

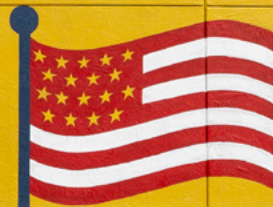
CITYSCOOP

The City of Collinsville's Newsletter

COLLINSVILLE

618

HORSERADISH
CAPITAL OF THE WORLD



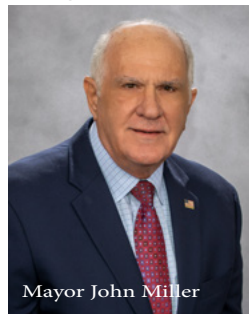
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ON ROUTE
1954-1977

KAHOKS

Mayor John Miller



As I enter my last month of serving as your Mayor, I feel incredibly grateful for the last 15 years serving the great City of Collinsville. I feel confident I am leaving this wonderful City in great hands! I am

proud to have help lead this community to the place of opportunity this great City has always deserved.

It's an exciting time for Collinsville residents, businesses and visitors. As we leave behind the Winter months and get excited for warmer weather, the City is hard at work preparing for fun events such as the Memorial Day Fireworks, the Horseradish Festival, and our wonderful Parks and Recreation sports leagues and programs. Our City staff is also hard at work planning some very impactful City projects that will benefit every person who lives or works here in town.

John Miller

INSIDE THIS EDITION

MCT's School House Bike Trail Project at Hwy 157 and Horseshoe Lake Road is under way.



See Page 8 for construction schedule and road closures.

Firework Festival - May 28

COLLINSVILLE
★ FIREWORK FESTIVAL ★
Memorial Day Weekend
SUNDAY MAY 28
COLLINSVILLE AQUA PARK AND EASTPORT PLAZA DR
4:00PM - 10:00PM
Activities
FIREWORK SHOW - LIVE ENTERTAINMENT - MUSIC & DANCE
FOOD TRUCKS - FUN GAMES - CRAFT VENDORS

Join us at for Collinsville's Annual Firework Festival on Memorial Day weekend. This free Festival will include live music, food and craft vendors, food trucks, fun activities for the kids, and of course, FIREWORKS!

The Collinsville Fireworks Festival will be Sunday, May 28th from 4:00p-10:00p and will be held at Collinsville Aqua Park and Eastport Plaza area. Collinsville Aqua Park will be open during the day and closing at 5:00p. VIP access to the Aqua Park will begin at 6:00p. VIP tickets include access to the Aqua Park Leisure Pool and VIP Parking for the evening, food, and two free drink tickets (adults only). VIP Tickets will be sold for a fee and a limited amount is available.

This fun, free, community event is looking for sponsors. If your business is interested, please contact CPRD using the information listed below.

Interested in being a vendor or would you like to have your food truck at this event? Let us know!

Please Contact Collinsville Parks and Recreation for more information.

Office: 618-346-7529
Email: parks@collinsvilleil.org
Website: collinsvilleil.org

Mayor John Miller - Collinsville's Longest Serving Mayor

As we lead into an unopposed race for Mayor, Mayor John Miller wants to thank the people of Collinsville for their support during his time as Mayor.

His lifelong love for the City of Collinsville started thanks to a dear friend he met during his service in the U.S. Air Force, while based at Scott Air Force Base in 1967. He would often make trips to Collinsville and would later meet his wife Diane through his friend's cousin setting them up on a date. The two married in the Fall of 1968 and Miller left to serve in Vietnam for a year almost immediately.

Miller came back to the U.S. in November 1969 with orders to move to Offutt Air Force Base in Nebraska where he and his wife lived for four years. They decided to move to Collinsville after that, where Miller would later join the Collinsville Fire Department in 1973.

"A friend of mine told me he was going to go take a test to be a Collinsville firefighter, and I said, 'Who wants to be a firefighter?' He said 'Hey, it's good hours, good pay, come on, let's go take the test,'" Miller said. "He and I finished number one and two on the list and within three months we were both on the job and the rest is history."

Miller spent 31 years with the department and retired as a captain.

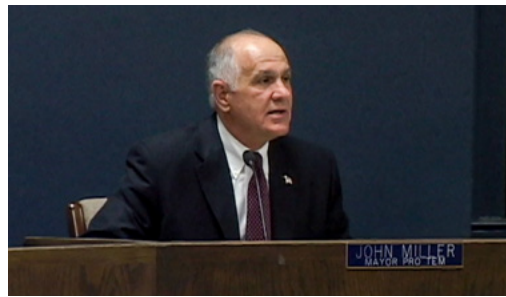
"I couldn't ask for a better career, it was a really good job," Miller said.



Working for the City for more than 30 years allowed Miller to gain a lot of insight into how things were done. As a firefighter, he saw firsthand how workers would suffer without proper equipment due to lack of funds. He had the chance to get to know the Mayor at the time, Stan Schaeffer, who took him under his wing and encouraged him to run for City Council. Miller took a leap of faith that would change the direction of the rest of his life. He still remembers the nerves he felt during the first Council meeting. He said he'll always be grateful to Stan Schaeffer for being a compassionate and strong leader to learn from.

"He knew what he wanted to do, he listened to the problems that I saw with the City and he wanted to make those things better," Miller said.

Miller served on the Council as Mayor Pro Tem under Schaeffer for two-and-a-half years and was elected as Mayor after Schaeffer passed away in March 2008.



He remembers the uncertainty he felt about whether he was ready to take the role on. However, the Council's vote of confidence in his leadership abilities would prove true as he held the position until the next election, which was about a year-and-a-half away. He would continue serving as the Mayor of Collinsville for the next 15 years.



When Miller looks back on his time serving as Mayor, he said the creation of the Collinsville Area Community Foundation in memory of Stan Schaeffer will always stand out to him. Miller said the foundation became a dream of Stan Schaeffer's after he learned about a similar program in Rockford, Illinois that provided scholarships to students.

"Stan said, 'I want to do that for Collinsville,'" Miller said. It wasn't until after Schaeffer's death that the foundation was established, which started as a scholarship foundation for Collinsville student residents only.

"It was not what it is today. At our most recent meeting where we gave all of the scholarships, I said, 'Stan is smiling right now.'"



During Miller's time as Mayor, he helped the City regain control of the parks, such as the Aqua Park and Willoughby Farm, and provide much-needed improvements for residents and visitors to enjoy. Additionally, on May 1, 2018 the City took over the ownership and operation of the Gateway Convention Center, which is one of the largest economic and tourism drivers in Collinsville.

Miller also helped established the Hometown Hero Program, which honors local military veterans by hanging banners around the City with their picture.

While serving as Mayor, Miller said he worked hard to focus on leading by example and earning the respect of others around him.

"I didn't demand a lot of things, I didn't rule with a big stick, but I made sure our people were taken care of and we did the best we could," Miller said.

Above all else, Miller describes his job as Mayor as being a cheerleader for the City and a spokesperson for the community. Miller would often discuss City issues and projects with residents and answer questions about how and why certain things were happening in the City.



During his 15 years as Mayor, Miller has given countless speeches in front of crowds and at events around the City. He said the most humbling moments he's experienced have been keynote addresses at the American Legion and the VFW for Veterans Day and Memorial Day celebrations.

