



NOVEMBER 2018

3033 St. Croix Trail South
P.O. Box 219
Afton, MN 55001

Veterans Memorial Unveiling

After months of planning and a lot of manual labor from the Veterans Advisory Committee, the Lower St. Croix Valley Veterans Memorial will be unveiled on November 10th, at 2:30 pm. Residents from Afton, Lakeland, Lakeland Shores, Lake St. Croix Beach and St. Mary's Point are all welcome to attend. It's located at 1919 Quebec Ave. South in Lake St. Croix Beach.

To celebrate Veteran's Day, and for those men and women from the Valley that have served their country, LSCB will unveil the newly expanded and renovated Veterans Memorial Park.

The Bayport Legion will present the colors, there will be a bugle player, a gun salute and County Commissioner Gary Kriesel, along with others, will say a few words to commemorate this occasion.

This has been a labor of love for many months and to finally present it to the public is special. Please stop by and see the new park.



CITY OFFICE CLOSED
Monday, November 12, 2018
Thursday, November 22, 2018
Friday, November 23, 2018

CITY MEETINGS
November 5, 2018
Natural Resources and Groundwater
Committee 5:00 P.M.
November 5, 2018
Planning Commission Meeting
7:00 P.M.
November 20, 2018
City Council Meeting
7:00 P.M.
November 28, 2018
Heritage Preservation Commission
5:00 P.M.
November 28, 2018
Parks Committee
6:00 P.M.

*All meetings are held at City Hall
unless otherwise noted.*

CITY COUNCIL

Mayor: Richard Bend 436-7684
Ward 1: Bill Palmquist 436-2238
Ward 2: Joe Richter 436-1819
Ward 3: Stan Ross 436-1346
Ward 4: Randy Nelson 436-2479

CITY HALL

Monday — Friday
9:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.
651-436-5090

CITY WEBSITE

www.ci.afton.mn.us

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Animal Control 715-386-7789
Building Inspector 436-6469
Burning Permits 248-5103
Environmental Center 430-6655
Highland Sanitation 458-0043
Mally's Sunshine Kennel 715-246-2467
LSCV Fire Dept 436-7033
Sheriff's Dept 439-9381

EMERGENCY 911

General Election November 6, 2018

Voting Hours: 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church

East Entrance - Gymnasium

14107 Hudson Road S

Afton, MN 55001



Don't forget Daylight Savings!

"Fall back" 1 hour on November 4



Veterans Recognition Dinner

Hosted by the Yellow Ribbon Alliance Lower St. Croix Valley

Thursday, November 8, 2018 5 pm to 7 pm

Held at St. Francis of Assisi Church — Lake Saint Croix Beach

FREE – Dinner and Prizes for Lower St. Croix Valley Veterans, Service Members and their Families

For more information, please contact Mary at 651-436-8696

www.st.croixvalleyyellowribbon.org

A Letter from the Mayor ~

During my nearly-completed five years as Afton's Mayor, we have accomplished many things: permanently protected open space, eliminated Old Village pollution of the St. Croix River, constructed flood protection improvements, including an upgraded, soon-to-be certified levee, provided high speed internet to residents, resurfaced roads financed at historically low interest rates, revised the Comprehensive Plan, digitized public records for instant access and cooperatively ensured respectful discourse during City Council meetings.

What has made all these accomplishments possible? **First, advice sought and received from others.** Both before and after becoming Mayor I spent a great deal of time meeting with and learning from past Mayors including Ken Kopitzke, Julia Welter and Pat Snyder. Each gave me valuable information and advice on what had and had not worked for them while serving as Mayor. I am grateful for all the help. I wish Ken was still with us. Kris, his son, carries on Ken's record of service as Chair of the Planning Commission. Previous Planning Commission chairs Greg Pennella, Jim Fox and Barbara Ronningen and Planning Commissioners too numerous to list, as well as residents, have also provided valuable advice.

Second, a culture of mutual support between elected officials and staff. We have worked hard to insure continuity of staffing by supporting existing staff and avoiding personal attacks, thereby reducing turnover and insuring preservation of institutional efficiencies and knowledge.

Third, rigorous compliance with the requirements of Afton's ordinances. This has been done by following the advice and counsel of the city's expert legal, planning and engineering consultants. This has at times required firm resolve on the part of the Council, particularly when lay opinion has been contrary to expert advice. The result has been a significant reduction in litigation costs to the city.

It is my hope that the positive changes accomplished in Afton's city governance will be continued and improved upon by my successors.

~Richard

Annual Village Holiday

Bake Sale

to benefit the Afton Historical Museum

Please drop off your festively packaged treats at
the museum

before 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 29

Thank You!

Afton Historical Museum

3165 Saint Croix Trail South, Afton

Questions? Email: vickie@aftonhistoricalmuseum.com

or 651-436-3500

SAVE THE DATE

The Lower St Croix Valley Fire Department will be hosting its annual **Pancake Breakfast with Santa** on Sunday, December 2nd from 8:00 am until Noon.

Join us for All You Can Eat Pancakes at the Lower St Croix Valley Fire Department in Lake St. Croix Beach.

Santa once again will be in attendance and is excited to see everyone before Christmas. Free Will Donation and remember to bring an item for the local food shelf! Hope to see you there!

October Meeting Highlights

October 2, 2018 Planning Commission Meeting

The Commission:

- Held a public hearing for an application from Tom Gasser for a Variance at 4220 River Road.
- Discussed dividing up sections of Ordinance 12 for members to study and develop areas of expertise.

