

As summer winds down, I hope all had a safe and happy summer! Here in the Village, many different items have occurred in the past six months, which I would like to share with you.

The Village had an amazing day on June 20, 2024, which was what we called "Zip Code Day." This day, 6/20/24, coincided with the Village's zip code: 62024. The Board of Trustees, the Village Clerk, the Park and Recreation Department, as well as Public Works, the Fire Department, Police Department, the East Alton Ice Arena, Wieland Materials, and Rosewood Heights Fire Department all had a hand in preparing and contributing to this day. There was a bounce house for kids, "Touch A Truck", hot dogs, snow cones, entertainment by AKTHECHRISTIANRAPPER, and giveaways every half hour. This type of event is hard to estimate exactly how many people were there throughout the day, but we do know we served over 250 hot dogs and well over 400 snow cones. Everyone had a wonderful time even though the temperature was a hot one! This was a completely free event for our community!

Some new businesses which have popped up around town over the last six months or so: House of Art Barber Shop; Dorothy's Tea Room; Café Creations. All of these businesses are located in the Eastgate Plaza. Also, soon to open at Eastgate (September) will be Piasa Armory, who is relocating to the old movie theatre. Welcome to these new businesses, and any other which have opened recently or will be soon! We are extremely happy to have you join our community.

Some other new and exciting things which have been completed or are nearly completed for the future within the Village: The Airline Drive resurfacing project ended in late spring, and it is refreshing to drive down this road smoothly.

A big shoutout to East Alton District #13's new Superintendent Nancy Werden. Nancy comes to East Alton with around 30 years of educational experience and is settling into her new job with the district. We at the Village level are excited about this new hire and look forward to working with the school district.

Finally, let's all root for East Alton's own Jayden Ulrich and her quest to be an Olympic Champion! Jayden was selected to be part of the USA Track & Field Team for discus. The Village is proud of Jayden and we all wish her luck! Congratulations!

I want to wish everyone a safe and happy back to school, as well as safe and happy holidays to all!

Sincerely,

Mayor Darren Carlton