



APRIL 2015

MESSAGE FROM YOUR MAYOR,

Spring is in the air, and the community is abuzz with activity as residents begin to venture outside once again and enjoy the spring weather. It is certainly a welcomed change to be able to get outside after the long cold winter we had. The City Park is a great place to enjoy the beauty of springtime with the sound of birds and longer warmer days ahead.

City Hall, too, is “abuzz” with activity. As usual we are getting ready for nicer weather and with that there will be ball practice, BBQ’s, fishing, walking and let’s not forget kids playing in the park. It’s not just the park that is busy though; the Comprehensive Plan is in its final draft and will be ready for public comment and viewing. There are several road projects that are in various stages of planning and/or construction, one of which is planned to begin and be completed this year. I encourage all of you to keep tabs on what is happening in the City via the City website and/or our official Facebook page. On the City website you can sign up for specific notifications in categories that are of interest to you. The website is www.weldonspring.org.

We always like to encourage residents to shop local and patronize those businesses in the community and surrounding areas. It’s these businesses that help keep our communities thriving and healthy. As easy as it is to shop online and I admit I’ve done it a time or two but if you do “shop” online I just ask that you try and actually make purchases at local stores whenever possible. Again local businesses are the lifeblood of our local economy, so shop, eat and BUY Local!

The Independence Day Celebration will be here before you know it and we are already in the process of planning this fantastic Weldon Spring tradition! Right now we are looking for local restaurants to participate in the event and we are always interested in getting volunteers to help out. If you are interested in getting involved please don’t delay and contact Pat Oldcroft at City Hall today.

On a more serious topic the State Legislature is currently debating various bills that could have serious consequences for our municipal operations as well as many other cities and towns statewide. Many of these bills appear to be a knee jerk reaction to the events which occurred in Ferguson, MO. last August and will only be amplified by the Justice Department’s report. The ‘one size fits all’ approach the Legislature is taking will negatively impact the medium to small communities disproportionately and as a result public services may have to be cut and/or taxes increased. We have provided some additional information on the local impacts of these bills but I encourage you to research these topics on your own so that you can make your own conclusions.

St. Louis Bicycle Works will be holding another Bike Drive on June 13th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at City Hall. So if you have an unused bicycle laying around drop it off and Bicycle Works will put it to good use. BWorks helps youths by teaching them about bicycle safety and maintenance through their Earn-A-Bike Program. Look for more details on our website.

In closing, I would like to wish you all a happy and healthy springtime. Remember that if there is anything that I or any of your Aldermen can do to help you, please do not hesitate to contact us.



Respectfully,
Don Licklider

City of Weldon Spring Receives “Exceptional ReLeaf Award”



On Thursday, March 5, 2015 the City of Weldon Spring was recognized by Forest ReLeaf of Missouri for its exceptional efforts towards reforesting the community after the devastating effects of a tornado. The ceremony took place at the Missouri Community Forestry Council’s annual conference in St. Charles, MO. On hand were Mayor Donald Lickliger and City Administrator Michael Padella to accept the award on behalf of the City. Mayor Lickliger said, “I couldn’t be more thrilled to accept this award but the true recognition deserves to go to the residents and businesses that helped and especially everyone involved with Forest ReLeaf because without them none of this would have been possible!”

The St. Louis area met with three devastating tornadoes on May 31st 2013. Over 200 homes were significantly damaged with more than 100 of them being uninhabitable. One tornado, an EF-3, tore through Weldon Spring. Along the 22 mile long path of destruction 150+ miles per hour winds destroyed thousands of trees in mostly residential areas of the city. In the years since, Weldon Spring has been coordinating the re-planting needs of its citizens and relying on Forest ReLeaf to provide more than 1,300 FREE trees and counting to help re-forest the community.

The City administrator, Michael Padella, has been working with volunteer residents early on to oversee this program and get trees back in the ground. It was Whitmoor resident Mickie Ball that initially had the idea for the program and requested the City to get involved and coordinate with Forest ReLeaf. Beseda Flooring was also instrumental in helping facilitate the program by donating the use of their box truck in order to protect the trees while in transit to the City Park. Donna Coble, Executive Director of Forest ReLeaf, said, “For the efforts of the city and all those involved, Weldon Spring is awarded the **Exceptional ReLeaf Award for 2014.**”

Forest ReLeaf of Missouri is an independent nonprofit organization. Founded in 1993, Forest ReLeaf serves as a catalyst for restoring and sustaining our urban forests. With the help of thousands of volunteers, we are planting trees and enriching communities.



National Arbor Day is April 24, 2015. So let’s get together and celebrate the importance of trees and get out there and plant a tree in honor of Arbor Day!

