

"BITS and PIECES"



FROM YOUR CITY HALL
325 Wisconsin Street
LeClaire, Iowa 52753-9525

APRIL 2017

www.leclaireiowa.gov

MAYOR

Ray Allen [12/31/17] 289-4242 Ext. 1111

E-mail: rallen@leclaireiowa.gov Please feel free to call City Hall and leave a message for either myself or the particular council member that you wish to speak to. Your call will be returned as soon as possible.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

289-4242 Ext. 1151

E-mail: Duties: Park and Rec Commission Liaison (includes Levee), Library Board of Trustee Liaison.

Barry Long [12/31/17] 289-4242 Ext. 1152

E-mail: blong@leclaireiowa.gov. Duties: Liaison to the Tourism Board & Civic Groups & Downtown Businesses.

Dennis Gerard [12/31/19] 289-4242 Ext. 1153

E-mail: dgerard@leclaireiowa.gov Duties: Finance and Economic Development, Strategic Plans, I.T., and Chamber.

Jason Wentland [12/31/19] 289-4242 Ext. 1154

E-mail: jwentland@leclaireiowa.gov. Duties: MAYOR PRO-TEM, Public Safety Liaison, and Pleasant Valley School Liaison.

John Smith [11/07/17] 289-4242 Ext. 1155

E-mail: jsmith@leclaireiowa.gov Duties: Planning & Zoning & Board of Adjustment Liaison, Ordinances and Policies; Utilities (Sewer and Garbage), Streets, and Public Works Liaison.

LECLAIRE OFFICE OF TOURISM

Fri., Apr. 7, 5:30-8pm: First Friday in downtown LeClaire.

Sat., Apr. 22, 8-noon: Cars & Coffee on the Levee. **Sat., Apr. 29, 4-7pm:** Wine Hop. Tickets on sale at 129; cash only.

Coming May 24-29: The Iowa History 101 RV (traveling exhibit) will be on the Levee and open to the public. Please contact Cindy Bruhn at info@visitleclaire.com or 563-650-7963 to volunteer. **Find details on LeClaire events at:** www.visitleclaire.com/events.html

CIVIC CLUB NEWS

Come to our Annual Swiss Steak Dinner April 22nd 4:00 pm to 6:30 pm. Tickets can be purchased from any Civic Club Member. Join us every Wednesday for Breakfast, 8:00 am, to learn about the club. Join us for Trivia the 3rd Saturday of

every month until May. April's Trivia will benefit the LeClaire Civic Club. Call Debbie, 563-349-4403, or email smith5grand@gmail.com to reserve a table.

COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY

The "Community Food Pantry" is located at the Hope Church, 709 Wisconsin Street, in the basement of the church. Food Pantry serves all those in the LeClaire, Princeton, Panorama Park, Pleasant Valley, and the McCausland area. For more information please contact: Linda: (563) 289-3629, Lou (563) 225-2121; or Clarice at (563) 289-9028.

GARBAGE & RECYCLING PICKUP SCHEDULE

April 2017

Recycling and Garbage days for March (in yellow) are March 1st & 2nd, March 15th & 16th and March 29th & 30th. Garbage only days in March (in blue) are March 8th & 9th, and March 22nd & 23rd.

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APRIL 8, 2017 CURB-SIDE CLEAN-UP

CITY-WIDE CURB-SIDE CLEAN UP DAY – FREE DISPOSAL!! – SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 2017– On Saturday, April 8, 2017 by 7AM, any resident** may put out curbside **any large, bulky waste items, [no regular garbage, hazardous materials, construction debris, commercial business items, appliances, tires, "e-waste" or yard wastes will not be accepted]**. The location for your curbside pickup will be where you normally put your garbage totes for pickup. All items must be out at the curb by 7:00AM. The garbage contractor **will not** return for any items placed curbside after 7:00 AM.

