

October 28, 2011

A weekly publication from the Office of the City Manager



Larry N. Arft City Manager City of Beloit 100 State Street Beloit, WI 53511

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Special points of interest:

• City Meetings and Community Events (page 3)

CITY OF BELOIT

THE BELOIT REPORT

CONTINUING ITS RESURGENCE AS A GEM OF THE ROCK RIVER VALLEY

CURRENT EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

HALLOWEEN TRICK OR TREATING TIMES

Please note the <u>attached</u> press release from the Chief of Police and the City Manager's Office announcing the official Trick or Treating times for this Halloween will be from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. The press release also contains a number of helpful hints to ensure that you and your children have a safe and enjoyable Halloween this year.

BUDGET UPDATE

This past Monday, Council spent another two (plus) hours continuing their dialogue on the proposed budget. Following that session, at 6:30 p.m. and again on Tuesday evening, we held Town Hall meetings, which were both extremely well attended. A brief presentation on the budget was followed by a number of questions and comments from interested residents. It was gratifying to see that level of interest in this year's budget preparation process.

Staff is now incorporating changes discussed during the budget review effort into the final draft document. The set of resolutions adopting the budget and its various components will be included in the regular City Council meeting on November 7, 2011 for their consideration.

CITY CLERK ANNOUNCES THE BEGINNING OF THE CITY COUNCILOR NOMINATION PROCESS FOR 2012

Please find <u>attached</u> a copy of a press release from the office of the City Clerk, notifying community residents that persons interested in running for the Beloit City Council as part of the April 3, 2012 municipal election may pick up Council nomination papers beginning on Tuesday, November 1, 2011.

PUBLIC WORKS ACCEPTING REQUESTS FOR FREE FALL TERRACE TREE PLANTING

Please find the <u>attached</u> press release for more information about obtaining a tree for the terrace in front of your property as part of the fall tree planting season. There is no charge for the tree.

BELOIT EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES AND HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION TO HOLD A SCHEDULED WORKSHOP

The Beloit EO/HRC has scheduled a workshop regarding preparation of the analysis of impediments to fair housing, which will be held this coming Wednesday, November 2, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. in the Forum at Beloit City Hall. Please see the <u>attached</u> press release for more information.

The Beloit Report

FALL YARD WASTE COLLECTION TO BEGIN NEXT WEEK

On Monday, October 31 and running through Friday, November 18, the Department of Public Works will be conducting its annual free collection of leaves and yard waste clippings placed at the curb for collection on the regular trash pick-up day. During the free pick-up period, no stickers need be affixed to the eligible containers, except for bundled brush, which will still require that the yellow yard waste sticker be attached. For more information, please see the <u>attached</u> press release.

CITY TO BEGIN IMPLEMENTATION OF PURCHASING CARD PROGRAM

The Finance and Administrative Services Department presented a draft policy and outlined a program to begin switching much of the smaller City purchases, which are often done on open purchase orders, to a purchasing card, or "P-card" program. These cards work similar to credit cards, although they have both an individual purchase limit and a monthly cap on how much can be expended. The cards are assigned to specific individuals or to departments or divisions and are used by employees who make smaller daily purchases for materials or supplies that they are using as part of their regular daily operations. Cards can also be used for making travel arrangements, purchases on-line and by telephone when appropriate. Cards will only be assigned to those employees who need to make these types of purchases and there will be a detailed policy in place as to how the receipts are accounted for and approved by various supervisors and managers on a regular monthly basis. The program should not only streamline operations but further enhance the City's internal controls to minimize the possibility of abuse.

BOND REFINANCING PROGRESSES

Our representatives from Ehlers are continuing to prepare the documents necessary for the bond refinancing recently approved by City Council. This coming Tuesday we will have a rating conference call with Standard and Poor's to finalize the rating for this issue. We are not anticipating any changes from the bond rating confirmation we received last month with the first refinancing issue.

CITY MANAGER AND COUNCILOR VAN DE BOGART TO PARTICIPATE IN LEAGUE LOBBYING CORPS LEGISLATIVE MEETINGS

The City Manager and Councilor Van De Bogart will be traveling to Madison on Wednesday, November 2, to participate in the scheduled League of Wisconsin Municipalities Lobbying Corps legislative meetings. Lobbying Corps days are held intermittently throughout the year and begin with an overall briefing on key legislative objectives for the League of Wisconsin Municipalities. Following the briefing, meetings are scheduled with Senators and Assembly representatives from the member's districts to discuss key legislative initiatives. The Lobbying Corps has proved to be an effective mechanism for continuing to maintain good communication with State elected officials regarding issues of concern to municipalities.

