



EYE ON KIRKWOOD

February 27, 2015 | www.kirkwoodmo.org

WHERE COMMUNITY AND SPIRIT MEET®

A Message from the Mayor by Art McDonnell

Greetings! I hope everyone is staying warm. Some of my high school classmates and I meet each month in a member's garage, which is heated and filled with a variety of old MGs and Jaguars in various states of repair, for a lunch and a happy get together. This week we had some delicious beef stew and vegetable soup, with gooey butter cake for dessert, and of course a beer or two. Great to see my friends from our teenage years. Sometimes we have as many as 20 who attend. Quite interesting to hear about their lives... we graduated in 1960. Kirkwood is special like this.

The picture with this article is a happy get together. Each day some members of our Finance staff do exercises. They invited me to participate. The holiday feasts were tough on my waist line. How about yours? There are lots of laughs and good cheer during these exercise get-togethers.

Kirkwood City Council and I are very proud about the report on the Community-Wide Survey we conducted this past Fall. The survey instrument was sent to randomly selected residents, to maintain its statistical credibility. You can read the questions and the final report on the City's Website (KirkwoodMO.org) on the home page.

ETC Institute conducted the survey for us. "You can take a lot of pride in this," said Chris Tatham, executive vice president of ETC Institute. "When we compare you to other communities, I can truly say you're one of the standard-setters for the delivery of city services." Chris said the survey found that 91 percent of Kirkwood residents rated their city services as a "4 or above" on a 5-point scale. "That's just incredible," he said. The one thing survey participants told us is we need to work on repairing streets.

On that subject, I would like to remind all our readers that Adams Avenue, Manchester Road, Big Bend, Marshall Road, and parts of Kirkwood Road are not Kirkwood-owned roads, which means we do not maintain them. They are maintained either by St. Louis County or by MoDOT.

City Council continues work on the budget. We reviewed some exciting potential design plans for a revamped Kirkwood Community Center and a possible theatre in the downtown area at the last work session. More in-depth plans will be developed and presented to the public and to Council in the near future.

Keep warm, do those exercises, remember those in need, make a



Mayor McDonnell (second from right) and City Hall employees (L to R) Erin Lohbeck, Laurie Asche, and Kris Houska practice some squats as part of the Finance Department's ongoing commitment to fitness during the work day.

good soup or chili, get the green out for St. Pats, go to the St. Peter's St. Patrick's parade on March 13, enjoy those fish fry events, and I will see you around Kirkwood. Call if you wish, 314-497-4036.



Horticultural worker Renee Kennedy (left) and horticultural assistant Tiffany Rodenberg work on a controlled burn in one of the grassy areas adjacent to Walker Lake in Kirkwood park. Parks' employees burn the grasses at the lake to help remove the buildup of dead material on the crowns that would accumulate over the years if the plants were just cut back. These are mostly all Missouri native prairie grasses, and fire is a natural part of grassland ecology, so they respond well to this process. **Don't try this at home:** This is something employees only do in select areas and only with the approval of the Fire Department. Safety precautions are taken to prevent the fire from getting out of control and to make sure workers are safe and everyone around the workers is safe too.



Drop-in indoor Pickleball sessions are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Community Center from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. Pickleball is a cross between badminton, tennis, and ping pong, and it's a great way to stay fit during the cold winter months. The drop-in fee is \$2/residents and \$3/nonresidents. No registration required.

COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT UPDATE: WINTER 2014-2015

Recent Approvals:

- CVS Pharmacy: Received Planning & Zoning approval to construct a 13,592-square foot pharmacy with drive-thru at 1085 N. Kirkwood Road.
- Fresh Thyme Market: Received final development approval for food store. The proposed store, which is 27,977 square feet, will be located at 1018 N. Kirkwood Road. Fresh Thyme is a specialty grocer and will offer organic, locally sourced fruits and vegetables, store-created sausages, premium coffee beans, and local craft beers.
- McArthur's Bakery: Received a Special Use Permit for a restaurant use at 210 N. Kirkwood Road (formerly Amici's).
- Midwest Regional Bank: Received Site Plan Approval to construct a new financial institution at 1085 N. Kirkwood Road (located adjacent to the future CVS Pharmacy).

Current Construction:

- Greentree Church: Received a building permit to construct a place of worship at 100 Kirkwood Place. The main sanctuary will include seating for 422 individuals and a separate fellowship hall will provide seating for 120 individuals. Classrooms will be located on the lower level. A large outdoor amphitheater will be the main focus on the west side of the facility and will allow for special church and public activities.

Under Review:

- Raising Canes is awaiting MSD approval before moving forward with Final Development Review. The new drive-thru restaurant will be located at 1034 S. Kirkwood Road (formerly O'Donnell Eye Institute).
- BARx CrossFit submitted an application for a Zoning Code amendment and Special Use Permit for a physical fitness facility to be located at 12309 Old Big Bend (formerly McDonnell's Market building). The facility would be geared toward CrossFit training which is a constantly varied, high intensity and communal workout. Class sizes will range from 1 to 12 individuals.