**** Only LeClaire residents with proof of residency (no commercial businesses) whose City garbage accounts are paid in full may participate in the Clean-ups. For more information or if you have any questions or special needs, please feel free to call City Hall at 289-4242.**

"E-waste" is defined as devices that contain a circuit board or a cathode ray tube such as, computer monitors, TVs, VCRs, stereos, computers, radios, and video game systems. E-waste contains environmental hazards such as lead,

mercury, cadmium, nickel, chromium, lithium, and PCBs. "Hazardous Materials" are defined as Fluorescent Light Bulbs, household cleaners and disinfectants, vehicle fluids, Weed Killer, Bug Sprays Pesticides, fertilizers, paint, stains, varnishes, glue, solvents, etc.

Future disposal Dates are: in the **FALL** [Dumpster Cleanup] on the 2nd Saturday of October [**October 14, 2017**] and in **SPRING** [Curb-side Cleanup] on the 2nd Saturday in April [**April 14, 2018**]. For more information or if you have any questions or special needs, please feel free to call City Hall at 289-4242.

STORM WATER MANAGEMENT INFORMATION & CONTACT HELP LINE!! (563)-289-4242 (Ext. 1502)

"BE A PART OF THE SOLUTION ... BY PREVENTING WATER POLLUTION!"



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT "EMERGENCY CONTACT"

We want to remind everyone that the city's PWD can be reached 24/7/365 by dialing **289-4242 and pressing 3 & 1500**. This will put you directly into the PWD emergency contact voice mail box where you can leave a message which will be automatically relayed to City personnel.

LECLAIRE COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Library Closing Dates: The Library will be closed Friday, April 14th and Saturday, April 15th for Easter Weekend. **Dropbox full? Email us and we'll extend your checkout!:** Need to return a book or DVD after hours and the dropbox is too full? Don't try and jam it in, just send us an email at library@leclaireiowa.gov and we'll happily extend your checkout/waive late fees. **Adopt-A-Shelf:** Want to volunteer at the library, but never feel like you have the time? Try our Adopt-a-Shelf program! Participants can choose a section of the library they'd like to maintain and come in on their own time to make sure it looks neat and is shelved correctly! It's easy, fast, and it's a huge help to the library staff. Stop by the front desk or email afry@leclaireiowa.gov for more information. **Adult Services: Introduction to Fly Tying**—Join us as the Hawkeye Fly Fishing Association presents a hands-on introduction to fly tying on Saturday, April 1st at 10:30am. No reservations needed! **Project re-Fashion: The "B"**

Series—Join us for the first installment of our Adult/Teen sewing program! In this first class we will make boot cuffs out of repurposed fabric! Class size limited to 16. Must be ages 14 and up. April 8th at 11:00am. **Senior Outreach: Off-site Checkout**—The LeClaire Library will be partnering with the Milestones Senior Meal Center to provide off-site item checkout! Checkout will be available the last Wednesday of each month at the First Presbyterian Church. April 26th at 11:45am. **Basics of Flower Gardening and More**—Sponsored by ISU Scott County Extension Master Gardeners: Master Gardener Tom Monroe will share helpful tips on starting, maintaining, and getting the most out of your flower garden on Saturday, April 22nd at 11am. **Adult Book Club**—This month we'll be reading *The Story of Edgar Sawtelle* by David Wroblewski. Books are available at the library's circulation counter free of cost AND are now available as an eBook through our Rivershore Digital Library Catalog. April 26th at 6:30pm. **Drop-In Tech Help**—bring in any device and we will give it a shot! Please arrive with passwords needed to access your device or accounts. April 28th at 2pm. **YA Services: Biblioteens**—Love to talk books? Can't decide what to read? Hungry for tasty treats? Teens in 7th grade & up are invited to the library for a new kind of book club—you pick your own books to read, then we share our most loved (or hated) of the month! Join us April 6th at 4:30pm. **Sticky Fingers: Crafting with Duct Tape**—come to the library to get crafty using colorful duct tape. We will try our hand at making wallets & pen toppers—or bring your imagination & try to create something totally new! Best for ages 10 & up. Join us Tuesday April 11th at 4:30pm. **Teen Advisory Group (TAG)**—Help plan cool events, request new library materials, eat snacks, & get the inside scoop on what's happening at the library! Don't forget—your attendance earns you service learning hours & looks great on college applications! For 7th grade & up. Join us on April 20th at 4:30-5:30pm. **Children's Services: Early Release Crafternoon**—School's out early? Exercise your creativity at this month's Crafternoon! This program is best for children aged 7 & up. Find out what fun craft is waiting for you April 5th from 3:00-4:00pm. **Preschool Explorers**—explore a new science theme each month at the library—April's theme is Bubbles! Come in for a fun storytime & hands-on exploratory stations. This program will take the place of Family Storytime & is best for children aged 3-7. Join us Tuesday, April 18th at 6:30pm. **Books Between Bites**—calling everyone in 4th-6th grade! Join us if you like reading, hanging out with cool people, & having fun. Pick up your copy of *The Crossover* by Kwame Alexander at the library & join us to discuss the book, do an activity, & eat snacks on Thursday, April 27th at 4:30pm.

