

The City Scoop



2015 At A Glance

A MESSAGE FROM MAYOR MILLER

As I look back on 2015, I am proud of our City and our residents for the things we have accomplished this past year. At City Hall, we started out the year by launching our new City Website that showcases Collinsville like never before.

In the spring, as part of our goal to revitalize our Uptown, we started work on the Collins Park Project by demolishing the Main Square Apartments & the Martha Manning warehouse buildings and moving the DD Collins House to its final resting place at the center of the New Collins Park.

This past summer, we saw the completion of the Summit Avenue & South Clinton Street Bridges, both much needed infrastructure upgrades for our community.

Just last month, Baxmeyer Construction and IDOT completed the Highway 159 project. This main corridor through our community is now safer, and allows for a higher traffic volume along this stretch of roadway.

As you look through this edition of the City Scoop, you will see other accomplishments and happenings from 2015, and a look forward to 2016. New projects such as Streetscape IV in the Uptown area, intersection upgrades at Beltline & Keebler, new water main along Main Street will be beginning shortly, and work will begin on our new Water Plant in the Spring. Miner's Theatre gets closer to reopening each month as volunteers obtain donated labor and raise more funds. There's so much to be proud of in Collinsville; I am thrilled to be the Mayor of this great City.

I wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and look forward to a happy and prosperous New Year.

CITY OFFICES HOLIDAY HOURS



CHRISTMAS EVE: 8:30 am – noon

CHRISTMAS DAY: Closed

NEW YEAR'S EVE: 8:30 am – noon

NEW YEAR'S DAY: Closed

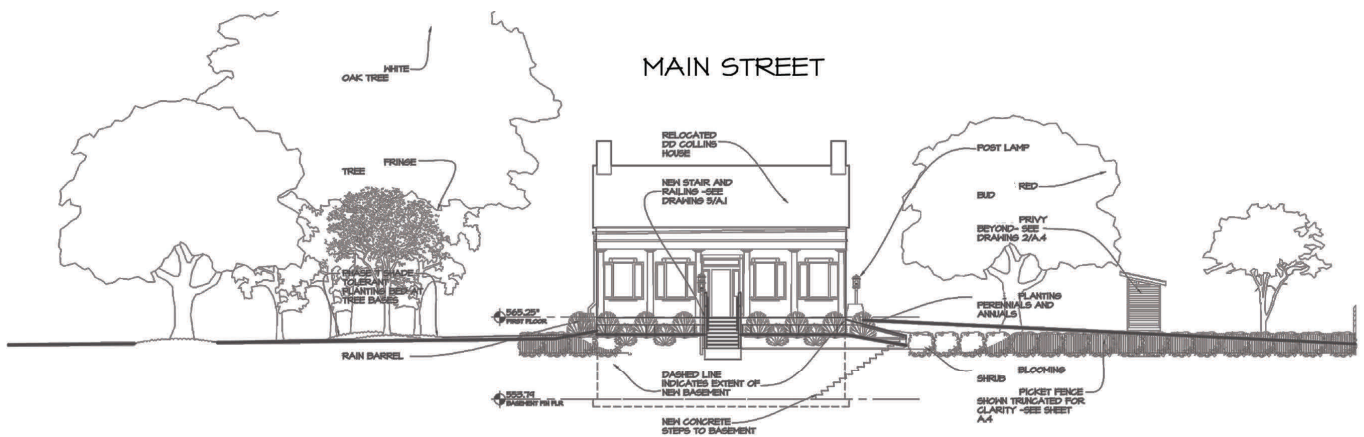
December 2015

2015 HAPPENINGS.....

IDOT COMPLETED THE HIGHWAY 159 PROJECT!!!