Annual retail sales hit record high in St. Charles County

ST. CHARLES COUNTY, MO --- Annual retail sales climbed 7.41 percent to hit a new record high of \$5,385,652,114 for 2014 in St. Charles County, up from \$5,014,133,306 in 2013, according to figures just released by the St. Charles County Department of Finance and the Economic Development Center of St. Charles County (EDC).

"The renewed and continued growth in annual retail sales is driven in part by consumer confidence, strong employment numbers, and motor vehicle sales tax collections, which are the largest source of sales tax revenue," said Greg Prestemon, president and CEO of the Economic Development Center of St. Charles County. He added, "St. Charles County currently has about 8 million-square-foot of retail space and a vacancy rate below the St. Louis market average. With new retail proposals on the horizon, this upward trend is expected to continue for 2015."



*Cottleville ° Dardenne Prairie ° Foristell ° Lake Saint Louis
O'Fallon ° St. Charles ° St. Peters ° Weldon Spring ° Wentzville*

"Elected officials and civic leaders have been very successful in attracting retail development in keeping with all the new housing construction and population growth," Prestemon said. "Likewise, there has been a strong push to encourage local residents to 'Shop Local' in support of jobs, roads, parks, and public safety. The new record of nearly \$5.4 billion in annual retail sales activity is evidence all of these community efforts are working and having a positive impact on the local quality of life."

To help promote restaurants, nightlife, fitness events, shops, and the arts to ages 20 to 40, Prestemon said the EDC and its civic group Partners for Progress will soon go live with a new mobile website, "What's Up St. Chuck". "We look forward to doing our part to boost awareness of all that's going on and available in the community," he said.

For more information about the local economy, visit the EDC at www.edcsc.com or call 636-441-6880.



Kids Fishing Day is Almost Here!

Kids are you ready to catch the big one? Or at least tell stories about the one that got away? Fishing helps kids discover nature and conserve it, too. Help the special kids in your life get hooked on the thrill of fishing. Bring them to our **Annual Kids Fishing Derby** scheduled for **Saturday, June 6th from 9:00 a.m. to noon.** All you have to do is bring your kids and plenty of energy!

This year will be our 15th Annual Kids Fishing Day. Local children ages up to 15 years can cast their lines into our lake and have a morning of FUN. All children must be accompanied by an adult whether it is a parent, guardian and/or grandparent. There is never an entry fee and the city will provide the bait. Once again, the city will provide a lunch of all beef hot dogs, chips and soft drinks or water. Fishing poles will be provided to kids on a first come first serve basis; register that morning at the small pavilion down by the lake. Those that bring their own poles do not need to register. Bait and assistance will be provided. We love to watch the children as they leave this event – it seems they all have smiles on their faces and goodies to take home. Please visit our web site at: www.weldonspring.org for additional info and reminders.

Don't Forget to Vote!

The General Municipal Election for Weldon Spring will be held on Tuesday, April 7, 2015. The following Mayoral and Aldermanic candidates have filed and will be on the ballot.

Mayor

Donald D. Licklider – Two Year Term

Alderman – Ward I

William “Bill” Hillmer – Two Year Term

Alderman – Ward II

Janet Kolb – Two Year Term

Alderman – Ward III

Gerry Baker – Two Year Term

The candidate for Alderman in each Ward receiving the highest number of votes will hold office for two (2) years. Polls will be opened from 6:00 AM to 7:00 PM - (CST).

When Santa Came to Town



Santa’s visit in December was quite the success. There were families and children everywhere. Santa was thrilled we had such a huge turnout. Families are starting to enjoy the many cookies, candies and Hot Chocolate on hand. We’ve found we couldn’t do this with our elves, Tara & Becky. Amazingly enough **Premier**



Entertainment provided the city with **Brian**, their Balloon Artist making his many fantastic sculptures and **Ruth**, the Face Painter creatively painting anything a child wanted on their face. Once again, it was nice to see our residents come together with friends and family to enjoy another afternoon in our Big Red Barn enjoying lots of entertainment, refreshments **AND** Free Photos of



themselves. Santa always wants to Thank the many Volunteers!

2015 Comprehensive Plan Nearing Completion



After a year of gathering information and meeting, interviewing and surveying Weldon Spring residents and business owners, the Planning Commission is preparing to hold a Public Hearing and present the City's 3rd Comprehensive Plan on **Monday, April 6, 2015 at 7:30 p.m.** The 2015 Weldon Spring Comprehensive Plan is an update to the 2008 Comprehensive Plan. It includes many of the same goals, objectives and land use policies of the current Plan. The 2015 Plan Update includes an in-depth analysis of the

latest demographic and socio-economic conditions, land use, transportation and environmental issues facing the city over the next 10 years.

