

Spring 2007



CITY OF SHAKOPEE

Hometown Messenger

Message From the Mayor

2007: A Year for Reflection and Celebration By Mayor John J. Schmitt

In 2007, we celebrate Shakopee's Sesquicentennial, the 150th anniversary of being an incorporated city. During this time of celebration, it's hard not to reflect on how we got to where we are today. What started as a trading community adjacent to a Native American village has grown into a booming city of almost 35,000 residents, with two-thirds of that growth occurring in the last 15 years.

We trace Shakopee's origins back to the 1840s and 50s when founding fathers Oliver Faribault, Rev. Samuel Pond, Thomas Holmes, Richard Murphy and others whose names are less known built a city along the Minnesota River. However, the original settlers to this area date back much further. Several of the Dakota Burial Mounds at Veterans Memorial Park and other areas along the Minnesota are from more than 2000 years ago.

Through the years, Shakopee's residents have witnessed great change. We've seen our commercial businesses grow from pioneering merchants like Berens Grocery store, Strunk Drug store and W.F. Davies and Company, to the widely-recognized retailers of today like Home Depot, Lowes, Cub and Target. We've seen our major employers shift from Minnesota Stove Company Works, Jacob Ries Bottling Works, and Page and Hill Manufacturing, to Inland Container, Anchor Glass, ADC, Imagine! Print Solutions, Seagate and many others. Our public schools have grown from a one room school house located on First Avenue in the 1850s, to Central as a single building school for grades K-12, to today's ISD 720 that soon will have eight school buildings and 5,800 students.

We've come from a residential mix of mostly German, French and Irish settlers to a diverse population that brings more than 20 languages and dialects to the city. While we will always value our historic traditions, we embrace the new traditions and contributions that our "new settlers" are adding to the community's heritage.

Even today, we can witness the tangible pieces of our heritage as we admire the many historic buildings throughout the city, which date back to the nineteenth century—St. Mark's and St. Mary's churches; the merchant buildings along First Avenue; the site of the Schroeder Brick Yard on Bluff Street; the Strunk/Nyssen Brewery on the Chaska Trail; and the many historic homes scattered throughout town. As we drive through Shakopee, it is fascinating to think of all the changes that have occurred during the lifetimes of these structures.

I hope you will join me in celebrating Shakopee's Sesquicentennial tentatively scheduled for June 29th through July 1st. Many festivities, including the dedication of Huber Park in the downtown area, are being planned to commemorate our history and heritage and to celebrate the diverse community that we are today. It should be a fun time for people of all ages.

In this year of celebration, I urge each of you to take a few minutes to learn more about your city—be it through a drive around town to see historic sites, a visit to the Scott County Historical Society (located at 235 Fuller Street South) or being a part of Shakopee's 150th observance. It's a once in a lifetime opportunity to reflect on Shakopee's history and where it's been, and imagine the great things yet to come.

If you'd like to be a part of the Sesquicentennial planning group or would like to volunteer at the events, please contact Jay Whiting at 952-746-6325 (daytime), 952-496-0959 (evenings) or email him at JayWhitng@aol.com.

Shakopee Mission Statement

The Mission of the City of Shakopee is to provide the opportunity to live, work and play in a community with a proud past, promising future, and small-town atmosphere within a metropolitan setting. The city will provide customer-friendly, high-quality public services that are intended to meet the changing needs of its residents and the community at large.

Dean Lake Engineering Project Recognized

The City of Shakopee's Engineering Department was recently recognized for a project completed in 2006 that helped to restore water levels, stop erosion and revive the wildlife habitat area of Dean Lake. The American Council of Engineering Companies of Minnesota acknowledged the project with an Engineering Excellence Honor Award at its annual banquet on January 26, 2007.

After performing various studies, the City identified that Dean Lake and the adjacent wetland water levels were falling and the outlet channel was eroding because of water flows from Prior Lake. By late 2005, the City completed plans to remedy the problems, and construction on the project began in January 2006. Working with the

consulting firm of WSB and Sheryl's Construction, the City built a compound weir (miniature dam of varying heights) to control the flow of water. The project was completed in May 2006.

