Celebrating the 4th of July in Bettendorf has become a tradition for many. It is a perfect way to spend time with family and friends while enjoying great food and entertainment. Beginning June 1, details concerning the festivities can be found at www.bettendorf.org or Cable Channel 9. You will also find applications for the parade and craft/food vendors on the website. If you have questions about the parade, please call Don Wells at 563-823-0191 and questions concerning vendors can be directed to Jason Schadt at 563-344-4116.

The Fourth of July Festival and various parades take place near Cumberland Square, and on June 1, there will be a new event called the Color the Quads 5K Run. The interest was so high for this run that it was sold out well in advance. Because of the activities that take place in and around Cumberland Square as well as the Learning Campus, the merchants are considering creating a brochure to promote the area under the unified name of CenterPointe, named for the corridors central location.

It is because of the collaboration between local businesses and city leaders that Bettendorf has another area of our community that everyone can enjoy for years to come.

In the next City View, we will highlight the downtown and riverfront area.

The City of Bettendorf is happy to announce that Trinity Bettendorf has chosen to be a premier sponsor for the third year. Because of Trinity Bettendorf’s commitment to this event, this year’s 4th of July celebration will be better than ever. There will be new rides and entertainment, along with regular attractions including skydivers, petting zoo, and the Bettendorf Park Band. Don’t forget about the 4th of July parade and fireworks.

CVS pharmacy plans to move across the street to the First National Bank location. Visitors will be able to shop, bank, exercise, and also dine at one of the many restaurants including the newest addition, Culvers.

There have been many positive changes in and around Cumberland Square. No doubt the most significant is the completion of its exterior renovation. Attractively done, Cumberland’s facade now compliments the half dozen buildings to the north.

CVS pharmacy plans to move across the street to the First National Bank location. Visitors will be able to shop, bank, exercise, and also dine at one of the many restaurants including the newest addition, Culvers.

There have been some modifications to the Learning Campus, which is adjacent to Cumberland Square. The Family Museum is completing the most significant interior renovation since its initial construction, while the Library begins the process for their own renovation.

Mayor Bob Gallagher adds, “The City has been very fortunate to have Greg Jager as our city attorney for over 27 years. We understand his decision to retire and we wish him the best. We are now looking forward to a new chapter as Kristine takes over the City’s legal responsibilities.”

Kristine previously was the Assistant City Attorney for Ames, Iowa since 2009. She also worked as a staff attorney for two legal aid offices and as a deputy public defender. Kristine has a Bachelor of Arts from Iowa State University and graduated from Drake University Law School with honors.

"I would like to thank Mayor Gallagher and the City Council for this amazing opportunity. My family is excited to return to eastern Iowa and looks forward to becoming an active part of Bettendorf."

Kristine is married with two children. She and her family will be moving to Bettendorf within the next few months.

The City welcomes Kristine Stone as the newly hired City Attorney. Kristine fills the position that was made available when longtime City Attorney Greg Jager retired.

"I would like to thank Mayor Gallagher and the City Council for this amazing opportunity. My family is excited to return to eastern Iowa and looks forward to becoming an active part of Bettendorf."

Kristine is married with two children. She and her family will be moving to Bettendorf within the next few months.

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Hello Residents:

I have been the Mayor of Bettendorf for just over a year now and I am proud of the accomplishments that have taken place, in that time, due to the hard work and dedication of the City Council and staff. 2012 was a good year for Bettendorf. We finished our budget process in March for the 2013/14 fiscal year. We certified a total budget of $86.9 million and balanced all funds for the next fiscal year. Our strategy moving forward is to continue to maintain healthy cash reserves, stable revenue streams, and conservative fiscal planning. The City is taking a conservative approach in anticipation of the proposed commercial property tax rollback, currently proposed at 80% of value. We are also concerned about the Governor’s plan to cap future growth in property values at 2%, instead of the current 4% cap. Bettendorf is experiencing growth of at least 4% per year presently, so the proposed change will reduce our property tax revenue.

