



# VICTORIA SPIRIT



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## Ordinary people doing EXTRAORDINARY jobs

What is one thing that local Victoria firefighters and Victoria sheriff's deputies have in common? They are ordinary people doing extraordinary jobs. What makes an ordinary man and woman extraordinary?

Think about accidents, emergencies or other crisis situations. Who answers the first call for help? Firefighters, deputies and 911 emergency responders — people we may not know, but who we instantly trust ... and let into our homes and lives when we need them most.

That's extraordinary.

### Your Victoria Fire Department

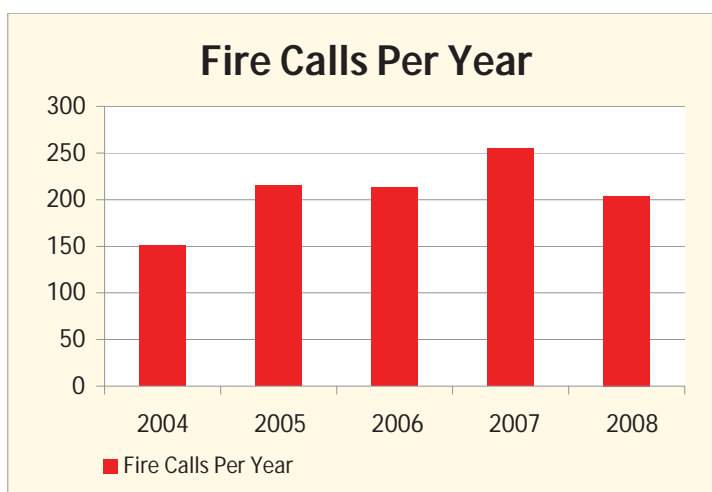
The Victoria Fire Department was established 96 years ago, on July 14, 1913. The first officers elected to the 18-member department were Chief Math Grausaum, Assistant Chief Carl Miller, Secretary Ed Plocher and Treasurer Mike Notermann. In 1915, the first firehouse was built and the first fire truck was purchased in 1930. Records show that the first fire truck cost less than \$300. By the late 1940s, the department had grown to about 50 members.

Fast forward to 2009. Today, the volunteer fire department has about 30 members operating under the direction of Fire Chief Tim Walsh, and Assistant Chiefs Andrew Heger and Gary Sohns. Each of them has more than 22 years of service in the Victoria Fire Department. Of the more than 30 members, 19 have more than five years of experience. In addition to responding to emergencies, the department also conducts fire prevention education and fire inspections.

In 2007 and 2008, the department responded to



Victoria's volunteer firefighters logged more than 2,100 service hours in 2008. Photo by Larry Baier



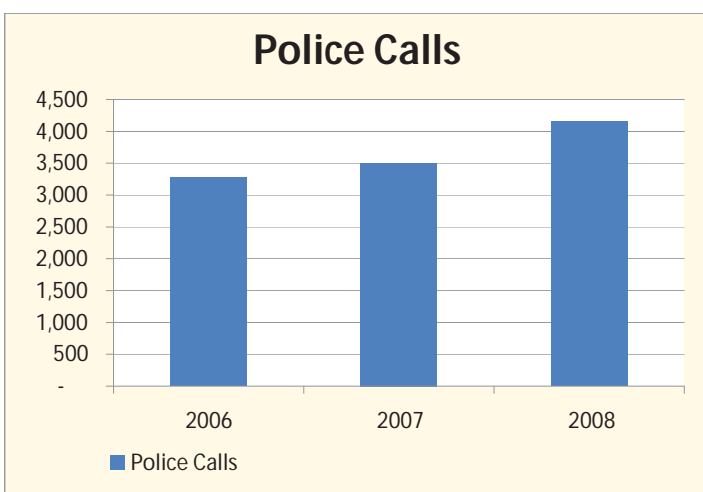
255 and 204 calls respectively. For both years, the majority of these calls were for rescue and emergency medical. Interesting to note, the smallest number of calls were fire-related.

The department operates out of the Victoria Fire Station located at 1500 80th St. Housed in that station are eight vehicles and other equipment, including the 1929 Pumper, which was the first gas-powered fire truck the department purchased. The 1929 Pumper has been restored and is used in community parades.