"I work very diligently to get a speech written that would grab people and make them think about what a veteran is, why are we celebrating Memorial Day. Being a veteran is very dear to my heart, and speaking on behalf of those who can't speak is my heartfelt challenge, and I hope I continue to be asked to do those types of things," Miller said.

When asked what his advice would be for the next person to serve as Mayor of Collinsville, Miller said, "be true."

"Be true to the people of Collinsville, don't try and over do, don't be a king," he said with a laugh. "Be a gentle person and lead by example."



If you would like to send the Mayor a message of thanks and appreciation you can do so online at:

www.collinsvilleil.org/mayormiller



FREE LIMB & YARD WASTE PICK-UP

March 20 through March 24

PARTNERING TOGETHER

The City of Collinsville is partnering with the Collinsville Township to provide a free, one-time, limb and yard waste collection for residents. There is no need to call to register in advance. Republic Services will pick up any limbs and yard waste that is put out at residences on your **NORMAL TRASH DAY THE WEEK OF MARCH 20TH - 24TH.**



WHEN

March 20th through March 24th. Pickup will occur on your normal trash day. A second truck will be by to pick up yard waste.



WHAT

Grass, leaves, flowers, stalks, stems, small tree trimmings and branches. All leaves and yard waste must be in a can or paper bag the weight of which shall not exceed 50 pounds. No plastic bags.



TREE LIMBS

Small tree trimmings and branches (less than 4 feet in length and less than 3 inches in diameter) shall be in a can or paper bag the weight of which shall not exceed 50 pounds. Tree trimmings may also be tied into bundles and laid in piles curbside. No plastic bags.



WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

All Collinsville residents within City limits. The City would like to discourage residents from bringing in waste from out of town.

→ FREE ONE-TIME PICK-UP

brought to you by:



The City and Township also plan on scheduling a limb & yard waste pick up in the FALL of 2023 – more details to come!

Questions? - call 618-346-5200 x0



2023 YOUTH ACADEMY

open to all Unit 10 students and private school students in Unit 10 district

AGES 14-17 \$75 FEE

CLASS LIMITED TO 20 STUDENTS

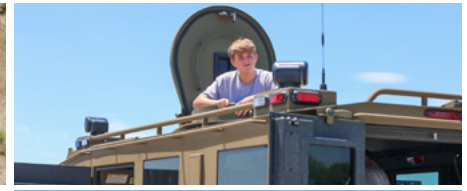
APPLY ONLINE: COLLINSVILLEIL.ORG

Applicants will be notified via email if they have been accepted into the program.



2 WEEK ACADEMY (WEEKDAYS ONLY)
June 5 - June 5
and
June 12 - June 16

Application deadline May 19



2 WEEKS PACKED FULL OF FUN AND LEARNING:
CPR training, Community Service Project, Fire Dept/ARCH Rescue, Gun Range - Safety, Handling, etc



FESTIVAL OF TREES CHARITIES RECEIVE CHECKS

The City is celebrating the success of the 2022 Festival of Trees at the Gateway Convention Center.

During a January City Council meeting, the City presented three, \$10,000 checks to the local non-profit organizations that benefitted from the 2022 Festival of Trees. The checks went to the Children's Dyslexia Center of Southern Illinois, Collinsville Charities for Children and the Miner's Institute Foundation.



The 2022 Festival of Trees was held December 7 at the Gateway Convention Center in Collinsville. The fun and festive event supports local charities by asking community members, businesses and organizations to sponsor beautifully-decorated Christmas trees, wreaths and tablescapes. The items are all auctioned off during the event with the funds going directly to the charities that make a huge difference in the community.

Collinsville Charities for Children provides underprivileged children in the community with socks and shoes in the Winter months.



Robert Uhrig, treasurer of the Collinsville Charities for Children, said the \$10,000 will allow the organization to expand its shoe program even further and serve more kids in the community.

"That's going to buy a lot of extra shoes," Uhrig said.

"This is our first year that we've been able to go up to 5th and 6th grade for the Collinsville School District so this is very welcomed. With the cost of shoes going up just like everything else, it has put us in a little bit of a bind this year, so this money will definitely help us to what we need to do."

The organizations are also able to raise money during the event by selling raffle tickets. Uhrig said his organization raised about \$2,500.

"That was a nice little extra chunk and someone went home with a real nice prize," Uhrig said.

Uhrig said the group does a lot of fundraising to purchase the shoes and will have its first-ever glow bingo event in October.

A \$10,000 check also went to the Children's Dyslexia Center of Southern Illinois, which provides free tutoring to children with dyslexia. Dyslexia is estimated to affect more than two million children across the U.S. and can lead to emotional and self-esteem issues if it interferes with academics.

Jessica Darling, treasurer of the Board of Directors, said the group was able to raise about \$2,000 at the Festival of Trees, which combined with the \$10,000 check, will help make a huge difference in a child's life.



"That \$12,000 is great because it costs about \$6,000 per child per year to put them through the program," Darling said. "That will be one child because it takes two years to get through the program."

Brian Brown, past chairman of the Board of Directors, said the organization is incredibly grateful to the City of Collinsville and everyone who was a part of the Festival of Trees.

"This money is desperately needed and is greatly appreciated," Brown said.

Brown said the organization is always looking for

board members and friends of the center who would like to help put on fundraisers.

The organization also trains educators to tutor kids with dyslexia.

"Anyone with a Bachelor's degree can become a dyslexia tutor, and we train them and they are nationally accredited," Brown said.

The third organization to receive a check was the Miner's Institute Foundation, which works to operate and restore the historic Miner's Theatre on West Main Street.



Shawn Sims, president of the organization, said the \$10,000 will go right back into the theatre for a variety of projects including lighting and speakers.

"I think everybody wants the Uptown to be a vibrant place where the buildings are operational and people are coming and going, and we bring people in from Atlanta, Chicago, Kansas City, and all over to see events," Sims said. "We want to thank the City for including us and thanks to the other groups, I think it was a great event and hope to be a part of it in the future."



SUMMER
JUNE 5TH
THROUGH
AUGUST 11TH
2023



CAMP KAHOK

Collinsville Parks and Rec
Activity Center
10 Gateway Drive

JUNIOR CAMPERS
AGES 5-8

MUST HAVE COMPLETED KINDERGARTEN

Grades K-6

SENIOR CAMPERS
AGES 9-12

DAY CAMP 9A-4P
EARLYCARE & AFTERCARE
AVAILABLE



REGISTRATION OPENS
JANUARY 31ST, 2023

Weekly Field Trips | Fun Games | Arts & Crafts |
Outdoor Activities | Weekly Swimming @ Aqua Park | Sports
And a whole lot more fun...

Residents: \$125/week Non-Residents: \$135/week Early/After Care: \$30/week



FOR MORE INFO:
WWW.COLLINSVILLE.ORG/CAMPKAHOK



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED!

WEDNESDAY WORKDAYS @
Willoughby Farm - 9am - 1pm

PARKS-IN-ACTION

1st Saturdays from 9am-noon
Call to request individual or group opportunities.



