



Columbia Quarterly Summer Newsletter



Mayor Hutchinson

City of Columbia

www.columbiaillinois.com

A big “thanks” goes out to council members and staff for their hard work on the recently adopted FY 2015-2016 budget. The new budget provides modest increases for most departments, which includes \$260,000 in contingencies in the police, street, and parks department. These contingencies are expenditures that will not be made until the state passes its budget. The Governor’s proposed budget includes a possible cut to municipal funding, which is why we are being extremely cautious with the City’s General Fund.

We have joined mayors across the region and state to discuss the governor’s proposed cuts to municipal funding and to fight unfunded mandates being forced on local governments. Recently, I participated in a press conference in Belleville with the Southwestern Illinois Council of Mayors and traveled to Springfield for the Illinois Municipal League’s Lobby Day to support these efforts. The governor’s plan is aggressive and bold and I am thankful he has invited mayors to be part of the negotiations. He understands local governments have consistently demonstrated their ability to be fiscally responsible and we are the frontlines to the quality of life citizens in Columbia and Illinois enjoy. Over the years, it has not been fair that the State of Illinois penalize local governments with mandates forcing us to reduce essential services, such as police, ambulance, and streets. Details can be found at <http://www.columbiaillinois.com/calendar.aspx> or City Hall.

Remember if you are not involved, you are missing out. So **GET OUT** and **GET INVOLVED!**

If you have any questions, concerns, comments or just want to chat please contact me at (office) 281-7144 ext. 109, (home) 281-5199 or khutchinson@columbiaillinois.com.

NORTH MAIN STREET RESURFACING – PHASE 1

The city’s contractor, Keeley and Sons, Inc., began construction work on North Main Street on May 26. This project is being funded by an STP grant administrated by the Illinois Department of Transportation and the City of Columbia. The grant will pay for approximately 70% of the total project cost (\$613,000). This project will remove the existing asphalt surface on Main Street, have repair work performed on the underlying concrete pavement, and replace the asphalt surface. The work will also include having all sidewalk curb ramps brought up to current ADA standards. Additionally, side road entrances onto Main Street that are not concrete at this time will have concrete entrances constructed. The majority of the work should be completed by mid-August. Main Street will remain open to traffic during construction, however there will be delays and daily lane closures. At times there will be side street closures to allow for the reconstruction of the approaches. Residents and motorists are cautioned to watch for detours and lane closures during the construction work. As always, your cooperation and patience is greatly appreciated as the roadway improvement project is completed. If you have any questions, please contact the Department of Public Works office at 281-4264. Information on construction projects is available on the City’s website at www.columbiaillinois.com/projects.



FREE LUNCH PROGRAM AVAILABLE THIS SUMMER!!!



Children of all ages in Columbia will again have FREE lunches available during the summer provided by Bethany United Methodist Church and TWIGS, a charitable non-profit organization. Lunches will be distributed May 26 - August 14, Monday—Friday near the playground at Bolm-Schuhkraft City Park (11:30 am — 11:55 am) and Metter Park (12:05 pm — 12:30 pm) .



News from Columbia Unit School District



As another school year closes, the school district would like to thank parents, students, and staff for making 2014-2015 a success!

- **ACADEMIC HONORS:** Columbia High School celebrates many academic accomplishments. Nine students earned valedictorian honors from the graduating class of 2015. Please congratulate: Sarah Allen, Allison Ford, Andrew Gutknecht, Sam Harres, Jamie Heet, Sara Joergens, Cory Myers, Madison Stevens, and Caitlyn Touchette. Also congratulations to our salutatorians: Greg Embry and Ashley Myers.
- **RETIREMENTS:** The school district congratulates retiring teachers Mrs. Kim Osland, Mrs. Melanie Cornish, and Mrs. Sue McBroom and teacher assistant's Jill Hanebutt and Tana Ortinau who retired from CUSD 4 at the conclusion of the school year. Also, Dr. Mike Beczkala, long time principal of Parkview School, also joined the retirement circle. For those individuals who missed Dr. B's farewell events and would like to send a congratulatory or memory note or a photo from the past of Dr. B, please send email to drbfarewell@columbia4.org.
- **NEW ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS:** Please welcome two new administrators to Columbia CUSD 4. Mrs. Angela Huels has been named as Columbia High School's new assistant principal. Mrs. Huels replaces Mrs. Jeanne Goacher who now serves as the district's Director of Special Education. In addition, Mrs. April Becherer has been employed as the assistant principal at Eagleview Elementary. Principal Brad Landgraf will serve as principal for both Eagleview and Parkview School.
- **STUDENT REGISTRATION:** All parents will need to register their student for the 2015-2016 school year. Entering kindergarten students should register at Eagleview as soon as possible. District wide Student Registration dates are July 21, July 27, and July 28. Student registration information and paperwork can be accessed on the district's website. Parents can copy and complete in advance. All parents must show one proof of residency (utility bill – water, gas, electric) when registering to verify continued residency within CUSD4 boundaries. For school district information, please access the district's website at www.chseagles.com. Have a great summer!

