

ROCK FALLS NEWS

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Earth Day in Rock Falls—April 21

New Board Members on Betterment Group

At the annual meeting of the Rock Falls Area Betterment, Inc., Mr. Lowell Johnson and Mr. John Evers were appointed to the board of directors. The new board members are replacing retiring board members, Kim Rosenbaum and Dale Borchardt. Kaylene Ahrens was elected to be secretary, Gary Dockum was re-elected to serve as president and Bev Schabacker was re-elected to treasurer. City councilman Doug Heimer was appointed to represent the city council on the board. Leo Jost remains to complete the board of directors.



The Betterment Group has had a busy winter providing food service for the pancake breakfasts and weekend auctions. The treasurer's report indicates sales of \$7,320 for these events. Many thanks to all those who provided pies, bars, and labor. Many hands make light work. Many auction patrons comment on the friendliness of the Rock Falls Community Center.

Rock Falls Fun Days will be here before we know it. Think about volunteering for a celebration committee.

Rock Falls residents can celebrate Earth Day in 2007 by participating in the Big Trash Cleanup. It's a great opportunity to clean out the yard area, the basement, the garage and the tool shed.

In cooperation with Waste Management, a trash packer will canvas the streets and begin picking up items placed on the curb at 7:00 A.M. on Saturday, April 21.

Many hands make light work. Volunteers are welcome to pitch in. The task usually takes about 2 hours. Everyone should meet downtown a bit before 7:00 A.M. Coffee and donuts will be provided at City Hall following the cleanup.

Since the collection begins early, it would be best to have all items on the curb by Friday, April 20.

For the safety of volunteers, please have glass separated into a sturdy cardboard box. Also separate boards and paneling.



Since all of the trash will be going directly to the Landfill of North Iowa, there are some restrictions. The following are classified as hazardous waste and cannot be collected:

Oil or oil cans
Car batteries
Tires
Computers

Televisions

Paint cans (unless lid is removed and paint is dried)

Brown goods such as computer monitors and televisions can be taken to the landfill personally without an appointment and may have a small recycling fee. Other electronics such as computers, keyboards, stereos, etc. can be recycled personally at the landfill at no fee. Small appliances such as toasters, vacuums, etc. cannot be recycled.

Household hazardous wastes such as fluorescent bulbs, antifreeze, pesticides, etc. can be delivered personally to the landfill by appointment. There is no fee. Visit the landfill website for a complete listing of hazardous wastes, www.landfillnorthiowa.org.

Garbage Bins

There are a few rental properties in Rock Falls, most of which receive trash pickup service. Some tenants choose to utilize the wheeled bins. Occasionally, tenants will move away and fail to notify the City of their departure. This presents a bookkeeping challenge to the City with past-due notices, crediting accounts for past services, and retrieval of the bins.

The city would ask landlords to ask tenants to please notify City Hall to terminate trash pickup service. Or, landlords could notify the city directly.

Invoices for sewer and trash service are mailed to each resident monthly. Payment is expected for this service by mid-month. There are a few properties that have sizeable past-due balances. If such balances are not forthcoming, these amounts will be assessed to the property taxes of the *property owners*. The deadline for this year is April 15. This could become a landlord-tenant issue in the case of rental properties. A drop-box is available at City Hall for payment.

