

The seal of Rapid City, South Dakota, is centered at the top of the page. It features a gear-like border with the words "RAPID CITY" at the top and "SOUTH DAKOTA" at the bottom. Inside the seal, it says "INCORPORATED 1882" and depicts a scene with a train and a person.

CITY OF RAPID CITY

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF RAPID CITY GOVERNMENT

June 2016

Rockin' Disabilities Event Wednesday, June 15

The 4th annual Rockin' Disabilities event will be held Wednesday, June 15, from 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. at Main Street Square. This event is held annually by the Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities to help build awareness of people with disabilities and the services and equipment companies who supplying their needs. Booths are available at no charge for the vendors.

It is said that nearly 25% of all people in this country will experience a disability in their lifetime.

Music will be provided by DD & the Fayrohs. A group of students will sign the lyrics of DD & The Fayrohs tunes bringing another element of understanding disabilities to the event.

This event is free to attend. It is encouraged that you bring a sack lunch and lawn chair or blanket.

2016 City Council Election Results

Ward 1

Lisa Modrick (2019)
Lisa.Modrick@rcgov.org

Ward 2

Steve Laurenti (2019)
Steve.Laurenti@rcgov.org

Ward 3

Jason Salamun (2019)
Jason.Salamun@rcgov.org

Ward 4

Amanda Scott (2019)
Amanda.Scott@rcgov.org

Ward 5

Darla Drew (2019)
Darla.Drew@rcgov.org

This newsletter is a monthly publication of important news and events in Rapid City Government.

It is presented by the Mayor's Office for the residents of Rapid City.

The background of the fireworks section features a stylized American flag with stars and stripes, overlaid with a vibrant display of fireworks exploding in the night sky.

FIREWORKS

The City of Rapid City will host its annual fireworks show on Saturday, July 2 at dusk.

This is the first year since 2011 the City has held its annual fireworks celebration over the 4th of July weekend. Fireworks will be set off from the Executive Golf Course at Founder's Park beginning at dusk.

Other fireworks shows in Rapid City of the Fourth of July weekend:

Elks Lodge, Sunday, July 3
Fitzgerald Stadium, Sunday, July 3
Arrowhead Country Club, Monday, July 4



Longest Active City Employee Retires

John Wagner, Rapid City's Water Superintendent and longest active employee, officially hung up his hat on Friday, May 27.

John started working for the City's utility department in August 1972, two months after the devastating June 1972 flood. Since 1991, he has served in his current capacity as water superintendent.

Dale Tech, interim director of the City's Public Works Department, stated Wagner's contributions to the City and its residents has been 'invaluable'. "John's dedication and hard work over a 43-plus year career have been invaluable to the City of Rapid City and his knowledge and sense of humor will be hard to replace," said Tech. "His experience and leadership as water superintendent have been critical to providing our community with high quality drinking water and ensuring the City is in great position for many years to come."

Water Restrictions in Effect June 1

It's that time of the year again. Rapid City is instituting mandatory water conservation measures beginning Wednesday, June 1.

For more than 20 years, the City of Rapid City has instituted mandatory water conservation measures. The purpose is to maintain a conservation philosophy among residents. Water conservation measures are utilized June 1- August 31 each year.

Ret. Water Superintendent believes that it is extremely important to keep residents and the community as a whole educated on the importance of water conservation measures, no matter the conditions.

No watering is allowed between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. daily. Odd-numbered addresses are allowed to water on odd-numbered calendar days. Even-numbered addresses are allowed to water on even-numbered calendar days. No outside watering is allowed on the 31st day of any month.

Building Permits

The City's Division of Building Services issued 302 building permits in May with a total valuation of \$14,531,993. For 2016, the City has issued 1,272 permits with a total valuation of \$134,564,414.

For the first five months of 2015, the City issued 1,296 permits with a total valuation of \$90,405,765.

Last month, the City issued four permits with a valuation of \$1 million or more. Top permits included: Kayci Acquisitions, LLC for Holiday Convenience Store, 35 Omaha Street (\$2,850,095); Black Hills Power for facility addition, 409 Deadwood Avenue (\$1,900,000); TMA LLC for facility remodeling, 329 Main Street (\$1,473,000); and Moyle Petroleum Company for Car Wash at 3491 E. Highway 44 (\$1,075,000).

Parks Employees Beautify the City

The City's greenhouse off Canyon Lake Drive produces and nurtures 50,000 annuals and more than 100 rose bushes during the winter months. During the summer, Parks crews dedicate themselves to maintaining the flowers, plants and rose bushes throughout our community.

The various flower gardens and frontage areas also include 2,000 rose bushes, which are winterized each fall then uncovered and maintained during the summer months. About 100 rose bushes are planted to replace any dying or dead rose bushes each summer.

"A lot of hard work has gone into growing the plants and getting them ready for planting," said City Greenhouse Specialist, Tim Forster. "City crews will be dedicating considerable time and taking great care in planting the flowers and bushes. The effort is to transform our parks and frontage areas with a variety of plants and colors for the enjoyment of our residents and visitors to the City."

Much of the work is focused at areas like Halley Park, Wilson Park, Sunken Gardens, Formal Gardens, Omaha Street at the East Boulevard and West Blvd intersections, St. Joe Street at the entrance of South Dakota School of Mines and the Promenade/Legacy Commons area.



Mayor Steve Allender and other city officials and staff joined 100 people from various sectors of Rapid City for a three-day systems dynamics workshop on community issues May 24-26 hosted by Rapid City Collective Impact (RCCI).