STORM WATER IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY

Most of the time storm water is an afterthought as once rain falls to the ground it is either absorbed into the ground or runs off into storm sewer or creek systems. The only time storm water becomes a concern is if it causes damage to property or becomes a flood situation due to the amount of storm water flowing. State and federal regulations from the IEPA and EPA, require storm water to be managed to prevent contamination of waterways. The City of Columbia is part of a consortium of cities that have a discharge permit for storm water. To meet the requirements of the discharge permit for storm water, the City requests property owners and residents to help. Please do not dispose of any unwanted liquids or materials in a storm drain or creek. Properly dispose of liquids or materials by recycling or following the disposal method for the liquid or material. The second largest cause of storm water pollution is pet waste. Please clean up all pet waste in your yard or when you walk your pet. Lastly, it is requested any disturbed yard area have proper erosion control and is restored with vegetation as soon as possible. Dirt, soil and contaminants can get into the storm water via runoff from disturbed yard areas. Your consideration in helping to keep storm water clean and uncontaminated is in everyone's interest. Thank you for doing your part.

The Main Event

Merchants, Property Owners Form Historic Main Street Association

Merchants and property owners along Columbia's Main Street are taking a big step forward with support from the City of Columbia and the State of Illinois.

Recently, a group of business and property owners organized and incorporated the Historic Main Street Columbia Association as a private, not-for-profit corporation. This new group will combine other existing efforts to revitalize the city's principal commercial district, and it has met criteria to be designated an Illinois Main Street program—this year's addition to a statewide network of 46 communities.

The new Main Street group has also reached agreement with the City of Columbia to spearhead completion of the recently-adopted Main Street District Plan, the blueprint for supporting the current growth of business activity and for increasing private investment. The City's support makes the Historic Main Street Columbia Association a true public-private partnership.

A fourteen-member board of directors, led by Bob Freyman of Chateau La Vin Wine Shop, is organizing and will soon be selecting an executive director.



**Summertime Safety
For Children**

Summertime is here! One of the most common sights around the City of Columbia during the summer months is children riding bikes and skateboards. The Columbia Police Department would like to remind everyone to use caution when riding anything with wheels and remind everyone to respect other people's property and not ride where it is posted or prohibited. It is our goal to reduce the number of injuries to children in our community by encouraging them to wear helmets anytime they ride anything with wheels on it.

With the assistance of local pediatrician Dr. Joe Cangas and his Helmets First organization, the officers of the Columbia Police Department will be looking for children riding bikes and wearing their helmets. When officers locate these children they will give them a reward from Dr. Cangas and Helmets First. The rewards include baseball tickets, football tickets, tickets for free stays at vacation spots, along with free food and deserts from local businesses in Columbia. If you have a child that needs a helmet you can go by the office of Dr. Cangas, 109 West Legion Avenue, Columbia, IL 62236 or call him at 281-4325.

The Columbia Police Department would like to thank Dr. Cangas and Helmets First for their dedication to the safety of children. We look forward to giving away a lot of rewards this year. Have a safe summer!

Joseph A. Edwards, Chief of Police

RECYCLE DROP OFF

RNA World Wide, who collects recyclable items on the third Saturday of the month at the Department of Public Works, has announced they can no longer accept tube TV's and CRT monitors. Please check the city's website for an alternative location to recycle these items.

REMINDER: Please DO NOT leave items if the RNA World Wide truck is not onsite.

"Thank you" to Chris Shaw at The Ornamental Iron Shop for his donation of equipment to the Columbia EMS. Chris developed a prototype of a "pop can" to assist emergency personnel in refilling portable oxygen tanks, enhancing safety in the workplace and saving the cost of purchasing the equipment.



