THE DEN
News & Highlights from the City of St. Charles
October 2014
www.stcharlesil.gov

Upcoming Meetings

To see a complete list of meetings go to
www.stcharlesil.gov/meetings

Corridor Improvement Commission
10.1.14.....7:00 pm
Historic Preservation Commission
10.1.14.....7:00 pm
Youth Commission
10.6.14.....6:00 pm
City Council
10.6.14.....7:00 pm
Government Operations
10.6.14.....7:05 pm
Plan Commission
10.7.14.....7:00 pm
Planning & Development
10.13.14.....7:00 pm
Tree Commission
10.15.14.....6:30 pm
Historic Preservation Commission
10.15.14.....7:00 pm
Housing Commission
10.16.14.....7:00 pm
Liquor Control Commission
10.20.14.....4:30 pm
City Council
10.20.14.....7:00 pm
Government Operations
10.20.14.....7:05 pm
Plan Commission
10.21.14.....7:00 pm
Government Services
10.27.14.....7:00 pm

CITY OF ST. CHARLES
ILLINOIS • SINCE 1834

#1 City for Families
St. Charles named by Family Circle 2011

Scarecrow Fest is October 10-12

It's Scarecrow Fest time again!

Stroll among 150 hand-crafted scarecrows on display during the festival. Also enjoy live entertainment, an arts and crafts show, carnival, petting zoo, delicious food and much more. Presented by the Greater St. Charles Convention and Visitors Bureau and AAA. **www.scarecrowfest.com**

Police Officers Honored for Lifesaving Actions, Distinguished Service

Two lifesaving incidents and four decades of service earned three St. Charles Police officers special awards that were presented at the Sept. 2 City Council meeting. Their inspiring stories show the dedication and commitment St. Charles police officers display every day.

Officer Tim Beam received a **Lifesaving Award** for alerting sleeping residents to evacuate their home after lightning started their roof on fire.

Officer Jeff Finley received the **Distinguished Service Award** for 40 years with the St. Charles Police Department. Officer Finley joined the St. Charles Police Department on August 19, 1974, and has served the people of St. Charles ever since.

Officer Timothy Ocasek received a **Life Saving Award** for quickly responding to an incident and performing CPR on a subject until emergency medical help arrived.

Read their full stories on the **Recognition page** of our website.

St. Charles Police Chief Jim Keegan (*pictured on the right*) with officers Tim Beam (*left picture*), Jeff Finley (*center*) and Tim Ocasek (*right picture*).

welcome! NEW BUSINESSES

DOWNTOWN

Top Table
Restaurant
1 Illinois St.
630.945.3740

Smallcakes Cupcakery
117 W. Main St., Ste. 120
630.587.2252

Cigtechs
Electronic Retail
228 W. Main St.
630.853.9439

PLI Risk Solutions
Insurance Consulting
210 S. 5th St., Ste. 101
630.460.6139

Opening Soon!
The Diamondaire
Jewelry Store
117 W. Main St., Ste. 110

EAST GATEWAY

Mother's Pancake House
3755 E. Main St., Ste. 150
630.800.3906

EAST GATEWAY - INDUSTRIAL

Control Works, Inc.
Electrical Contacts
2701 Dukane Dr., Ste. #2
630.517.5235

JBT Specialty Products
Manufacturer
3625 Swenson Ave.
630.377.8886

WEST GATEWAY

O'Reilly Auto Enterprises
1405 W. Main St.
630.377.0947

Historical Spotlight:
The St. Charles Fire Department

For 172 years, the St. Charles Fire Department has proudly served the residents and businesses of our community. Originally formed in 1842 as the Lafayette Fire Company, the charter included 56 members. Their services were in demand—back then everything from the buildings to the bridges and sidewalks were made of wood.

In 1888, the St. Charles Fire Department officially was created under municipal ordinance and battled many major blazes over the years. Eventually motorized vehicles replaced horse-drawn wagons, and in 1959 a rescue truck complete with a resuscitator, stretcher, blankets and first aid supplies was added to the department's fleet, courtesy of the VFW Post 5036.

Johnson's store at Main St. & Rt. 31 ablaze in the summer of 1958

Today the St. Charles Fire Department has highly trained, professional members and is a fully accredited agency. Last year, the department responded to 4282 calls for fires, rescue and emergency medical services, and other safety incidents.

The Fire Department put together a wonderful book chronicling its history for its 150th Anniversary in 1992. The book is available to purchase through the Heritage Center. You also can peruse a copy at the library. Until you get your hands on your copy, enjoy these photos, courtesy of the St. Charles Heritage Center.

