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Subscribe to the Citizen’s Information E-Mail List.

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Tis the Season is Back!

Last year the city of Bettendorf hosted the first “Tis the Season” event. Approximately 500 (Quad City) residents enjoyed the talents of local singers, dancers, and musicians.

This year’s festivities will be held on Saturday, December 12, beginning at 1:30 p.m. as the Westfall Convention Center. All & above, are invited to enjoy holiday music, entertainment, & to floodlights. This event is free and open to all (quad city) residents.

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Downtown Streetscape Master Plan Takes Shape

Bettendorf’s community leaders targeted the downtown core as one of its high-priority goals for the City. The Downtown Streetscape Master Plan was created to improve the strategies of the downtown area, specifically, the one-way complete street at Grand and State Streets.

There are 12 phases in the downtown that need to be completed. The plan will encourage the public space and make the downtown more inviting to residents and businesses.

There are several components to the plan, which include hardscapes, adding raised planters and striped curbs, softscapes; adding plants and flowers, and improve the lighting in the downtown by replacing lights with LED lights, which include sidewalk lighting.

There are 12 possible phases to this aggressive plan. Phase 1 began last year and should be completed this summer. A committee is working on plans for Phase 2, which will move improvements along State Street to 18th Street. This phase should be completed next spring.

City Council Meetings

City Council holds its regular meetings on the first and third Tuesdays of each month beginning at 7 p.m. Committees of the Whatch-meetings are held on the Monday prior to the regular meeting and on the fourth Monday of each month, if necessary. All meetings are held at City Hall, 1609 State Street, 2nd floor.

City Offices Closed on the Following Holidays


The City Office is closed on the following holidays:

- New Year’s Day
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Presidents’ Day
- Good Friday
- Memorial Day
- 4th of July
- Labor Day
- Veterans’ Day
- Thanksgiving
- Day after Thanksgiving
- Christmas

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Mayor Mike Freemire

It’s the end of the summer. We have enjoyed some beautiful weather. Families gathered together to celebrate a great 4th of July and a brand new school year has begun. 2010-2011 serves as the first year of the new school calendar which will begin in August.

Every summer you will see road construction all over the Quad City area. In Bettendorf, there are 45 projects related to streets and sewers either under construction or programmed for construction this year.

The Bettendorf Park and Recreation Foundation recently began the process to rename their organization. The Foundation has been in existence for over 20 years, and was founded to help fund special projects for public amenities and facilities in the community. The new name for the Foundation is “The Friends of Bettendorf Parks Foundation.”

The new name is a positive step for our community. Additional programs along with Bettendorf’s great parks and recreation area are being added. More projects along Jordan Road, Southridge Park, and athletics, are planned for the near future. In addition to the recreation area, greenway trails are being developed that will connect the riverfront with the downtown area. These projects will be completed either this fall or early next year.

Three separate and multi-use trails will add to the enhanced quality of our community. These projects will be completed within this year. As you may have seen, the former Eagle’s building located on 18th Street was demolished last December. In May, the permanent artwork located at City Hall was purchased and then donated to the City by Hawkeye Paving, a Bettendorf contractor. The eagle out front of the Waterfront Convention Center was renovated and then donated by Olympic Book, another Bettendorf business. The City is considering the purchase of a cage, that was run at Max’s Park last year and moved to the Waterfront. This year there are three pieces in Bettendorf, which are located at the Waterfront, Martha’s Point, and at a new basin, South Beach.

The Neighborhood Watch Program in Bettendorf was revitalized in May 2008 due to new interest. Neighborhood Watch is a crime prevention program that stresses education and common sense. It involves citizens to help themselves in identifying and reporting suspicious activity to their neighborhoods. In addition, it provides citizens with the opportunity to make their neighborhoods safer and improve the quality of life. Neighborhood Watch groups typically focus on observation and awareness as means of preventing crime and employ strategies that range from simple promoting social interaction and “watching out for each other” to active patients by groups of citizens.

The reason for this effectiveness is rather simple. Involving community members in multiple programs decreases opportunities for criminals to commit crime rather than attempting to change their behavior or motivation. Today’s Neighborhood Watch Program is an effective means of crime control and neighborhood cohesion.

I hope you enjoy all of what Bettendorf has to offer!

Mayor Mike Freemire

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The Foundation is managed by a group of 13 volunteer board members, but membership is open to all Bettendorf residents.

The Foundation’s mission is to improve the quality of life in Bettendorf, by assisting in development and improvement of our recreational amenities, and helping those that are less fortunate enjoy the parks and programs that are available.

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Anyone can become a member of the Foundation by paying an annual membership fee of $5.00. The membership benefits include free admittance to Foundation-sponsored activities, a newsletter of current Foundation events, a Foundation parking pass, and an invitation to the annual “Mother Bear Ball,” a raffle to be held on our annual door prizes.

The former eagle’s building located on 18th Street was demolished last December. Since then, there has been some minor discussion about what to do with the land. There has been some interest in housing, retail, or some other type of commercial development. The City is considering the purchase of a cage, that was run at Max’s Park last year and moved to the Waterfront. This year there are three pieces in Bettendorf, which are located at the Waterfront, Martha’s Point, and at a new basin, South Beach.

The Foundation raises funds primarily through donations, but also through events and projects. The Foundation is always looking for new members and new ideas.

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