

Ted and Doris Brown Gift

In last quarter's newsletter, we reported that Ted and Doris Brown had bequeathed \$25,000 to the City of Edgerton, with their only condition being that the funds be used for "civic projects." Since that time, the Edgerton City Council has generated a list of twenty potential projects for the funds. The list includes proposals that range from park improvements, to memorials, to solar panels, to holiday lights.

During their discussions, City Council members endeavored to learn as much as they could about the Browns and their interests, wanting the plan for the funds to serve as a true testament to their lives. The council came to several conclusions. First, priority would be given to projects that would be long-lasting and that would benefit a wide cross-section of the community. Second, Doris Brown's love of the holidays and Ted Brown's life-long commitment to fiscal responsibility would be honored if possible. The City Council is currently investigating two ideas.

Idea 1: A small portion of the funds could be used to improve the holiday lighting and decorations of the downtown. This idea was selected because projects of this type are difficult to justify when city funds face so many other demands. Also, there seems to be some community interest in improving the holiday display, which means that this seed of funds might lead to added donations by others over the coming years. Mayor Chris Lund will appoint a committee to investigate possible decorations and to recommend a plan to the Council later this year.

Idea 2: A large share of the funds could be invested with the Edgerton Community Fund, which is a component of the Community Foundation of Southern Wisconsin. This investment would create an endowment in the name of Ted and Doris Brown, with annual returns made available for civic projects. Such a plan would allow Edgerton to pursue the list of twenty projects mentioned above, but without depleting the invested principle, meaning the Brown's gift can go on giving indefinitely.

Property Fraud

The dream of home ownership remains an important goal for many citizens. Owning one's home or business is a source of pride and security, and provides an opportunity for financial growth. Unfortunately, real estate fraud scams can steal these dreams with a single forged signature or get-rich-quick scheme. This type of crime can have a serious impact on its victims.

Dane County Register of Deeds Office provides a free notification service to Dane County residents to help detect property fraud. To subscribe, go to www.propertyfraudalert.com/danewi.

What are Common Types of Real Property Crimes? Real property crime can take many forms, but most often involves grand theft, forgery, and a relatively recent scheme, identity theft. Here are some common types:

Fraudulent real estate investment schemes, typically involving the sale of trust deeds

Use of forged escrow instructions to steal escrow deposits

Purchasing homes with straw buyers

Forgery of grant deeds or other recorded documents

Real Estate Identity Theft. By assuming the identity of the true owner, or claiming to represent the true owner, the thief fraudulently obtains title to a property, then borrows against the property, or sells the property, stealing the equity. The typical target of such a scheme is a property with a large amount of equity, most likely an elderly owner

Fraudulent schemes involving trusts, where owners are told to deed their property to a trust which will make the mortgage payments until the owner recovers financially. However, the reality is that the scammers steal the equity and get loans with even larger payments so the original homeowner never stands a chance to get his or her property back

Foreclosure Fraud. Criminals are taking advantage of struggling homeowners by committing fraud. Many appear to be legitimate consultants or brokers, but their schemes are aimed at stealing your money or property.

Copied with permission from the County of Riverside, California, Office of the District Attorney Website

Survey Says.....

Please answer these two questions in our quick survey by:

- going to the home page on the city website www.cityofedgerton.com ;
- going to the City of Edgerton Facebook page; or
- returning the following section of the newsletter to City Hall (with your water payment)

Question 1: What type of new business would you patronize in Edgerton's downtown?

Question 2: How often would you go there?

CITY SERVICE NOTES

PARK SHELTER RESERVATIONS

Please call 884-3341 or inquire at City Hall for reservations and pricing information for the enclosed shelter at Racetrack Park.

CEMETERY & COMPOST

Fassett Cemetery—Flowers on the graves need to be removed by April 15th to get ready for spring cleanup. Flowers may be replaced no sooner than May 8th.

