Unique Addition to the Learning Campus

Faye’s Field Named in Honor of Former Library Director Faye Clow

On October 1, a dedication ceremony was held for Faye’s Field located at the Learning Campus. Approximately 100 attended the ribbon cutting of the park that was named in honor of Faye Clow, former Library Director. Faye retired from the Library in 2008 and passed away earlier this year.

Faye’s Field is an outdoor learning environment that compliments the Family Museum and Library, with rain gardens, stormwater features, and artwork from both professional and amateur artists.

City Recognized for Great Quality of Life

To support the mission and vision statement and to provide quality services to its citizens, the City of Bettendorf conducted a citizen survey, utilizing the services of The National Citizen Survey and the International City/County Management Association.

Because of the positive response from the survey, the City received the 2011 Voice of the People award for excellence in police services, garbage collection, recycling, library services, and quality of overall services. The City also received the Voice of the People Transformation award for street repair services.

To win for excellence, the rating for service quality must be one of the top three among eligible jurisdictions in 2010 and must reside in the top 10% among over 500 jurisdictions in the National Research Center database of surveys. For a city to win the transformation award, the improvement in service quality rating must be significantly higher than the rating from the most recent prior survey conducted in that jurisdiction and larger than improvement shown in all other eligible jurisdictions in 2010.

Over the past 13 months, the City has been recognized in the Family Circle magazine for being one of the 10 best towns to raise a family, and most recently by CNNMONEY.com who ranked Bettendorf 95 in the Top 100 Best Places to Live in small towns in the United States.

Park Board Member Receives Award

Earlier this year, Mayor Freemire presented the Iowa Parks and Recreation Association’s Claude Ahrens Community Service Award to Park Board Vice-Chairperson, Larry Makoben. The award recognizes individuals, outside of the Park and Recreation profession, who has contributed to the strengthening of programs and resources within their community, state, and beyond.

Larry is a long time Bettendorf resident and has volunteered thousands of hours to enhance the quality of life in our community. In addition to serving on the Park Board for the past 12 years, he has been involved with several civic and community groups. He has served at the state and national level as a Iowa Board and Commission representative for the Iowa Parks and Recreation Association.

Larry takes great pride in helping to improve the quality of life for all citizens in his community and beyond. During the ceremony, Larry gave credit to his wife, family, and employers for allowing him the opportunity to serve his community.
Dear Citizens,

This, my last quarterly letter to you as your Mayor, is written with a sense of melancholy; a deep reflection of my last 12 years of public service.

I look at all the things that either did not exist or were only in the process of existing 12 years ago. A few things include: 53rd Avenue was not paved between Devils Glen and Middle Road; Hopewell Avenue was sealcoated and Hopewell School a mere thought. Tanglefoot Lane was a farm between Devils Glen Road and Middle Road. The City Hall building currently occupied was an architect’s sketch and we held our City Council meetings at the Bettendorf Public Library. The Riverfront Bike Path from 8th Street to Davenport was not yet connected and adding separated trails to the major projects of 53rd Street, Middle Road, Hopewell, and Devils Glen, making us a walkable community, was a vision in the making. The Waterfront Convention Center and the new buildings surrounding it weren’t in the artist’s sketch pad yet and my personal favorite, Moencks Road between Crow Creek Road and Valley Drive, was a sealcoated street. My, how time flies!

All of this certainly was not my personal accomplishment, but rather that of a team I have been proud to serve with. It involved City Councils following visions that had been laid out years before, and developing, enhancing, and implementing them; individuals who understand the importance of fiscal responsibility to our Citizens. This is how government and elected officials should work; that is, take the vision, create a financially responsible plan for implementation and employ competent staff to make it happen. I am most proud of having served on, and lead, two City Councils and City Staff to make these visions become reality. For this to happen takes experience, continuity, elected-officials and staff who are willing to serve, sometimes many terms, to see dreams become realities. I encourage you to choose your next leaders wisely. You owe it to yourselves to vote for a mayor and council members who are visionary, listen, and first try to understand before trying to be understood. I have great confidence that those I leave behind will continue to shepherd dreams to reality.

As I leave office, it is with great joy and gratitude to have been able to serve you, the Citizens of Bettendorf, and to have continued to evolve a great quality of life in Bettendorf that lives up to your expectations of our “Premier City.”

Thank you for the confidence you placed in me that allowed me to serve as your Mayor.

Mayor Mike Freemire
LFC Introduce A New Way to Get Fit!

With the popularity of small group fitness training, functional fitness equipment, and metabolic conditioning programs such as P90X, the Life Fitness Center decided to expand their amenities by adding a portable functional training studio. The workouts will be designed to build strength, balance, flexibility, and core stability. Classes will include the use of the TRX® Suspension Trainer™, a highly compact performance training tool that leverages gravity and the user’s body weight to enable hundreds of exercises for every fitness goal. Additional equipment, such as battling ropes, kettlebells, medicine balls, agility ladders/hurdles, BOSU balls, jump ropes, and tires will complete the studio.

