



CITY NEWS

<http://www.templetoniowa.com>

Fall/Winter 2012

A Publication for the Citizens of Templeton, Iowa

City Officials & Boards

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<u>Council</u>	Mark Bauer Doyle Engelen Rick Hoffman Dave Ramsey Jan Wieland
<u>City Clerk</u>	Rhonda Schwaller
<u>Public Works</u>	Dale Prebeck
<u>Fire Chief</u>	Dale Prebeck
<u>Community Center Manager:</u>	Denise Irlbeck
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Templeton Community Center Update—November 2012

Significant progress has been made this past summer and fall on the Templeton Community Center project. On November 6th, the Capital Campaign for the project exceeded \$1 million in funds raised and pledged towards the project, which is a major milestone in the fundraising effort for the estimated \$1.4 million project. The generous support shown by many both in and outside of the community has been tremendous, and fundraising efforts will continue until the goal is reached. You can follow the fundraising progress by watching the “thermometer” project sign on Main Street or by checking the Templeton website at www.templetoniowa.com/center.

Preliminary work has begun on several phases of the project. In July, excess equipment and almost 50 years of accumulated “stuff” was removed and cleaned from the building by local volunteers. The exterior brick and stone was also cleaned and joints were caulked and sealed. The asbestos was completely abated from the building in September, which was necessary before any other remodeling work was started. In October, the dead and diseased trees were removed from the west side of the property, and Danner Landscapes planted several varieties of colorful maples in the area as replacements.

The City has hired Simonson Associates as the architect for the project, and the design team is headed up by Clark Snyder, who grew up in Templeton. Formal design work will begin in the coming weeks, and it is hoped that bids on early construction phases of the project will be ready early next year. Demolition in the classroom areas is planned for this winter, and most of the work will be done with volunteers in order to save on project costs.

The cafeteria, gymnasium and restrooms will remain open for use through the end of the year for many holiday and family gatherings, but construction may limit the buildings use for periods of time after January 1st. The City has hired Denise Irlbeck to manage the building during the renovation project. For reservations or questions please call Denise at (712) 669-3394 or (563) 380-5806.

Templeton Community Center

Denise Irlbeck
Community Center Manager
For reservation please call:
(712) 669-3394 or (563) 380-5806



Automatic Payment Plan

Sign up for automatic bill payment plan—have your city utility payments automatically deducted from your bank account on a monthly basis. Call or stop by City Hall to sign up if interested.

Templeton City Hall

108 S. Main St., P.O. Box 106
Templeton, IA 51463-0106

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Office Hours:

Monday—Friday
9:00 a.m.—Noon



Save the Templeton Post Office!

We live in a world dominated by technology, where worldwide communication is just a click of the mouse away. Emailing, text messaging and cell phones are all at our disposal. Good old snail mail has become an antiquated practice, forgotten by the general population. Though this may not sound serious on first thought, the decrease in the volume of mail is seriously affecting the United States Postal Offices and leaving it sinking in a precarious state. The cost of postage has been steadily increasing for the past couple of years in an attempt to pull the Postal Service from its deficit. Emailing and electronic bills have reduced the amount of mail sent

through the US Postal Service. Due to the state of the economy, businesses nationwide have opted to go paperless, and cease mail advertisements. It's a significant loss and a striking blow to the Postal Service's revenue bringing them one step closer to closing the doors of yet another post office. Even though the United States Postal Service (USPS) is a government regulated entity it is not government funded. Individual post offices generate their own revenue from the sale of postage stamps, packaging materials, and packages mailed, etc. This revenue has a **huge impact** on the future of small town post offices. Everyone knows it takes revenue to keep a business open. USPS also considers the volume of mail that local post offices process. The Templeton Post Office regularly submits reports to the United States Postal Service for review of their revenue generated and the volume of mail processed. As a community, we need to band together and do our part to secure the future of the Templeton Post Office. All you need to do is buy a roll of stamps or two and start sending your letters and packages from the Templeton Post Office! The more revenue generated and higher mail volume hopefully would prevent the Templeton Post Office from being placed on a list of offices to be closed in the future. There is a process that the Postal Service must go through before they shut down offices. They are obligated to hold a public meeting and inform residents that their local post office will be closing.

