

# CITY MANAGER'S MONTHLY REPORT



Jewel of Midwest Cities

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## **UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS**

- Bloomington Thunder Hockey, November 30
- Skate with Santa Open Skate, Pepsi Ice Center, December 7
- Illinois Chamber Orchestra: Britain's Beauty, Second Presbyterian Church, December 14
- The Nutcracker, BCPA, December, 21,2013

## **Upcoming Meetings**

- Liquor Commission meeting, December 10, 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. City Hall
- Planning Commission meeting December 11, 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. City
   Hall
- Historic Preservation Meeting, December 19, 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. City Hall
- Citizens' Beautification
   Committee Meeting,
   Canceled for the Holidays

The Bloomington City Council will meet December 9<sup>th</sup> and December 16<sup>th</sup> at <u>7:00</u> p.m. for regular Council Meetings due to the Holidays

The Mayor's Open House is held every Friday before a Monday City Council Meeting from 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm at City Hall





## **City of Bloomington Elected Officials**

Mayor Tari Renner



Ward 5
Jennifer
McDade



Ward 1 Kevin Lower



Ward 6 Karen Schmidt



Ward 2 David Sage



Ward 7 Scott Black



Ward 3 Mboka Mwilambwe



Ward 8 Robert Fazzini



Ward 4
Judith



Ward 9 Jim Fruin



City of Bloomington Administration

City Manager: David A. Hales
Deputy City Manager: Barbara J. Adkins
Assistant to the City Manager: Alexander McElroy
Executive Assistant: Katie Buydos

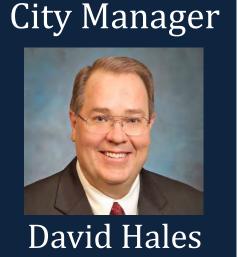
City Clerk: Tracey Covert
Corporate Counsel: Todd Greenburg
Director of Finance: Patti-Lynn Silva
Director of Human Resources: Emily Bell
Director of Information Services: Scott Sprouls
Director of Parks, Recreation & Cultural: John Kennedy

Director of Public Works: Jim Karch
Director of Water: Craig Cummings
Police Chief: Brendan Heffner
Fire Chief: Mike Kimmerling
Library Director: Georgia Bouda

Director of Planning & Code Enforcement: Mark Huber







## Welcome From the City Manager

September 2013 Edition

The City of Bloomington began the practice of producing the City Manager's Monthly Report in 2009 to provide performance information to the Mayor, City Council and the public on City services and programs. The City utilizes performance data to identify efficiencies and potential inefficiencies for the purpose of improving services, responsible budgeting and enhancing transparency in local government. In efforts to best guide City resources toward the betterment of the community, The Bloomington City Council adopted a strategic plan which identifies goals that focus on outcome-based objectives and potential actions for the projected course of five years. The city Manager's Monthly Report reflects the City's progress toward the accomplishment of these goals and current service levels. The performance data in this report is compiled internally by each department/division that comprise City Services. The information is then analyzed and organized for presentation by myself and the Assistant to the City Manager.

I am proud of the City's efforts toward becoming more performance driven and the direction in which our community is headed. City staff and I will continue to work diligently to increase efficiencies in City services and achieve the goals established by Council as we proudly serve the citizens of Bloomington.

I am pleased to present to you the September 2013 City Manager's Monthly Report. I hope that you continue to stay informed on City issues and progress. Please feel free to contact me with any questions, comments and/or suggestions regarding this report.

Sincerely,

David A. Hales

Bloomington City Manager

Til Hola

109 E. Olive Street Bloomington, IL 61701 Dhales@cityblm.org



## Spotlight City: Performing Arts Manager Named

The Bloomington Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Department is excited to introduce Tina Salamone as the new Performing Arts Manager for the Bloomington Center for the Performing Arts (BCPA). Ms. Salamone replaces Joel Aalberts who left for a similar role at Eastern Kentucky University in August. Carol Struck has performed the duties of Interim Performing Arts Manager since late August. Dr. Struck's last day will be November 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Salamone, who received her Theatre Arts degree from Eastern Illinois University, most recently has filled



the role of Executive Director of The Capitol Theatre in Burlington, Iowa and the historic Palace Theatre in Marion, Ohio. She spent a total of nine years at Joliet's Rialto Square Theatre as the Technical Director and also later added the role of Director of Programming.

"Tina possesses all the necessary tools and traits to take an already successful venue and lead it on to even greater heights." said John Kennedy, Bloomington Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Director. "The BCPA has a talented staff who will complement Tina's style to lead this division within our department. She has experience in booking and negotiating hundreds of performances at previous theatres and has supervised and collaborated with similar size staffs at her previous stops. We are excited to add someone with Tina's background, experience and passion to continue building a successful performing arts center."

## **Executive Summary**

#### **Police Department**

- The following activity was the Street Crimes Unit (SCU): 41 probable cause arrests, \$7,980 in tow fees generated and \$750 in ordinance violations issued. Approximately 75.2 grams of cannabis was seized, 13.6 grams of crack cocaine seized and 1 gram of heroin was seized. (Page 9)
- This month, tickets were issued for the following: Seat Belt/Child (6), DUI (13), Speeding (102), All Other Traffic (487) for a total of 608 tickets/citations. (Page 11)
- The Department experienced 173 property crime reports, which is an increase compared to the 172 property crime reports last month. The breakdown is as follows: 33 burglaries, 137 thefts, two motor vehicle thefts and one incident of arson (Page 13)

#### **Fire Department**

- For the month of September, the Fire Department's response time was well under the six minute bench mark with an average call creation to arrival time of 5:46 (Page 14)
- During the month of September, the Bloomington Fire Department responded to 171 calls of which 12 were confirmed structure fires. These structure fire incidents resulted in a dollar loss estimated at \$121,650. (Page 14)
- For the month, the three most common EMS report types include Sick Person, Fall Victim, and Psychiatric Problems. (Page 15)
- This month, the majority of calls were EMS related, which accounted for 707 calls for service in September. The 707 calls resulted in a total of 779 patients treated and 606 patients transported. (Page 16)

#### **Public Works Department**

- Public Works employees participated in the American Public Works Association (APWA) Snow Roadeo on September 6<sup>th</sup> at the old "outlet mall" in Normal. The Mayors from both Bloomington and Normal came out and participated in the obstacle course competition. Public Works Director, Jim Karch, presented the winner, Normal Mayor Chris Koos with the "Golden Snow Plow," while Bloomington Mayor Tari Renner received the "Golden Snow Shovel." (Page 19)
- Due to a significant increase in the number of accidents at the intersection of Bunn St. and Lincoln St., another All Way Stop study was conducted. As a result of that study, it was discovered that Bunn Street was no longer the major street. Traffic volumes on Lincoln Street had increased to a level that it had become the major street. It is always considered good engineering practice to have the minor street stop for the major street. Lincoln Street, following the completion of its connection from Bunn Street to Morrissey Drive, had very quickly become the major east-west connection it was intended to be. (Page 20)

Comparison 2009, 2012 & 2013 Approach Volumes			
December 2009 July 2012 September 2013			
Northbound Bunn	1,659 vehicles	1,631 vehicles	995 vehicles
Southbound Bunn	1,721 vehicles	1,598 vehicles	1,434 vehicles
Eastbound Lincoln	1,285 vehicles	1,497 vehicles	1,808 vehicles
Westbound Lincoln	1,204 vehicles	2,085 vehicles	2,283 vehicles

- The Public Works Department was able to sweep 1,142 miles of streets in September. (Page 26)
- Approximately 25,500 residences are serviced weekly and an average of 27.53 pounds of household garbage was picked up each week at these locations during the month. (Page 26)
- In FY2013, 4,031 tons of recyclable materials were taken to Midwest Fiber with revenue payment of 32,545 (Page 27)
- Public Works has a better way to patch streets, and its name is Odell. After testing this equipment Hackberry on Road, administrators determined that the asphalt spreader will suit City needs. The Odell Model 900 asphalt spreader is produced by the American Road Machinery Co. of Minerva, Ohio, and the \$17,000 spreader produces a smooth track of asphalt while vastly reducing the amount of shoveling. The machine, a "drag box," attaches to the back of a dump truck. As the truck moves along a designated area, Odell releases a thin layer



of asphalt – from a half-inch to 6 inches thick, depending on the setting. Odell can lay a path of road mix up to 10 feet wide. Asphalt pours evenly from the spreader as the dump truck inches up a street. Workers then smooth out -- "lute" -- the asphalt with hand tools to further level out the material. A worker then drives a roller over the surface for compaction. Odell gives the Streets & Sewers Division a more efficient option to its traditional method of shoveling asphalt off a dump truck and tossing shovels-full onto the patch area – a process called "throwing." Odell will be especially useful in making "permanent patches." Permanent patching entails creation of wide and long swaths of quality street patch. Hand-shoveling the asphalt is an inefficient process when creating the patches. These patches buy the City time before a street has to be completely resurfaced. By extending the life of a street surface, permanent patching helps the City spread the taxpayers' dollars. It is one of four main methods of pavement preservation used by Bloomington Public Works. The Odell drag box also provides a safer alternative to throwing asphalt. By drastically reducing the amount of asphalt shoveling, Public Works reduces risk of injury to workers. The main risk is back pain and injury, and the motive is twofold: Protect the individual worker and reduce Workers' Compensation claims. Citywide, lower back injuries accounted for 96 Workers' Compensation claims (22 percent) from May 1. 2008, to April 30, 2013, making them the most common injuries suffered by employees. Paid claims for the 96 injuries totaled \$928,756. These injuries occur in any number of ways; lifting shovels-full of asphalt and flinging the asphalt onto a street poses one such risk of back injury. (Page 27)

#### **Water Department**

- Central Illinois experienced below average precipitation during the month. In total, September provided 1.9 inches of precipitation. The monthly average precipitation for September is about 3.1 inches. (Page 31)
- Pumpage has been moderate during the month. The Department pumped an average of around 12.4 million gallons per day (MGD) during the month of September, with a peak day of 15.4 MGD on September 4, 2013. The September average for 2013 is comparable to the average daily pumpage for past years in September. In 2012, staff pumped 10.9 MGD, 11.6 MGD in 2011, 12.2 MGD in 2010, 11.6 MGD in 2009 and 11.2 MGD in 2008. Due to the drought and the fact that staff have not asked for water restrictions at this time, September 2013 is tracking on average compared to September 2012. (Page 33)
- During the month, there were five water main breaks/water main leaks. (Page 35)
- During the month, the Water Department received 3,941 JULIE locate requests. This brings the annual total to 32,486 requests. (Page 37)
- The department installed 403 Radio Frequency (RF) meters during the month of September (Page 36)

#### Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts Department

- The BCPA has welcomed 6,097 people to 42 functions this year (Page 42)
- Though weather for the month of September was favorable, according to the Cognilogic Weather Service, golf playable hours for the year are still down by 14% (**Page 43**)
- Of particular excitement for the month, The Den at Fox Creek proudly served as host for the Illinois Women's Senior State Championship. This is a statewide event which brought in 120 contestants from all of the state for four days (9/16-19). (Page 43)
- During the month of September, 36 Ash Trees were removed by City staff (Page 46)

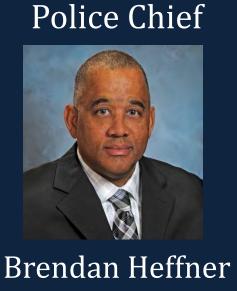
#### Planning & Code Enforcement (PACE)

- New home starts increased by 50% in September 2013 compared to September 2012. For the year to date, there is an increase of 20% in this category (Page 53)
- Total building permits in September 2013 increased by 16% compared to September 2012 and are up 6% for the year to date (Page 53)
- This month, there are two projects in progress valued at more than \$1 million (Page 53)

#### **Economic Development**

 On August 22<sup>nd</sup>, the City's Economic Development Office launched a campaign to solicit feedback from local residents as to which retail establishments they would like to see open in Bloomington. As of September 30th, over 3,000 surveys had been completed, with Trader Joes receiving the most positive feedback. To submit your vote or request an alternate retailer, please visit the City's website by clicking <u>HERE</u> (Page 58)





**Police Department** 

September 2013 Edition

#### **Criminal Intelligence and Analysis Unit**

CIAU is staffed by three employees. Two CIAU staff members attended the International Association of Crime Analysts conference. This month, staff picked up a number of progressive ideas as well as learning several new investigative techniques that will be put to immediate use to benefit the department. CIAU staff created a system for officers and administrators to create and use audio/video training clips. Instead of staff presenting training updates to multiple shifts and units over the course of several weeks, the department can now deploy video clips of training to all officers as they have time to view the training. CIAU also explored the future use of QR (Quick Response) codes for use in departmental publications as well as agency forms. QR codes are two dimensional bar codes read by smart phones that allow the user to be directed to specific locations or to produce data such as contact information.

#### **Vice Unit**

Vice has five detectives assigned with an average of 4.1 working per day. Six cases were opened and two search warrants were served. The following approximate amounts were purchased: 4.4 grams of crack cocaine, 64.4 grams of powder cocaine, 110 grams of cannabis, 4 dosage units of LSD, .6 grams of heroin. The following approximate amounts were seized: 36.5 grams of crack cocaine, 297 grams of cannabis, 127 grams of LSD, 9 grams of heroin and \$2,579 seized for forfeiture.

#### **US Marshal Task Force**

Detective Rena opened 18 cases during the month and was able to directly close 15 cases. An arrest warrant was issued for a subject charged with aggravated criminal sexual assault of victim less than 13 years old. Information was received that the subject had fled to Chicago. TFO Rena learned the

subject might be in Bloomington on the 24<sup>th</sup> of September. Officer Rena was able to use this information to take the subject into custody.

#### **Cyber Crimes**

The Cyber Crimes unit is staffed by three detectives. The unit has 28 open/active cases which includes open/active joint investigations with the United States Secret Service (USSS).