The Per4mance Studio will offer 30-60 minute classes. Metabolic conditioning and circuit classes will be 30-45 minutes of continuous exercising where an individual can burn 600-900 calories during a class. Other offerings may include sport specific classes such as Golf Flexibility on the TRX, or Core Strength for Tennis. Early morning workouts will include 30 minute “boot camp-style” classes so busy people can get their workout in and out of the way, and feel energized the rest of the day. LFC members will be able to utilize the equipment on their own as space allows, upon completion of at least one session of classes.

The Studio will operate weekday mornings and early afternoons, and Saturday and Sunday mornings. For more information, call the LFC at 563-344-4119 or visit www.lifefitnesscenter.org. The Life Fitness Center is located at 2222 Middle Rd. in Bettendorf.

Save the Date!

Tis the Season is Back

The City of Bettendorf will host the third annual Tis the Season event on Sunday, December 4, at the Waterfront Convention Center, 2021 State Street, Bettendorf. Doors open at 1:00 p.m., with entertainment from 1:30 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. Seniors 60 and above are invited to enjoy holiday music, entertainment and refreshments. This event is free and open to all Quad Cities seniors.

Registration begins Monday, November 14 until Wednesday, November 30.

Watch for new Residents’ Guide & Garbage Guide! The guides will be mailed to residents during the month of December, 2011.

Are you Ready for Winter Weather?

As winter approaches, city staff prepares for snow and ice control. The following information will help residents understand their responsibilities during the winter months.

- If possible, make arrangements to store vehicles off the street to allow crews to push snow to the curb. There are no snow routes designated in Bettendorf, but City Code prohibits parking in the turn-a-round area of a cul-de-sac until snow has been cleared from the street.
- When clearing driveways and parking lots make sure the snow is not pushed out into the street. This is covered by City Code and violators can be cited for municipal infractions. It is an operational hazard that crews sometimes plow snow back into driveways when pushing snow to the curb.
- City Code requires sidewalk snow removal within 48 hours of the conclusion of a snow event. This means bare surfaces, regardless of how much snow falls or how much ice has accumulated. Property owners who fail to do this can be cited for a municipal infraction and the City will do the work by contractor and charge the resident for this work.
- Discharge from sump pumps should not be allowed to run over the sidewalk and freeze. Deicing chemicals must be used to control this situation if the sump pump continues to run all winter. Once again, residents can be cited for municipal infraction for this issue.
- Residents are requested to give city vehicles plenty of room to perform their tasks. Do not follow trucks too closely when they are depositing anti-icing materials before a snow event. During a snow event, trucks will be spreading road salt from the back and plowing. Traffic signal preemption devices may be used by the operator of the truck, so be aware of this when approaching an intersection.
- The City standard for snow and ice control is bare pavement everywhere on public streets within 18 hours following the cessation of snowfall from an average storm of 4-6”. Alleys are the last priority in this process and will be accomplished, unless successive snow events require City assets to be employed on main streets continuously. Once snow is packed down on side streets and alleys, it is extremely difficult to reach the bare pavement standard. Residents need to be aware of this situation.
- Residents who have a fire hydrant near their property are required to shovel the area around the hydrant and keep it clear at all times. Mailboxes are another issue of concern. The post office will not be able to deliver mail to boxes that are buried in snow. This has been an issue on cul-de-sacs where there is little room to plow snow and store it. Residents still have the responsibility to clear their mail boxes after the snow event.
Would You Like to Know What is Happening in the City of Bettendorf?

Visit the City’s webpage at www.bettendorf.org, watch Cable Channel 9, or follow the City on Twitter.

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

You will receive weekly updates on city events, holiday schedules, garbage collection schedules, job openings, and more! Information will be sent as plain text or Adobe Acrobat (PDF). Your e-mail address will not be shared with or sold to any third party. You may unsubscribe at any time.

To join, visit the City’s webpage at www.bettendorf.org and click on the Citizen Information E-mail link located on the main page under the “Did You Know” section.

Sign up for Bettendorf 101: City Citizen Academy

Bettendorf 101: City Citizen Academy gives residents an in-depth look at how their city government operates through discussions, demonstrations, and site visits.

The City hosts two academies each year, spring and fall. Each academy runs for approximately seven weeks. Classes are held on Thursday nights from 6:00 until 9:00 p.m. with the exception of bus tours.

Participants should not miss more than two sessions. During the academy, participants may be asked to climb stairs, take part in walking tours, and sit for an extended period of time. You must be at least 18 years of age and be a resident of Bettendorf.

To make sure every attendee gets the most out of the academy, class size is kept to 30 participants. To have your name added to the waiting list for the next available academy, please e-mail lhaldeman@bettendorf.org or call 563-344-4033.

