

Spring 2019 Columbia Quarterly

www.columbiaillinois.com

Know Columbia



**Mayor
Hutchinson**

I am excited to announce the City of Columbia was recently awarded the 2019 Illinois Excellence In Tourism Award for the Best Branding Initiative for the new POP-UP SHOP. The historic one-room Shoemaker schoolhouse, located on Route 3 along the Kaskaskia -Cahokia Trail, was used as a Welcome Center from 2011-2016. A lack of visitors forced the City to consider alternative uses. The City's Community Relations & Tourism Coordinator, Sue Spargo worked diligently to re-brand this historic location in 2018 as a POP-UP SHOP. While providing a temporary space for vendors who are entrepreneurs, makers, or retail business owners, it remains a place of historic interest for everyone to enjoy. Congratulations to Sue for her efforts! If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity, please give her a call at 281-7144 x 134 or sspargo@columbiaillinois.com.

Wishing you all a spectacular Spring, and please reach out to me at 281-7144 x 109 or 281-5199 or E-mail: khutchinson@columbiaillinois.com if you have any questions.



April 12 & 13 **City Wide YARD SALE**

Yard sale permits are not required on April 12 and 13. Registration to hold a yard sale and information about yard sales has changed this year. To register your sale, visit www.Columbiaillinois.com and click on the link to register your sale. View and print a list of yard

sales at the same link. Your list can be customized to include only the items you are looking for! The link will be available beginning March 1. Register, view and print sales up until the day of the sale — no deadlines. Sales are entered and viewed in real time.

REDUCE, REUSE & RECYCLE EVENT APRIL 13 (10 am—2 pm) COLUMBIA HIGH SCHOOL PARKING LOT

Nice Twice: Accepting gently used clothing/shoes, furniture, toys and household items.

* Vendors below accepting from Columbia residents only, **photo ID & utility bill required as proof of residency.**

* **Reliable Sanitation:** Glass, plastic, cardboard, aluminum and large non-recyclable items (not larger than a recliner).

* **CJD E-Cycling:** Computer & audio/video equipment, flat screen TVs & monitors, car and rechargeable batteries, lawn equipment, appliances, & electronics. Small fee to recycle CRT, projection, plasma and console TVs based on size. Smoke detectors (\$10/item fee). *Limited Items: One CRT monitor per tower. (CRT monitors without tower will be a fee of \$5-\$10).*

* **Secure Document Destruction Services:** 5 box maximum please.

Not Accepting: Paints, light bulbs, alkaline batteries, chemicals and tires.

For a complete list of accepted and not accepted items go to
www.columbiaillinois.com—Calendar—April 13.



Help Prevent Vehicle Theft and Burglary

- Lock the doors and close the windows.** Don't make it easy for a thief to break into or reach into your vehicle and steal anything of value! When parking your vehicle, make it a habit to double-check that your vehicle's doors are locked and your windows are closed.
- Don't leave your vehicle running.** It can be tempting to leave your vehicle running when you're making a quick stop at places such as the store or your child's daycare center, but this also makes it convenient for a thief to hop in and drive away.
- Park in well-lit areas.** If you're parking your vehicle after sunset, try to find a spot underneath a streetlight that's well-lit and well-trafficked. Thieves may be less likely to rummage through a vehicle with a spotlight on them and a potential audience just around the corner.
- Hide any valuables.** Better yet, avoid keeping valuables in your vehicle at all. If a thief must choose between a seemingly empty vehicle or one with a laptop, cell phone, or wallet in plain view, guess which one they'll choose? If you must leave something important in your vehicle, put the item(s) in your trunk before you reach your destination. Experienced thieves have been known to stake out parking lots, watching for drivers to transfer items to their trunks, and then break into the vehicle's trunk after the driver has left the area. This criminal activity happens more frequently on large parking lots at sporting events, shopping centers and grocery stores.
- Invest in an anti-theft system.** Whether it's a steering wheel lock, a window alarm, or an ignition cut-off system, anything that makes a thief work harder could also make your vehicle safer. If it will slow criminals down or potentially get them caught, they'll probably pass.
- If you see anything suspicious, do not wait — please call the police immediately.



Budget Time

The City is in the process of preparing the budget for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2019 and ending April 30, 2020. At Committee of the Whole meetings from now until mid-April, City Administrator James Morani and Accounting Manager Linda Sharp will present various components of the budget to the City Council. Topics covered will include projected revenue, projected expenditures, capital projects, equipment purchases, cash flow projections, and fee schedule adjustments. The budget will be posted for public inspection in early April prior to its adoption on April 15.



Columbia Ranks in the Top 10 Safest Cities in Illinois



Landscape Waste Removal

Curbside landscape waste removal will be every Tuesday beginning March 5 through November 26. Please set biodegradable landscape waste bags out at the curb by 6:00 a.m. One Reliable Sanitation sticker is needed on each bag.



Limb Removal Service

Limb removal service for the spring will be scheduled for one week in early April. Limb removal service for the fall will be scheduled for two weeks in early October. The schedule for limb removal service is subject to change and will be firmly set as we get closer to those months. Please watch for notices concerning the scheduled dates.