BOOK YOUR NEXT SPECIAL OCCASION
AT WILLOUGHBY FARM!

Be sure to visit our website at
Collinsvilleil.org or call 618-977-0941
to get our new rental prices for 2023.

PARKS & RECREATION

WE ARE HIRING

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

- AQUA PARK
- PARK MAINTENANCE
- FARM MAINTENANCE
- SUMMER CAMP



COLLINSVILLEIL.ORG
618.346.7529



VOLLEYBALL

ADULT OPEN GYM SESSIONS

JANUARY-MAY | 6:30PM-8:30PM

MONDAYS | ADULTS 18+

HELD AT DORRIS INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL GYM

Pricing information by division available online

CBSL Divisions

INFORMATION CHART

DIVISION	GRADE/AGE	GENDER	DAYS OF THE WEEK	PITCH TYPE
T-Ball	Pre-k & Kindergarten <small>(Must be at least 4 y.o. at start of season)</small>	COED	T/Th/Sat.	Batting Tee
Coach Pitch	1st-2nd Grades (Ages 6-8)	COED	M/W/Sat.	Coach Pitch
Minors Baseball	3rd-4th Grades (Ages 8-10)	Male	M/W/Sat.	Player Pitch
Minors Softball	3rd-4th Grade (Ages 8-10)	Female	T/Th/Sat.	Player Pitch
Majors Baseball	5th-6th Grades (Ages 10-12)	Male	M/W/Sat.	Player Pitch w/mound
Majors Softball	5th-6th Grades (Ages 10-12)	Female	T/Th/Sat.	Player Pitch
Juniors Baseball (MERBL)	7th-8th Grades (Ages 12-14)	Male	Mon-Sat	Player Pitch w/mound

Age as of Sept. 1st of current school year

*Schedules subject to change and may include Saturday games or practices

WWW.COLLINSVILLEIL.ORG/CBSL

CBSL

COLLINSVILLE YOUTH BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL LEAGUE



★1ST★
JANUARY

League
Registration Opens

Practices start April 1st
Games start May 1st

Games no later than July 1st

Collinsville Parks and Recreation
Leagues are recreational in nature and
are designed for all kids to learn how to
play and improve their skills.



T-Ball and Coach Pitch: COED

T-ball is designed for Pre-K and Kindergarten aged children (must be at least 4 years old). Coach Pitch is designed for children currently in 1st-2nd grades.



Baseball: Grades 3rd-8th

"Minors" baseball is designed for children currently in 3rd and 4th grades. "Majors" Baseball is designed for children currently in 5th and 6th grades. "Juniors" Baseball is designed for children in 7th and 8th grades.



Softball: Grades 3rd-6th

"Minors" softball is designed for children currently in 3rd and 4th grades. "Majors" Softball is designed for children currently in 5th and 6th grades.



Divisions will play up to 14 games (12 games guarantee) **Practices and Games may be up to 3x a week.** Games no later than July 1st.



All participants will receive a team uniform shirt and hat. Players will need to provide their own gloves and cleats/shoes.



Games and Practices will be
played at
Collinsville Sports Park
and
Woodland Park

COACHES & VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Collinsville Parks and Rec relies on the help of volunteers to make our program successful. Coaches and team managers are volunteer positions. If interested, please let us know!

Collinsvilleil.org/coaches



CBSL is a youth baseball and softball league that seeks to teach participants the fundamentals of the game while encouraging sportsmanship and teamwork



WWW.COLLINSVILLEIL.ORG/CBSL

Pricing for each division available online



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The City of Collinsville is looking forward to a busy year of projects and will continue to invest in public safety, infrastructure, recreation, and services for residents. Our 2023 Capital Improvement Plan includes 89 planned projects, which will maintain and improve existing City infrastructure and services and improve quality of life for residents.

Mayor John Miller is excited about what this year will bring for the City and those who live, work and visit here. "We have so many things going on in a great City, and we are moving in such a fast-paced style and doing some great things," Miller said.

You can view the Capital Improvement Plan in its entirety on our City website: www.collinsvilleil.org/CIP

Take a look at some of the City's biggest planned projects for 2023:

PUBLIC WORKS FACILITY

This project involves the relocation of various operations of the Public Works Department to a centrally located site within the City in order to make the overall operations more efficient. The new facility will be located on property near the intersection of Johnson Hill Road and Summit Avenue, which the City acquired in 2017. It will include material storage, City fueling station, Streets Division operations, Waterline Operations, and Public Works administrative offices. The City's current Street Division facility is located on the southern border of town and is too small to accommodate the necessary functions of the department. This location will make overall Public Works operations more efficient by reducing the travel time to provide services to all areas of the City.

SPORTS COMPLEX

Collinsville residents and visitors can look forward to work beginning on the planning of a modernized sports and recreation complex in 2023. These plans will lead to future improvements that will increase the safety and functionality of the current complex, while attracting participants from around the region. The development includes renovation of the current sports complex and the creation of additional facilities across the street at the Collinsville Middle School grounds.

"The renovation of the sports complex into a tournament worthy facility will draw tournament revenue on the weekends while giving our Collinsville residents improved facilities to play on throughout the week. It's a win-win for Collinsville," said Parks and Recreation Director Kimberly Caughran.

UPTOWN EVENT BUILDING

This project will include design and engineering for the empty lot next to the Collins House to create a multi-purpose facility in the Uptown. The space is currently an open grass field. Once completed, the venue will be used for City events as well as a rentable space for private events.



**CAPITAL
IMPROVEMENT
PLAN
2023**

REDMON PLAZA - FOOD TRUCK PARK

Collinsville will soon be home to a beautiful new park that functions as a food truck park and outdoor hall of fame for local athletes. The Park will be located on a lot near the Activity Center and Aqua Park, which will provide a fun atmosphere for families to enjoy before, after or during their visit to the area.

Collinsville aims to become the most food truck friendly City in the country with the creation of this park, which is possible due to a partnership between the City, Soucial Kitchen, and Madison and St. Clair County Workforce and Labor Development. This project will also create a unique opportunity to organize a food truck system in Collinsville that is sustainable, replicable, and will help serve communities in need.



CITY LAUNCHES GIS PORTAL



Be sure to check out the City's brand new GIS portal that is now available for residents and businesses to use.

This portal provides easy-to-use maps for residents to learn about a variety of things happening in the City. This is where you'll be able to track your snowplow during our next snow event, look up your property's zoning, check out our planned projects in the Capital Improvement Plan, look at maps of hiking trails at Willoughby Farm and view our public tree inventory, just to name a few!

GIS Coordinator Kyle McGee said these sites are all up and running and are a great resource for residents.

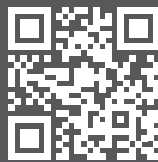
WWW.COLLINSVILLEIL.ORG/GIS

"This is a great way to engage with the community and show maps and data about City services," McGee said.

Deputy City Manager Derek Jackson said the portal will also help City staff by lowering call volumes.

"It's a win-win because residents or businesses can go look up their zoning without having to call City Hall," Jackson said.

Follow the link and take a look at everything the portal offers!