City Council has maintained the current property tax levy rate of $12.55 per $1,000.00 of valuation. Despite maintaining the tax levy, increases in assessed values and the change in the state rollback formula for residential property will increase many resident’s property tax bill. The property tax bill on a median $162,235 home will increase by 4.3% or $42.04. Commercial properties will not see a property tax increase, unless the value of their building increased. It is our policy to maintain the general fund balance between 20-25% of expenditures. For the fiscal year 2013/14 we predict that the general fund balance to be 23.94% of expenditures.

City Council has continued an aggressive capital improvement budget including new roads, sewer extensions, storm water projects, and the enhancement of our City’s cultural and recreational amenities. It has been 15 years since the Family Museum and Library have been renovated. The Family Museum is in the midst of a major reconstruction including all new exhibits at a cost of approximately $1.5 million. The Library is also getting a face lift. When completed, the renovation will cost approximately $655,000.00. In January, the City hosted an open house seeking public review and comment on our new transportation plan, which includes accommodations for cyclists and pedestrians. If you have not had a chance to view those plans, you can find them on the City’s webpage at www.bettendorf.org.

Included in the Capital Improvement Program are two projects on 18th Street. The area in front of the high school from Maplecrest to Echodale will be completely replaced as will the area between Middle Road and Avalon. The project in front of the high school will begin after school is out for the summer and will be completed before school begins in the fall. The third and final phase of the Tanglefoot reconstruction project, from Greenbriar to Utica Ridge Road, will also be completed this summer. City Council has added $700,000.00 per year for five years for the development of Forest Grove Park. The program budget also includes money for downtown improvements, a facade program, and money to help those businesses relocated by the I-74 bridge project.

It is with great pride that I report that Moody's Investors Service has given the City of Bettendorf an Aa1 rating, which is the second highest rating possible. This rating reflects the City’s sound financial operations supported by solid and significant revenue flexibility.

One of the tools the City relies upon for future planning is the feedback received from the National Citizen Survey, which we have done since 2006. The results of the most recent survey were pleasing. In fact, the overall quality of life in Bettendorf was rated “excellent” or “good” by 96% of the survey respondents. Almost all respondents reported that they plan on staying in Bettendorf for at least the next five years.

In general, survey respondents demonstrated strong trust in our local government. A majority rated the overall direction of the City as “good” or “excellent.” Residents who interacted with an employee of the City in the previous 12 months gave high marks, rating their overall impression of City employees as “excellent” or “good.”

Through the years, Bettendorf has experienced steady and prosperous growth. We have been able to create a balance between our business community and residential living, which has been made possible through the united efforts of our residents, businesses, and city government. I would like to close by saying how grateful I am to work with a City Council and staff that are devoted to our City and go above and beyond their responsibilities. Much of the success our City has experienced is due to their hard work and the incredible citizens and volunteers that help create what we proudly call a “Premier City.”
Mayor and City Council

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bgallagher@bettendorf.org

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1314 Eastmeme Drive
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dmayne@bettendorf.org

Alderman at-Large
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home: 563-332-6545
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Alderman at-Large
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City Administrator
Decker Ploehn
563/344-4007
dploehn@bettendorf.org

City Webpage
www.bettendorf.org

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

City Council Meetings
City Council’s regular meetings are on the first and third Tuesdays of each month beginning at 7:00 p.m. Committee of the Whole meetings are held at 5:00 p.m. on the Monday prior to the regular meeting and on the fourth Monday of each month, if necessary. 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.

General Information Numbers

City Hall
563-344-4000

Police Department
563-344-4015

Emergency: 911

Fire Department
563-344-4052

Emergency: 911

Family Museum
563-344-4106

Library
563-344-4175

Parks Administration
563-344-4113

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

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

City Office Hours
8:00 a.m-5:00 p.m.
Monday-Friday
The newly renovated Family Museum turns learning into fun with week-long camps for kids ages 3 to 10. From Dinosaurs Rock, to Slime Time, there is something for everyone. The Family Museum Dance Department offers camps for dancers ages 4 to 17. Check out the list of summer camps at www.familymuseum.org.

