

INSIDE

How does your garden grow in Chesterfield?

With any luck it will grow well in Chesterfield's new Community Garden in Eberwein Park! Check out the special Parks Guide inside this issue for details!

Council seats contested

City Council positions in Wards I and II are contested in the municipal election set for April 3. **Page 3**

Road cones are in bloom

Spring brings robins, flowers ... and road work! Read the latest on highway & trail projects. **Page 6**

She has a way with words

A Parkway Central 9th grader was given 16 words and turned them into an award-winning poem. **Page 9**

A variety of opportunities

Civic Orchestra, Butterfly House, and Carousel are just a few of the groups offering events. **Pages 8-11**



Earth Day 2012



City plans many activities for April 21

Earth Day 2012 promises tons of fun to spice the serious business of environmental stewardship.

The April 21 activities revolve around the new Chesterfield Amphitheater and Central Park. On stage in the morning, you'll be entertained by a dance performance, a Girl Scout fashion show featuring recycled garments and accessories, and a raptor show by the World Bird Sanctuary.

Meanwhile, in the parking lot, you'll be able to drive through and recycle nearly anything. Plus, you can safely dispose of unwanted medicines.

See the complete list and details of the day on pages 4-5.

Second Annual West County Talent Bash to be held in Chesterfield

Chesterfield is proud to be the host of the Second Annual West County Talent Bash.

Produced by St. Louis Bash productions and presented by West Newsmagazine, the event will be held on Saturday, May 26 at the Central Park Amphitheater,

**Saturday,
May 26
Central Park
Amphitheater**

just west of Chesterfield Mall. If you would like to participate, submit an audition DVD to West Newsmagazine at 754 Spirit 40 Park Drive, Chesterfield, MO 63005.

All ages are welcome. Auditions will be screened and selected to perform at the event. Auditions can demonstrate any type of talent in any genre or category, i.e. dance troupe, church choir, solo singer, juggler, comedian, solo musician, variety acts, etc.

Need more information? Visit: www.stlbashproductions.com or send email questions to: info@stlbashproductions.com.

MAYOR	COUNCIL MEMBERS							
	WARD I		WARD II		WARD III		WARD IV	
Bruce Geiger 636.527.4711 <i>Term Expires April 2013</i>	Barry Flachsbar 314.434.0471 <i>Term Expires April 2012</i>	Matt Segal 314.205.8867 <i>Term Expires April 2013</i>	G. Elliot Grissom 636.536.1281 <i>Term Expires April 2012</i>	Derek Grier 314.229.7232 <i>Term Expires April 2013</i>	Mike Casey 636.532.7116 <i>Term Expires April 2012</i>	Randy Logan 636.530.7271 <i>Term Expires April 2013</i>	Connie Fults 636.537.5269 <i>Term Expires April 2012</i>	Bob Nation 636.532.2744 <i>Term Expires April 2013</i>

Mayor's Message



Our city is achieving goals and living well within our budget

The year 2011 ended as one of the most successful in our City's history. Most of the facilities and enhancements promised with Proposition P, the half-cent sales tax for Parks, were delivered in 2011.

This includes the Chesterfield Amphitheater, Central Park trails, the first section of the Riparian Trail, the addition of fields and facilities at the Chesterfield Valley Athletic Complex, the opening of Eberwein Park with the very successful new dog park and completion of several miles of the Monarch-Chesterfield Levee Trail. On the financial side, sales tax receipts in the fourth quarter and for the year ended well above expectations. This, combined with expenditures remaining below budget, left us in a strong financial position.

The new American Girl store at the Chesterfield Mall remains on schedule to open in April and will undoubtedly be a welcome addition for those of us with daughters or granddaughters. The competition for the development of an upscale outlet mall continues, and the leasing market will soon dictate which of the projects will be successful. The City will not be the ultimate arbiter of which outlet mall location will be successful; it will be determined by which competitor is able to attract the highest quality tenants.

The Mercy health care expansion is

gaining momentum, and we expect that they will submit rezoning and development plans soon. Approximately 40 acres have been purchased at the southeast corner of Clarkson and Highway 40 for the project. This site will become the headquarters for Mercy as well as house a state-of-the-art Virtual Care Center and possibly an orthopedic hospital. When completed there will be over 2,000 jobs at the Chesterfield campus.

In 2012 we will see significant infrastructure improvements throughout the city. MoDOT's Highway 141 project continues to be on schedule with a completion date of mid-2012. As promised, we have committed funds for beautification efforts at the Ladue/Hwy. 141 intersection and are exploring options to make the Olive/Hwy. 141 intersection an attractive entrance to the city as well. The County's Baxter Road project is scheduled for completion during the fourth quarter, significantly improving the aesthetics and movement of traffic along Baxter Road. The Appalachian Trail road improvements from Olive to Beaver Creek are scheduled to begin in May.

The long awaited realignment of the Long/Wild Horse Creek/Kehrs Mill Road intersection began in late December and is expected to last 19 months. This is a very large and complicated project impacting thousands of commuters on

a daily basis. There are several phases to this project with a variety of detours and closures. Please visit the City's web site or page 6 of this newsletter for more information about the project. When completed, the project will alleviate much of the back-up at this intersection and significantly improve the flow of traffic along Wild Horse Creek Road.