Having a volunteer fire department, as do 80 percent of Minnesota communities, the dedication and commitment to serve the greater Victoria



Victoria Town Deputy, Josh Baker



community is something to be respected. In 2008 alone, Victoria firefighters spent more than 2,100 hours either in training or responding to calls, day and night.

To learn more about the Victoria Fire Department, visit [www.ci.victoria.mn.us](http://www.ci.victoria.mn.us).

### Carver County Sheriff's Office

The City of Victoria takes great pride in being a safe place to live, work and play. The Carver County Sheriff's Department plays a vital role in helping maintain this quality of life in Victoria. The City of Victoria has contracted with the Carver County Sheriff's Department for policing services since 1966. This partnership

has provided the City with the resources and services of a large city at a small city cost.

The 2009 Police Contract provides the City with 24-hour policing services at a cost of \$295,079. A city of comparable size with its own police department would spend in excess of 1 million dollars a year providing for the manpower, resources and equipment necessary for 24-hour coverage. On a historical note, in 1972 the cost for policing coverage for Victoria provided by the Carver County Sheriff's Office was \$4,700.

The Victoria policing contract provides the City with a designated liaison town deputy. Victoria's Town Deputy is Josh Baker. Deputy Baker was recently awarded the Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Rookie of the Year Award. Corporal Baker and Victoria night deputies Matt Beck and Mark Randall share a proactive preventive approach to policing. They are actively involved in community events such as Victoria's National Night Out, Victoria Volksfest, community events, safety

campus, crime prevention and much more.

In 2006, 2007 and 2008, the Sheriff's Department responded to 3,280, 3,501 and 4,160 calls respectively in Victoria. There are too many types of calls to list but they include: alarm calls, medical calls, safety calls, traffic stops, thefts, suspicious activity and many more. The majority of the increase in calls is from traffic stops, due to the increase in population and traffic through town.

The deputies that protect and serve Victoria provide an invaluable service — keeping the Victoria community, friends, family and businesses safe.

## Thank You ...

Victoria residents — thank you for your willingness to step up and help our community. During the past several months, the City published advertisements asking residents to fill vacancies on the City's various committees and commissions, and the City received an overwhelming response. So many applications were received that the City Council authorized an increase in the size of the committees and commissions to allow for the participation and engagement of all the applicants. Victoria is your City and your participation now will help shape the future of this wonderful community.

## Construction season under way

The construction signs of spring and summer will soon be hard to miss in Victoria. The City presented bids to complete road reconstruction projects in the Lions Park Neighborhood and the Hartwood Neighborhood at the April 27 City Council meeting. These improvements will be done during the summer of

2009 and 2010.

Also planned are construction and road improvements in the downtown area. These improvements include the reconstruction of Quamooclit Street, a portion of Stieger Lake Lane and the extension of Tower Boulevard, with construction to occur in 2009.

## Tuesday, Aug. 4 Get out and about on National Night Out

Make plans to meet, greet and maintain the high quality of life in Victoria. Residents are invited to unite with their neighbors on Tuesday, Aug. 4 during National Night Out.

Otherwise known as "America's Night Out Against Crime," National Night Out is a program in which cities across the nation participate. The City of Victoria takes great pride in continuing to be a safe place to live and work — and encourages people of all ages to participate in this great celebration of community, crime prevention, and strong police and fire department community partnerships.

Many neighborhoods will host special events such as block parties, but the event does not have to be large or elaborate.

The City of Victoria's Fire Department and the Carver County Sheriff's Office will visit neighborhoods that have registered to have a National Night Out event. Registration forms can be obtained at the City of Victoria, 7951 Rose Street, online at [www.ci.victoria.mn.us](http://www.ci.victoria.mn.us) or by calling (952) 443-4210. Upon registering an event, you will receive a packet of information to help plan your event and information on crime prevention. **Registration forms are due by July 31.**

## Free compost site open May 9 and 16

The City will offer a free compost site for Victoria residents.

Saturday, May 9 • 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Saturday, May 16 • 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Where: Victoria Public Works, 1416 Stieger Lake Lane

### Acceptable Materials

- Grass clippings and leaves (NO BAGS)
- Brush (less than 4-foot lengths and less than 4 inches in diameter)
- Sticks and branches



For more information, call City Hall at (952) 443-4210.