Great Streets Initiative & St. Louis Rd. Project Update

Collinsville residents and visitors will now see exciting work being done on a major project that will greatly improve neighborhoods and support revitalization to one of the oldest corridors in town. The project will provide crucial public infrastructure upgrades along the St. Louis Road and Collinsville Road Corridor.

Utility work is currently underway for the St. Louis Road Project area. This underground infrastructure work includes stormwater work and rehabilitating sanitary sewers for the project area between Jefferson Street and Maple Street. Water main replacements will follow once those are complete.

Underground utility work is expected to be complete by Fall 2023.

"After 5 years of planning, it is exciting to see the actual construction of the St. Louis Road Great Streets Planning finally getting underway," said Public Works Director Dennis Kress. "We are currently working on upgrading the underground infrastructure in preparation for the reconstruction of the roadway and new municipal parking lot in 2024."

The City of Collinsville has received several grants for this project, including a \$1.8 million grant through the Rebuild Illinois (RBI) Downtowns and Main Streets Capital program.

The 3.5-mile stretch between Uptown Collinsville and Cahokia Mounds World Heritage Site provides a variety of opportunities for the City's economic growth and well-being. The funding will allow the City to revitalize the beloved area, creating a vibrant dining and shopping destination and a hub for pedestrian

activity. It will also encourage future private investment and revitalize a commercial area that has experienced historic disinvestment.

Historically, the St. Louis Road and Collinsville Road Corridor and neighboring businesses were a central part of Collinsville's original "Main Street." The project area was once the thriving southern tail of today's Uptown Collinsville District. Completion of the project will be a major step in rebuilding, growing and improving the historical significance and economic value of the corridor.

The project area is well-known for several local landmarks, including: Kruta Bakery, McDill's Irish Pub, and Horseshoe Lounge & Restaurant.

Read more about the Great Streets Plan visit www.collinsvilleil.org/greatstreets.



Programs and Events

SPRING FLING BARN DANCE

April 21, 2023 6-10 PM
Call for more info 618-977-0941
\$10.00 - Cash only at the door

BASIC HORSE CARE CLASS

Resident-\$10.00 per class
Non-Resident \$12.00

April 30, May 21, June 25, July 30,
August 27, Sept. 24, and Oct 29, 2023.

You can register for one or all.

ECOLOGY CLUB

1-3 PM on these Sundays:
4/16- Gardening and Composting
5/28-TBA

ARCHERY

11:00 - 12:30 PM - Saturdays
Resident-\$50 per class
Non-Resident \$55
4 classes per session.
Dates of Sessions:
4/1-4/22, 5/6-5/27, 6/3-6/24,
7/1-7/22, 8/5-8/26, 9/9-9/30

4H Club

Last Monday of each month
at 6:30 PM
at Willoughby Farm



CITY ESTIMATES LOWER PROPERTY TAX RATE

The City of Collinsville is excited to lower the City's portion of the property tax rate in taxes payable in 2023.

The City estimates a decrease from the 2022 rate of 0.7293 to the 2023 rate of 0.671539, which would be the lowest since 2014.

Residents can expect to see a decrease due to voters approving Home Rule status in November 2022 and the recent expiration of TIF district 1.

Collinsville achieved Home Rule status in 2005, which is automatically designated when municipalities have at least 25,001 residents or have adopted Home Rule by referendum. Since Home Rule status was

obtained, it has allowed the City to rely almost exclusively on sales tax revenues, rather than property tax revenues, as the City's primary financial source.

Given the City's excellent logistical location on three major interstates, sales tax revenues have increased year after year. A major component of the sales tax revenue is the Home Rule sales tax, which is established at 1.25% and generated \$5.6 million in 2021. This has allowed the majority of the sales tax burden to fall on visitors rather than residents, which has allowed Collinsville to maintain one of the lowest property tax rates in the region.

"Thanks to voters supporting Collinsville maintaining Home Rule Status, the City is

able to rely on sales tax revenues rather than the City's property tax revenues to power resident services thereby reducing the direct cost of services to our residents," said City Manager Mitch Bair.

City Finance Director Dustin Ziebold said even with the projected decrease, the City recognizes there is more work to be done to keep costs low for residents.

"We are actively working to continue to lower that amount," Ziebold said. "We also hope to eventually eliminate the General Fund portion of property taxes and only use that revenue source to fund our public safety pensions."

MCT'S SCHOOL HOUSE TRAIL UNDERPASS PROJECT

Madison County Transit (MCT) is pleased to announce the construction of a tunnel for the MCT Schoolhouse Trail under IL-157 in Collinsville. The 135-foot-long tunnel will provide a safe and seamless crossing at the busy IL-157 intersection for bicyclists, runners, walkers and rollerbladers of all ages and skill levels. The project is expected to begin this spring but temporary short term road closures to construct the tunnel won't occur until the summer of 2023.

The 14 foot-wide, 10-foot-tall tunnel will be lighted and will be equipped to

accommodate future video surveillance. Unique among trail systems, there are currently 23 tunnels and 50 bridges throughout the 138-mile network of MCT Trails, providing critical grade separation for trailgoers.

Although a bridge was also considered for this location, the cost and the obstruction of sightlines presented serious concerns for MCT and the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT). A hydrology study revealed that flooding and drainage issues would not be an issue for a tunnel in this area. "Safety is our top priority," said MCT

Managing Director SJ Morrison. "MCT is committed to as few at grade trail crossings as possible and we're proud to be enhancing the MCT Schoolhouse Trail and creating a safe and family-friendly way for MCT Trails users to cross IL-157."

"The City of Collinsville is a strong supporter of MCT's plan to build a tunnel under IL-157," said Collinsville City Manager Mitch Bair. "This tunnel will not only make the MCT Schoolhouse Trail safer, it will have a positive impact on future development, and supports Collinsville's goal of improving and expanding access to the trails throughout the City."

The \$2.4 million project is funded by MCT with support from a Metro East Park & Recreation District Bikeway grant.



CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

- Utility relocations have begun
- Contractor Start Date – Mid March
- IL 157 Closure – May 30th -June 30th, 2023
- Contractor Completion Date – October 28th, 2023
- Periodic lane closures on IL 157

CITY CELEBRATES FIRST APPRENTICESHIP GRADUATE

Collinsville is proud to be the first city in the Metro East area to run an apprenticeship program for local students with disabilities. The City partners with the Collinsville Unit 10 School District, Madison County Employment and Training and the U.S. Department of Labor to run the one-year, competency-based program.

Through the program, students in the Secondary Transition Experience Program (STEP) at Collinsville High School get the chance to work in a City department, such as Parks and Recreation and the Gateway Convention Center.

The City recognized Keshawn Thomas at a January City Council meeting for being the first student to complete the program. Thomas worked as a landscaper and groundskeeper in the Parks and Recreation Department. He received his U.S. Department of Labor Apprenticeship Certificate in front of his family, teachers and co-workers, which he can use for future employment opportunities.



His special moment was featured on FOX 2 News, where his mother, Tarica Thomas, spoke about how proud she is of him.

"He's been breaking milestones since he was 3 years old, being diagnosed with autism," Tarica said.

