



Summer 2020 Columbia Quarterly



These last few months have certainly required major adjustments in our lives due to the COVID-19 pandemic. City Hall doors have been closed since April, but City staff have successfully continued daily operations. We at the City are excited to open our doors to the public with Phase 3 in a safe and responsible way. I am happy to see that some restaurants and businesses will be opening (with restrictions) as well - it's a step in a positive direction. I'd like to thank our citizens for their cooperation during these trying times. Please support our local businesses. They can use all the help they can get.

Congratulations to all of the graduates that have embraced these challenging times. Many special moments have been missed, but forging through and making the best of it has made you stronger.

**Mayor
Hutchinson**

Music at Metter Summer Concert Series Goes VIRTUAL for the "Live Local" Campaign

Enjoy live concerts this summer from the comfort of your own home! Tune in on your television, computer, tablet or phone. All Music at Metter concerts will broadcast LIVE on Facebook, YouTube and Vimeo. Be sure to like or subscribe to all of our social media channels to make it easy and convenient to join the fun.



The Historic Main Street Columbia Association (HMSA) is a non-profit organization that supports its Columbia small business members through events like Witches Night Out, Wednesday Night Workouts in the Park, the Taste of Columbia and so much more. They're teaming up with us to provide a virtual donation jar during each concert. All proceeds from the concert will be given directly back to member businesses who are struggling to stay afloat during these difficult times. If you would like to help these Columbia small businesses, the link to donate will be available on your screen during each concert, or you can donate now at www.mymainstreetcolumbia.com.

Here's how to watch the concerts this summer: Like or subscribe to our social media channels.

- ◆ Facebook: www.facebook.com/knowcolumbia then click LIKE
- ◆ YouTube: www.youtube.com/knowcolumbia then click SUBSCRIBE
- ◆ Vimeo: www.vimeo.com/knowcolumbia then click FOLLOW

From your computer, tablet or phone, go to www.columbiaillinois.com/virtual-events and click on the buttons that take you directly to the concert.



Our doors are closed, but we are open!

Columbia Public Library curbside is open! The library building is still closed to the public until otherwise determined by the Library Board and local stay-at-home mandates.

Curbside is available Monday thru Friday 9 am to 4 pm. Patrons can request library materials by calling 618-281-4237, emailing reference@columbialibrary.org with the subject line as 'Book Request', or by using their online Library accounts. Find out more about how to request materials online and pick up curbside at www.columbialibrary.org or call 618-281-4237.

The library's outside drop box is now open for patrons to return any books, DVDs, and audiobooks, etc. No fines will accrue on library materials while the library is closed. Nor, will patrons be able to pay existing fines or fees during curbside service. Although Columbia Library staff miss their daily interactions with their community, they are taking all the necessary precautions to protect their staff and visitors from any potential exposure to COVID-19.

Dig Deeper: Read, Investigate, Discover! Columbia Public Library is hosting their Summer Reading Program and events online this year. Everyone is welcome to visit www.columbialibrary.org 'Calendar' to see the library's free upcoming virtual events and to register for those events that take place on Zoom. If you have any questions regarding events, email columbialibrary.events@gmail.com or call 618-281-4237.

People will be able to register for the 2020 Summer Reading Program from May 30th to August 1st. The reading program will take place online and on paper this year.

Online participants can go to www.columbialibrary.org and click into Columbia Library's READsquared website to register, log reading, and/or learn how to access the READsquared mobile app. Online readers will be able to log their books or minutes, completing missions, and playing games to earn badges. After each completed badge, participant names will be added to our prize raffles!

For individuals who do not have access to the Internet and would like to participate in the reading program, please call 618-281-4237 for more details on how to register and turn in a reading log.

To learn more about our summer reading adventures with the library online, contact us by phone (618) 281-4237, email at columbialibrary.events@gmail.com, visit www.columbialibrary.org, or, follow us on Facebook 'Columbia Public Library, Columbia IL' and Instagram 'Columbia Public Library'.



We here at Columbia EMS hope everyone is doing well and staying safe in these trying times. Right now the current recommendations per the CDC are to wear some sort of face covering when out in public, practice hand hygiene often, stay at least 6 feet apart, and no gatherings larger than 10 people. Columbia EMS is working every day to keep our crew members and patients safe; including screening our crew mem-

bers every morning and evening, constructing our own isolation gowns, and disinfecting the station and the ambulances multiple times throughout the day. Most importantly, please remember an emergency is still an emergency! Don't let the fear of COVID-19 stop you from seeking lifesaving emergency care.