The Parks Guide includes the schedule of free concerts, movies and events at the Chesterfield Amphitheater. I encourage you to join friends and family and enjoy as many of these events as possible, as well as the other amenities that Central Park offers. In addition, we are scheduling our biggest-ever Earth Day celebration at the amphitheater this year. Come out and enjoy the festivities.

Elections for council members will take place on April 3, with competitive races in Wards 1 and 2. I encourage you to get to know the candidates and to get out and vote. It is at the local level of government that you as a citizen can have the most impact on what happens in your community.



Bruce Geiger, Mayor

Chesterfield Citizen

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Free Document Preparedness seminar offered April 26

Due to the popularity of the first Document Preparedness seminar when it was offered in September, the City is again bringing this course to the public.

The free event will be held on Thursday, April 26 at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 690 Chesterfield Parkway West.

The St. Louis area is no stranger to damaging spring storms and tornados. Are your important documents retrievable or in a safe place if your belongings are destroyed?

Discover the important items and documents that persons in your household would need in case of a natural disaster, life crisis or untimely death.

Kimberly Meredith, professional organizing consultant, will share details on how you can be prepared for an unforeseen emergency.

Additionally, Dana Vouga from the Vouga Elder Law firm will be available to answer legal questions. Vouga is an Asset Protection Specialist. No RSVP required.

**Seminar
Thursday
April 26
7 p.m.
City Hall**

FROM CITY HALL

Candidates line up for City Council election April 3

The following individuals have filed for the office of City Councilmember:

Ward I

- Barry Flachsbart (incumbent)
David Arbogast

Ward II

- Elliot Grissom (incumbent)
Tania Pappas

Ward III

- Mike Casey (incumbent)

Ward IV

- Connie Fults (incumbent)

To vote in the April 3 municipal election, you must be registered. To register to vote in St. Louis County, you must be: 18 years of age by Election Day, a U.S. Citizen, and a St. Louis County resident.

You can register to vote at City Hall, at any St. Louis County library, at the office of the St. Louis County Board of Election Commissioners, or at a driver's licensing office while applying for or renewing a driver's license. The Missouri Voter Registration Application is also available online at: www.stlouisco.com/elections.

Additionally, registration forms can be mailed by calling City Hall at 636.537.6717. The deadline to register for this election is March 7.

Proper Placement of Campaign Signs

Chesterfield ordinances permit placement of political signs endorsing candidates seeking public political office on private property (outside of the right of way).

The maximum area for any one sign shall be eight square feet, with a total area of 16 square feet permitted for each lot or unit. The signs should be removed within seven days after the election.

POLICE

Don't fall victim to a phone scam!

Police advise you always make certain who's on the other end of the line

Caller: Hey, Grandpa, it's me. I am in trouble, and I need some help right away.

Grandpa: Who is this? Is this Tony?

Caller: Yeah, yeah, it's Tony, and I really need your help, Grandpa.

Grandpa: What's wrong, Tony?

Caller: Grandpa, I'm in Toronto and have been arrested. Can you send me \$2000, as soon as possible for bond? You can wire the money to me in care of my friend, John Doe.

Every day somewhere in the United States, a conversation similar to this takes place, and loving relatives are bilked out of significant amounts of money, believing that they are helping a

loved one in financial distress.

When you receive such a call try to maintain your composure and ask questions of the caller to verify that they are a family member.

Ask questions such as:

- The name of your spouse.
The name of the caller's parents and other relatives.
Questions on subjects only known to the family members.
Ask for a call-back telephone number.

And last, but not least, call



other relatives to verify the current location of the relative you believe has called. If you suspect fraud, do not hesitate to contact the police department. Often the subjects are not even within the United States, but making the police department aware of these ongoing attempts can help get the word out.

Chesterfield Safety Fair offers tips for the whole family

The Chesterfield Safety Fair is expanding and will deliver more information than ever.

This year's fair is from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, June 2. It includes participation by Chesterfield's Police and Parks & Recreation departments and features a wide variety of safety information for the entire family.

Fair topics include bicycles, vehicles, pets, home safety and

health. The St. Louis County Bomb and Arson Department also will be there with its bomb robot. If weather permits, the ARCH helicopter will make an appearance. Darin the Lion from DARE and McGruff the Crime Dog will join in the fun. Other law enforcement agencies, fire departments, and local businesses also will help educate families on safety issues.

The Family Aquatic Center will

reduce admission to the children's rate of \$3 for Chesterfield residents or \$6 for non-residents.

Various water safety demonstrations will take place at the pool during this time.

Non-pool activities take place in Central Park.

Safety Fair Saturday June 2 10 a.m.-2 p.m Central Park, Aquatic Center

Citizen Police Academy begins 9-week schedule in May

The Chesterfield Police Department is accepting applications for its 14th Citizen Police Academy.

The program allows participants to learn about various aspects of the police operation, including patrol procedures, traffic and DWI enforcement, crime scene

investigation, and criminal investigations. The program will also include role-playing activities.

The session begins Monday, May 7, and meets from 7-9 p.m. once a week for nine weeks at the Chesterfield Police Department, 690 Chesterfield Parkway West. Applicants must be 21 or older.

Applications may be picked up at the Chesterfield Police Department or downloaded from the city web site http://www.chesterfield.mo.us/citizen-police-academy.html.