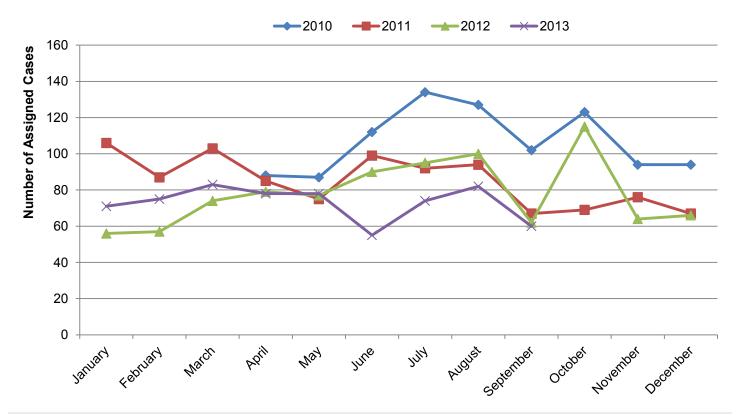
#### **Street Crimes Unit (SCU)**

Street Crimes has seven officers assigned with an average of 5.33 officers working per day. Eleven warrant arrests were made and 41 probable cause arrests for a total of 52 arrests. \$7,980 in tow fees was assessed and \$750 in ordinance violations was written. \$1,387 was seized for forfeiture and six K-9 free air sniff alerts were completed. Approximately 75.2 grams of cannabis was seized, 13.6 grams of crack cocaine seized and 1 gram of heroin was seized.

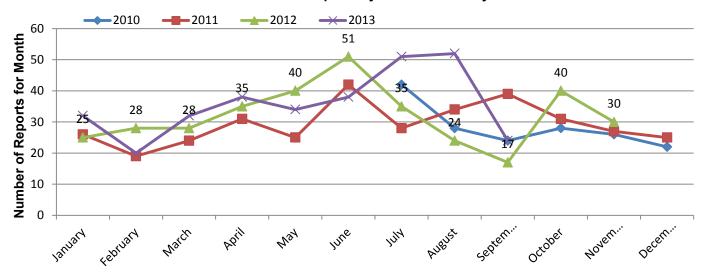
#### **Criminal Investigations Division (CID)**

CID has eight general detectives. On average there were six detectives working each day. CID assigned 60 new cases for investigation. Detectives were assigned an average of 10 cases during the month. The two domestic violence detectives were assigned 120 cases. The two detectives assigned to sex crimes and sex crimes involving children are investigating 47 cases.

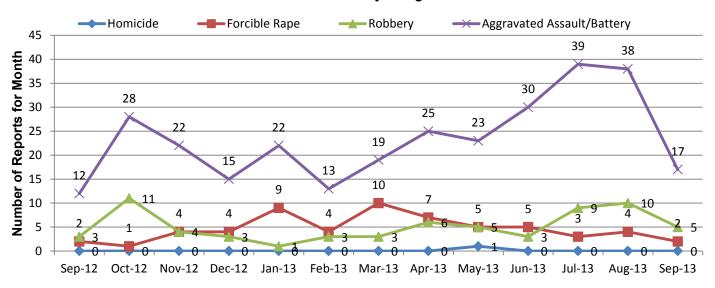
#### Criminal Investigation Division Assigned Cases Since April 2010



#### **Total Violent Crime Reports by Month Since July 2010**



#### 1 Year Violent Crime by Categories



#### **Communications**

Ring Time Ranges (9-1-1 Incoming) – State mandate is 90% answered within 10 seconds				
0 to 3	4 to 6	7 to 9	10 to 12	% of total calls answered
Seconds	Seconds	Seconds	seconds	within 10 Seconds
83.50%	15.00%	1.30%	.20%	99.80%

\$2,100 in ordinance violations have been issued in calendar year 2013 to date. There were no major equipment issues this month. The Communications Center Manager attended the Illinois Emergency Management Conference in Springfield, IL. He also completed the incident communications plan for the disaster drill at the airport and for the Bassnectar concert in October.

Incoming Phone Calls	
Administrative (non-emergency)	7,202
911 Calls (wireline & wireless) total	2,219
911 Calls - Wireline	386
911 Calls - Wireless	1,833
Total All Calls	9,421
Dispatched Calls	
Police	6,174
Fire and EMS	876
Total Dispatched Calls	7,050
Daily Call Averages	
Administrative (non-emergency)	240
911 Calls – Wireline and Wireless	74
All Calls per day average	314
Police Dispatches	206
Fire and EMS Dispatches	29
Average Dispatches per day	235

#### First Shift

BPD has 124 sworn officers with 129 allotted. There are currently four officers in the FTO program. One officer is leaving in the fall and one officer is on extended military leave. The average number of officers per day on first shift, during the month of September was 9.2.

Day shift conducted several traffic enforcement details during September. Seventy-five incidents of sex offender related problems were handled by first shift. Five sex offenders were arrested. Three offenders were referred to the State's Attorney for revocation of their probations and/or parole.

#### Second Shift

Second shift has 20 officers assigned. Currently one officer is detailed to special assignment. There was an average of 9.93 officers working each day. Several officers were in core training for Emergency Vehicle Operation Course (EVOC) and transitional training on the new department issued firearm. There were 112 traffic stops and 41 adult arrests during the month.

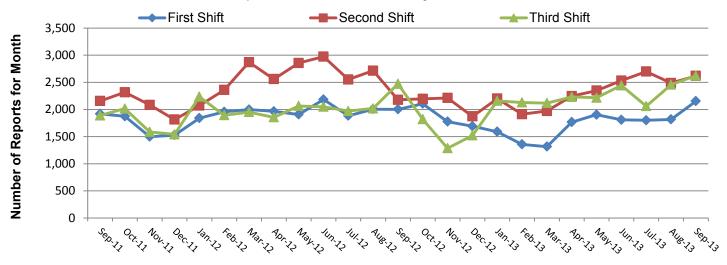
Several incidents of gun shots were reported throughout September. There was a dog bite that resulted from two dogs running loose. There was also a report of a gun owner leaving his revolver under the pillow at a hotel when he checked out. When he called the hotel, they knew nothing about it. A BPD officer tracked down the cleaning person who had the gun.

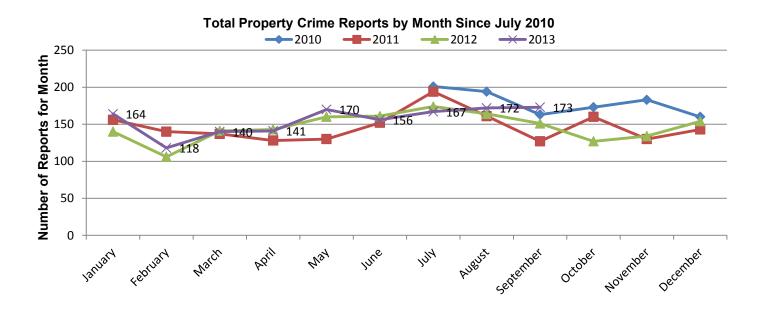
#### **Third Shift**

There are 17 officers assigned to third shift. On average, 9.66 officers worked each night. Third shift had approximately 21 arrests from self-initiated traffic or pedestrian contacts. Approximately 375 traffic stops were made. There were sixteen additional arrests for DUI for this month.

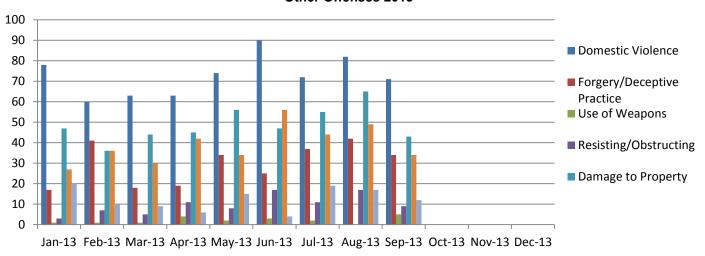
Violation	Month Total	Year Total
Seat Belt/Child	6	33
DUI	13	164
Speeding	102	622
All Other Traffic	487	4,041
Total	608	4,860

#### 2 Year Police Department Calls for Service by Shift and Month





#### Other Offenses 2013



#### Administration

School Resource Officer Arnold made two arrests for battery and disorderly conduct. He completed 11 reports including six for theft, two disorderly conduct, one criminal damage, and one battery. He assisted BHS staff with two unruly students and assisted the school nurse with a medical issue. SRO Evans had four theft issues, five order of protection checks, 12 disorderly conduct issues, two child custody issues, nine truancy issues, and 10 fights. He completed seven crisis drills and/or meetings. 60 school visits, three child abuse issues, four domestic cases, five child sex offender checks, five lock down drills, and five evacuation drills. SRO Hirsch assisted SRO Wagehoft with lockdown drill and evacuation at Evans Junior High School to Double Tree Hotel. SRO Hirsch investigated four fights, issued three ordinance violations for possession of cannabis, completed a report for unauthorized videotaping, removed six students from classrooms for refusing to leave, assisted school administration with four locker searches regarding weapons and drugs, assisted in interviewing six students regarding behavior and truancy, and spoke with eight parents regarding issues of fighting, drug use, sexual relations and truancy. SRO Wagehoft completed lock down drills at Evans Junior High School, Benjamin Elementary School and Brigham Elementary School. He conducted a talk with more than sixth grade students regarding the new Eastland Mall juvenile restrictions. He assisted with a soft lock down at Brigham School with shots fired call ending up being golf course using bang guns to scare off geese. He assisted with a dog bite report at Towanda Grade School. Wagehoft also assisted the school with three fights, two home visits, two battery issues, one medical issue, one runaway, two truancy, one theft, two criminal damage issues, nine disorderly conduct issues, one well-being check, one aggravated assault, two suicidal subjects, one 911 suicide attempt, and one gun threat.

Public Affairs Officer Mayer participated in the Labor Day Parade, attended Explorer meetings, completed fingerprinting at State Farm, attended Recovery Court graduation, gave a tour to BHS students, held several Neighborhood Watch meetings, attended Focus and STAC meetings, completed a presentation at Behr (Morris Tick), and produced several media releases.





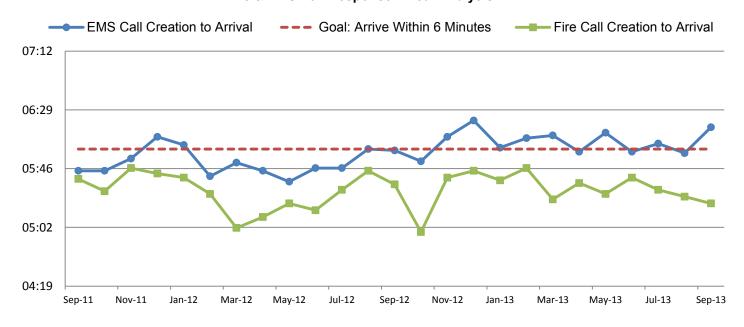
Fire Department

September 2013 Edition

Fire Response	Data:	September	2013
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Fire Response Type	Previous 12 Month Average	September 2013
Fire Reponses	157	171
Structural Fires	9	12
Estimated Dollar Losses (Property & Contents)	\$107,993	\$121,650

#### Fire & EMS Call Response 2 Year Analysis



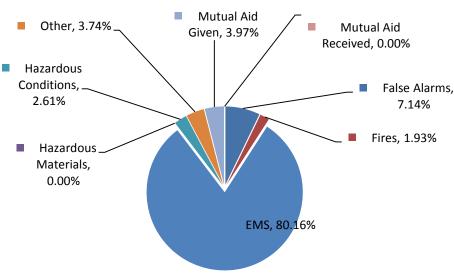
Top 5 Fire Response Types for September 2013		
Rank	Response Type	
1.)	554: Assist Invalid	
2.)	700: False Alarm or False Call, Other	
3.)	611: Dispatched & Cancelled En Route	
4.)	743: Smoke Detector Activation, No Fire – Unintentional	
5.)	745: Alarm System Activation, No Fire - Unintentional	

#### **Operations Report**

September saw an increase in fire loss \$121,650 due to 9 fire from calls, an unattached to а commercial garage occupancy. The total number of calls was again very high at 878 for the month. The Department continues to get busier and busier and at this pace the Department will again pass the 10,000 run mark for the year.

The Department has also been working to finish up the fire hydrant inspections. At this time, less than one hundred



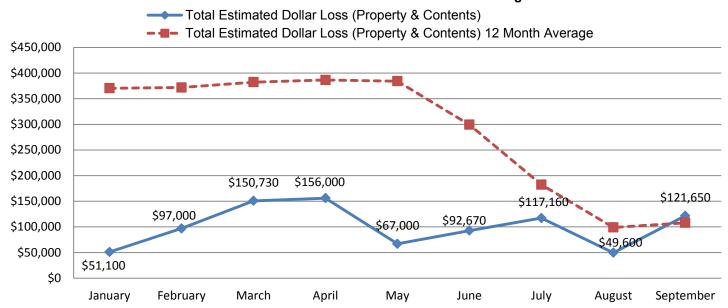


hydrants need to be inspected. The inspection program this year was the most comprehensive to date, with better accountability of the hydrants. This is due to the Water Department putting a numbered tag on all of the hydrants in the City. With this also comes better mapping and almost no duplication of numbers. The Water Department has done an excellent job in this process to make things more efficient for everyone involved.

The Department has also taken delivery of its newest vehicle, a 100' Aerial Platform built by E-ONE out of Ocala, Florida. This is the second E-ONE aerial vehicle used by the Fire Department. This new equipment replaced a 1994 Truck that was sold to Marseilles, Illinois on September 27, 2013. This platform will go in service in mid-October and will run out of our number 3 fire station.

In addition to all of the other calls for service and hydrants, our officers completed 16 pre plans for the month.

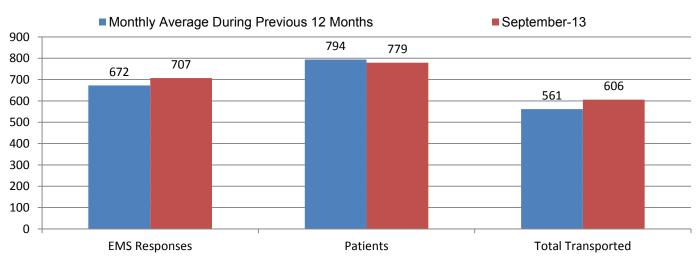
#### **Dollar Loss Due to Fire Damage**



**Emergency Medical Services (EMS)** 

#### **Activity Summary**

As in most months, the majority of the calls were EMS related which accounted for 707 calls for service in September. The 707 calls for service resulted in a total of 779 patients treated and 606 patients transported. For the month, the three most common EMS report types include Sick Person, Psychiatric Problems and Fall Victim

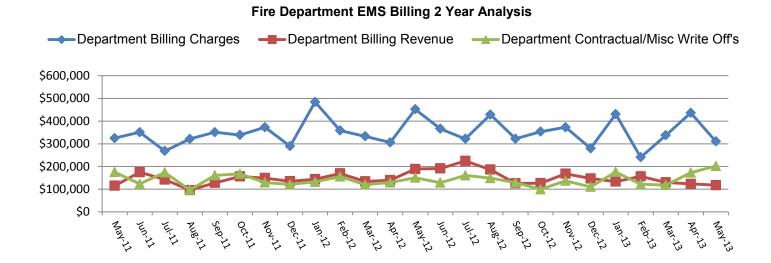


EMS Responses: ASeptember2013 and Previous 12 Month Average

#### **Billing Revenue Summary**

Ambulance billing contains three areas. Revenue, Charges and Contractual-Write offs. Revenue is the actual amount received by the City for the month. Charges are the total number billed for the month. Contractual-Write offs consist of the portion of the charges not received as a result of either Federal or State carriers (Medicare and Medicaid) not allowing for EMS services, or write offs for

financial hardship, bad debt accounts not collected (these are passed to a third party debt collection agency), bankruptcies, etc. The May total for revenue was \$202,123. The Contractual-Write offs total for May was \$117,556. Bad Debt transferred to third party collections was \$46,740.



