

The stars seem to be aligning. Tomorrow night is not only one of Edwardsville's "must-do" local events, it also promises to be the most pleasant evening of the summer. With temperatures in the 70s and 80s, clear skies, a light breeze, and low humidity, there is no better way to enjoy your Saturday night than by attending the third annual, "Burgers & Brews" on the Market Green in Downtown Edwardsville. With proceeds benefitting the Goshen Market Foundation, "Burgers & Brews," (tomorrow night from 6 – 10 pm), is a garden party, complete with local food prepared by local chefs, beverages, and live music. The \$35 ticket price includes your choice of three handcrafted sliders (using Market meats) and accompanying side dishes (using Market veggies) prepared by some of your favorite local establishments, (Cleveland Heath, 1818 Chop House, Peel Wood Fired Pizza, Clean EatZ, and Mike Shannon's). 222 Artisan Bakery and Annie's Frozen Custard will be collaborating on ice cream sandwiches for dessert and Chef's Shoppe is providing free popcorn. The ticket price also includes two glasses of Recess Brewing's beer or wine. Additional beer, sliders, and wine will be available for purchase. If you want to "drink in" and "gobble up" as much local-vore culture as your tummy can take, this is the event for you. For more than 20 years, the Goshen Market has given Edwardsville folks an opportunity to buy farm fresh fruits and veggies every week, as well as a gathering place to see friends and neighbors Downtown every Saturday morning. This past year the Market Foundation expanded their outreach, offering week night markets on the SIUE campus, cultivating a community garden at Lincoln Middle School, and creating a "mobile market" which provides healthy local food to under-served area residents. Encouraging the growth of local farms and providing educational programming are also vital components of their mission. What we eat matters, and this is a group of people who are not only talking about how to eat healthier, they're providing opportunities for doing so. Ward 4 First Lady Emily Morrison also happens to be one of the Market Foundation Board members. "Burgers & Brews" is sponsored by businesses owned by two Ward 4 residents: Bev George & Associates, and Goshen Coffee Company. First Mid Bank & Trust and Henderson & Associates are also sponsors. Tickets are \$35 in advance and \$40 at the entry – there may only be a handful of tickets left tomorrow, so reserve your spot and buy your tickets now at: <https://burgersbrews.brownpapertickets.com/>. If you can't make it to Burgers & Brews, support the Market by attending the weekly event on Saturday mornings and patronizing our great local vendors. It's going to be a perfect Edwardsville summer weekend, so get out there and enjoy it!

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM OPENS TONIGHT AT SIUE: Shakespeare's most popular and enchanting comedy, "A Midsummer Night's Dream" opens tonight (Friday, July 6) at SIUE's Metcalf Theater at 7:30 p.m., with performances continuing Saturday, July 7 at 7:30 pm, and Sunday, July 8 at 2 p.m. The show will be performed the same times the following weekend (July 13, 14 and 15). The story chronicles a love-struck quartet of teenagers who flee to the woods one night and find themselves enmeshed in an epic lover's quarrel between the King and Queen of the fairies. Love potions, and magic spells go ridiculously wrong, all while a troupe of enthusiastically inept amateur actors prepare to perform an epic tragedy before the Royal Court. Just how hilariously awry can things get before dawn? Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$12 for seniors. Join the SIUE Theater and Dance Department for their fourth annual Summer Shakespeare showcase, this time adapted and directed by SIUE's own Chuck Harper.

NO CONCERT IN THE PARK TONIGHT: There's no concert in the park tonight, but come back next Friday, July 13 for "Funky Butt Brass Band," at 8 pm at the City Park Bandstand.

GOSHEN MARKET: I think I've already made a strong case for the Goshen Market, but don't miss it, every Saturday morning from 8 am – 12 Noon in Downtown Edwardsville. This week, live music begins at 9 am with Rob Hoffman, there will be a free rope making demo by Butch Lyerla, and this week's Yoga on the Market Green is a gentle flow class that will begin at 8:30 a.m. led by Sharon Kaye Schmitz from Studio Gaia.

MOVIE IN THE PARK: The City of Edwardsville's Parks & Rec Department is hosting a free movie at the City Park bandstand tomorrow night (Saturday) starting at sunset (approximately 8:15 p.m.) Pack a picnic, bring the family and come out to see the animated feature "Ferdinand." The event is free and open to the public.