In 2011, the USPS announced it studying around 3,700 post offices across the country for possible closure due to financial struggles. But due to public vocalness against the closure of these post offices, the USPS came up with a new 2-year strategy known as the POST Plan. The Templeton Post Office was among the offices evaluated under the POST Plan criteria. Surveys were mailed to the Templeton community a few weeks ago requesting the community's input to help determine the best course of action for providing postal services in Templeton. The survey gave residents and businesses the options of having the USPS study the post office for closure and have retail and mail delivery service provided by a rural carrier, study it for closure and have services provided by a contractor or at an alternate location, study the office for closure with P.O. Box service provided by another nearby post office, or to leave the post office open with reduced hours. The survey also allowed residents to provide the window hours they would prefer for their local post office if these hours are to be changed.

The City of Templeton recommends everyone in the Templeton community attend the POST Plan meeting on Tuesday, November 27, 2012 at 5:30 p.m. at the Templeton Community Center. Representatives from the United States Post Office will be present for residents and business owners to ask questions and get answers about the future of the Templeton Post Office. The City of Templeton encourages everyone to be respectful but assertive with their questions and testimonies that cover the value of the Templeton Post Office. According to USPS regulations, if there is low community attendance, the USPS can move forward with their plans because of a lack of public interest. Don't let this happen! The Templeton community needs to band together and stand up for what is best for our community. The meeting on November 27th is a great opportunity to make clear to the USPS what our community wants. Through everyone's efforts, our goal is to save our post office.

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Consider these questions when you convey your thoughts and feelings with USPS representatives on Tuesday, November 27, 2012.

1. Other than buying stamps, what does the Post Office do for the Templeton community?
2. Would it be difficult for you to get to the nearest town with a post office?
3. How much would it cost you to get to the next closest post office? Please take into account gas, time off of work, etc.?
4. Do you rely on the Post Office to receive your prescription medications?
5. How would Templeton be impacted if the post office reduced its hours or closed completely?
6. How will small businesses be impacted if the post office reduced its hours or closed completely?



The City of Templeton is bringing this issue to the community's attention because it will have a huge impact on our town. As a community, we can't sit idly by as a cornerstone of small town life and one more piece of our democracy is dismantled without the opportunity to truly weigh in. **Please consider attending the POST Plan meeting on Tuesday, November 27th at 5:30 p.m. at the Templeton Community Center.**

American Red Cross Blood Drive



Every minute of every day, someone needs blood. That blood can only come from a volunteer donor, a person like you who makes the choice to donate. There is no substitute for your donation. This fall's Blood Drive will be held in Templeton on **Monday, November 19, 2012 from 1:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Templeton Community Center.** For an appointment or anyone willing to volunteer a few hours to help, please call Ali Sturm at 830-8742. Walk-ins are also welcome.

BE A HERO...PLEASE DONATE!



Santa Claus is coming to T-Town!

Children's Christmas Open House

Wednesday, November 28th 5 - 7 p.m.

Templeton Community Center

Kids are invited to see Santa & Grab some Goodies!



Sponsored by the Templeton Community Betterment Association & Knights of Columbus

Smoke Detector/Alarm

The ***Install. Inspect. Protect. Campaign*** is part of the U.S. Fire Administration's effort to reduce fire deaths and injuries across the nation by urging residents to install smoke alarms in their homes and inspect and maintain them on a regular basis. Working smoke alarms save lives.

A working smoke alarm can help you and your family escape a deadly home fire. It can also help save the lives of firefighters who would otherwise have to risk their lives by searching a burning home for residents. A working smoke alarm continuously scans the air for smoke, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. It never sleeps.

The USFA is encouraging you to practice fire safety and do your part to get out, before fire-fighters have to come in.





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