



Chicagoland Speedway

JOLIET

Celebrating the people, places and events in the Midwest's fastest-growing city.

JOURNAL

Look inside for:

Mayor's Letter, (page 2)

JackHammers All-star Summer, (page 2)

Tree Care Tips, (page 3)

Buckling Up, (page 3)

Message from the Joliet Police Department, (page 3)

Department Phone Numbers

**All phone numbers are in area code 815*

Emergency	911
Mayor's Office	724-3700
City Manager	724-3720
Deputy City Manager	724-3730
Bicentennial Park	724-3760
City Clerk	724-3780
Planning-Zoning-Building	724-4040
Neighborhood Services	724-4090
Police	724-3100
Fire	724-3500
Human Resources (Personnel)	724-4020
Legal (Claims)	724-3800
Management and Budget	724-3900
Public Works & Utilities	724-4200
Water & Sewer Maintenance	
24-hour number for emergencies	724-4220
Water & Sewer Billing	724-3820
Public Information Officer	724-3738
City Council Liaison	724-3718
City Council	724-3700
Mayor Art Schultz	
District 1 Councilman Joe Shetina	
District 2 Councilman Tim Brophy	
District 3 Councilman Tony Uremovic	
District 4 Councilman Alex Ledesma	
District 5 Councilman Warren Dorris	
At Large Councilman Tom Giarrante	
At-Large Councilman Bob Hacker	
At Large Councilman Mike Turk	

*Joliet Journal is a bi-annual publication
 Edited by Kevin Hegarty
 Designed by Gammon Group, Inc.*

If It's Fun... It's in Downtown Joliet

NASCAR FanFest, JackHammer games, outdoor festivals, Farmer's Market, Cruise Nights and fireworks will make for an exciting summer in Downtown Joliet. Cruise Nights will take place along Chicago Street every Thursday night from 7-9 pm and the Farmers Market starts June 25th and will take place every Friday morning at Chicago and Jefferson Streets. The annual Car Show will pack Billie Limacher Bicentennial Park on June 19th and 20th. This family festival will



include lots of food and live entertainment, but the cars are, of course, the highlight. Over 200 cars ranging from vintage antiques to "tricked-out", customized late models will be on display. Admission is free to the general public and car show registration is \$10.00 in advance or \$15.00 at the gate. Pro and amateur burnouts will also take place in burnout alley throughout the weekend and fireworks will light up the sky on Saturday night.

The annual July 3rd celebration at the Billie Limacher Bicentennial Park will start at 5:30 pm with musical entertainment on two stages starting at 7 pm. The classic rock band *Mad Money* will be on the pavilion stage

and *Vintage Wood* will be on the south stage. The highlight of the evening will be fireworks along the river at 9:30 pm.

The biggest event of the summer will be the 4th Annual FanFest. FanFest takes place from 5pm to 11pm in historic, downtown Joliet on July 8th. The event will host NASCAR drivers, simulators, showcars, and exhibits, as well as an outdoor entertainment stage with live music and driver announcements. Downtown Joliet's Rialto Theatre is hosting an indoor concert as well with special guest Dale Earnhardt, Jr.

Chicagoland Speedway is organizing a celebrity charity softball game during FanFest in downtown Joliet at Silver Cross Field. Drivers and media members will participate with the ticket proceeds from the event donated to the Victory Junction Gang. The game begins at 1:05 pm and tickets can be purchased at the Silver Cross Field Box Office or call 815-726-BALL.

Continued on page 3



Car Show at Billie Limacher Bicentennial Park

From our Mayor

My 42nd summer with the City of Joliet will be an exciting one. Local residents and over a million visitors will enjoy the many



events taking place in Joliet. Joliet has gone through a lot of changes during my time as mayor and we are definitely moving forward. We have welcomed NASCAR, IRL and NHRA racing, the Joliet JackHammers professional baseball club, Harrah's and Empress Casinos, a new AutoBahn Country Club, Challenge Park Extreme, Splash Station Water Park, the Joliet Area Historical Museum and the new west side branch of the Joliet Public Library at no additional cost to the taxpayers. We have also built miles of new roads, upgraded our storm sewer system, given money to local schools and kept all of our city services at a very high level.

Baseball games, concerts, races, festivals and other special events are the theme as we head from spring into summer. The JackHammers will be hosting the Northern League All-Star game in July. Route 66 Raceway and Chicagoland Speedway will be packed with race fans throughout the summer. Splash Station will be the place to cool off and Downtown Joliet is the Chicago area's newest entertainment destination. The summer of 2004 promises to be one of the most action packed in Joliet history.

I hope everyone enjoys our many attractions this summer, but also keep in mind those who fought and died for our country this year in our war on terrorism. Many area residents fought, and continue to fight that war and we are eternally grateful. Thank you to all of those who showed up at the many "Support the Troops" events. Have a safe and happy summer.



