



CITYSIDE

JANUARY 2023

NEW PLAZA NAMED FOR LONG-SERVING AMES CITY MANAGER

In recognition of more than four decades of service to the residents of Ames, the Ames City Council recently approved the naming of the new Downtown Plaza as “Steven L. Schainker Plaza.” In addition to unanimous City Council approval of the naming, two former mayors, Ted Tedesco and Ann Campbell, supported the honor. The Ames City Manager celebrated his 40th anniversary at the City’s helm in October.



From left, former Ames Mayors Ted Tedesco and Ann Campbell, City Manager Steve Schainker and current Mayor John Haila celebrate the City Manager’s 40 years of leadership at the City of Ames.

The Downtown Plaza project transforms the parking lot directly east of City Hall, 515 Clark Ave., into interactive open space. The plaza will provide year-round public amenities such as native landscaping, restrooms, water features

in warm weather, and ice skating when temperatures fall. To replace parking spaces, a new municipal lot has opened

north of City Hall on Sixth Street and diagonal parking is being installed directly in front of City Hall.

“I have dedicated almost all of my professional life, 43 out of 45 years, to serving the residents of Ames in an effort to improve the quality of life for those who live, work, and visit our community,” Schainker said. “While this honor is going to me, I want to give credit to the dedicated employees I have worked with over the years who remain committed to providing exceptional customer service to our residents. It is especially meaningful to me that the public space reflecting my name is in such close proximity to Ames City Hall.”

RECYCLE YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE

Don’t let your Christmas tree end up in the landfill. The City of Ames provides free disposal of Christmas trees at the Parks & Recreation Maintenance Shop, 700 E. 13th St. Trees can be deposited during daylight hours through Tuesday, Jan. 31.



All trees will be recycled into wood chips, which will be used in Ames parks. The Parks & Recreation Maintenance driveway will be marked with a sign. The tree stand, tinsel, and all ornaments should be removed before leaving the tree for disposal.

ARE YOU ON A SNOW ROUTE?

When the snow falls, it’s important to move your vehicle if you park on a street that’s part of the snow route. Snow routes are marked with red and white signs. All vehicles must be removed from snow routes when the snow ordinance goes into effect.

How do you know when the snow ordinance is in effect? Pay attention to local media, check the City’s website (www.CityOfAmes.org), or watch City of Ames and Ames Police social media! The snow ordinance goes into effect when snow accumulations are 2 inches or more, but the best way to know if the snow ordinance will be in effect is to watch the weather!



CITY NEWS TO USE

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Volunteer for a City Board
- Help Keep Fire Hydrants Clear
- StoryWalk Installed in Park
- Parks and Recreation Notes
- Energy Q&A

CITY OFFICES CLOSED:

City Hall and most City of Ames departments will be closed on Monday, Jan. 2, 2023, for New Year’s Day.



GIVE BACK TO AMES: VOLUNTEER FOR CITY BOARD OR COMMISSION

Volunteer in your community and make a difference by joining a City board or commission. Boards and commissions make recommendations to the Ames City Council and assist the Council in carrying out various functions of local government. Every board and commission has a different focus and purpose. Please consider getting involved in one that matches your background or interests.

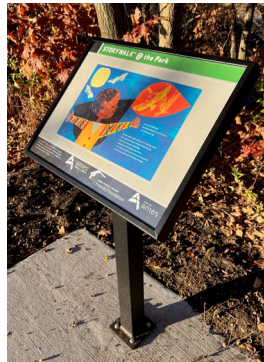
Several boards and commissions have vacancies occurring in the first part of 2023. The number following the name of the board or commission indicates the number of pending vacancies. The number in parentheses denotes how many incumbents may be reappointed.

Apply online at www.CityOfAmes.org/boardsandcommissions. Applications are also available in the City Clerk's Office. **Deadline to apply is 5 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 3, 2023.**

Commission/Board	Meeting Days/Times	Vacancies
ARPAC	2nd and 4th Wed./5:30 p.m.	2 (2)
ASSET	2nd Thurs./5 p.m.	2 (1)
Building Board of Appeals	1st Mon./4 p.m.	3 (1)
Campus & Community	4th Mon./6 p.m.	1
Commission on the Arts	1st Mon./5 p.m.	2 (1)
Electric Utility Operations Review & Advisory Board (EUORAB)	As needed	1
Historic Preservation	2nd Mon./6 p.m.	3 (2)
Human Relations	4th Thurs./5:30 p.m.	3 (3)
Library Board of Trustees	3rd Thurs./7 p.m.	3 (2)
Parks and Recreation	3rd Thurs./4 p.m.	3 (3)
Planning and Zoning	1st and 3rd Wed./7 p.m.	1 (1)
Property Maintenance Appeals Board	As needed	3 (2)
Public Art	1st Tues./5:30 p.m.	5 (4)
Zoning Board of Adjustment	2nd and 4th Wed./6 p.m.	1
Transit	Monthly	1 (1)
	Total	34

