



# Mechanicsville News

## Protecting Your Home Computer

Governor Branstad has declared October to be Cyber Security Awareness Month in Iowa. As computers and information technology play an ever-growing role in the everyday lives of Iowans, it is important that people take steps that protect their computers and personal devices. One part of this is ensuring that your personal computer at home is cleaned and secured from identity thieves and others seeking information you wish to maintain control over. Below are some tips from the Department of Administrative Services' Information Security Office has put out for maintaining and protecting personal computers using the Windows operating system.

**Establish and maintain a plan.** Make a plan to perform periodic maintenance and put it on your calendar as a reminder. Back up critical files system files and programs before beginning.

**Set a System Restore Point.** Before you begin your periodic maintenance or make any significant changes, set up a system restore point, which will enable recovery from any error that may occur during maintenance. To set a System Restore Point, click Start, All Programs, Accessories, System Tools, System Restore, Create a Restore Point. (For "Classic" Start Menu: click Start, Programs, Accessories, System Tools, System Restore, Create a Restore Point.)

**Remove unnecessary files or programs.** Empty your Recycle Bin and delete Windows temporary files. Remove installed programs that you no longer use. The Disk Cleanup program does all of these tasks including the deletion of unneeded Windows components. To access the Windows Disk Cleanup program, click: Start, All Programs, Accessories, System Tools, Disk Cleanup. (For "Classic" Start Menu, click: Start, Programs, Accessories, System Tools, Disk Cleanup.) In Internet Explorer, clear your history, temporary Internet files, and cookies by clicking on Tools, Internet Options and select the tab labeled "General." Click on the Delete button under the section labeled

"Browsing history."

Finally, archive or delete old files such as documents, images and graphics that are no longer needed.

**Optimize system performance.** Configuring your PC software to operate as efficiently as possible will help your PC run faster and smoother. Organize your data files in a central folder with appropriate subfolders (do not save files in the root directory or on the desktop). This makes backup easier and can reduce fragmentation on your hard drive.

**Run a defragment tool on your disk drive.** To do so, click Start, All Programs, Accessories, System

A Halloween-themed poster with a dark green background and white stars. It features three jack-o'-lanterns hanging from a branch. The text is arranged in white boxes with black borders. The top box says "Family and Kids' 'GOULORE'!". Below it is "Trunk or Treat!". The date and location are "Sunday, October 30th, Main Street Mechanicsville". The time is "3:00 until 4:30 p.m.". At the bottom, a white box with black text says "The Mechanicsville Lion's Club will be serving soup starting at 4:00 p.m., in the Memorial Building. Tickets are available a head of time or at the door."/>

Family and Kids'  
"GOULORE"!

Trunk  
or Treat!

Sunday,  
October 30th  
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Tools, Disk Defragmenter. (For “Classic” Start Menu, click Start, Programs, Accessories, System Tools, Disk Defragmenter.)

**Apply updates and patches.** Make sure your operating system and software applications have the latest updates installed—and that the auto-update feature is enabled. Ensure that your anti-virus/anti-spyware/anti-adware software are running and receiving automatic updates. Check vendor and manufacturer websites for device drivers updates, and apply patches as needed. Renew all maintenance contracts/subscriptions.

**Perform regular backups.** All critical files, as well as any information not easily replaced should be backed up. Check backup functions to ensure they are operating properly. Back up your files to a remote location (external hard drive or PC).

**Check your firewall.** Review firewall settings for product configurations. Confirm that settings are appropriate for the current level of security needed.

**Routinely change your passwords.** Routinely change all of your passwords for local applications, as well as those used for websites. Use strong passwords with at least eight characters and incorporate a mix of numbers, special characters, and upper and lower case letters.

**Perform hardware inspections.** Perform a visual check of your PC hardware to prevent potential problems before they occur. This includes examining your surge suppressor, UPS, power strip, and cables for any damage. Replace batteries as needed



**HALLOWEEN AT THE LIBRARY  
STOP IN AT THE  
LIBRARY ON  
HALLOWEEN  
FOR YOUR TREAT  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 31 FROM  
5:00 TO 7:00**



**107.02 SEPARATION OF RECYCLABLES REQUIRED.** All recyclables shall be separated from all other garbage and refuse accumulated by every residence and business establishment within the City

### **Upcoming Events for**

#### **The First United Methodist Church**

307 E 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Mechanicsville IA 52306

563-432-7716; [mcvilleumcgogod@netins.net](mailto:mcvilleumcgogod@netins.net)

Barb Krueger, Pastor

#### **November 6 – 10:00 a.m. Worship**

##### **All Saints Day.**

This will be a time when families can gather together and light a candle in memory of a loved one and experience the prayers and support of the faith community.

