

The City Scoop

Warmer Weather is Approaching...

Spring time is nearing and that means great things are coming our way.

As trees and flowers start to bloom, yard maintenance becomes a normal routine once again. I would encourage adding 'yard waste pick-up' to your bi-monthly trash bills from Republic Services. You can contact them at 618-656-6883 for more details or with questions. Also, as we begin mowing lawns, please make sure to blow all grass clippings back into your yards and not into the street. The excess grass clogs up storm drains and causes flooding and mosquito attraction.

Spring Clean-Up dates are scheduled and listed on the next page. Please make a note of your pick-up date and take advantage of this **FREE** service that Republic Services offers twice a year.



The 'Yard of the Month' program will kick-off in May, so stay tuned for that announcement. And this gives everyone plenty of time to get your yards in tip-top shape for the competition!

Many of you will see the IL-159 road construction project rapidly progressing as well as the completion of the 159 landscaping project (urban park) where the old Bert's Chuckwagon used to be. In addition, Streetscape Project Phase IV (in front of City Hall) will begin and will add elements of appeal and charm to the front of our City Hall building.

I am looking forward to another Spring and watching Collinsville come to life with the season. There is much to be enthusiastic about and I hope you are as excited as I am to call Collinsville home.

*John Miller,
Mayor*

Kudos To the Street Department!

In early January, we got to experience over 12 inches of snow and negative temperatures - not typical weather for us in Collinsville! Not only did Street Department crews work over 30 straight hours plowing snow and dropping 200 tons of salt, they also set out on a mission to dig out businesses on Main Street that were snowed in. Since this was no small task, crew members from the Water and Wastewater Departments were also called in to help.

The immense amount of snowfall we received not only crippled our residents but really affected our Main Street businesses as well. Crews spent two days removing massive amounts of snow from eight blocks of Main Street in our Uptown Business District. Many businesses had snow drifts against their buildings as high up as their door handles.

The 95 dump truck-loads of snow was removed and hauled away by using two snow blowers, two skid steers (like a miniature bull dozer), a backhoe, a front-end loader and a motor grader. (Motor graders are normally used to level roads during construction, but they were utilized in a new capacity and served as a fantastic snow removal tool). All the snow was dumped at the first hill on Mulberry Street, just east of Lebanon Road.

We'd like to extend a very special thank you to these employees. They spent many hours prepping for this snowstorm and they worked many more to try and keep up with it. Not many communities saw or received the service and dedication we did from our crews. Thank you again for serving our residents and for working to keep our streets as safe as possible during this stressful time!

2014 SPRING CLEAN-UP DATES

It's that time again ~ Spring Clean-Up 2014. Please see the pick-up schedule and dates below:

REGULAR trash pick-up on **Monday** -- Spring Clean-Up day is MAY 5TH

REGULAR trash pick-up on **Tuesday** -- Spring Clean-Up day is MAY 13TH

REGULAR trash pick-up on **Wednesday** -- Spring Clean-Up day is MAY 7TH

REGULAR trash pick-up on **Thursday** -- Spring Clean-Up day is MAY 15TH

REGULAR trash pick-up on **Friday** -- Spring Clean-Up day is MAY 9TH



LARGE ITEMS INCLUDE:

Furniture, mattress sets, large carpets (cut into manageable bundles no longer than 4-feet); lawn furniture and other miscellaneous household items.



- Place items at the curb by 6:00AM on your pick-up day.
- Do not set out loose trash in cardboard boxes.
- Please bag and contain all trash.
- Glass portion of doors, windows, etc. should be broken & placed in a small box marked "glass."
- Tires, other car parts, cardboard boxes, loose debris, concrete, shingles, construction debris, yard waste, and electronics are **prohibited** and will not be picked up.

****This is a complimentary service provided by Republic Services: (618) 656-6883****

Keep Collinsville Beautiful



Under the Radar...

Living in this community offers many advantages to those who call Collinsville home. A number of municipal services are offered and provided to our City residents - everything from trash service to snow plowing. One very important City service that often slides under the radar is the Senior Citizen Shuttle Bus. This service was created and developed by Mayor Krause back in June 1976 to function as a free, same-day demand response transportation service. For over 30 years, the Collinsville Shuttle Bus has been providing door-to-door service to disabled City residents and those over the age of 60.

Under the coordination of Karen Szegedy, eight part-time drivers are dedicated to meeting the needs of Collinsville residents requiring the Shuttle's attention. Coordinator Szegedy works full-time as a dispatcher and when needed, there are shuttle drivers who will also fill in.

Szegedy has been working with the Shuttle service for 27 years; she takes pride in her career with the City and loves that her job gives back to the community. "I love the Shuttle program we have here in Collinsville, it's for the people and that's what I enjoy - the people," says Szegedy. "We are the only demand response transportation service in the Metro East; no other community provides anything close to what we have here." And that is what makes this service so remarkable; that Collinsville has the only demand response Senior Shuttle Bus operation south of Chicago.