STORYWALK INSTALLED AT PARK

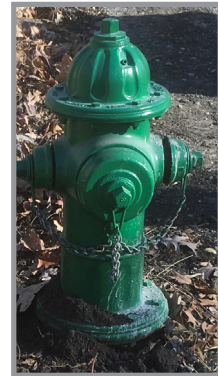
Take a walk. Read a story. That's the concept behind the permanent StoryWalk recently installed at Moore Memorial Park, 3050 Northridge Parkway. StoryWalk displays an illustrated children's book page by page along a walking route. The project is a collaborative effort between Ames Public Library and Ames Parks and Recreation. The Library's Youth Services staff select the book for display, and Parks staff installed the display platforms.



The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, Vt., and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library.

KEEP HYDRANTS CLEAR FROM SNOW

As snow piles up along the curb, it does more than hamper visibility for drivers. Mounds of snow can obscure locations of fire hydrants. Ames firefighters ask residents to check fire hydrants located near their homes or businesses to ensure they are visible. In the case of an emergency, every second counts. If



the fire hydrant is covered, we need your help!

Please clear a three-foot-wide area around the hydrant to ensure firefighters can locate it.

During a fire emergency, every second counts. If you need assistance clearing the hydrant, call Fire Station No. 1 at 515.239.5109.

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

City Council meetings are held in the City Hall Council Chambers, 515 Clark Ave., and streamed via the City website, Facebook and YouTube.

6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 10
 6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 17 (workshop)
 6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 24

MORE INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT WWW.CITYOFAMES.ORG/CCMEETINGS

YOUTH & ADULT PROGRAMS

YOUTH DANCE: RECITAL SESSION (AGES 3-9)

Teeny Ballet, Tiny Dancers, Dance Blast, and Hip Hop are offered Jan. 14 - April 16. Register by Jan. 1.

PARENT/CHILD DANCE (AGES 2-3)

Learn basic dance moves through fun music and games. Parents will take an active role in this class. Register by Jan. 1.

YOUTH GYMNASTICS: RECITAL SESSION (AGES 5 AND UP)

Classes Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday, Jan. 16 - April 16. Register by Jan 1.

YOUTH TUMBLING (AGES 2-5)

Tumble Bugs (parent/child), Tumbling Tykes, and Tumbling Tots offered Jan. 14 - Feb. 23. Register by Jan. 1.

START SMART BASKETBALL (AGES 3-5)

Learn the basics of the game every Saturday, Jan. 21 - Feb. 25. Register by Jan. 13.

K-2 BASKETBALL

Mini Dribblers, Little Dunkers, and Big Shooters are available to best suit your child's needs and skills. Weekdays, Jan. 23 - Mar. 2. Register by Jan. 13.

TAE KWON DO (AGES 5 AND UP)

Dragon, Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced, Competition, and All-Levels classes available Jan. 10 - Mar. 5. Register by Jan. 6.

YOUTH & ADULT TENNIS LESSONS

Saturday morning lessons for parent/child (ages 3-5), youth (grades 1-6), and adults (17+). Register by Jan 1.

ADULT WINTER

INDOOR VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE

Women's, Men's, & Co-Ed Leagues. Season starts Jan. 23. Register by Jan. 8.

EUCHRE & CRIBBAGE LEAGUE

Euchre League offered on Monday evenings, Cribbage on Wednesday mornings and/or evenings. Leagues begin the week of Jan. 23. Register by Jan. 16.

WINTER SWIM

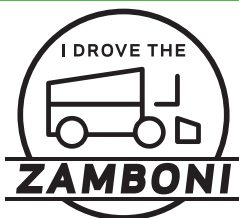
LESSONS

Parent/child courses, group swim lessons, adult swim lessons, and private lessons offered at ISU Forker Pool. Classes will meet once a week for six weeks.