The Columbia Police Department is now offering its parking lot and front lobby as a safe haven for potential Craigslist or "swap-and-sell" transactions originating on the internet. The CPD lobby is open 24 hours a day. For more information, call the Police Department at 281-5151.



WELCOME BUSINESSES

Ellen M. Emmerich, LCPC
207 N. Main St., Suite 103D
Private Practice Counseling Office

M&B Ice Company, Inc.
610 S. Main St.
Bulk Ice Dispenser

State Farm Insurance
1550 N. Main St., Suite C
Insurance Company

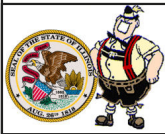
Yvonne's Pedicures, Manicures, Nails
207 N. Main St., Suite 103A
Pedicures, Manicures & Artificial Nails

Xtreme Krav Maga 618, LLC
318 N. Main St.
Self Defense / Fitness Studio

HAPPY 4TH OF JULY

BACKFLOW PREVENTION DEVICE TESTING




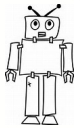
As a reminder all backflow prevention devices need to be tested yearly and certified they are working properly. The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency requires that all customers who have a backflow prevention device have their device tested annually by a state certified plumber. A copy of the test results must be sent to the City of Columbia, Public Works Department. The test results may be submitted on the plumber's own backflow device test report form or the city supplied backflow device test report form, which can be found on the City's website at www.columbiailinois.com/backflow. If you have any questions concerning the backflow prevention devices you may call the Public Works office at 281-4264.



City of Columbia
208 S. Rapp Avenue
P.O. Box 467
Columbia, IL 62236

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COLUMBIA LIBRARY EVENTS

- June 9, 11 am
Kick-off with the Bubble Bus
- June 15, 10:30 am and 1:00 pm
Rockets to the Rescue *
- June 16, 10:30 am
Animal Avengers 
- June 17, 10:30 am
Tales to Tails * 
- June 23, 10-11:30 am
Swords & Roses
- June 30, 11 am
Monroe County Rhythm Band
- July 7, 11 am
Abe Lincoln 
- July 9: 11 am
Melissa Pope
"Storm Buddies" 
- July 13, 10:30 am and 1 pm
Junk Drawer Robotics *
- July 15, 10:30 am
Tail Waggin Dog Tricks by Bella
- July 16, 10 am
Yoga Story Hour *
- July 21, 11 am
Glow in the Dark
Magic Show 
- July 25
Last day to turn in reading logs.

* Registration Required



Upcoming Events


More details — 281-7144 or
www.columbiaillinois.com

- June 20, July 18, Aug. 15, 8 am-noon:
ELECTRONICS RECYCLING 
DOPW parking lot—no longer accepting tube TVs & monitors. No drop-offs permitted if recycle truck is not on site.
- June 14, 6—8 pm
MUSIC AT METTER PARK 
Waterloo German Band: Sponsored by 1st National Bank of Waterloo and HTC
- June 15, 10 am
HISTORIC MAIN STREET DEDICATION GRAND OPENING
City Hall Fountain Park
- June 28, 6—8 pm
MUSIC AT METTER PARK 
Trophy Mules:
Sponsored by Republic Times and Maverick Technologies
- July 4: 10 am—noon
4TH OF JULY BIKE PARADE
ICS to Metter Park. Decorate your bikes & show your patriotic spirit. Games, prizes, music & food after the parade, awards for best decorated bikes.

4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION

American Legion Bingo, Kloepper, washers tournament, food, drinks, & FABULOUS FIREWORKS!



July 12, 6—8 pm
MUSIC AT METTER PARK
Fanfare: Sponsored by Mozel and Bob Brockland Buick GMC 

July 26, 6—8 pm
MUSIC AT METTER
Sofa Kings: Sponsored by Garden Place Senior Living and Columbia Centre Market Place 

August 14 & 15, 4 pm-Midnight:
COLUMBIA DAZE - Amusement rides & games, music, food & fun!
Parade: Saturday—5pm on Main St.



August 21, Dusk
MOVIES AT METTER PARK
Featuring Paddington Bear

SAVE THE DATE FOR THESE ANNUAL FALL EVENTS

- Sept. 7: Songs 4 Soldiers
 - Sept. 19: Art on the Bluffs
 - Sept. 27: FestiFall
 - Oct. 4: Christian Music Festival
- More details to come.



The City of Columbia is proud to print the Quarterly on recycled paper