Members of the St. Charles Fire Department on E. Main St.in front of the Old Haines Junior High, circa 1920.

St. Charles Fire Department members on First Ave., circa 1930.

Scenes from a Mall
Ground is Broken on The Quad St. Charles

Mayor Raymond Rogina, members of the City Council and City staff joined several representatives from developer The Krausz Companies, Inc., at a ground breaking ceremony for The Quad St. Charles Sept. 3, 2014.

Come to the Fire Department Open House **October 19**

The St. Charles Fire Department is hosting an Open House Sunday, Oct. 19 from noon to 3 p.m. at Fire Station 1, 112 N. Riverside Avenue.

There will be something for everyone, including tours of the fire station, a Kid's Firefighter Challenge, equipment displays and safety exhibits from participating vendors. The Department's Special Teams will demonstrate extrication equipment, technical rescue operations and dive operations. Registration for CPR classes (fee required) will be available, along with sign up for the Vial of Life Project that makes it easy to share important medical information with first responders during an emergency. The program will conclude with a live burn demonstration that highlights the effect of sprinklers in controlling structure fires.

Please join us to for an afternoon focused on fun and safety education--and don't forget to save room for hot dogs and popcorn. For more information, contact the St. Charles Fire Department at **630.377.4458**.

Public Power Week is **October 5-11**

St. Charles is one of more than 2,000 community electric utilities across the nation that provides not-for-profit electric service to its citizens. Public Power Week recognizes electric utility staff for operating and maintaining a reliable, efficient electric service and delivering excellent customer service.

PUBLIC POWER
AN AMERICAN TRADITION THAT WORKS
Public Power Week • October 5-11, 2014

Storm Sewers **and Leaves**

The City's storm sewer system is critical to protecting property and roadways from flooding during rain storms. But the storm sewers can't work if leaves and litter block grates and inlets.

Be sure to keep storm grates clear. Never place leaves for pick up on the street or in the curb. Not only does that result in material collecting around the grates, it also is a violation of City Code, subject to a fine up to $500.

Please contact the Public Works Department at **630.377.4405** or **pw@stcharlesil.gov** with questions.

Public Works **Fact:**

There are 10,902 storm structures in the City of St. Charles.

Don't Miss the ROWAMERICA Regatta

Saturday, October 4, 2014

ROWAMERICA is holding St. Charles' first-ever Regatta Oct. 4. Come out to watch the boats skim across the Fox River on a 5,000-meter course. There will be several vantage points to view the race – from riverside bicycle paths, the Red Gate bridge pedestrian walkway or at the finish line at Pottawatomie Park. More information is at www.rowstcharles.com.

ROWAMERICA

Flood Warning

At times, flooding can be predicted days in advance, giving ample warning for preparation and evacuation. However, in the event of a flash flood due to large storms or ice jams, you may be the first to notice the oncoming situation. Residents are encouraged to notify the Police Department of flooding conditions and the police will contact the city's Emergency Management Agency. For additional information on local conditions, listen for radio and television alerts, and check the weather online.

YARD WASTE COLLECTION

The last yard waste collection for 2014 by Advanced Disposal will be the week of Nov. 24 on your regular day. Collection will resume April 2014.

Hydrant Flushing Concludes October 10

Hydrant flushing improves water quality and minimizes mineral build-up in the water mains. It also ensures that hydrants are ready for emergency use.

Fall Hydrant Flushing Schedule

September 29 - October 3 - Hydrant flushing begins on the west side of the Fox River south of the Timbers subdivision, and continues south to Gray Street and west to North/South 16th Street.

October 6 - October 10 - Hydrant flushing will begin on the east side of the Fox River south of Iroquois Avenue, and continues south to Division Street and east to North/South 14th Avenue.

Please watch for signs announcing hydrant flushing in specific areas. Also, for approximate dates in your neighborhood, visit the My Neighborhood section of the City website, **www.stcharlesil.gov**. Click **here** for a hydrant flushing map.

Water is safe to use and consume during hydrant flushing, however, residents may temporarily experience rusty-colored water. During hydrant flushing:

- If possible, limit water use.
- If water is rust-colored, wait until flushing has subsided, then turn on the cold water tap until water runs clear.
- Rust-colored water may stain laundry. Keep stained clothes wet and treat them with stain remover, available free of charge at **Public Works**, 1405 South 7th Ave.; **City Hall**, Reception Desk, 2 East Main St.; or at the **Police Department**, 211 North Riverside Ave.