For more information about Bettendorf 101: City Citizen Academy, visit the City’s webpage at www.bettendorf.org and click on the link located on the main page under the “Did You Know” section.
The Family Museum hopes to not only rekindle but create new memories at this year’s Winterfest exhibit and open house.

The Winterfest exhibition, on display beginning after the Thanksgiving Day holiday through New Year’s Day, features figurines from the former downtown Davenport Von Maur Department Store. First displayed in the late 1960s, the figures were used as displays in the windows of the store. Donated to the Family Museum in 1990 by the Von Maur family, these figurines have been cared for and displayed each year at the museum.

In addition to the Von Maur figurines, the museum’s Winterfest exhibition is also home to a remarkable train complete with two tracks, bridges, and tunnels. Large enough to occupy the front windows of the Family Museum’s Great Hall, this incredible miniature winter world is a must see.

To further celebrate the winter season, the Family Museum will also present its annual Winterfest open house on December 4. There will be a host of joyful family activities for everyone including a dance performance from the Family Museum LimeLight dancers, refreshments, fun make and take activities, and a visit from Santa. Admission to this event and the Family Museum’s hands-on gallery is free with the donation of a non-perishable food item or monetary donation for the Churches United food pantry.

This event is sponsored by DHCU Community Credit Union.

Neighborhood Watch
Tips for Home and Vehicle Safety

Here are some general crime prevention safety tips that might help you avoid being a victim of residential or vehicle burglaries.

LOCK YOUR RESIDENCE & VEHICLES.

1. Remove all valuable items from your vehicle.
2. Place a stick or wood dowel in the sliding glass door channel of your house to make it more difficult to slide the door open. This can also be done to reinforce the locks for sliding windows.
3. Install a random timer to vary times a light or radio is on while you are gone from your home.
4. Keep outside lights on at night or have motion sensing lights that will turn on if there is any movement near your house.
5. Have a trusted neighbor watch your home and stop all mail and newspaper deliveries when away for extended periods of time.
6. If you see something or someone acting suspicious in your neighborhood, call 911 immediately to report the incident to police.

If you have any questions or would like more information about crime prevention, please call Detective Jeff Nelson at 563-344-4037 or visit www.bettendorf.org/police.

Bettendorf Makes Commitment to Enhance the Quality of Life

In recent years, the City of Bettendorf has been actively developing a new concept along a number of city streets, which involves separated trails, or widened sidewalks.

These trails are located along major streets and arterials, and are 8 to 10 feet wide. The widened sidewalks make multi-use available for pedestrians and cyclists, providing multiple benefits that include alternative transportation, recreation, fitness, and community connectivity. A number of these separated trails have already been installed along Middle Road, 53rd Avenue, Devils Glen Road, Tanglefoot Lane, and Hopewell Avenue. In the next two years, additional separated trails are scheduled to be installed along Devils Glen Road, Middle Road, and Tanglefoot Lane.

This is a large commitment to enhancing the quality of life in Bettendorf, and making our community the type of place people choose to live in. Combined with the various existing and planned Recreational Trails along Duck Creek, Crow Creek, and the Mississippi Riverfront, these separated trails are part of an extensive network of trails that are rapidly helping to make the Quad Cities a tourism destination.

For more details on these trails and to view maps of the existing and planned recreational and separated trails, visit the Parks and Recreation Department’s web page at www.bettendorf.org/parks.

Winterfest Brings QC History to Life at the Family Museum

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City Council Meetings

City Council holds its regular meetings on the first and third Tuesdays of each month beginning at 7 p.m. Committee of the Whole meetings are held at 5 p.m. 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

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

There is no garbage, yard/bulky waste, recycling pick up on the above holidays, except for Good Friday. Check your garbage guide, Channel 9, webpage or Citizen Information E-mail for holiday pickup schedule.

City Webpage
www.bettendorf.org

City Administrator
Decker Ploehn
563-344-4007
dploehn@bettendorf.org

City Office Hours
8:00 a.m-5:00 p.m.
Monday-Friday

General Information Numbers

City Hall
563-344-4000

Police Department
Non Emergency: 563-344-4015

Fire Department
Non Emergency: 563-344-4052

Scott Emergency Communication Center
Emergency: Police/Fire/Ambulance: 911

Family Museum
563-344-4106

Library
563-344-4175

Parks & Recreation Administration
563-344-4113

Building Inspection Services
563-344-4074

Public Works

Garbage, Yard Waste, & Recycling
563-344-4088

Engineering
563-344-4055

Mass Transit
563-344-4085

Building Maintenance
563-344-4065

Community Center
563-344-4112

Splash Landing
563-344-4124

Life Fitness Center
563-344-4119

Palmer Hills
Golf Course
563-332-8296

Economic Development
563-344-4060

Community Development
563-344-4055

Code Enforcement
563-344-4064