

MAYOR REPORT – Joe Silkwood, Village of East Alton

The Village of East Alton had many exciting economic developments last year.

Everybody is talking about the improvements at Eastgate Plaza along Route 3. New ownership has made tremendous progress in their first year and they are continuing to work on this huge redevelopment. The Village has taken more inquiries in the last year on this property and surrounding properties than the last 20 years. Entertainment, food, and exercise is being added and upgraded to the existing center. I expect that the next few years will lead to more at Eastgate and just as importantly to the entire Route 3 corridor. Over 24,000 cars per day drive in the Route 3 corridor and are enjoying the renovations as they take place. If you haven't been by in a while I encourage you to take a look for yourself.

In the center of town we were fortunate that Schnucks chose the East Alton Shop N Save as one of the grocery stores they purchased. The Schnucks side of Wilshire has recently been purchased and we are optimistic about the future of Wilshire with Schnucks as the anchor tenant.

The Village completed the Berkshire Hill road improvement with the assistance of a 75% federal construction grant and a 25% Madison County grant. The Village paid for the engineering with our MFT funds. This project turned out great for the Wilshire area and we are all looking forward to this year's Soapbox Race as the track will be smooth and fast! The Soapbox race is scheduled for September 7th. This race is a wonderful way to provide a forever memory to a young boy or girl at a very low cost. Other activities and food booths make this a festival for the whole family.

Phase II Veteran's Memorial was completed in the last year. It includes a brick walkway honoring Veterans leading up to a monument displaying Village residents that were killed in war. You may purchase a brick by contacting Village Hall, Keasler Recreation Complex, The East Alton American Legion, or the East Alton History Museum.

Please remember to support local businesses whenever possible. My office is always open for questions or inquiries on locating businesses in East Alton. I hope everyone has a great spring/summer.

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