#### **Public Education Office**

Fire & Life Safety events were held at the following locations:

- Bent Elementary
- Central Catholic High School
- Oakland Elementary
- Benjamin Elementary
- Fox Creek Elementary

The Public Education Officer was off duty for part of the month, due to recovering from surgery. For the remainder of the month, the Public Education Officer was on restricted duty and only performed school fire evacuation drills.

#### Fire Department Training Reports for September

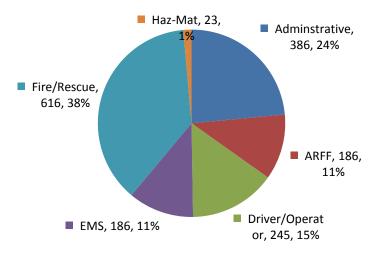
For the month of September, the Fire Department held 193 training classes, which totaled 1,642 class hours. The class topics have been grouped into six categories. They are Administrative, ARFF, Driver/Operator, EMS, Fire/Rescue and Hazmat. The following chart represents the proportion of classes held in these six categories for the month of September

The 193 training classes included 935 participants resulting in a total of 1,642 hours of training during September. This chart represents the total man hours of training in the six categories.

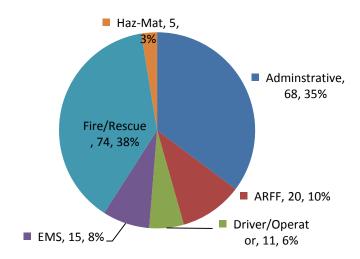
## Major training subjects during this month included:

- Driver/Operator
  - o Apparatus Familiarization
- Fire/Rescue
  - Ventilation and Practical
  - Tools and Equipment
- Hazardous Materials
  - o Response
  - Resource and Technology
  - Unknown Substance
- EMS
  - Airway Management
  - o 12 Lead
  - Acquisition/Cardiac Emergencies
- ARFF
  - FF. duties under the airport emergency plan
  - Aircraft/Airport Familiarization

#### **Total # of Hours by Category**



#### **Total # of Training Classes by Category**







## **Public Works Department**

September 2013 Edition

#### **Snow Roadeo in September**

Public Works employees participated in the American Public Works Association (APWA) Snow Roadeo on September  $6^{th}$  at the old "outlet mall" in Normal.





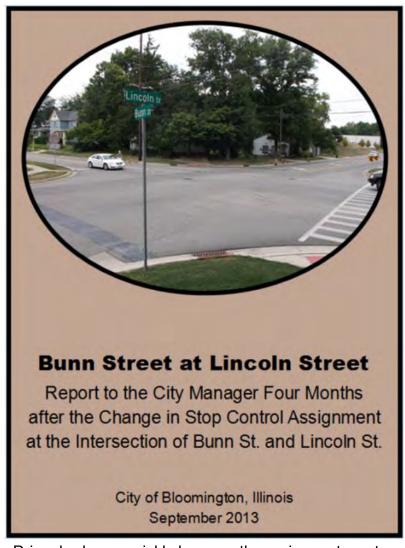
Three – two man teams participated and were judged on the following criteria:

- 1. Written Test
- 2. Circle of Safety
- 3. Obstacle Course

The Mayors from both Bloomington and Normal came out and participated in the obstacle course competition. Public Works Director, Jim Karch, presented the winner, Normal Mayor Chris Koos with the "Golden Snow Plow," while Bloomington Mayor Tari Renner received the "Golden Snow Shovel."



#### **Engineering Division**



In the Fall of 2009, construction of the new section of Lincoln Street between Morrissey Drive and Bunn Street was completed and opened to traffic. It was decided at that time, based on the traffic count history and concern for driver expectation, that the intersection would be opened with Lincoln Street stopping for Bunn Street. December 2009. а twenty-four hour intersection traffic count was completed along with an All Way Stop Warrant Evaluation. None of the warrants for All Way Stop control were met at that time.

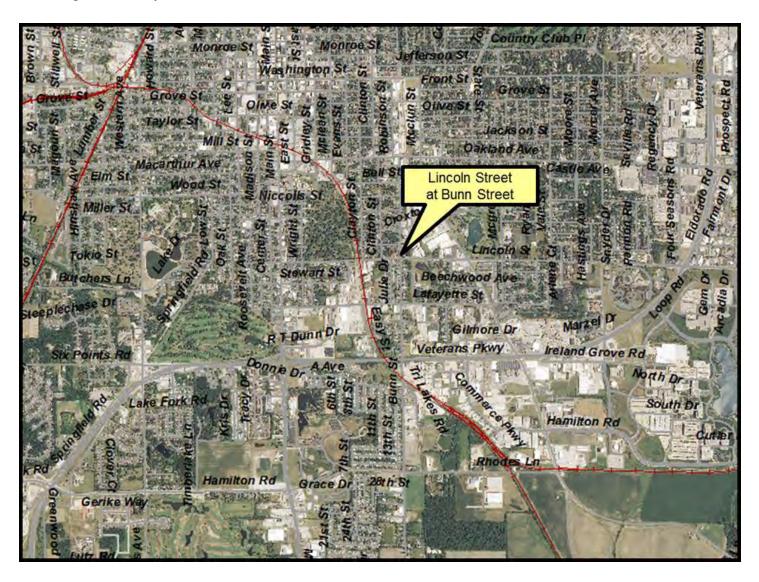
In July 2012, due to a significant increase in the number of accidents at this intersection, another All Way Stop study was conducted. As a result of that study, it was discovered that Bunn Street was no longer the major street. Traffic volumes on Lincoln Street had increased to a level that it had become the major street. It is always considered good engineering practice to have the minor street stop for the major street. Lincoln Street, following the completion of its connection from Bunn Street to Morrissey

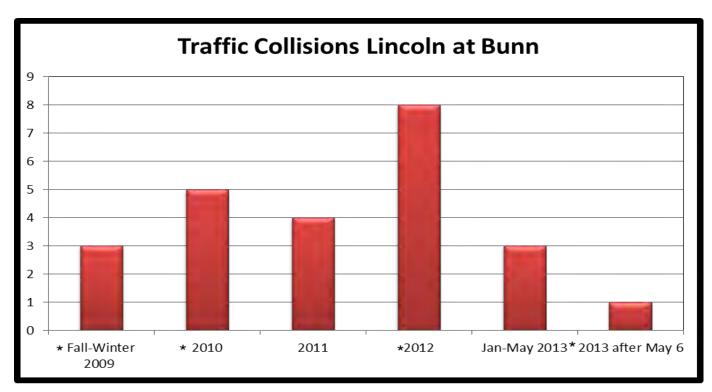
Drive, had very quickly become the major east-west connection it was intended to be.

At the time, it became a concern to engineering staff that the increase in the number of accidents was being caused by having the higher volume Lincoln Street stop for the lower volume Bunn Street. In addition, the results of a July 2012 All Way Stop Warrant Analysis indicated that the criteria for only one warrant was met. It was the accident warrant. Engineering staff then shared this information

with the Staff Traffic Advisory Committee (STAC), Staff Planning and Land Development Committee (SPALD) and City Manager Hales, along with the recommendation to modify the stop control to have Bunn Street stop for Lincoln Street. After receiving input from all of these parties a plan of action for the implementation of this change was agreed to and on Monday, May 6, 2013, the change was made.

For 2010, 2011 and 2012, there were on average 5.7 traffic collisions at the intersection per year. Prior to the change in stop control, there were 3 accidents at this intersection in the first four-plus months of 2013. The change in stop control has now been in effect for four months. Since the change, there has been one accident that occurred on May 29, 2013. (That accident happened on wet pavement and may have been at least a partial factor.) No accidents occurred during June, July and August of this year.





<sup>\*</sup> Indicates at least one accident was of a type not considered correctable by the installation of an all-way stop. Includes accidents that might otherwise be correctable except they occurred on wet pavement or on snow, slush or ice.

New traffic counts were conducted on September 9, 2013 to determine what effect the change in stop control had on traffic volumes. The approach volumes (traffic entering the intersection) from this count are show below with the December 2009 and July 2012 approach volumes for comparison purposes.

Comparison 2009, 2012 & 2013 Approach Volumes				
December 2009 July 2012 September 2013				
Northbound Bunn	1,659 vehicles	1,631 vehicles	995 vehicles	
Southbound Bunn	1,721 vehicles	1,598 vehicles	1,434 vehicles	
Eastbound Lincoln	1,285 vehicles	1,497 vehicles	1,808 vehicles	
Westbound Lincoln	1,204 vehicles	2,085 vehicles	2,283 vehicles	

A look at these approach volumes indicates that traffic volumes on Bunn Street have dropped as drivers have found alternative routes to avoid being stopped at Lincoln Street, while the volumes on Lincoln Street have increased as drivers have become aware of this new east-west arterial connection that no longer has to stop at Bunn Street.

Engineering is well aware it is still too early to declare this change a success. Until the portable message boards on Lincoln Street and the additional barricade-mounted stop signs are removed, engineering staff will not be able to see how the intersection really functions as a result of the change in stop control. However, these additional safety measures have proved to be valuable tools to alert and retrain drivers passing through this intersection.

Engineering staff will continue to monitor accidents here in order to evaluate the effectiveness of this change.







Additional warnings to motorists remained in place into September. No date had been set for their removal.

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON PROJECTS	STATUS
Street & Alley Repair, 2013 – 2014	In Construction (50% Complete)
General Resurfacing, 2013 – 2014	In Construction (60% Complete)
Pavement Preservation, 2013 – 2014	In Construction (75% Complete)
50/50 Sidewalks & Handicap Ramps 2013 – 2014	In Construction (45% Complete)
Morris Ave Reconstruction, Fox Hill to Fire Station	In Construction (100% Complete)
2012 Maintenance Contracts (Street, Utility, Grading, Traffic	In Construction (99% Complete)
Signals)	1.0 1.1: (00/.0 1.1.)
2013 Maintenance Contracts (Street, Utility, Grading, Traffic Signals)	In Construction (0% Complete)
2013 Washington St. Micro-Surfacing	In Construction (0% Complete)
Eagle Crest East Pump Station Improvements	In Design (10% Complete)
Locust Colton CSO Elimination, Phase 1	Punch List Items
Hershey Road: Hamilton Road to 750' South	In Design (60% Complete)
Sanitary Sewer & Storm Water Master Plans	In Construction (97% Complete)
Highland Golf Course Storm Sewer	Out for Bid
HoJo Pump Station	In Design (20% Complete)
Maizefield CSO Elimination Study	In Design (35% Complete)
Kensington Sewer Repair & Channel Lining	In Design (0% Complete)
Jackson Street Sewer	In Design (30% Complete)
Traffic Signals and Intersection Improvements @ Keaton &	Consultant Selection – RFQ
GE, Hershey & Clearwater, Hershey & Arrowhead	
Lutz Road Widening from Morris to Luther Oaks	Consultant Selection – RFQ
Fox Creek Road & Bridge Improvements	Consultant Selection – RFQ
Downtown Street Lighting Master Plan	Consultant Selection – RFQ
Lake Bloomington & Evergreen Lake Dam Break Study	Consultant Selection – RFQ

PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS	STATUS
Commercial Site Plans	5 Plan Sets Reviewed
Scharf PUD Sanitary Sewer	Punch List Items
Grove Subdivision, 4 <sup>th</sup> Addition	Punch List Items
Grove Subdivision, 5 <sup>th</sup> Addition	In Construction (30% Complete)
Wingover Apartments	In Construction (99% Complete)
Wingover Apartments East	In Construction (95% Complete)
Harvest Pointe – Phase II	Punch List Items
Links at Ireland Grove	Punch List Items
Loeseke Sanitary Sewer	Punch List Items
Fox Hallow Subdivision	Punch List Items
Fox Creek Village, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Addition	In Construction
Fox Creek Village, 4 <sup>th</sup> Addition	In Review
Wittenberg Woods	Punch List Items

## **Street & Alley Repair**

This annual project involves minor repairs to City streets and provides for milling/resurfacing of City alleys.

### **General Resurfacing**

This annual project includes the milling and resurfacing of existing City streets.

September 2013 Overweight Loads	22 Issued Permits for \$2,240
September 2013 Dumpster/Traffic Control	5 Permits - \$100 (Waived \$75.00)
Customer Service Calls	
September 2013 Call Center	1,075 – Incoming Calls
Erosion Control/Complaints Inspection Report	
New/Maintenance Erosion/Storm Water Management	146
Inspections	
Erosion/Storm Water Management Complaints	2
Inspection & Complaint Files Closed	22

#### **Guardrail Work at Goose Creek on Alexander Road**



The photo above shows an unprotected parapet wall on the bridge over Goose Creek on Alexander Road. The Public Works Engineering Division completed an engineering analysis to determine the appropriate safety measures to be installed.



(Above) Rowe Construction, a subsidiary of United Contractors Midwest, installs the safety guardrail under the General Resurfacing Contract. They are the only local Illinois Department of Transportation pre-qualified company for this work.



