City View
Keeping Bettendorf Residents Informed
winter/fall 2015

Route Changes for Bettendorf Transit
Bettendorf transit route changes are the result of a planning process that the City of Bettendorf and MetroLINK have been working on over the past year. The new routes offer increased geographic coverage and a number of new connection points. In lieu of one downtown transit hub, there are three main transfer points along Middle Road including Burlington Coat Factory, Learning Campus, and Hy-Vee at Glenroads Center. Additional transfer points will include ORA/Genesis HealthPlex, Northridge Shopping Center, and the Isle of Capri.

To download maps and schedules, visit www.bettendorf.org.

Tis the Season Returns this December
The seventh annual Tis the Season event will be held on Sunday, December 13, at the Waterfront Convention Center, 2021 State Street. Doors open at 1:00 p.m., with entertainment beginning at 1:30 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 16 until December 11 or until filled. Beginning November 16, call 563-344-4000 to RSVP.
No early registrations please.

Forest Grove Park Starts to Take Shape
Construction has begun on the first phase of the new Forest Grove Park. The 100-acre park site was acquired several years ago, and a detailed master plan was developed that features a wide variety of nature themed amenities with a strong emphasis on natural area preservation and restoration. The first phase is scheduled to be completed in the summer of 2016 with a dedication ceremony planned for July.

The first phase of the park is located just off of Forest Grove Road about 1/2 mile east of Middle Road. It will include a large playground and a shelter. There will also be a basketball court, shade structure, parking lot, recreation paths, benches, and a drinking fountain. Future phases will include the development of a large green space area that can be used for a wide variety of athletic and recreational activities. There will be multiple trails throughout the park. There are also plans for a day lodge and recreation center. Significant efforts have been made to restore the various woodland and floodplain areas. This multi-faceted park will be developed over the course of a number of years. The master plan will be adjusted over time to reflect current and future trends and interests of the community.
Mayor’s Message

Dear Residents,

This is an exciting time for Bettendorf. We are a highly desirable place to be in the Quad Cities - residential growth is booming, local schools are strong, and our residents love living here, with public surveys showing excellent community ratings year after year. At the same time, we look forward to a future of continued growth and change. Our city is quickly developing toward the north, while we anticipate considerable transformation and opportunity in the downtown and riverfront area with the reconstruction of the I-74 Bridge. It is the goal of Bettendorf leaders to make this unique area of the city a tourist destination point with a variety of commercial and residential attractions.

I feel living in Bettendorf is a good value for the money. If you look at 33 cities in Iowa with a population of 10,000 or more, Bettendorf would be the third lowest in total property taxes and fees. Over the past five years, Bettendorf has seen an increase in houses being built, with an average of 150 new homes each year. The City Council and staff work together to balance the needs of our existing residential areas while planning for future growth.

Since April of 2014, Bettendorf has been working on a comprehensive plan, also known as Premiering Bettendorf. Our comprehensive planning process provided an opportunity for residents to create a shared vision for our community and Bettendorf’s future. Residents and city staff identified issues and opportunities for Bettendorf’s land use, infrastructure, public facilities, natural resources, and more. These findings were used to create a vision for Bettendorf and set public priorities. This long range plan will make way for positive changes for our community.

As I have said again and again, Bettendorf is a great place to live, work, and play. I think I can speak for the City Council and staff when I say we are proud of all Bettendorf has to offer. Whether you are a young professional, a family with children, or looking forward to retirement, Bettendorf will continue to offer its residents a quality of life that can enjoyed by all ages.
Thanks to the Bettendorf Public Library Foundation, the Library now has five tablets available for in-house checkout. You have the opportunity to try an iPad, Surface RT, Kindle, Nook or a Nexus 7.

The Library also has iPads for use in the Youth Services Department. The iPads come with pre-loaded applications for kids to use within the youth department. There are a variety of apps suitable for kids up to age 12. To check out one of the four tablets stop by the Youth Services Desk. An adult will need to provide their library card (in good standing) to check out a tablet for a child. Headphones will be provided, which must be utilized while playing on the iPads. The tablets are checked out on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Special thanks to the Scott County Regional Authority and the Bettendorf Public Library Foundation for funding the purchase of the iPads and additional accessories.

For more information about the tablets, call 563-344-4175 or visit www.bettendorflibrary.com.

Fun at the Family Museum

- On Saturday, November 14, toy stores across the country will be celebrating the joy of play during the 6th annual Neighborhood Toy Store Day. Join the Family Museum’s Corner Store as they celebrate community, children, and play!

  The Corner Store will spotlight several unique toys along with demonstrations and special offers throughout the day. You can receive 10% off an entire purchase and 20% off if you are a Family Museum member. No coupon needed; some exclusions may apply. This offer is good for November 14 only.