For more information, contact the Public Works Department at **pw@stcharlesil.gov** or **630.377.4405.**

Street Sweeping Reminder

Last Week of October

Mid November

Last Week of November
(after leaf collection)

Try not to park on the streets scheduled for sweeping. For more information, contact Public Works at pw@stcharlesil.gov or **630.377.4405.** Or check the **Street Sweeping page** of the website.

While hydrants may not be a preferred landscape feature, they are essential for keeping our city safe. City Code 16.08.070 Public Utilities, D.6. Water Supply General Requirements, describes the parameters for landscaping around hydrants. Please allow a minimum of 10 feet around hydrants for trees; 5 feet for bushes and shrubs; and for all other landscaping please refer to the **Engineering Design and Inspection Policy Manual** on the City's website.

Mums the Word **for Fall**

Thanks again Pottawatomie Garden Club for the beautiful mums and other fall plantings around the Municipal Center. We can't wait for them to start blooming!

In it for the **Long Haul**

Congratulations to our own marathoners who ran in the Fox Valley Marathon Sept. 21. A great accomplishment and a great event! Pictured: Chris Adesso, Public Works; Fire Chief Joe Schelstreet, Michael Drake, IS; Mayor Rogina and Carolyn Shannon, IS. Not pictured: City Clerk Nancy Garrison.

2014 Leaf Pick Up **Schedule**

EAST SIDE	WEST SIDE
Oct. 28	Nov. 3
Nov. 7	Nov. 13
Nov. 19	Nov. 24

Please Note: *Pick up is not available for Cumberland Green, Whittington Course, Royal Fox private streets, Dunham Place Commons, Delnor Townhomes, Delnor Glen Drive, Willowgate Viewpointe, Wildrose Townhomes, Auburn Court, Benham Court, and Oak Crest.*

The leaf pick up program has been modified this year. It will run similarly to the brush pick up program, with the collection areas divided on the east and west sides of the river. Leaves must be on the parkway by 6:30 a.m. on your area's designated day of pick up, but it may take three to four days before the leaves are picked up in your specific area.

Leaf Collection Tips

- **Leaf piles will not be picked up if obstructed by parked vehicles or other obstacles. The piles will be picked on your next scheduled pick up when the obstruction is removed.**
- Please keep a distance of approximately 10' between leaf piles and permanent structures e.g., fire hydrants, trees, streetlight poles, etc.
- Rake leaves in a row parallel to the street at least 1' back from the curb and off the sidewalk.
- Inclement weather or a large volume of leaves could alter the leaf pickup schedule.
- **Pushing leaves into the street is a violation of Ordinance 12.04.170, punishable by a fine up to $500.00 for each offense.**
- Leaf piles will not kill grass, although they may cause it to discolor.
- Avoid raking foreign materials into leaf piles as these could damage equipment or injure personnel.
- This program is funded by a portion of the fee collected on the utility bill of eligible homeowners living within the city limits of St. Charles. Check your utility bill or call Utility Billing at **630.377.4426**, if you have a question regarding your eligibility for this program.
- For residential leaf collection schedule and updates, be sure to check the City website **www.stcharlesil.gov/services/leaf** or contact the Public Works Department at **630.377.4405** or **pw@stcharlesil.gov**.

Also, yard waste bag pickup by Advance Disposal ends the week of November 24.

Placement of **Brush and Leaves for Pick Up**

Just a reminder to residents, leaves and brush piles should be placed on the address side of your property. City Ordinance 8.24.030 states 'If available, yard waste shall be placed on the parkway, adjacent to and on the address side of the property from where the yard waste is gathered. If a parkway is not available adjacent to a property or on the address side of a property, the Director of Public Works or designee shall identify an area for collection.' If you have any questions please contact Public Works at **630.377.4405** or **pw@stcharlesil.gov**. Or visit the website at **www.stcharlesil.gov** for more information.

Bake Sale

City of St. Charles Supports "CASAtober"

City employees are holding a bake sale and raffle to raise funds for the CASA (Court-Appointed Special Advocates) Kane County child advocacy program. Our own home-baked treats will be on sale in the reception area of the Municipal Building, 2 E. Main St., on Oct. 31 from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Raffle tickets also will be available for $3 each. Prizes include theatre tickets, gift baskets, and more. Or, if you simply would like to donate to CASA Kane County, donation boxes will be available at City buildings throughout October. Contact the Human Resources Department at **630.377.4446** for more information.

Also, donations from the City's weekly "Jeans Dress-Down" days for employees will benefit CASA in October.

