

OUR TOWN



City Administrator's Message

As we are moving quickly into 2015, your city employees have been working hard to ensure that city services are continually and consistently being provided. The Library and HART Center have collaborated to bring a monthly 'Women's Night Out' program to our city. In January, the program explored the culture of the Middle East. There was food, literature, music, and dancing. Everyone present had a great time and are looking forward to February's program, a Valentine's Day party with guest speaker local author Melody Anne Null. The Public Works crew has been working with contractors to complete a storm water project. They have also been working on building maintenance, park maintenance, and training, in addition to their daily work tasks.

The management team has also been busy this past month with generating the city's draft strategic plan. This document outlines the mission, vision, values and long-term goals of the city. It has short-term objectives and actions which work towards the long-term goals, vision and ultimately mission of the city. Strategic Planning is important to the success of the city, because it gives the Mayor, City Council, and staff the opportunity to evaluate where we are, look ahead to where we want to be, and then make the right decisions to get there. Abraham Lincoln said, "If we could first know where we are, and whither we are tending, we could better judge what to do, and how to do it." The draft plan is available for public review and will be presented to the Mayor and City Council at their February 11, 2015 meeting.

Brian Latta

A handwritten signature of Brian Latta in cursive.

Join the HART Board

The HART Family Resource Center is actively seeking members to join their board of directors. Board members should be creative, committed, and community-minded. HART is a community connector that provides or connects our citizens with much needed resources, activities, classes, financial assistance, education, and programs.

Please consider joining the HART Board and making a big difference in the lives of your friends, neighbors, and community! Contact Edie Moro 541-995-7700 for more information. HART Center is located at 354 Smith Street.

Notice Library Hours Changing!

The Harrisburg Public Library will have new hours on February 16th. The biggest change is the Library will be open on Saturdays!

The new hours are:

Mon.—12:30 to 8:00 pm

Tues.—12:30 to 5:00 pm

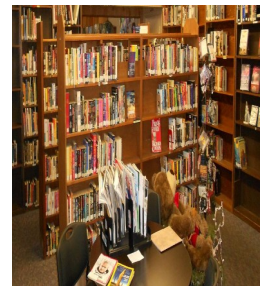
Wed.—12:30 to 5:00 pm

Thurs.—12:30 to 5:00 pm

Fri.—10:00 to 4:30 pm

Sat.—10:00 to 2:30 pm

Contact the Library at 541-995-6949



OUR TOWN (CONTINUED)

Urban Renewal, What's That?

The City of Harrisburg has an urban renewal district administered by the Harrisburg Redevelopment Agency (HRA). Urban renewal is a public financing tool. Using a mechanism called Tax Increment Financing (or TIF), urban renewal directs property taxes on growth in assessed value within an established urban renewal area toward projects that will improve conditions in that area. The extra growth is what funds urban renewal projects, and ultimately provides additional tax revenues to the city as a whole. Urban renewal does not increase your property taxes.

Through direct investment, urban renewal helps change an underdeveloped or underperforming portion of a city into a valuable and productive contributor to the local economy. This will help a city in multiple ways. A more vibrant area will draw business, create jobs, attract new residents, and stimulate the local economy. Increased property values will boost local tax rolls after the urban renewal area expires. Improvements to local infrastructure, such as transportation improvements, will make the community safer and will streamline traffic flow to and from the area.

The HRA is currently in the process of amending its Plan to add projects, increase financing, and expand the area slightly. The projects being added to the plan include the reconstruction of our downtown streets including Smith, Moore, Macy and 2nd Streets, providing building façade grants to commercial property owners in the downtown, and land acquisition for the eventual construction of a new library and community center in the downtown.

If you have any questions about Urban Renewal, please contact Brian Latta at 541-995-6655.

Job Opening

The City is hiring on-call library assistants. This position fills in when regular staff are not able to be at the library when it is open. There is not a set schedule, and you choose whether or not to accept a shift assignment when one becomes available.

Applicants should have strong customer service skills, basic computer skills, and experience working in a library is desirable. This is an open position and the first review of applications will be on February 14, 2015. Applications must be turned into City Hall by February 13, 2015. You may also submit your application by email to Michele Eldridge at mel-dridge@ci.harrisburg.or.us. For questions, please contact City Hall at 541-995-6655.

Come join a great team at the City of Harrisburg!

High School Bottle Drives

The Class of 2015 will be holding bottle drives on Saturday, February 7th and Saturday, March 14th to raise funds for their Graduation Celebration. Drop off site is located on the N end of JB Woodworks on Moore St or bottles can be left on curb in front of your home and will be picked up by 11am. If you have any questions, please contact Kim Nousen at (541) 246-4876. **Go Eagles!**



Contacting Law Enforcement

The City of Harrisburg contracts with Linn County Sheriff's Office for law enforcement services. It is a full service contract, including criminal investigation, traffic, municipal enforcement, and animal control. To contact law enforcement please use the numbers below:

24-hour Emergency: 9-1-1

24-hour Non-emergency: 1-800-884-3911

Local Substation: 541-995-9483