Compost—Looking for a place to dispose of leaves, grass clippings, twigs and garden debris? There is a compost pile located at the City Garage. These items **will not** be collected at the curb. Please do not leave garbage containers or bags at the compost bin.



Brush Pickup

is scheduled for the first Tuesday of the month through November, weather permitting. Limbs and branches should be bundled or put in garbage cans. Bundles should be no larger than 6 feet long and 24 inches in diameter, and bundles and garbage cans should not exceed 100 pounds. Residents may bring bushes, tree limbs and other brush to the city owned dump site located in the back of the Fassett Cemetery. For complete information regarding the Brush pickup ordinance please see the City's web site, www.cityofedgerton.com.

Racetrack Park Roads

Plans are underway to reconstruct the roads at Racetrack Park. The current schedule includes a start date of July 20, with completion sometime in October of this year. Please note that the project will almost certainly be disruptive to some park users. We apologize in advance, though city staff will strive to work with all league and event coordinators to make sure that activities proceed as smoothly as possible. Hang in there, because the results will be well worth it.

BUILDING PERMITS

It is that time of year again. We are all thinking about the remodeling jobs that need to be done around our homes. As you are planning these jobs keep in mind some projects such as new decks, siding, fences, and sheds may require a permit. Please contact the City Hall at 884-3341 to see if your project requires a building permit.

GRASS & WEEDS

Grass must be maintained at six inches or less, weeds at nine inches or less in the City. If grass and weeds are not maintained according to the City Ordinance, the Department of Public Works will mow and there will be a charge to the property owners. All trees, bushes, or vegetation should be trimmed over streets and sidewalks.

****Please do not blow your grass into the street****

Towel Disposal

The Edgerton sewer utility is requesting sanitary sewer users discontinue the practice of disposing of rags and other similar items into its sewer system. Rags, towels, cleaning wipes, and feminine hygiene products can damage sewer pumping equipment and impede pumping operations at lift stations and the wastewater treatment plant. These items also cause backups in the collection system because they don't break down like ordinary toilet paper. In addition to the potential damage to private property caused by backups, all rate payers pay for the repair of expensive pumping equipment. Please be sure to dispose of these items in the garbage, and make sure all floor drains in your home or business are protected with grating.

Drinking Water Report

The annual Consumer Confidence Report of drinking water testing results is available at City Hall or at:

www.cityofedgerton.com

VOTE APRIL 7th

Edgerton City Hall, 12 Albion St. from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Local candidates are:

Alderpersons

First District (1 yr term)

Lyle Maves

First District (2 yr term)

Matt McIntyre

Second District

Candy Davis

Third District

Mark A Wellnitz

School Board

Jon Raymond

Steven Doll

Derek Ninmer

Steve Zartman

TO THE CITY OF EDGERTON BARTENDERS

Your operator's license will expire on June 30, 2015. A renewal application must be submitted to the City of Edgerton no later than May 8, 2015 to allow time for background checks to be completed. The applications will be approved at the June 8, 2015 Finance Committee meeting. Applications can be picked up at City Hall or on line at www.cityofedgerton.com.



AQUATIC CENTER INFO

The Edgerton Aquatic Center will open June 7th at noon for the season. Hours while school is in session will be June 7-11 from 6-8. Normal hours will be starting June 12th. Pre-season sales and lesson sign-ups will begin May 26th. Evening swim lessons will be offered June 8-18 and June 22-July 2 from 5:10-5:50. Morning swim lessons will be offered July 5-17 July 20-July 31, and Aug 3-14. Sign up during pre-season sales will be May 26-June 6 with a variety of different hours or you can print off a registration form and mail it to city hall with your payment. Pool Brochure and forms will be available on the city website after April 15.

FILLING YOUR POOL?

Alert! Before filling your swimming pool contact City Hall at 884-3341 to get a meter reading. We can deduct your sewer charge on the water used to fill your pool. The only requirement is that you call us **before** you fill your pool and again **after** you are done filling. This service is offered one time every 12 months to those customers who use a minimum of 1,000 gallons to fill their pool.