Get Messy at the Family Museum! From June 10 - August 2, drop-in Art Studio will be open Monday through Friday from 10 AM - 3 PM. This activity is free with paid admission or membership. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Try your hand at the Potter's Wheel, or just play with clay for fun. The summer clay studio will be open from June 10 to August 2. Hours are Mondays from 11 AM – 2 PM, Tuesdays from 1 PM - 4 PM, and Thursdays from 2 PM - 4 PM, and 5 PM - 7 PM for adults (18+) only. Children must be accompanied by an adult. There is a $5 fee for projects that need to be glazed and fired. Air dry clay is free with paid admission or membership.

Family Museum’s Storyland: A Trip Through Childhood Favorites brings children and adults right into the world of seven beloved picture books. From the gardens of The Tale of Peter Rabbit to the urban snowscape of The Snowy Day, Storyland engages visitors in early literature adventures. In the exhibit's immersive environment, families will discover that it is never too early to develop a love of reading. Open May 18 through Labor Day.

Featured books:
The Tale of Peter Rabbit by Beatrix Potter
If You Give a Mouse a Cookie by Laura Numeroff
Chicka Chicka Boom Boom by Bill Martin Jr. & John Archambault
The Snowy Day By Ezra Jack Keats
Abuela by Arthur Dorros
Tuesday by David Wiesner

The Summer Concert Series is back! Every Thursday in June and July (except July 4) from 6:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m., visitors can listen to a local band or musician. Bring a picnic basket and enjoy great music at Faye’s Field. This is an all-ages program, so bring the kids along! In the event of bad weather, the show will go on indoors at the Library.

Movies in the Park is back! The movies will be shown on a large inflatable screen at Veterans’ Memorial Park.

The movies will start at dusk. Admission is free and open to all ages. Concessions will be available. Bring a lawn chair or a blanket and enjoy a movie under the stars.

For more details, call 563-344-4113.

Library Events

- Kids’ Experience will be held on Saturday, August 17 from 9:30 a.m. until 3 p.m. at Faye’s Field. This all day event allows children to take part in short classes on a variety of subjects. No registration is required. Families can come and take advantage of all the opportunities throughout the day. Everything is FREE including a hot dog lunch! There is a special area for children ages five and under. Most classes are geared for school age children through sixth grade.

- The theme for the Summer Reading Program is “Dig into Reading.” Beginning May 28 - July 27, kids can participate by keeping track of the reading they do on their own. The Library provides reading logs and set goals for achievement. Once a child reaches their goal they earn a reading award. Registration is required.

  June 11 - 1:30 p.m. Conductor Jack from Zinghoppers
  June 13 - 10 a.m. & 11 a.m. IPTV’s Dan Wardell’s Reading Road Trip
  June 19 - 11:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Dinoman Science Program
  June 25 - 6:30 p.m. Children’s Musical Performer, Tom Pease
  July 9 - 1:30 p.m. Storyteller, Darrin Crow
  July 18 - 11 a.m. Children’s Entertainer, Spoon Man

The Bettendorf Park Band concerts are held every Friday at 7:30 p.m. at Veterans’ Memorial Park. During June and July performances alternate between the Bettendorf Park Band and a guest band.

All concerts are free and open to the public!

2013 Summer Schedule

June 7 Bettendorf Park Band
June 14 CASI New Horizons
June 21 Bettendorf Park Band
June 28 Illinois Air Force National Guard Band
July 4 Bettendorf Park Band Holiday
July 5 Circus Band
July 12 Bettendorf Park Band
July 19 Orion Community Band
July 26 Bettendorf Park Band

Supporting Sponsor: DHCU
Nightly Sponsors: Friends of the Bettendorf Park Foundation, Pizza Ranch, and K & K Hardware

Community Bulletin Board

Movies in the Park

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For more details, call 563-344-4113.

Movie Schedule

6/8 Madagascar 3
6/15 Hotel Transylvania
6/22 The Lorax
6/29 Rise of the Guardians

Supporting Sponsor: DHCU
Nightly Sponsors: Friends of the Bettendorf Park Foundation, Pizza Ranch, and K & K Hardware
City Participates in Urban Road Salt Monitoring Project

The City of Bettendorf is participating in an Urban Road Salt Monitoring Project with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, the University of Wisconsin Extension, and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. The goal of the project is to assess the impacts of road salt on streams in urban areas of Wisconsin, Iowa, and Michigan.