Back in August 2008, the Shuttle Department obtained a new bus from the Madison County Transit District. Not only was the new bus needed to better serve its riders, but to keep up with the overwhelming need for the service it provides. It is an 11-passenger, wheelchair accessible equipment vehicle that boasts added features and more space than the previous shuttle bus. The new one accommodates its riders much more comfortably and is safe and dependable.

HOW DOES THE SHUTTLE SERVICE WORK?

When a City resident calls for the Shuttle, a dispatcher receives the incoming call and records it on an appointment log. Then, through a 2-way radio system, the dispatcher contacts the assistant Shuttle driver on the road who records the information regarding the pick-up. The assistant relays the information to the driver and they work the pick-up into their route so they can pick up the resident(s) and drive them to their desired location. When the resident needs transportation to another destination or back to their home, they can call the office again and can expect to be picked up shortly after making the call.

HOW DO I GET THE SHUTTLE TO PICK ME UP?

Any senior citizen or disabled City resident needing Shuttle transportation can call 346-5200, option 2 for assistance.



Shuttle Bus (cont.)

WHEN DOES THE SHUTTLE RUN?

The Shuttle service runs Monday through Friday from 8:30AM until 4:30PM. The Shuttle does not operate on holidays - any day that City Hall is closed for service, so is the Shuttle Bus.

OF SHUTTLE BUS TRIPS?

Every year, the Shuttle necessity grows. In 2013 alone, the Shuttle Bus made over 11,000 trips for service! These trips include elderly or disabled residents needing trips for personal services, trips for nutrition or medical reasons, and social recreation. Without the shuttle service, these 11,000+ transportation needs would not have been met, or worse, they may have been met in unsafe ways to the resident.

MILES DRIVEN IN 2013 YEAR?

This question gets asked quite frequently; many individuals are interested in how much the Shuttle service is actually used. There is some confusion, because it is a service that often flies under the radar - unless you are a direct recipient. Last year's numbers reflect that 24,558 miles were driven **WITH** passengers. This figure does not include miles driven to pick them up and drop them off. So realistically, this number would very well be doubled or tripled if it were calculated as "total miles driven - with and without passengers."



HOW IS THE SHUTTLE BUS FUNDED?

Each year, the City of Collinsville receives a Title XX Grant from the Illinois Department of Human Services. From this grant, just a little over \$24,000 is given to the City to operate and maintain the Shuttle Bus. From this yearly dollar amount, everything is budgeted from oil changes, gas, routine vehicle maintenance, etc. This specific grant is one that needs re-application on a yearly basis and that is just one more thing that Szegegy takes care of in coordinating this free service.

Collinsville is proud to offer this exceptional service to City residents - one that will continue for years to come. It is a great benefit to our community; and it is one more thing that boasts Collinsville as the preferred place to live.

~ Email Database ~



At City Hall, we are developing an email database for us to use on an informational basis only. If you submit your email address to Communications Coordinator - Julie Jackson, you will receive notifications whenever there is a boil order, water main break, road closure, press release, etc. Things like this are especially important for the residents in our community to be aware of. Facebook, Twitter, CCTV, and the City website are not always available, but most everyone has some type of method for checking & receiving emails.

PLEASE NOTE - email addresses will be used solely for the purpose of sending information from the City of Collinsville and will not be sold, distributed, or utilized by any third party.

Anyone can sign up by emailing Julie at jjackson@collinsvilleil.org. Simply provide the email address(es) you'd like put on the database and you will receive updates as necessary.

Food Pantry Fundraiser



COLLINSVILLE



“A Simple Lunch”
to benefit:



Collinsville Food Pantry

Wednesday, March 5, 2014

11AM - 2PM

Collinsville K of C Hall (Route 157)

Tickets cost \$10 each

****Please call Barb @ 618-344-1921 of the Collinsville Woman’s Club****

Enjoy “a simple lunch” of soup with 100% of the profits benefitting the food pantry.

Connect With Us!

With technology constantly changing, the City of Collinsville is making immense progress to stay connected with the public. City-wide information should be readily available to each and every resident - whether it be road closures, boil orders, or water main breaks. If City staff can publish information that residents can access simply by clicking a mouse, then the goal of staying connected is being met. Through advanced technology and social media resources, we will always keep you in the know.

Teams of employees work to continuously update the City website, Facebook, Twitter, and the CCTV Cable Access Channel (City of Collinsville TV). Our Twitter followers keep growing, which is fantastic! Currently 505 people are following the City of Collinsville on our Twitter page while 1,789 people like the City's Facebook page. Everyday our numbers continue to climb which spells out success for all of us.

We ask that each and every one of you stay connected with us as we promote our great City. If you have a Facebook page or a Twitter account, please follow us. Encourage your friends, family, and co-workers to do the same. Bookmark the City's website to your "favorites" or even change it to your home page. And if you think of it, tune in to CCTV and check out all the great programs that run on a daily basis.

We **WANT** to keep you informed - the more information you know, the better off we will be as a community. Remember to like the City of Collinsville's Facebook page (**City of Collinsville, Illinois Official**) and follow us on Twitter **@CollinsvilleIL**.



