church July 9,11,16,18. We'll end our summer at the Baptist Church July 23,25,& 30. Come and EAT -- we will be having a Zita Pasta Feed Fund Raiser at the Community Center on Saturday, July 27th. You're invited to join us for a delicious meal serving from 5:00 – 6:30 followed by a “magic” presentation by John Romportl at 6:30. Thanks for your support and we'll see you at the Community Center! We are grateful for the supplemental funding from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, Chisago County Chapter. For more information call director Pastor Kevin at 465-6792.



PUBLIC WORKS REMINDER



WEEDS ARE A NUISANCE: “Any weeds, whether noxious as defined by law or not, growing upon any lot or parcel of land outside the traveled portion of any public street or alley in the City to a greater height than six (6) inches or which have gone or are about to go to seed are a nuisance. The owner and the occupant shall abate or prevent the nuisance on the property ...”

DO YOU HAVE A JUNK CAR?

The Fire Department is looking for junked cars for extrication training for its firefighters. Please contact the Fire Chief Al Rivard, or Assistant Chiefs Mike Erding or Sheldon Magnuson, or any firefighter, or just call City Hall and we can pass along the information if you have a car or truck that is no longer operable that could be donated to the Department for this purpose.

Our condolences to the family of Wayne Breeden who recently passed away. Wayne was very active in many City functions over the years. As a Lions Club Member he was especially busy doing is part in maintaining the Lions Parks on County Road 16. Wayne will surely be missed.



MEMORIAL COMMUNITY CENTER UPDATES

The remodeling at the Community Center is done! And it looks absolutely awesome! Many thanks to the volunteers for sharing their time and talents in the kitchen & bathroom renovation project. They include Bridget & Chad Amundson, SCF, Barbara Nelson, TF, Joan Dillon, TF, Laurel Harvey, TF, Mark Adams, BL, & Mary Murphy, TF.



We couldn't have done this without your commitment to our community. Thank you!!



COMPOST SITE HOURS

Compost Site Hours of Operation: 9-12 noon the 1st & 3rd Saturdays from April - November (weather permitting)

Accepts: Grass, leaves, garden materials, tree branches & logs no longer than 8' long & 30" in diameter. No tree stumps!

Location: From City Hall go west approximately 1 mile. Turn right into the wastewater facility access driveway. Please stay on the gravel road and drive carefully.

Use: This site is available to the residents of Taylors Falls only. An attendant will be on duty to assist you. All bags must be emptied and returned to the user for disposal. You will have to empty your own bags & bags are not to be left at the site.

With the recent wet weather the compost site has not been open as regularly scheduled. Contact PW Superintendent Mike Kriz (extension 32) to request access any other time.

EDC LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS

Taylors Falls Economic Development Commission (EDC) is seeking volunteer commission members, particularly retail business owners and community minded individuals. The role of the EDC is advisory to the City Council, by identifying potential new market opportunities for Taylors Falls and to find new uses for commercial land, buildings, and to stimulate investment in the City. We are looking for volunteers who want to see the Taylors Falls area prosper, and succeed for residents, business owners, and visitors. Membership commitment is for two years. We have several projects in the works, so it would be an opportune time for your input. The EDC meets once per month, for approximately an hour. For further information contact Mary Murphy at 651-465-7002.

LIBRARY RECEIVES GRANTS FOR RESTORATION PROJECT

In September 2012 Taylors Falls was awarded an \$18,011.00 Historical and Cultural grant from the Minnesota Historical Society for the Library Restoration project, which will consist of:

- * Complete reroof with cedar shakes
- * Repair & replace glass in exterior storm windows, with energy efficient glass
- * Soffit repair
- * Replace or repair rear-room storm door
- * Paint

The City was also awarded the Initiative Foundations "Minnesota Beautiful" Valspar grant, which will supply all the necessary paint for the project. Kevin Hays Construction was hired to do the actual repairs and Brent Haley was hired to paint the building, with the assistance of several volunteers from various organizations. Watching the improvements are amazing!



