



A Bright Look Ahead™

The Update

Serving Cass, Fremont, Harrison, Montgomery, Page, Pottawattamie, and Shelby Counties

SWIPCO · Southwest Iowa Planning Council-Region XIII

May 2011

SWIPCO HIRES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The staff and board of directors of SWIPCO are pleased to welcome a new Executive Director, Eric Weinkoetz, who started at SWIPCO April 27.

Eric comes to SWIPCO with a diverse work history that makes him an excellent fit for the position. During his career he has worked for the State of Iowa, the City of Eldora, the Lake Panorama Association, and SICOG. He has also worked as the Madison County Economic Development Director and served in the United States Army Reserves.

Eric grew up outside of Afton, Iowa, on a farm and graduated from East Union High School. He

went on to Upper Iowa University for his Bachelor's Degree, and Drake University for his Master's Degree in Public Administration.

Eric and his wife, Donna,

have two sons, Jack (8) and Jedd (6). Most of his free time is spent at one of his sons games (they are in basketball, football, soccer, baseball, and golf) or building bird houses and Lego projects with them.



Eric Weinkoetz and his family, Donna, Jack (left), and Jedd (right).

SWITA OFFERING SUMMER FUN BUS IN ATLANTIC

Southwest Iowa Transit Agency is once again offering the SWITA Fun Bus for Atlantic youth ages K-12.

The summer service offers parents an affordable, safe way to transport their children to summer activities Monday to Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Parents will pre-pay for their child's rides, and give the SWITA office a pre-approved list of places their child may go. When the child

needs a ride, they simply call the office and tell us when and where they need picked up.

Parents may also choose from four different packages that best fit their families needs. Unlimited rides for the whole summer are \$100. Unlimited rides for one month are \$40, a 20 ride punch card is \$30, and a 10 ride punch card is \$20. As an extra incentive to sign up early, SWITA is also offering free rides in the month of May to the first fifty people to sign up.

For more information, please contact Steve Andersen at 1-800-842-8065.



IOWA LEAGUE OF CITIES SMALL CITY WORKSHOPS

The Iowa League of cities is hosting their annual Small City Workshops throughout the state of Iowa.

These workshops will cover two topics; Law Enforcement Contract Strategies and Improving Dilapidated and Abandoned Properties.

The Law Enforcement Contract

Strategies session includes review of city requirements for law enforcement provisions and solutions. It will also include information on negotiating contracts with the county sheriff's department.

Improving Dilapidated and Abandoned Properties focuses on identifying these properties through the nuisance

abatement process and cover the remedies the city may pursue.

The workshop in southwest Iowa is in Griswold at the Griswold Community Building at 603 Second St. on Tuesday May 24.

Workshops are 5:30 to 8 p.m. and include dinner.

Registration is \$30 per person for League members, and \$40 per person for nonmembers. If your city buys two registrations, the third is free.

Registrations are due one week before the scheduled meeting date you wish to attend. To register go to www.iowaleague.org to download the registration form, or to register online.

PIERCE CREEK PARK TRAILS WORK UNDERWAY

Southwest Iowa Planning Council, working with the Page County Conservation Board, a local landowner, and a motivated Page County citizen, assisted in identifying parts of Pierce Creek Park for an equestrian trail.

The park contained areas to ride and several miles of mowed trail, but was missing a crossing that horse riders and pedestrians could travel

all of the way around the park's lake. The current design only allows access to one side of the park.

SWIPCO and park staff identified a location for a crossing and submitted a grant to the Page County Endowment fund. The endowment awarded \$7,500 to the project, allowing the Conservation Board to install two crossings and open up more of the park to pedestrians and

equestrians, as well as shorten the distance the park staff must travel to complete mowing and maintenance.

A dedicated horse camping area at the park is

the next part of the project.

For help developing your community project, contact John McCurdy or Courtney Harter at 1-866-279-4720.



Building a trail crossing at Pierce Creek Park.

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Grant	Next Deadline	Grant	Next Deadline
Revitalize Iowa's Sound Economy	On-Going	Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP)	August 1, 2011
IFA Project Based Housing	On-Going	Federal Recreational Trails	October 1, 2011
Hazard Mitigation Grant Program	On-Going	Safe Routes to School	October 1, 2011
Economic Development Set Aside	Last Monday of Each Month	Statewide Transportation Enhancement	October 1, 2011
Iowa West Foundation (IWF)	July 1, 2011	CDBG Housing & Water/Sewer	November 2011
Peter Kiewit Foundation (Quarterly)	July 15, 2011	CDBG Community Facilities	December 2011