As a result of the new structure, the City was able to restore the wetlands, establish stable lake water elevations and eliminate erosion in the lake outlet channel. The project also allowed the City to monitor lake water quality and evaluate the impact of the Prior Lake outlet on water quality. Completion of the project required extensive collaboration with several parties, including Prior Lake Spring Lake Watershed District, Lower Minnesota Watershed District, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and area residents.



The compound weir has restored water levels and revived wildlife at Dean Lake.

City Council Packets Now Available Online

Electronic versions of the agenda packets for Shakopee City Council meetings now are available on the City's website (www.ci.shakopee.mn.us, click "Quick Links" in the upper right corner and then "Agenda Packets"). The agenda packets contain background information and staff reports on each

agenda item being considered by the City Council. Agenda packets will be posted online by the end of the business day on Fridays, in advance of Tuesday evening City Council meetings.

This is the first offering in the City's electronic document library, which is available through a web-based program

called Laserfiche Weblink. The original documents are converted to PDF format and posted in a searchable document database. Currently, the document library houses only the 2007 City Council agenda packets. Additional documents and information will be made available in the electronic document library later in 2007.

Watch City Government Meetings at Home

City residents who are unable to attend a City Council meeting in person can still watch the meeting live on Shakopee Government Access Television, Channel 16. In fact, the station broadcasts live meetings for several City commissions and boards.

Following is a tentative monthly schedule of live broadcasts (all meetings begin at 7:00 p.m.):

Rebroadcasts of most meetings are shown throughout the month. For a complete schedule of shows, visit the City's website at www.ci.shakopee.mn.us. Point to "Resident's Guide," then click "Public Access & Government Television," and then the weekly broadcast schedule link. *The Historic Preservation Advisory meetings are not televised.

City Council	March 6, 20, April 3 & 17
Planning Commission	March 8, 22 & April 5
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board	February 26 & March 26
Environmental Advisory Committee	March 14 & April 11
Telecommunications Commission	March 7 & April 4
Historic Preservation Advisory*	March 12 & April 9

Annual Cleanup Set for April 28

Mark your calendar for the Annual Spring Cleanup Day—Saturday, April 28. The City of Shakopee in cooperation with Louisville Township, Jackson Township and Scott County will provide disposal of recyclable items. Residents wishing to dispose of items may come to the Public Works complex at 400 Gorman Street from 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on that date.

As the date nears, information about accepted items, costs and rules will be available in ads in the *Shakopee Valley News*, in the next *Hometown Messenger* and on the City's website.



Park Clean-Up April 28 9:30-11:30 AM

Enjoy the beauty and fresh air of the outdoors while you lend a helping hand in enhancing Shakopee's unique park and trail system.

Volunteers will be cleaning parks and trails that need a little TLC.

Bring your family, neighborhood group or work individually to show pride in your community parks.

If you or your group would like to volunteer and be assigned a park site or are interested in a specific site of your choice, please contact Brad Eller at 952-233-9507

City Announces Sewer/Storm Drainage Rate Change

The City Council approved rate increases and changes in sewer/storm drainage services for 2007. With the changes outlined below, an average residential bill would increase from \$8 to \$8.75 per month for sanitary sewer (based on 5,000 gallons of water used) and from \$2.84 to \$2.90 per month for storm drainage.

Sanitary Sewer

- The flow charge has increased from \$1.60 to \$1.65 per thousand gallons.
- The base fee has increased from \$7 to \$7.50 per month.
- The City is changing the way residential accounts are billed. Previously, sewer bills for May to April were based on water used during the previous winter to avoid sewer services being charged on water used outdoors. Now, the bills are based on current water used each month. To avoid billing sewer on water used outdoors, a cap on water usage for sewer billing purposes will apply for the summer months. The cap is 150 percent of the March water usage.

The rate was changed because of increasing costs for maintenance, operation and replacement of lines.

Storm Drainage

- A 3 percent increase in the rate (from \$25.55 to \$26.32 per Residential Equivalent Factor per quarter) was adopted to cover growing maintenance, depreciation and replacement costs of the system.

Residents may contact Shakopee City Hall at 952-233-9326 (952-233-9391 TTY) with any questions.



