



EYE ON KIRKWOOD

February 28, 2014 | www.kirkwoodmo.org

WHERE COMMUNITY AND SPIRIT MEET®

EVERYTHING YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT RIGHT-OF-WAY



IN THE RIGHT-OF-WAY: The City launched a program to re-plant trees in the right-of-way last fall. Pictured: Street employees Mike Westermayer and Carl Redmon.

Trees and Storm Damage – Who’s Responsible:

Whenever there’s a storm, the City typically receives inquiries from residents about how to handle fallen trees or tree branches. In some cases, debris clean-up is the responsibility of the City of Kirkwood. In other instances, it is the responsibility of the homeowner. Here’s a quick cheat sheet on how to tell which is which.

Responsibility for clean-up mostly depends on where the tree is located. If a tree located on City property, in the “right-of-way,” falls during a storm, the City of Kirkwood will

come out, remove the fallen tree, and clean up the mess. If the tree is on private property and not in the City’s right-of-way, it is the homeowner’s or property owner’s responsibility to remove and dispose of the tree and debris.

So what exactly is City property? City property, or the right-of-way (ROW), is typically the land or space located between the curb and the sidewalk. When there’s no sidewalk, the ROW may extend into the front yard of the property. There are a couple ways to find out exactly. First, a homeowner can refer to the title drawing they received when they purchased the property. Second, homeowners can view ROW drawings on the City’s GIS map, located on the City Website at KirkwoodMO.org. From the home page, select “City Map” on the gold, right-hand navigation bar. Click on the first link. Then select the “Kirkwood Basemap.” This is an interactive map, with several tools. To use it, first select “aerial” at the top, and then find your street (you can move the map around with your mouse, just

as with Google maps). Then use the zoom tool on the left to zoom in. The red lines on the map show approximately where the ROW is on your property.

Street Clean-Up: When limbs or debris from an intact tree on private property fall into the street in the City, the property owner is responsible for disposal of the debris. Kirkwood crews will clear the street and move the debris onto the homeowner’s property for disposal. In some instances, where storm damage is wide-spread and the costs will be reimbursed through federal and state agencies such as FEMA, Kirkwood’s City Council may decide to clean up and dispose of debris, but City crews are otherwise not authorized to dispose of storm-related debris on private property.

Next Month: Utility Easements. You can also access this entire article, including the utility easement section, on the City Blog at <http://allaboard.com/KirkwoodMO.org>.

A Message from the Mayor by Art McDonnell

Greetings. I hope you all attended the Police Pancake Supper. As usual, it was good food, friendly faces, and the money going to a good cause. The annual fish fries at many churches and restaurants will start soon, so join your friends for a good meal. And in March comes those great corned beef Irish dinners. Get your green ready!

The selection process for the new Chief Administrative Officer for Kirkwood is moving along. We have 112 applications, which the consultant will narrow down to 12 and present to City Council on March 18. These candidates will be fully researched and background-checked. City Council along with the consultant will then select four candidates who will be invited to the City for tours and interviews. See story below for other details. The retirement party for Mike

Brown still has a few more openings, so if you would like to attend, the cost is \$45 per person, and the event is being held at Greenbriar Hills Country Club on March 7.

Our budget process for the 2014-2015 fiscal year is almost finished, and the final budget will be posted on the City Website. Thanks to the Citizens’ Finance Committee, City Administration, and to City Council for their great work on completing this huge task. The budget is a living document and subject to correction if conditions or projections change. Council receives quarterly reports on the financial position of the City to keep us up-to-date.

The Parks & Recreation department is looking for additional volunteers to help with landscaping projects in the Downtown Business District and throughout the park

system. Come join us. It’s a lot of fun, and you will learn along the way. To sign up, call Bill Burckhalter at 314-792-4125.

Enjoy the return of spring, Irish Green, the St. Peter St. Patrick’s Parade on March 14, the return of daylight savings time on March 9, a nice walk through Kirkwood Park, and the happy sounds of children playing outside. If you wish to chat, please call me at 314-497-4036. See you around town.



CAKEWAY TO THE WEST: The cake sculpture is here! The stl250 Cakeway to the West cake sculpture was installed at the Train Station on February 18

CAKEWAY TO THE WEST



HAPPY 250th BIRTHDAY ST. LOUIS. Kirkwood artist Mary Hanson painted the stl250 cake sculpture, from her own design.

According to the stl250 Website, Cakeway to the West is “one part public art exhibit, one part scavenger hunt, and one part history lesson – all adding up to a year’s worth of fun exploring St. Louis!” In celebration of the City’s 250th birthday, the stl250 organization will install 250 cake sculptures at sites around the region, 200 of which were chosen by the stl250 staff.