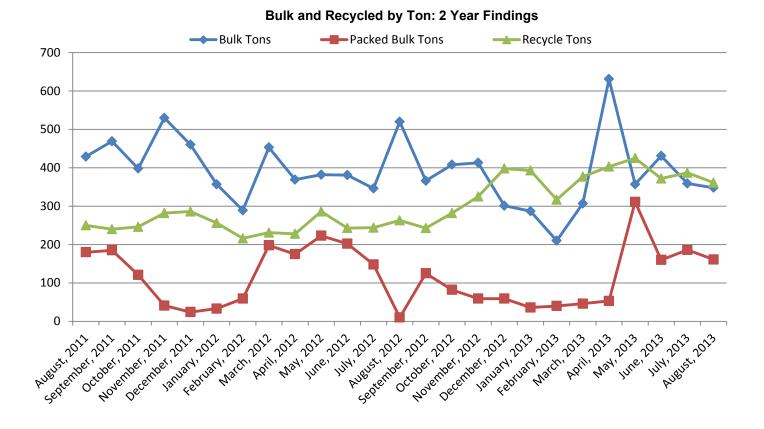
The completed guardrail installed for vehicle safety on Alexander Rd at Goose Creek.

## **Solid Waste Division**

Working both day and night shifts, 1,142 miles of streets were swept in September.



Approximately 25,500 residences are serviced weekly and an average of 27.53 pounds of household garbage was picked up each week at these locations during the month. The Division also provided weed control and cleanliness for 26 medians in September 2013. Solid Waste also provided gravel and maintenance for 29 Alleys in September 2013.



Solid Waste provided gravel and maintenance for 29 Alleys in September 2013. The below pictures is before and after alley maintenance.





#### **Recycling Facts**

In FY2013, 4,030 tons of recyclable materials were taken into Midwest Fiber, with revenue payment of \$32,545.

#### **Fleet Division**

	September 2012	September 2013
Work Order Requests	404	424
Total Repair Orders Closed	374	392
Preventative Maintenance	30	32
Total No Lead Gallons	14,663	14,830
Total Cost	\$52,015	\$49,237
Avg Price Per Gallon	\$3.55	\$3.32
Total Diesel Gallons	11,425	11,455
Total Cost	\$42,958	\$40,265
Avg Price per Gallon	\$3.76	\$3.52

This month, Fleet Division put into service a truck with a front mounted valve turner. The Water Department uses this unit to exercise large water valves and run hydraulic pumps and other large pipe repairing tools.



#### Streets & Sewers Division

Public Works has a better way to patch streets, and its name is Odell. After testing this equipment on Hackberry Road, administrators determined that the asphalt spreader will suit City needs.

The Odell Model 900 asphalt spreader is produced by the American Road Machinery Co. of Minerva, Ohio, and the \$17,000 spreader produces a smooth track of asphalt while vastly reducing the amount of shoveling. The machine, a "drag box," attaches to the back of a dump truck.

As the truck moves along a designated area, Odell releases a thin layer of asphalt – from a half-inch to 6 inches thick, depending on the setting. Odell can lay a path of road mix up to 10 feet wide.

Asphalt pours evenly from the spreader as the dump truck inches up a street. Workers then smooth out -- "lute" -- the asphalt with hand tools to further level out the material. A worker then drives a roller over the surface for compaction.

The purchase followed testing this summer on two streets. Key Equipment & Supply Co., Maryland Heights, MO, allowed the City to keep the demonstration model used in that testing for a \$1,000 savings over buying a never-used machine. Key Equipment is the sole distributor of the Odell in this area, and the City opted for a drag box versus more expensive machines that would serve a similar purpose.

Odell gives the Streets & Sewers Division a more efficient option to its traditional method of shoveling asphalt off a dump truck and tossing shovels-full onto the patch area – a process called "throwing."



Odell will be especially useful in making "permanent patches." Permanent patching entails creation of wide and long swaths of quality street patch. Hand-shoveling the asphalt is an inefficient process when creating the patches.

These patches buy the City time before a street has to be completely resurfaced. By extending the life of a street surface, permanent patching helps the City spread the taxpayers' dollars. It is one of four main methods of pavement preservation used by Bloomington Public Works.

The Odell drag box also provides a safer alternative to throwing asphalt. By drastically reducing the amount of asphalt shoveling, Public Works reduces risk of injury to workers.

The main risk is back pain and injury, and the motive is twofold: Protect the individual worker and reduce Workers' Compensation claims. Citywide, lower back injuries accounted for 96 Workers' Compensation claims (22 percent) from May 1, 2008, to April 30, 2013, making them the most common injuries suffered by employees. Paid claims for the 96 injuries totaled \$928,756. These injuries occur in any number of ways; lifting shovels-full of asphalt and flinging the asphalt onto a street poses one such risk of back injury.

Work Type         Äverage Age         Average Completion         Any Hours Worked           Contractor         147.00         6.00         7.50           Curb         15.00         5.00         23.75           Hot Asphalt         3.82         2.45         32.59           Inier Repair         12.00         6.00         28.50           Pawement         4.33         1.67         39.00           Repair         10.50         7.70         18.15           Sidewalks         18.00         6.00         34.50           Water         10.50         7.70         18.15           Work type         Outstanding Work Orders         5	Work Type Comple	ted Average Age Hours		
Curb         15.00         5.00         23.75           Hot Asphalt         3.82         2.45         32.59           Inlet Repair         12.00         6.00         28.50           Pawement         4.33         1.67         39.00           Repair         30         6.00         34.50           Sidewalks         18.00         6.00         34.50           Water         10.50         7.70         18.15           Work Type         Outstanding Work Orders         36.00         34.50           Backfill/Seed         5         5         5         5           Cave In         12         5         5         5         5         5         5         5         5         5         5         5         5         5         5         5         5         6         4         5         6         4         5         6         4         5         6         4         4         4         6         4 </th <th>Work Type</th> <th>Average Age</th> <th>Average Completion</th> <th>Avg Hours Worked</th>	Work Type	Average Age	Average Completion	Avg Hours Worked
Hot Asphalt   Repair   12.00   6.00   28.50   Pavement   4.33   1.67   39.00   Repair   Sidewalks   18.00   6.00   34.50   Water   10.50   7.70   18.15   Water   10.50   7.70   18.15   Water   10.50   7.70   18.15   Water   7.70	Contractor	147.00	6.00	7.50
Inlet Repair         12.00         6.00         28.50           Pavement         4.33         1.67         39.00           Repair         Sidewalks         18.00         6.00         34.50           Water         10.50         7.70         18.15           Work to be Done Summary         Work Type Outstanding Work Orders           Backfill/Seed         5         Cave In         12         Cold Mix         43         2         Cold Mix         43         2         Cold Mix         43         2<	Curb	15.00	5.00	23.75
Pavement   4.33   1.67   39.00   Repair   Sidewalks   18.00   6.00   34.50   Mater   10.50   7.70   18.15   Mork to be Done Summary   Work Type   Outstanding Work Orders   Damage Repair   12   Cold Mix   43   Contractor   19   Curb   Against   17   Hot Asphalt   8   Inlet Repair   2   Manhole Repair   9   Pavement   Repair   7   Service Repair   7   Service Repair   7   Service Repair   7   Work Type   Outstanding Work Orders   9   Cold Mix   10   Cold Mix	Hot Asphalt	3.82	2.45	32.59
Repair   Sidewalks	Inlet Repair	12.00	6.00	28.50
Sidewalks         18.00         6.00         34.50           Water         10.50         7.70         18.15           Work to be Done Summary         Work Type         Outstanding Work Orders           Backfill/Seed         5         Cave In         12           Cold Mix         43         Curb         4         Description         17         Hot Asphalt         8         Intervention         18         Intervention         18         Intervention         18         Intervention         18				





Water Department

September 2013 Edition

#### **Reservoir Conditions**

Central Illinois experienced below average precipitation during the month of September with almost 1.9 inches of rain. The monthly average precipitation for September is about 3.1 inches. With the precipitation deficit during the month, the Evergreen Lake Reservoir (source of supply in September) dropped to about three feet below its spillway. The lake Bloomington Reservoir is below its spillway level by about two feet at this time.

In September, McLean County started the month with a moderate drought rating by the United States Drought Monitor report. By the end of the month, the situation worsened to a severe drought rating. The Drought Monitor report is compiled by several Federal and State agencies as well as academic partners. The precipitation deficit has only been experienced in the last couple of months but that is enough to move the area into a worsening drought condition. Fortunately, this drought has occurred late in the season, so the impact on reservoirs has been minimal.

The 2012 shoreline protection project at the Evergreen Lake Reservoir was completed during June of this year. In July, the Water Department successfully applied for a grant to fund a project of about the same magnitude. The 2013 grant application is for an overall \$95,000 project with about \$45,000 coming from Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Bureau of Water and \$50,000 coming from the City of Bloomington Water Improvement Fund. The project was bid and started during the month. It is estimated that this project will be completed by the end of the year.

#### **Water Quality**

The conditions remained favorable in September for certain taste and odor causing algal species to grow at very quick rates and cause an algal "bloom." As the water temperature increases and there is more daylight, so does the threat of an algal bloom. At this time, there has not been a bloom of taste and odor causing algae.

The fall application of anhydrous ammonia has begun. Anhydrous ammonia is the form of nitrogen used to fertilize farm ground destined for corn production. It is applied from the white pressurized



**Anhydrous Ammonia Nurse Tank** 

tanks (pictured to the left) that are so common in the Midwest in the spring and fall. This is of concern as nitrate levels in the reservoirs remained high until late July.

Staff switched to the Evergreen Lake reservoir on March 25 because this reservoir had lower nitrate levels than were found in the Lake Bloomington Reservoir. In August, the Department switched back to Lake Bloomington as the nitrate decreased to acceptable levels. However, in September, the switch was again made to the Evergreen Lake Reservoir since it was determined that this reservoir would need to

level down for the shoreline stabilization project.

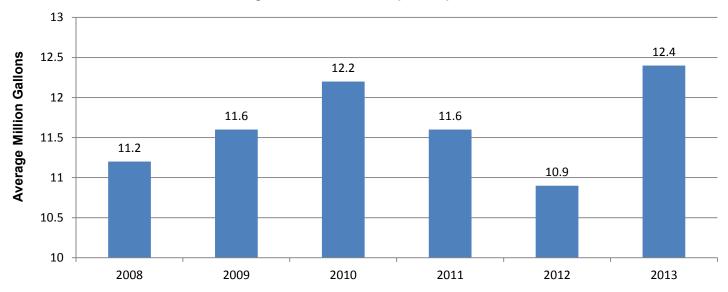
#### Water Conservation/Groundwater Project

During the month, proposals for the Emergency Action Plane updates were received for both reservoirs.

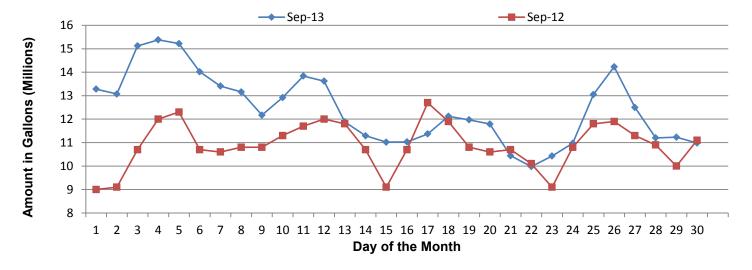
#### **Pumpage**

Pumpage has been moderate during the month. The Department pumped an average of around 12.4 million gallons per day (MGD) during the month of September, with a peak day of 15.4 MGD on September 4, 2013. The September average for 2013 is comparable to the average daily pumpage for past years in September. In 2012, staff pumped 10.9 MGD, 11.6 MGD in 2011, 12.2 MGD in 2010, 11.6 MGD in 2009 and 11.2 MGD in 2008. Due to the drought and the fact that staff have not asked for water restrictions at this time, September 2013 is tracking on average compared to September 2012.

Avg. Million Gallons Pumped: September



Water Delivered to Customers (in Millions of Gallons): September 2012 vs September 2013



As is typically the case, the top ten water usres for the Water Department in September include at least five customers located outside the City of Bloomington. Those customers in September 2013 include Mitsubishi Motors, the Village of Hudson, Bloomington Township Public Water District (BTPWD) West Division, Bloomington Township Public Water District (BTPWD) Crestwicke Division and Bridgestone Firestone. Also, only as a summertime occurrence, the City of Bloomington had one location (Tipton Park) come in a number sixteen. What is different this month is that the drought has moved up a few customers that irrigate heavily. Several State Farm locations and the Spring Ridge development were in the top ten.

#### Infrastructure

In September, the Water Department had another highly productive fire hydrant service work month. Thirty-six fire hydrants with problems were worked on. These maintenance problems were not severe

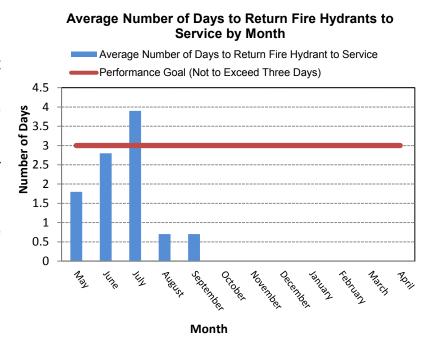
enough to have taken the hydrants out of service, but the hydrants were not in prime operational shape. Staff also replaced/installed 6 hydrants during the month. This brings the fiscal year total to 331 hydrants serviced and 55 hydrants that have been replaced/newly installed. As of the end of September, no hydrants are out of service as a result of our annual hydrant testing.

	FY14	FY13	FY12	FY11	FY10	FY09
Hydrants Overall	4263	4255	4228	4213	4000	3900
Out of Service Hydrants	0	0	0	0	13	100+
Hydrants Serviced	311	353	330	261	185	381
Hydrants Replaced	55	79	79	72	59	75
% Hydrants in Service	100	100	100	100	99.7	97.4

Six fire hydrants have been replaced/newly installed in September. This brings the total number of fire hydrants that have been replaced/newly installed this fiscal year to 55. Of these 55 fire hydrants, 45 were replacement hydrants that have been funded through the Operations and Maintenance Account.

With the hydrants funded by the O&M account, approximately \$157,500 has been spent on their installation at about \$3,500 per hydrant. The overage in this account will come from other accounts that are under budget.

During September, the joint Water Department/Fire Department fire hydrant operational testing program continued. There were three fire hydrants that were called out service. The average time it took to return these three fire hydrants to service was 0.7 days. The FY 2014 performance measure is a not-to exceed 3.0 days



(lowered from 5.0 days in previous years) as measured as an annual average.

