



November / December 2016 Volume 22, Issue 6

CITY CONNECTION

Your Connection to City Hall and the People Who **SERVE** You

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Nov 22 Library Board 6 pm
- Nov 23 Library closes at 6 pm
- Nov 24 Happy Thanksgiving!
City Hall & Library closed
No rubbish collection
- Nov 25 City Hall closed
Thursday rubbish collected
- Nov 26 Small Business Saturday (SJT)
- Nov 28 City Commission 6 pm
- Dec 1 Winter tax bills mailed
Planning Commission 4:30 pm
Dog licenses available at City Clerk's Office through 2/27/18
- Dec 2 Community Tree Lighting 6:30 pm
Live Mannequins! 7 – 8:30 pm (SJT)
- Dec 3 Reindog Parade 4 pm (SJT)
Santa's House opens through December 23
- Dec 7 Pearl Harbor Day
- Dec 8 Parks Advisory Board
- Dec 12 City Commission 6 pm
- Dec 13 Board of Review 3 pm
- Dec 15 Downtown Development Authority 8:30 am
- Dec 20 SJPS Winter Break begins at end of school day
- Dec 21 First day of Winter
Water Services Joint Board 4 pm
- Dec 23 City Hall closed
- Dec 24 Christmas Eve
Library closed
- Dec 25 Christmas Day
- Dec 26 City Hall and Library closed
Normal rubbish schedule
- Dec 30 City Hall closed
- Dec 31 New Year's Eve
Library closed



Toys-for-Tots

City Employees Invite the Community to Join In with Giving to Those in Need During this Holiday Season

We are pleased to announce that we are once again participating in the **U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots** drive this holiday season. The boxes are placed in the lobby at City Hall, at the Public Works building and at the Maud Preston Palenske Memorial Library. If you wish to participate, please bring in a **new unwrapped** toy and place it in the box. We will collect toys until **Monday, December 12th**. If you aren't familiar with Toys for Tots, below is a short description of the program:

U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program

MISSION:

The mission of the U. S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program is to collect new, unwrapped toys during October, November and December each year, and distribute those toys as Christmas gifts to less fortunate children in the community in which the campaign is conducted.

GOAL:

The primary goal of Toys for Tots is to deliver, through a new toy at Christmas, a message of hope to less fortunate youngsters that will assist them in becoming responsible, productive, patriotic citizens.

OBJECTIVES:

The objectives of Toys for Tots are to help less fortunate children throughout the United States experience the joy of Christmas; to play an active role in the development of one of our nation's most valuable resources – our children; to unite all members of local communities in a common cause for three months each year during the annual toy collection and distribution campaign; and to contribute to better communities in the future.

ACTIVITIES:

The principal Toys for Tots activity which takes place each year is the collection and distribution of toys in the communities in which a Marine Corps Reserve Unit is located. In communities without a Reserve Unit, the campaign can be conducted by a Marine Corps League Detachment or group of men and women, generally veteran Marines, authorized by Marine Toys for Tots Foundation to conduct a local Toys for Tots campaign. Local Toys for Tots Campaign Coordinators conduct an array of activities throughout the year, which include golf tournaments, foot races, bicycle races and other voluntary events designed to increase interest in Toys for Tots, and concurrently generate toys and monetary donations.

Thank you for supporting the children in our community who are less fortunate.

Construction Projects scheduled this year include the 2017 Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Project and the Hilltop Road Rehabilitation Project.

The 2017 CSO Project encompasses the area in and around the city's public works property; thus, it is not anticipated to significantly impact traffic flow along Langley Avenue or Broad Street.

The construction area for the Hilltop Rehabilitation project will include Hilltop Road from Lakeshore Drive to Niles Road. Lakeview Avenue, from Veronica Drive to Hilltop Road, will also be widened as part of this project. The Berrien County Road Commission is the lead agency on this project as the majority of the project area is under their jurisdiction. The scope of

the project includes replacing much of the water main on Hilltop Road followed by resurfacing the road. The proposed schedule calls for construction to start in late spring with completion by mid-July.

Approximately \$650,000 in funding will come from the federal Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The release of TIP funding by the federal government could impact the desired start and completion dates of the project and additional updates will be provided should the schedule be delayed.

In addition to the above construction, the city is in the final year of a 3-year Stormwater, Asset Management and Wastewater (SAW) Grant process. Previous newsletters have noted that the city is concentrating on the Asset Management portion of the grant, with the goal of managing city infrastructure in the right-of-way in a more effective manner. Public engagement meetings are anticipated in early 2017 to discuss the results of inventory and assessment work, as well as the Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan going forward. Questions regarding these projects can be directed to City Engineer Tim Zebell.



Let It Snow!

The snow and ice season is once again upon us. The Department of Public Works - Streets Division is prepared to provide the high level of service to which residents, businesses and visitors have become accustomed. Snow removal equipment is ready to go and the Department has a stockpile of approximately 1,300 tons of road salt on hand. During snow events, crews will focus on major City streets, emergency routes and school routes followed by local streets and neighborhoods.

How can residents assist?

- Allow plenty of room for salt and plow trucks to perform their work
- Arrange for off-street parking when possible
- Do not plow, shovel or blow snow into or across the street or onto public sidewalks.
- Do not allow snow removal contractors to place snow into or across public streets or onto public sidewalks.
- Keep sidewalks clear of snow and ice and assist elderly or disabled neighbors with snow removal.
- Keep snow piles low enough so they do not create a site distance or viewing problem for motorists.

Pictured from left to right, the City of St. Joseph Streets Crew: Keith Versaw, Ryan Patzer, Marc Gelder, Tony Hamann and Pat O'Malley.