Deadline for registration is April 20. Class size is limited to 20. For further information call Lt. Cheryl Funkhouser at 636.537.6780.

CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT



Chesterfield gears up for 21st annual Earth Day

A variety of on-stage performances will highlight Chesterfield's 21st Annual Earth Day.

The popular event on Saturday, April 21, is centered around activities at the Chesterfield Amphitheater from 9 a.m. to noon. In partnership with the Recycling Becomes Me campaign, numerous vendors will be selling up-cycled and recycled arts and crafts items, in addition to providing information on a variety of topics related to sustaining the environment.

Kids can create a recycled art project with Chesterfield Arts, and the Girl Scouts will be collecting personal care items for their April Showers drive.

Free trees

Native trees such as redbuds, dogwoods, elderberries and many other varieties will be given away along with a variety of other items.

Amphitheater stage performances

- 9 a.m. Opening Ceremony & Tree City USA Award presentation
- 9:30 a.m. Dance Performance by Soh Creative Arts – combines Indian classical movements with modern dance forms for a fusion of eastern and western styles.
- 10 a.m. Recycled/Reused Content Fashion Show – Girl Scout Troop 1711
- 11 a.m. Raptor Education Show – World Bird Sanctuary

Drive-through recycling

Recycle nearly anything in the drive-through recycling area on the Central Park parking lot from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. The City's new partner for this event is Habitat for Humanity. Items that are being collected at the free, convenient drive-thru event include:

- All single stream items such as newspaper, glass, and plastics by Allied Waste
- Plastic planting pots and light bulbs by Home Depot
- All types of batteries (some may

have a fee) by Batteries Plus

- Electronics (TVs, computers, small appliances) by WITS
- Used clothing, linens, and paired shoes by REMAINS, Inc.
- Shredding of confidential Documents by CINTAS (5-box limit)
- New and used building materials and home supplies by Habitat for Humanity's ReStore program. See habitatstl.org

Earth Day vendor information

If you would like to participate as a vendor at Chesterfield's Earth Day,

Finding Earth Day

Saturday, April 21

Central Park Amphitheater for vendors & entertainment
– 9 a.m.-noon

Central Park parking lot for drive thru recycling
– 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Call 636.537.4000 for more information or visit www.chesterfield.mo.us

fill out the vendor application found in the Earth Day section of the City's web site, or call 636.537.4000 for information. Vendors will be placed on the concourse area inside the Chesterfield Amphitheater.

Fees are \$20 for not-for-profit organizations; \$40 for all others. Tent and table rental is available as well through Tent Pro, or vendors may provide their own.

CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

City residents challenged to expand recycling efforts this year

Did you know that by recycling just 5 percent more than last year, St. Louis County could fill the Edward Jones Dome three feet high, 25 times over with the amount of recyclables collected?

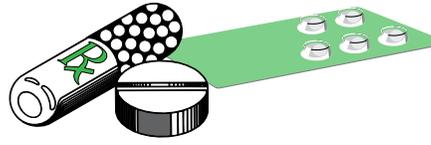
Increasing curbside recycling is the goal of St. Louis County and the City of Chesterfield's public education initiative – Recycling Becomes Me.

It's so easy to recycle in your curbside bin, since there's no need to clean out containers or peel off labels – just toss it in the bin! So feed the bin and set them out every week, no matter how full! Let's see if Chesterfield can recycle more than any other part of the county.

Learn more about the initiative at: www.recyclingbecomesme.com or find the Fan Page on Facebook.



Chesterfield Prescription Drug Take Back



Safely dispose of Rx drugs at Central Park on Earth Day

The Citizens Alliance for Positive Youth (CAPY), in partnership with the Chesterfield Police Department, will sponsor another Prescription Drug Take Back on Earth Day.

The collection will be at the drive-thru recycling area on the Central Park parking lot from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Increasingly, prescription and over-the-counter drugs are being used by teens and youth at parties or for experimentation. Even

over-the-counter drugs can have unexpected and adverse health effects. The collection helps to avoid the improper use or abuse of these drugs and keeps them out of our watershed.

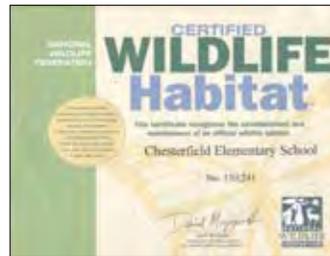
CAPY meets on the second Tuesday of each month at City Hall at 7:30 p.m. More information can be found at www.chesterfield.mo.us or by contacting dweiss@chesterfield.mo.us or 636.537.6750.

Chesterfield Elementary School leads way in Wildlife Habitat certification

Congratulations to Chesterfield Elementary School for achieving its School Certification from the National Wildlife Federation. It's the first school in the City to do so.

The school won certification by creating a native-habitat landscape by planting over 77,000 seeds on school grounds.