#### **November 23 – 7:00 p.m. Worship**

##### **Community-Wide Thanksgiving Eve Service at the United Methodist Church.**

#### **November 27 – 10:00 a.m. Worship**

##### **Hanging of the Greens Service.**

Decorate the sanctuary with scripture, song and prayer.

#### **December 4 – 10:00 a.m. Worship**

##### **11:30 a.m. Lord's Portion Day Sale**

Meal and Auction.

#### **December 11 – 6:30 p.m.**

##### **Community-Wide Blue Christmas Service.**

For many, the Christmas season is no holiday at all. It is filled with difficult times, humps to get over, gatherings to endure, memories that darken and dampen the days. In this service, you will have a chance for song, prayer, candle lighting and meditation time. We pray that you will find hope and peace in this service and comfort in knowing that you are not alone.

#### **December 18 – 10:00 a.m. Worship**

##### **Sunday School Christmas Program.**

The children and youth of the Sunday School will bring us the message of Christ's birth.

#### **December 24 – 7:00 p.m.**

##### **Christmas Eve Service**

A worship service of carols, scripture, special music, prayer and candle lighting, celebrating the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**There will be no worship service on Christmas Day, December 25.**

The FCC and FEMA are planning the first EAS nationwide test, which will take place at 2:00 PM (EST), Wednesday, November 9, 2011. The test will last approximately three (3) minutes. Normal programming will return following the test. The November 9 test will utilize a "live" national alert code, a message that will present itself as an actual emergency announcement, not a test. This is necessary in order to allow FCC and FEMA to test the actual working order reliability of legacy EAS equipment and the state of readiness of EAS operators and participants. Additional information available at the FCC's website. ([www.fcc.gov/nationwide](http://www.fcc.gov/nationwide) EAS test)

Dates to remember:

Oct 23 BINGO

October 30 Trunk or Treat 3:00 pm

October 30 Lions Club Soup Supper 4:00 p.m.

November 6 Legion Pancake Breakfast at Memorial Building

November 8 City Election Noon to 8 p.m.

November 9 EAS nationwide test

November 10 Food Pantry Distribution 6:-7:30 p.m. UMC

November 13 BINGO

November 20 Auxiliary Pasta Dinner with proceeds to go toward replacing damaged cemetery flags.

November 22 Honor Flight Program sponsored by Library at Memorial Building 7:00 p.m.

November 27 BINGO

November 26 Food Pantry Distribution 9-10 am at UMC



### Honor Our Veterans on November 22, 2011

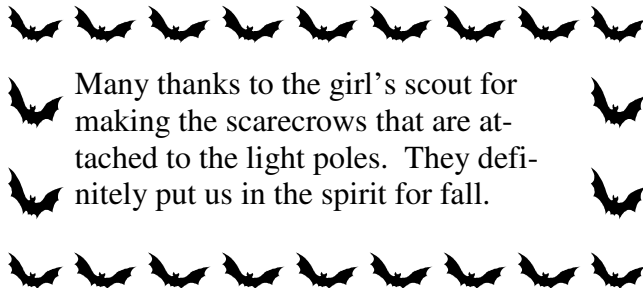
America is founded on the principle of freedom, justice and liberty for all. Our nation's soldiers serve every day to protect our country and its ideals.

The Mechanicsville Public Library will host a reception on Tuesday, November 22 at 7:00 p.m. at the Memorial Building to honor our Veterans. The library would like to invite all of veterans in our community to attend so we can thank you for your service to our country. The veterans and their guests that participated in the Honor Flight to Washington D.C. this summer will share their experiences and mementos from that trip. The public is invited to come and help us honor these people who so bravely served in the armed forces of the United States.

The postage for this newsletter has been paid for in part by the Mechanicsville Senior Citizens & The Mechanicsville Lion's Club. Thank you!

### FARMER'S MARKET:

I wish to thank all my faithful and regular customers who came to the farmers markets rain or shine. I appreciated you all. Have a great year and hope to see you again next year. Evelyn Walshire



**City of Mechanicsville**

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**Heaven Amongst the Cedars**



**Box Holder**



Your input is requested. Please vote by returning this questionnaire to City hall drop box:  
I prefer to have the 2012 City Wide Garage Sales on \_\_\_\_\_  
A) Last Saturday in June  
B) First weekend in August (Lincoln Highway sales)  
C) Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
D) I do not participate, so does not matter.

**KELLY'S JINGLE BELL WALK**



The Public Library will be sponsoring the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Kelly's Jingle Bell Walk December 10, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. We will walk around town, enjoying the Christmas lights and return to the library for chili, games and snacks. Everyone is invited to attend. The fee for this event is \$25.00 which includes a t-shirt and a chili supper. Registration is from November 1 to November 30. Proceeds from this event will help support the library. Stop in and get signed up for an evening of holiday fun and help raise money for our library!