



Fall 2018

Columbia Quarterly

www.columbiaillinois.com



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MAYOR'S MINUTE

We have met some challenges while replacing the water line on Main Street; unfortunately this project has taken longer than expected. These issues have been resolved and pavement patching is now moving forward. Thank you for your patience and understanding during this process. We are happy to report that construction at Route 3 and Gall Road ran on schedule and is now open.

Fall is a great time to get out and enjoy all the family fun activities in Columbia. Enjoy!

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Experience Columbia's GM&O Heritage Trail!



When the Illinois Central Gulf Railroad abandoned and removed their tracks through Columbia in 1986, our city leaders at that time had the foresight to acquire the entire railroad right-of-way through town. Without their efforts the opportunity to build this trail would have been lost forever. The development of the trail and its designation as the GM&O Railroad Heritage Trail was initiated by the City Of Columbia in 2015. The purpose of the trail is twofold:

- 1) To preserve the railroad history of Columbia
- 2) To create a linear park for biking and walking.

Completion of the trail will be in phases as finances are available but once complete, it will stretch from State Route 3 at South Main Street north to Quarry Road at State Route 3 (once known as Millstadt Junction) and then on to the intersection with the Union Pacific rail line under the overpass for Interstate 255 (once known as Bixby Junction), a total distance of over 3 miles.

The first section of the trail from Cherry Street to Rueck Road was paved in 2015. Phase 2 paved the section from Rueck to Gedern subdivision in 2017. Phase 3 will pave the section from Cherry Street to Metter/Ferkel Streets intersection. Phase 4 will pave from Metter/Ferkel Streets to an overlook at State Route 3 and South Main and finally, Phase 5 will complete the section from Quarry Road to Bixby Junction.

Our ultimate goal is to make this trail unique and to commemorate its former role as a railroad line that linked the small town of Columbia to the outside world before automobiles and highways made travel easier. We plan to do this by replacing the crossing signs, mileposts, trackside signals and other railroad signage in their original locations so that the walker or biker can experience what the train crew and passengers viewed as they traveled the line to and from St. Louis through Columbia.

To learn more about the GM&O Heritage Trail, visit www.ColumbiaTrail.net.





TOP 10—BACK TO SCHOOL SAFETY TIPS

With the arrival of a new school year, we would like to share some important safety reminders for you and your children. We offer the tips below in an effort to maintain a safe environment for your children during the school year.

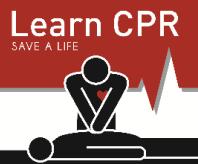


School Safety Tips for Adults

- 1. Keep Your Eyes on the Road:** Do not use your phone while driving to send text messages, access the internet or talk on your phone.
- 2. Watch for “Hot Spots” of Activity:** Marked school zones, school bus stops, and pedestrian crosswalks are areas drivers should be especially cautious.
- 3. Yield to School Buses:** Don’t try to overtake a bus, it’s a moving violation. If a bus is displaying a flashing red light or their stop sign is extended, you are legally required to stop.
- 4. Expect the Unexpected:** Children may run out in front of a vehicle’s pathway unexpectedly. Follow the speed limit and yield to crossing guards stationed at designated school crossings.
- 5. Budget Extra Travel Time:** School areas are congested, so it is highly recommended that motorists leave for their morning commute early. The extra time will help motorists avoid road rage and accidents.

School Safety Tips for Children

- 1. Demonstrate Crosswalk Safety:** Tell your children to cross streets only at crosswalks or stoplights if available. They should always look both ways before crossing.
- 2. Use the Buddy System:** Obtain contact information for your child’s walking buddies and be familiar with their walking route. Depending on the age of the children, an adult chaperone may be necessary.
- 3. Avoid Danger Zones:** Tell your children to avoid walking or riding their bicycles behind school buses and other dangerous blind spots.
- 4. Practice School Bus Safety:** Remind your children to be very careful when exiting the bus. School bus fatalities can occur when children run out in front of the bus or get struck by passing vehicles.
- 5. Bicycle Safety:** Children who ride their bicycles to school should wear helmets, light-colored clothing and reflective devices.



