



THE DEN

News & Highlights from the City of St. Charles

August 2015
www.stcharlesil.gov

Upcoming Meetings

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

City Council

8.3.15.....7:00 pm

Government Operations

8.3.15.....7:05 pm

Plan Commission

8.4.15.....7:00 pm

Corridor Improvement Commission

8.5.15.....7:00 pm

Historic Preservation Commission

8.5.15.....7:00 pm

Planning & Development

8.10.15.....7:00 pm

Liquor Control Commission

8.17.15.....4:30 pm

City Council

8.17.15.....7:00 pm

Government Operations

8.17.15.....7:05 pm

Plan Commission

8.18.15.....7:00 pm

Historic Preservation Commission

8.19.15.....7:00 pm

Housing Commission

8.20.15.....7:00 pm

Government Services

8.24.15.....7:00 pm



#1 City for Families
St. Charles named by FamilyCircle 2011

Don't Stop Believin'

– Journey



Mayor Raymond P. Rogina

As summer comes to a slow but inevitable slowdown and the leaves along the beautiful Fox River Valley begin their annual colorful cornucopia of colors, students in St. Charles begin an annual rite of passage—a return to school.

All of our students should not stop believing in the magic of their educational experience. Should they apply themselves and listen and seek guidance from their teachers, this experience will provide a pathway to somewhere, someplace, some career that will provide joy and happiness.

Parents, take note of the fact that encouragement goes a long way toward achieving the prize. Our school system, K-12, has established itself as one that is viewed with a great deal of pride, not to mention all of its wonderful recognition.

Our elementary students begin this journey and they will investigate, search, probe and dream about what might be ahead for them.

Middle school students begin a transition from small child to young adult with all of its wonderful mysteries and questions.

High school freshman are awed by the opportunities of high school; seniors are giggling in anticipation of college or a first real job.

Our college students are packing up to return to campus near or far with the hope that intellectual challenges continue to draw them toward satisfaction and reward.

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Kids will be Back in School; Drive with Extra Caution

Students are back in school later this month and we want to remind motorists to proceed with extra caution. Children will be out walking and riding their bikes to school or standing at bus stops, especially during the morning rush hour. Please remember it is illegal to text while driving or talk on a hand-held cell phone, and never pass a stopped school bus when its lights are flashing and stop arm is extended.

Don't Stop Believin'

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As an educator and now your mayor, I am happy to make a few suggestions for all of these students:

- Be serious about your studies; read and digest the assignments given to you; read for pleasure as well.
- Take time to enrich the friendships you have developed; take time to make new friends.
- Respect your educators and classmates; respect your surroundings. Act in such a way that everyone respects you.
- Complete your work with honesty and integrity.
- Demand excellence.

I wish all of you a wonderful school year and I know I will see many of you around town this fall.

Ray Rogina, Mayor

Save the Date for an Anniversary Party: Sat. Sept. 12, 1-3 p.m.

September marks the 75th Anniversary of the opening of the Municipal Building

Join us Sat., Sept. 12, from 1-3 p.m., as we celebrate the Municipal Building's 75th Anniversary with a casual celebration. Mayor Rogina will kick off the event with a few words, after which staff from the City and History Museum will provide guided tours of the building. There will even be an architectural treasure hunt for the kids. After your tour, find a spot on the lawn in the new Volunteer Plaza and enjoy some birthday cake and live music. A jazz trio will play at the Plaza as part of the Downtown St. Charles Partnership's Jazz Weekend.

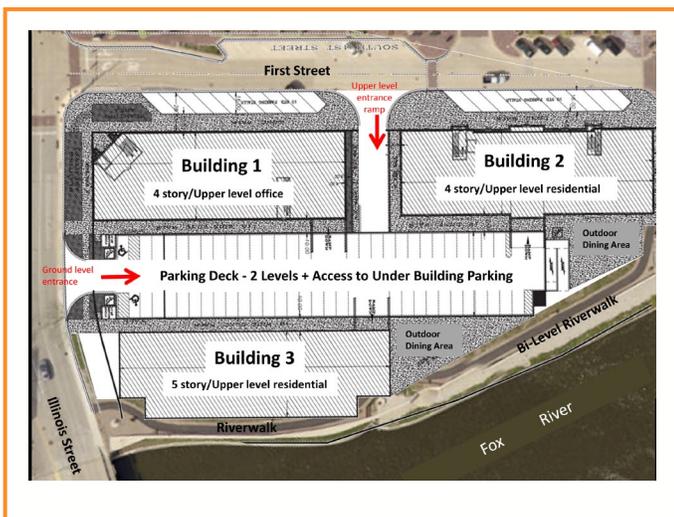
Celebrate Your Knowledge of Municipal Building History