The other 50 sites, including the historic Kirkwood Train Station, were selected through a public vote. The Kirkwood cake now sits on the north side of the Station. Kirkwood resident and artist Mary Hanson (pictured), whose work is also currently on exhibit at Kirkwood Public Library, painted her own design on the sculpture. Many thanks to Mary for her time and hard work, to her husband Dave, for logistics and moving, to Kirkwood Finance Director John Adams for transporting the cake from downtown St. Louis to Mary’s home, and to Kirkwood resident Mike Lavin, who transported the cake from Mary’s home to the Station.

NEW CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER RECRUITMENT PROCESS UPDATE

Affion Public continues to work on candidate recruitment for the position of Chief Administrative Officer for the City. They anticipate having a slate of candidates by mid-March for the City Council to consider. Finalists will be interviewed on April 4 and 5, and a meet-the-candidates reception, which will be open to the public, will be held on Friday, April 4, at City Hall, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

WHAT’S COMING UP IN KIRKWOOD

• **Artists’ Boutique.** Fine Arts & Crafts Show, Kirkwood Community Center, 111 S. Geyer Road, March 1 and 2, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

• **Art at the Station:** The photography of Brian Nedwek and Fritz Schaeffer will be on display in March at the Kirkwood Train Station, 110 W. Argonne Avenue. Opening reception is Thursday, March 6, 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. Art may be viewed when the Station is open for passengers. The exhibit and reception are free and open to the public. Donations are welcome.



• **Stargazing in Kirkwood Park.** Saturday, March 8, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., all ages. Members from the St. Louis Astronomical Society will set up their telescopes and find an array of stellar objects for participants to view. This is an outdoor event so dress for the weather. If clouds or rain are forecast, it will be canceled. Free and open to the public. Meet in the parking lot by the playground, off Adams.

• **Kirkwood Theatre Guild presents Musical Comedy Murders of 1940.** March 7, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15, 16. Reim Theatre, Kirkwood Community Center. For times and ticket information, call 314-821-9956.

• **Kirkwood Historical Society’s Quarterly Meeting:** Tuesday, March 11, 7:00 p.m., Mudd’s Grove, 302 W. Argonne Drive. Marie Andel will present a video of the 1993 archaeological dig at Mudd’s Grove. Refreshments will be served. Free and open to the public.

• **CERT Training Class Starts March 3.** It’s not too late to register for this spring’s session of the Community Emergency Response Team training class. Call 822-5868 for details.

WALKER LAKE WINS DESIGN AWARD

The St. Louis Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects has recognized Planning Design Studio for its work on Walker Lake in Kirkwood Park. The General Landscape Architecture Design award recognizes the use of cutting edge methods of storm water control, used throughout the Walker Lake project, in addition to the enhancements of the lake’s beauty and functionality. The award covers the first three phases of the renewal of Walker Lake, including work to control storm water entering the lake, edge conditions, making the perimeter path ADA-compliant, removing trash from the lake, and adding plantings in and around the lake.

— Kirkwood Meetings Calendar —

- 3/3 Architectural Review Board, 7pm
- 3/4 Arts & Culture Commission, 5:30pm
- 3/5 Planning/Zoning, 7pm
- 3/6 City Council 7pm, WS 6pm
- 3/10 Board of Adjustment, 7pm
- 3/11 Human Rights Commission, 6:30pm
- 3/12 Landmarks Commission, 6:30pm
- 3/13 Council Work Session, 7am
- 3/17 Park Board, 7pm, Community Center
- 3/17 Architectural Review Board, 7pm
- 3/19 Library Board, 5:30pm, at Library
- 3/19 Planning/Zoning Commission, 7pm
- 3/20 City Council 7pm, WS 6pm
- 3/25 Urban Forestry Commission, 7pm
- 3/26 Greentree Festival Committee, 7pm
Community Center

Except where noted, meetings are typically held at Kirkwood City Hall, 139 South Kirkwood Road. Please check the Meetings Calendar on the City’s Website for agendas, room locations, or any last-minute changes. Meeting agendas are also posted at City Hall. CC=Community Center

Eye on Kirkwood is published 12 times per year on the last Friday of every month by the City of Kirkwood, 139 S. Kirkwood Road, Kirkwood, MO 63122. For information or questions about content, contact the City’s Public Information Officer, Beth von Behren, at 314-822-5894. To sign up for the weekly electronic newsletter, send an email to Info@KirkwoodMo.org. **Kirkwood City Council:** Mayor: Arthur J. McDonnell. Council Members: Iggy Yuan, Gerry Biedenstein, Gina M. Jaksetic, Paul Ward, Bob Sears, Nancy Luetzow. **Kirkwood Administration:** Chief Administrative Officer: Michael G. Brown. Kirkwood City Clerk: Betty Montano. To reach the City Clerk or Council, call 822-5802. To reach City offices, call 822-5800 for a list of extensions. The City Council meets on the first and third Thursdays of the month at 7:00 p.m. at Kirkwood City Hall, 139 S. Kirkwood Road. The public is invited to attend. For information about other meetings, City services, and events, visit the City’s Website: www.kirkwoodmo.org.