



Neighbors

Newsletter of the Walworth County Intergovernmental Cooperation Council (ICC)

Summer 2018



Walworth County's proposed
Health and Human Services Building

Volume 11, Issue 1

Mark Your Calendars

The next ICC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 30, 2018 at 5 pm. The meeting will consist of a three hour workshop presented by the Walworth County Economic Alliance (WCEDA) entitled, "Economic Development 101 for Local Leaders." Please note that we will be starting our meeting at 5 pm, an hour earlier than our usual starting time.

Youth In Government

Eileen Suhm, the Village Administrator for East Troy, organizes and operates an interesting program called Youth in Government. Eileen started the program, in part, due to the lack of focus on local government in high schools. The program engages junior and senior high school students to learn and become involved with local government. Students are nominated by their teachers and must hold a GPA of 2.75 or greater on a 4.0 scale and student must commit to attend a meeting once a month. This program is also offered to students who are homeschooled as long as the student is a resident of the community hosting the program. Students accepted in the program have an official swearing-in ceremony and are able to: hold an advisory seat on a city council, village board, committee or commission; are given the abil-

ity to identify issues and propose solutions; and vote at their meetings.

Some of the benefits of the program include:

- A public voice for youth
- Civic responsibility
- Life skills
- Networking skills
- New perspectives

Youth in Government is currently partnered with the City of Elkhorn, Elkhorn Public Schools, the Village of East Troy, and Easy Troy Community School District. If any municipal leader is interested in learning more about the program, please contact Eileen at (262) 684-5482.

Sheriff's Office Radio Assessment Project

Captain Jamie Green, who is in charge of the Walworth County Sheriff's Office Communication Division, was at our June 26th ICC meeting to provide an update regarding a countywide communications project. The County's communication infrastructure and technology is beginning to show its age and are in need of a major upgrade in the near future. In addition to replacing aging towers and equipment, a major goal of the project is to improve portable radio coverage in the County. The State of Wisconsin is also reviewing its current communication systems and has requested proposals from vendors. We will learn more about this project when the State reviews the results of the RFP this fall. There is a potential for the County to join the State's effort if it would move to a more effective system.

Spirit of Hope Homeless Shelter

We often don't think about homelessness in Walworth County, but it exists. Representatives for the Spirit of Hope Homeless Shelter were at our June meeting to provide information about their organization. The Spirit of Hope provides safe emergency shelter for men who are homeless in Walworth County and has been in operation since 2005. The Shelter rotates between eight host church sites in the County and operates from the end of October through the end of April. Three meals are provided daily with showers and laundry opportunities weekly. Transportation for medical appointments and assistance with job and housing searches are also provided. The current goal of the organization is to open its own building to eliminate the need to switch sites every

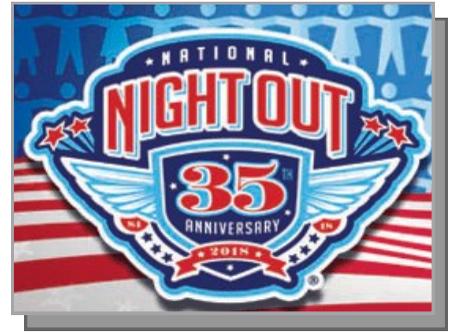
week. This permanent location would help create stability for men as they proceed with their transition back into jobs, homes, and the community. You can learn more about the Spirit of Hope by visiting their website:
www.spiritofhopeshelter.org.

Spirit of Hope Homeless Shelter Contact Information

Lynn Curtis, Executive Director
at: (262) 725-2016

Email:
spiritofhopeshelter@gmail.com

Refer a Man Who is Homeless by
Calling:
(262) 903-WARM (9276)



Don't forget to attend National Night Out on August 7th from 4-8pm at the Walworth County Fairgrounds. This Countywide event will feature demonstrations and displays from area law enforcement agencies as well as Fire and EMS. The event involves a fun run, free food and much more. You can find out all the details by visiting the 2018 National Night Out-Walworth County Facebook event page.

Land Use and Resource Management Training

Michael Cotter, Director of Walworth County's Land Use and Resource Management department (LURM), has extended an invitation to all municipal leaders to attend training sessions pertaining to land use issues. All meetings will be held at 3:30 pm prior to the regularly scheduled County Zoning Agency (CZA) meetings in the County Board Room 114. The training schedule is provided in the box to the right. City and village representatives may be especially interested in attending the April 18, 2019 plat review and comprehensive planning session.

Training Schedule

August 16, 2018: Conditional Uses and Rezones

October 18, 2018: Zoning and Shoreland Zoning

December 20, 2018: Board of Adjustment

February 21, 2019: Erosion Control and Stormwater
Management/Nonmetallic Mining
Reclamation

April 18, 2019: Plat Review and Comprehensive Planning