



The Official Quarterly Newsletter of LaSalle, Illinois

SUMMER 2007

VOLUME 3—ISSUE NO. 3

LaSalle, Illinois

It's Construction Season Again!

Construction in LaSalle is ramping up with work on the Ill. Rte. 351 reconstruction project, the start of the U.S. Rte. 6 reconstruction, and the 2007 road repair project. Crews working on the bridge over the Little Vermilion River have already removed the concrete bridge deck on the north half of the bridge. The contractor also began installation of storm sewer along the north side of the roadway. Work on the sewer has been slow due to the need to remove a significant amount of rock. Normally, one machine removes soil to the required depth, and the sewer pipe is placed and the hole backfilled with dirt or sand. With rock, additional equipment is required to first break the rock up into pieces that can be dug out. This is time-consuming work and is slowing down operations.



However, even with this delay, Chuck Trovero, project superintendent, said, "We still plan to close the road to traffic on July 9. This allows the road to stay open for the Fourth of July holiday."

Once the road is closed, the contractor will begin removal of the bridge over the abandoned Illinois Central Railroad right of way. A temporary road has been constructed to allow emergency traffic to travel around the old bridge and through the jobsite.

The Ill. Rte. 351 project is nearing completion with the majority of work north of Eleventh St. finished. The contractor, Advanced Asphalt, must finish installation of curb and sidewalk between Ninth St. and Sixth St., reconstruct Lincoln between St. Vincent and Hennepin, and then grind, overlay, and stripe these sections.

Len Trovero also is constructing the 2007 road project which covers about 150 blocks scattered throughout the city. Work has started near the high school and Lighted Way with widening of roadways in those areas to accommodate extra parking. Trovero has also started grinding pavement in the areas south of Eleventh St. Once the sections south of Eleventh St. are completed, work will move to the north.

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Meet Your Alderman

This is the fourth in a four part series featuring LaSalle's alderman

Diz Demes, please tell us a little bit about yourself - family, background, education, hobbies. I was born and raised in the first ward of LaSalle. My father was a business man who ran Demes Hatters and Cleaners. I am a graduate of Illinois Valley Community College. I currently have two daughters and one grandchild. My hobbies include classic show cars.

How long have you been an alderman?

I was elected in 2007 for my first term in the first ward.

What does being an alderman entail?

Being an alderman entails listening to the people of LaSalle and performing what is in the best interests of the city.

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Construction cont.

Additional projects started or nearing completion are:

- The first phase of the Ill. Rte. 6 Sanitary Sewer Extension, awarded in April to John Pohar and Sons, has been installed and is operational.
- The city's water meter replacement project is continuing with over half of the town completed. The majority of meters left to be replaced are either commercial meters or residential meters lying north of Eleventh St. Due to recent news articles, some residents have been concerned that they would receive a large bill reflecting the final read of the old meter. However, the city is finding that only about 1% of all meters are resulting in a bill that exceeds the average amount that each resident normally



pays. And in most of these instances, the resident had received a card requesting the inside read and had not turned it in.

- The Tennis Court Reconstruction project is nearly complete with only the installation of a portion of the fence remaining.
- MACTEC is making preparations to begin reconstruction of the city's water plant. This project will involve installation of improvements to the treatment and storage systems at the plant.

Visit LaSalle's newsletter online
at www.lasalle-il.gov



Energy Saving tips for your home

Summer is a time to enjoy the warm weather with pool parties and outdoor cookouts. However, the warm weather can also be problematic for those looking to save energy and costs in the home and garden. Follow these energy-saving tips to keep your summer costs down!

- Install low-voltage or solar-powered lights for your walkways, patios, and gardens. Doing so is a smart and energy-efficient way to illuminate your yard.
- Use an electric mower to mow your lawn, rather than a gas one. Electric mowers cause less pollution and are much quieter.
- Hang your laundry out on a clothes line rather than using a dryer. Hanging clothes out to dry will save you money, and your clothes will smell summertime fresh.
- When using a washing machine, wait for a full load. Washing just a few small items wastes energy and water. Also, use the cold water cycle when possible.
- Use ceiling and portable fans to circulate air around your home. Fans allow residents to raise the thermostat and save energy while still cooling the home. Having a higher thermostat temperature will greatly reduce the operating cost.
- When using the air conditioner frequently, change the air filter monthly. Clogged air filters reduce the amount of air flow, and can cause compressor failure, which results in a large repair bill.
- Make sure to turn off lights when exiting a room. Ninety-nine percent of a light's energy is converted to heat, so leaving a light on can add a lot of heat to a room.