WHAT'S UP AT THE WILDEY: Once again, the Wildey is quiet this weekend, but next week's \$2 Tuesday movie, is the 1939 classic, "The Wizard of Oz," starring Judy Garland. On Wed., July 11, Wildey will begin showing family films with two showings of the 1995 animated feature "Toy Story" at 1 pm and 6 pm. For details on this and other shows at the Wildey, visit WildeyTheatre.com or call 307-1750.

ST. LOUIS STREET CONSTRUCTION: The large electronic message boards tell the tale, well part of it anyway. Yes, the long-awaited St. Louis Street resurfacing project will get under way this coming week. The project will officially begin on Monday, July 9 with the installation of traffic control measures. A portion of St. Louis Street will be closed (but will remain open for local traffic only) from July 10-13 for tree clearing and then again from July 30 – August 10. Drainage work will happen from July 16 – 27. Concrete work on the curbs, driveway aprons and sidewalks on the northside of St. Louis Street is scheduled for July 16- August 17. Concrete work on the southside is scheduled for August 20 – September 24. All of this is weather-permitting. The City is hopeful that the project will be complete by Halloween. If you don't live on St. Louis Street or in Steinmeyer and can avoid this area, I encourage you to do so. The street will be a mess for the next few months. But like a phoenix, will rise from the ashes anew this fall.

GLEN ED PANTRY SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE: Since 1980, the non-profit Glen-Ed Pantry has provided support for more than 300 Edwardsville-area families. They have just initiated their 2018 School Supply Drive and they need help from the community. Items needed are: backpacks, dry erase markers, glue sticks/bottles, rulers, scientific calculators (Texas Instruments 30xii), colored pencils, graph paper, erasers, combination locks, mechanical pencils, washable markers, pens, 3-ring binders, yellow #2 pencils, highlighters, earbuds, protractors, supply boxes, index cards, 3-prong folders, thin markers, spiral notebooks (wide/college), filler paper (wide/college). Donations can be dropped off at the Glen-Ed Pantry through July 30. Thank you for supporting our students. The Glen Ed Pantry is located at 125 Fifth

Avenue here in Edwardsville. Their website is: <http://www.glenedpantry.org/home>. Call 656-7506 for exact times for drop-off.

GLEN ED PANTRY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Are you interested in volunteering to help with the aforementioned school supply drive? Here are the dates and times that they need help:

July 21, 10am-1pm: Filling supply bags at Glen-Ed Pantry

July 28, 10am-1pm: Filling supply bags at Glen-Ed Pantry

July 29, 12:30pm-3pm: Setting up at Center Grove First Presbyterian Church.

August 1, 8:15am-1pm: Event day at Center Grove Church.

If you can help, please call Amy at 217-502-0399.

WATERSHED RESTORATION DAY: Do you love working outside? Are you interested in native ecology? Watershed would love your help. Every second Saturday of the month, weather permitting, the Nature Preserve Foundation's Restoration Team leads volunteers through an exciting, hands-on adventure - restoring native ecology. The next Restoration Day is Saturday, July 14 from 8 am – 11 am at Watershed Nature Center. The focus changes monthly, to accommodate the diverse needs of managing three unique habitats within a city park. Dress prepared to move mulch, shovel, pull invasive species, and get dirty.

TEEN GAME NIGHTS AT THE LIBRARY: Every Tuesday through August 28, young people (grades 6-12) are invited to participate in a free weekly game night starting at 7 pm at the Edwardsville Public Library. Local game shops will host Dungeons & Dragons and other exciting tabletop games.

MUNICIPAL BAND IN CITY PARK: Don't miss the weekly Thursday evening Edwardsville Municipal Band concerts beginning at 8 pm at the City Park Bandstand. For a full line-up of this year's concerts, visit the following link. <http://www.edwband.com/Schedule.html>

Please don't let this summer slip by without enjoying these charming concerts in the park, it's a slice of Americana that seems to get better every year. The Municipal Band is truly one of our community's many treasures.

LIFE IN TRANSIT FOR WARD 4 RESIDENT: As someone who has worked in public transportation for 14 years now, I am keenly aware of the challenges and opportunities that exist in this ever-changing field. My employer, Agency for Community Transit operates the transit service for the Madison County Transit District here in Madison County, but in St. Clair County, and across the river in Missouri, that service is provided by "Metro" formally known as the Bi-State Development Agency. I was pleased to learn last

week that a longtime colleague, (and Ward 4 resident), Jessica Mefford-Miller has taken on greater responsibility with Metro, having been named the Interim Executive Director of Metro Transit, effective July 1. Jessica is currently the Assistant Executive Director of Transit Planning & System Development. In this new role she will oversee all three Metro Transit operations: MetroLink, MetroBus and Metro Call-A-Ride. According to Bi-State CEO John Nations, “Jessica’s dedication and leadership have already made a significant contribution to our many successes, and I am confident that she can ensure our operations remain among the best in the nation while leading us to a promising future.” Metro does not operate service in Madison County, but more than one-fourth of our passengers transfer to a MetroLink train or MetroBus to reach their destination. Like MCT, Metro is a vital part of our region’s success, and there’s no doubt that Jessica will guide Metro through the ever-changing public transportation landscape in the St. Louis area. I look forward to working with her in this new capacity.

STEPHENSON HOUSE AUCTION ITEMS: Do you have any old furniture or antiques lying around? The 1820 Col. Benjamin Stephenson House is accepting items for its 16th annual Antique & Collectible Auction. They are seeking antiques and small furniture items from all eras. They are particularly interested in small items like knives and pocket knives, militaria, crocks and jugs, old tools (small items only), arrowheads or other native American items, marbles, including clay marbles, jewelry, old coins, old postcards, sports memorabilia - particularly Cardinals and Blues items, etc. To donate items, call the Stephenson House at 692-1818 to make arrangements. The auction – which will have an online component this year – will take place Sunday, October 7.

THE CONCERN ABOUT “SMALL WIRELESS FACILITIES”: So here’s an unsettling little anecdote as you scroll through on your mobile device... On April 12, the “Small Wireless Facilities Deployment Act” was signed into law in the State of Illinois. The new law allows telecommunications hardware to be installed on utility poles, light poles and other structures in the public right of way - for the purpose of implementing 5G technology and enhancing cellular transmission. In other words, companies can hang large telecommunications boxes (up to 25 cubic feet in size) on the side of utility poles (or place new poles in the right of way.) These are large, they’re obtrusive and they will definitely increase visual blight in our community and in communities throughout Illinois. But aesthetics aside, groups around the state (and elsewhere) are worried about the long-term effects of prolonged exposure to these devices. They are after all, blanketing the city, emitting radio frequencies, and doing so much closer to humans than they have in the past, when they were 100 feet in the air on a radio tower. These new devices will be located just 10 feet above our sidewalks and front yards. Back in 1996, (when mobile phones were still tethered to a bag in the Dodge Caravan) the Federal Communications Commission adopted frequency exposure limits, acknowledging that prolonged exposure to this type of electromagnetic energy could cause tissue damage in humans, perhaps even cancer – although data was inconclusive. Today, there are towers everywhere, and these small 5G facilities are coming soon to a utility pole near you. My point is not to cause alarm. Telecommunications companies contend that there is no threat, and that’s probably true. Research shows that radiofrequency exposure within a home that is near a small wireless facility falls below 2% of the FCC’s public exposure limit. But the FCC’s exposure limit was imposed 22 years ago, and the technology has changed significantly in that time. And, companies are still required to place large warning stickers on the side of every device. Fortunately, the law also gives municipalities the right to

implement regulations and guidelines. In our case, the City of Edwardsville has the right to develop a permitting process along with installation fees. It also gives Edwardsville the right to propose alternate placements (within 100 feet of the requested site). Members of City Council groused about the new law at the ACS Committee last week and again at Council on Tuesday. But our staff has quickly and diligently identified all of the ways that we as a City can exert as much local control over the process as allowed by law, and this ordinance will allow us to do so. As we learn more, I'll keep you posted. If you're interested in doing your own research, google the Small Wireless Facilities Deployment Act. The devices are sometimes referred to as "Small Cells" and there are many sites out there which provide information – unfortunately much of it is speculative.

CRITERIUM RETURNS ON AUG 18: Mark your calendars for 8-18-18. That's the day that the TheBANK of Edwardsville Rotary Criterium returns to Downtown Edwardsville. Along with eight high speed bike races, four free kids races, a food zone, an open containers perimeter, an art tent for children and much more, this year's event will ALSO feature the "Downtown Dash" – a two-lap run on the actual Criterium course. When else can you run the streets of Downtown Edwardsville? It also happens to be one of our community's coolest street festivals and signature events. For details on this year's Criterium, visit www.CriteriumEdwardsville.com

MCT MUNY EXPRESS: Did you know that Madison County Transit (MCT) offers Express bus service to all Friday night performances of the Muny in Forest Park? For just \$5 round-trip, you can board the bus right here in Edwardsville and conveniently travel directly to the Muny, where you are dropped off before the show, and picked up 20 minutes after the final curtain. Don't miss out on the Muny's milestone 100th season. Avoid the hassles of driving, finding a parking spot and getting stuck in bridge traffic, take the MCT Muny Express. Four great shows remain this season. For details, visit: <http://mct.org/busServices/Muny.aspx>

UPCOMING CITY MEETINGS:

Monday, July 9, 2018

--5:00 p.m. - Public Safety, Council Chambers

--6:30 p.m. - Band Board, Main Street Community Center, 1003 N. Main St.

Tuesday, July 10, 2018

--5:00 p.m. - Board of Fire & Police Commissioners, Gov. Ford Conference Room, 2nd floor

Wednesday, July 11, 2018

--7:00 p.m. - Historic Preservation Commission, Council Chambers

Thursday, July 12, 2018

--5:30 p.m. - Administrative & Community Services Committee, Gov. Edwards Conference Room

...And don't forget about...

SPLASH PAD IS OPEN: Ward 4's very own Splash Pad and Concession Stand at Leon Corlew Park officially opened last week and will operate seven days a week throughout the summer from 10am-9pm.

NEW WATERSHED T-SHIRTS: New Watershed tri-blend t-shirts (those really soft ones), designed by Edwardsville's own Sherrie Hickman are now available for sale at the Watershed Visitor Center. They look awesome and could possibly be the fashion sensation of the season, so get them while supplies last. You don't want to be the one wearing some name brand when a cool local shirt, benefitting restoration and education at the nature center is available. (Remember how quickly last summer's Goshen Market chicken shirts sold out?) Check them out online at:

<https://www.facebook.com/watershednaturecenter/photos/a.180456568641772.37486.162441190443310/1893074970713248/?type=3&theater>

MAIN STREET COMMUNITY CENTER: Do you know about all of the upcoming events, activities and programs offered by Edwardsville's Main Street Community Center? Here's a link to this month's newsletter for some great information on events that you and your friends or family would really enjoy: <http://files.constantcontact.com/a5c3584b201/467781c4-5031-4b32-a6ed-002f47b54769.pdf>

ARTS IN THE PARK SCHEDULE: The Edwardsville Parks & Recreation Department's Arts in the Park is underway on Thursday nights, Friday nights, Saturday mornings and NOW even on Sundays! All shows and activities take place at Edwardsville's City Park, near the Library. This year's program includes the wonderful Thursday night Municipal Band concerts at 8 pm every Thursday night (running June 7 – Aug. 23), the outstanding Friday night shows at 8 pm, (beginning June 15 and running until July 27), and Saturday morning art classes for kiddos from 9 am – 10:30 am, (Kindergarten – 4th grade). New this year are three "Sunday Symphonies," evening shows performed by the "Edwardsville Summer Symphony." They will take place on June 24, July 25 and August 26 from 5 – 6 pm. For a printable schedule of this year's program, visit: <https://www.cityofedwardsville.com/DocumentCenter/View/519>

EXTENDED SUMMER HOURS AT CHILDREN'S MUSEUM: Running through September 30, the Edwardsville Children's Museum will offer extended summer hours, (Mon: 12 – 8 pm, Tues.: 9am – 6pm, Thurs.: 3 – 8

pm, Fri.: 9 am – 6 pm, Sat.: 10 am – 6 pm). They will still be closed on Wednesdays and Sundays. For a full lineup of summer programs and day camps, visit: <https://edwardsvillechildrensmuseum.org/>

.

ED GLEN POOL IS OPEN: The Edwardsville Glen Carbon Community Pool at SIUE is officially open! Information about memberships, pool rentals, and swim lessons can be found online at: <https://secure.rec1.com/IL/edwardsville-il/catalog>

. Daily passes and seasonal passes are available. As always, free parking and shuttle service is available. If you haven't made it out to this beautiful setting overlooking Cougar Lake on the SIUE campus, be sure to do so this summer!

Hope everyone enjoyed your Fourth of July holiday. Seems like it was a quick week. A gorgeous weekend awaits, so please get out there and enjoy it!

SJ Morrison

Ward 4 Alderman

618-558-3062