

# The City of Lanark, Illinois



## Summer 2014 Newsletter

May 28, 2014

### Added City Hall Office Hours

In an effort to be more available, transparent, and accessible, Mayor John Huggins and Treasurer Carol Kruzek now have set office hours. The Treasurer is in City Hall on Tuesdays from noon to 4:00 pm. The Mayor is in City Hall on Wednesdays from 8:30 am to noon. The City/Utilities Clerk Jackie Hawbecker will continue to open City Hall on Mondays and Thursdays 9:00-12:30 & 1:30-5:00.

### Living Lanark: United for Change

In March and April, over 35 people from Lanark and the surrounding area came together in an effort to make Lanark a better place to live by participating in a community MAPPING for the Future program. The program was facilitated by Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs and Western Illinois University.



MAPPING is a strategic visioning and planning process for rural communities to create a long-range vision for the economic development of their community and a plan of action for achieving it.

The following subtitles are some of the projects already in progress. There are many more goals identified that the Living Lanark committee will be working on in the next several years.

This August, the Living Lanark committee will be hosting a Town Hall Meeting at Eastland High School to discuss the accomplishments and future plans and projects to the community. We hope you will join us in keeping the momentum going to make this city an even better place to live.

In the meantime, if you would like to get involved with one of the Living Lanark committees, please contact Mayor Huggins at [jhuggins@lanarkil.com](mailto:jhuggins@lanarkil.com) or (815)541-0557.

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#### Important Phone Numbers

City Hall  
(815)493-2431  
Office Hours: Monday & Thursday 9am-5pm  
(closed 12:30-1:30)  
Tuesday Noon-4:00  
Wednesday 8:30-Noon  
Council Meetings: First & third Tuesday of the month

Fire/Police Emergency  
911

Police Non-Emergency  
(815)493-6931

Fire Non-Emergency  
(815)493-2341

Maintenance  
(815)493-6832

Find more info on the web at [www.lanarkil.com](http://www.lanarkil.com)

# Living Lanark: Projects

## Night of Possibilities:



Saturday, May 17 the Living Lanark committee held a community event in downtown Lanark called "Night of Possibility."

People from Lanark, Lake Carroll, and other nearby communities brought the streets of Lanark to life. Over 200 men, women, and children came out to enjoy the festivities.

Some of the activities were touring empty historic buildings, visiting local shops, viewing children's artwork that decorated the walls of the downtown businesses, buying plants for the farmers market, eating from Lanark's restaurants and caterers, wine tasting, and more.

Some of the goals the committee had for the event were to get to know our local businesses and what they have to offer, to get people thinking of possibilities for the vacant lot and empty buildings, provide a fun evening for people of all ages, and bring about a real sense of "community" throughout the town.

Visitors and participating

business owners alike thought the night was a big success. The committee is working on the next event which will take place later this summer.

## Downtown Beautification:

You may have noticed a couple of improvements downtown Lanark. Another Living Lanark committee has found some old banners stored away and have hung them back up.



The committee also collected donations for hanging baskets for the light posts. The committee and the City would like to thank Connie Stern and Cathy Sweitzer for filling the flower planters downtown.

Watch for more improvements to come.

## Farmers Market:



One of the goals recognized by the Living Lanark committee was to reenergize and rejuvenate the farmers market. There are now 10 people call the Cornucopia Committee of Lanark (CCL) working to bring new vendors,

provide entertainment such as live music and demonstrations, have a food truck available, and more.

Another idea the CCL is looking into is a community table at the market. If you have extras from your garden but you do not want to sit at the market yourself to sell the excess, you can drop it off at the community table. The CCL members will sell the items and give you back the proceeds, or you can just donate the sales to the market.

On May 13, the CCL hosted a fundraiser event called "Divide and Conquer Plant Swap and Sale." People brought hundreds of hostas, lilies, other perennials, seeds, gardening books, and more to sell or swap. The Eastland FFA was also there to sell leftover plants from their greenhouse. Another swap will be held this fall.

If you are interested in being a vendor, providing entertainment, or just want more information, please call Sheila at (815)493-2776.

The farmers market will run June 10 - October 28 on Tuesdays from 4pm-7pm in the city park.

## Community Foundation:

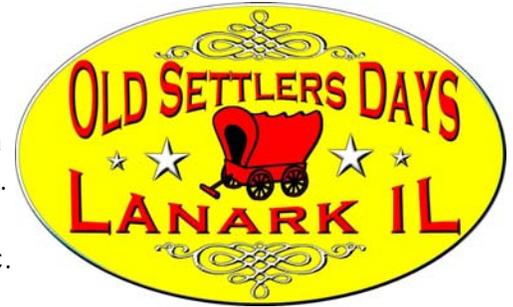
A foundation board has been assembled. The board is looking into the best way to start and manage a community foundation for Lanark.

## Upcoming Event: Old Settlers Days – June 26-29

Mark your calendar! This year's event is shaping up to be a great weekend again with tons of food, entertainment, and fun for the whole family.

Thursday's highlights include an ice cream social, bed races, bicycle parade and rodeo, and the carnival rides begin. On Friday the craft fair begins plus the Raging Road Rally, outdoor movie night for the kids, and live

music in the beer tent. On Saturday don't miss the parade, Cotta sign unveiling, bags and horseshoe tournaments, bingo, a magic show, the Alumni Clash vs. Milledgeville, City volunteers recognition, and more live music. And last, but certainly not least, Sunday is packed with Church Under the Tent, Pork Chop Dinner, Car show, and antique tractor show and tractor pull.