Become CPR Certified—Save a Life

Just about every minute and a half, someone somewhere in the United States goes into cardiac arrest outside a hospital. If a person near you suddenly collapses, has no pulse, and has stopped breathing, do you know what to do?



The first step is calling 9-1-1, but what you do next might double the person's odds of survival — if you begin chest compressions at 100 times per minute over the center of their breastbone. A person in cardiac arrest who receives CPR, or cardiopulmonary resuscitation, from a bystander before emergency medical services (EMS) arrive is twice as likely to be alive a month later as someone who did not get bystander CPR, according to a study published June 11 in the New England Journal of Medicine. Columbia EMS will start hosting Community CPR classes on the second Thursdays each month starting in October 2018 from 6-9pm (10/11/2018) at Columbia Fire Department meeting room.

Cost is \$25 for residents of CEMS venue and \$40.00 non-residents. Call Columbia EMS for inquiries or to register for class 618-281-4163.

Follow us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/ColumbiaEMS/>

Welcome to New Director of Community Development

The City of Columbia is pleased to introduce Scott Dunakey, AICP as its new Director of Community Development. Scott is a certified planner with more than 17 years of professional experience. He has a bachelor's degree in planning from Missouri State University and a master's degree in community and economic development from the University of Central Arkansas.



For the past 10 years, Scott led planning services for an engineering firm in Wichita, Kansas. His clients ranged from local, regional and state agencies to real estate developers and private industries. Scott previously worked for municipalities in Kansas, Texas and Arkansas. This broad experience gives him a unique perspective and thorough understanding of community development.

Scott grew up in the St. Louis area and is a lifelong fan of the Cardinals and Blues. He is an avid golfer, despite a frustrating lack of skill and proficiency. Scott also enjoys reading science fiction and playing guitar in his spare time.

LIMB AND LEAF PICK UP

The limb pick up service for Fall 2018 will take place the weeks beginning on October 8 and October 15. If you have limbs to be picked up, please have them by the curb in front of your residence by 6:00 a.m. on either Monday, October 8 or Monday, October 15.



The leaf pick up service will begin on Monday, October 22 and continue until Friday, December 7. You may place your leaves by the curb but not in the street at any time. Continual sweeps will be made through the city to pick up the leaves. It is recommended (if possible) you cover the pile(s) of leaves so they do not get wet which makes the leaves difficult to pick up. Piles of leaves shall be free of honeysuckle, grass clippings, limbs, branches and twigs, acorns, gumballs or anything other than leaves. The leaf vacuums cannot pick up these types of items.

If you have any questions about the leaf and limb pick up service please do not hesitate to contact City Hall at 281-7144.

WELCOME NEW BUSINESSES

Autoshield, Inc.
207 N. Main St., Suite 108
Vehicle Service Contacts

Dare to Hope Counseling
101 McCrosky Professional Park
Professional Counseling

Hicks & Spector LLC
207 N. Main St., Suite 109B
Law Firm—Satellite Office

LaLa Confetti
117 Southwoods Center Dr.
Personalized gifts (on-line sales only)

Re/Max Results Realty
830 Admiral Weinel Blvd.
Real Estate Brokerage

Sunset Overlook
11604 Bluff Rd.
Bar / Restaurant

Columbia Unit School District News

Columbia Unit School District #4 would like to welcome returning and new students and families to the 2018-2019 school year!



Please welcome our newest members of the administrative team: Mr. Bob Dugan as Assistant Principal at PV/EV and Mr. Dave Ackerman as Assistant Principal at CMS. Dr. Castelli, former CMS Asst. Principal, is now the principal of CMS, while Mrs. Becherer is the new principal overseeing both Eagleview and Parkview. In addition to our new administrators, the district has employed an amazing group of new staff members throughout the district that are highlighted on the district webpage.

Thank you, community members, for approving the 1 cent County School Facility Sales Tax for Monroe County school districts. The new revenue allowed the district to move forward on the much needed culinary classroom project at the high school. The original 1970's cabinets and countertops were replaced and look amazing!