Twenty-two sites are being monitored for chloride, pH, air and water temperature, total hardness, and sulfate. Additional factors to consider are water color, weather, precipitation, and whether or not the stream is ice covered.

In Bettendorf, this information is being used to assess the effects of modified practices that have been implemented during this year’s snow season such as new calibration levels and equipment and modifications in brine application. The City may want to make adjustments to the current practices as a result of the study.

You can have a positive effect on the environment by ensuring that salt application is applied sparingly and not prior to a rain or melting event.

If you have any questions about the project, contact Patty Copeland at 563-344-4084 or pcopeland@bettendorf.org.

Digital Magazines Available at the Library

The Bettendorf Public Library is pleased to announce the availability of Zinio digital magazines for all Bettendorf cardholders. You can checkout and download magazines without a waiting list or due dates. Access Zinio, using a Bettendorf Library card at www.bettendorflibrary.com.

You get the full content of the magazine, along with added features you can’t find in print, such as video, audio, and live links.

Enjoy the Summer at Palmer Hills Golf Course & Grill

Palmer Hills Golf Course has undergone many improvements. In addition to major renovations at the 14th, 15th, and 16th holes, a new state of the art double row irrigation system was added to enhance the greens. In addition, synthetic tees and target greens have been added to the driving range. Golfers can also take advantage of season passes and a 12 for the price of 10 discounted greens fee coupons.

Palmer offers both group and individual lessons, along with club fittings and a wide range of equipment in the full service pro shop. Contact Golf Pro Jon Waddell at 563-332-8296.

Palmer Grill has made some changes to their already outstanding menu. Two new $6 daily lunch specials have been added, which include Parmesan Crusted Tilapia with fresh vegetables available on Fridays and Tacos offered on Tuesdays. Don’t forget the already existing specials such as Monday’s Tenderloin, Wednesday’s 1/2 lb Burger, and Thursday’s Chicken Philly.

Palmer Grill is open to the public seven days a week. Looking for a location to have your next graduation party, reception, or birthday celebration? Call Palmer Grill at 563-344-7169 for details.

Separated Trails Projects Move Forward

There are a number of trail projects planned in Bettendorf this summer.

The Tanglefoot Lane separated trail and bike lanes will be extended westward from Greenbrier Avenue to Utica Ridge Road, along with the widening of the street into three lanes. This will complete the construction of Tanglefoot Lane. The Devils Glen Road separated trail will be extended south from Crow Creek Park to Belmont Road, and then along Belmont Road to Middle Road.

Another separated trail project scheduled for this summer is the extension of the Middle Road separated trail from Devils Glen Road westward all the way to Parkway Drive, where it will connect up to the Duck Creek trail. The extension of the Crow Creek recreation trail will be from Crow Creek Park eastward and connect with the Middle Road separated trail at the Middle Road bridge over Crow Creek.

These trails will add to the rapidly growing trail network that provides great connectivity in our community. In addition they provide great fitness amenities and recreational opportunities!

Pickleball Comes to Bettendorf

Beginning this summer, Kiwanis Park will have six new Pickleball courts!

Pickleball is played on a court that is approximately 1/3 the size of a regulation tennis court. The game is very similar to tennis except a paddle is used instead of a racquet, and players use a larger perforated plastic ball.

Pickleball is a fast paced and easy to learn game, which has grown in popularity throughout the country. Pickleball was offered this past year for the first time as part of the Quad City Senior Olympics. Very popular among seniors, the sport is also a great alternative for all ages.

The courts should be completed and ready for play by the end of August.

Visit the City’s webpage at www.bettendorf for more great information!
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.

Sign up for the 2013 Fall Bettendorf 101: City Citizen Academy

The academy gives residents an in-depth look at how their city government operates through discussions, demonstrations, and site visits.

We are now taking names for the 2013 fall Bettendorf 101: City Citizen Academy. The City hosts two academies each year, spring and fall. Each academy runs for approximately eight weeks. Classes are held on Thursday nights from 6:00 until 9:00 p.m. with the exception of a bus tour.

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 have your name added to the list for the next academy, please e-mail lhaldeman@bettendorf.org or call 563-344-4033. Space is limited. If you do not make the fall academy, your name will be added to the list for 2014 spring academy.

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.