SPECIAL EVENTS

DRIVE THE ZAMBONI (AGES 18+)

Learn about ice maintenance and drive the ice resurfacer at the Ames/ISU Ice Arena on Jan. 1 and 28. Must have valid driver's license.



AMES/ISU ICE ARENA FRIDAY NIGHT: THEMED PUBLIC SKATES

Superhero Night: Jan. 6, 7:15 p.m.; Beach Party Night: Jan. 20, 8:45 p.m. Adult admission \$6; youth \$5. Skate rental \$3. No pre-registration required.

CERTIFICATIONS

BABYSITTER'S TRAINING COURSE (AGES 11-15)

Course will provide youth with the knowledge and skills necessary to care for children and infants. Class Jan. 16, 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Register by Jan. 15.



FITNESS & WELLNESS

ADULT WINTER FITNESS CLASSES (IN-PERSON OR VIRTUAL OPTIONS)

First 2023 session is Jan. 4 - Feb. 12.

Register for four fitness and/or yoga classes and attend unlimited classes! For a full list of classes, view the Fitness & Wellness Brochure online at www.AmesParkRec.org.

HEALTHY FOOT

This class will help you alleviate or prevent pain with proper alignment and stretches. Meets Jan. 24 - Feb 14. Register by Jan. 20.

NUTRITION: SIMPLIFIED

Clear away any confusion surrounding nutrition and receive the building blocks to help you navigate a sustainable nutrition plan. Meets Thursdays, Jan. 12 - Feb. 2. Register by Jan. 9.

PILATES REFORMER TRAINING

The Pilates method to improve posture, increase muscle flexibility and strength, as well as enhancing core stability and endurance, is back! Contact Nancy Shaw, Wellness Manager, at 515.239.5353 for more information or to schedule your appointment.

REGISTRATION AND MORE INFORMATION FOR ALL PROGRAMS AND CLASSES CAN BE FOUND ONLINE AT WWW.AMESPARKREC.ORG OR BY CALLING 515.239.5350.

ENERGY Q&A

Q How's the utility's solar project coming along? Is it producing as much energy as expected? Can I still participate by purchasing a part of the system?

Our SunSmart Community Solar project celebrates its second anniversary on Dec. 10, and we're excited to have a full two years of clean, green energy production. Developing a community solar project was a goal of the Ames City Council, and the project was supported by many Ames residents seeking a renewable energy option. The 2-megawatt solar farm is located at 405 Airport Road. The system is producing just slightly more than the expected energy estimates.

And yes, there is still room for Ames Electric customers to participate. Customers can buy one, or many, "Power Packs." Each Power Pack represents the output of half of a solar module from the solar farm. Participants receive an on-bill credit each month based on the amount of energy produced by the project.

Since its inception, solar farm participants have received a credit that has averaged about \$1 per month per Power Pack. The credit is higher in the summer and lower in the winter due to the amount of solar energy available. The cost of a Power Pack is \$270.



Here are some fun facts about SunSmart. Over the 20-year life of the project, each Power Pack could:

- produce enough electricity to power one average Ames home for about nine months
- offset 10,000 miles driven by car
- take one car's emissions off the road for a year
- reduce CO2 equal to about as much removed by one acre of trees
- reduce CO2 emissions by about five tons

For more information about SunSmart Ames, go to www.CityOfAmes.org/SunSmart.

Joel Zook, Energy Services Coordinator
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AT-A-GLANCE ENERGY NUMBERS

FOR OCTOBER 2022

1%	ELECTRICITY GENERATED BY REFUSE DERIVED FUEL (RDF) FROM RESOURCE RECOVERY PLANT (462,861 kWh)	0.5%	ELECTRICITY GENERATED BY SOLAR POWER (319,554 kWh)
15%	ELECTRICITY GENERATED BY WIND POWER (8,336,481 kWh)	17,850	MILES DRIVEN BY ELECTRIC VEHICLES USING PUBLIC EV CHARGING STATIONS
		29	STREETLIGHTS CONVERTED TO LED FOR A TOTAL OF 5,624

DEGREE DAY INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT WWW.CITYOFAMES.ORG/ELECTRIC

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Power Out	515.239.5240
Street Light Out.....	515.239.5500
Utility Bills.....	515.239.5120
Energy Questions	515.239.5177
Tree Too Close to Electric Line?	515.239.5500
Digging? Contact Iowa One Call.....	811
Storm Water Concern.....	515.239.5160
Rusty Water.....	515.239.5551

City Side is a publication of the City of Ames, Iowa
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