

May 1998

# THE PIPELINE

"Where Lewis & Clark Began"

## Upcoming Events

**May 14 - 15**

Library Book Sale,  
Roundhouse.  
Preview May 14

**May 17**

Open House at Wood River  
Museum & Visitor's Center  
1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

**May 23**

Aquatic Center Opening Day

**May 30**

Youth League Parade - 10 a.m.  
Adult Jiveland Dance - 7 p.m.

**June 1 - June 11**

Spring Clean-up (see page 4)

**June 7**

Bob Kuban Brass Band,  
8-10 p.m., Central Park

**June 13**

Police Auction - 9 a.m.,  
City Hall parking lot

**June 14**

SAR Flag Day Ceremony  
2 p.m., Wood River  
Museum & Visitor's Center

**June 16**

Summer Youth Clinic,  
Belk Park

**June 17**

IL Police Assoc. Torch Relay  
for Special Olympics

**June 19**

Wood River Night at  
Busch Stadium

**August 8**

13th annual Triathlon

**August 16**

Gabe & The All Star Band,  
at 7 p.m., Central Park

## Public Services Projects

With Springtime upon us and nice weather settling in, it's that time of the year to begin construction projects. Here is a list of work that the City will undertake this year:

In a joint project with East Alton, the City has received a safety grant from the State to roto-mill and resurface Edwardsville Road from Wood River Avenue to Lincoln Avenue in East Alton. What makes this unique is Edwardsville Road will become a three-lane road with the center lane becoming a turn lane. Construction should start sometime in June.

At about the same time the City will roto-mill and resurface Wood River Avenue from Lorena Avenue to the northern city limits (past Edwardsville Road). Along with those improvements will be sidewalk, curb and storm drain repairs.

Road and alley repairs have already begun in an area from Wood River Avenue to 6th Street and Madison Avenue (Rt. 143) to Edwardsville Road. After repairs are made, the streets and alleys will be oiled and chipped. Watch for no parking signs when work is to be done.

The City will be gathering information in the near future and putting together a program for cross connection control for the water distribution system. This is to prevent backflow contamination into the public water supply. This will include mainly commercial business or where the city finds a potential hazard.

## Reminder

Leaf burning is **ONLY ALLOWED** on **WEDNESDAY & SATURDAY** from **OCTOBER 1 through APRIL 30.**

**WHAT CAN YOU DO INSTEAD OF BURNING LEAVES?**

- Consider composting - Many citizens are mulching their leaves by mowing over them for composting. Composting prevents air pollution and as an added benefit, will provide a rich source of humus for spring flower beds next year.
- Leaves may be bagged and taken to the City Garage at 14<sup>th</sup> Street. The garage is open Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday. The fee is 50 cents per bag.
- The City will pick up leaves that are raked to the curb starting in October.

## Swing Back to Jiveland

Remember the great times you had hanging out at Jiveland?!? Relive those days at a special adult, 18 and older dance, Saturday, May 30, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. The Roundhouse invites you to come out and kick your heels up to the music of Erv Mouish & The Music Makers.

The cost is \$5.00 per person or \$8.00 per couple in advance. On May 30, the cost is \$6.00 per person and \$10.00 per couple. Space is limited so get your ticket today! All proceeds will benefit the Wood River Youth Sports Programs.



## PARKS & RECREATION



The Recreation Department will be holding the following events this summer. For more information, please call 251-3130, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to noon and 1-5 p.m.

**The Annual Youth League Parade** will be held Saturday, May 30 at 10 a.m.. This parade consists of all youth league baseball/softball participants, Tri-City, Bi-City and Wood River Instructional League. The parade will end at Emerick Sports Complex, on 6<sup>th</sup> Street, where youth league games will be held to kick off the season.

**The Summer Gymnastics Camp** will include tumbling on Tuesdays and gymnastics with equipment on Thursdays. Registration will be held May 4-29. Sessions will run June through August. There will be two five-week sessions. Classes will be held in the evening hours. Call the Recreation Department for more information. 251-3130.

**Tennis Lessons** will be available for beginners ages 10 to adult. The two week instructional program will be held at the East Alton-Wood River tennis courts Monday through Friday mornings from 8-10 a.m., July 6-10. The fee is \$20.00 per person. The registration deadline is July 3.

