

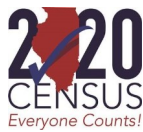
# Silvis News

16th Edition

## Newly Redesigned City Flag



The City of Silvis hosted a public contest for a redesigned city flag. Holly Handel's design was the winner by popular vote through social media, Facebook. The newly redesigned 3'x5' flag is available for purchase at City Hall for \$50. One flag will be given away through a free drawing to be held on December 20th at noon. Stop by City Hall to register for a chance to win.



The City of Silvis will host a job fair for Census job positions at City Hall on Wednesday, December 18th, 8 am-4:30pm.

## Now Available For Sale



Crew neck sweatshirts are now available for sale from sizes Medium- 3XL at City Hall. The new city flag redesign by Holly Handel has carried over to a sweatshirt the public can purchase. The cost is \$20, and a portion of the sale will go to one of three, not for profit organizations chosen by the purchaser. The three organizations that will benefit from the sale are Hero Street Memorial, Silvis Food Pantry, and Silvis Garden Club.

## Giving All Year

Mrs. Sue Swartz, Director of Christ United Methodist Church Silvis Campus food pantry, describes her job as more than just fulfilling, but rewarding. I'm so thankful for the year-round generosity from the community, Our Lady of Guadalupe parish has been one of our largest donators for the pantry, says Swartz. The pantry also recently received three grants totaling \$11,000. United Way awarded the food pantry a \$6,000 grant along with a combined grant totaling \$5,000 from the Amy Helpenstell Foundation and Judith Burger Fund. The funds will be used to purchase a new freezer and refrigerator, while the rest of the grant money will be deposited in the food bank account to buy food, said Swartz.

The word destitute seems to be synonymous with the phrase Food Pantry, but that's not necessarily the case, says Swartz. Life happens, and there are no guarantees in life. We have families with the breadwinner in transition between jobs, or families living just above the poverty level and need just a little extra help. We have several cancer patients that are unable to work and must to choose from life-saving medical treatment or providing food for there family. No matter what the circumstances may be, says Swartz, we are committed to treating everyone with the dignity and respect they deserve.

Recently, the food pantry has been redesigned to reflect the way a person would shop at a grocery store, including shopping carts. The pantry has multiple shelves, and our participants can shop the isles and getting what they need rather than something handed to them, which they may not need. Some personal hygiene items are also now available, as well. We also adjusted our pantry hours, said Swartz, Monday and Tuesday 9 am - 1 pm, and Wednesday 4 pm - 7 pm serving Silvis, Carbon Cliff, and Hampton residents, located at 1301 2nd Ave. Silvis.

## Silvis Fire Department Host Annual Reunion Night

Silvis Fire hosted their annual retirement reunion on October 28th with sixteen former fire fighters who served the community for six years or greater. The picture below represents over 150 years of combined service to the community as volunteer fireman, one being a WWII Veteran.



From left to right, Cole Rogers, Chris Kendall, Jeff Long, Matt Carter, Ed Long, Dave Leibovitz, Steve Schroder, Paul Jones, Mel Schroder, Rick Moller, Larry McCaw, Bob Scott, Kevin Wiens, Jim Dieterich, Richie Moller, Larry O'Brien.

## Christmas In Silvis December 7th

Christmas in Silvis will be held on December 7th, from 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm. Stop down to the Silvis Public Library and City Hall. The two locations will provide plenty of entertainment for the entire family. The Silvis Public Library will host a Santa letter writing station, children's holiday craft table, and live holiday music preformed by The Ukulele Club. Refreshments available includes homemade cookies, hot apple cider, and a very jolly special guest. Silvis City Hall will host a live puppet show, Rob Storm will show his ice sculpting skills, and you may also enjoy a horse carriage ride along 1st Avenue. A huge thanks to Silvis Main Street, Silvis Garden Club, Friends of the Silvis Public Library, and Royal Neighbors Chapter 20167 for sponsoring this event.



## Paying Forward

Lana Long is no stranger to hardship. Growing up

in what she considers a low-income family, Thanksgiving can be a stark reminder of reality. Lana recalls while growing up, her family would receive a special holiday food basket during Thanksgiving, and she never forgot the kindness of strangers.

Mrs. Long, an employee at Blackhawk Bank & Trust Silvis branch, approached then bank President, W. Gerard Huiskamp in 2008, and pitched the idea for bank employees collectively participate in helping families in need during Thanksgiving season. Bank President Huiskamp liked the idea and told her to “run with it,” and as they say, the rest is history.