During the Council meeting, Parks and Recreation worker Michael Dowell was also honored for serving as a mentor to Keshawn throughout the program. Dowell received the Teresa Rasp Award for this dedication and commitment to working with Keshawn.

Collinsville HR Director Payton Drury said the program provides exciting benefits to both students and City workers.

"This program has not only given the apprenticeship students more confidence and self-esteem, but it has also given our employees greater meaning to their work. Our staff members feel empowered knowing they are a part of a program where they can be a mentor to another employee," Drury said.

The City currently has four other students in the program who are expected to graduate in August. We plan to continue to expand the program to even more students in the future.

You can watch the FOX 2 News story about Keshawn's recognition here:

<https://fox2now.com/news/illinois/collinsville-employee-honored-after-completing-program-for-students-with-disabilities/>

COME WORK WITH US

As we head into the Spring months, the City of Collinsville has exciting job opportunities available in a variety of departments!

Working with the City, either part-time, seasonally, or full-time, is a great opportunity to gain valuable experience in a supportive work environment.

Available positions include:

- » Maintenance
- » Concessions
- » Guest Services
- » Event Set Up
- » Housekeeping
- » Lifeguards
- » Management

If you know a high school or college student looking for a Summer job, encourage them to apply to work as a lifeguard at the Collinsville Aqua Park! It's the perfect way to have fun, make life-long friends, and make money.

Aqua Park Head Guard Grace Misukonis is excited to spend her third Summer working at the park.

"The hours are super good, the management is super friendly, you make so many friends," Misukonis said. "I really love it, everyone is like 'oh my gosh I don't want to work in the Summer, I want to have fun,' but you are having fun while you're getting paid to have fun so it's great."



The park provides all the training you need, including CPR and First Aid.

"The Collinsville Aqua Park does a really, really great job of making sure we're all adequately prepared to save someone's life if we need to," said Head Guard Zach Blaha.

Blaha is returning for his third Summer this year, and said the job is a perfect fit because it allows him to make money before college and

have fun with his friends.

Depending on the position, seasonal workers can expect an hourly wage of between \$14 and \$18 per hour as well as annual increases. Seasonal workers with the City can also receive a referral bonus after their first year if they refer an employee who is hired.

HR Director Payton Drury said the City works hard to provide a sense of community to its employees.

"Whether you help us clean our parks or streets, or be a part of putting on an event at our convention center, we appreciate and value every employee," Drury said. "We recognize our employees' accomplishments, provide professional development opportunities, put on engagement lunches, and offer fun opportunities for you and your family to enjoy our City-owned facilities – such as a Family Night at the Aqua Park! Becoming a part-time or seasonal employee may help for future full-time opportunities with the City!"

To learn more about job opportunities with the City of Collinsville, head to our website: www.collinsvilleil.org.

Have Spring home improvement plans or looking for some curb appeal???

Spring brings blooming flowers and budding trees, but it also brings a long list of home improvement chores that accumulated over the winter. Now is the time to tackle cleaning projects, exterior maintenance, and home renovations. Here's some ideas that may help.



POWER WASH EXTERIOR SIDING, DECKS, FENCES, DRIVEWAYS AND PATIOS

A fresh-faced house begins with clean siding. No matter what kind of siding you have—wood, brick, or vinyl—you can start by giving your home exterior a quick hose-down. To eliminate mildew, and discoloration, however, you may need to use an effective cleanser and good old fashioned elbow grease. For wood siding, use mild soap and water, then scrub with a gentle brush to remove spots and stains. If your home has a brick exterior, try a mixture of bleach and water to eliminate mold or mildew. And if you're looking for the lowest-maintenance siding material, consider vinyl. Vinyl siding is easiest to clean with a power washer. No matter what kind of siding you have, make sure you put a good cleaning toward the top of your springtime to-do list. Sparkling siding boosts curb appeal and keeps your admiring neighbors happy.



CHECK YOUR ROOF AND GUTTERS

One of the first things you'll want to do after winter is to inspect your gutters. If gutters are blocked, damaged or out of place, they won't drain properly. Gutters need to be able to carry water from April showers and summer storms away from your home to prevent water damage. If there is any sign that your gutters are not in working order, make sure to fix the problem right away. Otherwise, water can pool around the foundation and leak into the basement or pour down the sides of your home, potentially damaging windows, doors and siding.



During the winter, snow and ice build in gutters, putting extra weight on them and possibly causing them pull away from the house. You might also find leaves, twigs or other debris clogging gutters once snow and ice have completely melted.

The roof is one of the most important parts of the home, and you need a good roof to keep your home dry and protected from the elements. Make it a priority to check your roof in the spring to look for any winter-related damage and get your roof in shape to handle summer heat and rain. To see if your roof is in need of repair, look for the following signs:



- Cracked or torn shingles
- Missing shingles
- Sagging areas
- Curled shingles
- Water stains on the ceilings, which could point to a roof leak
- Water spots on exterior walls
- Rust or stains where exterior walls meet the roof

Just like your home's gutters, the sooner you make a necessary roof repair, the better. Water damage can lead to mold inside your home, and you do not want that.

LANDSCAPING

A popular spring upgrade is to spruce up your yard by adding more landscaping features. Make an entryway more inviting by placing bushes, plants, and flowers along the path and keeping everything in place with brick pavers or a border/edging material. These can be purchased at any of your local home improvement outlets.



FLOWER BEDS

Clean up your existing flower beds and replace any dead or particularly unsightly plants or flowers. Stick to perennials that bloom every year and intersperse with plants that'll stay green from spring through fall.

MAINTAIN YOUR LAWN

While you're working outside, come up with a plan for improving the look of your lawn. You may wish to overseed in the spring to thicken it up, add fertilizer to improve the growth of the existing lawn, or put down a grub preventer to keep critters and moles away. Also, consider getting your lawn aerated to keep things green. REMINDER – City code states you must keep your grass 8" tall or less.

TREE TRIMMING

Spring is a great time to trim branches. Look for branches that are hitting your siding or roof. If left untouched, they could damage your house over time as the wind blows. It's easiest to hire an insured company to handle this work if there are lots to trim. If the branches are low, use a simple pole saw for this spring chore.

NEW FRONT DOOR

A new front door can bring immediate curb appeal, especially if it's a stand-out-but tasteful-color. If your existing door is in good shape, you could get by with just a fresh coat of paint.

FRESH PAINT

Spring is a great time to brighten up your home with fresh paint—both interior and exterior. Make sure to give your wall or siding a good scrub before you do, and have all the tools on hand before starting this project.

RE-PAINT, RE-STAIN OR BUILD A DECK

When spring and summer comes, most people love spending time grilling and relaxing on their deck. If you already have a deck, it's likely in need of a good scrub and repainting or re-staining to bring it back to life. If you don't have one, spring could be a great time to build it.

REPAIR OR REPLACE THE FENCE

Fences tend to get battered during the winter months of snow, wind, and cold weather. Take a good look at your fence and note any repairs needed. If you have a wooden fence, be sure to check for loose, missing or rotted boards. A fresh coat of stain is a simple project that can add life and curb appeal to your existing fence. Remember, new chain link fencing is not permitted in the City of Collinsville. Repairs to existing chain link are allowed if it is the same type and material as the existing chain link. The 3 types of approved fence materials in Collinsville are wood, vinyl and metal.