**Summer Day Camp** for children ages five (by 6/1/98) through 11 years old will be held Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., June 15 to July 24. Pre-Registration is required in person. A limit of 50 children will be accepted. Registration is May 4-29.

**Cheerleading Camp** will be offered June 15-19 from 9 a.m.- 11 a.m. at the Roundhouse. Camp will involve sideline cheers, a floor cheer and assistance with mounts. Third through 6<sup>th</sup> grade students are invited. Register by May 29. The fee is \$15.00 for a five-day period.

**City Night at Busch Stadium** will be held June 19. Tickets can be purchased at City Hall and are \$8.00 with transportation and \$6.00 without. Seats are reserved bleachers. For more information call 251-3100 or 251-3130.

**The 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Wood River Triathlon**, sponsored by the Aquatic Center is scheduled Saturday, August 8, at 7 a.m. This event starts with a swim at the Aquatic Center, followed by a bike ride and ends with a run through the streets of Wood River. The race finishes in the Central Park near the bandstand. Professional timers are used and trophies are awarded to each age group.

## Summer Running Series

- **Alton Memorial Family Run** - June 13, Belk Park
- **Pee Wee Run** - July 12, Gordon Moore Park
- **Dash N Splash** - August 2, The Aquatic Center

Ages 14 and under can sign up for the entire series for \$5.00. Kids can register on race day.

**Rules of the Road**, provided free of charge through the Secretary of State's Office, in conjunction with the Recreation Department. It is geared toward Senior Citizens, although others may attend. Classes are held June 9 and Aug 11.

## Aquatic Center News

The Aquatic Center Opening day will be May 23. Hours of operation are 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. (Adult Swim); Noon-7 p.m. (slide open); 1-7 p.m. (Pool). Put on your suite and join in the fun.

**SAVE!!! SAVE!!!  
SAVE!!!**

**Season passes** are available at the Finance Office at City Hall, at 1997 rates, through 5 p.m., May 22. The following rates apply:

### Resident Cost:

Child .....	\$35.00
Adult .....	\$45.00
Senior (60 and older) .....	\$30.00
*Family .....	\$99.00

### Non-Resident Cost

Child .....	\$45.00
Adult .....	\$55.00
Senior (60 and older) .....	
*Family .....	\$120.00

\*Includes three immediate family members, \$20.00 for each additional family member.

## Swim Lessons:

**Learn to Swim Program:** Fee: \$22.00. The Aquatic Center conducts a complete series of public swimming lessons following the American Red Cross Aquatics Program. Students successfully completing a swim course will receive a Red Cross certification card. Children must be 4

years of age to register. All sessions will meet Monday through Friday. All classes will be completed by 11 a.m.  
Session I: June 8-June 19  
Session II: June 29-July 10  
Session III: July 20-July 31

**Mom & Tot Program:** Fee: \$20.00. This program is for children under four. An adult must accompany the child in class. (Parent, guardian, grandparent, etc.)

**Water Aerobics Program:** Fee: \$24.00 per session. Keep in shape and cool off during one of our Aerobic Exercise Programs. Please come early to class so you can register for these.

**Morning Sessions:** Mondays and Wednesdays 10-11 a.m.

**Evening Sessions:** Mondays/Wednesdays/Thursdays 7-8 p.m.

**Swim Team Program:** fee: \$20.00. The Wood River Swim Team Program is a low intensity swim program designed to provide participants with the opportunity to swim competitively. The emphasis of this program is on professional teaching of competitive strokes and competitive skills, providing physical fitness and exposing swimmers to competition.

# Our Youths Do It Again. . .

## Shells Basketball Team Have Winning Season

Where to begin, Roxana had a great season, starting with the Metro-East Lutheran Thanksgiving Tournament, then winning the South Central West Division and finishing as the East Alton-Wood River Regional Champions. Congratulations to all players and Coach Margenthaler for an exciting year for the fans.

