

## Mayor's Column for June 2, 2010 Review

Summer is upon us and there is much to do in Evansville. As you plan your summer, consider participating in local activities that you can enjoy with your friends and neighbors. If help is needed, consider volunteering to make these events successful. I have listed many of the activities below.

- The first annual Summer Kick-off Party and Discover Wisconsin Premiere will be held on Thursday, June 10, from 5-11:00 p.m. at Lake Leota. There will be food, libation, cartoons shown on a large screen, activities for kids, premiere of the Discover Wisconsin Evansville episode, and fireworks. The Discover Wisconsin Evansville episode will air on June 12 at 6:30 p.m. on WKOW Channel 27.
- Celebrate a Lake Leota 4<sup>th</sup> is scheduled July 1-4 this year. Fireworks will be held on July 1 and July 4. The parade will be held on July 4, beginning at 9:45 a.m. with the kiddie parade. Five great bands are scheduled throughout the festival, including the Blue Olives, Crossfire, The Jimmys, The Blooze Brothers, and Westside Andy and the Mel Ford Band. There is the return of many Evansville favorite activities, including a car show, garden tractor pull, baseball and softball, historic trolley tours, history museum open house, Lion's Club chicken barbeque, Great Ducky Derby, Lake Leota Lunker Lob, and Evansville Idol.
- The Veterans Memorial Swimming Pool opens June 5. Registrations for swim lessons and sale of season passes are still being handled at the Pool. There is scheduled adult lap swim and a swim team throughout the summer. For contact information, call 882-2276.
- There are numerous sports activities for local youth throughout the summer. There are the many youth baseball leagues, a tennis program, football camps, and soccer camp. Contact information can be found at [www.evansvilleyouthsports.org](http://www.evansvilleyouthsports.org).
- Eager Free Public Library has a number of activities throughout the summer. Our library is currently hosting a local art exhibition that will continue through July. On Tuesday, June 15, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. there are free individual hour-long computer instruction sessions. There is an adult summer reading program, with three scheduled special events: June 15 at 10:30 a.m., Evansville resident Bob McCallister will give a program on alternative energy; July 20 at 10:30 a.m., a book discussion about Michael Pollan's "In Defense of Food" will be held; and August 17 at 10:30 a.m., there is a program entitled "What the Heck is That?" with Linda Wendt.

Preschool storytimes are held year round on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. Year round preschool craft times are held on Fridays at 10:00 a.m. Registration for the summer activities program for kindergarten through 4<sup>th</sup> grade will be held on

Saturday, June 19 from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Activities are planned beginning June 28 and continue through July. For contact information, call 882-2260.

The Friends of the Library Ice Cream Social will be held on July 2 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. on the Library lawn.

The Friends of the Library gently-used book sale will be held on Saturday morning, August 7.

- The Local History Museum and Visitors Center at the entrance to Leonard-Lake Leota Park will be open from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturdays, beginning June 19 through September 11. Additional weekday hours are still being determined.
- The Robinson Society, the local historical society dedicated to sharing the history of art in Evansville and promoting the local art community, will hold their annual meeting on August 19. Matthias James, local award-winning potter and proprietor of Allen Creek Gallery, will be the speaker. Watch the paper for the further details of location and time.
- The Rock County Dairy Breakfast will be held on Saturday, June 5, 6:30-11 a.m. at Templeton Farms, 9743 Evansville Brooklyn Road.
- The Evansville Bike Rodeo is scheduled for June 12, 2010, at the High School, with registration starting at 8:30 a.m. This free event is sponsored by the Evansville Police Department and is planned for pre-kindergarten through fourth grade youth accompanied by a parent or guardian. Bring your bike and learn all about bike safety.

Rodeo activities include a bike rodeo course, coloring contest, food, and display of public safety vehicles including UW Medflight, fire truck, police car, and ambulance. There will be prizes given away, including t-shirts, 12 bikes, limited supplies of bike helmets, Mallards and Snappers baseball tickets, water bottles, and many more gift items. For additional information, contact Patrick Reese at 882-2299.

- The Masonic Lodge Strawberry Festival is a June tradition. There is not currently a scheduled date; scheduling will occur close to when strawberries are ripe.
- In June and July, the Evansville Jays, our Home Talent Baseball Team, has nine home games, seven at Lake Leota Park and two at Evansville High School. Take in a game and support your local team. For times and dates check their website at [www.evansville.hometalent.org](http://www.evansville.hometalent.org).
- Concerts are scheduled throughout the summer at Geneo's Wild Ride Saloon, including a June 26 WJVL Country Hall of Fame Listener Party with Dale

Watson and Rough Rider and Jimmy Van Zandt on July 30. For concert details, call 882-1216.