More information about the event is to come, including your chance to win a St. Charles Chamber of Commerce gift certificate in the Municipal Building Trivia Contest, which will debut later this month. You can learn some surprising facts about the Municipal Building, such as the main floor on the east side of the building used to house a bus terminal. (*There, you have your first clue for completing the trivia contest.*) Check us out on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) for updates on the contest and event.



Pardon Our Dust as 1st Street Site Work Gets Underway

You will notice construction fencing going up on First Street as preliminary site work for Phase 3 gets underway. Phase 3 includes construction of three mixed-use buildings and a 110-space parking deck in an area bounded by First Street, Illinois Street and the Fox River.



Building 1 will have upper level office space and will be fully occupied by ALE Solutions, which currently has offices across the street at Fox Island Square. Buildings 2 & 3 will have residential space on their upper levels. All three buildings will have ground floor retail space.

The parking deck will offer public parking and private parking will be available under the buildings. The bilevel riverwalk along the river front and an east plaza across from the existing First Street plaza remain part of the site layout.

Work will begin on Building 1 shortly. Anticipated construction for Building 2 is 2016

and 2017 for Building 3. Visit the project website for more, www.1ststreetstc.org. Or, contact the Community & Economic Development Department at 630.377.4443, or 1ststreet@stcharlesil.gov.



On Display

Promote Your Business or Event in the Municipal Building Display Windows

Did you know that City Hall has two display windows available to advertise your St. Charles event or business for free? The external window faces Main Street; the internal window is in the lobby of the Municipal Building. Both windows tend to book up quickly, but we still have some dates available in 2016.

Generally the windows are available for one- or two-week reservations. While there is no cost to use the windows, the City retains the right to reject a request or revoke use the windows. Contact the Reception Desk at **630.377.4400** to find out more.



Connect with Us

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

How well do you know St. Charles?

Find out August 15

Do you know the details of Mary Todd Lincoln's secret stay in St. Charles, our connection to Al Capone, how Mr. Baker became a 'Colonel', the link between St. Charles and the legend of Charlemagne, what Ekwebet means to the area Native Americans or the role St. Charles played in the Civil War?

Take part in a self-guided 2½ mile audio tour of downtown St. Charles that will provide the stories behind the history of St. Charles. The River Corridor Foundation of St. Charles, working with the St. Charles History Museum and community members, has created an MP3 file that you can download to your smartphone (or print) and discover many hidden gems of St. Charles' history.

And while you learn these stories and tales of what makes St. Charles such a special community, your children can enjoy the Colonial Cafe Children's Scavenger Hunt that follows the same path as the riverwalk.

More information on the tour is available [here](#). The event is sponsored by [The River Corridor Foundation of St. Charles](#), a registered 501c3 organization. Proceeds from these events are tax deductible donations which will be utilized in ongoing efforts to enhance the ecology, access, and enjoyment of the Fox River. The River Corridor Foundation's latest initiative is [The Active River Project](#).



Help Keep Our City Workers Safe

Throughout the year—but especially during the warm weather months—Public Works crews are outside performing a variety of work. You may see them trimming trees; working on water mains; repairing streets, sidewalks and curbs; maintaining electric utilities; and completing many other tasks to keep our City at its best. Our crews are trained to work safely and regularly receive safety education. But we need you to be aware of these basic work zone tips to help keep them safe:

- Slow down when approaching all work zones and watch for workers
- Avoid distractions such as cell phones, navigation systems or music
- Watch out for equipment; work zones are generally marked with orange and black cones and warning signs
- Keep children away from working crews and work zones, especially after hours
- Leave extra room between your vehicle and the work zone
- Please be patient. Work zones may cause temporary inconvenience, but maintenance and improvements to our City benefit everyone.

Some Streets Getting a Facelift

Maintaining our city streets is a big job and an essential service for our residents and businesses. We recently launched our 2015 Street Resurfacing Program and will have most of the work completed this month.

“It’s important to have streets in good working order for safe, reliable transportation throughout the community,” said Civil Engineering Project Coordinator Gary Long. “The City works hard to keep the 166 miles of city roads well-maintained.” Last year, we used 1,262 tons of asphalt to keep those roads in good working condition.