CITY MANAGER ELECTED TO SERVE AS SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT FOR THE LEAGUE OF WISCONSIN MUNICIPALITIES

The Board meeting of the League of Wisconsin Municipalities last week represented my final meeting during my term of service on that Board. Following that meeting, the nominating committee met to select the President, First Vice-President and Second Vice-President for the organization. I was very flattered to be notified later that day that I had been selected to serve as Second Vice-President of the League of Wisconsin Municipalities. This recognition will put me in position to serve as President of the association in two years. This honor is also somewhat unique in that the League normally selects only elected officials, usually Mayors or Village Presidents, to serve in the top leadership roles. This position will also keep me on the Board of Directors and involved in important public policy discussions, as well.

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CITY MEETING CALENDAR OCTOBER 31-NOVEMBER 4, 2011

Wednesday, Nov. 2 7:30 a.m. Rock County Breakfast (K. Leavy and J. Van De Bogart)

Wednesday, Nov. 2 5:30 p.m.

Equal Opportunities and Human Relations Committee Workshop, Forum (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.
Saturday's through Oct. 29		Downtown Beloit Farmer's Market , 8:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. State and Grand. Over 100 vendors participating.
October 24-December 1		Beloit Public Library Sponsors 8th Annual Mitten Tree . For more information please see <u>attached</u> or contact Librarian Vicki Hahn at 608-364-2905.
Friday, October 28		7:00-10:00 pmHalloween Skate at Edwards Ice Arena, 2101 CranstonAvenue, Beloit. Free skate rental to those in costume! Regular admissionfees apply. Please see attached for more information.
Saturday, Oct. 29	9:30 a.m.	Downtown Beloit Halloween Parade . Meet at Horace White Park at 9:45 a.m. to line up for the parade down Grand Avenue.
Saturday, Oct. 29	10:00-4:00 pm	2011 Symphony of Homes house walk, sponsored by the Friends of the Beloit Janesville Symphony. Please see <u>attached</u> for more information.
Monday, Oct. 31	5:00—7:00 pm	Trick-or-Treat hours in the City of Beloit
Saturday, Nov. 12	6:00 pm	NAACP Annual Freedom Fund Banquet , South Beloit Inn. Tickets are \$60 for adults (which includes membership in the NAACP, and \$30 for children. Please call 362-1103 for more information or to purchase tickets.



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

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PRESS RELEASE

Date:September 30, 2011For Additional Information Contact:Office of the Chief: 608-364-6807

BELOIT, WISCONSIN – Chief Norm Jacobs and City Manager Larry Arft announced today that Halloween will be observed on Monday, October 31, 2011. The official hours for Trick or Treating in the City of Beloit will be from 5:00 P.M. until 7:00 P.M.

The following precautions are recommended:

- Wear light colored clothing, short enough to prevent tripping, and add reflectors.
- Make sure costumes are flame retardant.
- Make sure children can see well through face masks or head coverings.
- Accompany your children and go only to homes with outside lights on.
- Carry a flashlight.
- Stay within the neighborhood and only visit homes where you know the residents.
- Only give or accept wrapped or packaged candy and treats.
- Watch for traffic.
- Examine candy before allowing children to eat it.

END

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

2012 City Council Nomination Information

October 24, 2011 – Beloit, WI: Any City of Beloit resident interested in running for a two-year term on the Beloit City Council may pick up a packet of information including nomination papers beginning **Tuesday, November 1, 2011.** The packets are available in the office of the City Clerk on the second floor of City Hall during normal business hours: Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

- The Election will be held on **Tuesday, April 3, 2012**;
- Newly-elected Councilors will take office on Tuesday, April 17, 2012;
- There are seven members on the Council and four seats will be on the ballot;
- Candidates must file required forms with the City Clerk before forming a committee and raising funds;
- The first day to circulate nomination papers is Thursday, December 1, 2011;
- Between 200 and 400 valid signatures of City of Beloit residents must be submitted;
- Nomination papers and all forms must be completed and filed with the City Clerk by 5:00 p.m. on **Tuesday, January 3, 2012**;
- An informational class will be held in January for all candidates who have gained ballot access.

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 <u>housemanr@ci.beloit.wi.us</u>.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information contact: Bruce Slagoski, Terrace Operations Supervisor (608) 364-2929 Ext.7008

Free Fall Terrace Tree Planting

October, 2011 – The City of Beloit Department of Public Works Terrace Operations is currently accepting requests for terrace trees to be planted this fall.

Trees will be offered on a first-come/first served basis to City of Beloit residents only. Please note that the size of the terrace and the presence of utilities must be able to accommodate the tree at maturity. This determination will be made by the Terrace Operations Supervisor.

To be placed on the list for a free terrace tree, or if you have any questions, please call the Department of Public Works Operations at (608) 364-2929.

For more information, call the City of Beloit Public Works Operations Division at (608) 364-2929.



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PUBLIC NOTICE BELOIT EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES AND HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

Wednesday, November 2, 2011 at 5:30PM

The Forum, First Floor Beloit City Hall, 100 State Street

The City of Beloit Equal Opportunities and Human Relations Commission (EOHRC) will hold a **Workshop** regarding the preparation of the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing. Community leaders have been invited for discussion and input regarding fair housing issues in the City of Beloit.

The Beloit City Council has been invited and there may be a quorum present.

Notice Mailed: October 24, 2011

Approved:

Teri Downing Grants Administrator

Please Call 364-6650 before 3:00 p.m. on Monday, October 31, 2011 if you are unable to attend

** Please note that, upon reasonable notice, at least 24 hours in advance, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of disabled individuals through appropriate aids and services. For additional information to request this service, please contact the City Clerks Office at 364-6680, 100 State Street, Beloit WI 53511.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information contact: Chris Walsh, Operations Director (608) 364-2929

Free Fall Yard Waste Collection

October 24, 2011 – Free curbside collection of yard waste for City of Beloit residents begins Monday, October 31 and runs through Friday, November 18. Free collection is for leaves and yard clippings and will take place on your regular trash day. Yard waste must be contained in paper yard waste bags, Back to Nature biodegradable bags, or a clean trash container. Brush and limbs must be bundled or tied with a \$1.50 sticker affixed to the bundle.

Leaflan Compost Center will remain open until November 30, 2011.

For more information, call the City of Beloit Public Works Operations Division at (608) 364-2929.

Beloit Public Library Sponsors 8th Annual Mitten Tree

Beginning on October 24, Beloit Public Library will be accepting donations of new homemade or purchased children's mittens, scarves, or hats donated by people in the community. This is the 8th year the library has sponsored a "Mitten Tree." The library collects the items and then they are distributed to local families in need through several agencies, including Even Start, Head Start, Domestic Violence Shelter, WIC, and the Beloit Public Schools nurses. Donations are accepted until December 1.

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Over the years, the library has collected and distributed between 218 and 428 items each year. "We appreciate all the generous donations to our Mitten Tree in the past," said librarian and Mitten Tree coordinator Vicki Hahn. "This year, there are many more families who can't afford some of the basics, including warm winter mittens, hats or scarves! We hope to see our Mitten Tree bending over with donations this year!"

Drop off your donations at the Adult Reference Desk during regular library hours between October 24 and December 1. For more information, call Librarian Vicki Hahn 608-364-2905

Beloit Public Library is located at 605 Eclipse Blvd., Beloit. The phone is 608-364-2905. The website address is: <<u>www.beloitlibrary.info</u>>. You can follow the library on Facebook. The hours are: Monday-Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; closed on Sunday.

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Martha W. Gammons, Public Relations Coordinator Arrowhead Library System Phone:608-758-6695 Fax: 608-758-6689 Email: gammons.martha@als.lib.wi.us Web: http://als.lib.wi.us

"One can make a day of any size, and regulate the rising and the setting of his own sun and the brightness of its shining." - John Muir

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HALLOWEEN SKATE Return to page 3 FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28, 7:00 - 10:00 P.M

We'll be waiting to greet all scary monsters with games, candy, costume contests and music.

Free skate rental to those in costume. Regular admission fees apply.





Saturday, October 29 from 10 AM-4 PM in Beloit



Ken & Judy Kaplan 2415 S. Lookout Drive Friends of the Beloit Janesville Symphony proudly present our 2011 House Walk



Loren & Diane Sass 2370 Cobblestone Lane

Al & Phyllis Wendorf 2060 Granite Ct.



Stephanie Klett 2437 Fieldstone



Jim & Jeannie Rippl 2735 Fawn Ct.





Proceeds benefit the Beloit Janesville Symphony Orchestra

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THESE LOCATIONS

Janesville Performing Arts Center Box Office at 408 S Main, Janesville **Visit Beloit** 500 Public Ave, Beloit **Edward Jones Financials** Main Street Square 5308 Williams Drive, Roscoe

TICKETS ALSO AVAILABLE FROM FRIENDS OF BJS MEMBERS

Please visit our website at **beloitjanesvillesymphony.com** for more information.

