



THE БЕЛОIT REPORT

CONTINUING ITS RESURGENCE AS A GEM OF THE ROCK RIVER VALLEY

CURRENT EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

July 27, 2012

*A weekly publication
from the Office of the
City Manager*

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Special points of interest:

- **City Meetings**
(page 4)
- **Community Events**
(page 4)

FEROCIOUS STORM SLAMS CITY

Residents have already read about the ferocious thunder storm that slammed into City Center Beloit on Tuesday morning, July 24 at approximately 5:00 a.m. While a good portion of the City received a downpour with thunder, lightning and moderate winds, several neighborhoods mostly on the west side of the river were subjected to winds estimated at over 50 miles per hour. Trees were toppled and countless limbs were downed throughout those neighborhoods. Shortly after the conclusion of the storm, 7,000 customers in the City of Beloit were without power and many of the streets on the west side of the city, particularly in the area south of Liberty and around Burton Street, had multiple trees and limbs down with road blockages and several homes damaged. The Fire Department activated a disaster box alarm through the MABAS Mutual Aid System and units from ten area fire departments. Over 80 firefighters were in the City of Beloit to assist the Police Department in responding to 220 emergency calls in three hours. The Emergency Operating Center (EOC) was activated at fire station headquarters with managers, command staff from the City of Beloit, South Beloit and the Town of Beloit, along with representatives from Alliant Energy, Rock County Emergency Management, and other involved agencies in attendance. The City's emergency management team included the City Manager, Fire Chief, Public Works Supervisor, the Deputy Police Chief, the Emergency Services Coordinator, and the Assistant to the City Manager serving as Public Information Officer. Emergency Responders were also assisted by the Salvation Army, the Red Cross, and the Southern Wisconsin Emergency Preparedness Team (SWEPT) for the health and safety of the responders.

Fortunately, no one in the city of Beloit was injured due to the storm. Following the 9-1-1 calls for assistance, our priorities became opening streets and restoring power. Although most customers were back on line during the day on Tuesday, Alliant crews continued to work on Wednesday. City crews supported Alliant repair teams removing and cleaning up tree and limb damage as soon as Alliant cleared the wires so that it was safe to work in that vicinity. Areas that experienced longer delays in opening the streets resulted from Alliant programming work to get as many customers back in service as quickly as possible. Although the company had multiple crews in the city, not all of the repairs could be done at the same time.

On Wednesday, the City received mutual aid support through the Public Works Mutual Aid Agreement from the cities of Janesville and Edgerton, who loaned crews and equipment for the day. In addition to mutual aid, the Public Works Department was fully mobilized and the East-side terraces were cleared of debris. Debris removal continued throughout the week and is expected to be completed next week. Residents are reminded that the City will collect limbs and chip trees if they are stacked on the terrace. The special storm pick-up will extend through Wednesday, August 1 for the East-side residents and Friday, August 3 for the West-side residents. Residents must have their storm damaged trees and limbs cut up and on the terrace prior to that Friday to be taken as part of the free "post storm" collection. Following

Friday, August 3, any remaining storm damage can be bundled and set out with the appropriate yard waste sticker during the first full week of collection each month (which will be the week immediately following the August 4th conclusion of the free pick-up service). Residents can also take smaller limbs and related landscape waste to either Leaflan Compost Center, 6711 St. Lawrence or Bedrock Grinding, 1105 E. LT Townline Rd., Janesville.

Special thanks to all of the city employees who responded during and after the storm. Public Works crews, Firefighters and Police Officers handled an unprecedented number of calls Tuesday morning. The Code Enforcement and Engineering Divisions assisted in a city wide preliminary rapid damage assessment. Besides debris clearing and traffic control, Public Works maintained both the City's water and waste water infrastructure throughout the power outages. Firefighters assisted DPW throughout the day cutting up and removing tree limbs to help open many city streets. Public Works crews were in by 6:30 a.m. and worked until 8:00 on Tuesday to open as many roads as possible, while removing hazards to the general public. Public Works crews will continue with ten hour days throughout this recovery.

We certainly want to thank all of the communities that responded with mutual aid. As noted previously, over ten fire departments sent apparatus and personnel to assist during the morning hours, and two cities sent maintenance crews to assist Public Works on Wednesday to facilitate a quick clean-up of the impacted neighborhoods.

In the Emergency Operating Center, in addition to the City's management and emergency response team, we had Department Heads from South Beloit, the Town of Beloit, Alliant Energy, and Rock County Emergency Management, along with a number of other staff in support of the EOC operation. I would like to thank all of those individuals for the time, effort and contributions they made to a successful emergency response.