STUMBLIN' DOWN MEMORY LANE by Jack Liljenberg

Come next November 15th exactly a century will have passed since twenty-eight-year-old Guy Hodgkinson of Taylors Falls had his leg run over by the local train. That accident was reported in the following news item:

"Last Saturday Guy Hodgkinson boarded the evening train at the depot intending to ride to the turn table but when about two blocks from the starting point he fell from the steps of the car and the wheels of the car ran over his leg between the ankle and knee. Drs. Murdock and Caldwell were summoned at once. He was carried to the village hall where his leg was amputated by Dr. Murdock assisted by Dr. Caldwell and Miss Flora Agrell, a trained nurse, has been temporarily employed to care for him. At present he is doing well and it is hoped that no further operation will be necessary to save the leg. Upon being notified of this accident to his nephew Rev. Fellows came up from Minneapolis Tuesday to call upon him."

That item appeared on the "Taylors Falls News" page of *The Standard-Press* of Saint Croix Falls on November 20, 1913. However, that newspaper page was misdated as November 13. Guy was cared for at the village hall for about nine days, until he was moved to his home on November 24.

Joseph Guy Hodgkinson was born in Taylors Falls on September 17, 1885. He was an only child who in 1913 was living with his mother in a house that stood from 1860 to 1982 on the north side of Hill Street and a block west of the 1978 Angel Hill Apartments. The village hall where Guy had his leg amputated is now known as the 1852 Town House School, and the doctor who did the surgery was Dr. Horace Greeley Murdock [1858 – 1924] who was the fifth and last "Dr. Murdock" to practice medicine in Taylors Falls.

Guy's father, Dr. Joseph George Hodgkinson [1845–1911], was born in Aylmer, Ontario, Canada but graduated from the Saint Paul Medical College and practiced in Saint Paul before moving to Taylors Falls in April 1884. In October 1884 he married Miss Saida E. "Sadie" Cummings. Sadie [1856?–1944] was born in Illinois but in 1871 she and five siblings and widowed mother, Mrs. Elizabeth [Daubney] Cummings, removed to Taylors Falls from North Branch. Sadie was first a local schoolteacher but after her marriage she became a pharmacist and worked with her husband.

Dr. and Mrs. Hodgkinson and Guy moved to Saint Croix Falls in 1886 and to Detroit, Minnesota in 1889 but they returned to Taylors Falls sometime in the early 1890s. About 1895 Dr. and Mrs. Hodgkinson separated and never again lived together but they never divorced and remained on amiable terms. Dr. Hodgkinson removed to South Saint Paul where he remained, while Sadie and Guy stayed in Taylors Falls.

Guy was eventually fitted with an artificial leg that was partly made of cork and that squeaked loudly when he walked. He was universally liked, even though he spent most of his adult life inebriated. He was known to always be kind and as a person who never swore.

Guy was a local handyman and was especially sought after as a chimney sweep, painter and wallpaper hanger. He also was an excellent cook and at various times worked in eateries in downtown Taylors Falls. He remained single and spent much of his later life working in Minneapolis but he frequently returned to his Taylors Falls home on Hill Street. Guy is now a fondly remembered resident of Taylors Falls' Memory Lane.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT...America's Night Out Against Crime

The Taylors Falls National Night Out Celebration will be on Tuesday, **August 6th from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.** at the Taylors Falls Elementary Gym. Many community organizations are putting together a great evening of activities for children, parents and community members. Hot dogs, chips & lemonade will be provided. Bring a dessert to share and lawn chairs to sit outdoors. For more information to contribute or to volunteer, contact Community Partnership at 651.674.4085 or mvrudny@izoom.net. PLEASE COME TO ENJOY & LEARN.



CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT



Each year the MN Department of Health requires cities to create a special report called the Consumer Confidence Report. The purpose of the report is to assure you that your water is being monitored and lets you know exactly what is in your water and at what levels. You can find a complete copy of this report on the City's Web Site at :

http://www.ci.taylors-falls.mn.us/vertical/sites/%7BC4DF7AF2-3980-4104-AEC5-CoA9A2B6536D%7D/uploads/2012_Consumer_Confidence_Report.pdf

If you have questions or concerns with this report please contact Public Works Superintendent Mike Kriz at 651-465-5133 extension 32.

