

Charlack Newsletter

Message from your Mayor:

For the month of June, 2007

Big changes coming for August with our new trash service. I know that the trash issue has been a biggie for the last few years and due to the new St. Louis County ordinance requiring recycling, it just made it harder for us. After the Public Hearing and several meetings, we have decided that it would be best for the City to get out of the trash business altogether. The folks who attended the Public Hearing agreed that the City should not be the "middle man" for trash service. It has been difficult on the clerks at City Hall, but they were troopers knowing that what they were doing was saving the residents a few bucks each month. I have attached an informational bulletin with this newsletter. If you have any questions regarding the service or billing, please call Zella at City Hall, 427-4715. The increase in trash service costs were coming sooner or later with the new county ordinance. I am not happy with any increases, but this was inevitable. With the help of the residents at the Public Hearing and the multiple companies that provided information and bids, I am confident that the Board made the right decision in making Waste Management the new hauler for the City of Charlack.

I hope you all can attend or participate in our annual 4th of July parade and picnic this Sunday (Tomorrow). Kind of strange to have it on a Sunday, but there are already so many activities on the actual day of July 4th. We didn't want to compete with any of that so we decided to have it on Sunday. We also made it in the afternoon for those who worship on Sunday mornings. The flyer is on the back of this newsletter...this is a fun time....come on out!

Open House: On Saturday, July 21st, we will open all doors of our current City Hall so that any residents can walk through. There has been much discussion by some residents inquiring about the need for a new City Hall. It was decided by the Board to give the residents an opportunity to come and see why we chose to build a new City Hall. Doors will be open from Noon until 4:00pm. Stop by if you want to see how the gears turn in your City Government!

PUBLIC HEARING: TUESDAY JULY 24TH, 7:00PM AT CITY HALL TO DISCUSS THE 2007-2008 FISCAL BUDGET AND THE 2008 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDING.

Officer of the Month: Congratulations to Officer Lou Calbreath for winning the officer of the month for May! I will have the June Officer of the Month in the next newsletter.

Rats: The City of Charlack is still dealing with rat problems in some parts of town. I have tried to call St. Louis County Vector control, but they will only take calls from residents. In addition, they have stated that they are focusing most of their attention on mosquito control. This leaves the problem up to us. I ask that you continue to make sure that all trash is in cans secured with lids. Make sure that your pet food is not exposed and that you clean up after your pet. Remove any potential "homes" for rats or other rodents such as piles of limbs or broken down sheds. We have contacted the City of St. John regarding an area on Burton. They will be sending their health department to the restaurant at St. Charles Rock Road and McKibbin to make sure they are using their trash cans correctly. They will also identify any other problems in that area to correct. I have also contacted other Mayor's in the surrounding area and found that this is not just a Charlack problem. Other Mayors are facing the same rat problems and are asking their residents to step up as well. Our insurance provider does not allow us to issue rat poison as it creates a liability to the City. The responsibility falls on us as residents to do what we can to control this problem.

Park Restrooms: As you may have noticed, the restrooms at the park have been locked most of the day. The vandalism has forced us to lock them. We will re-open the restrooms soon. If the vandalism continues, we will probably do what most municipalities do, and that is to keep them locked until there is a rental. This is definitely NOT the way I envisioned our park, but I am at a loss as to how to protect your investment.

City Hall Project: Chief Umbertino has been working diligently on the planning of the new City Hall. He has found an organization that will allow us to donate the existing house on the property. This is an organization that locates housing for the poor. They are currently trying to find a mover that will move the house to their new location. Chief has also been working with the architect and as soon as the house is removed, we will begin site plans!

How We Voted: **BILL NO. 07-598** an ordinance recommended by the City of Charlack Planning Commission to vacate public surface rights for vehicle, equestrian and pedestrian travel in a public street. All Aldermen voted "Aye," motion passed. *This is to vacate an area that runs along P&A Drywall. They bought the property and asked that we allow them to revise their plat to square up their property.*

BILL NO. 07-599 an ordinance approving fees and taxes for outdoor advertising in the City of Charlack. All Aldermen voted "Aye," motion passed. *This was Proposition A, the billboard tax for billboard owners that you all passed as the last election.*

Short newsletter this month, but lots of stuff. Have a great and safe 4th of July.

Please be respectful of your neighbors

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City of Charlack's Annual July 4th Parade and Picnic!!

Sunday, July 1st

The City of Charlack will be having its annual 4th of July parade and picnic Sunday, July 1st (TOMORROW!) to celebrate our Independence! There will be a car and bike decorating contest, a parade through town, then a picnic at the park with hot dogs, chips and soda! Community Fire Department will be leading our parade! Decorate your cars and bikes and meet us at the Lackland Plaza parking lot (Just south of 7-11 on Lackland) at 12:45pm. Judging will be at 1:00pm sharp with the parade beginning shortly after (Last year, there was only 1 decorated car, so that is quite the easy win. Don't let them run away with it again!!)

Prizes for Car Decorating:

\$100 – First Place
\$75 – Second Place
\$50 – Third Place

Prizes for Bike Decorating:

\$25 – First Place
\$15 – Second Place
\$10 – Third Place

Grab the kids on your street, decorate a car on Friday night, touch it up on Saturday, win the contest, then buy ice cream for all the kids! Easy! Let the kids decorate their bikes in the meantime! Meet us at Lackland Plaza for the judging, or simply join the parade as it comes by your street (bikes or cars must be at Lackland Plaza by 12:45 in order to compete in the contest). **Due to State Statute and Charlack ordinance, there can be no unlicensed vehicles, motorcycles, dirt bikes or go carts. Per the statute, only scooters or vehicles that are 49CC or less can be on the streets without license tags.**

The info: We will meet at Lackland Plaza at 12:45pm. Judging will be at 1:00pm – SHARP!. Our parade will begin at 1:00pm with Community Fire Trucks leading the way. We will leave Lackland Plaza and go to Bristow. Left on Bristow to Ann. We will make a right on Ann to Ackerman. Right on Ackerman to Lackland. Left on Lackland to Walton. Right on Walton to Forest. We will make a left on Forest to McKibbon. Right on McKibbon to St. Chas. Rock Road. Right on Rock Road to Walton. Right on Walton to Forest, left on Forest to our park. We will have a flag raising as soon as we arrive, then a free hotdog, chips and soda! See you there!!