



# EYE ON KIRKWOOD

December 24, 2015 | [www.kirkwoodmo.org](http://www.kirkwoodmo.org)

WHERE COMMUNITY AND SPIRIT MEET®

## Merry Christmas and Happy New Year



### A Message from the Mayor by Art McDonnell

Greetings! The Kirkwood City family wishes everyone a joyful holiday. I hope you have plans to come to the Kirkwood Winter Fireworks Festival on December 26. It will be a blast. See details below.

I was reading "A History of Kirkwood Missouri" by June Dahl recently and found some interesting facts. On August 14, 1899, the new Kirkwood Board of Aldermen made a big purchase – a typewriter! They could finally read the City minutes and ordinances, which before had been in longhand and often not very easy to read. In June 1902, the Kirkwood Electric plant began producing power. The furnaces, which consumed about 50 bushels of coal a day, powered 1000 light bulbs and 250 street lights.

But here's the best part. In the "Kirkwood Monitor," in an article on July 10, 1925, it said: "Kirkwood like other cities has a perception of not enough parking spaces for automobiles. This is especially true on Saturday nights. Kirkwood residents can help... by leaving their own autos at home. It would be comparatively easy for our people to walk downtown on Saturday night. If this is found inconvenient, it would be well for those who ride to have their autos returned to the home garage so they would leave available for general use as much parking as possible." Some things never change, huh? I have been enjoying reading this history of Kirkwood. You can get a copy at the Kirkwood Public Library along with many other great books and DVDs.

City Council will begin looking at the budget for next year in January. We heard a discussion of compensation and



Dawn over City Hall, December 20. Photo by Police Officer Dennis Wigge.

benefits by our consultant, who did a complete review of our compensation and employee benefits. The consultant compared them to other cities and national statistical references. The good news is we compare well, but some adjustments are necessary to keep us competitive.

We will be receiving a report from the Citizen's Finance Committee and the Budget letter from Russ Hawes, our Chief Administrative Officer, in January. All our meetings are open if you wish to attend.

Make some good New Year's resolutions, go see Star Wars, walk off a few pounds, write some thank you notes, enjoy your family and friends, finish off the Christmas cookies, have a salad for lunch, and I will see you at the Winter Fireworks on December 26!! If you need to get in touch with me, please call 314-497-4036.

### PARKS & RECREATION/COMMUNITY CENTER PROGRAMMING

- **Kids' Movie Day.** Wednesday, December 30. "Big Hero 6" in the Reim Theatre at the Community Center. Noon to 3:00 p.m. Ages 7-13. \$10/residents and \$12/nonresidents. Includes pizza, lemonade, and snacks. Call 822-5855.
- **Doctor Volleyball** session starts January 6. Year-round program offers the correct "dosage" of volleyball instruction. Designed to provide a fundamental, fun approach for "patients" ages 4th grade through high school. Staff instructors are current collegiate, USAV players, coaches, or referees. Wednesdays, 4th through 6th grades, 5:15-6:15 p.m. Thursdays, 7th grade through high school, 5:15-6:15 p.m. Cost: \$75 per student for each 6-week session. Next session starts February 24.
- **Imagination Station:** Kirkwood Recreation has partnered with Kirkwood Public Library to offer a program filled with story time, craft activities, games, and more. Each month we will explore a different fun location. FREE. Wednesday, January 14: Imagination TRAIN Station. Listen up for the train whistle! Meet at the Kirkwood Train Station at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, February 11: Imagination FIRE Station, 6:30 p.m. Check out the big red trucks. Meet at Firehouse #2, 11804 Big Bend, 6:30 p.m. Pre-registration is required. Call 822-5855.
- **Kirkwood Theatre Guild** presents *Enchanted April*, Kirkwood Community Center, Reim Theatre, January 15-17 and January 22-25. Call 822-9956 for times and costs.
- **Daddy-Daughter Dance,** Friday, January 29, Kirkwood Community Center. Call 822-5855.
- **Spring/Summer Recreation Guide.** Mailed to homes January 28 and 29. Registration opens on February 10 for recreation programs.
- **Meramec Spring Swim Program:** January 30 through April 9 for kids ages 5 to 18, at St. Louis Community College at Meramec's pool. Sessions are on Saturdays at 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. Open slots are reserved for 2015 swim team participants during initial sign-up period, after which time anyone can register. Hurry and sign up today. Call 822-5855.
- **Camp Kirkwood:** Online (only) registration for residents opens February 10. Phone or in-person registration for residents opens February 17.

### WINTER FIREWORKS! Saturday, December 26, in Downtown Kirkwood

Mark your calendars for the Downtown Kirkwood Winter Fireworks on Saturday, December 26. Festivities begin at 5:00 p.m., with fireworks at 6:30 p.m. Wind or ice reschedule date: December 27. Arrive early to shop and dine. Dinner reservations recommended.

### CITY HOLIDAY CLOSING INFORMATION

**Christmas:** City Hall, the Community Center, and most City offices will be closed on Thursday and Friday, December 24 and 25, for the Christmas holiday. The Community Center office will be open Saturday morning, December 26, 9:00 a.m. to noon.

