



CITY OF COLUMBUS

105 N. DICKASON BOULEVARD COLUMBUS, WISCONSIN 53925-1565
920.623.5900 FAX 920.623.5901 www.cityofcolumbuswi.com

Celebrate!
COLUMBUS

Column #36 – Did You Know?

“Under the Clock Tower”

It’s mid- October in Columbus around 3:10 pm. You are driving down Richmond Street to pick up your kids at the Elementary School and the Middle School. As you get closer, you look across Main Street and see a Columbus Public Works truck with a big “box” on the back and a “bobcat” type vehicle with a square plow picking up a pile of leaves along the side of the road. Between seeing that and turning your focus back to the school pickup line, you think to yourself, “why does the city pickup leaves that way?”

Ever wonder why some things happen in Columbus the way that they do? Things other than leaf collection? How about voting on Election Day? Or why a particular street doesn’t allow parking when others do? In an effort to help shed some light to inquiring minds like yourself, I use my October “Under the Clock Tower” column to introduce the “Did You Know?” series of articles for the Columbus Journal.

As City Administrator, I talk to many residents in the community about the issues of the day in Columbus. I always try to do my best to inform those folks who have questions, but sometimes it surprises me how many people are interested in the “behind the scenes” of what happens in local government. Recently, I asked the City Department Heads to think of a handful of items they could share with the readers of the Columbus Journal about the nuts and bolts of various programs and services they provide for the City, in an effort to further educate.

In the coming weeks, you will start to see more of these short, but more in-depth articles about the things that the City does. We want you to know about the “*how’s*” of city government, as in how a service is delivered or how a program is operated, but also to answer the “*why’s*” as to why we do it, and why it’s done a certain way.

Of course, the City, as is with all levels of government, is built upon the authority granted to it via the people, and like any organization, it’s ideas and perspective that help ensure that things are done efficiently, effectively and for the greater good. That’s why I end my columns with the line you see at the end of this one – which I encourage questions and input about our Community from you. If you read about one of the featured programs in our new “Did You Know?” series of articles, perhaps you have thoughts about it, and it can bring forth further conversation for the betterment of our hometown.

If you have any questions on this or any other issue before city government, please contact me down at City Hall at 623-5900 or via email at pvandersanden@columbuswi.us.

###