

THE Q TIMES

A NEWSLETTER
FROM MAYOR MIKE TROUP

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Welcome back to the Q Times. Our office has been very busy over the last couple of months. Quincy continues to be strong with activity, as many well-loved events have returned after being postponed last year. There are a lot of exciting ways to get involved in the growth and energy Quincy is offering.

Although Covid is still present in our area, we are seeing a decline in the positivity rate and a reduced numbers of Covid patients hospitalized. As we approach the fall/winter season, we encourage you to continue good health habits. Wash your hands often, and if you feel sick, please stay home.

Needless to say your City officials have been busy, and these past few months have brought about some exciting events:

- The Grand Prix of Karting races in June
- Cape Air's contract was applied to renew for another 4 years out at Quincy Regional Airport
- The Land Bank was approved by Quincy & Adams County
- Quincy Riverfront Development Foundation was established & has made some great headway already
- Little People's Golf Championship was held in Quincy
- Q-Fest returned downtown
- Freedom Fest packed the riverfront
- Bernie Vahlkamp was selected as the new Fire Chief in Quincy
- Investors purchased the Illinois State Bank Building with plans to renovate into a boutique hotel & restaurant.
- A new pot hole truck has arrived and been at work to repair many of the city's streets.
- The Maine Street project was completed & reopened!
- A Tesla charger was installed at the Convention & Visitor's Bureau.
- Drakewood subdivision is expanding to add more than a dozen homes.

I am pleased with the impact that my administration is making in Quincy. Currently, our staff is working on cost savings to the City's group health benefits, and we are doing this with no reduction of benefits to our employees. HR, headed by Carrie Potter, is working with our Department Heads to provide uniform and consistent policies for our employees.

With City Council approval, we expanded our crew at Central Services, and we continue to work to repair streets, sidewalks, alleys, tree trimming, street sweeping, and nuisance clean up. Utilities and Engineering are overseeing renovations to the Water Treatment operation, and major streets, water, and sewer repairs, along with many other upgrades throughout the City.



Mayor Mike Troup



GET IN TOUCH

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ANNIVERSARIES

- CHRIS MUELLER: QPD- 15 YRS
- TIM ROST: FORESTRY- 10 YRS
- CARLEE SCHARNHORST:
ENGINEERING- 5 YRS
- JOHN SCHAFFER: CENTRAL
SERVICES- 5 YRS

IN THIS ISSUE

MESSAGE FROM MAYOR
TROUP P.1

QUINCY'S CALLING CAMPAIGN &
EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT P.2

HISTORY CORNER & PUBLIC
SAFETY PENSION FUNDS P.3

WATER DEPT. BILLING,
BREAST CANCER AWARENESS,
& FALL EVENTS P.4





CITY OF QUINCY & GREDF LAUNCH “QUINCY’S CALLING” CAMPAIGN TO BUILD LOCAL WORKFORCE

On September 8th the City of Quincy, in partnership with GREDF, launched a multi-year resident and workforce recruitment campaign that is aimed at attracting talent to help fill the area’s open jobs. The campaign will highlight the great aspects and benefits of living in our city as well as the 700-plus open positions in our community.

A goal of the program is to increase the city’s population through talent attraction and workforce recruitment. The city can aid in that effort by providing a financial incentive to individuals or families who choose to move from outside of Adams County to the City of Quincy and work within Adams County. The city has already received numerous phone calls from people across the nation, not just Illinois, inquiring about the program. According to GREDF, they have received over 250 email responses since the start of the campaign.



As part of the campaign, we are asking Quincyans and Adams County residents to participate in the effort. We’re offering a \$250 gift card to local Quincy restaurants to those who provide names of non-Adams County residents who ultimately relocate to Quincy. You can refer a friend or relative by visiting the website link below. In just a few minutes, you could be a part of helping create growth and success here in our community.

Get all the details at QuincysCalling.com. Got questions? Contact the Mayor's office at 217.228.4545.



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT: CHUCK BEVELHEIMER PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR



How long have you been with the city? 25 years.