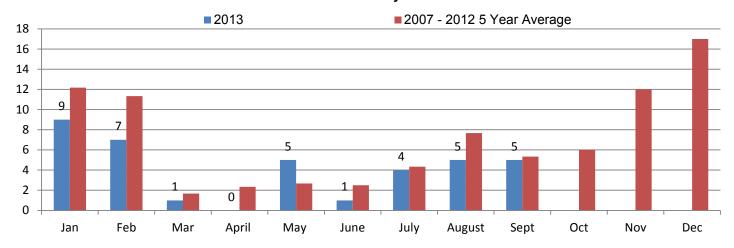
The fire hydrant testing is showing signs that the past years maintenance and repair efforts are paying dividends. The 2011 overall percentage of hydrants tested that had a routine problem was 13.6%. This number dropped to 13.0% in 2012 and stands at 8.0% for this year. Likewise, the percentage of hydrants that experienced a high priority problem (which resulted in the hydrant being called out of service) was 1.5% in 2011, 1.2% in 2012 and thus far, 0.6% in 2013, this is obviously a trend that the Water Department hopes to continue.

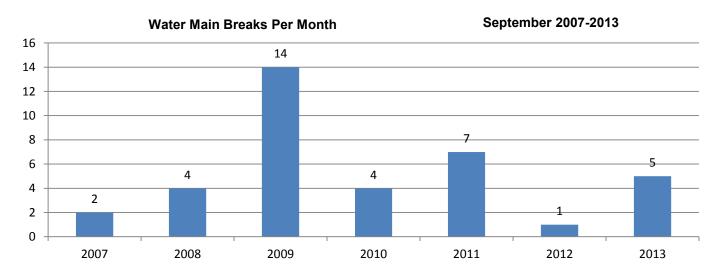
The Water Department started a program to upgrade fire hydrants with steamer (otherwise known as pumper) connections with quick connect fittings known as Storz fittings. The steamer connections on fire hydrants across the country have different thread patterns. In fact, the City of Bloomington's steamer thread pattern is different from the thread pattern used in the Town of Normal. In order for the Town of Normal, or any other department, to use a Bloomington steamer connection, an adaptor is needed. By using the Storz fitting, this enables the City of Bloomington Fire Department, as well as other departments in mutual aid situations, to quickly and universally use the city's steamer fire hydrants. In September, the Water Department installed the Storz fitting on 3 hydrants in the City. Currently, 467 steamer hydrants or about 16.1% of the steamer hydrant inventory have the Sotrz fitting.

During the month, there were six water main breaks/water main leaks. The calendar year 2013 total through September is 38 main breaks as compared to an average of 50 main breaks at this time over the last six years. The September average has been 5 main breaks, so this month's total is above the average compared to the last six years in September.

	CY 2013	CY 2012	CY 2011	CY 2010	CY 2009	CY 2008	CY 2007	AVG FOR MONTH '07-'12
Jan	9	12	17	10	13	13	8	12
Feb	7	9	16	9	12	9	13	14
March	1	5	2	1	0	2	0	2
April	0	3	2	5	1	1	2	3
May	5	0	7	2	2	3	2	3
June	1	4	4	4	0	2	1	3
July	4	12	4	2	4	2	2	5
Aug	5	7	6	11	9	4	9	9
Sept	6	4	7	1	14	4	2	6
Oct		3	5	6	7	7	8	7
Nov		14	8	7	15	15	13	12
Dec		13	7	21	25	13	23	18
CY thru September	38	56	63	45	55	40	39	50
CY TOT	38	86	85	79	102	75	83	85

#### Water Main Breaks by Month

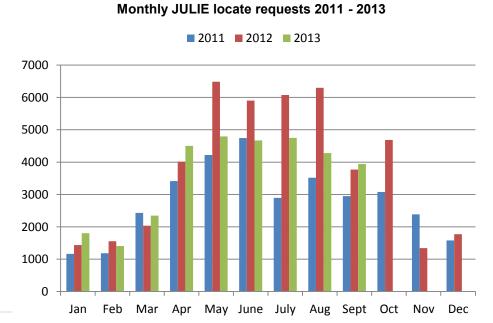




In September, staff replaced 18 water service lines/curb stops. Several of these were very old lead (the metal) service lines. Removing lead from the water lines is one way to improve the quality of water that is distributed to

Monthly III IF locate requests 2011 - 2013

The detection lead program continues to identify leaks in the distribution system. During the inside month, both leaks (meaning they are on the customer's side of the curb stop the thus customer's and responsibility) and leaks that are the City's responsibility (from the water main to the curb stop) were identified.

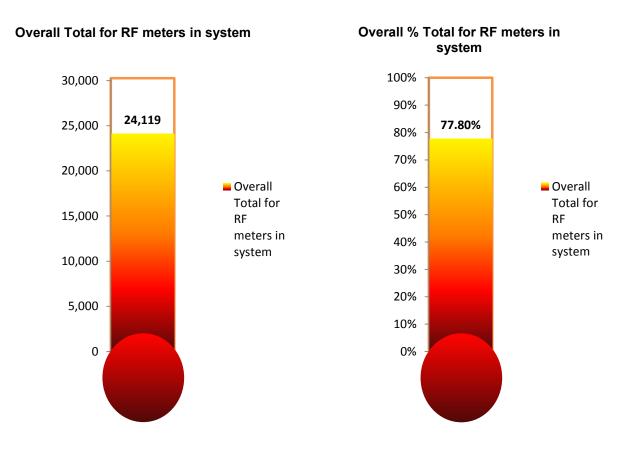


It has been a busy month for Joint Utility Location Information for Excavators (JULIE) work. There are several fiber optic installation companies still working throughout the City. The Water Department provides all the JULIE locates for the City which includes water lines, storm sewers, sanitary sewers, the power supplies for some City-owned street lights, City owned or maintained traffic signals and City fiber optic lines. For the month of September, the Department received 3,941 JULIE locate requests. This brings the annual total to 32,486 requests.

A single JULIE request can be submitted for numerous blocks at a time. The request might be for all buried utilities on a given street from sidewalk to sidewalk. A complicated locate request on a busy street such as streets with numerous intersections and streetlights, traffic signals and multiple water mains and sewers could take as much as two weeks for a locator to complete.

#### Metering

The department installed 403 Radio Frequency (RF) meters during the month of September. The goal for FY14 is the installation of 7,000 units. In the previous fiscal year, staff installed 6,022 meters and in FY12, 6,069 meters were installed. With the 403 meters installed this month, staff has completed 1,562 meter installation or 32.8% of the total goal for installations this year. When totally completed, the meter change-out program will eliminate the need for meter Readers. Since this is a multi-year project, those positions have been eliminated as more RF units are installed. Currently, the Department is down to one Meter Reader (from 3 in 2009).



The breakdown of the overall meter inventory in the system is about 1,030 meters that are commercial/industrial and about 29,400 that are residential.

Staff completed the change out of four Unitized Measuring Elements (UME's) on large meters during the month. The UME is the part of the meter that has the moving parts that are subject to wear and is critical to keep in good repair. The UME change-outs are part of the large meter testing and maintenance program.

Staff changed five meters from turbine meters to compound meters during September. Turbine meters are an excellent choice for installations where there will be a high volume of flow on a consistent basis. If the flow volumes will vary, like as in an apartment complex where numerous residents will use water at the same time, and then small amounts will be used at other times (during the work day) then a compound meter is the better choice. This is because compound meters can register both the very low flows and the higher flows as well. The Water Department made a decision over 10 years ago to remove all of the compound meters from the system. Since that time until now, the Water Department has been installing compound meters in locations that conform to the industry standards for the type of meter installation. Although compound meters are more expensive than turbine meters, in the long run, they pay for themselves by accurately measuring the actual water used by the customer.

#### **Financial**

In 2013, the Water Department will continue to track delinquent customers closely and will use the last resort of a shut-off if the customer does not respond to requests for payment of the past due amount or by entering into a payment plan.

Shut-Offs by Billing Cycle and Date

Billing Cycle	9/24	9/18	9/10	9/4	8/21	8/14	8/7	7/31
1				49				73
2			57				79	
3		27				47		
4	28				19			

#### **Water Treatment Plant Major Projects**

The filter media (large gravel, pea gravel, support sand, filter sand and granular activated carbon (GAC)) in filter #15 was removed in November when our GAC is changed out. The underdrain system (the collection system at the bottom of the filter that collects the water that has been trickling through the layers of sand and gravel) in this filter has failed and needs to be replaced as soon as possible.

#### Personnel

The Water Department hired a replacement for Jean Eddy in September. Becky Lippman is working in the Division Street Office.

Jessica Hood, a seasonal employee, is currently working in the City Call collections area. She comes to Bloomington from active duty in the Air Force.

#### Communications

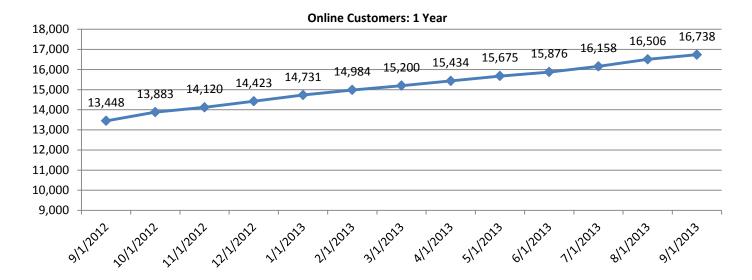
The Department provided some information on the continuing drought to local media outlets during the month.

#### Miscellaneous

The EverBloom chapter of the Friends of Reservoirs Program met again during the month. Friends of Reservoirs is a charitable foundation dedicated to the restoration, enhancement and protection of fish habitat in reservoir systems nationwide. The meeting was well-attended and has continued fund raising for worthy reservoir projects at the Evergreen Lake or the Lake Bloomington reservoirs. About 100 people have already joined the group. With this group, the department has applied for some grants through the national organization that supports reservoirs.

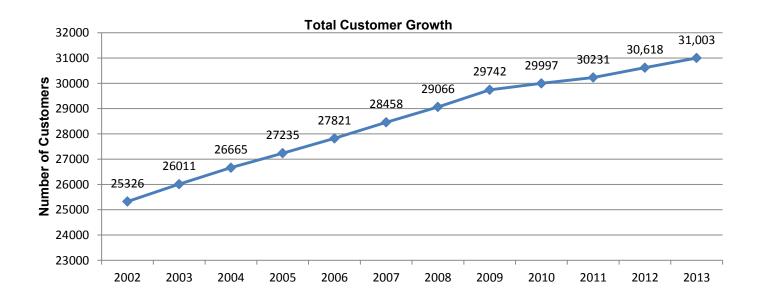
The new bulk water dispensing station was installed and tested at the Division Street office earlier this year. This new hardware will tie directly into the MUNIS software, allowing water sales and meter readings for the water sold to be tracked at the time of sale. The new system is much less time intensive on the part of the City. In September, this unit sold about \$1,060 worth of water. This brings the annual sales to about \$8,000.

The online bill payment option continues to attract new enrollees. As of the end of September, 16,738 customers have signed up for this service. 232 customers added this service during the month of September. Staff will continue to track the number of participants monthly and express the number of customers with this service as a number and percentage total of customers. At this time, the 16,738 customers enrolled in this program make up about 54% of the customer base.



In a related metric for the number of customers accessing their accounts online, 2,096 customers have signed up for the recurring payment option whereby their bill is paid each month without any action on the part of the customer. That is an increase of 60 customers as compared to August. The 2,096 customers make up bout 6.8% of the customer base.

The overall customer growth has continued during CY 2013 although it has slowed tremendously as compared to years in the recent past. For the month of September 2013, 61 customers have been added to the system brining the current total to 31,003. The year started with 30,790 customers. This is a calendar year gain of 185 customers. This calculates to an extrapolated calendar year customer growth of 555 customers or a percentage gain of about 1.8%.



#### **Cost Savings Measures**

The continued increase in the number of customers that are electing to go paperless with their City Services bills is creating savings for the Water Department. In total 4,206 customers no longer receive a paper bill. This equates to 13.6% of all customers. Each bill has a hard cost of about \$0.53 for the processing and mailing, which translates into savings of over \$27,000 per year. As more customers opt in to the paperless billing program, the amount saved each month will continue to increase.

PDC Laboratory, which is contracted to perform higher level tests that the Water Department is unable to perform, now picks up samples, which saves the City about \$35 per month in shipping fees.

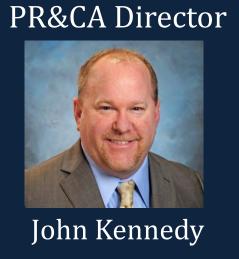
Staff started ordering Hach brand laboratory supplies for chlorine and fluoride testing through a scheduled shipment plan. This saves about \$100 per month.

By requesting competitive laboratory quotes for the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule Phase II (UCMR2) testing, the Water Department is able to save about \$400 per month. There are very few laboratories in the country that are certified for this testing.

The Water Department negotiated a 25% discount with Underwriters Laboratories for taste and odor supplies. This saves about \$400 per month.

The Water Department integrated the entire JULIE locating system into its workload. Previously the department just located the buried water infrastructure. This service performed by the Department now includes locating the infrastructure related to water, sewer, storm water, sump pump lines, traffic signals, street lights and fiber optic lines. This involves responding in one fashion or another to over 16,000 locating requests each year. This was done without adding any Staff but has made getting other work done more challenging. It has reduced the costs to locate for other City Departments that had previously located their own infrastructure, so that when an after-hours JULIE request was responded to, representatives from three different departments would mobilize for the same location.





Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts Department

September 2013 Edition

#### **BCPA**



Kicking off the 2013-2014 season, the BCPA welcomed 6,097 people to 42 different functions. This is an increase of 1,636 people or nearly 27% over 2012. These functions included wedding receptions, improv comedy classes, piano lessons, dinners and acting classes. The facility's September rentals showcased the Heartland Jazz Orchestra featuring Chichito Valdez, the Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh Cultural Day and the Illinois Barbershop Convention. The Good Lovelies, Wayne Brady, *Spank* and *The King, The Killer and Cash*, were performances presented by the BCPA as season openers. *The King, The Killer and Cash*, a high energy review of three great artists, demonstrated the strongest attendance, followed by *Spank* and Wayne Brady.

The BCPA staff was excited to hear that Bloomington's own Sound of Illinois Chorus won first place in the recent Illinois District Barbershop Fall Convention held at the BCPA. The Sound of Illinois Chorus

also hosted the annual Youth in Harmony Festival for high school youth this fall at the BCPA, to be followed in the spring by their annual fundraising concert.