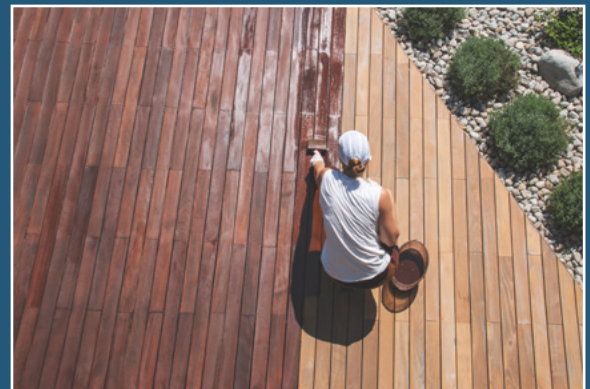
Is a Building Permit Required???

As with any home remodel project, whether it be interior or exterior, it's always a good idea to contact the office of Community Development to see if a permit is required.

You may contact Community Development at (618) 346-5200 ext 1143 or by email at bnsmanager@collinsvilleil.org.



www.collinsvilleil.org/buildingpermits



Code Enforcement

WE NEED YOUR HELP

City code enforcement officials' primary responsibility is proactive code enforcement. However, we rely on members of our community to report code violations and nuisance properties. This is a friendly reminder to all property owners regarding some of our most common property maintenance issues.

Top Code Enforcement Issues

Tall Grass & Weeds

All premises and exterior property shall be maintained free from weeds or plant growth more than 8 inches. All noxious weeds shall be prohibited. Weeds shall be defined as all grasses, annual plants and vegetation, other than trees or shrubs provided; however, this does not include cultivated flowers and gardens.



Sanitation/Accumulation of Rubbish or Garbage

All exterior property and premises shall be maintained in a clean, safe and sanitary condition. The occupant shall keep that part of the exterior property which such occupant occupies or controls in a clean and sanitary condition.



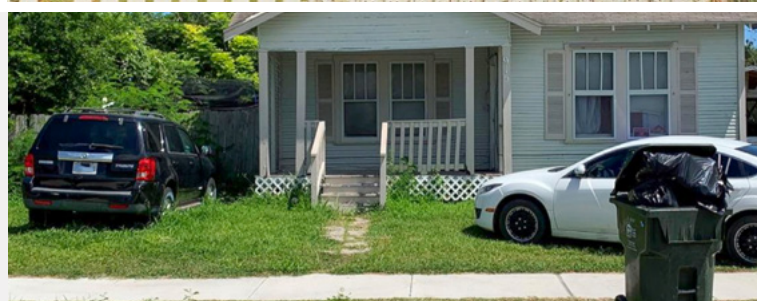
Derelict/Inoperable Vehicles

No inoperative or unlicensed motor vehicle shall be parked, kept or stored on any premises, and no vehicle shall at any time be in a state of major disassembly, disrepair, in the process of being stripped or dismantled. Painting of vehicles is prohibited unless conducted inside an approved spray booth.



Parking in Yard

It is unlawful for any vehicle, or part thereof, to be parked in the front yard area other than in a private driveway; except that a currently registered vehicle that is parked for one time of up to 12 hours during a 14 day period so long as it does not display a sign "for sale," or such other similarly purposed graphic. It shall further be unlawful to park a vehicle, or any part thereof, on a vacant lot.



Blowing Grass/Yard Waste

Blowing grass or yard onto any public or private property in this city is prohibited. Blowing grass and yard waste onto city streets can cause storm sewers to back up and cause flooding on roadways and may lead to damage to private property. It can also be a hazard for motorcyclists, bicyclists, and pedestrians.



Trash Cans/Refuse Containers

All trash and recycling containers are to be removed from the curbside as quickly as possible after pick up, but not later than twenty-four (24) hours following the scheduled pick up day.



Code Enforcement Responsibilities

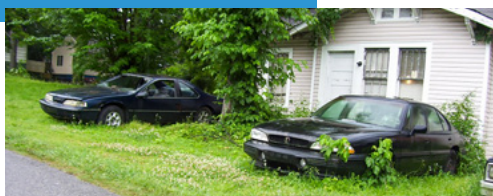
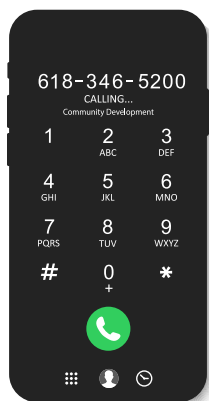
The Code Enforcement Division was established to promote and enforce compliance with the City of Collinsville's Code enforcement, most commonly related to property maintenance standards and zoning enforcement. Code Enforcement maintains and enhances the quality of existing development within the City. This ensures that Collinsville is a place all residents, business owners, and visitors can look to with pride. The Code Enforcement Division's role is to provide pro-active enforcement and investigate concerns regarding:

- **Property maintenance, which includes building and general maintenance of property.**
- **Enforces illegal and nonconforming sign issues**
- **Zoning issues**
- **Conducts investigations and inspections of concerns and maintains case files of those concerns.**
- **Conducts regular pro-active Code Enforcement patrols of the City.**
- **Mosquito Control Program**
- **Appears before the municipal hearing officer or county court on code enforcement cases.**

3 Ways To Report Code Enforcement Issues

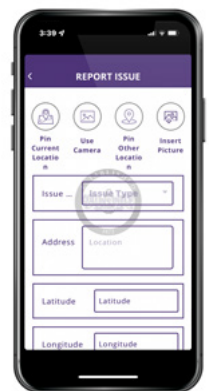
1 - Call Community Development

Call Community Development at 618-346-5200 x 1123 to report an issue.



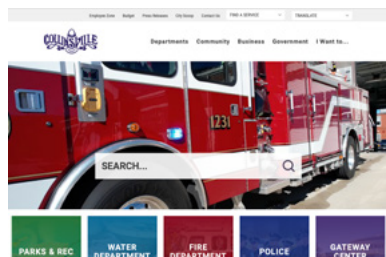
2 - Use the City of Collinsville 311 APP

Download the City of Collinsville 311 APP from the APP Store or Google Play. You can use your phone's camera to report issues as well as pin the location.



3 - Visit the City's website

Visit Collinsvilleil.org - navigate to Community Development, and fill out the Code Violation Report form.



UPCOMING EVENTS

APR 21-22 **Creating Keepsakes Scrapbooking Convention**

APR 27-29 **The Illinois Elvis Festival**

JUN 2-4 **DieCon**

JUN 3-4 **Cahokia Mounds Indian Market Days**

We host a variety of events that offer something for all ages and every interest. We have events that feature jewelry, woodworking, trains, fishing, eSports, science fiction, Anime, scrap-booking, dance, Indian artifacts, wedding shows, educational conferences, health and baby fairs, and that is not all! Attending events at Gateway Convention Center is convenient, affordable, and fun. To see which events are coming soon, please visit our Calendar of Events Page.



Gateway Convention Center offers flexible and affordable space with easy access for vendors and exhibitors. Our clients love the Center's close proximity to hotels, restaurants, and local attractions as well as the convenient, central location and free parking.