What is the weirdest job you've ever had? Out of college I worked on a potato farm in Montana.



What at the top of your bucket list? Renovating my 1972 Toyota Land Cruiser.



Where is your favorite place to be? Beach on Lake Michigan- water temp 80 degrees.



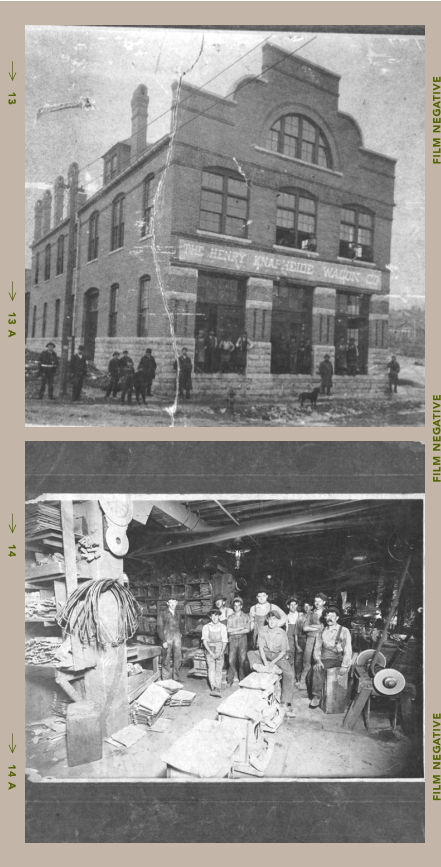
Favorite place to eat & thing on their menu? Tiramisu's chicken tortellini in red sauce & a glass of Chianti.

What do you love about working for the City?
I enjoy being involved with policy & growth decisions that impact the city, county & region.

Personal Mantra:
Work Hard. Play Hard.



HISTORY CORNER



The city of Quincy is honoring our manufacturing business and workers by recognizing October 2021 as Manufacturing month. Every day America's manufacturers are making a difference in our lives. Historically, manufacturing has represented the largest single sector in the Illinois economy contributing more than \$108 billion in economic output annually.

Quincy is no exception. We have many great manufacturing companies right here in our community. The manufacturing industry is growing at a rapid speed as it continues to invent and deploy technologies of the future thus providing a variety of career opportunities to anyone wishing to be an integral part of what's to come. In fact, by 2028 it is estimated that the U.S. will need to fill 4.6 million manufacturing jobs.

Manufacturing is a deep part Quincy's history, and this month we want to support and thank the many people who help to continue the growth and innovation here in Quincy.

Top: The Henry Knapheide Wagon Co. on the NW corner of 6th & State Streets.
Bottom: Early foundry believed to be Comstock Stove Co. at Front and Washington Streets.
 Images Courtesy of Quincy Public Library.

PUBLIC SAFETY PENSION FUNDS & STATEWIDE CONSOLIDATION



In December 2019, the Illinois legislature voted to consolidate all 649 suburban and downstate police and firefighters pension funds – previously established under Articles 3 and 4, respectively, of the Illinois Pension Code – into two new statewide funds: one for police officers (Article 3) and one for firefighters (Article 4), to improve investment returns, eliminate unnecessary and redundant administrative costs, ensure more money is available to fund pension benefits and reduce the burden on local taxpayers. (IML Fact Sheet, iml.org).

However, given the strong performance of the Quincy Firefighters Pension Fund and the Quincy Police Pension Fund in recent years, City Treasurer Linda Moore is skeptical that local taxpayers will benefit from the consolidation, at least in the near term. “The average return for the Firefighters Pension Fund for the last 5 years was 11.59%. The Police Pension has returned an average of 10.15%. Our investment costs have been .24-.26% annually per fund. While it would be great for the consolidated funds to match our recent returns, I think that’s unlikely to happen.”