The purpose of the workshop was to create a shared understanding of the interconnections between various sectors in the community, including housing, employment and health. The group included about 25 who head up or work for nonprofit organizations. Representatives from city government, city administration, county administration, faith community, business (mostly owners of businesses and CEOs), Native leaders and a number of citizens participated.

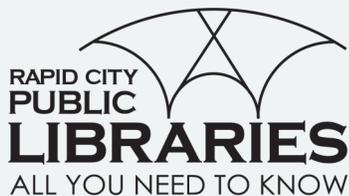
A product of the workshop was the development of eight 'work streams', established with the goal of developing solutions to obstacles that limit forward movement for the city's residents, including the homeless and those who struggle with poverty. The work streams were identified for housing, economic development, diversity and cultural engagement, family life, education, community engagement, mental health and substance abuse and prevention, and leadership.

RCCI was formed in 2015 with the vision of several local philanthropists including Sandy Diegel, CEO of the John T. Vucurevich Foundation; Rapid City businessman Ray Hillenbrand; Jim Scull of Scull Construction and Brent Phillips, CEO of Regional Health. RCCI's facilitating organization is comprised of cultural anthropologist Dr. Albert Linderman, system modeler Don Greer and two other community-based systems dynamics experts, Megan Odenthal and Christine Capra.

Rapid City Collective Impact is based on a 2011 Stanford Innovation Review article by authors John Kania and Mark Kramer. The authors describe the 'Collective Impact' process, asserting substantial progress can be made in alleviating serious and complex social problems such as housing, jobs, education, hunger, family services and health care when non-profit organizations, businesses, health care organizations, philanthropy, governments and the public prioritize service to the community with collaborative action.

Rapid City's Guiding Council on the initiative includes Mayor Allender; Lloyd LaCroix, former Council member; Liz Hamburg of the Black Hills Community Foundation; Tiffany Smith, Regional Health's community services director; Diegel; Phillips; and Dr. Linderman.

"This is the turning point where we stop talking and start doing," Mayor Allender stated at a June 2 press conference to outline workshop outcomes. "We have a real chance to change the lives of thousands of people in Rapid City. This is a long-term issue. This is about the community and its long-term future."



Rapid City Public Libraries start Summer Reading Programs

Pick up or download a Reading Log [here](#). Check a box for each day you read or are read to for 15 minutes. Participants who complete 50 days of reading will be entered into a drawing for bigger prizes! Check

an additional box for taking part in some of our fun events and ideas listed. For every ten events or ideas you complete, you receive an additional entry into our grand prize drawings!

Reading Logs can be picked up at either RCPL location or downloaded and printed from home!

IMPORTANT DATES

June 30 | First day to turn in first Reading Log

July 31 | First day to turn in second Reading Log

August 31 | Last day to turn in Reading Logs

CIVIC CENTER RESOLUTION TASK FORCE

The Civic Center Resolution Task Force will host a series of public forums in the coming weeks to provide the community with an update and status report of the work that has been accomplished thus far. This is the first community input opportunity and we encourage you to join in on this very important discussion hosted at Lacroix Hall D at the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center. Join us for any or all sessions with light refreshments provided.

Thursday, July 7, 11:00-12:30 p.m.

Friday, July 8, 7:30-9:00 a.m.

Monday, July 11, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Member Tim Raben describes a few things he has learned along the way:

- 1) ADA is a civil rights act and as such requires access for people with disabilities equal to those without disabilities. Accordingly the DOJ does not outline detailed remedies rather places the responsibility on Rapid City to demonstrate good faith efforts to provides people with disabilities equal access to the Barnett Arena. This makes remedy more difficult than mere compliance with specific detailed regulations & codes.
- 2) Although ADA compliance is required an equally important issue for the Barnett Arena is getting people out of the building in the event in the event of an emergency. This old Arena has significant life safety issues and is not built for rapid evacuation for anyone, let alone those with disabilities. Modern life safety and building codes would require additional effective means of egress.
- 3) The Barnett Arena is a significant contributor to the Rapid City economy. The majority of people attending events at the Barnett Arena are from outside of Rapid City. They pay sales taxes and BBB taxes which supports Rapid City and funds Rapid City's Vision fund. Beyond taxes these visitors spend significant dollars in our local businesses while they are here.
- 4) Events and event income has been declining for the past few years as competition from other regional event venues attract promoters with updated or new facilities. Our Barnett Arena was not built to service the needs of modern event productions, i.e. the ceiling is too low and can not support needed weight loads.
- 5) The Barnett Arena is not just an ADA problem, rather this is a complex puzzle to determine the future of this venue and its contribution to the Rapid City community.



It is important to note that the items listed in this report are the result of a joint effort between City Council, Department Directors, our employees, citizens, and myself.

Working Together. Serving Together. We are a Team.

Career Opportunities

The City of Rapid City is an Equal Opportunity Employer (EOE), it is the policy of the City of Rapid City to affirmatively recruit, hire, train and promote the most qualified persons into all job levels without regard to race, color, age, religion, national origin, sex, or disability, and to recruit for disabled veterans, and veterans of the Vietnam Era. It is the policy of the City of Rapid City under SDCL 3-3-1 to provide Veterans Preference in Employment, and under Resolution 2012-014, to provide Disability Consideration. Directions for the Veterans Preference or Disability Consideration can be found on the application. Keep up to date with current career opportunities [here](#).

Contact Us

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