

Silvis News

18th Quarterly
Edition

Meet Your Patrolman



Officer Dave Rice has served the Silvis community for a combined total of 59 years and counting. Officer Rice was born and raised in Silvis and a graduate of UTHS. Dave has held two key positions in Silvis, not only as an outstanding member of the Silvis Police Department since 1993, but also as a dedicated Fire Fighter for the Silvis Fire Department

since 1988. Dave Rice has worked his way up the ranks in the Fire Department, where he is currently an Assistant Fire Chief responsible for all public education events for the Department.

After completing Police Academy training in 1994, Officer Rice returned to the city, working all three patrol shifts. Officer Rice is currently the Silvis Police Department's School Resource Officer for George O. Barr and Northeast Jr. High, and is viewed by the students as their big brother. The Silvis School District reimburse Silvis 60% of Officer Rice's salary during the school year. The remainder of the year, when school is not in session, Officer Rice patrols Silvis working various shifts and acts as Range Officer. He is also tasked with recertifying officers in firearms annually.

Yard Waste Burning In Silvis



Natural vegetation burning is allowed Monday-Saturday till dusk if permitted by the Fire Department. **No burning allowed on Sunday.** Please call the Fire Department's burn line to check on daily conditions at 792-3454.

E-WASTE



The COVID-19 pandemic caused the cancellation of the spring e-waste drop-off. Silvis is working with our vendor to secure an e-waste drop-off date later in the fall.

Solar Powers Up Silvis Police Department



Silvis Police Department's year-long solar project is entering its final stage. The \$355,000 private investment project expects to have an energy cost savings to the city of 21% annually. The solar panels will provide all power needs during the daytime to the Police Department. The solar sun-tracking project is currently the largest sun-tracking solar project in Rock Island County. The property will also serve as a honey bee and butterfly sanctuary.

A Big Thank You!

Thank you for your patience during the pandemic. City Hall and the Clerks Office will re-open once again for floor traffic beginning June 1st under regular hours, Monday-Friday 8 am—4:30 pm. A six-foot distancing is required at all times and a limit of four residents in the building at a time. Exiting the building will be through a different door.

Main Street

Main Street Director Amanda Sherwood would like to thank the community for all of their support and shopping local during the pandemic. The outpouring of support for our local businesses has been inspirational. Please follow us on Facebook for upcoming events, live videos, weekly contest and

Construction Begins On New Public Works Facility and Fire Station



The construction of the new Public Works and Fire Station building has begun along 1st Avenue. The new Public Works facility will be constructed at the same location as the current Public Works building, with the addition of a new fire station. The nearly 14,000 sq. ft. facility, projected at \$1.9 million, will house seven Public Works bay doors facing the west, including a wash-down facility. The fire department will be comprised of three truck bay doors facing south along 1st Ave.

The start of the new project required a new power substation at the cost of \$33,500 and will serve the new facility and well #3. The all-steel construction was designed by architect Axiom, and the low winning bid awarded to Centennial Construction, an Illinois Quad City-based company.

City Administrator Jim Grafton, Fire Department Chief John Winters, along with Building Inspector Tom Lupinski have been working on this project for well over a year, said Mayor Carter. The truly amazing part of the story is, the building is paid-for before we even dig the first footings in the ground. We're able to build a \$1.9 million building, without sending debt to the next generation. We could not have achieved such a sizable paid-for project if it was not for our past and current elected officials. They all played an essential roll in this project. That's why it is so critical as current elected officials, we make the right decisions today, so we can pass-on good fortune in the future.

The construction project will be an IMPACT project and constructed by skilled union labor. The expected completion will be the end of September, said Grafton.

Multi-Use Walking Trail Getting One Step Closer



The Silvis multi-use walking path planned along Avenue of The Cities is completing its final hurdle. Silvis has gained the last required easements necessary to finalize engineering before project bid-letting. Jim Grafton, the City Administrator, says he hopes to see bidding start in June with a late summer completion schedule. The multi-use path will span from Hy-Vee to Greenview Cemetery.



Phipps Prairie Park Receives \$97K Walking Path Grant

Phipps Prairie Park, a twenty-acre nature walking trail located on the south end of Silvis, will receive a trail facelift. The current raw path hiking trails will receive an up-graded pervious material, when completed, this will add to walking stability. The \$97,000 Illinois Department of Natural Resources grant was awarded earlier this year, and work is expected to start during the summer.