Finally, I would like to thank the residents in the impacted neighborhoods. Residents were patient and quickly began clearing their yards of debris so that the City could collect the limbs along with the terrace tree damage, minimizing the number of trips required through the neighborhoods. The quick reaction of residents has helped minimize the cost of this response and is greatly appreciated.

The [attached](#) press release contains more information about the status of clean-up as of 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 24, 2012.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

On Tuesday, August 7 from 5:30-8:30 p.m., the City will celebrate its' 29th annual National Night Out. Once again this year there will be a series of block parties and picnics throughout the City of Beloit. The City Manager and City Councilors will be visiting various block parties, along with representatives from the Police and Fire Departments.

CONGRATULATIONS TO BELOIT POLICE DEPARTMENT UPON ACCREDITATION

Please find the [attached](#) press release from the Beloit Police Department notifying the community that, for the 7th time, the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA), has awarded the Beloit Police Department accreditation status. This is a tremendous compliment to the Beloit Police Department and all sworn and non-sworn employees who work so hard to ensure excellent police services are provided to residents, while ensuring the highest level of professional standards are consistently adhered to during departmental operations.

SUCCESSFUL JOINT MEETING BETWEEN THE CITY COUNCIL OF BELOIT AND THE TOWN OF BELOIT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

This past Monday, we had a very successful meeting between the governing boards of both the City and Town of Beloit. It was a great opportunity for all of the elected officials to get to know each other better and we had a very productive discussion about ways that the City and Town can collaborate to save money and possibly improve service delivery throughout the Greater Beloit area. The City Manager and Town Administrator will be facilitating a meeting in the next few weeks with key administrative staff in attendance to get into a more "nuts and bolts" discussion about various ways that

the City and Town can further collaborate. As noted above, mutual aid agreements have been in place for a long time and the City and Town have also collaborated on other projects and activities including the recycling program to enhance the quality of life for residents of the Greater Beloit area. We hope to be able to find more opportunities to collaborate as a result of this initiative.

BUDGET PREPARATION

Despite the storm event, a great deal of time this week was devoted to budget preparation. We finalized our discussions on the various operating budgets and staff has a number of modifications to make as they continue forward with preparation of the document. We also spent a good deal of time finalizing the proposed five-year Capital Improvements Plan, which represents the “out years” of capital planning for 2014-2018. The plan is not part of the actual budget appropriation, but represents an outline of various infrastructure projects and related capital improvement needs anticipated over the next five years.

ABSENTEE VOTING FOR THE PARTISAN PRIMARY ELECTION

Beginning on Monday, July 30, 2012, electors registered to vote in the City of Beloit may cast an absentee ballot in the City Clerk’s office for the August 14, 2012 Partisan Primary Election. Please see the [attached](#) press release for more information, along with information on acceptable forms of proof of residence.

DROUGHT CONTINUES—TERRACE TREE WATERING REQUEST

The Public Works Department has issued and continues to request that residents assist the City by watering terrace trees that have been planted in front of their homes in the last two to three years. Young trees without deep root structures are susceptible to damage, even dying, in the extremely dry conditions that we have experienced this summer. The City has redeployed much of its seasonal staff and has multiple crews watering trees, landscaping and other plantings to minimize loss during this unusually dry and hot summer season. We would also urge residents while you’re out watering terrace trees, be sure you also give thought to other plantings on your property, particularly anything that has been planted in the last two to three years and may not have a deep, fully established root structure.

CITY MEETING CALENDAR JULY 30 – AUGUST 3, 2012

Wednesday, August 1 7:30 a.m. Rock County Breakfast (C. Haynes and M. Spreitzer)

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

This is just a sample of events coming up in Beloit. A more complete listing is available on the Visit Beloit website:

www.visitbeloit.com

Beloit Public Library offers many events for youth, teens and adults. Please click [\[here\]](#) for more information.

Saturdays throughout the summer offer an opportunity to attend the **Farmers Market**, at the intersection of State and Grand, from 8:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Friday, July 27 7:00-9:00 p.m. **Music at Harry's Place**, "The Knee Deep Band" mix of blues, funk, reggae and zydeco style music. Harry Moore Pavilion, Riverside Park, Beloit.

