

# APRIL 2020

VILLAGE HALL: 228-7262 (8-4 M-F)  
MAINTENANCE SHED: 228-7361  
POLICE: EMERGENCY: 9-1-1  
Non-Emergency: 594-4555 (Clinton County  
Sheriffs Dispatch) – quickest way to reach a police  
officer

## LOST AND FOUND (identify & claim at Village Hall)

- Chevrolet FOB found on Rocky Ford Rd (short  
blue lanyard)
- Mizuno baseball glove

## POLICE CHIEF VACANCY

The Police Chief vacancy, advertised in the March  
Newsletter, is still open and we are accepting  
applications through April 17, 2020, 4 p.m.

## COVID-19

The Village Hall is currently closed to the public  
until further notice due to COVID-19 concerns.  
Use the drop box located north of the front door if  
you have something to drop off. It is recommended  
to everyone to practice social distancing.

## **The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus.**

The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-  
to-person.

- Between people who are in close contact with  
one another (within about 6 feet).
- Through respiratory droplets produced when an  
infected person coughs or sneezes.
- These droplets can land in the mouths or noses  
of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled  
into the lungs.
- **Avoid close contact** with people who are sick
- Put **distance between yourself and  
other people**. This is especially important  
for **people who are at higher risk of getting  
very sick**
- **Wash your hands** often with soap and water for  
at least 20 seconds especially after you have  
been in a public place, or after blowing your  
nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, **use a  
hand sanitizer that contains at least 60%**

**alcohol**. Cover all surfaces of your hands and  
rub them together until they feel dry.

- **Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and  
mouth** with unwashed hands.

## LARGE TRASH PICKUP

Town-wide large trash pick-up has been delayed at  
this time due to COVID-19. We will let you know  
when a new date is scheduled.

If you have a large trash item that needs to get  
picked up and it's not during a large trash pick-up  
time, you may call Republic Services, personally,  
and request/schedule the pickup. The number to  
call is: (618) 656-6883, Option 3, and Option 3  
again. You may also reach them at:

[www.republicservices.com](http://www.republicservices.com) and schedule/request a  
large trash pick-up.

We know that a lot of the residents are doing extra  
spring cleaning due to the COVID-19 situation. A  
dumpster is located at the City Shed that is picked  
up (emptied) three (3) times a week. A full  
dumpster means "come back and try again." If  
materials are dumped alongside or overfill the  
container... that's not good -illegal as a matter of  
fact- so please don't do that. If the lid does not  
close, it is too full! There are cameras fixed on the  
dumpsters and abusers will be identified and invited  
to come get their treasures and pay a fine (starting at  
\$100).

## GRASS CUTTING/YARD WASTE/DUMP

It's grass cutting time! Please do not blow your  
clippings into the street as it clogs up the sewer  
systems and if it rains, it gets very slick on the roads  
for cycles. Please cut the grass and blow it back  
into your own yards.

Please do not leave trash, limbs, and other debris  
piling up on your property.

You can bring yard waste (leaves, grass, bushes,  
plants) out to the dump east of the park. **DO NOT**  
put leaves and grass on the burn pile! They go east  
of the burn pile. There are signs posted where  
everything is to be put.

### **PHONE NUMBERS/CONTACT INFO**

We have been trying to update everyone's phone numbers in our water billing system and have found that there are still old phone numbers listed. We tried making calls for a Public Hearing recently and there were several residences with outdated information. Please call us to confirm your numbers and/or email information.

### **WATER BILLS ----- REMINDER**

Payments on **water bills are due by the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month**. If your bills aren't paid by that date, a late fee will be assessed.

If you drop off your water bills (drop box) you do not need an envelope if you're paying by check – we will match up the stub and check. If paying by cash, please put it in an envelope.

We are no longer making phone calls to residents to remind them of past due invoices. Letters will still be sent stating the cutoff/shutoff dates. To ensure that you do not get shut off, please submit your payment on time.

**DO NOT TURN YOUR WATER ON YOURSELF, YOU WILL BE SUBJECT TO FINES.** A Village worker will be back to turn it on after the reconnect fee has been paid.

### **WALKING/DOG WALKING**

The weather is getting nicer --- and more folks are out walking. Please be observant and keep an eye out for them. For the walkers that walk at night --- please get a reflective vest so drivers can see you! Also --- please walk on the correct side of the road (facing traffic). Please use the sidewalks where available.

For those of you who walk your dogs, please take along a plastic bag and clean up. There are many residents that have complained about feces in their yards and it's not from their dog (and sometimes/most times they don't even have one). **PLEASE CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR PET!**

### **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Mark Taylor, Aviston's Chief of Police has retired after 20 years, effective April 3, 2020. If you see him, tell him 'Congratulations!' Thank you, Mark, for your service! Kyle Markus is interim Chief.

Due to the nicer weather, it has been noticed that there are more people using their ATV's/UTV's/4-wheelers/ORV's (no matter what size). Remember: you must be **18** to drive an ORV on Village streets. Also, these vehicles are not to be driven on sidewalks. You must also have a permit.

### **ORV STICKERS**

If you have a sticker which you purchased last year, you are still legal through December 31, 2020. If you recently purchased an ORV, you will need a sticker to legally drive it on village streets. Cost is \$35 per permit and good through the end of the year. Renewals will be required effective 1/1/21.