See full details at  
[LANARKIL.COM/OSD](http://LANARKIL.COM/OSD)

## 4 Wheel Drive Invented in Lanark



Did you know that the first 4 wheel drive vehicle was invented right here in Lanark?

Charles Cotta, who grew up in "Nursery Illinois" (near the intersection of Rt. 64 and the Shannon Route east of Lanark) held the first

patent for a 4 wheel drive automobile, built the Cotta Mobile in Weeds Machine Shop (which stood in the 500 block of S. Broad St.) in Lanark in 1901. The automobile was the first 4 wheel drive, 4 wheel steering, and steam power vehicle.

The Lanark Sesquicentennial Book Committee has commissioned the Illinois State Historical Society to create a historical marker to be erected at the approximate location that Weeds Machine Shop stood. There will be a dedication ceremony held on June 28 following the Old Settlers Days parade.

For more information on Charles Cotta and the Cotta Mobile please visit the Lanark Public Library. They have a lot of information gathered by the Sesquicentennial Book Committee. You can also find information in the Lanark Sesquicentennial Book which is on sale at the Library.

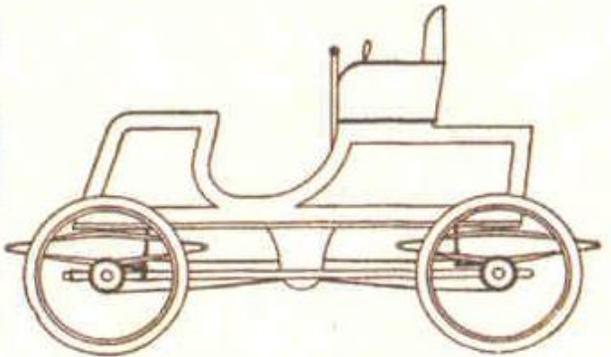
**Cotta Four Wheel Drive  
STEAM TOURING CAR**

No road too slippery, muddy, sandy nor icy. Will travel anywhere, no matter what condition the weather or road. Boiler under hood in front, engine under footboard. All four wheels drive, yes, and guide too; no slipping of wheels when you "Auto go."

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**Cotta Automobile Co.,** ROCKFORD ILL.



## City Information You Should Know

**Water/Sewer Rates:** Our water and sewer infrastructure is getting old and needing constant attention. Water mains are breaking. Sewer mains crack and get penetrated by tree roots. Our sewage treatment plant has outlived its life expectancy already and needs updating. The water tower needs painted. A lift station needs upgrading. Water looping needs to be performed. ...just to name a few projects needed. And, costs are not going down. We do not have nearly enough money to tackle all of these projects. Even taking care of a few a year, we still need more revenue. The council has voted to increase the water and sewer rates by 15% effective September 1, 2014.

**Water/Sewer Payments:** Customers that pay their water/sewer/garbage bill by online bill payment service should put their account number on their payment. Account number appears on each stub as 1, 2 or 3 digits. For those paying via mail, drop box or in person, please include appropriate stub(s) for payment.

**Building Permits:** Are you planning any exterior remodeling, building an addition or deck, building a fence, etc.? You can check to see if you need a building permit by visiting the online code book. Go to the city's website at [lanarkil.com/government](http://lanarkil.com/government) and click on "view code book." You can also call the zoning officer, which is the Chief of Police Matt Magil, at 815-493-6931. If you do need a permit, Matt is the person to get one from.

**Cleanup of Branches:** Do to the excesses time it takes the city maintenance crew to chip sticks and branches, they will no longer pick up sticks smaller than 1 1/2 inches in diameter. They will no longer chip limbs and branches from trees cut down on private property for free. The City will now charge a fee and an appointment must be set. If you have small sticks to get rid of, try asking a neighbor if you can put them in their yard waste tote.

**Barking Dogs:** The City is getting an increased number of nuisance calls regarding barking dogs with the nicer weather. The code book reads: It shall be unlawful to own, keep or harbor any animal within the corporate limits that creates frequent or habitual annoyance and disturbance so as to disturb the peace of other individuals in a neighborhood by prolonged loud barking in an excessive and continuous manner. Owners could face fines of \$50-\$100.

**Duty to Cut Grass:** Property owners must not let grass or weeds grow to a height over 6 inches. If you receive a warning and still do not mow, the City will have their contractor mow it and you will be billed.

## City Officials

**Mayor:**

John Huggins, 541-0557  
[jhuggins@lanarkil.com](mailto:jhuggins@lanarkil.com)

**City Clerk:**

Jackie Hawbecker, 493-2431  
[cityclerk@lanarkil.com](mailto:cityclerk@lanarkil.com)

**Treasurer:**

Carol Kruzek, 493-2431  
[treasurer@lanarkil.com](mailto:treasurer@lanarkil.com)

**Aldermen, Ward I:**

Ken Weaver, 493-6452  
[kweaver@lanarkil.com](mailto:kweaver@lanarkil.com)

Anne Lindsay, 238-5159  
[alindsay@lanarkil.com](mailto:alindsay@lanarkil.com)

**Aldermen, Ward II:**

Lara Tallman, (312)399-6127  
[ltallman@lanarkil.com](mailto:ltallman@lanarkil.com)

Weston Burkholder, 499-4961  
[wburkholder@lanarkil.com](mailto:wburkholder@lanarkil.com)

**Aldermen, Ward III:**

Mark Macomber, 291-8766  
[mmacomber@lanarkil.com](mailto:mmacomber@lanarkil.com)

Ed Fehlhafer, 493-6235  
[efehlhafer@lanarkil.com](mailto:efehlhafer@lanarkil.com)