COMMUNITY EVENTS

- **Essex— May 13 & 14:** City Wide Garage Sales
- **Clarinda— May 14:** Iowa Museum Day
 - The Nodaway Valley Historical Museum in Clarinda will celebrate with a Lions Club pancake feed from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. free will donation. The museum is open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., including newly remodeled Rooms of Yesterday.
 - The Glenn Miller Birthplace Museum is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and offering free admission
- **Atlantic— May 17:** downtown spring planting from 4-7 p.m. Meet at the Atlantic City Park at 7th and Chestnut St. to help plant more than 5,000 petunias and freshen up city flower beds for spring. Volunteers get a free t-shirt and supper. Rain date is May 24.
- **Red Oak— May 24:** Red Oak Chamber and Industry Association's 18-Hole Best Ball Tournament. 12:30 shotgun start at Red Oak Country Club. For more information call 712-623-4821.
- **Clarinda-May 26:** The 16th Annual Chamber Golf Tournament at the Clarinda Country Club. Lunch at 11:30 a.m. 4 person Texas Best Ball Tournament tees off at 12:30 p.m. Flag prizes, hole sponsorships, door prizes, and Clarinda Dollars for the top 3 in each flight. Entry fee is \$65 per person and includes green fees, fun pack, and lunch. Enter by May 20
- **Red Oak— May 26:** Opening night of the Red Oak Farmers Market! 4-7 p.m. in downtown Red Oak.
- **Elk Horn/Kimballton— May 28-30:** Tivoli Fest!! Enjoy Danish foods while visiting the Danish Windmill, Bedstemor's Hus, and the Danish Immigrant Museum. Also includes a parade, the Tour de Tivoli, an entertainment stage, and lots of vendors.
- **Essex-May 30:** Annual Memorial Day Tradition. The Essex American Legion Post #333 and American Legion Auxiliary will place memorial flags and grave markers in the cemetery. At 11 a.m. a Ceremony and Tribute to all serving military and veterans.
- **Red Oak— May 30:** Red Oak Court of Honor Memorial Day program at the Red Oak High School.
- **Clarinda— June 3:** Relay for Life at 6 p.m. around the downtown square.
- **Atlantic-June 4:** Customer Appreciation Days!! Great deals in all of the stores as well as free hot dogs and children's games in the city park from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- **Clarinda— June 4:** Community Wide Garage Sales
- **Clarinda— June 4:** Fishing Derby Day! 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Pioneer Park on Highway 2 for children ages 5-15 years old. This event is sponsored by the Conservation Board and Page County Optimist Clubs as part of the Iowa DNR's free fishing weekend. For more information please contact Charly Stevens at 712-542-3864.
- **Clarinda-June 9-12:** Glenn Miller Festival! Events include a kick-off picnic, scholarship competition, ice cream social, museum exhibits, and performances by The World Famous Glenn Miller Orchestra, Toronto All-Star Big Band, Fountain City Brass Band, Ballyhoo Foxtrot Orchestra, US Air Force Noteables, Columbus Jazz Orchestra, Glenn Miller Birthplace Society Big Band, and Adam Swanson, a three-time world champion old-time piano player from Shenandoah.
- **Clarinda— June 12:** Rotary Flight Breakfast and Air Show at the Clarinda Municipal Airport. Pancake Breakfast from 7 to 10:30 a.m. Cowboy Church at 9 a.m., air show at 10:30 a.m. followed by an exciting flight demonstration of model radio-controlled aircraft.

Happy Birthday

to

Transit Director Steve Andersen May 19

Housing Director Jeremy Middents May 28



Congrats

Happy Anniversary

to

Mechanic Assistant Fred Berge May 12

Transit Assistant Christy Bates May 21

Demolition of Blighted Properties

SWIHTF is assisting with the demolition of any city owned, dilapidated housing units.

SWIHTF will have the property inspected for asbestos, remove asbestos, demolish the structure, remove debris from the site, have the site leveled, and pay for 50% of the total cost.

There are no requirements for use of the property following demolition. If you are interested in this program, please contact Jeremy Middents at 1-866-279-4720.

SWIPCO Policy Council

Cass County

Frank Waters

Dave Jones

Fremont County

Brian Kingsolver

Cara Morgan

Harrison County

Gaylord Pitt

Sherman Struble

Mills County

Richard Crouch

Montgomery County

Donna Robinson

Brad Wright

Page County

James Richardson

Byron Harris

Shelby County

James Burmeister

Terry Arentson

Pottawattamie County

Lynn Grobe

At-Large

Dorothy Duran

Clint Fichter

Mike Kolbe

DATES TO REMEMBER

- SWIHTF Board meeting Tues. May 17 at 10 a.m. in Atlantic
- SWIPCO Budget Committee Meeting Thurs. May 26 at 11 a.m. in Atlantic
- SWIPCO Policy Board meeting Thurs. May 26 at 1:30 p.m. in Atlantic
- RLF Board meeting Fri. May 27 at 9:30 a.m. in Atlantic
- SWIPCO/SWITA offices are closed Mon. May 30 for Memorial Day.
- Father's Day is June 19
- SWIPCO Policy Board meeting Thurs. June 23 at 1:30 p.m. in Atlantic
- RLF Board meeting Fri. June 24, 2011 at 9:30 a.m. in Atlantic



Steve Andersen	Transit Director	Ryan Finsel	Community Coordinator	John McCurdy	Community Development
Christy Bates	Transit Assistant	Mark Hansen	Fleet Mechanic	Jeremy Middents	Housing Director
Crystal Cappel	Finance Director	Sandy Hansen	Housing Specialist	Daurine Petersen	Transit Assistant
Kelly Davis	Transit Coordinator	Courtney Harter	Community Development	Dave Riedemann	Housing Programs Administrator
Tammy DeBord	Administrative Assistant	Karen Mauer	Finance Manager	Teresa Wright	Transit Assistant
		Eric Weinkoetz	Executive Director		