LECLAIRE PARK & REC COMMISSION NEWS

Join us for fun and fellowship as we celebrate Spring! This is a FREE event, and will take place Saturday, April 15, 2017 from 11:00-1:00 at Hollyhock Park (located on Jones Street). Hunt for 5,000 Easter Eggs, visit with the Easter Bunny, enjoy live music, a bounce house, and free food! This event is sponsored by the Le Claire Park and Recreation Commission. Please contact Barb at 563-340-1553 with any questions, or if you would like to donate to the event. See you there!

UTILITY CHARGES

Metered Minimum (incl. first 500 gal.)(67 c/f)

	<u>Sewer</u>	<u>Garbage</u>
-Regular	\$21.80	\$15.50
-Elderly*	\$19.50	\$14.50

Usage Rate (per 500 gal.)(67 c/f)

-All users \$1.80

Non-Metered, Flat (Sewer Only)

	<u>Sewer</u>	<u>Garbage</u>
-Regular	\$65.00	\$15.50
-Elderly*	\$55.00	\$14.50

DEPOSITS - RESIDENTIAL

	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Sewer(meter)	\$ 98.00
Sewer(meter)/Garbage	\$129.00
Sewer(flat)	\$130.00
Sewer(flat)/Garbage	\$161.00
Garbage	\$ 31.00

DEPOSITS-COMMERCIAL

Sewer Only (meter) \$98.00

MISCELLANEOUS FEES

NSF Check \$30.00

Lateral Locate \$21.40

SEWER HOOK-UPS

Residential - New \$428.00

- Re-Hook \$214.00

Commercial/Industrial

- New \$.03/ft. not less than \$428.00

- Re-Hook \$214.00

*Age and income requirements.

NOTICE: WEED ABATEMENT LAW

As of April 1st the City begins to implement the weed abatement process. Notices are being published in this publication and in the Quad City Times advising the property owners of their duty and responsibility to keep their property, (and that area between the street driving surface and the property line) free of weeds and other plant growth. **THERE WILL BE NO OTHER NOTICES!!** If a weed problem is found to exist the City will abate the problem and assess the costs accordingly to the property. The charges for abating weed nuisances will be **First Violation**-First Worker \$100.00/Hr.; Each Additional Worker \$50.00/Hr. **Second Violation**-First Worker

\$200.00/Hr., Each Additional Worker \$100.00/Hr. **Third & Subsequent Violations**-First Worker \$400.00/Hr., Each Additional Worker \$200.00/Hr., or if a contractor is used, the charge will be the contracted amount plus 25%. What constitutes a "weed nuisance"? Following is the definition established by law: In all areas of the City, any noxious weeds or vegetation, as defined by the Code of Iowa, are deemed to be nuisances, as well as any dense growth of weeds, vines, brush, or other similar vegetation which are reasonably believed to be constituting a public safety, health, or fire hazard. In any developed area within the City or within one hundred feet (100') of any developed area within the City, any weeds, vegetation, vines, brush, or other growth which exceeds ten inches (10") in height shall be deemed a nuisance. In all other areas of the City, any weeds, vegetation, vines, brush, or other growth which exceeds two feet (2') in height shall be deemed a nuisance. Natural areas, including but not limited to waterways, or farmland may exceed these established height limitations. Please review this material again and if you have any questions, call City Hall at any time.