## Free music and fun for all City hosting Concerts in the Park series

Enjoy a summer of musical entertainment at the 2009 "Concerts in the Park" series. Sponsored by the City of Victoria Parks and Recreation Department, the six-week concert series will be held at the Lions Community Park (8339 Victoria Drive). **Gates will open at 6 p.m. and music will be from 6:30 to 8 p.m.** The concerts are a free and fun event for people of all ages and musical interests.

In case of inclement weather, the concerts will be held in the Victoria Field House Gymnasium.

Individuals and businesses are also invited to make tax-deductible donations to support the concerts. For more information about the concert series or to make a tax-deductible donation, contact the Parks and Recreation Department at (952) 443-4255.

Concert	Date
MN Valley Community Band and Senior Picnic	July 15
TBA	July 22
Splatter Sisters	July 29
Café Accordion	Aug. 5
FireSpice	Aug. 12
MN Commodores	Aug. 19



### Victoria City Council

- Mary Hershberger Thun, Mayor
- Tim Amundsen, Council Member
- Jim Paulsen, Council Member
- Kim Roden, Council Member
- Tom O'Connor, Council Member

### Contact Us

**City of Victoria**  
7951 Rose Street, P.O. Box 36  
Victoria, MN 55386  
Phone: (952) 443-4210  
Fax: (952) 443-2110  
Web site: [www.ci.victoria.mn.us](http://www.ci.victoria.mn.us)  
E-mail: [info@ci.victoria.mn.us](mailto:info@ci.victoria.mn.us)

**Field House**  
8475 Kochia Lane  
Victoria, MN 55386  
Phone: (952) 443-4255

## Victoria's future forecast: 2030 Comprehensive Plan

It's no crystal ball, but the City of Victoria's 2030 Comprehensive Plan does provide a preliminary look at Victoria's future.

The Comprehensive Plan is a long-range planning document — a road map, of sorts — to help the City prepare for 2030 and enhance the quality of life for current and future Victoria residents.

The most current draft is available on the City's Web site at [www.ci.victoria.mn.us](http://www.ci.victoria.mn.us). Included in the plan is strong language

that acknowledges Victoria's dependence on regional systems for growth, such as Highway 5 and sanitary sewer from the Metropolitan Council.

A joint public hearing with the City Council and Planning Commission was held April 27. The plan was approved for submission to the Metropolitan Council.

For more information or to inquire about the Plan's components, call Victoria's Community Development Department at (952) 443-4218.

## Weather watch reminder:

Outdoor warning sirens are intended to alert people who are outside of approaching severe weather. Outdoor weather warning sirens will be sounded if severe weather approaches. People who are indoors are encouraged to listen to television and radio broadcasts. Please prepare and practice emergency plans with your family to ensure their safety in the event of severe weather.

## Planners from around U.S. 'Walk Victoria'

Minneapolis recently hosted the American Planning Association (APA) National Planning Conference April 25-29. As part of that conference, the City of Victoria partnered with Carver County to host a "mobile workshop." The workshop included a presentation about walking audits and described how the City of Victoria conducted its walking audits in 2007. The group then completed the same walking audit from Victoria City Hall to the Field House.

To learn more about the walking audits completed in 2007 and the action plan developed from that project, call the Community Development Department at (952) 443-4218.

## Senior Spirit Senior Commission springs forward

The Senior Commission recently welcomed two new members: Julie Murray, a Victoria resident and real estate developer for Ecumen, a company specializing in senior housing; and resident Jim Hoffman, an active community volunteer. They join Ron Allen, Tari Clay, Dave Lindgren, Dan McNerny, Jim Pehringer, Jerry Schmieg, and Linda McNulty as the 2009-2010 Victoria Senior Commission. The Senior Commission said goodbye to charter member Dawn Peterson, who was an important voice for the commission. Thank you, Dawn, for five years of dedicated service.

### Focus group June 11

Under discussion this spring is the approaching "age wave" and how Victoria will accommodate the increasing numbers of older residents needing services. Community resources, senior housing and senior engagement are among subjects being examined at Senior Commission meetings this year.