A word of caution from Sergeant Shane Carroll...

We seem to have an up swing in thefts from vehicles during the summer months. Please remember to lock your vehicles and secure them in a garage if possible. Don't be an easy target by leaving valuable items within your vehicle or your yard. Never leave items in your vehicle with your personal information on them that can be used by identity thieves. Have a great summer!

NO SIGNS ALLOWED

MnDOT does not allow signs to be placed at the corner of Bench Street/State Highway 95 and US Highway 8, particularly on the RiverView Station property. PLEASE, refrain from placing Garage Sale Signs at all four corners of the intersection. Those that are there will be removed and deposited in the trash. Thank you for your cooperation.

TAYLORS FALLS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT 31st ANNUAL CATFISH CONTEST

Saturday, July 27th 7:30 p.m. to Sunday, July 28th 7:30 a.m.
On the Upper St. Croix River

1st Place \$700 & Trophy
2nd & 3rd Place Cash & Trophies
Largest Fish Trophy
Prizes to 10th Place

FREE BREAKFAST FOR PARTICIPANTS SERVED AT THE LIONS' PARK ON SUNDAY MORNING
\$80.00 per Boat
(based on 70 boats w/ 2 people)

Entry Forms, Official Rules & Regulations are available at City Hall. If you have any questions contact the Fire Hall at 465-5133 ext. 27 or ask any Firefighter.

TAYLORS FALLS LOG JAM JAM

If you like music ~ if you like conversation ~ if you like relaxation ~ then come and listen (or join) the new Taylors Falls Log Jam Jam! This is a group of musicians who meet at 7:00 pm every Monday night at the Memorial Community Center to "jam". Come watch the musical show! It is free to the public! A beverage & snack just might be available to complement the overall experience.

BEARS IN TAYLORS FALLS

As in past years, bears continue to plague Taylors Falls. This year it appears we have several, with sightings throughout the City. Recently one was hit by a vehicle just at the top of the First Street hill. The bear was wounded but not dead.. So it was shot by the Sheriff's Department & picked up by the DNR. **Do not approach them.** Keep trash barrels inside your garage and remove your bird feeders for the time being.

Catherine joins the non-profit Chamber in their mission to "advocate, promote and support business members and our communities."

Falls CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Uniting Sf. Croix Falls & Taylors Falls Businesses

New Executive Director
Catherine Veith-Bruno

715.483.3580, director@fallschamber.org

Wannigan Day Grand Marshalls

The former TF Women's Civic League



Geri Nelson, President Priscilla Wegner, Sister Maria Wilson, Annie Lindgren, Joanne Frank, Cynthia Holmberg, Edna Curry, Jean Sampson, Carol Johnson, & Geri Swenson.

Life is GREAT on Highway 8!

Have you noticed the bright yellow large chair on the south side of First Street near the Community Center? This is a project sponsored by the Chisago Lakes Area Community Foundation. Each of the 5 cities along the Highway 8 Corridor from Chisago City to Taylors Falls, have a large oversized, brightly-colored Adirondack-style chair. There are also 37 artistically-designed chairs outdoors at sponsor locations along the Highway 8 corridor available to buy through a silent auction. Three are located in TF ~ Romaine's, Coffee Talk & the Drive-In. For more information go to:

<http://www.highway8chairs.com/>



RAILING PROJECT NEARLY COMPLETE



John Barowy helped June 13th fitting loafer rails onto the top of the fencing at the Memorial Community Center.