GATEWAYCENTER.COM

COLLINSVILLE FOOD PANTRY OPENS IN NEW LOCATION

The Collinsville Food Pantry officially has a new location! Mayor John Miller, members of the City Council and the Collinsville Chamber of Commerce celebrated the opening of the new, expanded pantry with a ribbon cutting ceremony and tours in November.



The new, bigger building at 2009 Mall Street will allow for even more items for those in need, as well as a much more accessible shopping experience. The pantry has been serving communities in the Metro East for nearly 40 years and had outgrown its old location at the First United Presbyterian Church of Collinsville.

This new location will also provide several other exciting



expansions. The pantry will partner with several local mental health and drug addiction centers to provide resources to clients. It will also have a work center specifically designated to help clients create resumes and search and prepare for jobs.

The pantry hours are:

Tuesday & Friday, 9am - 11am
Tuesday 4pm - 6pm
Clients who qualify can shop 2 times per month

ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS IN COLLINSVILLE

Like many communities across the country, there are individuals within the City who are experiencing homelessness. Homelessness can be caused by many factors or a combination of them, from the COVID-19 pandemics to low-paying or lost jobs, family crises, health challenges/costs, natural disasters, substance abuse, release from incarceration, aging out of foster care, and an overall lack of a support system as a backstop. Every individual's story is unique and complex. There is no single reason nor is there a one-size-fits-all solution to prevent or end homelessness. However, most situations are tied in some way to economics, poverty, and/or mental health.

Collinsville's vision for addressing homelessness is based on these guiding principles:

1 - Public safety is our priority.

While it is not a crime to be homeless, we will seek enforcement when crimes occur. Additionally, we will seek a balance for use of public facilities and assets so that all community members feel welcome and safe.

2 - Wise investment of local and federal funding.

We will collaborate with the County and State levels to achieve meaningful, focused results.

3 - Strong nonprofit collaborations.

We will collaborate with Madison County, St. Clair County, and metro east based non-profits and work to support successful programs by our community partners for wrap-around services tailored to each person/family experiencing homelessness.

4 - Regional share of the costs/impacts.

Collinsville will be 'at the table' in regional discussions and solutions to seek a nationwide approach to addressing homelessness.



How can I help a person/family experiencing homelessness and who wants help?

Because homelessness can and does occur with elderly, veterans, families, single men, single women, couples, and families, there are many different agencies and services available to meet individual sheltering, medical and basic needs. Thank you for your concern, compassion, and for wanting to find humane and respectful ways to help people who are experiencing homelessness in Collinsville and the Metro East.

For a comprehensive list of resources available in the Metro East, visit www.collinsvilleil.org/homeless.

BUSINESS & DEVELOPMENT

Thrivent



(506 Vandalia) New commercial construction of office space. Old building has been removed.



Dollar Tree Expansion



(623 Beltline Rd.) – The existing Dollar Tree store is expanding into the vacant space next door. Construction is under way.



Osborn Cleaners Renovation



(802 West Main St.) – Osborn Cleaners, a long time staple at the corner of Main Street and St. Louis Road, is expanding their business to include laundromat facilities. Kent and Cynthia Carson (property owners) have given the building a substantial facelift. Dry cleaning drop off service will still be provided at this location.

Eastport Plaza Phase 4



(1609 Eastport Plaza Dr.) – The fourth and final phase of the Maune development along Eastport Plaza Drive has just started construction. The fourth building will consist of a similar layout to buildings A-C and offer similar small-scale warehousing/distribution space.



Scooters Coffee



(1312 Vandalia) – New commercial construction of drive-thru coffee store.



NEW SMOKE DETECTOR LAW

Effective January 1, 2023, any new smoke detector/alarms being installed within a single or multi-family home are required to have a 10-year sealed battery. Residents with the "typical" 9-volt battery smoke alarms in their homes may still use them until they are ten years old, fail to respond to operability tests, or malfunction. This applies to residents that are still using alarms with removable batteries or alarms that are not hardwired. Please check with the Collinsville Community Development department on smoke detector requirements for selling homes or multi-family occupancy inspections.

This law is several years in the making. In 2017, the Illinois Fire Safety Alliance worked with the General Assembly to pass Public Act 100-0200 to reflect advances in alarm technology.

Collinsville Fire Chief John Bailot said most people do not realize that all smoke detectors need to be replaced at 10-year intervals.

"The sealed battery smoke detectors fall in line with this replacement cycle. Homes with hardwired smoke detectors also have a battery back-up. Residents should keep changing those batteries when we change our clocks. The hardwired detectors are also subject to the 10-year replacement cycle, which many homeowners may not be aware of."



Bailot said the law is a reminder of the life-saving power of smoke alarms and the importance of making sure yours is up to date. Three out of every five home fire deaths result from fires in homes with no working smoke alarms.

"Smoke detectors save lives, this is a proven fact," Bailot said. "It's very unfortunate if someone loses their life in a fire at all. If we find that the home either didn't have a working smoke detector or they had one and had removed the battery, it makes the tragedy even harder to swallow."

If residents have a 9-volt, battery-operated alarm and aren't sure if it is ten years old or not, they can look at the bottom of the detector and read the date on the sticker.

All smoke detectors (battery operated only, and hardwired with battery backup) have the manufacture date noted. If a smoke detector has yellowed over time, that is also a good indication that it is time to replace the detector.

"The new technology also helps make it hassle-free and cuts back on the late-night chirping, and you don't have to worry about changing the battery, but you want to make sure you keep it clean and free from dust because those can give false alarms," Bailot said.

It is always good practice to have alarms on every level of the home and outside and inside bedrooms.

"We have lots of fires throughout the year that it was the smoke detector inside the bedroom that actually woke someone up," Bailot said.

The Collinsville Fire Department partners with the Illinois State Fire Marshal to run a smoke alarm replacement program. The program is designed to help elderly residents and those who are not financially able to replace their own alarms. For our residents who just need help replacing the detectors, our partnership with Collinsville Faith in Action will help to get the assistance needed. Residents who would like to learn more about if they qualify for the program can reach out to the fire department directly.



FIRE DEPARTMENT BEGINS USING NEW AMBULANCE

You'll now see a brand new ambulance on the streets of Collinsville. This new ambulance will be bigger, taller and longer than our current style.

It will also include several exciting new features, such as telemedicine and video technology that will allow paramedics to communicate with local hospitals where health care professionals can give input on a patient's needs.



The new ambulance is located at fire station #2 at 1160 Beltline Road. If you would like a tour of the new ambulance, stop by the station during the day. If the firefighter/paramedics are not on an emergency call, they will be happy to show you the unit."

"We are excited to have a brand new state-of-the-art ambulance in service that has us positioned for advancing pre-hospital protocols to serve our community," Fire Chief John Bailot said. "By moving from a van chassis to a truck chassis we expect to see longevity of the unit. We also have more room on the inside to provide critical patient care."



POLICE AND FIRE PRACTICE ACTIVE SHOOTER TRAINING

The Collinsville Police and Fire Departments are working to become as prepared as possible for an active shooter situation. While these horrible acts are difficult to think about, preparation is crucial to save lives.