On June 11, the Commission will host a focus group, "Conversation with the Clergy," which will explore how the local faith community understands the needs of their elder population, and what might be done to foster communication among available resources in the City of Victoria and Carver County. Planner Katy Boone of Carver County Public Health will facilitate the discussion at Victoria City Hall, beginning at noon.

### Upcoming events

July 15 is the date of the 2nd Annual Senior Picnic at Lions Park, which coincides with the City's Concerts in the Park (featuring the Minnesota Valley Community Band). The Senior Commission provides the hot dogs and drinks, and you bring a side dish and lawn chair. Call Victoria City Hall at (952) 443-4210 for information.

Save the date for Volksfest — Aug. 29 in downtown Victoria.

## Home-safe-home

Summer vacation is quickly approaching, which means people will be spending more time away from their homes. The City of Victoria reminds residents to put "home safety" on their vacation plan checklists. To help reduce the risk of your home being a potential crime target while you're away, follow these tips:

- Arrange to have your lawn mowed while you are on vacation.
- Place timers on lights in the house.
- Stop mail and newspaper delivery.
- Cut shrubs back from the home.

Additionally, residents who would like to have a basic security audit are invited to contact the City of Victoria to schedule a visit by one of the Carver County Sheriff's Department Town Deputies. Call (952) 443-4210.

## Seasonal reminders

### Protect lakes and ponds

To control maintenance costs and reduce the amount of debris and phosphorus entering lakes and ponds, residents are encouraged to use materials other than wood chips for landscaping in areas around storm water inlets. During heavy rains, these materials can easily be washed into storm sewers — causing back-ups and potential flooding. If you live near a storm water inlet that appears to be clogged, call the City of Victoria at (952) 443-4212. **Reminder: Blowing grass clippings and raking debris and other materials into the storm water inlet/drainage system are prohibited.**

## Fire safety

Many residents enjoy backyard campfires. For everyone's safety, please be aware of the following guidelines for Victoria residents:

- The fire pit must be no larger than 3 feet by 3 feet by 3 feet and at least 25 feet away from any structure.
- Rubbish may not be burned. Rubbish includes, but is not limited to: hazardous material, garbage, leaves and vegetation.
- Fires causing noxious or irritating smoke are not permitted.
- Recreational fires must not be left unattended.
- Do not allow your campfire to burn out on its own; it must be completely extinguished.

For information about burning permits for fires other than campfires, call City Hall at (952) 443-4210.

## Spotlight on Business

Rising Star Dance Academy opened its doors in 2006 with the mission: to provide a fun and creative environment for anyone who loves to dance. In three short years, the studio has doubled in size and now offers more than 25 classes each week in its downtown Victoria studio in the Notermann Building.

The small classes offer a fun

**Rising Star  
Dance Academy**  
7924 Victoria Dr.,  
Victoria  
(952) 443-1841

and interactive learning environment, where dancers can develop their skills and love of dance. Parents like the open studio layout where they can observe their child in class and give them an occasional hug for a job well done. Their unique team teaching approach gives students the added benefit of two instructors in the classroom, so students receive more individual attention.

The studio offers classes for those as young as three years old and offers a large variety of recreational classes for all levels of dancers. For the serious dancer, there are several choices including the Rising Star Dance Company and Dance Team Institute programs. Both are comprised of several performing lines for students in grades 3 through 12. Dancers have the opportunity to develop their performance skills at local competitions and other community events throughout the year. The small classes, technical training and flexible schedule are perfect for those looking to also be involved with high school dance teams, school plays or show choirs.

Summer and fall registration has started; visit [www.rising-star-dance.com](http://www.rising-star-dance.com) to view schedules or call (952) 443-3014.



## Watering restrictions in effect May 1 – Sept. 30

The hot dry days of spring and summer will soon be here, and the City of Victoria supports and encourages water conservation. The odd/even and time-of-day watering restrictions are in effect from May 1 – Sept. 30. Below is a summary of the watering restrictions:

**Odd/Even Conservation** — If your property address is an even number, irrigation can take place on even-numbered days. If your property address is an odd number, irrigation can take place on odd-numbered days.

**Time-of-day conservation** — No person shall irrigate using the public water supply between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Water evaporation occurs the most during the hottest hours of the day.

**Rain sensors** — All new commercial, industrial, institutional and residential irrigation systems must install rain sensors. The rain sensors will prohibit the irrigation system from running during times of adequate rainfall and ground moisture.