• Sanitation will be unaffected. All trash, recycling, and yard waste will be collected normally all week, including on Christmas Eve. Special pick-ups will be done on Thursday this week, instead of Friday. Please schedule before noon on Wednesday, December 23.

• The Ice Rink will be closed on December 25 but will have a skating session on December 24 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**New Year's 2016:** City Hall, the Community Center, and most City offices will be closed on Friday, January 1, for the New Year's holiday.

• Sanitation will be unaffected. However, special pick-ups will be done on Thursday this week, instead of Friday. Please schedule before noon on Wednesday, December 30.

• The Community Center office will close at 4:30 p.m., on New Year's Eve and will be open on Saturday, January 2, from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

**Martin Luther King Birthday:** Monday, January 18: City offices closed. No sanitation will be collected. All routes are delayed by a day all week. The Community Center and Ice Rink will be open.

### CHRISTMAS TREES

Christmas trees will be picked up free of charge on your regular collection day throughout January. Yard waste fees will apply beginning February 1.

### PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION WILL HOLD PUBLIC HEARING

The Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on January 6, 2016, at 7:00 p.m., to receive public input on proposed amendments to the site plan review section of the City's Zoning Code. The proposed amendments, which can be viewed on the home page of the City Website at [www.kirkwoodmo.org](http://www.kirkwoodmo.org),

### SAINT LOUIS COUNTY ADDS SECOND HAZARDOUS WASTE FACILITY IN NORTH COUNTY

Saint Louis County opened a Household Hazardous Waste facility in Lemay last year and has opened a second site in Florissant this year. Kirkwood residents can schedule a drop-off time for a variety of materials at either location. The Lemay HHW facility is located at 291 E. Hoffmeister, 63125. The Florissant facility is located at 4100 Seven Hills Drive, 63033. Note: They are open on different days.

Materials include: Fluorescent tubes, motor oil, car batteries, fertilizer, herbicide, gasoline, paint, driveway sealer, devices that contain mercury, compact fluorescent bulbs, aerosol cans, and more. For information about the facility, visit their Website at [www.hhwstl.com](http://www.hhwstl.com). To schedule a drop-off time, use the Website's online system, or call 314-615-8958. The first 50 pounds of HHW accepted for drop-off is at no charge to residents. Any amount over 50 pounds can be disposed of at a cost of \$1.00 per pound. Residents are limited to one drop-off per year.

### ANNUAL "ORDER OF PLOWING" REMINDER

When snow falls, City plowing crews focus first on the main roads, such as Kirkwood Road, Geyer Road, Essex, Woodlawn, Woodbine, Couch, etc. Cleaning these streets first allows emergency vehicles to get through when needed. During this first stage, street crews also work on hills and bridges. Crews do not begin to work on secondary streets until the snow stops. Secondary streets include Taylor, Fillmore, Dickson, Quan, Rose Hill, Clay, Lindeman, Harrison, Peeke, and Ann. When all those are done, crews move to subdivision streets and clear those. Pre-Treating: When possible, crews pre-treat all City streets when a storm has been predicted. However, in some storms, when the temperatures are very low, pre-treating may not work very well.

[www.kirkwoodmo.org](http://www.kirkwoodmo.org), would allow for more flexible and creative site planning for properties located in commercial zoning districts. If you have specific questions or comments, please contact City Planner Ryan Spencer at 314-984-5907 or by email at: [spencerm@kirkwoodmo.org](mailto:spencerm@kirkwoodmo.org).

### UPCOMING PROGRAMMING FOR 55+

- **Eagle Watching on the Great River Road.** Friday, January 29, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., \$65. Register by January 15. Includes transportation, stops at the Melvin Price lock and dam and Pere Marquette State Park, and an all-you-can-eat fried chicken dinner overlooking the Illinois River. Call 822-5855.
- **Card Club,** every Friday, 10:30 a.m., at the Community Center. There is a 50-cent charge per week. This is a drop-in program. Registration is not required.

### — Kirkwood Meetings Calendar —

1/4	Architectural Review Board, 7pm
1/6	Planning/Zoning Commission, 7pm
1/7	City Council 7pm, WS 6pm
1/11	Board of Adjustment, 7pm
1/12	Human Rights Commission, 6:30pm
1/13	Landmarks Commission, 6:30pm
1/14	Council Work Session, 7am
1/18	CITY OFFICES CLOSED: MLK Birthday
1/19	Arts Commission, 5pm
1/19	Architectural Review Board, 7pm
1/20	Library Board, 5:30pm, at Library
1/20	Planning/Zoning Commission, 7pm
1/21	City Council 7pm, WS 6pm
1/25	Park Board, 7pm, Community Center
1/25	Urban Forestry Commission, 7pm
1/27	Greentree Planning 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.

*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 electronic newsletter, send an email to [Info@KirkwoodMo.org](mailto:Info@KirkwoodMo.org).

**Kirkwood City Council:** Mayor: Arthur J. McDonnell. Council Members: Gerry Biedenstien, Gina M. Jaksetic, Paul Ward, Bob Sears, Nancy Luetzow, Tim Griffin. **Kirkwood Administration:** Chief Administrative Officer: Russell B. Hawes. 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](http://www.kirkwoodmo.org).

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