Below is our street maintenance schedule in a nutshell. Regular updates are available on the 2015 Street Program page on the City’s website at www.stcharlesil.gov/projects. For more information, contact Gary Long at glong@stcharlesil.gov or 630.377.4486.

2015 STREET PROGRAM			
August Completion			
Street Name	From	To	Location
8th Court	Oak Street	South End	West
Avalon Court	S. 15th Street	West End	West
Crabapple Lane	Persimmon Drive	Persimmon Drive	East
Dukane Drive	Stone Drive	Kirk Road	East
Greenwood Lane	Oxmoor Court	N. End of Red Gate Park	West
Mockingbird Court	Greenwood Lane	West End	West
Oxmoor Court	Greenwood Lane	East End	West
South 8th Street	Oak Street	Indiana Street	West
South 10th Avenue	South Avenue	Indiana Avenue	East
Stone Drive	Production Drive	Dukane Drive	East
Walnut Avenue	S. 2nd Avenue	S. 5th Avenue	East
September Completion			
Street Name	From	To	Location
Peck Road	IL Route 38	S. of Dean Street	West
October Completion			
Street Name	From	To	Location
North Tyler Road	East Main Street	Allen Lane	East

Senator Karen McConnaughay is holding “Mobile Office Hours”

State Senator Karen McConnaughay is holding “Mobile Office Hours” Wednesday, August 5, at 10 a.m. in the St. Charles Municipal Building, 2 E. Main St. This is a great way for you to get information on important state programs, such as Veteran’s Benefits, Senior Services,



Property Tax information, etc. A representative from her office will be available to answer questions and distribute information.

You're Looking at Future CEOs



These bright young women recently came to the city to learn about careers in government and women's leadership. They spent time with women in Community & Economic Development, Public Works Engineering Division, Community and Public Affairs and Human Resources at the City. The visit was part of the Girl Scouts of America's weeklong Camp CEO program. After spending time with these young women, we can honestly say their future looks bright.

Remember to Shop Local for All Your Back-to-School Necessities!



Volunteer Plaza and Commemorative Sculpture Dedication

Sunday, August 16, 2015

The Volunteer Plaza is the redeveloped green space and walkway just north of the City of St. Charles Municipal Building on 2 E. Main Street. The Plaza will be dedicated, along with the commemorative sculpture, "Reflections," Sunday, Aug. 16 at 3 p.m.

Volunteer Plaza Community Committee Chair Dr. C. Alfred Patten spearheaded the effort to have a piece of public art in the city that honors volunteerism, as exemplified by Max and Doris Hunt, longtime residents and tireless Charles community. The wasn't of a statue of their of art that captured their with the St. Charles Arts Foundation, City, and Partnership, the project

The Reflections sculpture Guy J. Bellaver, who Visitors and Cultural of the St. Charles Arts Public Art Committee. sculpture from highly



Doris Hunt, longtime contributors to the St. Hunt family's vision parents, but rather a work spirit. Working together Council, River Corridor Downtown St. Charles has been realized.

was created by local artist serves on the St. Charles Commission, the Board Council and is Chairman Charles Partnership's Bellaver crafted the polished stainless steel to allow viewers to look at the sculpture and see themselves reflected within the city.

About this gift of public art, Mayor Ray Rogina said, "As an educator in this community for 30 years, volunteerism, education, and Max and Doris Hunt go hand in hand. It is most gratifying for the education community to see this type of recognition."

For more information, visit <https://reflectionsatvolunteerplaza.wordpress.com/>

Water Conservation

Water Conservation requirements now apply year round. Sprinkling time limits:

- **Even numbered** addresses may sprinkle on even-numbered days of the month, from 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. and from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- **Odd numbered** addresses may sprinkle on odd-numbered days of the month, from 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. and from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

If you have any questions, please contact Public Works at pw@stcharlesil.gov or **630.377.4405**.



7th Avenue Creek Project Update

If you live near the 7th Avenue Creek, you may be aware that FEMA is updating the floodplain maps



in that area to more accurately depict current flood risk to properties. This may change current flood boundaries. The City has begun evaluating the impacts of these revised flood insurance maps and is developing options for mitigating their effects.

We also are working on concepts for stream restoration and improving the eroded stream banks along the creek. The City's consultant, H.R. Green, is developing a long term master plan to relieve flooding along the 7th Avenue Creek watershed. These options may be available this fall.