A common item of discussion was 'preserving Weldon Spring's rural character and natural beauty and providing the means and motivation necessary to create a city-wide system of trails, paths and sidewalks'. Other discussion items include the concept of redefining the establishment of a Village Center and Old Town area to provide strategic opportunities for the future development of a well-planned mixed use development with public gathering areas. The planning process strives for an orderly, open approach to determine local needs, setting goals and priorities, and developing a guide for action. It is important to include a representative cross section of the community. Planning is also place-based in that the process strives to build on the unique qualities of a community. The 2015 Weldon Spring Comprehensive Plan is the "product" of 12 months of planning and the distillation of data, citizen-defined values and recommendations.

Having a solid well thought out plan in place can provide a framework for making informed decisions. Planning & Zoning Commissioners rely on the comprehensive plan for making decisions regarding rezoning, infrastructure, planning and annexing additional territory into the city. "A comprehensive plan provides a rational guide to assist elected and appointed officials in making informed decisions regarding land use development, preservation, transportation and trails" said Todd Streiler, City Planner.

The City invites all residents and business owners to come to the Public Hearing on April 6th to view and make comment about the 2015 Weldon Spring Comprehensive Plan.

City of Weldon Spring Road Projects Update

PROJECTS UNDERWAY:

Weldon Spring Parkway Phase 2

The project limits are from Independence Road to 280 feet southwest of CenterPointe Hospital Drive. The City has awarded a tree clearing contract to Davey Tree Services for the clearing of the larger trees within the project limits. The trees will be cleared in March of 2015 due to the need to avoid the Indiana Brown Bats summer habitat.

The right-of-way clearance has been approved by MoDOT. We are addressing MoDOT's final comments on PS&E, waiting for a response to a question on one of their comments. The project will go out for bid to contractors as soon as the final plans are approved by MoDOT potentially in April of 2015. The project should be completed in late 2015.



PROJECTS IN THE PIPELINE:

Independence Road Phase 3

The project limits are from Wolfrum Road to 350 feet west of Nancy Lane. Right-of-way acquisition has been completed and the documents have been submitted to MoDOT for approval and right-of-way clearance. The final plans will be completed in late March and will be submitted to MoDOT for approval. The major road construction will be delayed due to the length of time necessary to acquire the right-of-way which delayed the final plans preparation.

The project will go out for bid as soon as the final plans are approved by MoDOT, potentially in mid-2015. After a contractor is awarded the project the contractor will start clearing trees, install storm sewers, and do some of the grading in order to get the utility relocation completed in 2015. Major lane reconstruction will start in the spring of 2016. The traffic on the section of Independence Road Phase 3 under construction will be reduced to one-way traveling west from Wolfrum Road during construction in 2016. The project should be completed in late 2016.

Independence Road Phase 4

The project limits are from Galahad Drive to 350 feet west of Nancy Lane. The City has approved an engineering contract with St. Charles Engineering & Surveying, Inc. to complete the design plans, right-of-way plans, and specifications. The project's tentative timeline would be design in 2015 and 2016, right-of-way acquisition in 2016, and construction in 2017.

BALL FIELD & PAVILION RESERVATIONS



The 2015 City of Weldon Spring ball field reservations are now open. This year's baseball field lottery was held on Tuesday, March 24th. There may still be some open slots available so if your team didn't get signed up for a day and time, coaches can download the appropriate form online at our website www.weldonspring.org or pick up a form at City Hall, fill-out, include proof of residency & payment and return to Pat Oldcroft for processing.

Sign-ups are for all children up to age 12. The cost to reserve a ball field for the 2015 season is \$12.00 per 1.5 hours of play time per week for residents or \$25 for 1.5 hours of play per week for non-residents. There is a limit of one time slot per week per team. Proof of residency is required by providing a copy of your driver's license and a recent utility bill. We have

two fields so space is limited; therefore city *RESIDENTS* will be given first priority.

We are now accepting Pavilion reservations for 2015. The two pavilions can be reserved from March 31st through October 31st. Proof of residency is required by providing a copy of your driver's license and a recent utility bill. Cost of the pavilion reservations for the Large Pavilion (the one attached to the Parks Building) is \$50 for residents or \$100 for non-residents; for the Small Pavilion (located near the lake) is \$25 for residents or \$50 for non-residents. Each pavilion has four picnic tables plus electricity for your convenience. The small pavilion by the lake has two small grills while the large attached pavilion has one large grill. There is public access to restrooms and a drinking fountain off the side of the barn.



Visit the City website for reservation forms or stop by City Hall. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Pat Oldcroft at (636) 441-2110 ext. 100 or poldcroft@weldonspring.org.