The Quincy Firefighters Pension Fund will be consolidated into the Illinois Firefighters Pension Investment Fund on November 1, 2021. No date has been set for the consolidation of the Quincy Police Pension Fund into the Illinois Police Officers’ Pension Investment Fund but the indication is that it will be in the first quarter of 2022. Final assumptions have not been released for either fund, but Moore anticipates annual returns between 6 and 8% and annual costs between .40-.50% initially for each fund. “That means initial costs will be double and initial returns will be about half of what we are seeing now. I don’t see how that will benefit us in the short-term. We can only hope costs will decrease in the longer term and over time, the returns will increase,” says Moore.

VALUES OF QUINCY PENSION FUNDS AS OF MAY 1, 2021



	Quincy Firefighters Pension Fund	Quincy Police Pension Fund
Funded Ratio	46%	50%
Current Market Value	\$44,496,033	\$48,685,591
Unfunded Liability	\$46,523,406	\$42,858,041



FALL EVENTS

Click event for more info.

OCTOBER -

- [Ghost Tours](#) | Woodland Cemetery | Visit hsqac.org for tour dates & info.
- [Quincy Farmer's Market](#) in Washington Park | Saturdays 8a-1p | Through October
- [Junie B Jones is not a Crook](#) | Quincy Community Theatre | Oct. 1-3 & 8-10
- 10/2 - 25th Annual Folk Life Festival** | 12-5p @ Quincy Museum
- [Civil War Symposium III](#) | Oct. 8-9 | Kroc Center
- [Early Tin Dusters Car Show](#) | Oct. 15-17 | Wavering/Moorman Park

NOVEMBER -

- [The Wizard of Oz](#) | Nov. 10-14 | Quincy Senior High School
- [Craft & Christmas Market](#) | Nov. 12-14 | Oakley Lindsay Center
- [Quincy Service League Holiday Show](#) | Nov. 20-21 | Oakley Lindsay Center
- 11/20 - 20th Century Gems** Quincy Symphony Orchestra | 7:30p @ QJHS
- [Festival of Lights](#) | Nov. 26- Jan. 1st | 5-9p @ Moorman Park

DECEMBER -

- 12/1 - Special Pops Christmas Dinner/Dance** | 6-9p @ Holiday Inn
- 12/4 - Joyful & Triumphant** Quincy Symphony Orchestra | 3p @ QJHS
- 12/10 - Christmas Candlelight Tours** | 5-7p @ John Wood Mansion
- 12/18 - Dueling Pianos Dinner & Show** | 6:30p @ Oakley Lindsay Center



DID YOU KNOW??????



Did you know you can receive your water bill through email?

Many customers have decided to have their water bill emailed to them because they don't feel the postal system is as reliable as it once was. So, they create an online account through the city website and set up their account for automatic payment with a credit card or echeck.

You can set up your account online and manage your utility bill through the city website, too! Instructions are below, or you can go to the city website, www.quincyl.gov, under the ENGAGE tab.

Other ways to pay.....

If you'd like to pay through a bank draft, you'll need to bring a voided check to the water department. Our water clerks can then help you set up an automatic payment to be deducted from your bank account on the due date each month. Or, if you choose, you can drop your payment in one of the drop boxes at the drive thru window or the upper parking lot. You can also pay in person or mail in a check each month.

For additional assistance you can visit the water department located in City Hall, use the drive through behind City Hall, or call 217.228.4580



OCTOBER IS BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

- This year 268,600 new cases of invasive breast cancer will be diagnosed in women and 2,600 in men.
- More than 42,260 will die from the disease this year.
- 1 in 8 women who live to be age 70 will develop breast cancer in her lifetime.
- Breast cancer accounts for about 30% of cancers in women.
- About 85% of diagnoses occur in women with no family history of breast cancer.

But there's good news...

- If diagnosed early and treated before it spreads, five-year survival rate for breast cancer is 99%.
- Physically active women are 25% less likely to develop breast cancer.
- More than 2.8 million people living in the U.S. are breast cancer survivors.

FOR MORE EVENTS, VISIT THESE LINKS:

*Please note that due to the number, not all events are not able to be listed.

- [Arts Quincy Community Calendar of Events](#)
- [Quincy Area Convention & Visitors Bureau Community Calendar](#)

