

October 2017



Welcome to Geneseo's monthly e-newsletter.

A Message From the Chambers

What a beautiful and busy time of year in Geneseo. I feel very fortunate to live and raise my family in such a great town that values community. If you have not had the opportunity to attend some of the great community events this past month such as The State Street Market, Trains, Planes and Automobiles, Geneseo Music Festival, Ribtober-fest, the Stearman Fly-In, the weekly Geneseo Farmer's Market and 3rd Thursday to name just a few, I highly encourage you to next year. The community pride in Geneseo is apparent in many ways, especially how our community supports our wonderful school district. Driving around town, it is hard to miss a yard sign supporting a school sport or activity. When I have out of town friends or family visit they frequently comment on how clean the city is as well as how many people they see out walking, jogging or biking. We are fortunate to have a vibrant downtown, an excellent City Parks/Street Department that keeps the landscaping and parks tip-top, and a Police Department that makes their presence known, ensuring the safety of our children during those extra busy traffic times before and after school. I am happy to be able to serve on the City Council and want to thank all our community members for making it such a great place.

James Roodhouse
Ward 2 Alderman

Richmond Hill Park Master Plan Public Meeting & Online Survey

The City of Geneseo is leading an initiative to improve the recreational function and value of Richmond Hill Park. The park is a core recreational destination for the City of Geneseo and the surrounding community. Richmond Hill currently boasts numerous soccer fields, baseball fields, and tennis courts. The City has engaged the planning and design firm,

Hitchcock Design Group, to create a compelling park concept that addresses the



community's recreational needs. We would encourage our members of our organization to participate in the process by completing the survey and attending the public meeting on Tuesday, October 17. For more information please see the two links below.

For The Park Design Website [click here](#) or for The Richmond Hill Park Survey [click here](#)



Fall Clean up

Fall clean up is going to be October 23-26th

Ward One: Monday, October 23

Ward Two: Tuesday, October 24

Ward Three: Wednesday, October 25

Ward Four: Thursday, October 26

Each City Ward will have ONLY ONE DAY FOR PICK UP. Residents must have their items out by 7:00 a.m. on their designated day listed above. Items must be out by the scheduled time above as the trucks will only pass by each residence once. Regular scheduled refuse collection will not be changed due to Clean-Up Days

To help in this effort, please observe these guidelines:

- All items must be placed at the curb or along the street. Large items such as furniture will be picked up if placed at the curb or along the street. Carpet must be rolled and tied in sections no longer than 6 feet.
- Lumber will be taken but should be no longer than 6 feet. Items such as lumber, eave spouts, bags, etc. MUST be separated into individual piles.
- NO CONCRETE OR BRICKS WILL BE PICKED UP. NO SHINGLES WILL BE PICKED UP.
- NO TIRES WILL BE PICKED UP.
- NO APPLIANCES WILL BE PICKED UP.
- NO TOILETS WILL BE PICKED UP.
- NO WATER HEATERS, TELEVISIONS, FAX MACHINES OR COMPUTERS WILL BE PICKED UP.
- Small items must be containerized. Cardboard boxes should be kept dry prior to pickup.
- Choose containers carefully. All containers will be taken unless marked "SAVE".
- Containers must weigh no more than 50 pounds each.
- Papers must be placed in plastic bags or bundled tightly with strong string or cord. Shredded paper must be bagged.
- Plastic bags must weigh no more than 20 pounds each.

If you should have any questions or concerns, call Geneseo City Hall at 309.944.6419.



Witches Night Out

WITCHES NIGHT OUT IS OCTOBER 26, 2017 4 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Visit participating businesses and have your passport punched. When you have your passport all punched be sure to drop your passport in one of the buckets. You may be one of the LUCKY winners of:

- 1st Prize \$100 Chamber Gift Certificate
- 2nd Prize \$50 Chamber Gift Certificate
- 3rd Prize \$25 Chamber Gift Certificate

The Geneseo Chamber of Commerce will draw the winners LIVE on Facebook October 27, 2017. To get a passport and to find out what businesses are involved in the Witches Night Out, [click here.](#)



National Prescription Drug Take Back Day

Geneseo, IL- On Saturday, October 28th, 2017 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. the Geneseo Police Department and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will give the public an opportunity to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. Bring your pills for disposal to the City Hall/Municipal Building at 115 South Oakwood Ave. (The DEA cannot accept liquids, needles or sharps, only pills or patches.) The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet. In addition, Americans are now advised that their usual methods for disposing of unused medicines-flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash-both pose potential safety and health hazards.