Eleven years later, Lana’s idea has blossomed, serving fifty-plus families last year in the Silvis, Carbon Cliff, and Moline’s Lincoln Erving school area during the Thanksgiving season. Mrs. Long works with George O Barr, Eagle Ridge, and Lincoln Erving schools to identify families in need. She doesn’t know their names, and those in need don’t know her name, she only knows a headcount.

A month before Thanksgiving, Mrs. Long begins to collect all donations from the Blackhawk Bank & Trust branches and their employees. Some bank branches focus on collecting one specific item, such as stuffing or can corn, and another perhaps green beans, while other employees will make cash donations along with the Silvis Optimist Club. Lana receives special pricing for turkeys and pumpkin pies from Silvis Walmart to assist in making every dollar count. A quick dash to the dollar store for fifty-plus laundry containers will serve as food baskets right before delivery. Mrs. Long carefully packages each Thanksgiving basket with a frozen turkey and all the fixings. Then with the aid of a Blackhawk Bank & Trust van and their maintenance staff, delivers the ready to be baked goodies to George O Barr, Eagle Ridge, and Lincoln Erving to be sent home discreetly with the children.

The community would like to thank Mrs. Long and the entire Blackhawk Bank & Trust staff for showing such kindness and generosity during the holiday season.



## Bubbly Pups Opens Downtown



It takes a unique individual to give up the safety net of a guaranteed weekly

paycheck, and strikeout on their own in the sea of uncertainty. New business owners Amber Weber and Christine Peterson have done precisely that, and the new business entrepreneurs are among great company. Woman owned firms make up over 39% of all privately held firms in the United States, generating a staggering \$1.7 trillion in sales annually, and employing over 9 million people(\*).

Do what you know and love what you do, and these two have that covered. Amber and Christine have nine years of combined experience in the pet grooming industry, and they most certainly love what they do.

Bubbly Pups provides a whole host of services, even for the most finicky pooches. They offer hair cutting, baths, brushing, nail care, ear cleaning and much more.

Bubbly Pups, located at 907 1st Ave. Stores hours are Tuesday-Friday 7 am -4 pm, Saturday 8 am-4 pm, closed Sunday and Monday. Walk-ins are welcomed, but by appoint is preferred. Contact Bubbly Pups 309-326-4445.

(\*nawbo.org



## Police Host Shop With-A-Cop

Silvis Police will host their annual Shop With A Cop on December 13th, 9:30 am at Walmart in Silvis. Volunteers are needed to help wrap gifts. Please contact Silvis Police Department 309-792-1841 for additional information to volunteer.



## Christmas Tree Haul-Away

Curb-side Christmas tree disposal is scheduled for two dates in January. January 7th and the 14th are the dates to dispose of your fresh and slightly used Christmas tree. Please have your tree out to the curb no later than 6 am for pick-up on either date.



## Silvis Fire Dept.

### October & November Raffle

\$300 Rick Moller, Cassie Thorngren, \$50 Steve Bein, Scott Swanson, Nancy Gorishek, Chris Elliot, \$25 Kent & Wayne Hungerford, Andy Majetic, Steve Reader, Gene Leibovitz, Nick Shelton, Kennedy Armstrong, Bill Brown, Erin Thompson.



The Silvis Public Library hosted Halloween Trunk-or-Treat at the Library municipal parking lot with 15 organizations hosting trunks, and 808 participated in the event.

## A Friendly Reminder

### Sec. 78-36 Snow Removal Ordinance

(a) The occupant of the property abutting the public right-of-way or the owner thereof if said property is vacant, or any person acting as the agent of either, shall have the following duties in relation to said public right-of-way.

1. To remove within a reasonable time from the portion of any public sidewalk abutting said property of snow and ice.
2. To refrain from putting, pushing, blowing or otherwise depositing any snow removed from the public sidewalk or private property upon any improved public roadway.

(b) For the purpose of this section, “reasonable time” shall mean as follows: Within 24 hours after cessation of snowfall, or if a snow fall ceases in the nighttime hours, within 24 hours after rise.

(c) It shall be unlawful to pile snow in such a manor as to hinder the sight of motorist.

## City Hall Holiday Hours

City Hall will be closing at 1 pm December 23rd, and will re-open on Thursday, December 26th at 8 am.

City Hall will also be closed on Wednesday, January 1st and will re-open Thursday, January 2nd at 8 am.

Look for the next edition of Silvis News in March. **Have a Merry Christmas!**