Other community contributors to CASAtober:

- The Blue Goose will be selling raffle tickets to win Blue Goose gift certificates
- The St. Charles Park District will be collecting donations of hats and mittens for the children at each of their locations
- JP Jewelers will be selling raffle tickets for three birth stone necklaces.

Donations will be used to develop volunteers to serve as Court-Appointed Special Advocates/Guardians ad Litem for children in court due to abuse and neglect. More at **www.casakanecounty.org**.

CASA
Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN
CASA KANE COUNTY

Christmas Parade Entries

Oct. 24 is the Deadline for Electric Christmas Parade Entries

A flake hasn't fallen yet, but it's time to start planning your entry in the annual Electric Christmas Parade. The Downtown St. Charles Partnership is now accepting entries for the parade, which will take place on Saturday, Nov. 29, at 5:30 p.m. on Main St.

Local businesses, community groups, and non-profits are encouraged to participate. The deadline for entries is Friday, October 24. The entry fee is $250 for businesses, $125 for DSCP Member Businesses, and free for non-profit organizations. More at **www.downtownstcharles.org/holidayhomecoming**.

Connect with Us on the Go

We're mobile! Download our St. Charles Connect app at **www.stcharlesil.gov/connect**

ST. CHARLES CONNECT

Strengthening International Business Relationships

On Sept. 25, Mayor Ray Rogina and Economic Development Manager Matt O'Rourke met with representatives from the Japan External Trade Organization and the Japanese Consulate. Al Kabeshita, Chairman of ARK Technologies, is being recognized by the trade organization for 34 years in business, 21 of those here in St. Charles. ARK Technologies is a global leader in the manufacture of precision springs, stampings, and assemblies. *Left to right: Ko Hikasa, Consul/Economic Section, Consulate General of Japan; Ichiro Sone, Chief Executive Director, Japan External Trade Organization; Yoshida Masaharu, Consul General of Japan; Mayor Rogina; Al Kabeshita; and Matt O'Rourke.*

Walk to School Day

The 5th Annual Walk to School Day in Kane County is Oct. 8. Last year, 60 schools participated. It's a fun, healthy activity that is good for the environment. Please be aware children will be walking to and from school on that day. So take extra precaution when driving.

Early Voting Begins Oct. 20

Early voting for the 2014 Midterm Election is available at the St. Charles Municipal Building, 2 E. Main St., for Kane County residents who are registered to vote. Early voting is offered from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, Oct. 20-24 and Oct. 27-31. More at **www.kanecountyelections.org**

October Green Idea

Many gadgets continue to use power even when they are off. To save on your electric bill, unplug electronics when you don't need them. For convenience, plug devices into a power strip and turn it off.

Televisions, DVR boxes, game consoles and computers are examples of devices that use electricity when they are turned off but still plugged in.

Halloween is Fri., Oct. 31

'Trick or Treating' Hours: 3-7 pm

Final Brush Pick Ups this Year

EAST SIDE	WEST SIDE
Oct. 20	Oct. 27
Nov. 17	Nov. 24

There are two remaining brush collections this year for residents who live within the City of St. Charles limits.

Brush (branches at least 3 feet in length and less than 12 inches in diameter) must be placed on the parkway, in front of your house (or along the frontage where refuse/recycling is collected), cut ends facing the street before 7 a.m. on Monday of the scheduled pick up (or Tuesday if Monday is a holiday). Please note: Pick up in your area may take 3 to 4 days to complete.

Do not tie bundles of brush with rope or wire. Piles should not be higher than 4 feet and never put in the street. Don't park in front of the piles, crews will be unable to pick up the brush. More is at www.stcharlesil.gov/services/brush. Or contact the Public Works Department at **pw@stcharlesil.gov 630.377.4405.**

Subscribe

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City of St. Charles Directory

Building & Code Enforcement	377.4406
City Administrator Mark Koenen	377.4422
Community Development	377.4443
Development Engineering	443.3677
Economic Development	443.4093
Electric Division	377.4407
Engineering Division	377.4486
Emergency Management Agency	377.4416
Flood Protection Assistance	377.4486
Finance/Accounting	762.7002
Fire Administration	377.4458
Fire Prevention Bureau	377.4457
Human Resources	377.4446
Mayor Raymond P. Rogina	377.4444
Police Administration/Investigation/ Crime Prevention	377.4435
Public Works: Water/Sewer/Street	377.4405
Refuse Pickup Information	587.8282
TDD	800.526.0844
Utility Billing: Electric/Water/Sewer	377.4426
Electric Outage Hotline	866.444.0016

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