For more information about the National Wildlife Federation



Certification and the City's certification, check the City's web site or search www.nwf.org

Girl Scouts collect personal items

During the Earth Day event on April 21, Girl Scouts will be collecting for their April Showers drive. Drop off items at their booth inside amphitheater. New, unused items needed include:

- Toilet paper
- Shampoo
- Toothbrushes
- Deodorant
- First aid supplies
- Disposable diapers
- Feminine hygiene supplies
- Baby care supplies
- Lotion
- Soap
- Facial tissue
- Toothpaste

Chesterfield's Good Neighbor Pledge

Stellar Green Youth Team to include Children's Good Neighbor Pledge

Recognizing a need for conservation programs for elementary school-aged children in its Stellar Green Youth Team Program, the Citizens Committee for the Environment (CCE) crafted the "Chesterfield Good Neighbor Pledge" Elementary Edition.

A pictorial question format is used to help guide children through a series of things they can do to be more environmentally friendly. If a youth pledges to practice eight or more of the 15 suggestions with parental help, they can become official "Good Neighbors of Chesterfield" and receive a certificate signed by the mayor.

The document can be downloaded from the City's web site by searching Good Neighbor Pledge.

County scouts household hazardous waste site in Lemay

The St. Louis County Department of Health – Solid Waste Management Division is working to establish a permanent site for the recycling of household hazardous waste.

The facility will be located in Lemay and is expected to be open sometime in 2012. Until that time, should collection events be scheduled around the county, they will be posted on www.RecycleSaintLouis.com

and on the DOH Service Line at 314.615.8989. The web site also has options for recycling and proper management of many of the more common household hazardous waste items.

Quarterly collections at Dierbergs halted

Due to the increased participation in curb-side recycling, the City will no longer be offering quarterly community-wide recycling drives at Dierbergs Marketplace.



PLANNING & PUBLIC WORKS

\$8 million realignment of 3 roads is underway

As part of the improvements associated with the Chesterfield Valley Transportation Development District, St. Louis County has begun construction on the realignment of the intersections of Wild Horse Creek Road, Long Road and Kehrs Mill Road.

The project includes the following:

- Five lanes of traffic (two northbound, two southbound, and a continuous two-way center left-turn lane).
- Enclosed storm drainage.
- Eight-foot-wide concrete sidewalks on both sides of the roadway.
- Removal and replacement of the bridge over Bonhomme Creek.
- Construction of a single 10' X 8' concrete box culvert.
- Construction of retaining walls, traffic signals, sodding, seeding and other incidental items.

A contract was awarded to Gershenson Construction Company in the amount of \$8,351,583 for this road improvement project. The work began in late December 2011 and it is anticipated that the project will be completed in approximately 19 months (June 2013).

Kehrs Mill Road, Long Road and Wild Horse Creek Road will remain open to two-way traffic

during most of the construction period. However, there will be a 30-day period when Wild Horse Creek Road and Kehrs Mill Road will be closed to thru traffic for the construction of the Kehrs Mill Road tie-in to the new bridge.

During this closure, motorists will be able to travel on eastbound Wild Horse Creek Road to northbound Long Road and on southbound Long Road to west on Wild Horse Creek Road. The closure is this summer June 15-July 13. While the closure is inconvenient to motorists, it is critical to the construction of the box culvert and achieving overall project completion in a timely manner.

Emergency vehicles such as police, fire, and ambulance will be notified about the construction work, allowing these agencies to plan in advance of an emergency.

Regular updates will be provided on the project as it moves forward and will also be available on the St. Louis County highway construction web site: www.stlouisco.com/PropertyandRoads

For additional information, contact Dave Wrone, Public Information Coordinator, St. Louis County Highways & Traffic at 314.615.8173.



Updates on other capital projects

Appalachian Trail Phase I – Road Reconstruction

The City received a federal grant to assist in the reconstruction of Appalachian Trail between Olive Boulevard and Beaver Creek Road.

The improvements will consist of replacing the existing pavement with new concrete, replacing existing rolled curb with a vertical curb, updating stormwater facilities, incorporating features to designate the driving lane versus parking lane, and intersection bump-outs at select locations. No additional right of way is planned. The construction of the roadway is scheduled to begin in May and be completed by the end of the year.

Additional information is available under the City Projects tab on the City's main web site page, or by visiting <http://www.chesterfield.mo.us/apptrail.html>. Updates will be made as information is available.

Edison Avenue asphalt overlay

The City received a federal grant to assist in funding an asphalt overlay of Edison Avenue from Baxter Road

to Long Road this year. The project is scheduled to begin this summer and should be completed by this fall.

Additional information is available by contacting the City's Department of Planning & Public Works.

Monarch-Chesterfield Levee Trail - East End

The City is planning to connect the north and south segments of the Levee Trail on the east side of the Chesterfield Valley.

This will be done in two phases. Phase one will be constructed this year and will continue from the eastern end of the south trail near Edison Avenue and Baxter Road. The trail will continue to the northeast and terminate just north of I-64. In 2013, phase two of the east end will connect this location to the Hardee's Ice Sports Complex Trailhead.

The trail is a partnership among the City of Chesterfield, the Monarch-Chesterfield Levee District, the Chesterfield Valley Transportation Development District, and the Great Rivers Greenway District.

PLANNING & PUBLIC WORKS

City residents can get new tree in right of way for \$100 fee

The Residential Street Tree Program provides for the planting of trees within City right of way (usually the space between the sidewalk and the street) along public residential streets.