## Oiler Girls' Basketball Team Takes Regional



Top (l-r): Rick Dwiggins, Kristen Norris, Morgan Scott, Elizabeth Croxton, Selena Saylor, Grace Stroder, Ashley Russell Middle Row: Ashley Nelson, Danielle Stewart, Mandy Moore, Melissa Walter, Kara Wooley, Bottom Row: Louise Pavish, Tiffany Disher

The Oiler Girls' Basketball Team and coaches of the East Alton-Wood River Community High School had an exciting year capturing the Dupo Class 'A' Regional and the spectacular game against Carrollton Hawks. These seniors proved that hard work pays off. Congratulations and best of luck in future endeavors.

## Students Visit City Hall

St. Bernard's Third Graders toured City Hall and the Police Department, March 11. Co-op Worker Heather Ohlson and City Manger Joey Tolbert took the students on a tour and spoke to them in Council Chambers. Thank you notes were promptly received from the students with comments on what they most enjoyed, such as getting to sit in the City official's chair, liking the map room, and learning all about the City.

## Show Choir/Jazz Choir Take First In Florida

The East Alton-Wood River Community High School Show Choir was recognized at the City's Appreciation Dinner April 17 for their superb performance and Best in Class AAA category for the Show Choir/Jazz Choir Competition Friday, April 3, at the Orlando All Star Music Festival. Also receiving special recognition was Cathy McDonald who captured First Place for Soloist. Members of the Show Choir, under the direction of Kim Stamps are Betty Whitley, Cassie Bosomworth, Megan Weber, Erin Smith, Erin Enloe,

Nicole Sneed, Cathy McDonald, Lisa Dailey, Tess Travis, Jen Wilkey, Tammy Rudd, Abby Bartlett, Tisha Ervin, Josh Cox, Lee Childers, David Church, Nick Curry, Matt Hamby, Jason Lamkin, Blake Beasley, Sara Reynolds, Julia Swan, Jodie Elliott, Lisa Hill, Michelle Moore, Katie Deardeuff, Tabitha Daugherty, and Patrick Springman.

## BELK PARK SHELTER RESERVATIONS

Call City Hall at 251-3100

Resident Fee	\$20.00
Non Resident	\$50.00
Golf Outing	\$20.00
Bond for Alcohol	\$50.00

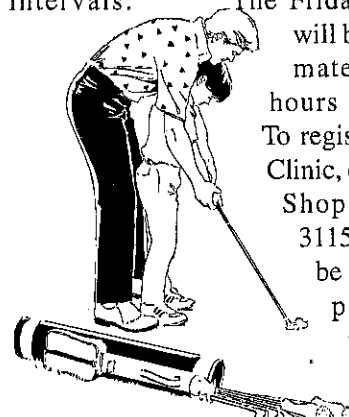
Activity kits consisting of frisbee, softball and bat, horseshoes, basketball, football, volleyball and volleyball net can be rented from the Roundhouse by calling 251-3130. Rental fee is \$5.00 per day with a \$25.00 deposit.

## Summer Youth Golf Clinic

Belk Park Golf Course will offer the Summer Youth Clinic in June. The clinic will be a two week program and will begin Tuesday, June 16th through the 19th and resume on Tuesday, June 23rd through Friday, June 26th. The finale will be the 26th with the presentation of awards. The clinic will run eight days with five of those days dedicated to etiquette and instruction. There will be a putting tournament and both Fridays will be geared toward the tournament within the program. The cost will be \$40 per student and will be open to youths from 9 to 17. Tentatively, the divisions will be 9 & 10, 11 & 12, 13 & 14, and 15 and older.