All-Star summer approaches

The 2004 JackHammers season is underway and lots of fun is planned at Silver Cross Field this summer. Baseball America ranked Silver Cross Field as the second best of the 66 ballparks in the independent classification. A new concession stand with rooftop seats is one of the many new amenities that will make Silver Cross Field and Downtown Joliet the place to be this summer.



Tickets are available for all remaining JackHammers regular season home games. There are three primary ticket options: Box Seats (\$9/ticket), Reserved Seats (\$7/ticket) and General Admission (\$5/ticket). There is no limit as to the number of tickets a fan can purchase for a single game.

The JackHammers will host the 2004 Northern League All-Star Skills Competition (July 19) and Game (July 20) presented by Budweiser. The Skills Competition will feature a home run

derby. Tickets prices for the Skills Competition are the same as a regular season game. There are three ticket options for the All-Star Game:

Box Seat (\$10), Reserved Seat (\$8) and General Admission (\$6).

Fans purchasing tickets for the JackHammers game on July 8 will be treated to a day-night doubleheader. At 1:05 PM (changed from 2:05 PM),

the JackHammers will host the Sioux City Explorers. At 6 PM, Silver Cross Field will be the site of a Celebrity Softball Game featuring NASCAR drivers.



Complete JackHammers ticket information can be found on the tickets and group tickets pages of the team's website: www.jackhammerbaseball.com.

"Open Burning – Outdoor Fireplaces"

Are you thinking about buying and using an outdoor fireplace? Joliet city ordinance does not allow "open burning" of any waste material within the city limits. Our ordinance does however allow for the use of commercially manufactured and approved "outdoor fireplaces" but only if you: do not burn landscape or construction waste materials; burn only hardwood logs or commercially made logs that are normally burned in an inside fireplace; strictly follow the manufacturer's directions for use of the unit; provide a non-combustible surface for the unit to be placed on; and, do not leave the fireplace unattended during use. Even by doing all of these things, your use of the



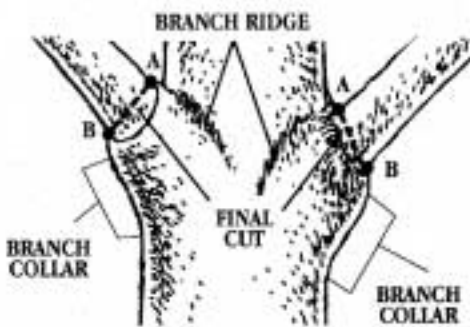
outdoor fireplace cannot create a "public nuisance problem" for others.

To avoid any such problems, we suggest that before purchasing and using an outdoor fireplace, you think about these issues. If you still have a question about open burning or outdoor fireplaces, please give us a call.

Tree Care Tips

The benefits of trees in the landscape are many. The following tips will help assure the survival of newly planted and established trees.

- ◆ **Prune** (cut off) dead branches, branches that cross or rub together, and suckers growing from the bottom and sides of the main trunk. (Oak trees should be pruned before April 1 or after Nov. 1 to avoid oak wilt).
- Pruning cuts should be made close to the base of a branch (about 1/4" away), do not leave a stub.
- Make cuts outside the branch ridge and collar; do not cut into the trunk of the tree.



- ◆ **Place mulch 3-4 inches deep around the base of trees.**

This will retain moisture and prevent weeds and grass from growing around the base of the tree.

- ◆ **Do not build a cone of mulch around the trunk base of trees.**

This practice encourages insects and disease to attack the tree. It also causes root growth within the mulch resulting in poor tree stability.

- ◆ **Avoid nicking the bark on trees with lawnmowers and weed whips.**

Diseases enter through wounds on trunks and branches and may inhibit water uptake.

- ◆ **Water newly planted trees.**

Regularly water new trees during dry periods for the first two to three years of life. Soak the ground thoroughly with a slow dripping hose. Established trees benefit from this practice also.

- ◆ **Do not over-water new trees planted in heavy clay soils.**

Trees can wilt and die if roots are sitting in water.

Fun in Downtown *Continued from page 1*

The 23rd annual Waterway Daze Festival will take place July 22-24 at the Billie Limacher Bicentennial Park. This year's festival will not only be a celebration of the waterway, but also a "Salute to Entertainment". Several boats will be decked out with an entertainment theme throughout the weekend. Fireworks will light up the sky on Friday night and the lighted boat parade will get underway at 9 pm on Saturday.

Four new venues will add to an

already popular entertainment district in Downtown Joliet this summer. Gio Vanna's Italian Ristorante (Cass and Ottawa Streets) and Eo Vannus Liquid Lounge (205 N. Chicago Street) have already opened and the Sapphire Nightclub and Crabigales Comedy Club are set to open soon. These entertainment hotspots join 20 other restaurants and bars downtown. Whether you are looking for an Irish pub, upscale dining, sports bars, casino gaming or a favorite ethnic restaurant, you can find it in Downtown Joliet.

