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

Upcoming Meetings

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

City Council
9.2.14 & 9.15.14.....7:00 pm

Government Operations
9.2.14 &9.15.14.....7:05 pm

Plan Commission
9.2.14 & 9.16.14..... 7:00 pm

Corridor Improvement Commission
9.3.14.....7:00 pm

Historic Preservation Commission
9.3.14 & 9.17.14.....7:00 pm

Youth Commission
9.8.14..... 6:00 pm

Planning & Development
9.8.14..... 7:00 pm

Tree Commission
9.11.14.....7:00 pm

Liquor Control Commission
9.15.14.....4:30 pm

Housing Commission
9.18.14.....7:00 pm

Government Services
9.22.14.....7:00 pm

Connect with Us

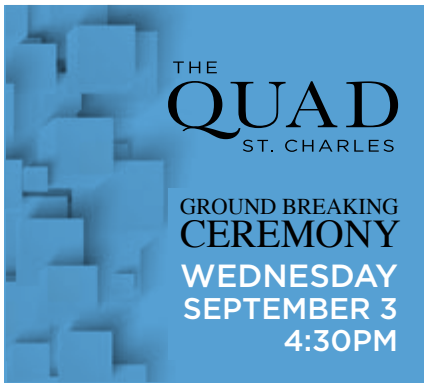
Connect with the city right from your mobile device. Download our St. Charles Connect app at **www.stcharlesil.gov/connect**

CITY OF ST. CHARLES
ILLINOIS • SINCE 1834

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

Come to the Quad St. Charles Groundbreaking

The Krausz Companies, Inc., Developers of The Quad St. Charles, Invite You



Everyone is invited to come out to the Groundbreaking of The Quad St. Charles, Wed., Sept. 3 at 4:30 p.m., 3800 E. Main St. Be a part of celebrating the kickoff of the redevelopment of the Charlestowne Mall.

Parking is available at the Southeast Corner of the parking lot (near the lower level of the Carson Pirie Scott store).

"This groundbreaking is the first of many milestones as The Krausz Companies begins the revitalization and re-creation of the Charlestowne Mall into The Quad St. Charles," said Mayor Raymond Rogina. "I join our residents in wishing them continued success as this project progresses." More information is on the Charlestowne Mall page of our website.

September is National Preparedness Month

FEMA Has Designated September as National Preparedness Month

This is a good time to take action to prepare for natural and/or manmade disasters. Please keep these preparedness tips in mind

- *Be Informed*
- *Make a Plan*
- *Get an Emergency Kit*

For preparedness ideas and more information, visit **www.Ready.gov.**

PLEASE NOTE: Refuse Collection will be delayed one day all week due to the Labor Day Holiday, Monday, September 1.

welcome! NEW BUSINESSES

DOWNTOWN

Riverside Pizza & Pub
Italian Restaurant
102 E. Main St.
630.549.6644

Seterus, Inc.
Mortgage Services
408 Walnut St.
888.917.0532

Top Table (Opening Sept. 2)
Restaurant
Illinois St., Ste. 170
224.723.4447

River House Saloon
Restaurant
104 E. Main St.
224.645.2416

EAST GATEWAY - INDUSTRIAL

Used Best Car Deals
Used Car Sales
1830 Wallace Ave., Ste. 209
331.228.0505

Get Fast Geneva, LLC
Personal Sports Fitness Training
Two new locations!

1900 Tyler Rd, Ste. 300
630.918.9928

&

820 Wallace Ave., Ste. 106,
630.918.9928

EAST GATEWAY

Richmann Business Services, Inc.
Taxing & Accounting
812 E. Main St., Ste. 202
630.584.7755

American Midwest Bank
3755 E. Main St., Ste. 140
815.235.6138

Final Resting Place: The Jones Law Office Building

Recently, the City moved the historic Jones Law Office Building from its location at 304 Cedar Avenue to a site in Langum Park along Rt. 25 near Devereaux Way. But that's not the first time the building has been moved.

According to the St. Charles Public Library, Steven Sandborn Jones was a lawyer who moved to St. Charles in 1838 from Vermont. He is credited with proposing the town change its name from its original Charleston to St. Charles after he learned another Illinois town already had the Charleston name.

During the Civil War, the small law office building served as a holding cell for deserting soldiers. Evidence of the soldiers' presence is still apparent in the graffiti they left behind.

At one time, Jones' St. Charles law office was attached to the west side of the Minard House at 504 East Main Street. In 1988, the office was moved to its current location behind the Dunham-Hunt House at 304 Cedar Avenue. The City sold the Dunham-Hunt House property in 2013. As a part of the sales contract, the City was given time to relocate the Law Office building to assure its preservation. Watch a video of the move **here**.