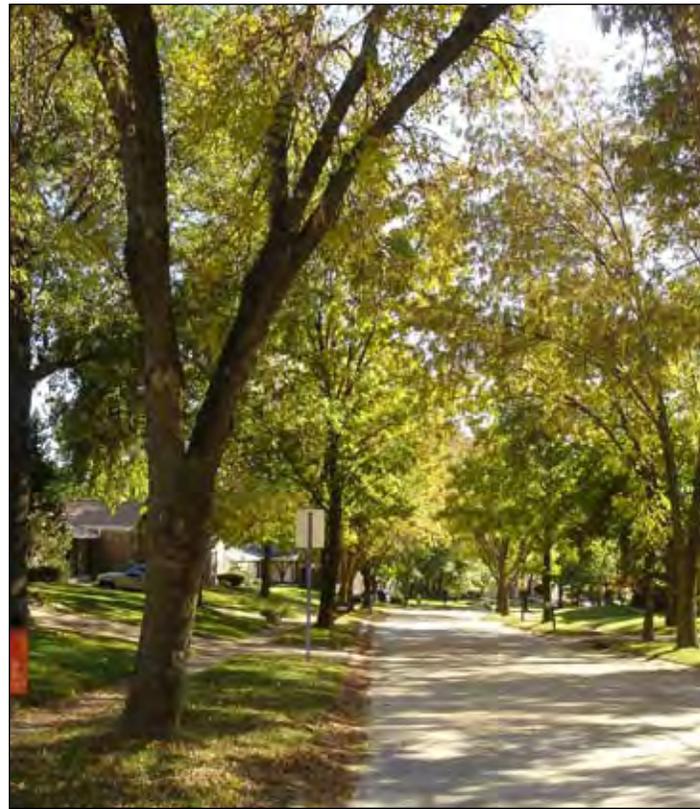
In order to qualify for the program, there must be adequate space for a tree as described in the application materials. If adequate space exists, you can submit an application along with a \$100 fee to City Hall. Trees are 2½” caliper, and about 10’ tall depending on species, and they are planted twice a year, in the spring or the fall.

The deadline for receiving a spring tree has passed, but an application can be sent by Aug. 31 to receive a tree this fall.

One common misconception about the program is that the City will remove existing trees in the right of way upon receipt of an application for new trees. However, the City only removes trees that are dead, dying, diseased or hazardous, as determined by qualified city staff after an inspection.

To determine if existing trees qualify for removal, you must contact the City at 636.537.4000 and request an inspection before sending in an application for new trees. City staff will perform an inspection, then notify the homeowner of the decision. If the trees are to be removed, an application should be sent in after removal has taken place.

For more information and application materials please visit www.chesterfield.mo.us/residential-street-tree.html. Hard copies of the application materials are available at City Hall.



BENEFIT\$ OF COMMUNITY TREES\$

The City of Chesterfield is a thriving municipality that combines beautiful neighborhoods, parks, and recreational opportunities to create an attractive community in which to live, work, and play. The economic health of Chesterfield is closely related to the ability of its municipal government to supply its citizens and visitors with efficient services, safe public spaces, and properly maintained infrastructure. Trees are an integral asset within the community and, with the proper care, will continue to appreciate in value.

Trees provide significant economic, functional, and structural benefits that help improve the quality of life within the City. When properly maintained, trees return overall benefits and value to the community far in excess of the time and money invested in them for planting, pruning, protection, and removal. The city maintains

more than 25,000 trees on its public streets and in its parks. The combined value of the trees exceeds \$31 million.

The City’s tree inventory enables us to calculate annual savings provided by our public trees in regards to energy, carbon sequestration, air quality, storm water improvement, and other contributions such as improvement of real estate.

According to estimating standards developed by professional forestry organizations, total annual benefits provided by public trees in Chesterfield exceeds \$1 million.

Total Annual Benefits of Public Trees	
Energy.....	\$110,860
Carbon Dioxide.....	\$20,806
Air Quality	\$37,795
Storm water.....	\$313,690
Aesthetic/Other.....	\$592,777
Total benefit	\$1,075,928

Tree trimming: it’s not just for holidays anymore

Tree trimming is an ongoing activity as the City’s street tree population matures.

The Street Maintenance Division of the Department of Planning & Public Works systematically trims trees along City streets to provide adequate clearance for vehicles and pedestrians.

Please note that the City’s responsibility is limited to those trees located within a public right of way.

Trees are trimmed on a five-year cycle and are also trimmed ahead of scheduled street work.

Residents who want to trim the street trees in front of their homes are asked to contact the Street Maintenance Division at 636.537.4000. It is important to note that all street trees must be trimmed to the City’s specifications, providing 12 feet of clearance over streets, and 10 feet of clearance over sidewalks.

Residential sewer program helps with costly repairs

Are you experiencing a problem with your sanitary sewer lateral? If the answer is yes, then you may be eligible to participate in the Residential Sanitary Sewer Lateral Repair Program. The program will cover the cost of certain repairs up to a maximum of \$15,000.

The program application and policy/procedures document can be obtained at City Hall between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. These documents can also be accessed online at www.chesterfield.mo.us.

For more information, contact the Planning & Public Works Department at 636.537.4762.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

“The Glass Menagerie” & “I Do! I Do!” headline Dramatic License schedule

The Glass Menagerie by Tennessee Williams

Mar. 1-18 (Thurs.-Sat. at 8 p.m., Sun. at 2 p.m.)