Periodically, our Parks Guys or other park visitors will find something in our park. Maybe its keys, cell phone, baby blanket, or even shoes. They always bring them to our front desk and give them to Pat. IF you have missing items, please contact Pat at the front desk or come in and leave your name and telephone number so that if the item you've misplaced in our park is found it can be returned to you. Pat is holding onto a beautiful "mother's ring" that was found in our park a few years, ago. Identify it; and it is yours. Or

simply call Pat Oldcroft at 636-441-2110 ext. #2.

State Legislation Negatively Impacts Weldon Spring

The City of Weldon Spring Board of Aldermen unanimously approved and signed a resolution opposing Senate Bill 5 at their Special Board of Aldermen meeting on Tuesday, March 3, 2015. Mayor Donald Lickliger and the Board agree that the new provisions outlined in SB 5 will negatively impact municipal governments. This is especially true for those with smaller general revenue funds. The disproportionate impact of SB 5 on smaller municipalities statewide will likely negatively impact municipal public services by requiring some cities to cut services in order to continue to balance their budgets.

In addition to SB 5 there are numerous other bills which have the potential to negatively impact local governments as it relates to municipal court operations. These bills are listed and summarized below:

- SB 5 – Changes from 30% to 10% the maximum amount of its total annual revenue a city, town or village may receive from fines and court costs for traffic violations.
- SB 452 – Provides that no person shall be found guilty of failure to appear if the criminal matter solely involves certain traffic-related infractions.
- HB 60 – Requires community service in lieu of a fine for certain traffic offences for defendants twenty-one years of age or under.
- HB 308 – Changes from 30% to 15% the maximum amount of its total annual revenue a city, town or village may receive from fines and court costs for traffic violations.
- HB 332 - Changes from 30% to 10% the maximum amount of its total annual revenue a city, town or village may receive from fines and court costs for traffic violations.

The City encourages you to research the impact of these proposed bills further and to contact your legislatures so that your voice can be heard.

Rep. Kurt Bahr – District 102, Republican

Phone: 573-751-9768

Email: kurt.bahr@house.mo.gov

Rep. John Wiemann – District 103, Republican

Phone: 573-751-2176

Email: john.wiemann@house.mo.gov

Rep. Bill Otto – District 70, Democrat

Phone: 573-751-4163

Email: bill.otto@house.mo.gov

Senator Tom Dempsey – District 23, Republican

Phone: 573-751-1141

Email: tom.dempsey@senate.mo.gov

It is crucial for city governments to maintain local control so they can continue to provide valuable public services which help protect the public's safety. Feel free to contact the Mayor, Aldermen or City Administrator if you have questions or would like to discuss the impact of the pending legislation.



Spring is Here!

Please remember as you go about your spring property cleanup to dispose of any leaves, tree branches, trash, debris, cleaning/paint supplies or any other liquids to do so properly. Never place these items in the storm sewers, basins, creeks or drainage ways within the City. Doing this violates our City Ordinance and pollutes the environment.

This is also a great time of year to add a rain barrel or do additional landscaping and plantings on your property. Remember any additional plantings help with the absorption of storm water and reducing storm water run-off.



City of Weldon Spring
5401 Independence Road
Weldon Spring, Missouri 63304

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Mark Your Calendar!

Residents of the City of Weldon Spring are always invited to our Public Meetings.
 Please mark your calendars for the following dates:

MUNICIPAL COURT

1st Wednesday of each month promptly at 6:00 p.m.

BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETINGS

2nd Tuesday & 4th Thursday of each month

[except during the months of November & December]

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION

1st Monday of each month

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMISSION

3rd Tuesday of each month

All meetings begin at 7:30 o'clock p.m. and are held at City Hall located at 5401 Independence Road at Nancy Lane – Please enter through the side door.

Any questions please call Pat: (636) 441-2110 ext. 100

LIST OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS & CONTACTS

City Hall (636) 441-2110

- City Administrative Asst, Pat Oldcroft ext. 100
- City Administrator, Michael Padella ext. 102
- City Clerk, Melinda Kwiatkowski ext. 103
- City Treasurer, Janet Lieurance ext. 105
- Zoning Commissioner, Joe Nichols ext. 106
- Code Enforcement, Joe Hartman ext. 107
- Municipal Court/Traffic, Laura Brown ext. 108
- Storm Water, Frank Godwin ext. 110
- Parks Department, Richard/Howie ext. 104

Or (636) 485-3840

Mayor Don Licklider ext.-101 –or- Home: (636) 441-1801

BOARD OF ALDERMEN:

- Ward 1: Bruce Robb 636-939-0606
- Ward 1: Bill Hillmer 636-447-9156
- Ward 2: Mark Kaiser 314-537-6474
- Ward 2: Janet Kolb 636-441-0200
- Ward 3: Bill Kohrs 636-300-1063
- Ward 3: Gerry Baker 636-329-8121

Official website: www.weldonspring.org

Official email: cityofweldonspring@weldonspring.org