Work has begun on the selection of potential performers for the 2014-2015 season, with the BCPA staff participating in the review, ticket pricing and recommendations for the upcoming season. This is an extensive review, which will be followed shortly by a patron survey seeking input on potential performers.

Special thanks should be noted to the BCPA's September show sponsors, Brian and Anne Boyden and Wells Fargo Financial Advisors LLC.



#### **Golf Division**

The month of September brings Golf officially into the shoulder season. After Labor Day, for some reason, many golfers put the clubs away for the year. September is a challenging month as families adjust to their kids being back in school and weekends becoming busier with kids sporting activities, combined with pro and college football returning to the television.



With the help of some favorable weather (playable hours were up +7% according to Cognilogic Weather Service), Golf experienced a +9% increase in rounds played and an +18% increase in revenues. Playable hours for the year are still down -14%, which matches quite closely to annual rounds being down -13%. This further solidifies the significant impact weather has on rounds played. Encouragingly though, revenues are down just -6% even with rounds down -13%. Some highlights of note for the month include: merchandise sales up +46% and food and beverage sales up +19%.



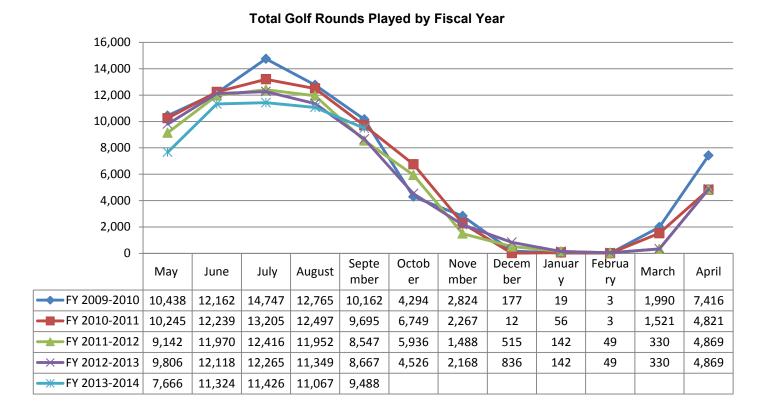
Of particular excitement for the month, The Den at Fox Creek proudly served as host for the Illinois Women's Senior State Championship. This is a statewide event which brought in 120 contestants from all of the state for four days (9/16-19). The event was a huge success! The course is still receiving thank you notes from those in the event complimenting the staff on their service and the quality of the course. According to the Bloomington-Normal Convention and Visitors Bureau, the event

conservatively brought an estimated \$30,000 of financial impact into the community in hotel nights, food purchased, shopping and other related expenditures. The committee from the Illinois Women's Golf Association (IWGA) is already planning to bring the event back again because of the hospitality of both the course and the community. While in town for the tournament, the IWGA also presented a check to the Boys and Girls Club for \$1,500 to go towards their efforts. Special thanks goes out to Nancy Nelson, Golf Operations Manager, for all of her efforts to make the tournament a success for the course and community.

In addition to the ladies state championship, the courses stayed busy hosting numerous other events such as: FBI Agents, McLean County Seniors, Central Illinois Senior Tour, Madison Insurance Agency, the Ronald McDonald House, Illinois Housing Authority, Illinois Dental Society and Selective Insurance Agency. Course staff does an excellent job providing great service to these outings to ensure their expectations are met.

Highland Park Golf Course continued to be well utilized during the month hosting various community golf teams as they practice and play their matches at the course. For the month, 371 high school golf rounds were played at Highland.

Beyond the preparation for all of the tournaments mentioned previously, the golf maintenance staff's stayed busy aerifying the courses. Staff did an excellent job getting the courses back in playing condition in a short amount of time. Staff continues to hear daily how the courses are in great condition, particularly Highland Park. Looking ahead, the maintenance staff will be busy prepping for the IHSA State Golf Finals, at Prairie Vista and The Den on October 17-19, which brings both golfers and spectators into the community from throughout the state.



#### **Recreation Division**



Fall session usually has the lowest start compared to all others throughout the year. There are many school and sports expenses for families, so extra recreation is not always on the top of their list. Program registration began August 30, for City of Bloomington residents and September 5, for non-residents. Many fall sport programs started the second or third week of September including tennis, Zumba Fitness, Co-Rec Volleyball Leagues, Yoga and Zumba Gold Toning. The Co-Rec Volleyball had 18 teams register, which was a drop of four teams compared to 2012. After-School Volleyball, with 166 youth at nine out of eleven Bloomington elementary schools started practice the week of September 21. The numbers were down by 31 students compared to 2012.

The overall revenue for September increased compared to the previous year. This increase is due to a couple of factors. For instance, timing plays a role. This year, a number of youth programs that are typically offered in October were moved up to September this year. The revenue for adult programs was down due to fewer volleyball teams and the fact that some programs were moved up to begin in August.

This fall, a number of new programs are being offered by the Recreation Division. Fall soccer, coach pitch and sand volleyball were new for youth. The coach pitch was canceled, but the other two programs were held and well attended. A contractual cheerleading program was also added. Over 70 youth registered on the first night. Staff will not see income for this program until later. The City is paid 25% of the program fee collected by Team United at the site. An After-School Fall Fun program offered for preschoolers was also canceled due to low enrollment.

The division had three booths at different health fairs and events including ISU's Part-Time Job Fair. There were almost 1,000 individuals who stopped by the booth at the three events.

September brought the closing of Miller Park Miniature Golf on September 15. The total revenue for mini-golf for 2013 was down compared to 2012 for September, but up for the overall summer. The playground that was shut down for a large part of summer 2012 was open which brought many more people near the mini-golf course.

#### Horticulture

The Park Maintenance Horticulture staff is comprised of three fulltime Horticulturalists, three fulltime Laborers and one Light Operator. They are assisted by eight seasonal employees who work on a temporary basis throughout the year and seven seasonal people who work from May until August. The City's mowing and maintenance program is divided into five different sections. There are three different sections of Parks that are managed by the Horticulture staff. The fourth section is considered a walk-behind route which includes City Hall, downtown Bloomington, Fire Stations and any smaller piece of property that the Parks Maintenance Division maintains. These areas are supervised by one of the Horticulturalists. The final area is right-of-way mowing. This area consists of 142 different locations throughout the City of Bloomington. These right-of-way areas include detention ponds, parkways and ditches. These areas are maintained and supervised by two fulltime and one part-time employee.

The Horticulture staff began the aeration of approximately 100 acres of irrigated turf in parks and athletic fields. Once the fields have been completed, staff will begin to aerate 550 acres of non-irrigated turf. This process will take a couple of months and will be completed by end of November.

One area that staff concentrated on was Anglers Nature Preserve. Anglers Nature Preserve is approximately 11 acres of trails, ponds and wooded timber. Once a year, staff completes a major cleanup of all the poison ivy, weeds and invasive plants at Anglers. Staff removes and sprays all undesirable plants. Staff will also mulch all the walk paths.

The most notable project the Horticulture staff is involved in is the design and installation of the new fountain in front of City Hall. This project has been a cooperation of Public Works, Streets and Sewers and the Horticulture staff. Once completed, there will be five individual fountains that will spray water into an invisible pond that will hold the water until it is pumped through the fountain. There will be a combination of annual and perennial plants that will surround the fountain. Finally there will be an all new concrete walk surface that will be separated from the fountain by a six foot turf area. This project will be completed in mid-October and will be beautiful when completed.

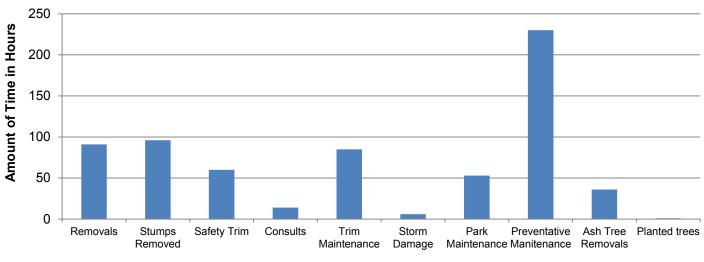
#### **Forestry**

The Forestry staff consists of three fulltime Foresters and six seasonal staff that work ten months a year. The staff is broken up into three different crews, one Forester and two seasonal staff. One crew concentrates on doing preventative maintenance. Preventative maintenance is considered to be the removal of all dead wood and low hanging branches of all Parkway trees. The section staff is currently in is Section B-4 which is South of Oakland Avenue and West of Route 150. This is the City's largest preventative maintenance area. The second and third crews work on citizen-generated work orders and removals. These crews sometimes work together on big trees and areas that have high traffic volume. Preventative maintenance should increase in October as the work orders have been caught up on.

During the month of September, the Forestry division removed 36 Ash trees. This now brings the total for the calendar year to 396. There were 91 removals in September, which is a 53 tree reduction from the previous month. There were 96 stumps removed in September, which brings the yearly total to 719. The Forestry staff trimmed 230 trees in their preventative maintenance circuit. This brings the total number of trees trimmed this year in the circuit to 1,788.

The Forestry staff helped the Midland Davis Company grind any of the remaining logs in the Forest Park wood utilization area. This was the second time Midland Davis was here to grind logs. When completed, there was approximately 10,000 cubic yards of mulch generated. This mulch will be used in the City parks for plant beds, tree rings and walk paths. A generous amount of mulch has been delivered to O'Neil and McGraw parks for the general public's use. This will continue until all the mulch is gone.

#### Forestry Division Trees Worked on by Job Task: September 2013



Type of Task

#### Utility

The Utility staff consists of four fulltime Utility people and three part-time employees who work ten months. Each Utility member has a specific area of repair or maintenance they concentrate on. One Utility member's main area of focus is the two swimming pools, three water spray areas and all the public fountains. This staff member is responsible for the preventative maintenance, operations and chemical balancing. The second Utility staff member is responsible for the maintenance and operation of all the HVAC systems in the parks, Zoo, golf courses, Coliseum and Pepsi Ice. The third member of the Utility team is responsible for any park projects and repair. This individual helps with playgrounds, shelters, bath rooms and anything else that might need to be fixed. The division is currently one Utility member short and is in the process of finding a qualified candidate. These individuals' primary jobs will be park and light inspections. The final two seasonal workers' jobs are painting. These jobs could include shelters, buildings, bathrooms and parking lots.

One of the main areas the Utility division has been working on includes preparing all of the HVAC units for the fall. To do this, all the units are inspected, tested and filters changed in anticipation of the winter months. This is a long slow process that must be done each fall. In conjunction with the fall startup, there were numerous repair items completed at the Coliseum such as replacement of the condenser motor on RTU#2, replacement of the coupler on heat pump #2, installation of new flue boxes on RTU's 1&2 and installation of new refrigerant at the BCPA.

One Utility member and staff designed and built a new shelter for Fire Station #2. This shelter was built close to the existing training area and will help the firemen weather the elements when they are training.

Other Utility projects include:

- Monthly light inspection and repair at all parks and facilities
- Monthly HVAC inspection and repairs at parks and facilities
- Monthly HVAC inspections and repairs at the Coliseum and the BCPA

- Monthly park inspections and repair at all City parks
- Completed pool shutdowns at O'Neil and Holiday Pools
- Installed a new A/C split system at Highland Park Golf Course
- Installed new dance mirrors at Lincoln Leisure Center

#### **Aquatics**

Holiday Pool closed for the summer on Labor Day. Temperatures were in the 80s for Sunday/Monday and 95 degrees for the Saturday of the three-day holiday weekend, so a good weekend for swimming. In 2012 the temperatures were 83, 79 and 90 degrees over the three days with a little rain on two of the days. There were 350 swimmers with admission of \$587 in 2013 and 131 swimmers with admission of \$157 in 2012.

Summer 2013 was much cooler than summer 2012. There were only five days in the 90s or above, while summer 2012 had 40 days in the 90s and ten days in the triple digits. Cool and rainy Mays have historically been years when summer pass sales are down. This same pattern continued in 2013. Pass sales were down 3% at O'Neil and 28% at Holiday. Daily admission was down 21% at Holiday and 24% at O'Neil. Swim lesson revenue was up at both pools: 11% at O'Neil and 9% at Holiday.

Daily attendance was down 25% at O'Neil and 21% at Holiday as compared to 2012. Swim lesson registration was up 12% at both pools compared to 2012.

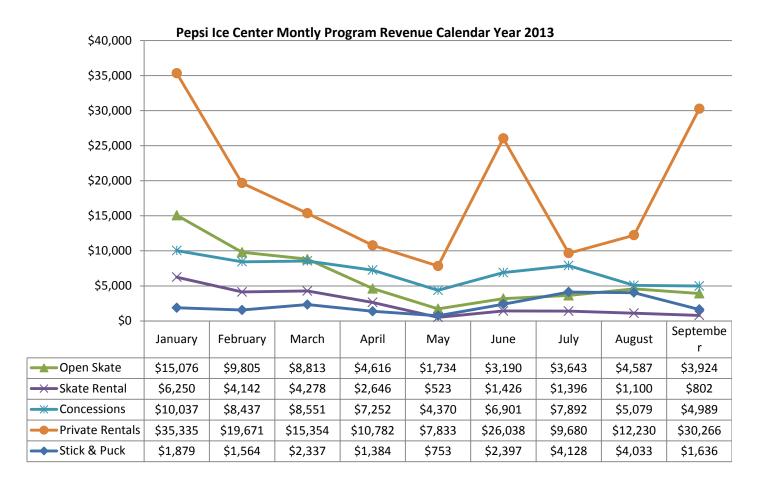
Miller Boats were open for the first time since June 2011. The water level in the lake finally reached a point where it would support the dock and boats, so they opened in June.

#### Pepsi Ice

Overall revenue for September came in slightly lower this year compared to last. This was due to issues with ice rental payments. The MCYHA group paid their September ice bill early, and this amount was reflected in August. ISU's payment is overdue for September. A reminder has been sent and this payment will be reflected in September. For the first five months of the fiscal year compared to the first five of FY13, the Pepsi Ice revenue has seen a decrease of \$4,800. Much of this is probably due to the increased ice cost.

Both Learn to Skate and Learn to Play participation numbers and revenue increased this year compared to the same time period in 2012. There was a slight correction as expected for Youth Hockey in September but overall participation numbers still showed a slight increase. Adult Hockey Numbers also increased for September registration.

Both Pick Up and Stick & Puck numbers have increased for the month compared to last year. Freestyle numbers dropped slightly. This in part may be caused by an increased cost for ice rental and ice purchased by the Central Illinois Figure Skating Club for the year.



