



City of Scandia
Scandia Community/
Senior Center
14727 209th St. N.
Scandia, MN 55073

Phone: 651 433-2274
Fax: 651 433-5112
E-mail:
mail@ci.scandia.mn.us
Hours: Mon. thru Fri.
9 to Noon & 1 to 4
(except Tues. open
until 6)

We're on the web!
www.ci.scandia.mn.us
and Facebook

City Council:
Randall Simonson, Mayor
651 538-4320
Connie Amos
612 759-3610
Chris Ness
651 707-5689
Jim Schneider
651 433-3692
Sally Swanson
651 433-3010

Regular Council Meeting:
Third Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.
Council Work Session:
Second Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.
Planning Commission:
First Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.

City Staff:
Kristina Handt,
Administrator
Brenda Eklund,
Deputy Clerk
Colleen Firkus, Treasurer
Tim Kieffer, Maintenance
Superintendent
Jim Finnegan, Fire Chief
Tom Miller, Attorney
Miller & Stevens, PA
Phil Gravel, Engineer
Stantec
Sherri Buss, Planner
TKDA Inc.

Dedicated to Rural Community Values

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Scandia, MN
55073
PERMIT #6

Household
Scandia, MN 55073

Community Calendar, October 2012—March, 2013

October

- October 8, Columbus Day Observed— Office Closed
- October 8, Fire Department Open House
- October 13, Community Market Fall Harvest Fest
- October 31, Safe Halloween at the Fire Hall

November

- November 6, Election Day
- November 12, Veteran's Day Observed— Office Closed
- November 22 & 23, Thanksgiving Holiday— Office Closed

December

- December 8, Lion's Community Breakfast
- December 11, 6:30 p.m. Public Meeting, 2013 City Budget and Tax Levy
- December 18, 7 p.m., Budget Adoption Hearing

- December 25, Christmas Day—Office Closed

January

- January 1, New Year's Day—Office Closed
- January 21, Martin Luther King Day— Office Closed

February

- February 2, Vinterfest
- February 18, President's Day— Office Closed
- February 23, Fireball 2013

March

- March 10, Daylight Savings Time Begins
- March 31, Easter Sunday

For more information and a city meeting calendar, see the website www.ci.scandia.mn.us.

For **Gammelgården** events, see:

<http://www.gammelgardmuseum.org>.

A TWICE-YEARLY
PUBLICATION
FOR RESIDENTS
OF THE CITY OF
SCANDIA,
MINNESOTA



Volume 6, Issue 2

October, 2012

Election Day is Tuesday, November 6

Mayor, two City Council seats will be on the ballot



In 2012, Minnesotans will go to the polls to elect a new President, Vice President, Senator, Member of Congress and new state Senators and Representatives. All Scandia residents vote at the Community Center Hall, 14727 209th St. N. Polls open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 8:00 p.m.

Scandia will also choose a Mayor and two City Council members. The Mayor serves a two-year term, and the Council members will serve four-year terms, all commencing on January 7, 2013 (the first Monday of the new year.)

Candidates for city offices are—

Mayor: Randall F. Simonson
Council member: Robert Pilz, Bob Hegland, Dan Lee, Connie Amos, Chris Ness and Dustin Hegland

Inside this issue:

Meet Kristina Handt, City Administrator 2

Tim Kieffer Takes On Maintenance 2

2013 Budget Drafted 3

Free, Fun Family Events at Scandia Fire Department 3

Driveway Permits Help Protect Roads 3

Short Takes 3

Community Calendar 4

Registering to Vote— If you were previously registered to vote in Scandia, and have voted at least once during the last four years, you are already registered. If you moved since you voted last, even if it is just to a new address within the city, you must update your registration. For the November 6 General Election, voter pre-registration closes at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 16. After that date, you may register at the polls on Election Day or at the same time you cast an absentee ballot. When you register to vote on Election Day, please be prepared to show proof of residency.

Absentee Ballots are Available Now— You may vote by absentee ballot if you are unable to vote in person on Election Day because you are: away from home; ill or disabled; an Election Judge serving in another precinct; or, unable to go to the polling place due to a religious holiday or belief. **Absentee ballots are no longer available at the city office.**

In person absentee voting: For most Scandia residents, the most convenient location to cast an absentee vote in person may be at the Washington County Headwaters Service Center, Forest Lake (19955 Forest Road North.) You may also apply and vote at the Property Records and Taxpayer Services Department at the Government Center in Stillwater, or at the other County service centers in Woodbury or Cottage Grove. Vote during regular business hours Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. the Saturday before the election.

Absentee voting by mail: Apply early so you can mail back or deliver your absentee ballot before Election Day. Your absentee ballot must reach your precinct by 8 p.m. on Election Day. You may call, write, or fax to request an application. You can return your application by fax, but not your ballot.

For more election information including links to downloadable registration and absentee ballot application forms, please see the city website at www.ci.scandia.mn.us and click on "Election Information" on the home page.

Meet Kristina Handt, City Administrator



Kristina Handt

Kristina Handt joined the staff on September 17, 2012 as the second-ever Scandia City Administrator, succeeding Anne Hurlburt who retired October 2.

Handt most recently served for four years as the Village Administrator of Luck, Wisconsin. Her previous experience includes working as a Legislative Assistant in the Minnesota State Senate and a District Assistant/ Field Representative for a US Congressman. She did an administrative internship with the City of Minnetrista, Minnesota. Handt received her BS degree in Political Science from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls, and holds a Masters of Advocacy and Political Leadership degree from the University of Minnesota, Duluth.

"Scandia's desire to retain its rural feel while being located so close to urban areas offers the best of both worlds," Handt said.

"What people often times like most about living in a rural residential community is the feeling that everyone knows you by name. When folks come into the city office, they are not just a number, but are greeted warmly and interest is shown in the individual."

