



From the Desk of the City Administrator

Clean-up week

As spring is here and summer is just around the corner, it is time to plan for clean-up week. Clean-up week will be conducted June 5-9. Material will be collected on the day your garbage is normally collected. This is a great time to get rid of that junk that clutters your home or yard.

A few tips:

- Items should not be put out more than 48 hours prior to your pick-up day.
- For electronics, please ensure that all cords are still intact. Electronics will not be picked up if they are missing cords.
- Material must be placed on the boulevard, near the street. Waste Management will not go into yards to pick up the items.
- One appliance per household is allowed. Non-Freon appliances are accepted at no charge at the City Transfer Station. (There is a charge for appliances with Freon.)
- The following items are NOT acceptable: Tires, batteries, any liquid materials (including cleaning supplies, oil, gas, and wet paint), yard waste, concrete, and automotive parts. Items such as mowers, trimmers, and propane tanks must not have oil or gas in them.

Yards

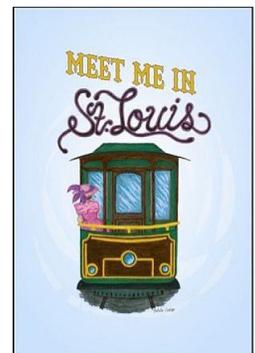
If you have brush, you can drop it off at the Transfer Station, free of charge, during their normal hours. On April 3, we begin to pick up yard waste bags for the season. This happens on the same day as your garbage pick up. You can buy paper yard waste bags at grocery

stores, discount stores and home improvement stores.

Please mow your lawn regularly. You may be ticketed if your grass is higher than a foot. Additionally, the City is on the look out for garbage in the yards. Please avoid fines and help us keep Monmouth beautiful.

Upcoming events

Monmouth College kicks off spring with performances of *Meet Me in St. Louis* on April 6-9. The Buchanan Center for the Arts will officially open up Pattee Plaza on May 5 and 6, with music, games and movies.



Chief Feithen

Finally, I want to take this opportunity to say thanks and give a fond farewell to Chief Bill Feithen, who is retiring at the end of April. He has served in the position for just over six years and will be missed by our community. He won't be going far, though. He will remain in the position of police chief until his replacement is named later this summer.

Lowell Crow
City Administrator

City Council Meetings
Monday, April 3, at 7 p.m.
and Monday, April 17, at 7 p.m.

Fire Department News

Monmouth

The Monmouth Fire Department received two new ice rescue suits and active shooter equipment—purchased with funds from the Illinois Public Risk Fund Grant Program. The IPRF Grant Program is designed to ease the burden of safety-related expenses. The grant covers training expenses, protective clothing, defibrillators, security cameras, rescue equipment and much more. Thanks to the grant, the MFD was able to purchase four EMS responder vests, eight tourniquets and bandages that will be used for active shooter responses to provide aid to victims.

The ice rescue suits are a huge upgrade to the old ones, which were at least 15 years old. Now they just need some ice to practice with them!



Roseville

The Roseville Fire Department visited our dispatch center as part of an EMT training program that they have been hosting. The students were able to observe how an emergency call is handled in dispatch from start to finish. The dispatchers on duty were able to give them tips to improve communication response and what information they are able to relay, etc.

Kenny Helms, the director of information technology for the City of Monmouth, was on-site to show them the technology involved and discuss the future technology improvements for the center.

Almost all local EMT programs have sections on communication technology, and we hope to use this and any future opportunity to streamline the dispatching process.



Community Shred Day

Saturday, April 22 (Earth Day)

Shred Days are open to all residents and businesses, with no limits. Simply bring your documents to the Monmouth Transfer Station. This event is conducted by Confidential Security Inc. from Peoria. All documents are destroyed at their facility in Peoria.

Warren County History Museum Open House

The Warren County History Museum will open its doors for the 2017 season on Sunday, April 2, from 1-4 p.m. Come and see the changes that have occurred over the winter and learn about our local history. Included during this event will be the opening of three new exhibits, including **History ReTouched: Colorized Photos from the Archives**.