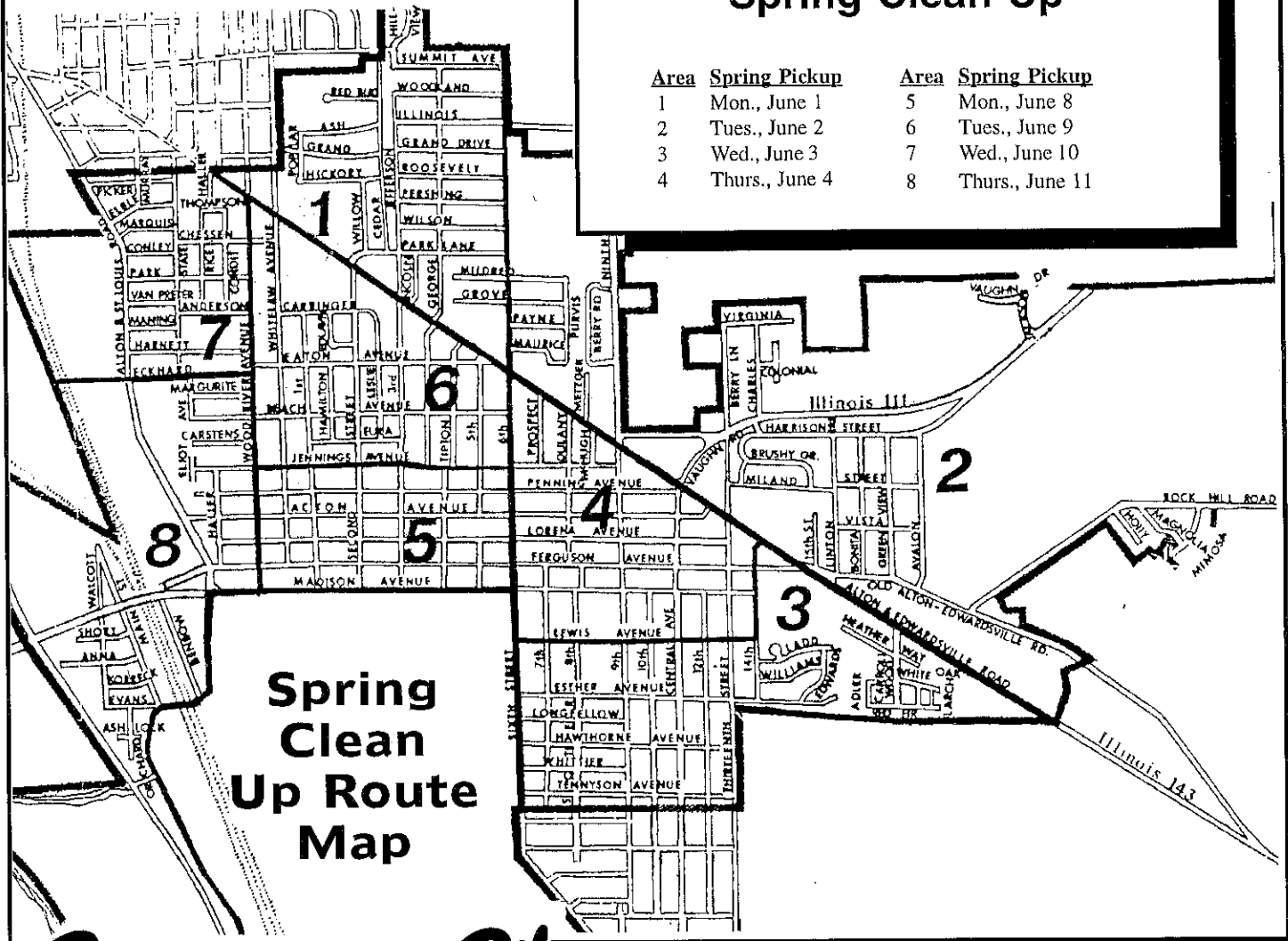
Each session of instruction will last 45 minutes and will be scheduled in the morning beginning at 8 a.m. for the younger age group and run on one hour intervals.

The Friday activity will be approximately two hours each day. To register for the Clinic, call the Pro Shop at 251-3115. You will be required to pay upon registration.



## Schedule for Spring Clean-Up

Area	Spring Pickup	Area	Spring Pickup
1	Mon., June 1	5	Mon., June 8
2	Tues., June 2	6	Tues., June 9
3	Wed., June 3	7	Wed., June 10
4	Thurs., June 4	8	Thurs., June 11



## Spring Clean Up Route Map

# Spring Cleanup

The Annual Spring Cleanup is scheduled for June 1 -11, 1998. To assure pickup, all items must be placed at the front curb by 8 a.m. on your scheduled day. **After the truck has been in your area, it will not return.**

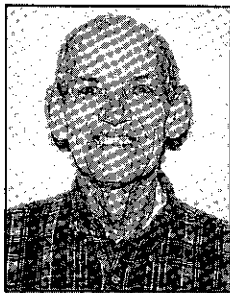
If we fall behind schedule we will continue the following day where we left off.

