

# Charlack Newsletter

## Message from your Mayor:

May 2006

I think it would be in my best interest to stop apologizing for getting the newsletters out so late, as I seem to be doing that every month! Summer months are busy and well, I apologize for getting this one out late yet again! This one is REALLY late! We have a lot of things going on in this newsletter and because this is so late, I am going to throw in a few things that have happened so far in June. Chief Palme asked that I remind the residents once again that our kids are out of school and to please drive with caution. Try to stay cool...this week is going to be a hot one!

**New Alderman:** I'd like to welcome Jared Gilbert as our new Ward 1 Alderman! Jared accepted the appointment and was unanimously approved by the Board of Aldermen. He sat in his first meeting on June 13<sup>th</sup>! Alderman Gilbert has stated that he cares about the community and looks forward to serving the residents! Welcome!

**Officer of the Month:** Congratulations to our newest officer, Lou Calbreath for winning the officer of the month for May!

**Swimming Pools:** Reminder to all swimming pool owners....we have an ordinance in place that any resident who owns a swimming pool (and I'm not talking about the 2 foot metal or the inflatable ones!) must receive a pool inspection and permit before you can swim. Now I know it has been hot and I know you all have been swimming and we only have two permits so far this year! It doesn't take long, it costs only \$5 and it is for your own safety. If you are a pool owner, please make arrangements with City Hall to get your permit. Our Code Enforcement officer has been busy, so please don't pay for citations when the permit is only 5 bucks! Call City Hall at 314-427-4715.

**Lackland Plaza Facelift:** They're getting there! If they work by the hour, someone is paying a lot of money!

**Charlack's Summer Events:** Listed on the back of this newsletter is the schedule for the Charlack Summer events. The turnout for these events continues to grow. Try to make what you can...it is a good way to relax and meet your friends and neighbors.

**Mosquitos:** The City will once again be sprayed for mosquito and mosquito larvae by St. Louis County Vector Control. The spray schedule for Charlack will be on Tuesday, weather permitting. Sprays will only occur if the criteria has been met. St. Louis County has asked that we remind all residents to do their part in controlling the mosquitos:

- Make sure drainpipes and sump pumps are properly sloped so that they do not hold water.
  - Never dump yard waste into creeks or other drainage areas.
  - Keep your grass and bushes trimmed.
  - Fill in any low spots in your yard where water may sit.
  - Store inside, or get rid of any unused artificial containers such as flowerpots, cans, tires, etc.
  - Empty and clean out small pools at least once a week.
  - If you have a larger pool with a cover, make sure the cover is dry and not collecting water.
  - Turn your wheelbarrows, canoes and boats upside down when not in use.
- For your personal protection, wear light colored clothing, as mosquitos are attracted to dark clothing  
Check out mosquito repellent products and follow label directions  
A fan creates a breeze preventing mosquitos from landing

More information on West Nile Virus, mosquitos, precautions and what you can do to help can be found on the St. Louis County webpage at [www.stlouisco.com/doh/vector/mosquitos](http://www.stlouisco.com/doh/vector/mosquitos). You may also obtain information by calling 314-615-4BUG

**Charlack's Comprehensive Plan:** As noted in the previous newsletter, I have presented the Board with the companies that have sent in bids for our comprehensive plan. Development Strategies is the name of the company that will be handling our comprehensive plan. They will also assist us with our research in the revisiting of the annexation efforts.

**Annexation:** I want to put just a little note about the re-visiting of the annexation. Although the residents of Charlack overwhelmingly approved the process, I still feel that I want to explain where we are and why we did what we did. In no way do I want to take anything away from the folks that worked so hard on our previous annexation efforts. I include myself, but mostly folks like our former Chief, Tony Umbertino, our City Administrator Zella, our current Chief John Palme and Sgt. Vince Delia. There are others and I apologize if I missed them. The voluntary efforts that these folks gave was monumental. We withdrew from the process because I needed to be 100% sure that this was the right thing for our City. I was close, but not 100%. We were all amateurs working diligently to do the best we could for our community. I applaud all of them for their efforts. We now have a professional company that will assist us with our Comprehensive plan and the annexation process. They have the ability to give us secure financial information as well as sound advice. With a professional analysis and professional research, I feel that I can be 100% sure. I guess I just need to hear from the folks who do this for a living that this is good or not good for our City.

**Citywide Yard Sale:** Well, you all have spoken, so we have decided to have a second Citywide Garage Sale! The date will be Saturday, August 25<sup>th</sup>. Once again, there will be no permits required and we will post an advertisement in the North County Journal. Please see the summer event schedule in this newsletter for this and other Charlack events!

**Officer Commendation:** I recently received a letter from Chief Terry Milam, who is the Chief of Police from St. John's. In his letter, he commended one of our officers, Eric Sontheimer for his assistance in a recent armed robbery investigation. The letter reads as follows:

"On June 12, 2006, the Walgreen's Drug Store was robbed at gunpoint. A description of the wanted subject was dispatched to surrounding police agencies. Approximately 6 hours later, Officer Sontheimer observed a subject matching the description of the armed robbery subject. Officer Sontheimer detained the suspect and contacted a St. John's Police Detective. A follow up investigation resulted in the recovery of the gun used during the robbery and the cash that was stolen.

Warrants were issued charging the subject with Robbery in the First Degree.

Officer Sontheimer is to be commended for a job well done. Had it not been for his keen observation skills, this crime may have never been solved. His contribution removed one more criminal and one more gun from our communities."

Too many times we only hear about the bad. Good job to Eric and our Police Department!

**Planning & Zoning:** The Planning & Zoning Commission has a new commissioner. Welcome CJ Klenke to the Commission!

## **For the Fridge:**

# **City of Charlack Summer Events:**

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| Saturday, June 24 <sup>th</sup> – Movie Night at the Park              | 8:15pm           |
| Saturday, July 1 <sup>st</sup> – Annual 4 <sup>th</sup> of July Parade | 10:30am          |
| Tuesday, August 1 <sup>st</sup> – National Night Out                   | 7:00pm – 10:00pm |
| Saturday, August 19 <sup>th</sup> – Kids Day at the Park               | 12:00 – 2:30pm   |
| Saturday, August 26 <sup>th</sup> – Citywide Garage Sale               | EARLY!           |
| Sunday, September 3 <sup>rd</sup> – Laborfest – Party in the Park      | 3:00pm – 10:00pm |
| Saturday, September 9 <sup>th</sup> – Ward 1 Block Party               | 1:00pm – 4:00pm  |
| Wednesday, September 13 <sup>th</sup> – Senior Picnic at the Park      | 11:00am – 2:00pm |
| Saturday, September 23 <sup>rd</sup> – Ward 2 Block Party              | 1:00pm – 4:00pm  |
| Saturday, October 28 <sup>th</sup> – Halloween Party at the Park       | To Be Determined |
| Saturday, December 16 <sup>th</sup> – Santa comes to Charlack!         | To Be Determined |
| Saturday, April 7 <sup>th</sup> (2007) – Easter Egg Hunt               | To Be Determined |

*Please be respectful of your neighbors*

Please feel free to call me with any questions, concerns, or complaints. If you do not want to receive this every month, call me, and I will take you off the list. Thanks!

**Jim Beekman, Mayor**  
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(Paid for by Jim Beekman)