



City of Aledo
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Aledo, Illinois 61231

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Website: www.aledoil.org

As the active summer season approaches please keep a few special dates in mind. The 27th Annual Rhubarb Festival will take place on June 1 & 2. Check out the details at www.aledorhubarbfest.com.

HIDDEN HISTORY: DEDICATION SIGN AT GAS HOUSE (ORIGINAL WATER PUMP HOUSE)

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

APRIL

“Drug Take Back Day” Aledo Police Dept. - April 28th (10 am - 2 pm)

“13th Annual Central Park Band Shell Grand Opening” - April 29th (6:30 - 8:00 pm)

MAY

“Champions 4 Children Walk” - Central Park - May 5th (9:00 am) (Mercer County Crisis Center)

“Memorial Day Parade” - Downtown Aledo - May 28th (10:45 am) followed by a luncheon at the American Legion Post 121 - Speaker: Jason Arnold, LTC (US Army, Retired)

“Concerts in the Park” - Central Park - Thursdays in May - July (See AMS website for details at www.aledomainstreet.com)

Farmers Market” - Central Park - Thursdays Jun - Oct (4 - 6 pm) (Aledo Main Street)

JUNE

“Aledo Rhubarb Festival” - Citywide Event - June 1st & 2nd (Rhubarb Festival Committee)

“Aledo Rhubarb Run” - YMCA - June 2nd (8:00 am) (Mercer County Family YMCA)

“Cinema @ Central” - Central Park - June 8th, July 20th, August 10th at dusk - weather permitting (Aledo Main Street)

“Relay For Life” - Central Park - June 23rd (11:00 am) (American Cancer Society)

JULY

“4th of July Frog Race” - “Concert in the Park - Central Park - July 4th (Exchange Club, Genesis Pharmacy)

“Independence Day Fireworks” - County Fairgrounds - July 4th

“Mercer County Fair” - County Fairgrounds - July 10th - 14th (Mercer County Agricultural Society)

AUGUST

“YMCA Christian Concert” - Central Park - August 2nd (5 - 7 pm) (Mercer County Family YMCA)

“National Night Out” - Central Park - August 7th (6 - 9 pm) (Aledo Police Dept.)

“Antique Days” - Central Park & Downtown area - August 25th Car Show (9 am - 6 pm) & 5K run (7:30 am) (Aledo Main Street & Aledo Police Benevolent Association & Aledo Jaycees)

SEPTEMBER

“Oktoberfest” - Central Park & Downtown area - September 29th (12 pm - 8 pm) (Aledo Main Street)



ALEDO BULLETIN

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Did you ever sit in your house on a cold winter day wishing for Spring? I'm not sure how you feel, but I'm not a fan of winter, though I once was. There are many things that make Spring a season to anticipate. In fact, spring has been really exciting for me as your mayor.

As April arrives, the city is anxious to get started on our list of capital improvements projects budgeted for by the council.

You will see renovations begin on your historic city hall over the next couple of months. We will be replacing the roof, installing new windows, and tuck-pointing the exterior brick. These much-needed repairs will be completed in June.



The summer will bring on our continued effort to improve your city streets. After completing the Southeast quadrant last year, we will be doing work on the Northeast streets this year, with hopes of completing the Northwest area in the near future.

As summer winds down, we will be working on another phase of the downtown street and sidewalk enhancement project. This phase will run on North College from 2nd street to Main Street. This work is scheduled to start the week after Antique Days.

Speaking of Antique Days, there are lots of plans in the works for another fantastic summer of festivals and events. The Band



Shell opens on April 29th followed by Thursday Night entertainment throughout the summer. Our annual Rhubarb Fest is to be held June 1st & 2nd, and Antique Days August 25th. There are also plans for another Oktoberfest and a couple other surprises. Stay Tuned!

As I close on this chapter of your bulletin, enjoy the information, and volunteer when you can.

Until next time,
Mayor Hagloch

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CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Christopher Hagloch
Ila Bertrand (Ward I)
Christopher Kopp (Ward I)
James Holmes (Ward II)
Randy Slater (Ward II)
Michael Chausse (Ward III)
Barry Cooper (Ward III)
Terry Bewley (Ward IV)
Jay Doherty (Ward IV)

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Jarod Dale (City Clerk)
Sandy Bull (City Treasurer)

CITY ADMINISTRATION

Erin Knackstedt (City Administrator)
Chris Sullivan (Chief of Police)
Justin Blaser (Director of PW&U)
Sarah Bohnsack (Finance Director)
Tarah Sipes (E.D. Coordinator)

MURAL RESTORATION

The City of Aledo will be working with artist Michael Clark to create an action plan for restoring the murals that can be found throughout downtown Aledo. Many of the murals were painted in conjunction with Aledo's sesquicentennial celebration



in 2005, and have begun to show the effects of age and weather. The restoration plan is being developed to prolong the life of the public art that celebrates unique points of historical interest in the City of Aledo.