Saving St. Charles History One Snapshot at a Time

A cooperative effort between the Henry Rockwell Baker Community Center Board of Trustees, St. Charles Heritage Center and the St. Charles Park District aims to fill in the photographic gaps in the city's history. Do you have photographs of:

- Historic buildings
- Local businesses
- Park sites
- Special events

If so you're invited submit them to be part of the project. Pictures from all time periods will be accepted. Bring them to the St. Charles Heritage Center, 215 East Main St., Tuesdays-Saturdays, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., or Sundays, 12-4 p.m. Prints will be scanned and returned. Or, submit digital photos to **info@stcmuseum.org**.

St. Charles Police Department
Again Receives National Accreditation

The St. Charles Police Department was granted its 8th Award of National Accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). The award was presented July 26 at the CALEA conference in Schaumburg, Ill. The department received the Meritorious Award, given to Agencies that have participated in CALEA for 15 years or more.

The accreditation came after a four-day, Gold Standard on-site inspection by a CALEA team of assessors in April. The assessors completed interviews with Department personnel and City officials, and also met with community leaders. Police Department policies, procedures and required reports were reviewed for compliance with 482 standards. The assessment team noted the St. Charles Police Department has dedicated, well-trained personnel, who have a good relationship with their citizens and business owners.

Testimony to the Commission was provided at the conference by Deputy Chief Steve Huffman, who was Interim Chief during the on-site assessment; Deputy Chief Kintz, and Accreditation Coordinator Lisa Blackwell. Police Chief James Keegan also sat before the Commission.

The St. Charles Police Department first achieved its accredited status in 1989, and was one of the first agencies in the State of Illinois to become nationally accredited. The reaccreditation period is three years, during which the agency must submit annual reports attesting to continued compliance to the standards. For more information, contact Lisa Blackwell at **lblackwell@stcharlesil.gov** or **630.377.4435.**

Maintenance on the City's Parking Garages
is Underway

Most Parking Spaces will Remain Accessible throughout the Project

Concrete maintenance and repairs, sealant replacements and miscellaneous preventive maintenance work is underway on the City's two parking garages. Work is underway first on the westside parking deck at Illinois & 1st streets. Once finished there, maintenance to the eastside garage on 3rd & Walnut avenues will begin. Repairs are expected to be complete by October 17.

Both garages will remain open during the project. Temporary floor closures and the reservation of a limited number of parking spaces will be likely so crews are able to secure a work space. J. Gill & Company is the contractor on the project.

"We don't expect parking to be greatly impacted while the garage maintenance is underway," said Chris Adesso, Public Services Manager. "Most parking spaces will remain accessible throughout the project, with special consideration given to the dedicated electric vehicle charging station spaces in the 1st Street garage." For more information, contact Adesso at **cadesso@stcharlesil.gov** or **630.377.4405.**

Special PD
Tour & Lunch

THE WINNER

This Lincoln Elementary School student was the lucky winner of a tour of the Police Department and special lunch with Crime Prevention Officer Bill Tynan (left) and Deputy Chief Steve Huffman (right). The event was part of a prize from a fundraiser for the school.

Do You Know about
the Electric Outage Hotline?

Report an Outage to 866.444.0016

St. Charles Electric Utility customers be sure to register your phone number with the automated telephone notification system.

The system links customers' phone numbers to their accounts so the location of the outage can be identified automatically when they call to report an issue. It also allows customers to receive updates regarding the outage and a return call to confirm power restoration. The system can handle heavy call volumes and quickly relays outage information, reducing crew response times.

Residents can register up to three phone numbers by calling the Utility Billing office at **630.377.4426** or registering online at the **Electric Outage Reporting Sign Up page** of our website.

Fall Trees will be Planted Soon

Nearly 400 parkway trees were ordered last month as part of the 50/50 Parkway Tree Program. Planting will begin in early October. The contractor will begin marking white hash marks on the curbs indicating where the trees will be planted. Most newly planted trees will be fitted with a gator bag to provide a slow drip of water to the roots. In addition, the contractor has begun to remove the gator bags off any trees that were planted in the spring.

If the fall season is dry, place a hose at the end of the tree drip line, letting the water flow at a slow trickle for about 20 minutes. Watering once a month should be sufficient. N**ote:** overwatering symptoms for trees are the same as those for under watering – leaves fall off, turn brown or appear wilted.

If you have any questions, contact Public Works at **pw@stcharlesil.gov** or **630.377.4405**. Or visit the **Tree Care: Watering Trees page** of the City website.

Public Works Fact:

There are 3,241 streetlights in the City of St. Charles.

Hydrant Flushing Begins the Week of Sept. 29

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 will begin on the west side of the Fox River south of the Timbers subdivision, continuing 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, continuing 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.; **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 September

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.

Thank you to all

Who Donated at the City's August 27 Blood Drive!