One of the most revered plays of the 20th century, by one of America's greatest playwrights, this timeless classic set in 1930s St. Louis centers

on family members: living with them, standing by them, escaping them, and loving them anyway. Appropriate for age 12 and over.

I Do! I Do! by Tom Jones and Harvey Schmidt

April 26-May 13 (Thurs.-Sat. at 8 p.m., Sun. at 2 p.m.)

Based on Jan de Hartog play “The Fourposter”, join Agnes and Michael Snow in this heartwarming musical as they

experience all the trials and tribulations, laughter and sorrow, hope and disappointment of a 50-year relationship.

Admission: \$25 adults, \$22 students/seniors (60+) and \$18 active military, theatre industry personnel, groups of 10 or more.

Theater located on the upper level Sears wing of Chesterfield Mall, across from Houlihan's Restaurant. For more information, 636.220.7012 or www.DramaticLicenseProductions.org.



Chamber presents 21st Business EXPO

The Business EXPO & Showcase March 8 is an excellent opportunity for attendees to view product demonstrations and speak face-to-face with industry professionals in a relaxed atmosphere.

Businesses from around the community converge on the scene to promote their products and services to the thousands attending. This year aims to be bigger and better with larger booth sizes and more areas in which to move around.

The last two EXPOs were sold out, with more than 80 exhibitors

and in excess of 2,000 in attendance. This Chesterfield Chamber of Commerce event is an excellent opportunity to make face-to-face connections with potential clients and renew past business relationships.

Business EXPO
March 8, 4:30 p.m.
Doubletree Hotel

Exhibitors also offer give-a-ways, raffle prizes, food and more. The Business EXPO &

Showcase is from 4:30-7:30 p.m. at the Doubletree Hotel & Conference Center, 16625 Swingley Ridge Road.

For more information on the Business EXPO & Showcase, contact Stella at 636.532.3399.



Workers in JA BizTown deposit their paychecks at Bank of America.

JA teaches kids that money matters

Junior Achievement of Greater St. Louis in Chesterfield Valley will be host to 2012 academic summer camps where kids learn about personal finance, entrepreneurship, and business management.

Students ages 8-13 can learn about the real world with engaging and fun activities in a mini-city during the week-long day camps.

Registration is open at www.jastl.org.

Camps are held 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Monday through Friday. Before and after care are available. The camps meet in JA BizTown at JA's Dennis and Judy Jones Free Enterprise Center at 17339 North Outer Forty Rd.

For more information, 636.728.0707.

Junior Achievement Summer Camps

JA BizWizards – June 11-15 (ages 8-9)

JA BizTown – June 18-22 (ages 10-12)

JA Young Entrepreneurs – June 25-29 (ages 11-13)

Civic Orchestra sets Spring Concert

Spring is in the air, which means the St. Louis Civic Orchestra is gearing up for their April 14 concert featuring Jean Sibelius' brilliant four-movement masterpiece, Symphony No. 2, and a solo by the winner of the Florence Frager Young Artist Concerto Competition.

The St. Louis Civic Orchestra invites all ages to experience world-class, affordable music, right in their backyard. The group performs an array of contemporary and classic pieces, bringing a rich

cultural and educational component to the community.

The Spring Concert will be held at 8 p.m. at the William D. Purser Center on the Logan College of Chiropractic. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$7 for children/seniors, and may be purchased online at www.stlouiscivicorchestra.org or at the door, prior to the performance.

The orchestra will also provide the featured entertainment to open the 2012 amphitheater season on May 12 at 8 p.m.

Spring Concert
April 14, 8 p.m.
Logan College

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

Central 9th grader wins writing contest

Hosted by Chesterfield Arts, the Chesterfield Writers Guild sponsors various writing contests throughout the year for virtually every age category. Jacqueline Ihnat won the 2011 Phyllis Corbet High School

Writing Contest – The 16 Challenge – for Writers of Poetry and Short Fiction. The contestants were given a list of 16 words that had to be used in their writing.

Jacqueline's winning piece:

The Feather

By Jacqueline Ihnat

Parkway Central High School

I open the beaten trunk
 Diversified junk cluttered at the bottom
 A documentary of my life.
 I don't remember what impelled me to search through these memories
 Until I come to a rusted lunch box.
 My Elementary School lunch: Sandwich, pudding cup and fruit snacks
 Eaten in a desolate corner alone.
 He came to taunt me each day.
 "Raven, Raven!" he would chant my name
 Throwing feathers into my hair that had been found on the playground
 Laughing when I ran home crying.
 But while journeying through adolescence
 He slowly became my proxy.
 He no longer taunted me for any gaffe I made
 But helped me reach my zenith.
 "Raven, Raven!" he would call my name
 Showing me a shiny speckled feather he had found
 Tucking it gently behind my ear.
 He was the ascendant factor in my life.
 Watching bad television with him on rainy Saturdays
 Became a ritual I adored.
 I lived for him.
 So when he came to pick me up in a rented tuxedo
 Slipping a corsage over my wrist
 And posing for pictures taken by my parents
 It felt just as natural as years later
 When he slipped a ring over my finger
 Smiled at me with that alluring smile of his
 And proposed.
 We traveled through time and space
 Years and Furlongs
 Always together.
 But now it's time to say goodbye.
 I open the old lunch box
 Where a speckled feather lies.
 I remember him running his hand through my hair
 "Raven, Raven," he would whisper my name.
 I place the feather on my nightstand and slip on my black dress
 Ready to say goodbye.