Spring Is... Street Sweeping Time

It's spring cleaning time for the city's Public Works Department. Street sweeping will begin the last week of March (weather permitting). Each year, the department cleans the streets to remove the salt and sand residue. This minimizes the amount of sand and debris that runs off into the storm sewer system and ultimately into Shakopee's waterways and the Minnesota River.

The collector streets, downtown area and other business areas are swept first followed by residential streets. Sweeping generally takes 6 weeks to complete.



FAQ'S

How can I dispose of yard waste?

Yard waste may be composted or, for a small fee, it will be collected with weekly trash pick-up. Yard waste may not be burned within the city limits. For more information on yard waste disposal, contact Dick's Sanitation at 952-469-2239 or visit their website at www.dickssanitation.com.

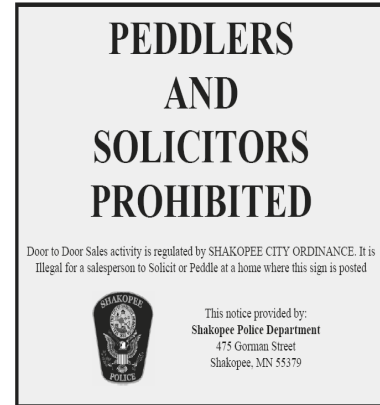
A street light in our neighborhood has burned out, who should I call?

Please report any damaged, malfunctioning, or nonworking street light to Shakopee Public Utilities at 952-445-1988.

Is there a way I can stop door-to-door peddlers from coming to my home or business?

Shakopee property owners can place a sign at the entrance to their home or business indicating that they do not wish to be contacted by door-to-door peddlers. The sign is available on the City's website (www.ci.shakopee.mn.us) on the Police Department page or by visiting the Police Department at 475 Gorman Street during regular business hours.

Peddlers who disregard the sign should be reported to the Shakopee Police Department at 952-233-9400.



We're on the web-
www.ci.shakopee.mn.us

Neighborhood Watch Program Helps Fight Crime

Knowing your neighbors can pay off in not only friendship but also in security for your neighborhood. One Shakopee neighborhood learned this firsthand last December, as an observant neighbor reported a suspected burglary at a nearby residence. The neighbor provided police with a suspect and vehicle description, which led to his capture. After further investigation, Shakopee Police have linked the suspect to several other burglaries. All of this was possible because of a neighbor who noticed something was out of the ordinary and acted on it.

One way to get to know your neighbors better is to start a Neighborhood Watch group in your neighborhood.

Neighborhood Watch is a cooperative effort between police and citizens to help prevent crimes from occurring. The program asks citizens to be more aware of their neighborhood and to call the police to report any suspicious activity. The group is asked to hold two official meetings a year, preferably one on National Night Out (the first

Tuesday in August). The first is an informational meeting about Neighborhood Watch and the free services offered by the Shakopee Police Department, and the second can be on any topic in which the group is interested.

Besides learning great tips, Neighborhood Watch provides neighbors the chance to meet and get to know one another better. Just by learning people's names, vehicles and schedules, neighbors will more easily recognize when something is amiss and act on it by calling the police with information - this is security you just can't get from an alarm system.

For more information on starting a Neighborhood Watch group in your area, visit the Police Departments page of the City's website at www.ci.shakopee.mn.us or contact the Shakopee Police Department's Crime Prevention Office at 952-233-9400.



*Working Together to
Provide a Safer
Living Environment
for Everyone*

City Revises False Alarm Ordinance

On January 1, a change to the City ordinance went into effect that reduces the number of times a resident or business can have the Police or Fire Departments respond to a false alarm before being charged a user fee.

Under the revised ordinance, residents or businesses can have two false alarms during a calendar year before they are charged a fee. Beginning with the third false alarm, the resident/business will be charged a user fee specified in the City of Shakopee's fee schedule. The fee schedule is updated annually to account for variances in the costs of services. For 2007, the user fees for false alarms are:

Police Department - \$120 per alarm after two false alarms
Fire Department - \$400 per alarm after two false alarms.

The Police and Fire Departments requested the ordinance change to help decrease the number of false alarms and recover some of the City's expenses involved in responding to false alarms. Additionally, both departments stressed that personnel and resources are taken away from other Police or Fire matters when false alarms occur. In 2006, the Police and Fire Departments responded to more than 500 false alarms.