Bautista, Challenged With Creativity As Summer Park Program Moves Forward



For the past eight years, Damon Bautista has had his fair share of challenges as the Director of Silvis Summer Park Program, but this year is going to be his greatest challenge yet. Within the past two weeks it was doubtful if Silvis would have a summer park program, as many other municipalities are canceling programs and events for the summer.

Bautista, along with the Playground and Recreation Committee tackled the tough decision to either move forward, and if so, move forward safely, or just fold up and go home for the year. In the end, the decision was made to move forward in a safe manner with the assistance of CDC guidelines. For that reason, the program was forced to dramatically change compared to previous years.

In-person activities at Schadt Park will be delayed until July 6th.

In the meantime, beginning June 12th, Bautista and the Summer Park Program Staff will be providing at least two lunches per week to the kids in the Silvis community at Schadt Park. The free lunches will be offered on Tuesday and Friday thru July 3rd.

"This plan will take a lot of hard work and a lot of donations from the community, and I am confident the people of Silvis will rise up to the occasion. We are asking the residents of Silvis for any food donations of unopened packages of food that we can use for our lunches. Items such as granola bars, chips, goldfish, fruit cups, yogurt cups, cheez-its, fruit snacks, or other similar items would be greatly appreciated. We will be accepting donations starting June 8th at the McGehee Center from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. and again on June 10th from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m."

Damon Bautista

If you are unable to donate during these specified times, or if you have any further questions, please contact Damon Bautista, Director of Silvis Summer Park Program at runner4804@hotmail.com, or contact Silvis City Hall to leave a message for Damon Bautista at 309-792-9181.



Silvis Public Library Turns The Page To Phase Two

The Library Director, Amy Fry, thought this day would never come. The Silvis Public Library will begin phase two of the reopening on June 15th, but staff will start on June 1st to prepare.

Phase two consists of the library beginning curbside service only. The staff will only be allowed in the building. The library will be staffed from 9 am - 5 pm Monday-Saturday. Curbside pickup appointments are available Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10 am-12 pm & 2 pm-4pm. External book drops are open and late fees will be waived. The \$1.00 fee for New DVD checkouts will also be waived. Items will not be stamped with a due date.

Director Fry anticipates no residents will be allowed into Library building until at least July, if not longer, that will be phase three. Phase three will enable residents back into the library with a limited occupancy capacity of twenty-five percent and limited hours.



Art In The Park

Phipps Prairie Park will soon see a new addition along the walking trail. Mark Thompson, a welding teacher at UTHS and

Mayor Carter, have come up with an interactive art sculpture along the trail. Mayor Carter dubs it, the "Love Lock." The sculpture envisioned by Carter and crafted by Thompson is the shape of a large steel heart. In the center of the heart, there is a heavy steel mesh to attach a padlock. The idea, said Carter, is similar to what's on the bridges in Paris. You place a padlock on the heart and lock it with the name or names of others on the lock, which has a significant meaning of love and friendship. Then once the padlock is closed and locked, you break the key off in the lock as a symbol of unbreakable love and friendship.

The plan is to have the Love Lock sand-blasted and powder coated before the final mounting by early June. As state conditions improve due to the pandemic, and restrictions ease, the heart will be set in a concrete footing with the help of Girl Scout Troop 2716, along with The Women in Construction.

The exact location along the trail where the Love Lock will be located will remain a secret, you will have to walk the trails to find it, said Carter.



SFD Monthly Drawing Months of March & May

Note: No meeting held in April

Drawings will extend an additional month

\$300 Jim Staub, Belinda Rusch, \$50 Erin Thompson, Cole Rogers, Martin Engh, Sylvia Soliz, \$25 Linda Poppe, Joni Nache, Bob Scott, Bill Brown, Jason Fluegel, Henry Nache, Gary Scott, Mike Carleton



Silvis Awarded \$400,000 Grant

The Illinois Department of Transportation has awarded the

City of Silvis a \$400,000 transportation grant, paid twice a year, over three years. The grant is part of the REBUILD Illinois Grant Program, which will award \$1.5 billion over the next three years statewide.

Public Works Committee will host several committee meetings as they identify capital improvement projects within the city.

Swimming Pool Fill and Install

Prior to filling or installing a new pool, please call City hall for billing adjustments and permits 309-792-9181