The work of Sherri Jaudes, who specializes in metal and jewelry, will be featured at the upcoming exhibit at the Chesterfield Arts Gallery. See a color version of this photo and entire newsletter at www.chesterfield.mo.us.

Chesterfield Arts presents "Simplicity Entangled"

The Gallery at Chesterfield Arts' next show – entitled *Simplicity Entangled* – features the work of artist Sherri Jaudes and other regional artists.

The exhibit is March 9 through April 28. The opening reception is March 9, 6-8 p.m. and is free and open to the public.

The Jade G. Bute Adult Writing Contest

Deadline for submissions is March 19. Contest winners are invited to read their winning pieces on Wednesday, April 11, 7-8:30 p.m. This event is free and open to the public.

Camps

Summer camps start June 4. Registration opens in April.

Pottery, painting, drawing and much more!

CHESTERFIELD
 arts
 OUT WEST
 OUT OF THE ORDINARY

Studio Night Live

May 4, 5-8 p.m.

Open House – Sample the opportunities for the 2012 summer season at Chesterfield Arts with the entire family. Enjoy Lego sculptures and on-the-spot art challenges.

Take a seat – Unveiling Event

June 2 at Amphitheater

The unveiling of the Public Art Fiberglass Form Chair Project.

Elementary to college students from 22 area schools artfully embellished the chairs. Families are invited.

The Gallery at Chesterfield Arts

Chesterfield Arts is located at 444 Chesterfield Center.

For directions or more information about upcoming events, visit www.chesterfieldarts.org

or call 636.519.1955.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

2,000 bright blue butterflies star in Morpho Mania

Blue Morpho butterflies will rule the Sophia M. Sachs Butterfly House during March.

Visitors can witness up to 2,000 of the bright blue creatures in free flight all month as March Morpho Mania is celebrated daily from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., except Mondays when the facility is closed. The event is included with Butterfly House admission.

Common Blue Morpho butterflies (*Morpho peleides*) are a visitor favorite, easily identified by their iridescent blue wings and eight-inch wingspan. The species is native to Central and South America, so they generally aren't seen in this country. The 8,000-square-foot tropical conservatory at the Butterfly House is normally home to approximately 300, but during March, the facility will be immersed in blue.

"This is by far the largest exhibition of Blue Morpho butterflies found anywhere in the country," said Mark Deering, director of the Butterfly House. "They are one of the largest butterflies, and by far the favorite among guests. This is a perfect opportunity to see over two thousand at once, and to get some great photos as well!"

The Butterfly House obtains its Blue Morphos from the El Bosque Nuevo butterfly farming operation in Costa Rica. The butterfly farm provides locals income and allows for the restoration of native habitat, increasing the potential for species



MARCH MORPHO MANIA
Tuesdays-Sundays in March
9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Butterfly House, Faust Park
\$6 adults, \$4 children (3-12)

of native animals and plants to survive in the wild.

The blue color is actually the effect of refracted light on the scales of their wings and is a useful defense mechanism for bewildering predators. When not in flight, the spotty brown underside of the butterfly's closed wings provides camouflage, again confusing predators which mistake the spots for animal eyes.

A visitor provides a landing strip for a Blue Morpho butterfly. Photo courtesy of the Missouri Botanical Garden. See color version of this newsletter at www.chesterfield.mo.us.

In the wild, males travel about during the day to establish territory and attract females. They feast on rotting fruit, tree sap, dung and dead animal carcasses. At the Butterfly House, their vegetarian diet mainly consists of bananas and other fruits presented on hanging feeding plates.

Family activities designed for children 2-12 will be offered each weekend in March 10 a.m.-3 p.m. in the Lopata Learning Lab. Visitors can learn about the Morphos' tropical rainforest home and the other animals and plants that share

it. The butterfly's wings can be examined under microscopes, and the lifecycle studied. There will also be crafts.

The Butterfly House is located at 15193 Olive Blvd. in Faust Park.

Butterfly House admission is \$6 for adults, \$4.50 for seniors (ages 65 and over) and \$4 for children (ages 3-12). No charge for children under 3 or Missouri Botanical Garden members.

For more information, visit www.butterflyhouse.org or call 636.530.0076.

County offers 'Age Smart, Age Well' program to residents 50 and over

St. Louis County residents, age 50 and over, have an opportunity to learn computer skills and strategies for successful aging through the "Age Smart, Age Well" program sponsored by the St. Louis County

Department of Human Services.

"Age Smart, Age Well" offers various options for computer training, including Basics, Microsoft Windows, Word, Internet and Email. Participants also attend

presentations about free and low-cost community resources that support wellness and life enrichment for the retirement years.

"Age Smart, Age Well" sessions are scheduled in six-week intervals

throughout the year, on Monday and Wednesday mornings at various locations throughout St. Louis County.

For more information, call Karen Bono at 314.615.4474.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

Fun Friday Puppet Shows at Carousel in Faust Park

March 9: Peter Rabbit

March 16: Stories Around the World

March 23: Magic Rabbit Tales

Doors open at 9:30 a.m.

Puppet Show 10-10:30 a.m.