Open Burning Prohibited in City

Shakopee residents are reminded that it is illegal to burn grass, leaves, yard waste, trash and other rubbish within the city limits. Rubbish is waste material including, but not limited to, garbage, waste paper, debris from construction or demolition, hazardous materials, oils, rubber, plastic, chemically treated materials or other materials that produce excessive or noxious smoke.

Recreational fires are allowed for pleasure, religious, ceremonial, cooking or similar purposes. A recreational fire is a fire where the fuel being burned is not contained in an incinerator, barbecue grill or barbecue pit and where the total fuel area is three feet or less in diameter and three feet or less in height. Although recreational fires are permitted in the city limits, the following requirements must be followed:

- Recreational fires may not be conducted within 25 feet of a single or multi-family residential structure or any commercial structure *unless* contained in an outdoor fireplace constructed of non-combustible materials containing a base supported by a minimum of three (3) legs, a wire mesh screen on all sides and a lid. Before igniting the fire, conditions that could cause it to spread to within 25 feet of a structure must be eliminated.
- An outdoor fireplace as defined above is never allowed within 15 feet of a single or multi-family structure or commercial structure.

Tips to Prevent False Alarms

Residential Security and Fire Systems:

- Educate the entire family on the operation of the security system and how to disable it.
- Clean (dust and vacuum) smoke detectors and change batteries at least two times each year.
- Notify the security system monitoring company before working on smoke detectors attached to the security system.

Commercial Security and Fire Systems:

- Provide a pass code to employees authorized to disable the system.
- Do not allow employees without a pass code access to the building when the security system is active.
- Participate in annual fire alarm system testing, inspection and maintenance as required by the Minnesota State Fire Code and National Fire Protection Association standard 72.

- Buckets, shovels, garden hoses or a fire extinguisher with a minimum 4-A rating shall be readily available for use at recreational fires.
- A person knowledgeable of using fire extinguishing equipment shall constantly supervise a recreational fire until that fire has been extinguished.
- Any member of the Shakopee Fire Prevention Bureau, Shakopee Fire Department, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Shakopee Police Department or Scott County Sheriff Department may require a recreational fire to be extinguished immediately if it is considered hazardous or causes a nuisance.
- Recreational fires are not allowed if a total burning ban is in effect.
- Recreational fires are not allowed if the maximum wind speed (including gusts) exceeds 15 MPH. Additionally, the prevailing winds must be away from occupied structures.

For more information about local open burning and recreational fire issues or other fire safety questions, contact the Shakopee Fire Prevention Bureau at **952-233-9300**.



Produce a Show for the Public Access Channel

Aspiring television producers let your creative juices flow. The City of Shakopee's Public Access Cable studio, its cameras and its editing equipment are available to any city resident or business interested in creating a show for the Public Access Channel (cable channel 15). There is no charge to use the equipment or studio.

Previous television experience is not necessary to produce a show. Knowledgeable staff is available at the studio to help you get started. First-time users will need to complete some preliminary paperwork and show a picture ID.

The studio, which is located in the Community Center (1255 Fuller Street South), is open from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday and from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday. Studio use and equipment is available on a first-come, first-

served basis. Appointments and reservations are accepted if made more than 24 hours in advance.

Video production classes are offered several times throughout the year for a minimal fee. The classes cover basic skills including camera operation, multi-camera production and digital editing. Class times and dates are advertised in the local paper, at the studio, on the City of Shakopee website (www.ci.shakopee.mn.us), in the Community Education brochure and on



Cable Channel 15.

To learn more about the studio, email channel15@ci.shakopee.mn.us or call 952-233-9545 or contact John Peterson by email at jpeterson@ci.shakopee.mn.us or by phone at 952-233-9310. Information also is available online at www.ci.shakopee.mn.us/access_tv.cfm.

Public Access Bulletin Board

The public access bulletin board, which airs in between programs, is a great way to spread the word about an upcoming community event. To submit announcements for the bulletin board, please email all pertinent information to channel15@ci.shakopee.mn.us. (Please Note: Some announcements may be edited to fit on the screen).