BUTTON BUILDING INCUBATOR PROJECT

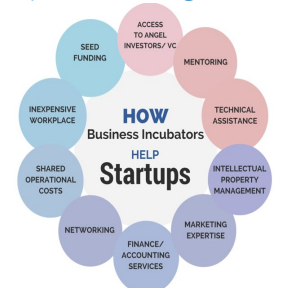
This spring the City of Aledo will debut a retail incubator project in the Button Building. The Button House Incubator Project will be a location for entrepreneurs who are dreaming of opening their own store to start the process of growing their business. Participants in the project will gain access to business workshops, technical assistance, and business mentoring.

A goal of this project is to help strengthen and expand the

business offerings in our community. In addition to expanding the business offerings in Aledo, the project is designed to help meet the needs of our community outlined in the Retail Trade Gap Analysis and other goals decided upon by the City of Aledo.

The Incubator Project will open its doors to shoppers later this spring and will have a grand opening during Rhubarb Festival. Persons interested in learning more about the

incubator can find more information at www.aledoil.org or may contact Tarah Sipes, Economic Development Coordinator at (309)582- 7241 or tsipes@aledoil.org.



BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Paul and Leanne Thomas opened Blessed by Nature in January of 2000 after natural healing and nutrition contributed to the remission of their young daughter's cancer. The Thomas family opened Blessed by Nature in order to share the knowledge they had gained through their journey with others. As Certified Natural Health Professionals, they are able to assist customers in finding solutions that fit their unique situations.

Customers can find a wide variety of products including specialty foods such as all-natural beef, gluten-free and dairy-free products and natural dietary supplements. In addition to natural and specialty foods, shoppers can find a wide variety of personal care items, essential oils and diffusers, natural cleaning and laundry products, chemical-free pet and baby products.



Blessed by Nature is open Monday through Friday from 9:00am to 5:00pm and on Saturday from 9:00am to 12:30pm. The store is closed on Sunday.

HIDDEN HISTORY



(Answer on Back Page)

CITY CODE CORNER

City Code Corner is provided to outline general City laws. For more specific information please contact City Hall or visit the City of Aledo website at www.aledoil.org.

No animal or dog shall be allowed to run at large.

Any grass or weeds allowed to grow in excess of six inches (6") is considered a nuisance.

All exterior property and premises shall be maintained in a clean, safe and sanitary condition.

A permit is required to plant, remove or cut any tree located on streets, alleys, or public grounds of the City.

Call JULIE before you dig. Call 811 or www.illinois1call.com

City Hall Renovations

City Council approved exterior renovations to the City Hall Building in the amount of \$479,102. The Contract was awarded to Hodge Construction Company Inc., of Moline, IL.

Work is expected to begin on April 16, 2018, with completion expected by July 20. The work consists of the replacement of the roof, exterior windows and doors, and masonry tuck-pointing of the entire building.

street surface, and to update the water, storm and sanitary sewer infrastructure.



2018 DOWNTOWN PROJECT

Downtown Street & Sidewalk Replacement Project: Phase III

The City Council has approved the next Phase of the Downtown Street and Sidewalk Replacement Project. To date

Phases I, II, & IV have been completed. For 2018, Phase III will be the area of the 100 block of North College Ave. The purpose of the project is to install ADA compliant sidewalks and parking areas, install a new

GO GREEN...

The City of Aledo is committed to helping our residents Go Green! Here are a few ways the City is working to conserve and reduce waste for our residents:

The City offers a free County-wide Residential E-Waste Drop Off for electronics & paint collection which is open the 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month from 9:00 am-Noon & 12:30-3:00 pm.

The City will be performing a leak detection survey in 2018 to identify water losses and

improve efficiency of our water system through preventative maintenance.

The Aledo Police Dept. participates in the National Prescription Drug Take Back Day event annually. This year's date is April 28th from 10 am - 2 pm, but residents are always welcome to dispose of any unused medications throughout the year at the department.

The City received grant assistance for the installation of Variable Frequency Devices (VFDs) on all three of our wells.

These VFDs regulate the electricity and water flow which reduces the amount of energy needed to operate the wells.

In addition, there are ways that you can partner with the City to promote environmental friendly practices. Both Millennium and Jackson Disposal companies offer recycling totes and pick-up included in their service charge. Please visit our website at www.aledoil.org or contact your local waste hauler for more information on recycling programs available.



POLICE BEAT

The City of Aledo has started a Neighborhood Vehicle program. The new ordinance authorizes the licensing of golf carts and other similar vehicles for use on city streets. Neighborhood Vehicles must be inspected every year and meet all of the safety standards required in the ordinance.

Permit applications and information about the program are available at the Police Department and City Hall. Permits cost \$50.00 per year and they are not

prorated. Anyone applying for a permit must be at least 21 years old, have a valid driver's license, and must present proof of insurance for the vehicle they wish to license.



Neighborhood Vehicles are

required to follow all of the rules of the road that apply to other motor vehicles. The permits allow them to be operated on City of Aledo streets ONLY. The permits are only valid within the city limits of Aledo. Neighborhood Vehicles cannot be operated on sidewalks or state highways, but are allowed to cross state highways at intersections with city streets.