The City will pick up large bulky items such as sofas, chairs, bedroom furniture, mattresses, tables, carpet, tv's, lumber (if cut in 4' lengths and tied in bundles weighing less than 75#), etc.

Since 1992, the State of Illinois has banned "white goods" from the landfills. Therefore, we are sorry that we will not be able to pick up the following items: stoves, refrigerators, washers, dryers, freezers, dishwashers, furnaces, hot water heaters, air conditioners, humidifiers, dehumidifiers and trash compactors. Other items that will not be picked up are: brush and landscape waste, tires, batteries, wheels, gasoline, motor oil, anti-freeze, liquid waste, hazardous waste, unopened barrels, concrete blocks and large amounts of building materials.

## Special Pick-Ups Available

Each Wednesday, Midwest Sanitation will pick up bulky items for a fee of \$20 per truckload. Arrangements must be made in advance by calling 251-3131.



## NEW COUNCIL MEMBER BUDDY DAVIS

Our newest councilman, Buddy W. Davis, was recommended by Mayor Lon A.

Smith and approved unanimously by the Council on February 17, 1998. He will serve the remainder of Tony Stassi's term, which will expire April 19, 1999.

Buddy and wife, Iola, reside at 520 Ferguson, where they have lived since 1962. They have lived in the Alton-Wood River area all their lives. They have eight children, all of whom live in the area; Steve, Scott, Danny, Dawn Schallenberg, Mike, Marla Johnnessee, Brian and Brady. They have 11 grandchildren.

Buddy retired from the United Steel Workers of America, AFL-CIO in 1993, after 30 years as an International Representative, District Director and member of the International Executive Board. Previously, he worked at Laclede Steel and served as Local 3643 President. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy immediately upon graduation from Alton High School.

We asked Buddy for some comments on his appointment and his responses are as follows: When the Mayor asked me if I would accept this appointment, I was dumbfounded. This caught me completely by surprise and I responded that I needed a few days to think it over. At this stage in my life, I wasn't sure if I wanted to assume this responsibility and devote the amount of time necessary to perform the duties of this position properly.

In addition, I wanted to discuss this with my wife, who would also be affected and my oldest son, Representative Steve Davis, to determine if he could see any possible conflict with his position. If we found any conflict, my decision would have been easy. I would not have accepted the appointment (maybe I was looking for an excuse).

In the final analysis, I felt obligated to accept. Wood River is a nice town. I have refused promotions that would require us to move to Pittsburgh. All eight of our children went through Wood River schools and graduated from East Alton-

Wood River High School. If I could volunteer my time and energy for the next year or so, maybe I could play a small part in making our City even better, safer, improve City services, and improve our quality of life, in gratitude for what others in the past have done for all of us.

I feel we are blessed with hard-working, dedicated City employees and hundreds of volunteers who serve on important committees and groups, dedicating their talents to making the City a better place to live and preserving our heritage.

I appreciate the confidence the Mayor has in me and the good wishes I have received from many of you. I especially want to thank the City Manager, Mayor, City Clerk, Councilmembers, departments heads and many of our City employees who have gone out of their way to help me get up to speed on the workings of City government.

The only pledge I can make is to do my best for all our citizens and our employees!

## Concerts in Central Park This Summer

Concerts are featured in Central Park free of charge to the public. The following concerts are scheduled:

- **Bob Kuban Brass Band**, June 7, 8-10 p.m.
- **Gabie & the All Star Band**, August 16, 7-10 p.m. (Rain date: August 23)

### Municipal Band Concerts

The Municipal Band performs in Central Park on Wednesday evenings at 8 p.m. through the summer months of June, July and August. Anyone is invited to stop by and enjoy the wonderful music under the management of Tom Cunningham.

## Introducing: The Storm Water Commission

The Storm Water Commission is made up of seven members, appointed by the Mayor, who generally meet on the third Wednesday every other month at the Public Services building.

Their duties are to acquire and maintain basic information as necessary to understand the past trends, present conditions, and forces at work to cause changes in storm water flooding conditions with the City and surrounding environs and to recommend to the City Council a plan to alleviate these flooding conditions.