Joliet Police Department needs your help

The Police Department will soon be mailing surveys to a representative sample of citizens to try to assess the areas in which we are satisfying citizen needs and identifying the areas in which we need to improve. If you get a survey from the Chief of Police, we ask that you please take a few minutes to complete it and drop it back in the mail. There is no postage required to return the survey. Without communication between the citizens and the Police Department, we cannot know what we need to do to make our services appropriate and effective. Thank you in advance for your participation.

BUCKLING UP SAVES LIVES

Motor vehicle crashes remain the leading cause of death and acquired disability in children. Effective January 1, 2004, the Illinois Child Passenger Protection Act was amended to require that a person transporting a child under the age of eight (rather than four years of age) is responsible for properly securing the child in an appropriate child restraint system.

The Joliet Police Department strives to keep children safe through educational initiatives and by strongly enforcing occupant protection laws. Our educational initiatives include informational booths at various events throughout the year and free child safety seat inspections held at least once a month. The Police Department has child safety seat check lanes scheduled as follows:

Saturday, June 26
11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Sacred Heart Church,
337 South Ottawa Street

Saturday, July 17
11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Spanish Center, 309 North Eastern Avenue

Questions about the proper use of child safety restraints can be directed to Joliet Police Captain Tony Jerisha at 724-3083 or via e-mail at tjerisha@jolietcity.org.

The City of Joliet website has completely redesigned its website. Developed to be a resource for residents as well as visitors to the area, the website now has more information than ever—community events, restaurants, entertainment, outdoor activities, arts & culture, parking, transportation, and much more. Viewers can also access the city's community profile, including demographics, quality of life issues, government, a community survey, utilities, and development trends. Be sure to sign up for our upcoming electronic newsletter to keep up to date on City events. Log on today at www.cityofjoliet.info.

Stop basement flooding in your neighborhoods

During heavy rainstorms, clear water enters the sanitary sewer system through various means such as infiltration (leaky pipes), illegal sump pump connections inside homes, downspout connections outside the home and building foundation drain (footing tile) connections. Once enough water enters the sewer system and the pipes reach their capacity, water begins to surcharge and back-up into basements.

The Sewer Department actively repairs leaking and broken pipes as they are found. Homeowners who connect the sump discharge lines to the sanitary sewer cannot easily be found because this requires entry into the homes. Most downspouts have been separated, but they discharge the water right next to the house, allowing water to soak down next to the foundation. Finally, there is the footing tile system.

The footing tile is a drain line that circles a house in order to collect the water and reduce pressure on foundation walls. Current building codes require the footing tiles to drain to a sump pit in the basement. Prior to the 1970's, it was customary to connect the footing tile drain line directly to the sanitary sewer system as it exits the home.

Any house that has a basement, does not have a sump pump and does not have a water seepage

problem should have a footing tile connection. This program is designed to target those houses.

The City has actively approached homeowners in selected neighborhoods with the worst flooding to remove these connections. The completed neighborhoods have seen dramatic improvements. The program has also been made available to any City resident who could benefit from the work through a reimbursement program.

FOOTING TILE SEPARATION PROGRAM

The Footing Tile Separation Program is designed to provide financial assistance to residents faced with making repairs to their sanitary sewer service. Current building regulations require that all work done on a home is completed to today's standards. This includes the separation of the footing tiles when sewer repairs are made.

The City's program will reimburse the resident for additional cost incurred to:

1. Replace the sewer drain pipe next to the house, replacing the point of connection with a new solid piece of pipe.
2. Installing a full diameter (6") cleanout on the

outside of the building.

3. Routing the foundation drains to a sump pit.

4. Material and labor to install a sump pit.

5. Installation of a dedicated electric connection to run the sump pump.



Items not included are the replacement of sewer pipe over 5 feet from the house or any landscaping & restoration. In many cases, performing the work in accordance with this program will solve the owners problems or minimize the expense to the homeowner.

To qualify for the reimbursement program, the footing tile drain system must be separated from the sanitary system. The City can inspect the sewer drain line to check if the footing tile exist. To schedule an inspection or receive more information about the program, contact the Joliet Utilities Department at (815) 724-4260.



CITY OF JOLIET
 150 West Jefferson Street
 Joliet, IL 60432-4156

PRSRTD STD
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 JOLIET, IL
 PERMIT NO. 132

Save the Date

- June 10th-September 9th, Chicago Street Cruise Nights, Chicago Street in Joliet City Center, Thursdays, 7-9 p.m. For more information, call 774-6066.
- June 19th and 20th, City of Joliet Car Show, Billie Limacher Bicentennial Park, 12:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. For information, call 724-3760.
- June 25th and 26th, June Fest, Billie Limacher Bicentennial Park, 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. For information, call 724-3760.
- July 3rd, Fireworks, Billie Limacher Bicentennial Park, 5:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.
- July 4th, Fireworks, Memorial Stadium, 9:00 p.m. For more information, call 727-5371
- July 8th, NASCAR FanFest, Drivers, simulators, food, beer and more. For information, visit www.jolietdowntown.info
- July 22-24, Waterway Daze, Billie Limacher Bicentennial Park. For information, call 724-3760.