Wed., Aug. 1 7:00—8:30 p.m. **Wisconsin 2nd Congressional District Democratic Primary Candidates Forum**, sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Beloit, in the Beloit City Hall Forum, 100 State Street

August 3-4 **Downtown Beloit's "Celebrate" Weekend**. Street dance, sidewalk sales, Gantry dedication, and more! Please see [attached](#) press release.

Saturday, Aug. 4 10:00 a.m. **Dedication of the Gantry** at State and Grand, downtown Beloit

Wed., Aug. 8 6:30-8:30 p.m. **45th Assembly District Primary Candidates Forum**, co-hosted by League of Women Voters and Rock County Youth 2 Youth, at the Beloit Public Library, 605 Eclipse Blvd.



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Equal Opportunity Employer

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**For more information contact:
Beth Jacobsen, Assistant to the City Manager
608-364-6726**

July 24, 2012 – Beloit, WI: City of Beloit crews are still working on clearing debris throughout the City of Beloit. As of 3:00 p.m., Alliant Energy listed 1,262 customers without power, down from the 7,000 customers who experienced power outages this morning.

Several roads are still closed to through traffic due to either a downed power line, or significant debris. The City's Public Works crews and City inspectors will continue to assess the damage and roads will be open after debris is removed and power lines are properly removed and repaired.

Residents are encouraged to use caution when clearing debris on their private property. Residents may place their debris on their terrace and Public Works crews will pick up the debris beginning Wednesday, July 25, through Friday, August 3. Refuse and recycling pick-up will remain on schedule but may be delayed due to anticipated high volumes.

This morning, emergency crews responded to 220 emergency calls within six hours. The Fire Department initiated a Disaster Box alarm and received the assistance of ten Fire Departments. This morning the City of Beloit had 80 Fire Fighters available to assist with the

high call volume. The Department of Public Works deployed 69 crew members on the streets helping with debris removal. The Department of Public Works requested mutual aid and will have the assistance of two municipalities on Wednesday, July 25 to assist with debris removal.

The Police and Fire Department encourages residents to call (608) 757-2244 with non-emergency calls and 9-1-1 if they have an emergency. Public Works questions should be directed to (608) 364-2929.

[Return to page 2](#)

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BELOIT POLICE DEPARTMENT



Norm Jacobs
Chief of Police
100 State Street
Beloit, WI 53511

Business: (608) 364-6801
Administration: (608) 364-6807
Facsimile: (608) 364-6608

PRESS RELEASE

Incident Number:

Date: July 25, 2012

For Additional Information Contact:

Cathie Garoutte (608) 364-6818

On July 21, 2012 the Beloit Police Department was officially awarded Law Enforcement Accreditation for the 7th time by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA). This award is a great accomplishment for the Police Department and a nice compliment to the Beloit Community.

The Beloit Police Department was one of 84 agencies in North America meeting the standards for the Summer Commission meeting. Beloit was in good company with other agencies who received awards including:

- Topeka, Kansas Police Department,
- Cleveland, Ohio Police Department,
- Direccion General de Seguridad Publica - Irapuato, Irapuato, GJ,
- Las Vegas, Nevada Metro Police Department,
- University of Michigan Police,
- Rockford, Illinois Police,
- Honolulu, Hawaii Police,
- Aeroports de Montreal, Dorval, QC

Chief Jacobs says "Beloit Police Department appreciates the community's support that it receives to maintain this national accreditation. Your support allows us the resources needed to bring assessors to our community, maintain accurate records and provide training and equipment required as part of our best practices. Further, your support was proven this year by the many persons who attended a public hearing in the Forum of City Hall".

Chief Jacobs also wishes to recognize the fine internal cooperation by officers and civilians of the Beloit Police Department for the CALEA process. These officers conduct themselves daily using the best "practices" demanded by CALEA.

[Return to page 2](#)

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City Clerk's Office, City Hall
100 State Street
Beloit, WI 53511
www.ci.beloit.wi.us

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, contact:
Rebecca S. Houseman, City Clerk
(608) 364-6680

Absentee Voting for the Partisan Primary Election
Available in the City Clerk's Office Starting July 30, 2012

July 23, 2012 – Beloit, WI: Beginning Monday, July 30, 2012, electors registered to vote in City of Beloit may cast an absentee ballot in the City Clerk's office for the August 14, 2012 Partisan Primary Election. Electors who are not registered to vote and those who need to change their names and/or addresses must bring proof of residence to register. Late registration and absentee voting will only be available in the City Clerk's office from **Monday, July 30 through Friday, August 10**. Please find the acceptable forms of proof of residence on the following page.