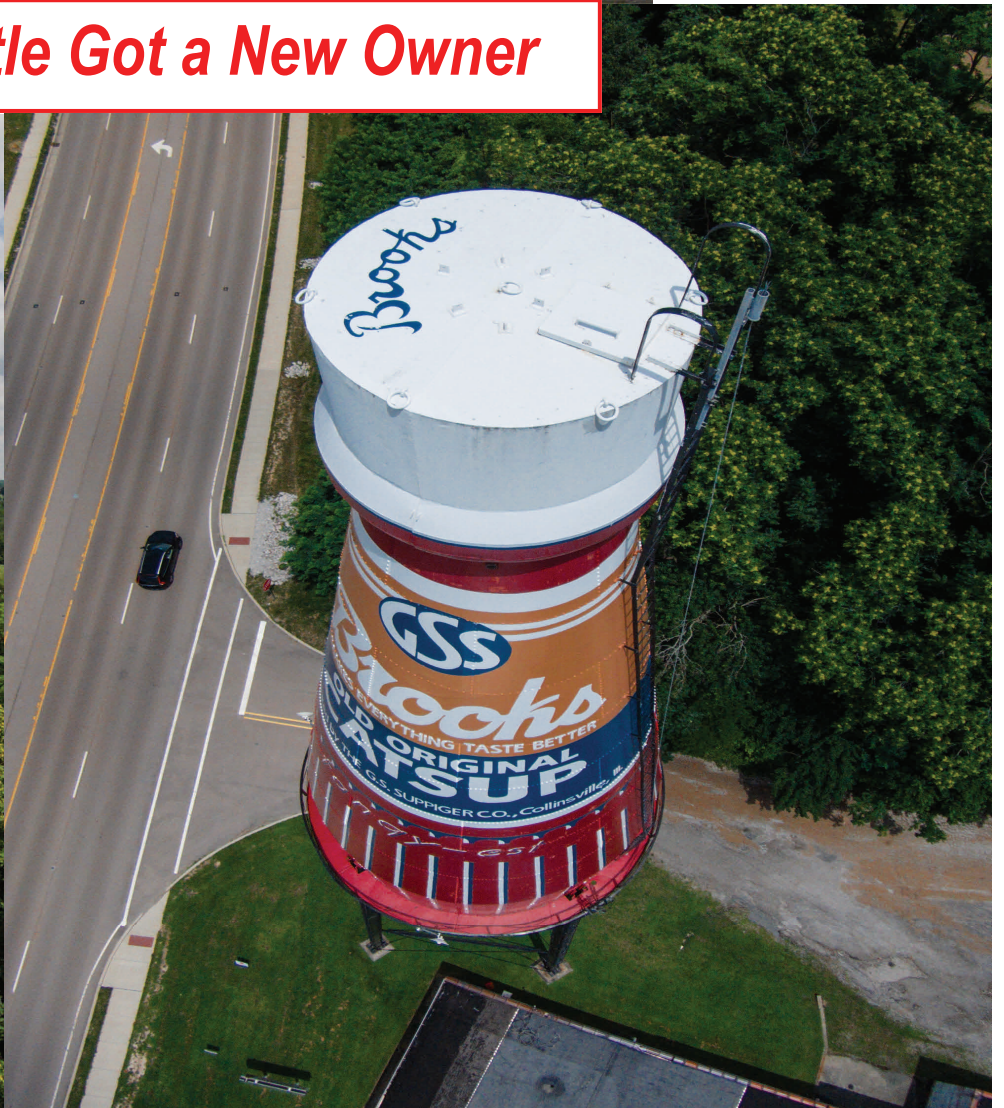


We moved the DD Collins House to Prepare for Collins Park!





The Catsup Bottle Got a New Owner

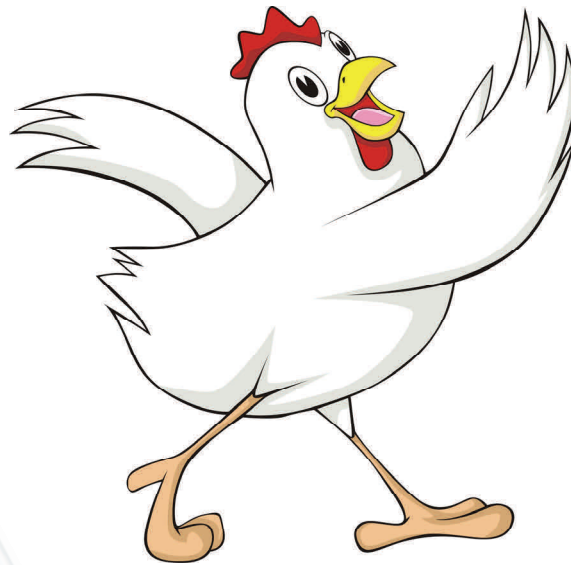


BACKYARD CHICKENS ARE NOW ALLOWED IN COLLINSVILLE

In November, the Planning Commission recommended, and the City Council approved, an ordinance allowing Collinsville residents living in single family owner-occupied homes to keep backyard chickens. Permits are required, and there are specific restrictions and requirements to ensure the health of the chickens and the safety of the neighborhood.

Roosters are not permitted, and up to 6 chickens may be kept, based on the overall size of the lot. The chickens are restricted to the rear yard only and must be provided with an adequate coop and "run" space. Only 75 permits will be issued while the program is being evaluated, and the \$50 permit is valid for 3 years. The ordinance becomes effective on December 23rd.