Along with the exhibits being open, artists Jessica Ott and Lily Guillen, who worked on the colorization process for History ReTouched, will talk to visitors at 2 p.m. They will discuss their process, what they learned from the exhibit, and a little about the history of photography. This should be an informative and interesting presentation for anyone interested in history or photography!

The Open House is free and open to the public. There will also be light refreshments.



Junior Achievement Day

Peggy Kulczewski, a long-time volunteer with Junior Achievement, poses with Mayor Rod Davies and a City proclamation, announcing April 6, 2017, as Junior Achievement Day.

Website Development Internship Program

Recognizing the importance of professional websites for local businesses and nonprofits, the City of Monmouth initiated a website development program a few years ago. This program pairs a Monmouth College intern with a local business in need of a new or upgraded website.

Interns usually work at City Hall for 10 hours per week during the semester, and they meet with their clients multiple times, from simple fact-finding to hands-on training.

The intern learns the basics of website design before meeting with their client to develop a plan to create a new website. Over the course of a semester, the intern designs, develops and deploys a professional-grade website. The

intern also trains their client on how to maintain and update the new website. “This is a really great program,” says Paul Schuytema, Director of Community and Economic Development and creator of the program. “We take some really bright young students, but not necessarily the ones who already know the development ropes. We train and mentor them on the world-class Joomla system and then help them give the best possible service to their clients. In the end, the client gets a professional website at a great savings. And the student gets some real world work for their portfolio. It’s a true win-win.”

“Of course,” admits Schuytema, “there is another bonus. This is also an economic development program. We know that site selectors and potential new businesses check out a community first on the web. If we can help our businesses and nonprofits show off professional websites, the entire community exudes a higher degree of trust and professionalism.”

Over the last few years, interns have completed several new or upgraded websites, including the Buchanan Center for the Arts, the Warren County Public Library, the Mellinger Foundation, Lake Warren, and the Monmouth chapter of PUSH. The latest upgrade of the City of Monmouth website was also done through the City’s intern program.

“We’re quite lucky to have someone like Paul here at City Hall,” says Mayor Rod Davies. “He’s directly saved the City tens of thousands of dollars on our City websites, and this program brings those savings, as well as real results, to our local businesses.”

The websites are built on the Joomla content management system—an open source system that currently powers over 30 million active websites. Intern-created websites are hosted on the City’s hosting service, and the participant companies are billed the actual costs, with no

markup. (Website hosting is \$5 per month and is billed annually.)

The costs run from \$45-\$350 to directly develop the website; and at the high end, this includes professional custom logo development through DesignCrowd.com. (The logo development project is also managed by the intern.) If the client needs a domain name, it typically costs about \$15 per year.

“Our Monmouth College intern, Erin Willhite [pictured below], was exceptional in working with us through each step of the process—from developing a new logo, picking a layout, configuring all the information including our application download, to training us,” says Jackie Watson, data administrator for the Mellinger Foundation. “Through Paul and Erin's expertise, we can now keep our website updated ourselves. This program has saved the Foundation thousands of dollars, allowing us to pursue our mission and grant more scholarships to students. It was an educational perfect match!”



Prior to coming on board with the City in 2011, Schuytema was a software developer (for both his own company and for the University of Illinois) and website developer. He worked in partnership with the Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs (through a USDA RBEG grant) to develop a technology called BasicSite that allowed Schuytema to develop and deploy dozens of professional websites for regional businesses, communities and nonprofits,

including sites for Warren County, the City of Wyoming, the Wyoming Chamber of Commerce, Cerar's, the Warren County YMCA, Metalcrafters, Turnbull Funeral Homes, the City of Nauvoo, and the City of Havana to name just a few.

Merit Badge University



At City Hall, City Administrator Lowell Crow explains the workings of local government to Boy Scouts who were earning their Citizenship in the Community merit badge.

On March 11, over 400 scouts attended MBU, which is held at Monmouth College.



City of Monmouth

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