September is...

**National
Preparedness
Month**

"Preparing Makes Sense!"

**Get a Kit, Make a Plan,
Be Informed**

To learn more about how you and your family can prepare for emergencies or get involved visit: www.ready.gov or www.citizencorps.gov

Aldermen cont.

Why did you decide to become an alderman? I have always wanted to become an alderman, and since LaSalle has a lot going for the city right now, I thought now would be a great time to become a part of it. LaSalle's greatness comes from people getting involved, and I want to help out in any way possible.

What committees are you currently on? I am chairman of the streets, alleys, and traffic committee, and am a member of the finance, police and judiciary, fire and ESDA, economic development, public grounds and real estate, and the city improvements committees.



What do you feel are LaSalle's best attributes? I feel that one of LaSalle's best attributes is the development on the east side. Additionally, we have a very good mayor, and a city council that works together to do what is best for the city. We also have very dedicated employees in all of the departments.

What types of development would you like to see take place in LaSalle? I would like to see downtown improvements to beautify the outsides of buildings and to bring in small shops. I look forward to seeing the downtown grow and become a thriving business and tourism center.

What are some of the goals you want to accomplish during your term? I would really like help improve the downtown area so the citizens of LaSalle can be proud of how it looks. Getting programs in place where we can offer financial assistance through the Tax Increment Financing district is important in order to bring in business and to develop tourism.

What are the special skills/knowledge that you feel you bring to the council? I have dealt with people my whole life and consider myself to be a people person who can relate to the citizens of LaSalle. I am also a very good organizer, and a person who gets and stays involved in everything.

LaSalle Fest 2007!!

Enjoy exciting rides and great food from area vendors while listening to live music by local bands

LaSalle Fest Schedule

Thursday, August 16

- 5 p.m.–10 p.m. Carnival open
- 5 p.m.–7 p.m. Music by Mark and Rick
- 7 p.m.–10 p.m. Music by Schwill

Friday, August 17

- 5 p.m.–11 p.m. Carnival open
- 5 p.m.–7 p.m. Music by The Crowd
- 7 p.m.–10 p.m. Music by Armed & Hammered

Saturday, August 18

- noon–11 p.m. Carnival open
- 5 p.m.–7 p.m. Music by The Edge
- 7 p.m.–10 p.m. Music by Rock of Ages

Sunday, August 19

- noon–6 p.m. Carnival open
- noon–3 p.m. Live music by Crawdaddy
- 3 p.m.–6 p.m. Live music by Phil in the Blanks
- 10 a.m.–noon Bingo
- noon–4 p.m. Bike Show

Business Spotlight: Kelley Cawley Boutique



When Kelley Cawley Boutique was opened by Kelley Cawley in October of 2004, the shop revolutionized the shopping experience in the Illinois Valley. Residents and visitors of the Illinois Valley no longer had to travel to large cities in order to find the latest and most hip fashion and accessories. "I am from the area, and I love to see the Illinois Valley growing and new businesses coming in. In addition, I felt there was a need in the area for the products I offer," said Cawley.

the "must haves" of each season. The boutique carries products ranging from jeans, skirts, tops, shoes, handbags,



Kelley Cawley Boutique is located at 726 First Street in LaSalle's historic downtown area, and is an upscale women's apparel and accessory retailer offering a wide range of designers and products for those who are looking for

accessories and more.

Kelley Cawley boutique is proud to feature several brands by the hippest fashion designers, including 7 for all

Mankind, Juicy Couture, Junk Food, London Times, Purple 7, Tulle, Twisted Heart, AV Max, and Hobo. "The brands we carry are unique, specialty items not available in department stores and not available in our area prior to our arrival," said Cawley. Kelley Cawley Boutique carries designs from Kelley Cawley's personal accessory collection as well.

Kelley Cawley Boutique also carries several denim brands, including 1921, Citizen's of Humanity, Miss Me, Seven and James. The boutique carries only the hippest and best-fitting jeans, and their on-staff denim specialist is available to assist in finding the best fit for customers based on their body type.

Kelley Cawley Boutique is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Did you know?

- At one time, the grounds of the Hegeler Carus Mansion featured walking paths, a pond, flower gardens, a green house, gazebo, tennis courts, and a railroad trolley car.