For more information visit the City of Aledo Police Department or our website @ www.aledoil.org.

PUBLIC WORKS

Street Division

This year the 2018 Street Resurfacing Project will be in the NE Quadrant of town. This project will include installing a new asphalt street surface on various streets and avenues in the NE Quadrant. More details and information will be on the website closer to the start date.

infrastructure with the Water Tower cleaning and inspection, sanitary sewer main cleaning and inspection, Treatment Plant equipment upgrades and south lagoon upgrades.

Gas Division

The Gas Division will focus work on valve maintenance, the installation of a new Master Meter for the Distribution System, and digital mapping of the Gas Distribution System.

Water & Sewer Division

The Water/Sewer Division will continue to focus on improving

Bike Path

Phase I of the Multi-Purpose Pathway Project has been completed. It included the construction of a 10' concrete path along State Highway 17 from SE 8th Ave to the Intersection of State Highways 17 & 94. This project was funded with help from an ITEP grant. The City of Aledo submitted a new ITEP Grant Application in 2018, in hopes of continuing the Pathway in 2019.



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



Jake Frieden-- Gas Division

COMMUNITY WELLNESS

The YMCA is offering some new programs to support your health goals and wellness journey:

LiveSTRONG at the YMCA is a program for individuals who have been diagnosed with cancer and helps survivors begin

the journey toward recovery. The free, 12-week program meets twice a week for 90 minutes.

Diabetes Prevention Program: This is a year long class for individuals who are at risk for developing type 2 Diabetes.

Enhanced Fitness: This is a great evidence-based program with a mix of exercise activities.

Activate: Activate is a HITT style class that will focus on short bursts of hard work, done at your own pace to result in big changes! Contact the YMCA for more info.

2018 SPRING CLEAN-UP DAYS

The Aledo City Council has established the dates for the 2018 Spring Citywide Clean-up Days. The City will furnish collection services for items placed at your curbside by 7:00 a.m. on the assigned day. Areas north of Route 17 will be collected beginning on Monday, April 23, 2018. Areas south of Route 17 will be collected beginning on

Monday, April 30th. The City will NOT pick up the following items: White goods (appliances, stoves, washers, dryers, refrigerators); E-Cycle goods (TV's, and computers, paints and other chemicals); Landscape items (yard waste, brush, limbs); or Automobile related items (oils/lubricants, batteries, tires). Large items in excess of 50 pounds will

also not be collected. Only ONE pick-up truck load per household will be allowed. This service is restricted to Aledo residents. Residents are encouraged to utilize their established garbage hauler for household waste and small items.



E-Cycle 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month from 9 AM - 3 PM.

GAS SAFETY

Disasters can occur anytime and anywhere. You can protect your family and property by being aware of potential hazards and learning to prepare for them. Following a disaster, know what to do and what not to do in order to minimize risks and damage.

What TO DO in the event a natural gas leak were to occur:

* LEAVE THE AREA by foot immediately. Try to direct any other bystanders to leave the area. Attempt to stay upwind.

* CALL CITY OF ALEDO GAS DEPT. from a safe location at

309-582-7241 during regular business hours, after hours 309-582-2331, (save these numbers to your phone, you may also dial 911). The operator will need your name, your phone number, a brief description of the incident, and the location so the proper response can be initiated.

What NOT TO DO in the event a natural gas leak were to occur: * DO NOT enter the premises if you notice a strong gas odor or there is evidence of a natural gas leak.

* DO NOT cause a potential source of ignition such as

turning on electrical switches, lights or appliances, or open your garage door as an electrical charge could create a spark. Do not ring doorbells to notify others of the leak. Knock with your hand to avoid potential sparks.

*DO NOT use your phone or cell phone inside your home, call from a safe location.

* DO NOT smoke, light a match, cigarette lighter or cause any open flame.

* DO NOT attempt to extinguish a natural gas fire. Wait for the City of Aledo Gas Department and other professionals trained to deal with such emergencies.

The City welcomes Jake Frieden to its staff. Jake was hired in September of 2017 to work in the City's Municipal Gas Division. Jake is a 1999 graduate of Westmer High School. He grew up on a farm in the Bay Island north of New Boston where he learned many construction skills such as how to operate heavy equipment, along with digging and trenching skills. Jake has spent the last 14 years being self-employed as a custom car and hot rod builder and restorer; he specialized in bodywork and automotive refinishing.

Jake has been married to his wife Kandice (Newswander) Frieden for 14 years and they have 3 beautiful children. In 2008, they purchased their home in Aledo and continue to be very active within the community. Jake and Kandice have been licensed Foster parents for 5 years and have served several children through that system. They are active members of The Community Bible Fellowship Church. Jake is also serving on the Aledo Fire Protection District as a volunteer fire fighter and has recently been sworn in as the newest member of the Mercer County School Board.

Jake would like to thank the citizens of Aledo for the opportunity to serve this community.