Visit the 7th Avenue Creek project website www.hlplanning.com/portals/stcharles for more. Or contact our Public Works Engineering Division at **630.584.5353** or stormwater@stcharlesil.gov.

Be Sure to Enroll in the CodeRED Emergency Notification System

Kane County has implemented the CodeRED® Emergency Telephone Notification System. The system allows County officials to telephone targeted areas or the entire County if an emergency requires immediate action such as a boil water order, missing child alert or evacuation notice. CodeRED® is capable of dialing 50,000 phone numbers per hour and delivers a recorded message.

Be sure to visit the secure Community Notification Enrollment page and add your contact information so you will receive emergency call notifications. This is especially important if you have an unlisted number, no landline, a VOIP or mobile number or TDD/TTY requirements. For more information, visit the Kane County Office of Emergency Management website.



2015 Street Sweeping Schedule

The City sweeps its streets to remove debris from roads. Besides keeping our streets clean and presentable, sweeping also helps eliminate potential pollutants from entering the storm sewer system.

Street Sweeping Schedule

Mid-August

Last week of September

Last week of October

Mid November

Last week of November
(after leaf collection)

There also will be special sweepings for parades, festivals, special events, emergencies, accidents, leaf pick-up and severe weather events. Please try not to park on the streets during sweeping. For more information, contact the Public Works Department at pw@stcharlesil.gov or 630.377.4405, or check the Street Sweeping page of the city website for updates.

Garden Gods

We're headed into fall, where everything comes up Scarecrow here in St. Charles. Enjoy this article on scarecrow history from the St. Charles History Museum.

Icons of the fall harvest and Halloween, the modern scarecrow is markedly different from its ancient counterparts.

Scarecrow history follows two distinct paths. Originally rooted in polytheism, effigies to fertility and harvest gods adorn temples throughout the ancient world. Making sacrifices to and worshiping gods like Demeter (Greek), Ceres (Roman), Yum Kaax (Mayan), and Cinteotl (Aztec) worked to ensure

a bountiful harvest.

European and American scarecrows follow a more macabre yet utilitarian trajectory. During the Middle Ages, human children were often removed from school at age seven or eight and worked the fields from 4 a.m. to 7 p.m. scaring birds away from crops with noise makers or by flailing their arms. However, the Black Death (1346-1353) caused a child shortage and human like figures replaced the "bird scarers."

In the United States, the Pennsylvania Dutch injected fear into the hearts of birds and field robbers alike with their Butzemann or Bogeyman scarecrows.

Regardless of the form they embodied,

scarecrows fueled superstitions, abated nervous farmers, and served as protectors of the crops.

The St. Charles History Museum invites you to come to the Museum and see our interpretation of scarecrows throughout the ages. The Museum will host an exclusive Members Only preview of Garden Gods: Scarecrows from Athens to Oz on Aug. 28. The exhibition will be open to the public Aug. 29 - Oct. 17. More at www.stcmuseum.org.



When it comes to severe weather...
hope for the best, but prepare for the worst.



You can begin your preparation by assembling an emergency preparedness kit, which includes items to help keep your family safe and comfortable during a power outage. Your kit should include items such as water, non-perishable food, flashlight, batteries, blankets, and a first aid kit.



Brush Pick-Up Schedule

EAST SIDE	WEST SIDE
Aug 17	Aug 24
Sept 21	Sept 28
Oct 19	Oct 26
November: No Pick Up	

Please note: Only City of St. Charles residents who pay a monthly fee on their utility bill are eligible. To find out if you are eligible, review your City utility bill for the fee, input your address in My Neighborhood on the City website, or call Utility Billing at **630.377.4426** for verification.

Brush must be placed on the parkway in front of the house or along the frontage where refuse/recycling is collected, before 7 a.m. on Monday (or Tuesday if Monday is a holiday). It may take 3 to 4 days to get to your neighborhood. This schedule and pick up requirements are available on the city website at www.stcharlesil.gov/services/brush.

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



Here's an easy tip to help keep mosquitos away while you're outside enjoying your deck or backyard:

Place one or more electric fans nearby to circulate the air. The breeze from the fans will help to stop mosquitos from settling, which will help to prevent mosquito bites. But please remember to bring electric fans and other electric items inside when you come in for the night.

City of St. Charles Directory

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