For more information about the disposal of prescription drugs or about the October 28th Take Back Day event, [click here.](#)

Halloween Tips

The Geneseo Police Department would like to remind trick or treaters to be on the lookout while out and about to remain safe. The City of Geneseo trick or treating times will be on Tuesday October 31, from 4-7 p.m.. Residents that wish to participate in the festivities should turn their porch lights on, so the children know

they are welcome to approach for a treat. Children should visit only lighted homes and the homes of neighbors whom they know.

Additional safety tips:

- Bring a parent or another responsible adult with you while out trick or treating.
- Stay within your neighborhoods.
- Accept only wrapped candy or sealed treats.
- Bring the treats home to be inspected by an adult before tasting them.
- Wear light-colored costumes decorated with reflective tape, if possible.
- Do not wear Halloween masks, since they may restrict your vision.
- Be careful of long costumes that may be a trip hazard.
- Use flashlights after dark. Use reflective tape on your costumes or bags.
- Cross only at corners, never between parked cars and not diagonally across an intersection.
- Look in all directions before crossing the street.
- Watch for and obey traffic lights and signs.
- Walk across the street-never run.
- Walk on the sidewalk, not on the street.
- Wait on the curb, not in the street, until it is safe to cross.
- Motorists are urged to use caution and watch out, both in the afternoon and the evening Tuesday October 31, 2017, for excited children in the roadway



Be safe and have fun! If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact the Geneseo Police Department at 309-944-5141.

Boo-tiful Saturday, October 28 10am to 1pm

Trick-or-Treat at Geneseo Businesses

Participating stores will have a pumpkin in their store window. Trick-or-Treaters must be in costume with their parents.

The VFW & Auxiliary will start the Mummers parade at 1 pm. Please meet in the parking lot in back of Mel Foster. Judging will start at 12:30 pm. and the parade will step off at 1 p.m. There will be cash prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners. The categories will be: Most Original, Best Funny Group, and Judge's Choice. We will have free punch and cookies during line-up.



City of Geneseo Vision and Mission Statements

In August 2017 the City's Elected Officials and Management Team met for a day and a half in a strategic planning session. As a result of this meeting a vision and mission statement were created. Along with those two documents, a work plan of next steps and key partners in the next steps was listed.



To see more information and to review the document [click here](#).

The Safety Sentinel - IMUA and SafeElectricity.org



A small, inexpensive electrical safety device can prevent hundreds of unnecessary deaths and thousands of injuries each year if used more widely. Ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) protect people from electric shock by cutting off power very quickly if there is a problem. You should have GFCIs professionally installed in all wet areas inside and outside of homes, including:

- Kitchens, bathrooms, laundry rooms
- Outlets where large appliances will be plugged in
- Basements
- Outdoor and garage outlets

Consumers should also become familiar with the different GFCI options:

- There are two types for permanent installation: the circuit breaker type that installs in an electrical panel, and the receptacle type that installs in a normal electrical outlet box.
- Portable GFCIs plug into standard outlets and provide protection without installation.
- Cord-connected GFCIs protect all devices plugged directly into the cord.

Most newly constructed homes will have GFCIs installed. In older homes, pay particular attention to updating your electrical system. Always use GFCIs tested by an independent testing laboratory. After installation, follow all manufacturer instructions. If you find your GFCI to be defective, remove the device and replace it immediately.

For more safety information [click here](#)

CoW Meeting - October 24 at 6 p.m.
Council Meeting - November 14 at 6 p.m.

If you are interested in starting Online Bill Pay for your utility bills, click here
<https://www.xpressbillpay.com/#/>

If you have any questions, comments, or ideas for future newsletters please feel free to contact us by phone (309) 944-6419 or email us at citygeneseo@cityofgeneseo.com.

We look forward to hearing from you!

STAY CONNECTED:

