

With the schools on spring break and forecasts for 70 degree days this week, it seems like a good time to provide a bunch of springtime updates.

Dog Licenses. All dogs over 5 months in age must be licensed. Licenses are \$8 for spayed or neutered dogs or \$15 for unaltered dogs. A \$5 late fee applies after March 31. Licenses are available at City Hall during regular business hours; a certificate of rabies vaccination is required.

Brush Collection. The Public Works Department is beginning curb-side brush collection the first full week of each month (this month, April 5-9). Please cut brush to six foot lengths and place on the terrace parallel (lengthwise) to the curb. Yard waste (leaves, clippings, etc) must be bagged or in containers. Materials placed in the street have a tendency to clog stormwater drainage and cause flooding; please keep brush and yard waste on the terrace.

Yard Waste. The City Dump Facility on Water Street is available for residents who prefer to drop off their brush and yard waste. Starting on Saturday, April 3, it will be open Saturdays from 9:30 to 2:00 and Wednesdays from 5:00 to 7:00 throughout the summer.

Stormwater. As simple as it may sound, keeping smaller ditches and streams free of debris can dramatically improve the run-off capacity of low-lying areas as well as greatly reduce the occurrence of blockage that significantly contributes to flooding. The Public Works Department regularly inspects the streams, ditches, ponds, and culverts in the stormwater drainage system throughout the city. If you see a local flooding or drainage problem that needs attention, please contact the Public Works Department at 882-2270.

Streetsweeping. With the early season good weather, we've already been out a few times to sweep the streets and pick up a lot of the excess sand that accumulated over the winter. The regular streetsweeping schedule is during the second full week of each month (this month, April 12-16).

Warning Siren Test. Rock County Emergency Management regularly runs tests of the warning sirens during the tornado season. The first test will be at 12:05 pm on Wednesday, April 7; the test signal will be 1-2 minutes long. Siren testing will not occur if there is inclement weather on the test date. If residents find the siren in their area is not working, they should report it to (608) 758-8440.

Youth Baseball and Softball. The City provides youth baseball and softball programs every summer. These will continue this summer, but we are scrambling a bit with changes in staffing. In advance, I want to thank the players, parents, and coaches for their patience and understanding as we work through some changes to the registration process.

Registration forms will be available through the schools, at City Hall, and online at www.ci.evansville.wi.gov. Registration forms and fees can be completed at City Hall (31

South Madison Street) or mailed directly to the City at PO Box 76. The only day that we expect to have registration at the school is April 16 during the Week of the Young Child.

We are currently looking to hire a new Baseball Coordinator to handle the rosters, game schedules, staffing umpires, pre- and post-game field work, and so forth. If interested, please see the job posting on the City website www.ci.evansville.wi.gov.

We are also compiling a list for umpires and pitching machine operators; as in the past these positions will be paid \$20 per evening. If interested, please see the City website or contact us about an application and getting your name on the list.

Again, thank you for your patience while we work through a few changes. If you have any questions, feel free to call me directly at 882-2263.

Discover Wisconsin. To celebrate the Discover Wisconsin feature on Evansville, we are planning a Premier Party. On Thursday, June 10, we are going to have a special preview showing of the Discover Wisconsin television feature on a movie screen in Leonard-Leota Park. Since school will be out, plans are to make this a family-friendly Kickoff to Summer: a festival tent, fireworks, and Looney Tunes cartoons on the big screen. Save the date: June 10.

Several local groups will have concessions available as fundraisers. It is imperative that any group wanting to have a food stand contact Jim Brooks at 882-0598 to coordinate.

Election. Spring elections are Tuesday, April 6, from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm. The City's polling place is at 320 Fair Street. Voter registration on election day is allowed; please bring proof of residence.

Common Council Vacancy. We need someone to fill the balance of an alderperson term expiring in April 2011. The position is for District 2 (generally the southwest quarter of the city). Please send a letter of interest and qualifications to City Hall, attention Jodi Sam. The City Council expects to appoint someone to fill this vacancy during its April 13 regular meeting.

Re-organization. Every April, after the spring elections, appointments are made for the various City committees. This year the re-organization meeting will be Tuesday, April 20. City committees include Plan Commission, Fire District, Public Safety, Finance & Labor Relations, Housing Authority, Park & Recreation Board, Economic Development, Evansville/Union Implementation, Historic Preservation, Youth Center Advisory Board, Library Board, Public Works, Water & Light, Energy Independence Team, Police Commission, Unified Land Code Review, and Redevelopment Authority.

E-Hub. Southwest Wisconsin Workforce Development Board is collaborating with the Small Business Development Center to provide a six week program in business practices, business ethics, and business engagement in the community. It also provides peer-to-peer

networking and resources among its participants. It is geared toward existing businesses needing to "re-boot" and to entrepreneurs interested in starting a new business.

The cost of the classes is \$850, but funding through the SWWDB reduces the tuition to \$250. Additionally, scholarships may be available to further underwrite the program for individual participants. The scholarships are mainly intended for unemployed or underemployed workers, but are considered on a case-by-case basis.

This is the second round of E-Hub classes offered locally. The 6 week program (half-day of class each week) starts Friday, April 9, for morning classes in Janesville. An afternoon session starts, Thursday, April 15, in Beloit. Please call Eric Kuznacic at (608) 741-3502 for registration or more info.