- Evansville Community Theatre will present Rodgers and Hammerstein's "Oklahoma" on July 9 through 11 and July 16 and 17.
- Free concerts on Lake Leota, sponsored by UB&T, are scheduled for Sunday, July 18, at 6:00 p.m. (Heatwave, a 4-H musical group) and Sunday, August 15, at 6:00 p.m. (The Midwesterners, a rock/country classic band).
- The busy Garage Sale Day and Chamber Sidewalk Sale will occur on August 7.
- Artist-decorated windmills will begin to appear along Main Street, leading to the September Windmill Art Auction.

This list is by no means complete. There are many additional activities that are not mentioned. Scouting events, church activities, school reunions, senior center programming, and golf tournaments are examples of additional opportunities to participate.

Community vitality is evident as you look through this list. Encourage family, friends, and neighbors to join you and take advantage of the rich variety of activities Evansville offers.

#### Energy Saving Tip

During the summer months, closing blinds and drapes against direct sunlight will reduce heat gain.

Check to see that ceiling fan blades are set for summer months. The fan should be blowing down to create a wind-chill effect.

#### Community Announcements/Congratulations

Curb-side yard waste pick-up occurs the first full week of each month. For the month of June, pick-up is June 7-11. Please place yard debris on the terrace, not in the gutter where it can clog storm drains.

If you have new terrace trees, please remember to water them regularly until they become established.

Work is currently progressing ahead of schedule on the County C resurfacing project. The project will be complete before the Fourth of July weekend, barring unforeseen complications.

Congratulations and best wishes to the Class of 2010! We are proud of you. Aspire to great goals.

### Community Thanks

Evansville thanks Marsha and Larry Dobbs for their permanent loan of the historic stained glass panels on display at the Heights. We will all be able to enjoy their beauty.

The opening event for the Eager Free Public Library local art exhibition was terrific! Special thanks are given to the citizens who shared their wonderful John Wilde artwork, Rich Krake for working with the Library in coordinating the event, and those individuals that contributed tasty treats.

Our community thanks the industrious third graders that participated in the Spring Downtown Clean-Up last Thursday. We appreciate having our downtown spruced up for our many summer activities.

Hearty thanks are extended to Stonefield Plant Farm for contributing a portion of the flowers in City planters. Thanks, Dad, for weeding and planting the planters.

The community appreciates the effort of Evansville Water and Light in changing the downtown banners for the summer season.

The Evansville "Creative" Committee played an important role in the Discover Wisconsin marketing project. Local historian Ruth Ann Montgomery, Brad Moellenberndt of Cobblestone Inn, Todd Culbertson of Rock'n Rollz, Chamber representatives Jackie Liebel, Krista Korfmacher, and Ellen Brown, and ECP representatives Jim Brooks and Robin Grignon deserve thanks for their efforts in determining and guiding the focus of the Discover Wisconsin Evansville program.

Our community thanks the local businesses that made contributions to the Discover Wisconsin Passport to Adventure Evansville Prize Package. The Package will be awarded to the winner of a June Discover Wisconsin website contest. Cobblestone Inn contributed a two-night stay for two people, Evansville Floral will provide a seasonal floral arrangement in the hotel room, Windmill Antiques donated a copy of Evansville, Wisconsin Images of America by Ruth Ann Montgomery and a \$50 gift certificate for Windmill Antiques, Matthias James provided a wine chiller, and Allen Realty donated three bottles of regional Wisconsin wine. Also included in the prize package are 18 holes of golf for two with golf cart, courtesy of Evansville Golf Club, dinner for two provided by Romano's, and a Baker Manufacturing cast-iron horse head for a lawn hitching post, compliments of Baker. The package totals more than \$650. (Some of the benefits of participation in the prize package program are the listing of contributing businesses, with a link to their websites, on the Discover Wisconsin website, a network-wide radio promotion of the prize components, inclusion of Package details in the Discover Wisconsin e-newsletter, and receipt of a spreadsheet of contest entrant contact

information. There will be opportunities for additional businesses to participate in future prize packages when the Evansville episode airs again in 2011 and 2012.)