October 16, 2018 City Council Meeting

The Council:

- Approved a proposal for Auditing Services from CarlsonSV.
- Approved trial use of liquid salt for snow and ice control on city streets
- Approved the Law Enforcement Services Agreement with Washington County.
- Approved the Washington County All Hazard Mitigation Plan.

MEETING PACKETS, VIDEOS AND APPROVED MEETING MINUTES ARE AVAILABLE AT:

www.ci.afton.mn.us

Belwin Conservancy Upcoming Events

Saturday, November 17

Open Third Saturday 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Participate in programs, meet Belwin staff, explore the trails, and connect with nature. One-Hour Guided Experiences at 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. departing from the Education Center.

November topic: *Natural Ornaments*. [Kathy Feste](#), artist and Warner Nature Center interpretive naturalist, will guide our efforts as we collect items from around Belwin to create a lovely nature-inspired ornament for your home. **Free and open to everyone.**

For Information & To RSVP for events:

Belwin Conservancy
1553 Stagecoach Trail S., Afton
651-436-5189

www.belwin.org

Budget and Tax Hearing

All are Invited to Attend Afton's 2019 Budget and Tax Hearing

7:00 pm, Tuesday, December 18, 2018

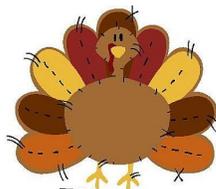
Afton City Council Chambers
3033 St Croix Trail South
Afton, MN 55001

The hearing is an opportunity for the public to ask questions and provide feedback regarding the proposed budget.

**The 2019 Proposed Budget is available at
City Hall or on the City's website at:**

www.ci.afton.mn.us

(Click the top tab: "City Finance Information")



Happy Thanksgiving

Happy Anniversary!

November boasts a milestone month for the Lower St Croix Valley Fire Department as we would like to recognize 40 years of continuous service to Fire Chief Jim Stanley.

Jim has served on one department his entire career and has filled in at nearly every level and every capacity. Prior to being hired on as our first full-time Chief in July 2017, he served as Deputy Chief and Fire Marshall for the five-city fire protection district. He has served also as President of the Washington County Fire Chief Association and remains very active in other regional and statewide fire and EMS efforts.

Congratulations to Jim (and also to his wife Margi) for your time and dedication to public safety in our communities! We appreciate all you do for us!



CITY OF AFTON
3033 ST CROIX TRAIL SO
P.O. BOX 219
AFTON, MN 55001



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Valley Library Featured Events for November 2018

**Library Closed: November 12
November 22-23**

Spotlight On... Writing

Everyone has a story within them. Scribble, scrawl, and scribe yours by unleashing your inner author this month with our Spotlight On...Writing. Washington County Library has the tools and materials that help you put pen to paper (or blinking cursor to Word document) and get your creativity flowing.

Participate in [National Novel Writing Month](#) (or as we affectionately call it, NaNoWriMo) and blitz through 50,000 words in a month. Self-publish your work electronically and share it with readers throughout the state using the [MN Writes MN Reads platform](#). Seek inspiration by using [LitFinder](#) to search more than 150,000 full-text poems, in addition to short stories and secondary materials (like biographies). Hear directly from a prolific local writer at this year's [MahtoREADi event](#) and learn more about her approach to the writing process. Don't forget to consult our bevy of [books](#) and [magazines](#) dedicated to writing for all ages – no matter the genre format. (You can also check out what [the "King" of writing](#) has to say on the subject, while you're at it.)

Featured Events

STEM Saturdays: Wolves at Our Door
Saturday, Nov. 3 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Learn about wolf biology, predator-prey dynamics, and habitat, and discuss myths and fears about wolves in this interactive program presented by outreach educators from the International Wolf Center at Valley Library. Recommended for ages 6 and up. No registration needed.

Full Calendar of Events:
www.washcolib.org

Valley Branch Library
380 St. Croix Trail South
Lakeland, MN 55043
651-436-5882

Commercial and Residential Invited

What: Annual Fire Extinguisher Recharging

Where: Lower St Croix Valley Fire Department

When: Wednesday, Nov 28 from 9:00 am to Noon

By: Bill Becker Fire & Safety

Cost: Varies and Paid directly to Vendor

**PATRON
AFTON, MN 55001**

You may view this newsletter

IN COLOR
on the city website.



*Please recycle this
newsletter after use.*

Lower St Croix Valley Fire Department

In early August, the 911 system was disabled for a short period of time due to a sub-contractor working in the area. This was no fault of any organization but an accidental mishap. In September, the Sheriffs office had an incident in Denmark Township that created a need to notify a particular area of residents in the southern part of Afton. Washington County has a system called Code RED which you may have heard of before.

Code RED is a web-based system which allows the Sheriff's Office the ability to reach a large number of residents in a very short time, by geographically-based delivery of telephone and text messaging. The system allows county residents the ability to create their own account so they can add or remove numbers they want the system to call.

If you received a notification about either of these "events", you are probably already signed up for Code RED. If not, please follow the link below to sign up. It is used for many different scenarios such as lost children, fire/rescue emergencies, law enforcement emergencies or any other incidents that might fall under emergency management. The system works, please sign up today!

<https://www.co.washington.mn.us/2882/Code-Red>

CODE REDTM

Be safe,
Fire Chief Jim Stanley