CITY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

The LeClaire Board of Adjustment, the LeClaire Tourism Board, LeClaire Planning & Zoning Commission, LeClaire Park & Rec Commission, I.T. Committee, and the LeClaire Library Board of Trustees are accepting applications. If you would like to be considered for volunteer service on any of these Committees/Boards, you must submit a completed application form. The application form may be obtained from City Hall during regular business hours, or on the City's website.

AVOID THE DRAIN PAIN

Just because the package says flushable doesn't mean it's true. **Many items marketed as disposable and/or flushable do not degrade like toilet paper and they wind up clogging pipes, tangling pumps** and causing messy sewer backups into streets, homes and businesses. Our sewers are designed to dispose of very specific things. Using your toilet for disposal of many modern products can result in blockages. The drains that connect your home to the main sewer are only big enough to carry water, toilet paper and human waste. Private sewer lines are often no wider than 4 inches. Other than creating clogs in sewer pipes and pumps, trash must be removed from the waste water as part of the reclamation treatment process. This is an expensive operation. Excessive debris in waste water sewers has become epidemic globally.

CITY HALL INFORMATION

City Hall will be closed on Friday, April 14, 2017 in observance of Good Friday. The next Bits & Pieces articles are due by

Wednesday, April 12, 2017. They can be sent via email to Bits@leclaireiowa.gov, or by fax to (563) 289-6010, by U.S. mail, or hand delivered.

MAYOR ALLEN'S STATE OF THE CITY

A few words from the Mayor to our residents and businesses: The City Council has just completed and adopted the budget for the 2017-2018 fiscal year. It is a balanced budget accomplished without any new borrowing! In addition, I believe that all departments and Boards will be provided the resources to accomplish their missions of protecting and serving the residents of LeClaire even better than before. The Council worked very hard to achieve these excellent results. In addition to the balanced budget the City's tax rate will be reduced from the current level of \$14.29 per \$1,000 of taxable valuation to \$13.92. This will mark the first time in some 20+ years that the tax rate will be less than \$14 per \$1,000! So what else is happening? In short, many things. The City updated its Comprehensive Plan which involved considerable public input, and as an extension of that, an economic development effort will begin on April 8th to solicit ideas from a large group of people with a broad range of experience and skills. The goal will be to identify ways in which LeClaire can expand its commercial and light industrial tax base and to develop plans to do so. The City has made much-needed improvements at the Veterans' Memorial Complex baseball fields and grounds, added soccer capabilities, and made some overdue improvements to the Recreation Center. Those types of things will continue in the next fiscal year, and the potential to partner with the Pleasant Valley Community School District on additional recreational opportunities will be explored as well. New housing developments are in progress, and new businesses continue to view LeClaire as an attractive and exciting place to be. These are positive signs for our City that show no indications of diminishing. We are definitely "Open for Business"! There are many more favorable activities happening than what I have mentioned. There are also plenty of challenges, but we have excellent City Council, administrative, and departmental leadership, plus an outstanding group of dedicated employees to meet those challenges. The City is on the right track. Does any city around have the excitement and future that we enjoy? I don't think so. I hear about it all the time from my friends and people I meet. So many residents and business owners are involved in our community to make good things happen. Thank you all for what you do on a daily basis to make this City great. The State of the City of LeClaire is quite good (and getting better)! Sincerely, Mayor Ray Allen



LECLAIRE EMERGENCY
POLICE 911
FIRE 911
AMBULANCE 911
POLICE NON-EMERGENCY REQUEST FOR SERVICE 388-3904
POLICE NON-EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATIVE 289-4242