Residents and visitors of Taylors Falls can now see the return of a previously lost, historic touch of the 1902 Taylors Falls Memorial Community Center. This "touch" was originally removed in 1999, but were recently reinstalled. The railings now have a dramatic little crest, nicknamed "loafer rails" because they supposedly discouraged people from leaning on the railing and "loafing off". Various donations were given towards this project so that no property tax money was used. A donation from the TF Woman's Civic League was especially instrumental in allowing the project to move forward. The Inter-County Leader (by Greg Marsten) ran an impressive article on the project in their July 3rd newspaper. If you would like a copy of that article, call City Hall.



Now that the majority of the downtown improvement project is nearly done, its time to remind drivers that there is NO LEFT TURN entering onto Highway 95 from the east side of the First Street/Hwy 95 intersection. Simply put, if you did business at the General Store and are exiting onto the highway you cannot make a left turn to go towards the stop light. This is for the safety of all vehicles at that intersection.

NO LEFT TURN

HIGHWAY 95 UPDATE

Beginning at 5 a.m. July 8th through 5 a.m. August 27th both directions of Hwy 95 will be closed between County Rd 12 and Hwy 16 for 50 days. The closure is necessary as crews complete pavement resurfacing and culvert construction.

The detour will be Hwy 95 between County Rd 12 and Hwy 16: Follow the detour via County Rd 12 to County Rd 16 and back to Hwy 95

Note: Hwy 95 will be closed to all through truck traffic. Hwy 8 may be used as an alternate route.

LIBRARY NEWS

The Library continues to be open during its remodeling! New books are coming in all the time. On those hot, summer afternoons, pick up a good book and cool off. Visit the library and find an exciting book to read. You can travel far through books and save money on gas!

Library Hours

Wednesdays
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm
&
6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Saturdays
9:30 am - 12:30 pm



Librarian Diane Dedon

TAYLORS FALLS TO RECEIVE YET ANOTHER GRANT

Taylors Falls was recently awarded the Initiative Foundation's Innovation Fund Grant in the amount of \$5,000.00 for Phase II, of the River Walk Expansion project. The grant will provide professional landscape design consulting services, which will result in a shovel ready plan for the proposed expansion of the River Walk Trail. Once the initial research and design are completed there will be a survey sent out and several public meetings will be held before any final decisions are made to pursue the second phase.



Presented by the Friends of
TF Parks & Recreation

FRIDAY, JULY 19th
6:30 p.m.
at the (air conditioned)
Taylors Falls
Memorial Community Center

BINGO

**For
Bucks!**

Sponsored by the
TF Lions Club



Taylors Falls *Classic Car & Motorcycle* *Cruise Night*

Cars 1978 & Older ~
All Motorcycles Welcome
Food Available on Site



Friday, July 19th
5 pm - 9 pm

Hwy 95 &
Pine Street

KIDDIE PARADE

Come & have some fun with your kids! It's the annual **Wannigan Days Kiddie Parade!** on Friday, July 19th, kids should come in costume to march in the parade. Meet at **5:45 pm** to register ~ on River Street (near the Catholic Church) The parade will begin at **6:15 pm** and travel north on River Street to Pine Street, stopping across from the Drive In Restaurant, where refreshments will be available. The **Together with Friends Group** have graciously agreed to help out this year. Remember, Friday, July 19th beginning at 5:45 p.m. **FUN! FUN! FUN!**

TF Historical Society to
host a Lemonade Stand
& the TF Log Jam
Jammers will perform on
the Memorial Community
Center Lawn

Saturday, July 20th
1 pm - 4 pm
(weather permitting)



Wannigan Days Parade



beginning at 6:00 pm
on Saturday night



St. Joe's Eats

St. Joseph Catholic Church will be
sponsoring a food & drink
social event

Saturday, July 20th

11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on

Bench Street in Taylors Falls

Outdoor dining offering...

The Best Burgers on Bench Street

Hotdogs and Brats

Pop and Water



Wannigan Days 2013

Annual Street Dance

Sponsored by

ROMAYNE'S BAR & GRILL

Saturday

July 20th

7:00 pm

To

1:00 am



Saturday,

July 20th

at dusk

*Shot off in St. Croix
Falls*

*Viewable in
Taylors Falls*

FIREWORKS