On Saturday, May 31, the second annual Color Run will take place in Bettendorf. The Kid’s Color Dash will be held at Veterans’ Memorial Park, 23rd Street beginning at 11 a.m. There will be no detours or street closings for the Kid’s Color Dash.

At 4:00 p.m., the Color Run will begin at Spruce Hills Drive and 18th Street. The route will travel north on 18th Street, turning left on Crow Creek Road, turning left onto Greenbrier Drive, turning left on Tanglefoot Lane, and turning right onto 18th Street. The run will end at Learning Campus, Faye’s Field.

The run will last approximately 45 minutes. There will be street closures and detours during the run. Drivers may want to take an alternate route while the run is in progress.

If you have questions, concerning the Color Run, please call 563-424-7721. If you have questions concerning street closures or parking during the run, please call the Bettendorf Police Department at 563-344-........

More Changes to Bettendorf’s Downtown

When you visit Bettendorf’s downtown area, you will see major changes to the city’s landscape.

In the past two years, 40 businesses in the downtown area have been purchased by the Iowa Department of Transportation. All buildings should be demolished by the end of this summer. These properties are needed for the Local Road Project. This project realigns State and Grant Streets for the new bridge interchange. The IDOT is also working with the utility companies to relocate some of the utility lines. During the construction Grant Street will have two lanes open and State Street will have all lanes open.

The area between 10th and 17th Streets is the primary construction zone. Some side streets may be closed due to sewer and storm water relocation. The city, in cooperation with the IDOT, will add signage to indicate street closures and detours to assist the public in reaching their downtown destinations. The majority of the work will be completed in 2015, with the first stage of the project beginning with new lanes north of Grant Street and the reconnection of Kimberly Road. The work will then move south between Grant and State Streets.

The construction of the new bridge could begin as soon as 2017, with a possible completion date of 2021. The new bridge and corridor will bring great opportunities for redevelopment to the downtown area and riverfront.

Bettendorf Hires New Park Band Director

Last year, Brian Hughes was hired as the director for the Bettendorf Park Band. Brian replaces James Crowder who stepped down after 25-years.

Brian was previously a member of the Bettendorf Park Band. He is currently the conductor with the Tri-State Wind Symphony in Dubuque, Iowa, and the Quad City Wind Ensemble. He has an extensive music and conducting background.

Visit the parks and recreation section on the city’s webpage to view the Bettendorf Park Band’s summer schedule.
Hello Residents:

After a severe winter, I am happy to enter the summer months with a positive outlook. I am proud of the city staff and the work they did clearing streets of snow and ice. Not only did staff do a great job, they also received the American Public Works Association’s 2014 Excellence in Snow and Ice Control Award. For the past 20 years, Bettendorf has had a policy of bare pavement on all city streets within 24 hours after a snowfall of four to six inches. Bettendorf is the only city of its size in Iowa to have this bare pavement standard. Our staff’s commitment is the reason we can provide superior service to the community while balancing fiscal responsibility and environmental conservation.

On February 19, the City hosted a public information meeting concerning the 2014/15 budget, which totals $89.8 million. During the meeting, we announced that our financial outlook for the next 18 months remains stable with healthy fund balances, a significant General Fund Levy growth available, and stable revenue streams. The city will maintain its Levy Rate at $12.55 including a General Fund Levy Rate of $5.44. Bettendorf is one of a few cities in Iowa with a General Fund Levy below $8.10. This allows for future growth capacity of 48% equating to nearly $5 million of potential property taxes. Due to the improved economy, we are reducing our reliance on gaming revenue to supplement operating budgets over the next five years. Instead, additional gaming revenue will be used for one time capital projects. By doing this, we will increase the available fund balance in gaming over the next five years. The City Council has a history of conservative spending and continues with strong fiscal planning and adherence to spending policies.

The City continues to fund an aggressive capital improvement program to maintain or upgrade our existing infrastructure and support our growing community with quality amenities. During the 2014/15 fiscal year, we will fund $15.4 million of capital projects. As a growing community, we realize that financing an aggressive CIP program equates to having a higher debt levy rate and corresponding debt margin ratio than many comparable cities. Our five-year plan does, however, decrease our debt margin ratio by 8% to just under 70% by the end of fiscal year 2018/19, while allocating significant future tax dollars to support projects for our growing community.