Please join us in welcoming

Sara McCallum to the city staff as Finance Director/ City Clerk. Sara started in her new position on October 24th and comes to us from Pere Marquette Township where she spent 13 years, 3 as Deputy Clerk and 10 as Treasurer. Sara has a B.A. in Accounting from Davenport University. Personally, she speaks with pride about her four children and loves the time she gets to spend with her two grandchildren.

Enjoy Ice Skating in St. Joseph at the John and Dede Howard Ice Arena

2414 Willa Drive, St. Joseph
983-8795

Opened by Thanksgiving Day!

John and Dede Howard Ice Rink 2016 – 2017 OPEN SKATE Hours of Operation

| | | | |
|------------|--|-----------|-----------------|
| Monday: | Noon – 3:30 pm | Friday: | Noon – 5:30 pm |
| Tuesday: | Skate by Appointment Only (between 2 – 4 pm) | Saturday: | 5:30 pm – 10 pm |
| Wednesday: | Noon – 4:30 pm | Sunday: | 2 pm – 6 pm |
| Thursday: | Skate by Appointment Only (between 2 – 4 pm) | | |

2016 – 2017 Open Skate Holiday Schedule

| | | | |
|-------------------------|--|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Wednesday, November 23: | Noon – 6 pm | Sunday, December 25: | Christmas Day (closed) |
| Thursday, November 24: | 4 pm – 8 pm | Monday, December 26: | 11 am – 6 pm |
| Friday, November 25: | 11 am – 6 pm | Tuesday, December 27: | 11 am – 6 pm |
| Saturday, December 17: | W/Santa 8 am – 10:30 am/ Regular Open Skate 6 pm – 10 pm | Wednesday, December 28: | 11 am – 6 pm |
| Wednesday, December 21: | 11 am – 5 pm | Thursday, December 29: | 11 am – 6 pm |
| Thursday, December 22: | 11 am – 6 pm | Friday, December 30: | 11 am – 8 pm |
| Friday, December 23: | 11 am – 6 pm | Saturday, December 31: | 11 am – 4 pm |
| Saturday, December 24: | 11 am – 3 pm | Sunday, January 1: | Noon – 6 pm |
| | | Monday, January 2: | 11:30 am – 3:30 pm |
| | | Tuesday, January 3: | 11:30 am – 3:30 pm |

Happening at the Library . . .

LIBRARY HOLIDAY HOURS:

NOVEMBER:

Wednesday, November 23

Close at 6 p.m.

Thursday, November 24

Closed for Thanksgiving

Friday, November 25

Open normal operating hours

DECEMBER:

Saturday, December 24

Closed for Christmas Eve

Monday, December 26

Open normal operating hours

Saturday, December 31

Closed for New Year's Eve

Monday, January 2

Open normal operating hours

the **January
Series**
CALVIN
College

January 4th – 24th

(Monday-Friday)

Time: 12:30pm-1:30pm

The January Series of Calvin College has been one of the leading lecture/cultural arts series in the country. It covers a variety of topics including arts, science, social justice, health and more. The St. Joseph Public Library is proud to be a remote site for this educational series. The lectures are streamed live at the library, and audience members can even post questions to the speakers. Find out more about the series at www.calvin.edu/january. The lectures are free and open to the public.

Thank you to these Election Inspectors who worked the November 8, 2016 Presidential Election. We appreciate your dedication and commitment to the voters of the City of St. Joseph.

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Shirley Auringer | Tom Gazella | Ellen Peterson |
| Larry Cairns | Toni Hauch | Robert Rechner |
| Susan Cairns | Mary Jane Hiler | Joan Ross |
| Deloris Catania | Catherin Ilich | Sharon Schmidt |
| Vedette Cordes | Sylvia Lieberg | Virginia Steinman |
| Leah Coultres | Susan Mason | Lorraine Thomas |
| Gus Damaske | Deb Muhlhauser | Tracy Tiffany |
| Sharon Davarn | Laurie Moore | Larry Wagner |
| Deb Deja | Tom O'Neill | Barbara Walker |
| Martin Dixon | Sharen O'Neill | Denise Westfall |
| Dolores Frantz | Aaron Nier | Elizabeth Wooley |
| Rhonda Fryer | Virginia Palis | Tamara Zebell |
| | | Mary Lou Zick |



Ellie Primerano, 12 years old, from Stevensville, is this year's grand prize winner of the 2016 "Beach Bugs" coloring contest sponsored by Pizza Hut. As the grand prize winner from 500+ entries submitted, a pizza party was held on November 12th where Ellie won a Kilwin's Gift Basket, donated by Phil and Janet Dykstra. Pictured l to r: Ellie Primerano, her cousin Maya, Tiffany Mitchell, City of St. Joseph representative, and Bryan Joseph, Marketing Director for Pizza Hut. Congratulations Ellie!



CITY OF
St. Joseph

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We're on the Web!
www.sjcity.com

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For after hours non-emergency, call 926-2538

St. Joseph Improvement Association's
"Light Up The Bluff"



Come witness a spectacular Christmas display of holiday lights December 2 through February 15 along Lake Bluff Park. Lake Bluff Park is transformed into a beautiful wonderland of lights.

A NIGHT OF *Magic!*



FRIDAY DEC. 2ND, 7-8:30 pm
Live Mannequins

Beautiful storefront windows magically come alive in Downtown St. Joseph!

REINDOG PARADE
Sat. Dec. 3 at 4pm



SPONSORED BY FUZZYBUTZ

SANTA ARRIVES
Downtown St. Joseph!
Sat. Dec. 3



SPONSORED BY
THE HERALD-PALLADIUM

On behalf of the City Commission and staff, we wish you a blessed holiday season!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!