- Between the years of 1900 and 1916, LaSalle's post office was located in Turner Hall at the northwest corner of Second and Gooding Streets. This building was later burned in 1920, and the only remaining part of the building is a doorway on Gooding Street.

Upcoming Community Events

July

“Pond and Pond” Second Sunday Series

—Sunday, July 8, 2007, 4 p.m. at the Hegeler Carus Mansion. Features a presentation by Terry Tatum from the School of Art Institute in Chicago about Pond and Pond, the architects who designed the Julius W. Hegeler Home. Call 815-224-8591 for more information.

Stories from the Arabian Nights

—Tuesday, July 10, 2007, 6:30 p.m. at LaSalle Library. Award winning author, Patricia Hruby Powell, performs stories from 9th to the 13th century Arabia, China, Egypt, India and Persia. Admission is free.

7 Wonders Tour

—Sunday, July 15, 2007, and Sunday, July 29, 2007, 9:45 a.m.–1 p.m. at Starved Rock Lodge. One lucky guest who follows along closely will win an overnight stay at the lodge. Includes a delicious, hot-lunch buffet. Admission is \$25.95 per person. Call 800-868-7625 ext. 386 for more information.

Under the Sea

—Thursday, July 19, 2007, 11 a.m.–1 p.m., at the LaSalle Veteran’s Memorial Pool. Includes water games, crafts, prizes and fun! Cost is \$1.25 per person. Sign up in advance at the pool.

The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber

—Friday, July 20, 2007, 5:45 p.m. at the Hegeler Carus Mansion. Local artist Derek Buckley directs. Call 815-224-8591 for more information.

Movie in the Park

—Saturday, July 28, 2007, dusk, at Hegeler Park in LaSalle. Gather the family and meet us in the park for a night of family fun! Walk through the fire safe house or engage in small activities before the movie begins at dusk. Charlotte’s Web will be playing. Admission is free.

Movies at the Mansion

—Saturday, July 28, 2007, 7 p.m. at the Hegeler Carus Mansion. Featuring the silent movie, “Greed,” directed by Erich Von Stroheim. Call 815-224-5891 for more information.

“Killer at the Copa” Murder Mystery Matinee

—Monday, July 30, 2007, 11 p.m.–2 p.m. at Starved Rock Lodge. One lucky guest who follows along closely will win an overnight stay at the lodge. Includes a delicious hot lunch buffet. Admission is \$25.95 per person. Call 800-868-7625 ext. 386 for more information.

August

BesPhoto Photo Workshop

—Friday, Aug. 4, 2007, at Starved Rock Lodge. Covers camera operation, photographic theory, and composition while hiking the trails. Includes one-on-one time to help learn camera operations. Cost is \$100 per person. Contact Mike Bessler at 630-667-5174 or by e-mail at Mike@BesPhoto.com.

Glaciers to Wildflowers

—Tuesday, Aug. 14, 2007, 6:30 p.m. at LaSalle Library. Lecturer Raymond Wiggers presents a talk on how the present-day land formations evolved after the glaciers melted. Admission is free.

Music at the Mansion

—Friday, Aug. 17, 2007, 7 p.m. at the Hegeler Carus Mansion. Call 815-224-5891 for more information.

LaSalle Fest

—Thursday, Aug. 16, 2007, 5 p.m.–10 p.m., Friday, Aug. 17, 2007, 5 p.m.–11 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 18, 2007, noon–11 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 19, 2007, noon–6 p.m. at Hegeler Park in LaSalle. Includes food from area vendors and live music by local bands.

“The Day the Music Died” Murder Mystery Matinee

—Monday, Aug. 20, 2007, 11 p.m.–2 p.m. at Starved Rock Lodge. Call 800-868-7625 ext. 386 for more information.

September

“What Do You Want on Your Tombstone” Murder Mystery Matinee

—Thursday, Sept. 6, 2007, 11 p.m.–2 p.m. at Starved Rock Lodge. Call 800-868-7625 ext. 386 for more information.

Genealogy Made Easy & Bring Your Ancestors Back to Life

—Saturday, Sept. 8, 2007, 6:30 p.m. at LaSalle Library. Through his presentation, “Bring your Ancestors Back to Life,” Mike Karsen will walk the audience through the process of preserving the memories of departed loved ones. Includes an introduction to genealogy and some basics to get started. Admission is free.