### **AVISTON PARK**

The Aviston Park has closed some of its facilities (pavilions, bathrooms and playgrounds) due to the COVID-19 outbreak. What is NOT CLOSED is the walking path. With nice days coming, please keep in mind when walking and please keep your distance! The Park also asks that when walking your pets to start your walk in a counter-clockwise direction when starting on First Street to Schumacher Road. Hopefully, this will keep pets from visiting to maintain the social distancing requirement. There will be signs for the closure and directional walking along the path soon. As always, stay safe and keep your Park clean. Thank You!

### **CENSUS 2020**

The 2020 Census is now underway. Notifications have been sent to households throughout the state and country. Census Day was on Wednesday, April 1. It is the day that everyone should use as the reference when filling out the Census. Where a resident life on April 1 is the basis for how they should fill out their 2020 Census.

If you have not already, it is encouraged for all residents to fill out their 2020 Census form. That can be done online, via phone or via mail. More information is available in the information you received from the Census Bureau.

[More information about responding to the census is available at 2020Census.gov.](https://www.census.gov)

If you have a PO Box, you will not receive a Census form, so you HAVE TO go on-line to fill out the paperwork.

Federal funding determined by the 2020 Census will support Head Start programs, nutrition services, Medicaid, and other services for children and families. Since the census is conducted only every 10 years, missing one child means missing out on federal funding for that child for the next 10 years!

**YOU'RE HERE! YOU COUNT! YOU MATTER!**

### **AVISTON AMERICAN LEGION**

The Queen of Hearts raffle is postponed indefinitely due to COVID-19. Pot is over \$20, XXX.

**EASTER EGG HUNT: Sunday, April 12th** has been **cancelled** due to COVID-19.

### **FISH FRY**

Aviston Legion Fish Fry has been **cancelled** indefinitely due to COVID-19.

### **ST. FRANCIS CHURCH**

**"Journey of Blessings"**

**St. Francis "Journey of Blessings" Mission**

Difficult roads often lead to beautiful destinations. Due to COVID-19, the St. Francis "Journey of Blessings" Mission has been postponed. We will announce the rescheduled dates as soon as they are determined. Until then stay safe!

### **BOY SCOUT NEWS**

Boy Scout can recycling will be May 2nd.

### **CHRIST the VINE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

We at Christ the Vine Lutheran Mission continue to pray for the residents of Aviston, Illinois, and the world as we shelter in place during the COVID-19 pandemic. May the Lord be your refuge and strength during these difficult times.

*He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High  
will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.*

*I will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress,  
my God, in whom I trust." (Psalm 91:1-2)*

### **AVISTON COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CLUB**

ACIC Upcoming Events:

- Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup> – City-wide Garage Sale. To participate, please email [avistongaragesale@gmail.com](mailto:avistongaragesale@gmail.com) by May 9<sup>th</sup>. Please give a brief description of items you will be selling.

- Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup> – Aviston Block Party. Mark your calendars! Bringing back Pedal for Parkinson's, Tee-Ball, and much more!

### **AVISTON ELEMENTARY PTA**

With Our Thanks

The Leap into Technology Auction was held February 29th to benefit the Aviston Elementary Technology Fund, and it was a great success!

Thanks to all our donors, big and small; thanks to parents for sending in money for class baskets; and thanks to the students of Aviston Elementary for making decorations and class baskets for the event. Special thanks to the community for coming out to support us; and the biggest thanks of all go to the auction committee members, who worked on event planning for a year to make it such a success!

Please view our thank you video at:

<https://avistonk-8.org/technologyauction2020>

### **OKTOBERFEST CELEBRATION**

Here is your monthly reminder about the upcoming Oktoberfest in downtown Aviston. Event to be held October 17, 2020 at the City Center, better known as Vintage Hall. When traveling in Germany, most towns have a City Center where local shops, banks, restaurants and city government buildings would be located. Atop the tallest building would typically be the town clock. Aviston is very similar in that aspect with businesses located downtown and a bell tower on top of Vintage Hall.

Hoping everyone is practicing social distancing at this time and will be ready for a German celebration this fall! Get your Oktoberfest t-shirts by contacting Connie Robben at 618-971-5511 or getting them from the Village Hall. More information to follow in next month's newsletter.

### **MEALS ON WHEELS DRIVERS WANTED**

The Western Clinton County Senior Services Center, located in Trenton, is looking for drivers to deliver Meals on Wheels (MOW) one day a month in the Aviston area. Some of our drivers have asked to be replaced. We currently have 7 residents who receive MOW. It's just one day a month and takes about an hour. If you would like to volunteer for this much needed program, please contact Barb Haselhorst, 618-806-2948.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### APRIL

**12 – HAPPY EASTER!**

25 – Water Bills Due

27 – Park District Meeting

28 – Zoning Board Meeting

### MAY

1 – Summer Help application deadline

2 – Boy Scout Can Recycling

4 – Village Board Meeting

16 – City-wide Garage Sale

18 – Park District Meeting

25 – Water Bills Due

25 – Memorial Day

26 – Zoning Board Meeting

# STAY SAFE!!!