Members are: Chairman Bill Coleman, Robert Dixon, Stephen Skundrich, Hubert Arnold, Don Dossett, Ralph Yemm, and Emery Dial.

The City appreciates the many hours these members spend as volunteers. Their input is invaluable to the City.

## New Face In Finance



Chandra Redden

Chandra Redden began working with the City January 22. She is working in the Finance Department as a Computer Operator/Billing Clerk. She graduated from Civic Memorial High School and

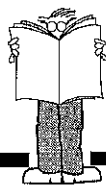
brings with her over seven years of banking experience. She and her husband, Darin, reside in Wood River with their ten month old daughter, Annie Marie, and 2 1/2 year old son, Danny. Chandra says, "I am looking forward to working with the residents and employees of the City of Wood River"

## New Cadets Join Force

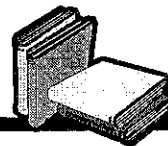


Larry Butkovich Christopher Galletta

In November, the City added two familiar faces to the roster of city employees. Larry Butkovich and Christopher Galletta were employed as Police Cadets. The Cadet position is funded by the Animal Control Program, and is also responsible for assisting the sworn officers with traffic control, enforcement of parking ordinances, directing traffic, and registration of bicycles for city residents. Both Larry and Chris are students of Lewis & Clark Community College in hopes of one day becoming law enforcement officers. Welcome aboard Larry and Chris.



# Library News



**Check It Out** —CD-ROM software is available for family use at the library. The software was received from the Educate and Automate Initiative, Secretary of State Literacy Office. These "hands on" tools are fun as well as educational. Parents and children will enjoy exploring all the avenues available on the software.

Videos, audiocassettes, and CD-ROM software items purchased with grant monies awarded by the State are available for check out.

**Upcoming Events** —Friends of the Library will be holding their annual Book Sale/Flea Market May 14 & 15, at the Roundhouse. On the 14th, (Thursday evening), there will be a "Special Preview" from 5-8 p.m. for a \$1.00 admission. The hours Friday are 9 am - 5 pm with no admission. Donations may be dropped off at the library before May 14 or at the Roundhouse on May 14.

We invite all children to swim over to the library this summer and join the fun at the Summer Reading Program. The theme this year is "Dive into Books". The program will begin June 23 for preschool and June 24 for Grades K-5. The preschool events will be held Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., and grades K-5 will meet on Wednesdays at 10:30 am or 1:30 pm. We hope to see many children making waves by reading this summer!!!

**A Big Thank You To** —Mrs. Ruth Fitzpatrick donated a doll collection to the library. The dolls belonged to her deceased aunt, Ms. Bertha Darling. Ms. Darling

taught Home Economics at East Alton-Wood River High School for over 20 years. She collected these dolls on her many travels—they are on display in a glass case. Come get a glimpse of the world through the dolls!

Mrs. Helen Hoekstra donated five of her magnificent paintings. The paintings are of Chief Sitting Bull, Chief Red Cloud, Chief Geronimo, Chief Kicking Bear, and Chief Fall. Helen taught herself to paint and is very accomplished. The paintings are housed in the children's area and are a wonderful addition to this area.

Mr. Curtis Blevins of the Wood River American Legion Post 204 donated a new American flag to the library. We appreciated Mr. Blevins retiring the old flag and raising the new one for us.

The handicapped accessible bathroom and door aids project is finished. This project was made possible by the City seeking funding through Madison County Community Development. J.E.M. Construction Company did an excellent job with minimal disruption to the library. We appreciate all the help and effort for getting this project completed.

### Hats Off to the following for their Library Support

—Friends of the Library, Werts Welding, Marks Mortuary, Wood River Ford, Midwest Sanitary Service, Creative Printing, Budget Signs & Trophies, Wells-Schmidt Tire Co., Tyler & Associates, Inc., Trickey's Service, Inc., Phone Masters, Ltd., WFUN Radio, Wood River Printing, Heartland Quilter's Guild, and Kienstra.