- On Friday, November 6, your child can bring his or her favorite stuffed friend to the Family Museum to play in the galleries, make crafts, and eat pizza. At 5:00 p.m., the children must go home, but their stuffed friends can stay and play for the whole night, almost. There is an 11:00 p.m. lights out. Until then, it’s fun, fun, fun! The next day your child’s stuffed friend will be ready to go home, and they will have photos to share of their adventures at the Museum!

  Pre-registration is required, $10 per child. Limit one stuffed animal per child. Limited to the first 25 children to register. Call Julie at 563-344-4170 to register.
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.

Now follow the City of Bettendorf on Facebook!

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 2016 Spring 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 2016 Spring Bettendorf 101: City Citizen Academy. The city hosts two academies each year, spring and fall. Each academy runs seven weeks. Classes are held on Thursday nights from 6:00-9:00 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 spring academy, your name will be added to the list for the 2016 fall 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.
Salt is used because it can decrease the freezing point of water. Pavement temperatures are usually warmer than air temperatures. Most salts are ineffective below 15°F. You can use sand instead for traction, but remember that sand does not melt ice. Be patient. Just because you don't see salt on the road doesn't mean it hasn't been applied. These products take time to work. More salt does not mean more melting. Use less than four pounds of salt per 1,000 square feet (an average parking space is about 150 square feet). One pound of salt is approximately a heaping 12-ounce coffee mug. Consider purchasing a hand-held spreader to help you apply a consistent amount. Sweep up any extra salt. If salt or sand is visible on dry pavement it is no longer doing any work and will be washed away. Use this salt or sand somewhere else or throw it away.

The more snow you can remove manually, the less salt you will need and the more effective it will be. Whether you use a shovel or snow blower, start early and keep up with the storm.

For further information about residents' responsibilities during winter months, please call the Public Works Department at 563-344-4088.
Since 2002, the Quad City Arts has facilitated the leasing and installation of public sculptures in the Quad Cities. The City of Bettendorf has utilized the program since 2008. The sculptures are an affordable way to beautify the community and allow the city to invest in the arts.

In 2014, Bettendorf leased a sculpture entitled Swoop. With the assistance of Alcoa, the City of Bettendorf purchased the sculpture, which is permanently located at its current location, Martha’s Point. Alcoa contributed $9,000 of the $19,250 price. Artist Michael Young created the sculpture Swoop. The work is meant to convey the feeling of the thrill of the dive and the moment a wing just skims the surface and begins its climb back to the sky. The sculpture is a 24-foot tall windswept work of aluminum, which throws off wisps of sunlight as it catches beams of neon from its internal lighting element.

Swoop will be the sixth permanent sculpture owned by the city. Other sculptures include Unity at City Hall, Cradle and American Eagle, both located at the Waterfront Convention Center, Heartstrings at Splash Landing, and Ascension located at the Learning Campus.

Also new this year are two temporary sculptures, Puppy Love, by artist Gail Chavenell, located at Faye’s Field and Onward, by artist Mike Sneller, located at the Waterfront Convention Center. Both sculptures will be on display through July 2016.

Smoke alarms are a very important means of preventing home fire fatalities by providing an early warning signal so you have time to escape a fire. Smoke alarms are one of the best safety devices you can buy and install to protect yourself, your family and your home.

According to the U.S Fire Administration, working smoke alarms cut the risk of fatality in reported home fires by half. While fires can start from various sources in the home, experts say cooking is the leading cause of home fire and fire injuries. Be alert when cooking and keep items such as kitchen towels away from cooking areas. Half of home fire deaths happen between 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., when most people are sleeping. There should be a minimum of one detector on each floor.

There are many different brands of smoke alarms available and they fall under two basic types: ionization and photoelectric. Ionization alarms sound more quickly when a flaming, fast moving fire occurs. Photoelectric alarms are quicker at sensing smoldering, smoky fires. The USFA recommends the installation of both ionization and photoelectric or dual sensor smoke alarms. In addition to the basic types of alarms, there are alarms made to meet the needs of people with hearing disabilities. These alarms may use strobe lights that flash and/or vibrate to assist in alerting those who are unable to hear standard smoke alarms when they sound.

You should test alarms at least once a month by pushing the test button. Change the batteries every six months. Most alarms installed today have a life span of about 8-10 years or when they do not sound when tested. Write the date of purchase with a marker on the inside of the alarm so you will know when to replace it. Some of the newer alarms already have the purchase date written inside.

For more information about fire prevention, visit www.usfa.fema.gov or call the Bettendorf Fire Department at 563-344-4030.