a groundbreaking spring for orange city

“Orange City has a treasured past and a vibrant future,” Mayor Les Douma said at the 2011 customer appreciation picnic and brand launch, and with three major groundbreaking this spring it proves true.

In the past five years Orange City has seen the rise of over 25 new buildings and additions (business and industry). The most recent of these new buildings are Phase I and Phase II of the Phoenix Project—the Hawkeye Center and Prairie Winds Event Center. Now the third and final phase of the Phoenix Project—the Unity Christian High School (UCHS) Performing Arts Center—is underway. This 750-seat center will be the location for the high school’s chapel, plays, musicals, music concerts, assemblies, student breaks, and fellowship. The center will also host the annual Tulip Festival night show (currently held in the City Hall’s gymnasium) and plus other City sponsored civic events.

UCHS has been sponsoring a fundraising campaign which has raised over $3.6 million in the past three years. The estimated $4.2 million project will hold its community ground breaking at UCHS on Tuesday, April 24 at 10:00am. “The City of Orange City is excited and privileged to partner with UCHS in the quest to plan, fund, and construct a performing arts center,” commented Mayor Douma. “The recent success of the fundraising efforts affirm the reality of this project and supports the community’s broad vision for an enhanced quality of life in Orange City for generations to come.”

In 2004, a groundbreaking for Orange City Area Health System’s (OCAHS) main campus was held, and now eight years later Phase II of OCAHS’s promise is being fulfilled. Construction of a new state-of-the-art senior living facility will begin. “The main focus of this project is to create a senior care facility that feels more like home,” Dan McCarty, COO of OCAHS, shares.

The new facility will replace the health system’s two current senior care facilities—Long Term Care and the Heritage House nursing home. In addition, for the first time in Orange City, the new location will also have a memory unit for patients with Alzheimer’s and other memory related illnesses. This allows the opportunity for loved ones to stay in Orange City and get the care needed. The groundbreaking will be April 10 at 10:00am, and will be held at the new facility’s location—northwest of Landmeer Ridge Retirement Home on 8th St NE. McCarty continued, “Please join us in celebrating the lives of our seniors and honoring all the dedicated, compassionate professionals who care for them as we fulfill the promise and build a new senior care facility.”

before starting a project

If you’re planning project such as an addition, expansion, deck, or fence, make sure your work complies with City building codes and zoning ordinances. Visit with Ken Meendering, City Code Enforcement Officer and Building Inspector, to determine whether your project requires a building permit, special approval or variance, or inspection.

For any project, notify the Iowa One Call System at 811—a toll-free call and service that notifies all utility companies to locate their buried cable and service lines located on your property. A 48-hour advance notice is required, not including weekends or legal holidays.

For more information contact Ken Meendering at 712-707-4885 or code-enf@orangecityiowa.com.

talking politics

The April 17 deadline for the 84th Iowa General Assembly is clearly in sight. Many departmental budgets, education reform, property tax reform, and other critical issues are pending final action by both chambers. State Representative Chuck Soderberg and State Senator Randy Feenstra will be conducting a Legislative Coffee with area residents on Saturday, March 31 at 2:30 pm. The session is hosted by the City of Orange City, and located in City Hall’s City Council meeting room. This may be your last opportunity (this fiscal year) to personally visit with our legislators to share your thoughts and questions. We hope you will join us to have our voices heard in Des Moines.
City budget


Two major projects in next year’s budget include a replacement of a 1991 payloader and the development of the Puddle Jumper 5th affordable housing sub-division with 25 building lots.

clean-up time

Is it time to restore order to your garage, basement storage rooms, and those cluttered areas underneath your sinks? More often than not, we have a tendency to buy more, collect more and sort out less. Our inventories of the “Least Wanted” become overstocked. During the upcoming months, Orange City residents will have the opportunity to “clean house” and gain control again.

City-Wide Clean Up
April 23–27
Curbside
You must buy a $10 flag from City Hall

Electronic Goods Recycling
May 4 @ 4:00–7:00pm &
May 5 @ 9:00am–12:00pm
Alton City Hall

Household Hazardous Material
Collection Event
June 6 @ 5:00–7:00pm
Windmill Park band shell
Free disposal of most items

Orange City Compost Site
Weekly; daylight hours only
Located on Hwy 10 W
Free disposal of lawn/plant clippings and trees/shrubs.

Glass Recycling Center
Weekly
Located at City Street Department; directly south of ALCO
Clear and colored bottles without labels and lids if possible.

For more information contact the City of Orange City at 712-707-4885 or cityoc@orangecityiowa.com. Or visit us online at OrangeCityIowa.com.

get a kick out of spring

The Orange City Recreation Department is gearing up for another great year of spring soccer. “We expect close to 500 participants this year,” says Mitch Aalbers, Parks and Recreation Director. The program consists of six weeks of soccer for children ages 4–14.

For kids looking for a higher level of soccer, the department has added a league dimension to the program which youth ages 10–14 can participate in jamborees with other communities. The Northwestern College soccer teams will assist in coaching the program again this year. “We feel truly blessed to have the Northwestern players help coach,” continues Aalbers. “They really enjoy teaching the children the skills of soccer.”

When the program begins April 9, this community will be transformed into the yellow, blue, green, and red shirts of spring soccer!

walking in traffic

The early arrival of spring weather has awakened kids and adults alike from their winter hibernation, and getting some fresh air and exercise is a welcomed activity. However, along with this enthusiasm, we offer some gentle but serious reminders. When you are out for your walks, please use sidewalks and crosswalks whenever possible. If you must walk on a public street without a sidewalk, walk in the direction facing oncoming traffic—the left side of the street. Drivers need to see you to avoid you.

Please stay out of the driver’s blind spot, make eye contact when possible, wear bright colors or reflective clothing, and carry a flashlight when walking in the dark. It’s no contest if there is a collision between you and a car. Play it safe so you can walk again tomorrow!!

a groundbreaking spring

for orange city ... cont

This spring also marks another groundbreaking in Orange City. Northwestern College recently launched the public phase of the Imagine Campaign to complete funding for various initiatives including a Learning Commons. The $15 million new facility—scheduled for completion in summer of 2013—is described as an “active learning laboratory.” Students will have a broad range of educational tools and environments at their fingertips. “Constructed west of Christ Chapel,” states Jay Wielenga, Vice President for Advancement at Northwestern College, “it will flank a new main entrance to campus.”

The new commons will replace the Ramaker Library, but a library will be just one part of the facility. It will also house classrooms, a peer learning center, media center, a coffee shop, and a spacious common room. The $8,000 sq ft Learning Commons—west of Christ Chapel—will have its groundbreaking April 16 at 10:45am.

For more information or to contribute to any of the exciting and groundbreaking projects, please contact the following representatives:

Performing Arts Center
Bill Forman
712-441-0593
www.unity.pvt.k12.ia.us

Long Term Care Facility
Dan McCarty
712-737-5374
mccartyd@ochealthsystem.org
www.ochealthsystem.org

Learning Commons
Advancement Office
712-707-7106
giving@nwciowa.edu
www.imagine.nwciowa.edu

City of Orange City
125 Central Ave SE • PO Box 406 • Orange City, IA 51041 • 712.707.4885
cityoc@orangecityiowa.com • orangecityiowa.com

*Oops! We noticed a printing error too late! Orange City’s ZIP Code is 51041. We are trying to be green and not throw them away. Bear with us for a couple of months. Thanks! "Shirt's of spring soccer!"

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