There was a drop in Open Skate revenue and attendance. Unseasonably warm weather for September may be a factor but this does bear watching. Concession sales are a direct reflection of Open Skate numbers. The same number of sessions was offered in 2013 as in 2012.

#### S.O.A.R.

## Special Olympics

The one traditional and two unified Special Olympics volleyball teams participated in the Special Olympics Area Volleyball qualifier on September 13, in LaSalle/Peru. The two unified teams earned advancement to the state tournament in October. There were two scrimmage nights during actual practices that involved some volunteer teams coming in to play against the unified teams.

#### Special Events

Special events in September included Outdoor Movie & Dinner, Fishing & a Picnic and Concert & Pizza. S.O.A.R. staff and families helped with the Knights of Columbus annual tootsie roll drive. S.O.A.R. is a beneficiary each year from this campaign.

#### Weekly Programs

Fall weekly programs started the week of September 9. There was a mix of arts & crafts, fitness, cooking, games, music, book club, 4-H club and a teen club.

#### Other

A large number of ISU students came to S.O.A.R. to be placed in programs for required class hours. They are a tremendous assistance to S.O.A.R. Both the Clay & Pottery Class as well as Adaptive Learn to Skate need 1:1 staffing due to the skill required and the level of the participants.

#### **Staff Hours**

Hours for staff in 2013 increased by 167 over staff hours in September 2012. Different areas were up and down. Aquatics was up by 164 hours due to a beautiful and hot Labor Day weekend compared to a rainy 2012 Labor Day weekend. Boats were also open where they were closed in 2012. Additional youth sports programs were offered in 2013 which also increased hours. Pepsi Ice building hours were decreased by almost 200 compared to 2012, but hockey and ice increased due to additional participants in the Learn to Skate/Play programs.

Program	# Volunteers	# Volunteer Hours
Afterschool Volleyball	4	10
Worldwide Day of Play	22	66
Adult Center	18	72
Hockey	54	236
Ice Skating	2	2
SOAR	102	365

#### Zoo

#### **Admission Revenue**

September 2013: \$27,891.00 (Best September ever) September 2012: \$26,323.10 (2<sup>nd</sup> best September)

Revenue from the gate admission was 10.6% up for the current fiscal year compared to last year's revenue. Last year, the revenue raised from admissions broke the all-time record for the Zoo in a fiscal year. Four out of the five months this fiscal year have broken the all-time record for the month.

#### **Attendance**

September 2013: 8,754 September 2012: 7,787

Attendance was 11.3% up for the current fiscal year compared to last year's attendance. Great weather during the first half of the month helped attendance have a great month.

#### **Education**

September 2013: \$4,072.50 September 2012: \$23,182.00 Revenue from Education Program Fees and Rentals were down 63.7% for the fiscal year compared to last year. The difference is a timing issue. Junior Zookeeper dues were entered in September in 2012 and will be entered in October 2013.

#### **Concessions, Carousel and Animal Food Sales**

September 2013: \$3,034.59 September 2012: \$2,036.58

Revenue from Concessions, Carousel and Animal Food Sales is 30% up for the current fiscal year compared to last year's numbers. A Hurricane Simulator was added for a guest amenity. It is a cost share with a vendor and has been more popular than expected.

#### **Animal Collection**

Acquisitions: Animals added to collection by transaction or birth/hatch

- Three male, two female Hedgehogs
- 75 male Seba's Short-Tailed Bats

Dispositions: Animals removed from collection by transaction or death

- Female Black-Billed Whistling Duck
- One Red-Eyed Tree Frog
- One Peruvian Green and Gold Millipede
- 4 thorny Devil Walking Sticks
- 2 male San Clemente Island Goats

#### Staff

- Worked on animal transactions (five pending)
- Time was spent this month preparing for the Miller Park Zoological Society's event, Zoo Do.
   The event was very successful
- Hosted special events: International Red Panda Day and Reggie Redbird Day.

#### **Notes**

- The Miller Park Zoo received Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) Accreditation through 2017. Less than 10% of all USDA permit holders are AZA Accredited. The Miller Park Zoo has been accredited since 1978.
- The Zoo Lab mural was completed by Anne Brown, a former Junior Zookeeper. The mural shows a giraffe and python with heights and lengths.
- Payton Tutewiler, Eagle Scout Candidate and Junior Zookeeper, complete a landscaping project. His project was to turn the land south of the Harbor Sealexhibit into a butterfly garden.





# **Cost Savings**

The butterfly project mentioned above required no funding from the Miller Park Zoo.





Planning and Code Enforcement Department

September 2013 Edition

# **Building and Safety Division**

Construction activity for September continues to show an upward trend for the year to date. An example of this trend is the new home starts. This category continues to show a strong position both for the month of September (up 50%/12 units) and the year to date (up 20%/144 units).

Sept. 2013 Compared to Sept. 2012	Year to Date
New home starts – up 4 permits (50%)	Up 24 permits (20%)
Building permits – up 35 permits (16%)	Up 114 permits (6%)
All construction permits – up 98 permits (13%)	Up 124 permits (2%)
Fees collected – \$103,705 down 11%	\$923,451 down 15%
Construction Value – \$10,761,776 no change	\$89,282,355 up 16%

Other Notable Projects					
<b>Building/Project Description</b>	Address	Value			
Build Out Six Loft Apartments	407 W. Washington St.	\$300,000			

Construction Projects \$1,000,000 or Higher				
Building/Project Description Description Value				
Central Illinois Regional Airport Addition	3201 CIRA Drive	\$4,515,840		
Bloomington Country Club Renovation	605 Towanda Avenue	\$1,200,000		



**Timpte Trailer Service Facility 2312 W. Market Street** 

#### **Code Enforcement Division**

The Code Enforcement division contains complaint resolution, rental inspection, fire inspection and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) activities. The following information is a brief representation of the staff's activities for the month of September.

Complaint/Violation Type	Total Reported
Feces	1
Garbage/Rubbish/Debris	13
Grass and Weeds	48
Illegal Home Occupation	2
Infestation	10
No Permits	14
No Utilities	1
Other	1
Property Maintenance	38
Trees/Vegetation	14
Vehicles	1
Vacant/Abandoned	1
Property	
Department Totals	122



Interior property maintenance problems. Note the roaches on the walls.

Other Activities Completed by the Code Enforcement Division Included:

- Completed 77 proactive rental property inspections representing 171 dwelling units
- Demolition of a house
- Completion of four (4) CDBG rehabilitation projects and
- Completion of a Single Family Owner Occupied Rehabilitation (SFOOR) renovation project

### **Planning Division**

The planning division includes development activities in the city as well as managing the following boards and commissions: The Planning Commission, Historic Preservation Commission, and Zoning board of Appeals. These board activities include case preparation, findings of fact, conducting public hearings and preparation of minutes and council back-up reports. The following case summaries provide a synopsis of these activities for the month of September.

#### Historic Preservation Activity

#### BHP-9-13, 115 E. Monroe Street

Review of an application submitted by Green Building LLC, (Bob Vericella/Fred Wollrab) requesting a \$25,000.00 Harriet Fuller Rust Facade Grant consisting of tuck pointing, masonry repairs, steel lintel repairs, metal repairs, new vent covers, and replacement of window sills for the B.S. Green building. This building was designed by Arthur L. Pillsbury, Architect, in 1901, and is located in the Downtown Bloomington National Register Historic District.

This case was held over by a vote of 5-0

#### BHP-15-13, 912 N. Prairie Street

Review of an application submitted by Renaissance Roofing Inc., requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness for the gutter and roof restoration for the Kirkpatrick House. The home is a craftsman style constructed in 1914. Arthur L. Pillsbury, architect. The property is located in the Franklin Square National Register Historic District.

The Certificate of Appropriateness was approved by a vote of 5-0.

#### BHP-19-12, 110 W. Washington Street

Review of an application submitted by Mike Nurceski requesting a \$25,000 Harriet Fuller Rust Facade Grant consisting of masonry repairs, painting and caulking windows for the Livingston Department Store Building. The structure was built in 1917, Arthur L. Pillsbury Architect. The building is located in the Downtown Bloomington National Register District.

This grant was approved by a vote of 5-0. Note that this grant was originally approved in 2012 and was modified to address structural issues discovered during the work and is a different project than BHP-14-13.

#### BHP-14-13, 110 W. Washington Street

Review of the application submitted by Mike Nurceski requesting a \$25,000.00 Harriet Fuller Rust Facade Grant consisting of masonry repairs, painting and windows for the Livingston Department Store Building, 1917 Arthur L. Pillsbury Architect. The property is located in the Downtown Bloomington National Register District.

This grant was approved by a vote of 5-0.

#### **Planning Commission Activity**

Case V-03-13 - Public hearing and review on the petition filed by Illinois Wesleyan University, requesting approval of the vacation of Titan Drive west of Fell Avenue and the adjacent north/south alley right of way lying north of the easterly extension of the centerline of the vacated East-West alley in Block 6 in the Phoenix Addition.

The Planning Commission recommended approval of this case by a vote of 9-0.

#### **Facilities Management**

Work continues on the \$414,393 Market Street repair project. The project is expected to be completed by the first part of November. While work continues, the contractor is able to keep the facility in service with a minimum of interruptions.

A new roof for the Post Office space in the Market Street garage has been completed. Work was done by Union Roofing of Chenoa.

Plans for the new roof on City Hall have been reviewed by staff. We anticipate final document completion and bidding process started by October/November time frame.

The final touches are being placed on the facility assessment reports. This comprehensive evaluation will help guide the future of the City's facilities and budget needs. A full report will be presented to the council on October 28, 2013.

#### **Items of Note**

The City Council approved the new Building Board of Appeals on September 23, 2013. The intent of this new board is to eliminate several little used boards and commission and combine them to a single working body. It is anticipated that this will make better use of the citizens who volunteer for these boards and allow for a streamlined process for staff. Once appointments are completed the Board's first action is anticipated to be a review of the 2012 editions of the City's construction codes.

Sikich LLP has completed the information gathering portion of their evaluation of the PACE Department. We expect a final report and recommendations in October. The evaluation includes work on the organizational structure and succession planning.

Staff anticipates the changes to the rental program to be brought to the Council in October. The proposed changes are anticipated to make better use of available resources and focus costs and work on those properties that are the most problematic.

#### **Planning Commission Activity**

**PS-03-13**. Public hearing and review on the petition submitted by FOB Development, Inc. requesting the approval of a Preliminary Plan for a Portion of Empire Business Park, Third Addition, for the property located north of Illinois Route 9 and east of Trinity Lane, consisting of approximately 14.2 acres.

Approval Recommended Vote: 8-0

**V-01-13**. Public hearing on the Petition filed by Illinois Wesleyan University, requesting approval of the vacation of the Beecher Street right of way between Franklin and East Streets and the alley right of way bounded by Beecher Street on the south and Horenberger Drive on the east.

### Approval Recommended Vote: 8-0

**Z-02-13** Public hearing and review petition submitted by Thomas Nielsen and Kathryn Bohn requesting the approval of a Rezoning from R-2, Mixed Residence District with an S-4 Historic Preservation District overlay to R-2, Mixed Residence District for the property located at 605 E. Front Street with the George Hanna House, Queen Anne style.

Laid over to next meeting. Vote: 6-0





# **Economic Development**

September 2013 Edition

Meetings Held: 29

Expansion: 0

• New: 4

Retention: 4Closing: 0

Developer: 1

Networking: 10

Education/Training: 5

• Council/Commission/Committee: 2

EDC of Bloomington-Normal: 2

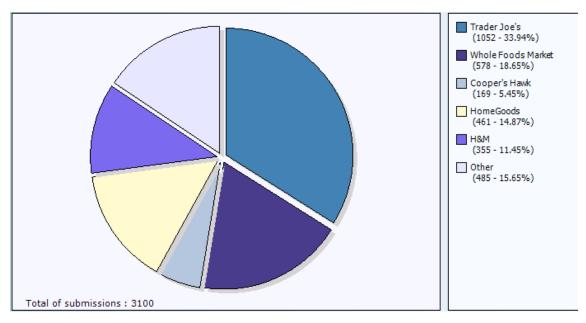
Media: 1

#### **Narrative**

## Retail Request Campaign

On August 22<sup>nd</sup>, the City's Economic Development Office launched a campaign to solicit feedback from local residents as to which retail establishments they would like to see open in Bloomington. As of September 30th, over 3,000 surveys had been completed, with Trader Joes receiving the most

positive feedback.
To submit your vote or request an alternate retailer, please visit the City's website by clicking HERE



#### McLean County Chamber of Commerce: EDUcate

On September 18<sup>th</sup>, the City's Economic Development Coordinator attended the Fall EDUcate Conference at Heartland Community College. Over 100 individuals from area businesses attended the event, where the emphasis was "Remove Barriers: Opening a New Path to Engagement and Positive Outcomes will be focused on linking members of the organization to the outcomes and results of the organizations activities."



# Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Small Business & Entrepreneur Resource Workshop

On September 17<sup>th</sup>, the City's Economic Development Coordinator hosted a booth at the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity's annual Small Business Entrepreneur & Resource Expo at Illinois Wesleyan University. 25 individuals from prospective and existing businesses stopped by to learn about various opportunities available through local, regional and state programs including Career Link, Economic Development Council of



Bloomington-Normal, Heartland Community College – Customized Training, Illinois Business Financial Services, Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Illinois Department of Employment Security, Illinois Finance Authority, Illinois Manufacturing Extension Center, International Trade Center / NAFTA Opportunity Center, Procurement Technical Assistance Center, McLean County Chamber of Commerce, McLean/Livingston County SCORE, Small Business Development Center at Illinois State University, United States Department of Agriculture and the U.S Small Business Administration.

#### **Blockbuster Opening Session**

Taking the success of his best-selling business books "Freakonomics" and "SuperFreakonomics to the next level", Steven Levitt presented attendees with a toolkit to help them gain insights into problem solving in their personal and professional lives. Each idea presented by Dr. Levitt was illustrated by a story or example, in the ever-popular counterintuitive Freakonomics style, that provided shopping center professionals with illuminating thoughts for profitable thinking. Dr. Levitt has an enormous curiosity and is set on course by personal experiences and the incongruities he sees in everyday life. He has the uncanny ability to sift through a pile of data to find a story that no one else has found and devised ways to measure an effect that veteran economics have declared unmeasureable. The Wall Street Journal has said, "If Indiana Jones were an economist, he'd be Steven Levitt." Ultimately, the presentation helped unlock creativity so that attendees could think Like a Freak and freak-out the competition.