Police Department Promotions

City growth, coupled with increased responsibilities has lead to several promotions in the Shakopee Police Department. In January, the department promoted Sgt. Craig Robson to captain and Officers Lynn Lipinski and Angela Trutnau to sergeant. These promotions mark two major milestones --the addition of a second captain and the department's first two female sergeants.

Capt. Robson joined the Shakopee Police Department in October 1991 as a police officer and was promoted to sergeant in 1998. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and will complete his Master's degree in Police Leadership this spring. He is a graduate of the FBI Academy, 209th Session.

Sgt. Lipinski has been with the department since December 1996. In 1999, she became a School Resource Officer. She obtained her Associate degree in Law Enforcement from Inver Hills Community College.

Sgt. Trutnau was a seasonal code enforcement officer during the summers of 1997 and 1998, joined the department in May 1999 as a community service officer, became a police officer that November, and was named detective in May 2005. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice Studies and a Master's degree in Police Leadership.

The promotions and addition of leadership personnel were sparked by growth in the Police Department's duties. Residents are most aware of the Police Department's Patrol Division, which handles calls for service 24 hours a day. These officers manage traffic violations and respond to emergencies and crimes in progress. However, the department has many more responsibilities. The Detective Division investigates felonies, gross misdemeanors and misdemeanors, such as assaults, burglaries and fraud. The department also has School Resource Officers assigned to the high school and junior high school to investigate crimes at the schools; assists administrators in writing policies on truancy and items banned from school grounds; and



Sgt. Trutnau, Capt. Robson and Sgt. Lipinski

work with the students. The Crime Prevention Division provides several programs, including the Crime Free Multi-Housing Program, Neighborhood Crime Watch, MN Crime Alert Network, Drug Abuse Resistance Education, Gang Resistance Education and Training, and community education presentations.

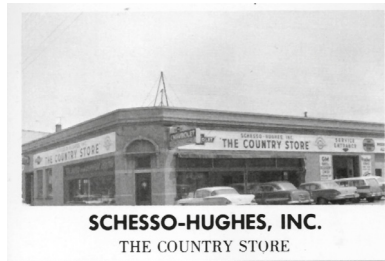
Visit the City's website (www.ci.shakopee.mn.us) to learn more.

A Look Back -Shakopee 1958-1982

Shakopee is approaching its sesquicentennial-the 150th anniversary of the town's organization in 1857. As part of the preparation for that event, the Shakopee Historic Preservation Committee will contribute stories to the Shakopee's Hometown Messenger about the people and events that have shaped our community.

New Development in Shakopee

In October 1958, the Northwestern Bell building opened, and Shakopee converted to a dial telephone system. The next year, Owens Illinois Glass Co. announced that it would build a facility in Shakopee's Valley Industrial Park. That summer, the Shakopee Indians baseball team won the State Amateur Championship. However, the year ended on a tragic note when Max Wermerskirchen, volunteer fireman, died while fighting the Schesso-Hughes Garage fire on October 1. That same month, the last passenger train to serve Shakopee left the depot.



The city experienced a development boom after the Common Council rezoned a large portion of the downtown from residential to commercial in September 1961. Plans were soon announced for a shopping center with a Red Owl store, a hardware store and several smaller shops.

Floods and fire would once again challenge the city in 1962. Most notable was the half million dollar fire at the Shakopee Warehouse. The following January, the historic Murphy House was gutted by fire, and a family of 12 living there was forced outside into 30 below zero temperatures.

Other highlights of 1963 included the First Annual Shakopee POW Wow Days and the opening of KISM radio in Shakopee. On November 28, 1963, Shakopee and the nation mourned slain President John F. Kennedy.

Beatlemania, Vietnam and Space Walks

A February 9, 1964, appearance on the Ed Sullivan show introduced the Beatles to the world. That same year, Shakopee lost the Ben Houth residence and confectionary store to build a Montgomery Ward Catalog, Appliance and Automotive Store.



In the spring of 1965, Shakopee residents saw the Minnesota River set an all time flood stage record of 721.80 feet. Friendship Manor nursing home also opened that year, and Grace E. Sweeney, high school principal and teacher, retired after 40 years.