The City Administrator is responsible for managing all of Scandia's local government operations and activities; ensuring adopted ordinances, resolutions and policies are implemented and consistently applied; and maintaining official records and supervising all staff.

Originally from Elk River, MN, Handt, 32, recently moved to Forest Lake, MN. In her spare time, she enjoys hiking, cheering on the Vikings, and spending time with her nieces.

Kristina Handt can be reached at 651 433-2274 or k.handt@ci.scandia.mn.us.

Tim Kieffer Takes on Maintenance



Tim Kieffer

Scandia's new Maintenance Superintendent, Tim Kieffer, started his duties on May 14. He has already dug in to his responsibilities, including overseeing the seal-coating and patching and the Melanie Lane improvements, among many other projects this past summer.

Kieffer brings 14 years of municipal public works experience to the City of Scandia. He most recently worked for the City of Hugo, and previously the City of White Bear Lake. He is a graduate of White Bear Lake Area High School, attended the University of Minnesota, Morris and received a Public Works Certificate from North Hennepin Community College.

The Maintenance Superintendent, a new position for Scandia, provides oversight and work direction for maintenance personnel and contractors to ensure that all city infrastructure (including roads, street lights, drainage systems, sewer and water) and facilities (including parks and public buildings) are operated and maintained in good condition. He will be charged with drafting and recommending policies and

will participate in long-range planning for his areas of responsibility. He will recommend and administer the budget for the Public Works Department, and recommend equipment and vehicle purchases.

Kieffer, 35, grew up in White Bear lives in Hugo with his girlfriend, Rebecca. In his spare time, he enjoys camping, golf, softball and hockey.

Tim Kieffer can be reached at 651 433-5223 or t.kieffer@ci.scandia.mn.us.

Gravel is New City Engineer

Phil Gravel, PE of Stantec was appointed City Engineer in May, 2012. Stantec, formerly Bonestroo, has served Scandia since 1997. Gravel, a Civil Engineering graduate of the University of Minnesota, has over 25 years experience with working on municipal projects including serving as designated city engineer for Forest Lake, Milaca, Maple Lake, Onamia and Spring Lake Park. He is a member of the City Engineers Association of Minnesota and the American Public Works Association.

2013 City Budget Drafted

In September, the City Council took the first steps toward adopting the budget and tax levy for 2013. The Council set the maximum, "not to exceed" tax levy at \$2,175,171, a 5.84% increase from 2012. The final

budget and levy will be set in December.

In November, each property owner will receive a "Truth in Taxation" notice with their estimated 2013 property tax bill. Scandia will hold a public meet-

ing on its 2013 budget and tax levy on Tuesday, December 11 at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Center. The budget and tax levy will be finalized after the adoption hearing scheduled for Tuesday, December 18, 2013.



Free, Fun Family Events at the Scandia Fire Department

Annual Open House— Monday, October 8, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Join the Scandia Fire and Rescue Department for their annual Open House. Bring the kids and learn about fire safety, see the fire trucks and other equipment, and meet your neighbors for some fun and food.

Safe Halloween Party— Monday, October 31, 2012 from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM

This is a fun event for all ages. Activities will include a large bonfire, games, hot dogs & hot chocolate. Co-sponsors are the Scandia Marine Lions Club, Elim Lutheran Church, Helke Tree Service and Country Rentals.

Both events: Scandia Fire Hall, 15040 Scandia Trail (Hwy 97.)



Fall Harvest Fest
Saturday, October 13

10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Gammalgården Museum

Scarecrow Contest
with Prizes

Children's Games and
Crafts, Food Sales,

Apple Cider,
Music and More

See the Website for

Details

Driveway Permits Help Protect Roads

There are many residents with new driveways this summer. Unfortunately, many did not apply for driveway permits. Some might ask the question, "why do I need a driveway permit?" The cost for a driveway permit is only \$25.00, but the savings to the city can be in the thousands.

Applying for a permit ensures that the work within the right-of-way is done correctly. Im-

properly installed culverts can lead to catastrophic results. The wrong material, size, slope or landscape around the ends of a culvert may cause water to collect in ditches. Over time, the ditch will fill up with sediment and cause standing water. Then, the water will seep into the sub-base of the road, causing road failure. Recently, the city replaced three such improperly installed culverts. It not only ruined the road, but

cost the city a lot of time and money. Another concern is driveways that protrude into the road or change the slope at the edge of the road. They trap water and eventually produce a pothole, or worse.

Have Questions or need more Information? Contact Maintenance Superintendent Tim Kieffer. Driveway permits are available at the City office.

Short Takes

Snow is Coming... is Your Mailbox Ready? Before you know it, the snow will be flying. Now is a good time to look at your mailbox and landscape within the right-of-way. If your mailbox is in need of repair, consider replacing the post with a swing-arm style support. Detailed specifications are available on the city website. Guidelines for proper mailbox installation are also available from the postal service, at <https://www.usps.com/manage/know->

[mailbox-guidelines.htm](#). The city is not responsible for snow-plowing damage to mailboxes that are not installed properly. Also take a look at landscaping along the road. After several snow falls, obstacles get buried. Make sure no obstructions are in the right-of-way that might be hit by the plows pushing back wing rows. Your cooperation is very much appreciated, and will make plowing the roads easier and safer.

Dala Horse Returns— one year after vandals hit, it was restored by resident Dan Lee, assisted by Dan Skupien and Craig Anderson. Dozens of pieces were re-assembled, filled with concrete and reinforcing rods, sandblasted and repainted in a color and pattern similar to the 2011 design by artist Sandy Swenson. It was set in concrete with the assistance of the city's Public Works Department and surrounded by new landscaping.

See the city website for more photos of the Community Center Dala horse restoration.