### A Word of Appreciation From The Library. . .

*The Library continues to have wonderful community support. The staff and board thank each and everyone for their assistance in making the library a great facility for Wood River. With this support, the library keeps on thriving in many areas.*



## BUSINESS IN WOOD RIVER...

### Fair Play

*Sports Memorabilia*  
Dennis Barnard, Owner  
520A Wood River Avenue

### Hollywood Tan

*10-bed Tanning Salon*  
Gina Tebbe, Manager  
901A Edwardsville Road  
258-8266

### Americlean, Inc.

*Environmental Cleaning Consultant*  
Dale Peery, Manager  
11 E. Ferguson Avenue  
254-6032

### The Card Pile

*Sports & Comic Collectibles*  
254-9372

### Wood River's Market Place

*Crafts and Antiques*  
254-9371

### 144 East Tea Room

*Lunch & Desserts*  
254-9371

Terry & Nancy Pyle, Owners  
144 E. Ferguson Avenue

### Abigale's Country Gifts

*Country Gifts & Primitives*  
Donna McClellan & Peggy Grant,  
Owners  
925 E. Edwardsville Road  
258-1537

**Joe's Small Engine Repair**  
*Lawn Mowers, Chain Saws, Weed  
Eaters, etc. Repaired*  
Joey D. Smith, Owner  
654 N. Wood River Avenue  
251-5694

## Additions/Improvements

**C&F Amoco**  
*Gas Station/Convenience Store*  
Steve Bryant, Owner  
980 E. Ferguson Avenue  
254-5020

## Relocated

**Midwest Occupational Medicine**  
*Work Related Injuries & Testing*  
Dr. George Dirkers, Owner  
325 Madison Avenue  
251-5202

## Name Change

**Across the Street is now  
Jon's Corner**  
Jon Collman, Owner  
2 W. Ferguson Avenue

## HALL OF FAME:

We pay tribute to Golf Course Clubhouse Manager, Connie Holbert, who retired April 30. Connie gave this account of her years at Belk Park, "It's hard to believe that it has been 25 years that I have worked at Belk Park. I've seen a lot of changes in these years. When I started, we worked in the old one-room club house. We had twelve carts that were stored in the basement, and we very seldom ran out of carts. Now, we have two storage barns that are full and on a busy day, all of the carts are out. The biggest change is the new club house. We went from one long counter with food at one end and greens-fees at the other end, to the areas for food and the pro-shop."



Connie Holbert

"I have worked with many special people through the years and have made a lot of friends in the many golfers that came through the doors. I'm sure I will miss all of them — co-workers as well as golfers."

Connie plans on spending time with her family and taking weekend trips with family and friends. She said she will enjoy working in her yard and having a garden. She's really looking forward to retirement and having time to do all the things she wants, including spending time with her four year old grandson.

## Patriotic Wood River Citizens

This year our community is selected for the coveted SAR Flag Day celebration with cooperation of the Wood River Heritage Council. This promises to be a lively and heart stirring event you will long remember. Show your patriotic spirit by celebrating with us at the Wood River Museum, 2 p.m., Sunday, June 14. It is free and you may bring along your worn flag for suitable disposal.

Charles James

## Special Recognition To:

**The Metro Police Benevolent Association** consisting of police officers from Wood River, Roxana, South Roxana, and Hartford have volunteered to participate in the Illinois Police Association Torch Relay for the Special Olympics to be held June 17.

**Dorothy Reynolds** on being presented the Bronze Star and Silver Star on behalf of her late husband, John Reynolds, by U.S. Rep. Jerry Costello.

**Donnie Calvin** on receiving a Woman of Worth award from the Gateway Chapter of the Older Women's

League. Calvin received the award October 29 at a dinner at the Missouri Botanical Garden. The award recognizes her key role in the establishment of the Madison County Health Center.

**EVCO National** on being chosen Small Business of the Month by the River Bend Growth Association. Evco is a professional painting contractor serving industrial, commercial and government agencies and businesses. Evco has 10 employees in the Wood River office and approximately 100 employees on its jobs in various states.

## City Manager's Comments

The changing of the seasons to spring provides us all with opportunities and challenges. Recreation programs for youths and adults are beginning to gear up. Belk Park Golf Course is greening up for the onslaught of summer golfers. This is the 28<sup>th</sup> year of operations for Belk Park Golf Course. One of the rites of summer is the opening of the Aquatic Center, scheduled May 23.