“The Mansion Rocks!” Second Sunday Series

—Sunday, Sept. 9, 2007, 4 p.m. at the Hegeler Carus Mansion. Joanne Kluessendorf will be the featured speaker.

Illinois Vintage Wine Festival

—Saturday, Sept. 15, 2007, 11 a.m.–6 p.m., and Sunday, Sept. 16, 2007, 12 p.m.–5 p.m. at Starved Rock State Park. Features 21 Illinois wines, food, and entertainment. For more information and to purchase advanced tickets call 800-868-7625 ext. 386.

“Dead Calm” Murder Mystery Matinee

—Monday, Sept. 17, 2007, 11 p.m.–2 p.m. at Starved Rock Lodge. Call 800-868-7625 ext. 386 for more information.

Reading the Landscape: The Illinois & Michigan Canal

—Tuesday, Sept. 18, 2007, 6:30 p.m. at LaSalle Library. Professor Dennis Cremin presents on the role of the I&M Canal in state and national history. Admission is free.

“Dead Men Tell No Tale” Murder Mystery Matinee

—Thursday, Sept. 20, 2007, 11 p.m.–2 p.m. at Starved Rock Lodge. Call 800-868-7625 ext. 386 for more information.

Elected City Council Officials

Mayor Art Washkowiak

Phone:(815) 223-3755

lasalle@lasalle-il.gov

1st Ward Aldermen

James “Diz” Demes (815) 224-3754

John Ptak (815) 223-7796

3rd Ward Aldermen

Steve Witek (815) 224-3864

Jeff Grove (815) 224-8660

2nd Ward Aldermen

George Green (815) 223-9005

Tom Ptak (815) 224-3491

4th Ward Aldermen

Garry Schroeder (815) 223-1549

Robert Ksiazkiewicz (815) 223-6274

City Council Highlights

April

- Annexed, rezoned, and passed annexation agreements for the Derango property and the Duncan Realty Trust property.
- Adopted an ordinance creating the Downtown TIF
- Passed a resolution requesting permission from IDOT to install a force main along U.S. Rte. 6
- Authorized an agreement with LaSalle-Peru High School District 120 related to the Waterpark TIF.
- Authorized an agreement with LaSalle-Peru High School District 120 related to the Industrial TIF.
- Authorized the acquisition of easements from Dale E. Turczyn and the Senica Group.
- Building inspector's report for total value of construction for March 2007: \$575,500.00
- Motor Fuel Tax allotment: \$23,414.08
- Sales tax revenue for January 2007: \$142,537.45

May

- Authorized the city to purchase work management software.
- Authorized the city clerk to begin a non-mandatory, non-fee based business registration program.
- Amended Ordinance 2080 regulating and prohibiting nuisances and abatement nuisances.
- Amended Ordinance 2081 regulating parking in the city of LaSalle.
- Building inspector's report for total value of construction for April 2007: \$227,892.00
- Motor Fuel Tax allotment: \$23,276.48.
- Sales tax revenue for February 2007: \$141,908.01.

June

- Entered into an intergovernmental agreement with LaSalle County for EMA hazmat trailer storage.
- Awarded the 2007 Street Project to Len Trovero Construction for \$2,554,592.00.
- Passed Ordinance 2082 authorizing a letter of agreement concerning acquisition of real estate.
- Passed the annual prevailing wage ordinance.
- Passed a resolution in support of a youth and community outreach center.
- Established salaries of non-union employees.
- Building inspector's report for total value of construction for May 2007: \$377,787.00.
- Motor Fuel Tax allotment: \$25,534.08.
- Sales tax revenue for March 2007: \$155,625.45.

Upcoming Community Meetings

July

- Monday, July 2, 2007, 7:00 p.m.
Regular Council Meeting (in chambers)
- Tuesday, July 10, 2007, 7:00 p.m.
Park Board (in chambers)
- Monday, July 16, 2007, 7:00 p.m.
Regular Council Meeting (in chambers)
- Wednesday, July 25, 2007, 7:00 p.m.
LaSalle Promotional Advisory Council (in chambers)
- Monday, July 30, 2007, 7:00 p.m.
Regular Council Meeting (in chambers)

August

- Monday, Aug. 13, 2007, 7:00 p.m.
Regular Council Meeting (in chambers)
- Tuesday, Aug. 14, 2007, 7:00 p.m.
Park Board (in chambers)
- Monday, Aug. 27, 2007, 7:00 p.m.
Regular Council Meeting (in chambers)
- Wednesday, Aug. 29, 2007, 6:00 p.m.
Library Board (held at Library)
- Wednesday, Aug. 29, 2007, 7:00 p.m.
LaSalle Promotional Advisory Council (in chambers)