Some of the projects for this construction season include Utica Ridge Road reconstruction between Tanglefoot Lane and Spruce Hills Drive ($1.55 million), 18th Street reconstruction from Navajo south to St. John Vianney Church ($900,000), and Hopewell Drive extension from Middle Road to Century Heights subdivision ($1.85 million). Forest Grove Road reconstruction between Utica Ridge Road and Eagle Ridge Road ($3 million) is currently in the design phase, and depending on the bidding process, this project may occur this year or in 2015.

Another major project, which will impact Bettendorf’s downtown, is the I-74 bridge construction. Before construction begins on the bridge, which is scheduled for 2017, relocation of utilities will take place along State and Grant Streets between 10th and 17th Streets. Both of these streets will be realigned and constructed in 2015/16. During the construction, traffic will be able to travel with two lanes of Grant Street open and all lanes on State Street open. There will be signage to help you maneuver around the construction. We encourage you to visit any of the downtown businesses during this construction process.

As a Bettendorf resident, you know that our city has much to offer from affordable homes, quality education, and 23 recreation parks that are second to none. Other leisure services and facilities for all ages include: Palmer Hills Golf Course, which houses a full service restaurant, Splash Landing Aquatic Center, Life Fitness Center, Veterans’ Memorial Park Band Shell, two boat launches and docks, and 7.8 miles of fitness and recreation trails.

I could go on discussing projects and events, but there is just not enough time. I do want to extend you a personal invitation to experience all that Bettendorf has to offer. You can visit our webpage at www.bettendorf.org to find out more about our great community.

Enjoy the warm weather!
Mayor and City Council

1st Ward
Dean Mayne
1314 Eastmere Drive
563-650-1026
dmayne@bettendorf.org

2nd Ward
Scott Naumann
2608 Avalon Drive
563-445-4261
snaumann@bettendorf.org

3rd Ward
Debe LaMar
3466 Devils Glen Court
563-441-9360
dlamar@bettendorf.org

4th Ward
Greg Adamson
2898 Villa Court
563-332-4271
gadamson@bettendorf.org

5th Ward
Alderman at-Large
Lisa Brown
5555 Kilt Court
563-320-3849
lbrown@bettendorf.org

Alderman at-Large
Gary Mohr
4755 School House Road
563-332-8377
gmohr@bettendorf.org

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

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

City Webpage
www.bettENDORF.org

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

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

Engineering
563-344-4055

Mass Transit
563-344-4085

Building Maintenance
563-344-4065

Economic Development
563-344-4060

Community Development
563-344-4055

Code Enforcement
563-344-4064

Building Inspection Services
563-344-4074

Parks Administration
563-344-4113

Community Center
563-344-4112

Splash Landing
563-344-4124

Life Fitness Center
563-344-4119

Palmer Hills Golf Course
563-332-8296

Until the council seat is filled, 5th ward residents should call City Hall at 563-344-4000 for questions or concerns.
Welcome to ThinkShop

The Family Museum’s ThinkShop is a workshop for the hand and the mind. Children are taught to use all types of tools while they transform recycled materials into something all their own. ThinkShop is equipped with individual work stations and a collaborative table where small groups can work together. Each station comes with all the tools needed for construction.

Through their work and focused exploration, children will gain knowledge of fundamental principles of science, engineering, and math as they investigate cause and effect, forces such as compression and tension, and elements of design, stability, and balance. ThinkShop also supports an awareness of recycling as a concrete way to respect the earth and act as a responsible steward of our planet.

Opened in November, 2013, ThinkShop is the most exciting and interactive gallery currently at the Family Museum. Open every day, ThinkShop is included with Museum admission or Museum membership.

Pickleball is Here

Last fall, six new Pickleball courts were installed at Kiwanis Park. Pickleball is played on a court that is approximately 1/3 the size of a regulation tennis court. The game is similar to tennis except a paddle is used instead of a racquet, and players use a large perforated plastic ball. This fast growing sport is already taught as a recreation class in many schools, including Bettendorf Middle School.

The Pickleball Club is discussing ways to host tournaments for Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois venues. Feel free to contact the Pickleball Club at 563-355-4693 to see how you can be involved. The club always welcomes new players and has loaner equipment available for those who would like to try out this fast paced sport.

It’s Tee Time!

After a long, cold, snowy winter, are you ready for some golf? Palmer Hills Golf Course is ready for you. Over the past three years, the course has seen close to $2,000,000 in improvements that include a new double row irrigation system and improvements to tees, traps, greens, and a full reconstruction of the 14th, 15th, and 16th holes.

Contact Club Pro Jon Waddell at 563-332-8296 to set a tee time, schedule a lesson, or purchase the right golf equipment.

Stop by Palmer Grill, located at the golf course, whether you’ve just finished a round of golf or are looking for a place to eat. Palmer Grill has seating for 70 in the restaurant and an additional 30 seats on the patio overlooking the first tee.

In addition to lunch and dinner, the restaurant and patio are available for special occasions. Call Steve at 563-344-7171 for details or to schedule your special event.

Summer Concert Series is Back

The Library’s Summer Concert Series returns this June and July every Thursday, 6:30 p.m. at Faye’s Field. Performers already confirmed include Danika Holmes, Smithsonian recording artists Bob and Sheila Everhart, local favorite Lojo Russo, and the always popular Whoozdads?

Bring a picnic to enjoy during the concert. In case of bad weather, the concerts will be held inside the Library.

The Summer Concert series is sponsored by Mel Foster Co. and THE National Bank, and supported by a grant from the Bettendorf Public Library Foundation.

Dora and Diego Coming to a Family Museum Near You!

Get ready to explore with Dora and Diego at the Family Museum beginning May 24 through August 31.

Preschoolers can explore as they learn and play with Dora and all her friends.

To learn more visit www.familymuseum.org.
Visit Your New and Approved Library

Have you been to the Library lately? The newly renovated lobby, entrance, and Youth Department are beautiful! And the work is not over yet! This summer, renovations will begin in the computer area, study rooms, reference area, and more. The staff desk will be located outside the Quad, and the hours the desk is manned will increase. This will make staff more accessible, and will allow the back half of the Library to be more closely monitored. Better service and better security - that’s a win for everyone!

If you are one of the many patrons who use the study rooms, you know that there are never enough. Good news, three more study rooms will be added, and the acoustics will be improved in all rooms.

Many of the older internet stations will be replaced and reconfigured. Signage will be added to direct patrons to service areas and acoustics will be improved.

When all the renovations have been completed, visitors will have a more comfortable and quieter building, and they will be proud to call this structure a premier Library.

Emerald Ash Borer What you Should Know

As of January 1, 2014, this insect has been found in Rock Island County. It is possible that borers are in Bettendorf.

Bettendorf is currently developing a comprehensive plan to address Emerald Ash Borer. Current measures include the removal of ash trees located on public property. A few trees may be treated to try to protect them from the borers but the vast majority will be removed. Trees may be replaced when funding is available. Ash trees on private property will not be removed by the city unless deemed a hazard.

For more information concerning the Emerald Ash Borer visit www.extension.ia.edu or www.mortonarb.org.

Landscaping Tips, Consider Rain Gardens

With the onset of summer rains, you may want to consider ways to improve drainage on your property. Rain gardens planted with native plants provide habitat for butterflies, hummingbirds, and beneficial insects as well as reducing surface runoff. Native plants and grasses can be incorporated into the natural drainage area of your landscaping. The native plants cleanse the water as it filters through the deep roots, thereby discharging cleaner water to your local streams. If your driveway or walkway needs replacement, consider installing pervious pavement to allow the water to infiltrate rather than run off.

There is a cost-share program through the Scott County Soil & Water Conservation District that will assist residents in reimbursement of up to 50% (up to $2,000) for each project that infiltrates 75% of the runoff on the property. To find out how you can qualify for this program contact Dan McNeil at 563-391-1403, extension 3.

A Message from Bettendorf Fire and Rescue

Earlier this year, the Bettendorf Fire Department responded to an apartment fire. Upon arrival, firefighters found numerous electrical items plugged into a single outlet. The multi-plug adapter overheated due to the overload of electrical current and started the curtains on fire. The tenant was fortunately home and extinguished the flames prior to firefighter’s arrival.

Multi-plug adapters can result in damage to electrical wiring in the circuit and can fail due to drawing too much electrical current. Multi-plug adaptors should not be used. An outlet strip with integral circuit breaker is a good alternative.

Be a Good Neighbor, Follow City Codes

Bettendorf City Code does not allow pets to run at large within the city. Please remember, an animal can be walked off premises as long as the animal is on a leash not more than 6 feet in length and under the control of a person competent to control the animal.

Also, any excrement discharged by animals on public or private property must be picked up immediately and disposed of properly.

To view City Codes, visit the city’s webpage at www.bettendorf.org and click on the link located on the main page.
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 2014 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 2014 fall Bettendorf 101: City Citizen Academy. 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 two 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 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 2015 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.