Photo identification or other proof of identity will **not** be required to obtain an absentee ballot or to obtain a regular ballot on Election Day at the polling place for the August 14, 2012 Election.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact the City of Beloit City Clerk's office at (608) 364-6680 or by email at housemanr@ci.beloit.wi.us.

[Return to page 3](#)

ACCEPTABLE FORMS OF PROOF OF RESIDENCE

One of the following is required to register to vote in the Clerk's office during the closed registration period or on Election Day at the Polling Place:

- A current and valid Wisconsin driver's license
- A current and valid Wisconsin identification card
- Any other Official ID Card or license issued by a Wisconsin Governmental body
- An ID card with your photo issued by an employer during the normal course of business (not including a business card)
- A real estate tax bill or receipt (for the current year or year before the election)
- A residential lease which is effective for a period that includes Election Day
- A university, college, or technical college identification card (must include photo) together with a fee payment receipt issued to the cardholder by the university, college or technical college dated no earlier than 9 months before the date of the election at which the receipt is presented
- A utility bill for a period starting no earlier than 90 days before Election Day
- A bank statement or current pay check
- A government check or any other official document issued by a unit of government

NOTE: all of the above must contain a current and complete name, including both first and last name; and a current and complete residential address, including numbered street address, if any, and the name of the municipality. If the form has an expiration date, it must be valid on Election Day. **An individual may not register or vote without one of the above forms of proof of residence.**

Downtown Beloit Association
City Center Building
500 Public Ave.
Beloit, WI 53511
608.365.0150

For more information contact:
Shauna El-Amin, Executive Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 10, 2012 - ONE OF WISCONSIN'S BEST KNOWN BANDS, *THE EDDIE BUTTS BAND*, HITS THE STREET FRIDAY NIGHT, AUGUST 3rd, FOR DOWNTOWN BELOIT'S 19th ANNUAL STREET DANCE DURING DOWNTOWN BELOIT'S CELEBRATE WEEKEND, AUGUST 3-4.

The Downtown Beloit Association is celebrating the rites of summer in Beloit's historic city center with the 19th Annual Celebrate Weekend, Friday and Saturday, August 3-4, with a Friday evening Street Dance, weekend sidewalk sales, farmers market, and live music.

The weekend starts with Sidewalk Sales running from 8 am to 2 pm Friday on the 300 block of State Street and the 400 block of East Grand. Downtown Shops spill out onto the sidewalks and into the streets along with area retailers and Farmers Market vendors. Enjoy lunch from *Otha's Ribs* during Fridays in the Park from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm, downtown Beloit's weekly summer concert series, featuring live Blues performed by *Brother K*.

Continue the evening with Street Dance. Friday evening's Street Dance is the Downtown Beloit Association's largest fundraiser of the year supporting revitalization efforts in Beloit's historic downtown district. Street Dance begins at 5:30 pm on the 300 block of State Street with a live Blues band *Reverend Raven and the Chain Smokin' Altar Boys*. \$5 admission to Street Dance (\$1 Children 4-11, Children under 4 are free). Local eateries will provide dinner options ranging from ribs to hot Italian beef dinners including side dishes.

At 8 pm, one of Wisconsin's best known bands, *The Eddie Butts Band*, hits the stage. The Eddie Butts Band has delighted audiences at festivals and on the concert and night club circuits for many years. The Eddie Butts Band is also one of the longest-running, most successful bands in Wisconsin and the Midwest. Eddie is also known as one of the city's premier vocalists. When you combine his smoky baritone with the sweet tones of the band's two female vocalists, the fantastic musicianship and a delicious blend of jazz, pop and R&B, well, it's easy to see why *The Eddie Butts Band* is considered a Milwaukee & Wisconsin favorite year after year. Enjoy an evening of entertainment, dancing and fun with Milwaukee's MUST SEE BAND, *THE EDDIE BUTTS BAND!*

Saturday morning, sidewalk sales continue 8 am to 1 pm with farmers market also running to 1 pm. Kids activities will be onsite! A dedication of the Gantry and 2011 Wisconsin Main Street Award will be held at 10 am at the Gantry.

Street Dance and Celebrate Weekend are generously sponsored by *Wisconsin Distributors, Kerry Ingredients & Flavours, Beloit Daily News* and *WGEZ*.

For more information please visit our website, www.downtownbeloit.com.

The Downtown Beloit Association is designated a Wisconsin Main Street Organization committed to encourage and support Beloit's thriving downtown community through economic restructuring, design, historic preservation, streetscape care, promotion and organization.

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[Return to page 4](#)