Path Thielen landing passengers on the Shakopee side of the flooded Minnesota River

In February 1966, the City Council condemned and prepared to raze the historic flour mill near Lewis Street. Then in June, restoration of Scott County's third oldest structure, the Historic Pond Grist Mill, was undertaken. Vietnam claimed its first area victim in August 1966 when Marine Corporal Barry L. Mott, 22, of Savage was killed.



Flood waters overtake Riverside Park

Another fire and ice situation occurred on January 11, 1968, when a fire destroyed the main buildings of the Simons Lumber Company in 16 below zero temperatures. That same year the nation mourned the deaths of Civil Rights leader Martin Luther King and Robert Kennedy.

The summer saw record attendance of 9,000 people at the RCA Rodeo during Shakopee's Pow Wow Days celebration. In November, Shakopee and the state, voted to give Hubert H. Humphrey Minnesota's 10 electoral votes. However, Humphrey lost the presidential bid to Republican candidate Richard M. Nixon.

The space race continued on July 21, 1969, when U.S. astronauts Neil Armstrong, Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin and Michael Collins landed on the moon.

ValleyFair, Drug Use and Watergate

In May 1971, Police Chief Pat Thielen and Dr. Pat Adams undertook a project to give the Millpond area a facelift and improve Shakopee's image. However, a decision by the City Council in June to enact a leash law for cats set Shakopee up for some national ridicule.

A Look Back continued.....

The Bloomington Ferry Bridge Church was returned to Shakopee in July 1972 via a ride on a barge to be part of the Historical Restoration Site. Just a few months later, the Police Department searched for the "Red Light Bandit," who used a fake patrol car to pull over women and take their purses.



Photograph courtesy of Valleyfair!

In October, the City Council approved plans to build Valleyfair! amusement park. The end of the year brought the discovery of murder victim James Wagoner.



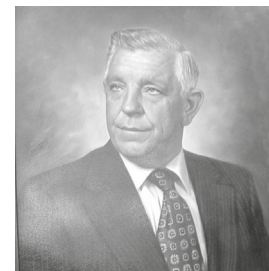
Photograph courtesy of Valleyfair!

Early in 1973, the City Council passed a resolution conveying Memorial Park to the Scott County Historical Society. Independence Day brought some real fireworks when a fire at Pollution Controls Inc. set the skies ablaze with 55 gallon drums of solvents exploding in the air.

The Wagoner murder file was closed in February 1974, with findings of six conspirators involved in his death. Then on August 9, 1974, the nation watched as President Richard M. Nixon resigned from office for his involvement in the Watergate

break-in and its cover up.

The Police Department and citizens were shocked in March 1977, when an undercover investigation discovered an alarming level of drug activity in area schools. After 120 years of service, Strunk Pharmacy closed its doors in May.



Chief "Pat" Thielen

In 1978, Shakopee Police Chief R.G. "Pat" Thielen retired after 30 years in that position. The decade ended with a lot of area cleanup as summer thunderstorms in 1979 produced 40 funnel clouds throughout the state.

Tough Times and Cable TV

During the early 1980s, Minnesota and the nation dealt with inflation and high budget disparities. A failed referendum and state budget cuts left Shakopee District 720 re-designing its education system just to stay afloat. The nation was shocked by the killing of John Lennon on December 8, 1980, outside his New York City home and then the assassination attempt on President Ronald Reagan on March 30, 1981.

Shakopee residents were introduced to the world of cable TV when Zilstra United Cable Company began laying cable and installing antennas. The last week of 1982 brought a paralyzing snowstorm with more than a foot of snow and 40 mph winds.

Photographs courtesy of Don Wagner and the Shakopee Historical Society. For more information on the Sesquicentennial Celebration for Shakopee, contact Mark Noble at 952-233-9348.



SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION AND HUBER PARK GRAND OPENING JUNE 29-JULY 1

(Tentatively scheduled)

- FIREWORKS
- LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
- KIDS' PARADE
- TROLLEY TOURS
- COMMUNITY PICNIC
- STROLLING PERFORMERS
- HISTORIC REENACTMENTS
- KIDS' GAMES
- DEDICATION CEREMONY
- RIVERBOAT RIDES
- COMMUNITY THEATER
- TEEN NIGHT (FRIDAY)