

## **Welcome to the Mayor's Update April, 2013**

The Mayor's Update is an attempt, on a monthly basis, to better inform Orange City's citizens and others on the progress and activities occurring within the community. City Council decisions, retail and commercial development progress, business activities and other actions affecting the community are included in a brief and, hopefully, informative manner.

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### **AdvancePierre Foods Facility**

The facility, owned by AdvancePierre Foods, continues to be marketed to other food processing firms throughout the country, and city representatives continue to cooperate with interested entities.

Two food processing firms have shown significant interest in the facility, and, hopefully, news regarding the sale of the facility can be announced in the next month or so.

### **Housing Progress – Puddle Jumper #5**

Plans for PJ #5 include the following:

1. Offering lots for purchase, available July 1, 2013, that will provide affordable housing opportunities with homes of 1400 sq. ft. or less to be constructed. The lots will be priced at \$20,000 per lot. Infrastructure bids, including streets, sewer, and water, have been accepted and installation will begin early spring.
2. For the purpose of building larger homes, a private developer, Harry Vander Pol, has purchased a 12-acre plot along the trail. These lots are obviously larger in size, and infrastructure for this portion of the development will be installed by September 15, 2013.
3. The Federal Tax Credit Housing application, which would have provided for fourteen 3 and 4 bedroom single-family dwellings for lower income families, was not approved. Consequently, the 14 lots that were a part of this application will be included in the affordable housing effort.

### **Dunlop Wildlife Area**

Neppl Landscape Architecture firm recently presented their most recent ideas for the development of the Dunlop Wildlife Area and the Roadside Park. A final public meeting will be conducted within the next month to review the revised plans for the two areas. The present plans are available for public viewing at the Orange City and Alton public libraries.

This project has been an excellent partnership between the communities of Orange City and Alton along with the Sioux County Conversation Board.

### **City Highway Signage**

The City is in the final planning stages for installing new city signs to the east and west of the community on Highway 10. Plans still call for the signs to be constructed this summer.

**Baseball Fields**

The new T-ball fields at the swimming pool are nearing completion. Backstop fencing and baseline fences were installed in February; the infield surface is in place; and the MOC-Floyd Valley construction class is in the process of building an equipment shed for the complex.

The final stages for improving the fields at Vets Park include the addition of a batting cage for softball and baseball usage and installing a smaller piece of playground equipment in the area of the bleachers for the benefit of families with smaller children.

This has been an excellent project with funding from several sources:

- Community Fundraising Effort
- Community Betterment Board
- Minnesota Twins Grant
- Sioux County Grant
- City Funds

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Once again, thank you citizens of Orange City for making our community a special place to live, work, worship, and play.

Les Douma  
Mayor, Orange City

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