September

- Monday, Sept. 10, 2007, 7:00 p.m.
Regular Council Meeting (in chambers)
- Tuesday, Sept. 11, 2007, 7:00 p.m.
Park Board (in chambers)
- Monday, Sept. 24, 2007, 7:00 p.m.
Regular Council Meeting (in chambers)
- Wednesday, Aug. 26, 2007, 6:00 p.m.
Library Board (held at Library)
- Wednesday, Aug. 26, 2007, 7:00 p.m.
LaSalle Promotional Advisory Council (in chambers)

Take Note

In order to promote safety and awareness, the city of LaSalle asks that all residents visibly display their address in a conspicuous place on the front of the home. Easy to read, Arabic, letters will allow the fire and police departments to better find your home in an emergency.



City Contacts

- City Clerk**
Virginia Kochanowski (815) 223-0077
v.kochanowski@lasalle-il.gov
- Treasurer**
Fran Baratta (815) 223-4720
f.baratta@lasalle-il.gov
- Comptroller**
Joanne Milby (815) 223-4586
j.milby@lasalle-il.gov
- City Engineer/Public Works Director**
Pam Broviak (815) 223-7041
p.broviak@lasalle-il.gov
- Superintendent of Public Works**
Sam McNeilly (815) 223-6344
s.mcneilly@lasalle-il.gov
- Building Inspector**
(Vacant) (815) 223-2980
c.arbisi@lasalle-il.
- Fire Chief**
Andy Bacidore (815) 223-0834
a.bacidore@lasalle-il.gov
- Chief of Police**
Rob Uranich (815) 223-2131
chief@lasalle-il.gov
- City Attorney**
Anthony Raccuglia/Jim McPhedran
Raccuglia & Associates
(815) 223-0230
raccugliaw@insightbb.com
- Park & Recreation**
Tara DeFosse (815) 223-5077

Development Incentives

Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Districts

Approximately 5060 acres of the City has been set aside in seven TIF Districts. In these areas, redevelopment agreements can be established to allow developers to recoup costs.

City Revolving Loan Fund

The City has funds which are available as a low interest loan for property acquisition and development by businesses meeting a given set of criteria.

Enterprise Zone

The City has established an enterprise zone to encourage development within the community. Businesses can realize sales tax and real estate tax benefits. The Illinois Valley Chamber of Commerce administers this program for the City.

Redevelopment Incentive Program (RIP)

The RIP is a grant program that provides financial assistance for permanent, exterior building and site improvements for commercial and business-related properties. Permanent improvements must be fixed to the real estate and cannot restrict any future use of the building. Examples include life safety and accessibility code requirements; repair/replacement of structural walls or windows; sidewalks; building facades

For more information, or for an application, please call the city at (815) 223-3755 or email your request to c.arbisi@lasalle-il.gov

New Residential Subdivisions

Country Aire Subdivision: This 31-lot subdivision lies ½ mile east of the Catholic War Veteran's building on St. Vincent Avenue. Please contact Jack or Carlene Ator at (815) 223-2301.

Vermilionvue Subdivision: This 39-lot development lies approximately ¼ mile south of the proposed Country Aire Subdivision. Those interested can contact Franklin Jasiak at (815) 223-8910.

Golfview Estates: Spec homes are still available in this subdivision which is located across from Oak Ridge Golf Course. Those interested can contact Wendy Fulmer at (815) 223-8202

For more information, or for an update on the progress of a subdivision, please contact the city at (815) 223-3755

City Offices

745 Second St.
LaSalle, IL 61301
Phone: (815) 223-3755
Fax: (815) 223-9508
www.lasalle-il.gov

Business Hours

Monday-Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

City Services

The following services are provided by the City of LaSalle:

- Branch Pickup
- Street Cleaning
- Roadway-Pothole Repair
- Dead Animal Removal
- Final Meter Read
- Water Shutoffs

For information, call (815) 223-6344 223-4579 for water-related problems.



The following services can be provided at city offices:

- Downtown Parking Lot Rentals
- Dog Tags

If you have any questions, comments, concerns, ideas, or would like to receive this newsletter through email, please send a message to stefanie_837@excite.com