#### **Educational Programming**

#### The New Normal... How Retailers Think: A Public Sector Primer on Site Selection

Over 125 professionals participated in this panel led discussion, which highlighted topics including how retailers evaluate sites in today's recovery environment, if bricks and mortar retailer expansion programs have been fundamentally altered and the impact of the entitlement process and

government incentives on retailer's evaluation and approval processes. The panel also explored how cities might better align their economic development visions with current real estate market and economic realities as well as the growth plans and review/approval processes for a given retailer the city might be targeting.

#### **Economic Development Council: BN By the Numbers**

This quarterly presentation was held at the Illinois State University Alumni Center. Those in attendance gained insights as to the current economic conditions facing the Bloomington-Normal community. Key highlights for the City of Bloomington include:

- Lowest unemployment rate of any comparable IL metro area
- Number of new home sales increased by 31% YTD over prior, from 133 175
- Number of home re-sales increased 18% YTD, from 1,531 to 1,806
- Q2 retail sales: down 2.88%



The <u>McLean County Chamber of Commerce</u> coordinated five (5) ribbon cuttings throughout the City of Bloomington in September. They included:



<u>Pinnacle Actuarial Services</u> broke ground on their new office building in the Empire Business Park



<u>Tavern at the Parke</u> opened at the Parke Regency Hotel



<u>BEER NUTS Brand Snacks</u> celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary



The Children's Center for Dentistry opened



**Bob Evans** on IAA Drive remodeled



**Human Resources** 

September 2013 Edition

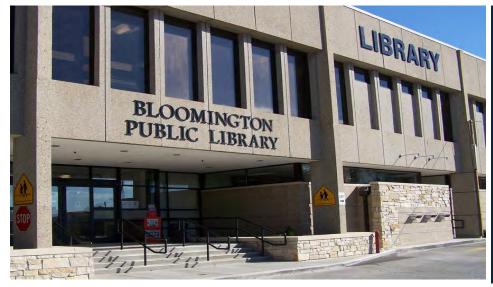
#### **Human Resources Job Tasks**

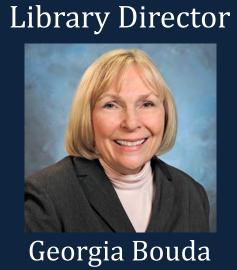
- Worked with management and compensation consultant on revising the Classified employee pay grades to better reflect market conditions. Including costing of proposed increases to the salary ranges.
- Worked with Information Services on continued testing of the data file (834 file) to transmit health insurance enrollment to the plan.
- Prepared for and presented Health Insurance Renewal information to the Administration and Finance Committee on September 10th.
- Processing FOIAs, subpoenas and requests for information.
- Finalized hiring of Police Chief.
- Coordination of Fire Entry Level Hiring List.
- Coordination of Police Entry Level Candidates for January hiring.
- Preparation and Finalizing of Local 362 Inspectors, Local 362 Support Staff and Local 699 Public Works/Parks contract.
- Management meetings and negotiations with Telecommunicators.
- Began negotiations with Local 362 Parking. Prepared ground rules, accepted Union's initial proposal and prepared City Proposal.
- Monthly Labor/Management with Local 699 Public Works/Parks and Rec.
- Received notice that the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE) filed notice with the Illinois Labor Relations Board seeking certification for employees who work at the Bloomington Center for the Performing Arts. Responded and complied with established requirements.
- Director Bell attended the 2013 Joint IPMA-HR/IPMA-Canada International Training Conference and Expo. This is the annual conference for public sector Human Resource professionals.
- Prepared ICMA CPM Survey results for Human Resources and Assisted with the Risk Management Survey.

- United Way kick off picnic held on September 20, 2013.
- Hosted three onsite flu vaccine clinics for employees and dependents. Thus far, 258 individuals attended a flu clinic or requested a voucher for a vaccine, which is more than previous years.
- Conducted two (2) CPR/AED and First Aid classes.

Current Vacancies	Position Status
Support Staff V – Finance	Salina Grismore 9-3-2013
Police Chief	Brenden Heffner 9-3-13
Telecommunciator	In Process
Telecommunicator	In Process
Utility Worker – Parks	In Process
Budget Manager	Carla Murillo
Support Staff IV – CSO – Police	In Process
Water Meter Service	In Process
Legal Secretary	In Process
Performing Arts Manager	In Process
Accountant	In Process
Support Staff IV – Public Works	In Process
Property, Records and CSO Manager	In Process
Support Staff IV – City Clerk	In Process

	Contract Expiration Date	Number of full-time employees budgeted for FY 14	Current Status
Non-Sworn Bargaining Units			
Local 362 Support Staff	4/30/2013	30	Pending Negotiations
TCM Group	4/30/2011	16	Currently Negotiating
Lodge 1000	4/30/2014	38	Settled
Local 699 Library	4/30/2014	30	Settled
Local 699 PW/Pks	4/30/2014	108	Settled
Local 362 Parking	4/30/2013	4	Currently Negotiating
Local 362 Inspectors	4/30/2013	15	Currently Negotiating
Sworn Bargaining Units			
Fire Local 49	4/30/2015	103	Settled/Mediation 6/17/12 on SLBB
Unit 21 (Police)	4/30/2014	103	Settled
Sgts and Lts	4/30/2014	21	Settled
Classified			
01 15 175		40	,
Classified (Executive)		13	n/a
Classified		121	n/a

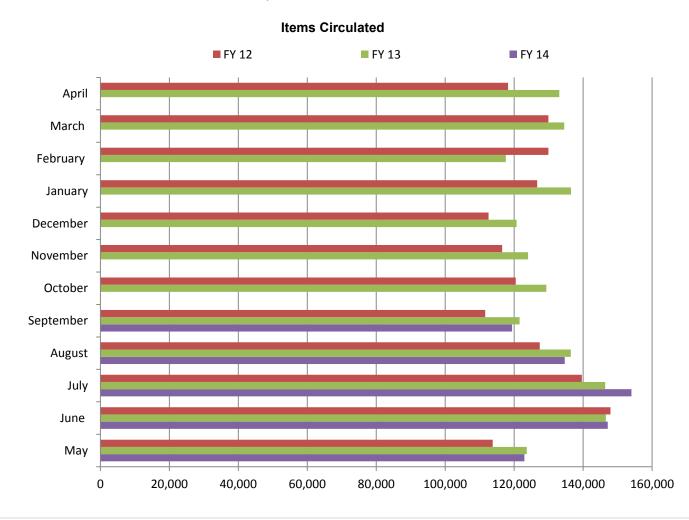


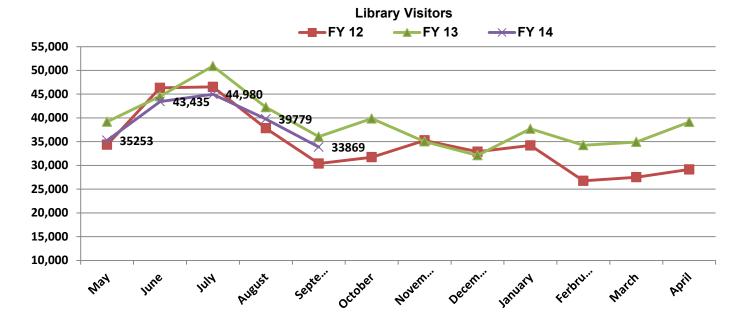


# Library

September 2013 Edition

The Library lent 119,417 items in September 2013 compared to 121,593 items borrowed in September 2012. Of the total items borrowed, 4,147 or 3% were electronic. There were 33,869 visitors to the Library and Bookmobile in September 2013, a decrease from the 36,047 visitors in September 2012. Staff answered 4,360 questions from customers this month.





## Children's Programs in the month of September

- Lapsit Story Time 43 attended 6 sessions
- Toddler Story Time 75 attended 3 sessions
- Preschool Story Time 134 attended 6 sessions
- Tails for Tales (Read to Dogs) 51 attended 3 sessions
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday Story Time 24 attended
- Wiggle Giggle Evening Story Time 11 attended
- Head Start Fun Club Visit 105 attended
- Visited Little Jewels Day Care 60 attended
- Visited Head Start Class at Brigham 30 attended
- A Pirate-themed Preschool Story Time was Promoted Through a Blog Post

# **Teen Programs and Attendance:**

- Teen Advisory Board 1 session 0 attended
- Anime Now 2 sessions 29 attended
- Game Fest 1 session 2 attended
- College Q & A 1 session 2 attended

#### **Adult Programs and Attendance:**

- Fiction 1 session 14 attended
- Mystery Book Club 1 session 7 attended
- Books on Tap 1 session 7 attended
- Movie discussion 1 session 1 attended
- Wednesday Night Movies 4 sessions 59 attended
- Online Resources for Students & Parents 1 session 4 attended
- Financial Planning Avoiding Pitfalls 1 session 2 attended





# Compliments to the City

From: Barb Wells

Sent: 06/18/2013 07:54 AM CDT

To: Jim Karch Subject: Thank you

Thank you and thanks to your crew. Our pothole was filled yesterday!

Barb Wells, Sup't of Recreation
Bloomington Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts
115 E. Washington St.
Bloomington, IL 61701
(309) 434-2260
(309) 434-2483 - fax
www.bpard.org

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To: Katie Stamp <kstamp@cityblm.org>, jkarch@cityblm.org, pothole@cityblm.org,

publicworks@cityblm.org

From: JOSEPH M

Date: 05/31/2013 02:07PM

Subject: Re: Pothole Reporting Thank you !! - 5/5/2013 and 5/27/13

Thanks to all for the quick fix of the noted areas following my second report! The guys did a pretty thorough job in the Denny's/ Eldorado Road area.

Joe Mikulecky

\_\_\_\_\_\_

From: "JOSEPH M"

To: "Katie Stamp" <kstamp@cityblm.org>, jkarch@cityblm.org, pothole@cityblm.org,

publicworks@cityblm.org

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 28, 2013 1:21:38 PM

Subject: Pothole Reporting - 5/5/2013 and 5/27/13

Katie/ Jim -

Joe

Each of my previous pothole reports have been promptly followed up with repairs, so I was a bit surprised these have not been addressed yet. I attached pictures of each location so you can see the severity of each "tire swallowing" manhole. The manholes near Denny's have been recurring problems for the nearly 25 years I've lived in town. Thanks for following up on these!

\_\_\_\_\_

From: "JOSEPH M"

To: publicworks@cityblm.org, "Katie Stamp" <kstamp@cityblm.org>, pothole@cityblm.org

**Sent:** Sunday, May 5, 2013 7:31:07 PM **Subject:** Pothole Reporting - 5/5/2013

Hi Katie:

Attached is my latest list to share with the pothole crew. Thanks for getting these addressed!

- Wembley Way and Paddington Drive adjacent to and around manhole in center of the street
- Eldorado Road near Denny's (South of Oakland to newer overlay), particularly around the manhole near Denny's parking lot
- G.E. Road starting at Walgreens (Veterans) extending East to Gaslight Square

#### Thanks!

Joe Mikulecky

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I just spoke with a woman who had a recycle question and she wanted to let me know before we got off the phone how much she "loves" the recycle program and the new cart. She also mentioned that the bulk/brush crew do a great job and are "great guys" and she wanted to thank them for doing a "great job."

Thanks, Katie Stamp Administrative Assistant City of Bloomington Public Works Department (309)434-2225

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Good afternoon Jim and Barb,

I just wanted to let you know how much we appreciate all the help Rob's group has given the Police Department this week. We had some electronic items that needed to be destroyed and they were able to smash them at the yard for us. Today they came over to the Lincoln Garage, where we store our bicycles, and helped us out by loading all the bikes we needed to destroy and disposed of them. This saves us an enormous amount of time. We are grateful for another department's willingness to be so helpful. Thank you.

Carla A. Murillo Police Department Bloomington, IL 309-434-2354

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# Letters and Comments of Praise for the Bloomington Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts Department in May 2013

#### Regarding the 2013-14 BCPA Season Announcement

That's the most exciting lineup I've seen since the theatre reopened. My wife is especially excited because you have her hero, Dr. John playing. - Simon

#### Regarding BCPA staff support for the historic tour program

The "tour" poster is up in the lobby window now, and Jocelyn has the tour blurb on the envelope stuffer that goes out with online ticket orders. I just want to express THANKS for their support on behalf of the docents!

Also, THANKS to all the staff for their ongoing support of the BCPA tours: Stacey for following up on tour requests of all kinds, Eric for agreeing to take some new photos of tours in progress, and David for helping to schedule the tours and alert the staff to our needs. They have been so courteous and helpful!

Thanks to Joel for continuing to consider how tours can enhance other scheduled BCPA events, rentals, special meetings, and fundraising efforts.

We believe tour goers become BCPA patrons!

Sincerely,

Carol for the BCPA docent/tour guide volunteers

\_\_\_\_\_\_

#### For American Girl Lunch

Hi, Jill...

Just wanted to thank you for a nice time on Saturday. The Picasso idea was great! I had Isabella's artwork framed this morning and she's so proud of it! We enjoyed the lunch and the create-your-own dessert too. Just wanted to pass along a pic of Isabella with Saige. She didn't put her down all day yesterday and even slept with her. Isabella was (and still is) SUPER EXCITED and grateful too. Thanks again for a great event.

Sincerely, Shayna White

#### For Penguin Project

I hope that you all know how much you are appreciated! Bill and I haven't had an opportunity to see the practices this year and it only makes the excitement that much greater! I can't believe that we are getting so close to show time! You all just rock our world and we are so honored to be a part of Penguin!!!!!

With so much love and admiration, Cindy

**From:** Marie Streenz [mstreenz@midwest-fiber.com]

Sent: 06/14/2013 01:48 PM GMT

To: Jim Karch

Subject: Pay as you throw

Happy Friday to you Jim!

I thought you might like to see this story since we have talked about this before.

http://www.wasterecyclingnews.com/article/20130613/NEWS02/130619997/pay-as-you-throw-programs-aim-to-incentivize-

recycling?utm\_campaign=daily\_newsletter&utm\_medium=daily\_email&utm\_source=daily\_20130613 
&utm\_content=article7

Have a great weekend!!!

(By the way, you had your highest month yet for recycle tons in May!!! 428.47 tons!! This was also a 48.57% increase over May of last year.)

Marie A. Streenz