Police and firefighter/paramedics participated in several active shooter trainings recently. During one training, health care workers from area hospitals provided training on a variety of topics, including triage, stop the bleed, and pediatric airway management.

During a second, and much more intense, training, police and firefighters participated in a number of active shooter simulations at Summit Elementary. The training was conducted by the Southwestern Illinois Law Enforcement Commission (SILEC) and centered around a rescue task force model. This requires police and firefighter/paramedics to work together as a unit to neutralize a suspect while getting emergency resources to victims as soon as possible.

Police Chief Steve Evans said having an actual school building allows the



simulations to be as real-life as possible. The department also brought in volunteer high school students as actors to make the scenarios even more real.

"SILEC does a great job of creating the stress, in an artificial environment to some extent, but just doing a lot of things to create a ton of stress to make sure that heartbeat is up and we're able to perform if we needed to," Evans said.

The training was featured on KSDK and KMOV where Police Chief Steve Evans discussed its importance.

"It's really important to re-emphasize with our people the importance of that training and quite frankly to let our community know, the parents know, that we're going to do this and we're going to do this right," Evans said.

NEW FACES AT COLLINSVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Collinsville Police Department is once again going through a period of transition. Between officers reaching retirement age and other officer's choosing to explore other opportunities in policing, we continue to add new faces to the CPD family.

On October 17, 2022, Officer Sergio Perez Lamas was sworn in as a Collinsville police officer. Officer Perez Lamas had worked for our Department in the past as a Civilian Police Aid before working as a Police Officer at Southwestern Illinois College and the Fairmont City Police Department. We are happy to have Sergio back with us.



Officer Sergio Perez Lamas

On December 12, 2022, Officer Jacob Besserman was also sworn in as a Collinsville police officer. Officer Besserman grew up in the area and began his career in Law Enforcement working as a Police Officer for the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department. He comes to us after serving St. Louis for over a year and we are pleased to have him.



Officer Jacob Besserman

Welcome to Collinsville Officers Perez Lamas & Besserman



OFFICER CERNA RETIRES

In November 2022, after 20 years of service to the citizens of Collinsville, Officer Jose Cerna retired from the Collinsville Police Department. Officer Cerna began his career with the Collinsville Police Department on October 28th, 2002, after previously serving with both the Fairmont City and Granite City Police Departments. Over the course of the last 20 years, Officer Cerna served the Collinsville Police Department in a variety of capacities. He served as K9 handler with his long-time partner Jas, ILEAS Mobile Field Force operator, Field Training Officer, DEA Task Force Officer,

Detective, and was a valuable member of the Major Case Squad of Greater St. Louis and Child Death Investigations Task Force. Officer Cerna has always been a well-respected and revered police officer by both his peers and the public he has served.



CUSD 10 IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

April 3 Kindergarten Registration
April 6-10 Spring Break
April 29 CHS Prom
May 4 4th Grade Track Jamboree
May 9 (Rain Date) 4th Grade Track Jamboree
May 10 CHS Honors Convocation
May 13 CHS Graduation
May 23* Last Day of School (*with no additional emergency days used)
August 17 First Day of School

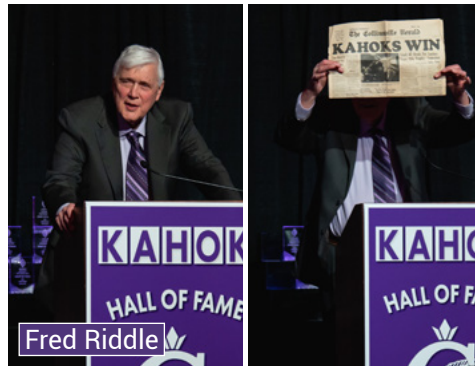


INAUGURAL KAHOK HALL OF FAME INDUCTION CEREMONY

On Thursday, February 16, 2023 the first class of the Kahok Hall of Fame was enshrined during a ceremony at the Gateway Center. Four athletic teams along with seventeen individuals were honored.



Donald Bitzer



Fred Riddle

Fletcher, Tom Jager (1982), George Musso (1918), Bogie Redmon (1961), Joe Reiniger (1989), Fred Riddle (1961). Teams inducted into the Hall include the state champions from the 1941 boys baseball team, 1961 boys basketball team, 1981 boys soccer team, and the 2010 girls bowling team.

The physical location of the Kahok Hall of Fame is on the CHS campus between Fletcher Gymnasium and the CHS Cafeteria. There are two touch panel screens that display a menu system where you can navigate to see photos and videos of HOF inductees. A virtual Hall of Fame will also be accessible on the district website.

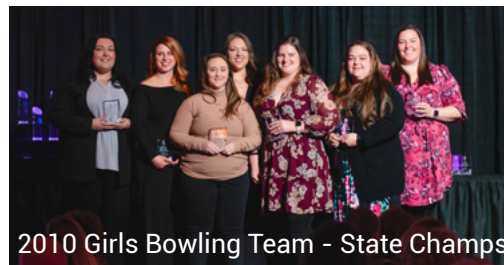


1981 Soccer Team - State Champs

Among individual awardees, there were two categories, one for Distinguished accomplishments and one for Athletic accomplishments. Those in the Distinguished category included Donald Bitzer (Class of 1951), Irving Dilliard (1923), Moses Harrison II (1950), Richard Mark (1973), John Shimkus (1976), Lucille Stehman (1936), Mathew Welch (1910).



Richard Mark



2010 Girls Bowling Team - State Champs

Collinsville CUSD #10 is fortunate to have a long and storied list of alumni, residents and employees who are worthy of recognition for their community service, academic achievement, professional accomplishments and service to the district. Furthermore, Kahok Nation has a long history of student athletes, alumni and coaches that have experienced a great deal of athletic success and accomplishments.

The videos of each inductee and the entire awards ceremony can viewed on the Unit 10 Youtube Channel.

The Hall of Fame Selection Committee consist of eleven members: four from the school district and seven from the community. The four from the school district consist of the Athletic Director, CHS Principal, Superintendent and a Teacher. The seven community members consist of residents or CHS Alumni.



Nominations for the Class of 2024 will open on June 1, 2023.

The 2024 event is scheduled for Feb. 15 at the Gateway Center.

Those inducted into the Athletic category included Michelle Bartsch-Hackley (Class of 2008), Terry Bethel (1957), Walter "Hoot" Evers (1938), Arthur Fletcher, Vergil





FREE YARD WASTE DISPOSAL

🍃 MAY - 5 & 6 🍃

PROOF OF RESIDENCY REQUIRED

The City of Collinsville is offering free yard waste disposal for Collinsville residents on the following dates:

- 🍃 Friday May 5 from 8am to 2pm
- 🍃 Saturday May 6 from 8am to 3pm

The yard waste must be brought to the Street Department Facility located at 850 S. Morrison Avenue

ACCEPTABLE YARD WASTE ITEMS:

- 🍃 - Leaves and yard waste must be in paper yard waste bags. No plastic bags!
- 🍃 - Tree branches must be no larger than 4 inches in diameter and 36 inches in length.



QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE EVENT

Call the Collinsville Street Department
(618) 346-5216