

## **Freeborn Bank Building**



The City has entered into an agreement with Cohen-Esrey for redeveloping the Freeborn Bank and Jacobson Buildings. The agreement is contingent upon Cohen-Esrey receiving historic and housing tax credits from the state of Minnesota. The buildings are eligi-

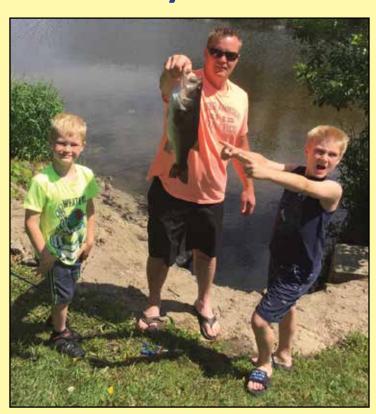
ble for tax credits because of their historic status.

The redevelopment plan calls for 21 income limited rental units on the second through fourth floors of both buildings. The plan would keep the Interchange on the first floor of the Jacobson building. A tentative agreement between Cohen-Esrey and the Albert Lea Art Center would have the art center on the first floor of the Freeborn Bank Building and would allow for the public to use the space for special events.

Receiving the housing tax credits is necessary to the financial success of the project. The building needs all new plumbing, electrical, heating and air conditioning systems along with the renovations. The city estimates that the total cost of the renovations would be \$4-6 million. Cohen-Esrey applied for housing tax credits and deferred loans from the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency during two previous grant cycles and didn't receive funding. The grant process has become very competitive due to the large amount of applications.

The City and Cohen-Esrey will find out October 1st whether or not tax credits will be awarded for the project. If credits are received, the project work will begin in 2017 with occupancy early in 2018.

## Show us your catch!



We'd love to see what fish you're catching in our lakes! Share your images to social media with the hashtag #fishalbertlea and we'll share them on our Facebook and Twitter pages. The 4-5 lb. bass above was caught in Fountain Lake. We're also seeing large Northern and Catfish.

## **Budgeting has Begun**

City staff have begun working on the 2017 budget. The City Council is planning on holding an open house July 21st at 5:30 p.m. so the public can review the preliminary plan and offer their input into the process. More public input will be taken when the Council considers the preliminary levy September 12th.

## Parks and Recreation

Summer Fun!

## Play Day at the Pool!

Power 96 will be broadcasting LIVE!

Games and chances to win awesome prize packages!

### Friday, July 8

**Albert Lea Aquatic Center** 



#### **Summer Carnival**

Join us for an afternoon of carnival games, face painting, bouncies, and so much more! Bring your camera for our photo booth!

Wednesday, July 13

Wedgewood Park • 4-7 pm



Includes all games
Children 2 and under FREE
Food & beverages available for purchase

#### **Beach Luau**

Enjoy limbo and hula hoop contests, scooter races, giant volleyball, sand bowling, a sandcastle contest, bonfire, smores and DJ! Sandcastle judging will begin at 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, July 27 - City Beach



### FREE!

Food & beverages available for purchase

#### **Movies in the Park**

Join us at Edgewater Park Bandshell for great family movies.

Friday, July 29
"Shaun the Sheep"
8:30 pm



Sponsored by First Presbyterian Church, Albert Lea Family YMCA and Park and Rec

## Albert Lea Public Library

(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.

# THURSDAY Special Events

7/7: BINGO at 2 p.m.

7/14: Jim Jayes' Puppet Show at 2 & 3 p.m.

7/21: ZooMan at 2 & 3 p.m.



The teen & children's summer reading programs continue until July 21. Visit us online or stop by the circulation desk to learn more and sign up. Read books and earn prizes!



Tuesday, July 5 at 2 p.m.

## Weekly Events Through July 21

Storytime: Mon. & Tue. at 10:30 a.m.

Science Blast: Tue. at 2 p.m. Art Zones: Wed. at 10:30 a.m.

Music & Movement: Thu. at 10:30 a.m. Night-time Storytime: Thu. at 6 p.m.

Upcoming Event: <u>Conquering the Odds:</u> <u>Journey of a Shepherd Girl</u> presented by author Habibo Haji Aug. 15 at 6:30 p.m.