Spring Indian Market



Looking for something fun and unique to do at the end of April? Come out to the Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site for the *Spring Indian Market*. This exclusive shopping event features Native American artists and vendors that display and sell crafts, artwork, clothing, jewelry, etc. All items that are exclusive to this event!

Mark your calendars for April 25 - 27 for this one-of-a-kind event. On Friday the market will run from 12noon until 5PM. On Saturday and Sunday it will run from 9AM - 5PM at 30 Ramey Street in Collinsville.

This is a **FREE** event, although a donation of \$7 for adults, \$5 for seniors, \$2 for children and \$15 for families is suggested. Call Cahokia Mounds @ 618-346-5160 or visit www.cahokiamounds.org for more information.

Electronics Recycling Fundraiser



**Proceeds benefit
Miner's Theatre**

Bring items to:
227 W. Main Street
Public Parking lot
across from Spirito's
Italian Market.

2nd Friday of each
thru December 2014
12noon - 6PM



ACCEPTED ITEMS:

Everything related to a computer or electronic including household batteries, flat-screen televisions, holiday lights and decorations, cell phones, A/V equipment, appliances, and more!!!

CRT (tube) televisions **NOT** accepted.
Only one (1) computer monitor per tower please.

For more information, please call 618-365-4275
Or visit <http://wecycle-belleville.com/>

Get CPR Certified in 2014

Need to get certified in CPR? The City of Collinsville offers full certification courses the first Wednesday of each month at the Station 1 Fire Department. **Please note:** some dates fall on Tuesdays.

Classes cost \$5 per person and run from 6PM - 9PM on the appropriate Wednesday. (These courses are highly recommended, especially for those with small children). The City's instructors cover infant, toddler, and adult CPR as well as choking in each 3-hour session.

Anyone over the age of 10 is encouraged to register. Please call Stacey to put your name on the list; she can be reached by calling **618-346-5200 EXT. 1145**. The schedule for the 2014 year is listed below:



January 8th
March 5th
May 6th
July 1st
September 3rd
November 5th

February 5th
April 2nd
June 3rd
August 6th
October 1st
December 3rd



Yard Sales Welcome!

Warmer weather is approaching and many of us are ready for the first yard sales of 2014. The City wants to offer a friendly reminder of the process that must take place before a yard sale can occur.

Please remember to purchase a yard sale permit for \$2⁰⁰ at City Hall, prior to the day(s) of your sale. Permits are required if you live inside City limits. Yard sales are limited to two (2) per calendar year and you may run a sale for two (2) consecutive days with the same permit. It is also important to note that permits are non-transferrable; each household must have their own permit to operate a yard sale within City limits.

If you fail to purchase a permit, and have a yard sale without one, you will be cited and ticketed by City of Collinsville Code Enforcement Officers.

When you purchase your permit at City Hall, you will also be given a sheet of yard sale rules and regulations. The policy must be followed accordingly to coincide with City code and to prevent citations and tickets.

~ Spring Forward on March 9th ~



It's almost time to spring forward one hour - Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 9th. We remind everyone to change the batteries in their smoke detectors when they change their clocks; Daylight Savings Time provides a convenient reminder! It is estimated that about 1/3 of homes in the United States have smoke detectors with either dead or missing batteries. So mark your calendars for March 9th to "Spring Forward" and to change your smoke detector batteries.

CESF Accepting Applications



The Collinsville Educational Scholarship Foundation (CESF) was established in 2010 for the purpose of raising funds and accepting and disbursing contributions, gifts, and bequests from individuals, groups, or businesses to support educational scholarship opportunities and experiences for high school students who reside in the corporate limits of the City of Collinsville. All such efforts shall be for charitable or educational purposes as defined by Section 501C (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of

1986 (of the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

The business and affairs of the Foundation is managed by its Board of Directors, currently an eight member board which includes the Treasurer of the City of Collinsville and a member of the Collinsville Unit 10 Central Administration.

The Foundation will be offering annual merit-based scholarships. Eligible recipients must be a resident of the City of Collinsville, a high school graduate of a public or private school located within the boundaries of Collinsville and be planning to attend an accredited institution of higher learning (college, university, community college, or licensed and approved vocational or technical school).

Each scholarship award has a value of \$1,000. The CESF, through its Scholarship Selection Committee, has the sole authority to determine the recipients of scholarship awards. Each eligible applicant must complete and submit the CESF Scholarship Application to be considered for a scholarship award. The number of scholarships awarded annually will be dependent upon available funds. Scholarship recipients will be notified in writing of their awards. The scholarship funds will be deposited by the Foundation with an approved institution of higher learning of the recipient's choice, upon proof of registration.

We would like to thank our repeat donors!

TheBank of Edwardsville

Kevin Weinacht

Scott Credit Union

*****The Foundation desires to elevate the quality of life for each resident by investing in Collinsville youth through educational scholarships*****

It is the policy of the Collinsville Educational Scholarship Foundation not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, age, religion, national or ethnic origin, disability, or other non-merit factors in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.