**Exceptions to water conservation measures** — In addition to exceptions, the City will issue a special permit for property owners with new seed or sod to allow them to water for two weeks every before 10 a.m. or after 5 p.m. Sod specialists indicate that new sod or seed needs to be watered every day for two weeks

for the lawn to take hold.

**Violation and Administrative Citations** — Upon discovery of a first violation a warning will be left at the residence informing the resident of the conservation ordinance and penalty for future violations. Additionally, staff will mail a copy of the warning with a letter informing the resident of the conservation ordinance. Second violations carry a fine of \$75, and the third and subsequent violations will carry a fine of \$250 per occurrence.

To inquire about a watering permit, call City Hall at (952) 443-4210. Visit [www.ci.victoria.mn.us](http://www.ci.victoria.mn.us) for more information about how to conserve water.

## Field House

### Field House Hours

Monday - Friday 5:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Saturday - Sunday 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Visit [www.ci.victoria.mn.us](http://www.ci.victoria.mn.us) for current schedules, programs and event information.

## Field House expands

The Victoria Field House is expanding fitness and recreational opportunities — stop in and to see what's improved.

With the new addition of the multi-purpose rooms there is space for large and small group gatherings, meeting space and new recreation classes. Wii Fitness is coming soon so bring the family and friends for a golf or baseball game challenge.

When you're looking for a quiet space to read or take advantage of free WI-FI, the new glass-enclosed

lobby is just the place for be.

Fitness classes for all ages are offered during the day and evening hours and are taught by world class instructors. Child care is offered every Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9 to 11 a.m. so bring the little ones with you and start that fitness routine.

The **Older Adult Coffee Club meets every weekday morning from 8 to 9 a.m.**, and offers great conversation and stimulating trivia.

### Additional Information:

#### Child Care Available

Punch card or daily pass Monday, Wednesday and Fridays 9 to 11 a.m.

#### Youth Weight Training and Fitness

For teens ages 13 to 15 with a signed release that can be picked up at the front desk.

#### Walking/ Running Track

The track is open during regular Field House hours. This is **FREE** to all residents and nonresidents.

Please check [www.ci.victoria.mn.us](http://www.ci.victoria.mn.us) for more information or call the Victoria Field House at (952)443-4255.

## Park & Rec

City of Victoria

### Summer Parks and Recreation Programs

#### Video Game Animation

July 6-9  
Grades 1 through 3  
9 a.m. to noon

Grades 4 through 9  
12:30 to 3:30 p.m.

#### Lego Mania

Ages 6 to 10  
June 24, July 8 and July 29  
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

#### Read With Me Under the Maple Tree

Girls ages 5 to 8  
July 1, July 22 and Aug. 5  
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

#### Hook A Kid on Golf \* FULL \*

Ages 8 to 15  
July 6, 8, 10, 15  
(Course play on July 17)  
8 to 11 a.m.  
Deer Run Golf Course

Participants receive a set a golf clubs to keep and more.

#### T-ball

Ages 4 and 5  
Mondays, June 8 – July 27  
6 to 8 p.m.

#### Coach Pitch

Ages 6 and 7  
Tues. & Thurs.,  
June 9 – July 30  
6 to 8 p.m.

#### Mike Lynch Basketball

Ages 8 to 14 (boys and girls)  
Aug. 10-14  
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

#### Lynch Sport Camps

Basketball, Soccer, Baseball and Tennis

#### Lions Playground

Colossal Kids  
Ages 7 to 12  
Tues. & Thurs., 9:30 a.m. to noon

#### Mini Might's

Ages 4 to 6  
Tues. & Thurs., 1 to 3 p.m.

#### Kids Klub

Ages 5 to 12  
9:30 to 11 a.m.  
Swiss Mountain – Mondays

Watermark – Wednesdays

Victoria Elementary – Fridays

#### Tae Kwon Do

For all ages  
Every Thursday  
6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

#### Red Cross Babysitting

Ages 11 to 15  
June 10, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

#### Concerts in the Park

Wednesdays, July 15-Aug. 19  
6:30 to 8 p.m. (see page 1 for more information)

#### Victoria Volksfest 5K and Kids Fun Run

Aug. 29