LESSENING THE DISTANCE

"The Great Divide: Lessening the Distance," a dialogue on building a prejudice-free community of highly respectful individuals, will be presented by the Kirkwood Human Rights Commission and the Community for Understanding and Hope on Saturday, March 7. The forum will be held at Kirkwood United Methodist Church, 201 W. Adams, from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. The speakers will be Deborah Krause, Eden Theological Seminary, and Fred Falke, from the Falke Consulting Group, who has worked for 15 years to develop a new approach for thinking about diversity.

RECREATION DATES & DEADLINES COMING UP

Family Night Bingo at the Community Center: Friday, March 13, 7:00 p.m. Win prizes while having a fun family time. Popcorn, drinks, and cookies provided. Must pre-register. Cost: \$3 per person over the age of 3.

Kids' Day Out (Spring Break Camp): Get your spring break energy out with a day at the Kirkwood Community Center. We'll spend time playing in the gym, making new friends, and making art projects. We will ice skate if time permits. Bring your friends and join us for one day or two. Bring a sack lunch. Emergency contact information needed at registration. Tuesday, March 17, and Thursday, March 19, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. \$12/residents, \$15/nonresidents. Call 314-822-5855.

Get Your Pool Pass Now: Summer pool season passes and recreation identification cards can be obtained now at the Community Center. Don't wait until the lines are long. Season pass prices for residents are: \$80/youth (4-17), \$95/adult (18-64), \$80/senior citizen (65+), \$210/family of 3 (\$20/each additional family member), \$75/nanny pass. For full admission policies and nonresident fees, please see the Recreation Program Guide, page 5, or visit www.kirkwoodmo.org/Pool.

Adult Egg Hunt, Friday, March 27, after dark, at Wehner Park in Shrewsbury. Egg hunts are not just for kids. Join the Kirkwood, Webster Groves, and Shrewsbury Parks and Recreation departments for this annual adults-only (18+) egg hunt. Lots of eggs and great prizes. Parking is limited. Please car pool if possible. Outdoor event. Dress appropriately; this will be held rain or shine. Don't forget a basket and a flashlight. Cost: \$5 per person if you pre-register on or before March 26; \$10 at the door. Registration at the door begins at 7:30 p.m. All participants must be registered by 8:15 p.m. The hunt starts at 8:30 p.m.

Teen Egg Hunt, Friday, April 3, 7:30 to 9:00 p.m., for ages 10 to 14. Teens: Here is your chance to remember the good old days with an egg hunt. But there a catch: It's in the dark! Event starts with dinner of pizza and drinks and wraps up with an egg hunt in Kirkwood Park. Don't forget a basket and a flashlight. Maximum of 50 teens, with 3 chaperones. Pre-registration required. Cost: \$5/residents, \$7/nonresidents. Meet at the Lions' Pavilion in Kirkwood Park.

WHAT'S GOING ON IN KIRKWOOD IN FEBRUARY?

March 2: Voters' Forum, 7:00 p.m. The League of Women Voters will host a forum for Kirkwood School Board candidates in the Keating Center, Kirkwood High School, 801 W. Essex Avenue.

March 7 and 8: Artists' Boutique Fine Arts and Crafts Show, at the Kirkwood Community Center. Hours: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., both days. For information, call 314-802-7193.

March 14: "Alice's Ordinary People," Film Screening with filmmaker Craig Dudnick, at Kirkwood Public Library, 140 E. Jefferson Avenue, 2:00 p.m. Alice Tregay's story: Ordinary people effecting extraordinary change for human rights. Five decades of fearless activism and the continuing relevance of Dr. Martin Luther King to the ongoing fight for justice. Sponsored by Kirkwood Public Library and the Kirkwood Human Rights Commission.

March 2 thru 30: Art at the Station presents the photography of Fred Baugh at the Kirkwood Train Station, 110 W. Argonne Avenue. Opening reception is Thursday, March 5, 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. Exhibits and receptions are free and open to the public. Art may be viewed when the station is open for passengers.

Kirkwood Meetings Calendar

- 3/2 Architectural Review Board, 7pm
- 3/4 Planning/Zoning Commission, 7pm
- 3/5 City Council 7pm, WS 6pm
- 3/9 Aquatic Advisory, 6:45pm, at Community Center
- 3/9 Board of Adjustment, 7pm
- 3/10 Human Rights Commission, 6:30pm
- 3/11 Landmarks Commission, 6:30pm
- 3/12 Council Work Session, 7am
- 3/16 Architectural Review Bd, 7pm
- 3/16 Park Board, 7pm, Community Center
- 3/17 Arts Commission, 5pm
- 3/18 Library Board, 5:30pm, at Library
- 3/18 Planning/Zoning, 7pm
- 3/19 City Council 7pm, WS 6pm
- 3/24 Urban Forestry, 7pm
- 3/25 Greentree Planning, 7pm, at 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 electronic newsletter, send an email to Info@KirkwoodMo.org.

Kirkwood City Council: Mayor: Arthur J. McDonnell. Council Members: Gerry Biedenstein, 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.

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