Columbia Police Department
Emergency 911 / Non-Emergency 618-281-5151
PROTECT YOUR VEHICLE



Recently the City of Columbia has experienced an increase in theft from motor vehicles. Together with the public's assistance, we can prevent crime.



ALWAYS LOCK YOUR VEHICLE even if it is in the front of your residence, on your driveway or you are making a quick stop at a gas station, daycare center, etc.



NEVER leave any articles of value in your vehicle. If you must store your valuables in your vehicle, place them out of sight before you stop anywhere.



ALWAYS activate your vehicle's alarm.



NEVER leave your vehicle running or the keys in the ignition while unattended, even if it is "just for a minute."



IMMEDIATELY REPORT any suspicious activities, people or vehicles to the Columbia Police Department.



Please join us in welcoming the City's Director of Information Technology, James Mitchell. James started with the City of Columbia in 2018 as an outside contractor with InterDev. He has eleven years of experience working with metro area municipalities and public safety departments managing and supporting IT systems. He has done an outstanding job improving and maintaining IT services at the Police Department, Department of Public Works and City Hall. Hiring James to be a full-time employee with the City provides a substantial savings of our tax payer dollars.



Important Update from the Environmental Protection Agency

Building and business closures for weeks or months reduces water usage, potentially leading to stagnant water inside building plumbing. This water can become unsafe to drink or otherwise use for domestic or commercial purposes. The EPA recommends that building owners and managers take proactive steps to protect public health by minimizing water stagnation during closures and taking action to address building water quality prior to reopening. Please go to our website to view more information and documents regarding Maintaining or Restoring Water Quality In Buildings With Low Or No Use and Restoring Water Quality in Buildings for Reopening (Checklist).

Yard sale approvals were suspended in order to comply with the Restore Illinois plan. In Phase 3 of the plan, yard sales will be allowed, pending capacity limits and IDPH approved safety guidance, which includes face masks. Please continue to submit your yard sale information for approval at: www.columbiaillinois.com/485/Yard-Sales



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Know Columbia



Prsrt Std
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St. Louis, MO

Virtual Music at Metter



- May 31, 6:00 - 8:00 pm:
Music by Waterloo German Band
- June 14, 6:00 - 8:00 pm:
Music by Nashville Country Artist
Johnny Henry and his band.
- June 28, 6:00 - 8:00 pm:
Music by Silverback
- July 12, 6:00 - 8:00 pm:
Music by Fanfare Band
- July 28, 6:00 - 8:00 pm:
Music by The Steamroller Band

@KnowColumbia



Upcoming Events

Large Item Curbside Pick-Up
Sept. 1 for Regular Tuesday Trash & Recycling
Sept. 4 for Regular Friday Trash & Recycling

In these uncertain times, we suggest checking the City's website for updates and changes to upcoming events.

The events listed below are either canceled or the event status is to be determined (TBD). We were unable to confirm the events status in time to meet our printer's deadline.

Wednesday Workout Series (TBD)
July

4th of July Celebration (Canceled)

4th of July Bike Parade (TBD)

Taste of Columbia
Art & Artisans on Main (TBD)
Aug. 1

Columbia Days & Parade (TBD)
Aug. 21 & 22

Currently the Library is not open to the public. Please consider some of the on-line options below.



Weekly / Monthly Programs

- Babygarten Zoom** (6-18 mos.) - Mon.
- Bedtime Story Narration by Caitlin** (family) Tues.
- Angela @ Home** (family) - Wed.
- Virtual Book Club** (Adults)
- Chair Yoga** (Adults)
- Yoga** (Teen/Adults)
- Pre-K Yoga** (2-5 yrs.)

*** IM Wellness Classes in June** (Adults)

- Qigong: Mondays - 6:00 pm
- Chen Style Tai Chi: Wednesdays - 6:00 pm
- Breathwork: Thursdays - 6:00 pm
- Meditation: Saturdays - 10:00 am

*** Tales to Tails via Zoom**

June and July, Times Vary (2 - 12 yrs.)

Creative Play—
Creative & Mindful Art Journaling
July, Thursdays (5 - 10 yrs.)

Visit www.columbialibrary.org

- ♦ To * register for online events
- ♦ Access free ebooks, e-audiobooks, e-magazines, and e-learning resources