



Wedgewood Townhomes on W. Ninth Street

Workforce Housing in Albert Lea

The unemployment rate in Freeborn County is 3.1%. This is considered full employment by economists. However, there are currently over 200 jobs available within a 10 mile radius of Albert Lea. There are open positions in health care, skilled trades and the service industry.

Organizations in Albert Lea are devising ways to develop workforce to fill those positions. Riverland designed programming to train workers in skills that complement local industries. The Albert Lea Education Foundation started a job shadowing/apprentice program for high school students with local businesses. City staff is developing a website as a resource for college students to find opportunities in Albert Lea.

When employers find the right candidates, finding them housing is the next challenge. City staff is being creative and resourceful to address this issue. The Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) and City worked together on grants to establish more housing throughout the community. The HRA and the City were also awarded a grant that allows for the rehabilitation of second-story apartments in the downtown. In addition to that, the City also partnered with the County and School District to abate taxes on five six-unit buildings near Wedgewood Cove Golf Course. The tax abatement allows the developer to fill funding gaps.

The City is interested in working with developers. If you have ideas for a housing development in the City of Albert Lea, contact City Manager Chad Adams at 507-377-4330. A Housing Summit will be held in February to discuss how to address housing needs in Albert Lea. Contractors, developers, bankers and realtors are invited to attend. Watch for details coming soon.

Albert Lea Parks and Recreation

Letters to Santa

Open to all children

Kids here's your chance to write Santa a



letter and have him write you back! Make sure to tell him how good you've been and what you'd like to ask for Christmas. Parks & Recreation is going to be collecting all the letters and sending them on to Santa so he may reply to you as quick as he can.

Please drop off Santa mail at the City Arena in our special "Santa Mail-Box" (remember to include your return address) or send it to:

Santa Claus

c/o Albert Lea Parks & Recreation

221 E. Clark Street

Albert Lea, MN 56007

Letters will be accepted until Dec. 12th so that Santa has a chance to reply.



Open to all families; children 6 & under must be accompanied by an adult.

Join Mickey Mouse, Minnie Mouse, Donald, Goofy and Daisy on a journey to the timeless worlds of Disney's The Lion King, The Little Mermaid, Peter Pan, and Disney's Frozen.

Upbeat music, lovable characters and unforgettable moments make Disney On Ice presents Passport to Adventure an experience your family will cherish forever!

Fee: \$28 (bring \$ for concessions)

When: Sun. December 4th

Time: Bus leaves City Arena at 10:30 a.m. and returns approx. 5:30 p.m.

Where: Xcel Energy Center-St. Paul, MN

Register by November 18th – space is limited

Candy Cane Hunt

Open to all children



Santa and his elves have hidden hundreds of candy canes! Come out and see how many you can find. They come in all shapes and sizes and if you find a special colored candy cane you get a prize! Stick around afterward for some yummy

hot cocoa, special treats, games and a craft! Santa will also make a special appearance!

Fee: \$1 per child

When: Sun. December 18th

Time: 1:00 pm (hunt will start on time, make sure you arrive early)

Where: Edgewater Bay Pavilion

Make sure your child dresses warm!

No Pre-Registration required.

For more information contact Parks & Recreation at 507.377.4370



... working to connect you with the books you want, the information you need & the community you live in.

(507) 377-4350

211 E. Clark St.

www.alplonline.org

Hours:

Sun.:

1-5 p.m.

Mon.-Thu.:

9 a.m.-7 p.m.

Fri.:

1-6 p.m.

Closed Sat.

DIGITAL LITERACY CLASSES - SIGN UP NOW!

Basic eMail

Sign up for a free Gmail address & get started sending and reading email.

Jan. 24 @ 2:30 p.m.

Feb. 15 @ 2:30 p.m.

Intro to Facebook

Sign up for Facebook & learn how to do the basics. We'll also go over privacy settings.

Jan. 25 @ 2:30 p.m.

Feb. 22 @ 2:30 p.m.

Intro to iPads

Get started using an iPad. Bring your own device or reserve one from the library.

Jan. 18 @ 2:30 p.m.

Feb. 8 @ 2:30 p.m.

Registration required. Pick up a registration form at the circ desk.

HOTSPOTS & IPADS

The library has hotspots & iPads available for checkout. You must:

- be 18 or older
- live in Freeborn county
- have an ALPL library card in good standing with a 6 month history.

Stop by the circ desk to learn more!

Check-Out the Internet @ ALPL was made possible in part by funding from the Minnesota Department of Education through a Library Services and Technology Act [LS-00-16-0024-16] grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