Welcome New Businesses

A Balanced Perspective Counseling 808 S. Main St. Professional Counseling	K.E. Soul Boutique 116 W. Locust Women's Clothing (On-Line Sales Only)	Lashes by Aleshia 207 N. Main St., Suite 110B Eyelash Extensions / Licensed Esthetician
Losin' It! 207 N. Main St., Suite 211A Medically Supervised Weight Mgmt.	Molly Nails, Inc. 235 S. Main St. Nail Salon	Monroe County Resale, Inc. 208 N. Main, Unit D Resale of Furniture/Misc. Items
Scott Credit Union 1000 Eleven South, Suite 2A Bank	State Bank of Waterloo 1525 N. Main St. Bank	Washy's Pub 210 S. Main St. Restaurant & Bar



Main Street Streetscape Project - Phase 2, Phase 3 and South Main Street Resurfacing Project

The City of Columbia has combined Main Street Streetscape Phase 2 and 3 with the South Main resurfacing project in an effort to save tax dollars and minimize overall construction times of the three projects. The anticipated bid date for this project is June 2019. The resurfacing portion of the project will remove the existing asphalt surface from Cherry Street to 400 feet north of Illinois Route 3, have repair work performed on the underlying concrete pavement and replace the asphalt surface. The work also includes having all sidewalk curb ramps brought up to current accessibility standards. Side road entrances onto Main Street that are not concrete at this time will have concrete entrances constructed. The Streetscape portion of the project includes the removal and replacement of deteriorated sidewalk and curb and gutter, the construction of ADA compliant intersection curb ramps, brick pavers, decorative cross walks, ornamental street lights and signs, and the addition of trees from Whiteside Street to Oak Street (Phase 2) and Cherry Street to Madison Street (Phase 3). The project is consistent with the City of Columbia's Master Plan to "achieve the preservation and enhancement of Main Street as a vibrant commercial and historical center of the City with a variety of activities and a selection of goods and services where people can walk, ride bicycles or drive to take advantage of these amenities." The current schedule is to complete all the work from Cherry to 400 feet north of Illinois Route 3 by the end of the year and to complete the work from Whiteside to Oak by next summer. The City has obtained approximately \$2 million in Federal STU (Surface Transportation Funds) and ITEP (Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program) Grants to assist in funding these projects.

Residents and motorists are cautioned to watch for detours and lane closures during the construction work. As always, your cooperation and patience is greatly appreciated as the roadway improvements are performed. Please check the City's website for project updates. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Chris Smith, City Engineer, at 618-281-7144 x 107 or csmith@columbiaillinois.com.



Donna Mehaffey Retires

After 40+ years, Deputy City Clerk Donna Mehaffey has retired from the City of Columbia. Donna was appointed as the Deputy City Clerk in 1979 and served under the following City Clerks: Clifford Schrader, Raymond Griesbach, Ron Colyer and Wes Hoeffken. We thank Donna for her many years of dedicated service to the City and community, and wish her a happy retirement!

A New Face in Town

We are pleased to introduce Jason Schantz as the City's Neighborhood Improvement Officer. Jason will be keeping Columbia safe and attractive with a focus on property maintenance and code compliance. If you see Jason out and about, be sure to say hello!





City of Columbia
208 S. Rapp Avenue
P.O. Box 467
Columbia, IL 62236

Know Columbia



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Upcoming Events



Daylight Saving Time

March 10

Spring ahead one hour



Lucky Ladies Night Out

March 14, 5 - 9 pm: Strike gold with shopping deals; complete scratch-off to win prizes - Historic Main Street.

City Wide Yard Sale

April 12 & 13:

Over 150 yard sales.



Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Event



April 13, 10 am - 2 pm:
High School Parking Lot

monroe county

startUP

Trade Show
April 24,
2 - 7 pm:

Stop by to see the class of 2019's
business creations - 11 South, 5th Floor.



Rotten Egg Hunt (Adults 21 & up)

April 26, 6:30 pm:
Bolm-Schuhkraft Park

For more events and details go to www.columbiaillinois.com or call 281-7144

Designer Bag Bingo

May 3, 7 pm: Tickets at
mymainstreetcolumbia.com
beginning March 1.

Small Business Week

May 5 - 11: Enjoy daily events
promoting small businesses in
Columbia and thanking those
who support small business
year round.

Large Item Curbside Pick-Up

May 28 for Regular Tuesday Trash & Recycling
May 31 for Regular Friday Trash & Recycling



Wednesday Workout Series

June & July, 7 - 8 pm:
Free Wednesday
workouts at Metter Park.

Music at Metter Park

June 2, 6 - 8 pm:
Music by Waterloo German Band

Music at Metter Park

June 16, 6 - 8 pm:
Music by Rob Boyle

Music at Metter Park

June 30, 6 - 8 pm:
Music by Silverback



Weekly / Monthly Programs

- Babygarten (6-8 mos.)
- Tot Time (19mos-3 yrs.)
- Story Hour (3-5 yrs.)
- Wiggle Worms (0-5 yrs.)
- Lego Club (4-12 yrs.)
- STEAM Explorers (6-12 yrs.)
- Teen Advisory Board (12-17 yrs.)
- Readers Club (8-15 yrs.)
- Novels at Night (Adults)
- Free Tax Help with AARP:
Feb.-Apr (Low-moderate income adults)



Career Fair

March 9, 10 am (All ages)

*Intro to Knitting Series

March 6 & 12, 6:30 pm (Teen / Adults)

*Preparing for College

March 19, 6:30 pm (Teen / Adults)

*Understanding Financial Aid

March 25, 6:30 pm (Teen / Adults)

*Paper Crafts

April 4, 4 pm (5-7 yrs.)

April 11, 4 pm (8-12 yrs.)

*Last Minute Mother's Day Gift

April 9, 6:30 pm (5-7 yrs.)

Evening Story Times

April 8-13, National Library Week (Family)

* Registration Required - 281-4237