Guidelines for **Draining a Swimming Pool**

Your swimming pool is filled with chlorinated water. Chlorinated water discharged directly to surface water (wetlands, lakes, streams, and rivers), roadways or storm sewers has an adverse impact on local water quality. High concentrations of chlorine are toxic to wildlife and fish.

Safe pool draining recommendations:

- De-chlorinate the water in the pool before draining, either mechanically or chemically. These products are readily available at local stores.
- Or, drain the pool across your lawn over a period of several days using the following these guidelines:

1. Allow pool water to sit at least 2 days while receiving a reasonable amount of sunlight, and without further addition of chlorine or bromine. It is recommended that the chlorine level be tested after 2 days to ensure that safe levels are met (below 0.1 mg/l).

2. Pool discharge should be directed across your lawn, not down your driveway or into nearby storm sewer inlets. Our storm sewer system leads directly to wetlands, streams, lakes or rivers.

These recommendations are based on guidance from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. Please do your part to help promote cleaner wetlands, streams, lakes and rivers. More at **www.epa.state.il.us** or contact the City of St. Charles Public Works Department at **pw@stcharlesil.gov** or **630.377.4405.**

Fire Pit **Safety**

Fire Pit Safety Tips from the St. Charles Fire Department:

- Outdoor fireplaces/fire pits shall be at least 15 feet from any structure or combustible material and in an open lawn area.
- Recreational fires not contained in an outdoor fireplace/fire pit must be at least 25 feet from any structure or combustible material and also in an open lawn area.
- Large outdoor fireplaces that are built on a foundation are allowed however, require a building permit from the City.
- Use only clean, well-seasoned wood – no leaves, compost, brush, waste materials of any kind or holiday decorations/trees.
- The fire must be constantly attended until extinguished.
- A fire extinguisher or garden hose must be available for immediate use.
- The fire must be no greater than 3 feet in diameter and 2 feet high.
- Open burning is prohibited when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fires hazardous. Be alert to wind speed/direction. A City Fire Code Official may order the extinguishment of any open burning that creates or adds to a hazardous or objectionable situation.

For more information, contact the **Fire Department at 630-377-4458.**

2014 Leaf Pick Up **Schedule**

It's almost time to rake falling leaves again. Leaf pick up begins October 28 and runs through November 26. This year's schedule will follow an East/West schedule similar to the City's Brush Pick Up program. There will be a total of three pickups for the season.

As with brush pick up, all leaves need to be placed out on the parkway by 7:00 a.m. on your scheduled pickup date, even though it may take 3 to 4 days before your specific area is picked up. Once the crews move through an area, they will not return until the next scheduled pick up. Be sure to check the City's website **www.stcharlesil.gov** and click on the **Leaf Pick Up icon** on the home page or check the October issue of *The Den* for a complete schedule and pick up procedures.

Remember, leaves also make wonderful mulch in garden beds. Or, you can put them in yard waste bags for pick up through November 24. For more information, contact Public Works at **pw@stcharlesil.gov** or **630.377.4405.**

Upcoming Events
You Won't Want to Miss

Sculpture in the Park, a free exhibit of original outdoor sculptures, runs through September in Mt. St. Mary Park.

St. Charles Jazz Weekend, brought to you by the St. Charles Downtown Partnership, and the St. Charles Arts Council's **Charlie's Center for the Arts** are both happening Sept.11-14.

The 5th Annual Advocate Dreyer Fox Valley Marathon, Half Marathon, and Fall Final 20 runs are September 21.

Special Reminder

City Offices will be closed Monday, September 1 for the Labor Day Holiday.

Exercising outdoors?

Regular exercise makes us feel great and keeps us healthy. Before you head out for your workout or run, check the local air quality forecast for your area at **www.weather.com.** You can find out when air pollutants such as ground-level ozone or airborne particles are at acceptable levels where you live.

Brush Pick Up Schedule

EAST SIDE	WEST SIDE
Sept. 15	Sept. 22
Oct. 20	Oct. 27
Nov. 17	Nov. 24

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. More is on our **Brush Pick Up page.**

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

Protect Your Property from Flood Damage

Reduce damages on property that is susceptible to flooding:

- Apply watertight seals to brick and block walls to protect against low level flooding. (less than 2 feet).
- Elevate furnaces, air conditioners, water heaters and major appliances on platforms or move them to higher floors.
- Sandbag and remove items from areas prone to flooding.
- Elevating or relocating the entire structure may also be a feasible option.

For more information visit **www.fema.gov** or the **Floodplain Page** of our website.

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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

The Den is produced by The City of St. Charles, 2 East Main Street, St. Charles, IL 60174
Questions? Please contact Lisa Garhan, Editor at **lgarhan@stcharlesil.gov** 630.443.3744

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