The Street Maintenance crew is also busy in preparing the area bounded by Madison, Sixth Street, Wood River Avenue and Edwardsville Road for alley and street repairs in the upcoming maintenance season. A joint safety project with the Village of East Alton will also be completed during the upcoming summer from Wood River Avenue west to the city limits. This project calls for the installation of a middle turn lane as well as a complete asphalt overlay of this area. Wood River Avenue is also scheduled for rotomilling and an asphalt overlay from Lorena north to the city limits.

The Appeals period for the Norton Environmental Project has expired. The expiration of the Appeals period will allow Norton Environmental to proceed in obtaining permits from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency to locate a mixed waste processing facility in the Lewis and Clark EnviroTECH Business Park. This development will be a welcome addition to the business park.

The City's new fiscal year began May 1. The overall budget process involved the members of the City Council, Administration and Department Heads. Our goals remain constant to provide our citizens with a high degree of service in the most efficient manner. The review of our services and efficiency is an ongoing process. In order to remain economically viable, we need to be as efficient as we possibly can be.

I appreciate the input and the ideas in which citizens have expressed to me in the past. I encourage you that if you have any thoughts or comments, to contact me at your convenience. The future of our community is challenging and exciting and in order for us to meet our future goals, communication with our citizens is an essential element of our success.

## Council Corner

This is my first opportunity to address my fellow citizens in the Pipeline, and I welcome the chance to do so.

I want to welcome our newest councilman, Buddy Davis. I have known Buddy for 40 years, and was very pleased when mayor Lon Smith recommended his appointment to complete Mr. Stassi's term. I am confident he will furnish the same type of leadership and common sense to the Wood River City Council that he provided members of the Steelworkers Union for many years.

One of my top priorities the last several months has been directed toward getting the City's emergency siren system into a dependable, working system. I have received numerous complaints from citizens that the sirens cannot be heard during the monthly tests. We are in the middle of the tornado season and these sirens could very well save lives and prevent injuries in the event of a disaster. Many of us remember past disasters in our area. The recent tornado in the neighboring City of Mattoon, Illinois occurred at 5:30 a.m., when most people were asleep, emphasizing the importance of an effective emergency warning

system. I truly believe the council is dedicated to correcting this problem and a solution is near.

Economic development is also a high priority. Every city and every state are vying to attract new business and retain existing businesses. The competition is fierce and the City Administration must continue and improve our efforts to make Wood River "business friendly." Expansion of our tax base is essential if necessary services are to continue without raising taxes on our overburdened citizens.

I am hopeful the new budget will enable us to drastically improve our streets, alleys, and sewers (infrastructure), and fully expect our many excellent recreational programs and resources to continue and improve.

There are numerous problems and challenges ahead, but overall I feel Wood River is a good place to live and raise a family. I look forward to working with the council, the city administration, and all citizens in meeting these challenges.

George Wallace

## Welcome New Employees



### Diana Harszy

In March, Diana Harszy was hired as Administrative Assistant for the Parks & Recreation Department. Diana was previously employed as Senior Loan Officer at Alt-wood Credit Union.

Diana has 12 years of banking experience in all facets of the industry. She is a graduate of Gillespie High School and Sangamon State University. Diana and her husband reside in Wood River with their two daughters, Abigale, 3 and Emily, 6 months.

"After so many years in the financial industry, I'm excited about the change and new challenges this position brings". During her leisure time, Diana enjoys gardening and desktop publishing.

### Brenda Blumstein

Brenda Blumstein began her employment with the City of Wood River as Secretary/Deputy City Clerk on February 17. She brings with her secretarial experience from former positions held with Millers' Mutual, Florists' Mutual, Arctic Adjusters in Anchorage, Alaska, Rockford College, Peking Insurance and Christian Hospital NE. She graduated from Southwestern High School and grew up in the Brighton area. Her hobbies include gardening, spoiling her cat, Annie, and sewing. She is a member of the Heartland Quilters Guild of Wood River and attends the Bethalto Presbyterian Church. Brenda looks forward to her position with the City and becoming better acquainted with the people who make up the City of Wood River.