For detailed information on the requirements of the ordinance, or to apply for a Chicken Keeping Permit, contact the Community Development Department at 346-5200 ext. 1126 or 1123.



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WINTER WEATHER IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER! It's hard to imagine with such unseasonably warm weather so far this December, but it will eventually snow. City Road Crews are ready and waiting, and would like to ask that City residents remove their vehicles from the street whenever possible to allow the crews to do their job. We don't want to snow you in, but have no other alternative when vehicles are parked on the street. Just a temporary move to a driveway for a few hours helps!

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

BUILDING PERMITS NEEDED: Not much outside construction going on in the winter, but please remember that some indoor work needs building permits too!

Drywall, electric, plumbing, and HVAC work requires inspections and in some cases, a licensed contractor.

Minor maintenance and improvements like paint, carpet, or floor tile do not require permits, but if you aren't sure, please call the Building Department at 346-5200 ext. 1126.

The City is experiencing an increase in the number of complaints received on broken down and/or unlicensed vehicles. City Code requires that all vehicles are lawfully licensed, and failure to obtain a valid license sticker is a violation of both State and Local Law.

Additionally, broken down or inoperable vehicles must be stored off site or inside your garage. This includes flat tires and vehicles that are not drivable due to accident or lack of maintenance. These vehicles cannot be parked in the street and doing so may result in citation, fines and penalties.

With winter weather and freezing temperatures closing in, we would like to remind all of our customers to make sure they have unhooked all their hoses from exterior faucets and closed up any outside doors or trailer skirting to prevent pipes in crawl spaces from freezing.

MEDICAL MARIJUANA DISPENSARY COMES TO COLLINSVILLE

In August 2013, Illinois Governor Pat Quinn signed into law the Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program Act (the "Act"). The Act made it legal for qualifying patients to consume medical cannabis that is grown and distributed through state-licensed facilities. One such facility will be located in East St. Louis, IL.

The Act limits access to patients that suffer from a specific list of medical conditions, that have been pre-qualified through a rigorous certification process. Currently, the program specifies approximately 40 qualifying medical conditions, including conditions like cancer, Parkinson's disease, seizures and HIV/AIDS. Governor Rauner recently vetoed a bill expanding the list of qualifying conditions, although the expansion had received preliminary approval. Included were migraine, PTSD, IBS, osteoarthritis, and 7 other conditions.

A limited number of grow centers and dispensaries were authorized, with an application/legal process that included extensive public input and significant financial investment. Two dispensaries were approved within the 5-County wide Illinois State Police District 11, which includes Madison and St. Clair Counties, one in Sauget and the other in Collinsville.

The Collinsville dispensary is owned and operated by HealthCentral, Inc. or HCI Alternatives, that also operates a second location in Springfield, IL. The Collinsville site is located at 1014 Eastport Plaza Drive, less than a block from the State Police Headquarters building.

Security is a high priority at the facility, where over 40 surveillance cameras will operate on a 24/7 basis. A concrete-lined vault houses the products and a protective sally port is in place to further limit access. Credentials are checked at the door, with only those authorized being allowed through locked doors past the waiting room.

The facility will employ 25-40 full and part time people, and is expected to be operational by the end of December. For more information, please visit www.hcillinois.com. The website contains a step-by-step guide that will show you exactly what you will need to do to become a registered medical cannabis patient in Illinois.



**HEALTH CENTRAL - 1014 Eastport Plaza Drive, Collinsville, IL 62234 -
844-424-5665 (844-HCIL-MMJ) 618-381-9229**

HOLIDAY GARBAGE/RECYCLING SCHEDULE

REGULAR SCHEDULE on Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24th

NO PICKUP on Christmas Day, Friday, December 25th

FRIDAY PICKUP on will be on Saturday ,December 26th

REGULAR SCHEDULE on New Year's Eve, Thursday, December 31st

NO PICKUP on New Year's Day, Friday, January 1st

FRIDAY PICKUP will be on Saturday, January 2nd

****Republic Services: (618) 656-6883****



Christmas Tree Recycling

DROP OFF YOUR LIVE TREES AT
THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

Willoughby Farm
631 Willoughby Lane

Collinsville Sports Complex
(behind the Water Plant on Collinsville Rd.)

Signs are posted and trees will be
accepted until late January.

SPONSORED BY COLLINSVILLE
AREA RECREATION DISTRICT



KEEBLER & BELTLINE INTERSECTION

Thanks to the Federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) grant program the intersection at Keebler and Beltline will receive a major transformation next summer. Half the funding comes from CMAQ, and matching funds will be split between Madison County and the local Northeast Business District at an 80/20 rate.

The project consists of acquisition of right-of-way (completed in 2015), relocation of utilities (currently underway) and installation of turn lanes in all directions (being bid out in January with construction starting after award of bid). This is a great project that will make a large impact on a very busy intersection.

MAIN STREET WATER MAIN PROJECT

The City's water crew has been busy replacing water main in the Uptown Area. Replacement of this century-old water main will be a big improvement to our water distribution system and will improve fire protection by adding new hydrants. Clay Street has been recently completed and work will now begin on East Main. In January, the installation of 10" water main will begin along West Main from Highway 159 to Summit Avenue. The crew will work on 2 blocks at a time before moving on to the next 2 blocks; please drive carefully in this area for the safety of the workers.



Streetscape

Streetscape Phase IV Starts in April 2016

The latest Streetscape Project will consist of new water lines, curbs, sidewalks and ADA accessible ramps. Street trees and decorative street lamps will highlight Main Street from Vandalia to Aurora, then over to Clay Street and onto Chestnut. This project is scheduled to be completed by the Fall of 2016.

Doin' Business in Collinsville....

The following businesses opened their doors in our community during 2015, and we'd like to shout out a welcome and thank them for choosing Collinsville!

CHOICE CARE COUNSELING, INC.

PROFESSIONAL TRANSPORTATION, INC.

METRO EAST LAWN SERVICE

RENT SOURCE INC.

BYRDS LAWN CARE

SPORTS CLIPS

MAURICES #2211

SUPREME CUTS

HEY, DOLLCAKES

TEXTURE HAIR & MAKEUP STUDIO

LFI STAFFING INC.

COLLINSVILLE AUTOMOTIVE AND TOWING

JS LAWN SERVICE LLC

RULER FOODS STORE #274

CAREER DEVELOPMENT COUNSELING SVCS

BLIND AMBITION RESTORATION

MATT'S PROP SHOP

604 CHOPS & RODS

TOTS & TODDLERS DAYCARE

D. BOOZER'S FOOD AND FIRE

HOME CLEANING CENTERS OF AMERICA

KITCHEN CHICK

PRISTINE CLEANING SERVICES & MORE, LLC.

STAFFMARK

JDS LABS, INC.

TMC HOMECARE LLC

LUCKY'S VAPE ESCAPE

SLOAN'S PUB HOUSE

ROBINSON REALTY

XTREME CLEAN

FUSION GATES, LLC

MARCO'S PIZZA

ADVANTACLEAN OF MADISON COUNTY

ILLCITY PRODUCTIONS

WAVES 2.0

157 DINER FAMILY RESTAURANT

VILLA CHAVINDA MEXICAN STORE

PATRICIA STARZZ-ENTERTAINMENT

REHABCARE

JM MASONRY

SUBSURFACE STUMP REMOVAL

HOTSHOT LIQUOR

PRIMERICA FINANCIAL SERVICES

CALANDRO CONCRETE

JUSTIN MATTEA, ATTORNEY AT LAW

GUARD911, LLC

HERO911 NETWORK

SUPERCUTS METRO EAST

DOLLAR TREE STORES, INC #05997

EDRINGTON HOME/COMMERCIAL REMODELING

SEW MUCH FUN



DID YOU KNOW??!!!

Since the Miner's Institute Foundation resumed ownership of the Miner's Theatre in 2013, the Foundation has raised over \$200,000 in cash and in kind contributions through fundraisers and donated labor.

Although much has been done, there is still much to do! To keep up on activity at the theatre, subscribe to *The Monthly Miner* newsletter by visiting historicminersinstitute01.businesscatalyst.com/ and click on **sign up for our newsletter**. To find out how to get involved visit www.historicminersinstitute.org, follow MIF on Facebook, or contact the Foundation at minersinstitute@gmail.com or (618)972-4236.



One of the most common questions we get at City Hall is “Why are the flags at half staff?”

Both the Governor and the President can order flags flown at half staff in recognition of significant events in history, like Pearl Harbor Day or 9/11, and for world or nationwide events such as recent attacks in San Bernardino, California and Paris, France.

In addition, Governor Rauner has ordered that the flag of the United States and the Illinois Flag be flown at half staff from sunrise to sunset for 2 days preceding the funeral of any fallen Illinois soldier, and on the day of his/her funeral.

Locally, the flags may be lowered to recognize the passing of a police officer, firefighter or other well known dignitary. **...And now you know!**



Yard of the Year Winner ~ 2015

Renee Taake



8 Meadowlark

Yard of the YEAR - 2015

Happy 100th Birthday to the Collinsville Memorial Public Library!