Children and parents see

entertaining puppet shows and a complimentary ride on the Carousel after the show.

Tickets \$5 (12 months and under free with paid adult) in advance. \$7 the day of performance

Call 314.615.8383 or visit the St. Louis Carousel Gift Shop to purchase tickets.

Storytelling Festival

Friday, May 4

9 a.m. (Doors open at 8:45 a.m.)

The St. Louis Carousel in Faust Park is one of several locations in the St. Louis area hosting free storytelling during the St. Louis Storytelling Festival. Visit www.storytellingfestival.org for more information.

Free carousel rides for mom

Sunday, May 13, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

All moms ride the Faust Park carousel free on Mother's Day.

Carousel history

The carousel was built in Philadelphia and installed in 1929 at the Forest Park Highlands. When the Highlands burned in 1963, the carousel was the only structure left standing. Howard C. Ohlendorf purchased the carousel to prevent it from being dismantled and donated it to St. Louis County Parks in 1965.

Faust Fine Arts & Folk Festival set for May 19

Saturday & Sunday, May 19-20
10 a.m.-5 p.m. – Faust Park.

- Live Music Performances
- Juried Local, Regional & National Artists



Kids can ring in the fun at Kemp Auto Museum's Big Truck Day June 10 on the plaza from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Auto Museum features cool cars, big trucks

Some of the rarest vintage and new automobiles in the world will be on display Sunday, May 20, at the 5th Annual Concours d'Elegance on the Sachs Plaza of the Kemp Auto Museum from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. There is no admission charge.

Many of the cars have won awards at the prestigious Concours d'Elegance events at Pebble Beach, Amelia Island, Meadow Brook Hall and other venues. This event is the only invitational display of world-class automobiles in the area.

Kemp regularly features Mercedes-Benz and other award-winning cars on loan from private and public collections. Food and beverage are available.

Big Truck Day

See mighty emergency and construction machines plus others at the 5th Annual Big Truck



Visitors check out the vehicles on the plaza at the Kemp Auto Museum.

Day June 10, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Each year, thousands converge on the museum's 14,000 square-foot plaza to hear live music, have their faces painted and collect prizes and giveaways.

More than 30 trucks fill the site,

and visitors are invited on board for pictures, peeks around the cabin and a push at the horn.

Please bring a nonperishable food item to support Operation Food Search. This outdoor show is free to the public.



690 Chesterfield Parkway West
Chesterfield, MO 63017
636.537.4000



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CHESTERFIELD CALENDAR

March

- 5 City Council
City Hall, 7 p.m.
- 8 Planning & Public Works Committee
City Hall, 5:30 p.m.
- 12 Planning Commission
City Hall, 7 p.m.
- 19 City Council
City Hall, 7 p.m.
- 22 Planning & Public Works Committee
City Hall, 5:30 p.m.
- 26 Finance & Administration Committee
City Hall, 5:30 p.m.
- 26 Planning Commission
City Hall, 7 p.m.

April

- 3 Election Day
- 9 Planning Commission
City Hall, 7 p.m.
- 18 City Council
City Hall, 7 p.m.
- 19 Planning & Public Works Committee
City Hall, 5:30 p.m.
- 21 Earth Day
Central Park Amphitheater, 9 a.m.
- 23 Finance & Administration Committee
City Hall, 5:30 p.m.

- 23 Planning Commission
City Hall, 7 p.m.
- 28 Pitch, Hit & Run
Chesterfield Valley Athletic Complex, 10 a.m.

May

- 7 City Council
City Hall, 7 p.m.
- 10 Planning & Public Works Committee
City Hall, 5:30 p.m.
- 12 Civic Orchestra
Central Park Amphitheater, 8 p.m.
- 14 Planning Commission
City Hall, 7 p.m.
- 21 City Council
City Hall, 7 p.m.
- 24 Planning & Public Works Committee
City Hall, 5:30 p.m.
- 26 Family Aquatic Center Opens
Central Park, 10 a.m.
- 28 Finance & Administration Committee
City Hall, 5:30 p.m.
- 28 City Hall Closed
Memorial Day Observed
- 30 Planning Commission
City Hall, 7 p.m.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

Volunteers sought in West County

Would you like to find a cause near your home, where you can contribute time and really help out?

If so, you may be interested in a program offered by the St. Louis County Department of Human Services' County Older Resident Program (CORP). CORP's Neighbor Driving Neighbor program matches volunteers with older adults living nearby and needing rides for medical appointments.

Many older residents are unable to access public or even senior transportation and are not able to afford taxis. Family members may live out of town, work full time or have serious health issues that impact their ability to help out when needed.

Through the efforts of dedicated volunteers, CORP's Neighbor Driving Neighbor program provides a vital link that enables seniors

to stay healthy and remain living independently in the community. Volunteers use their own cars for rides that are scheduled at least 5 days in advance and are free of charge for the senior.

The program offers volunteers flexibility for designating preferred days and hours, as well as geographic areas to which they will drive. Orientation, defensive driving training and mileage reimbursement, plus other educational and social activities also are available. CORP provides many opportunities for helping older adults, utilizing professional skills, plus assisting with administrative activities.

To learn more about this program or other volunteer openings, call CORP at 314.615.4516 or e-mail Patty Gramke at pgramke@stlouisco.com.

HOLIDAY TRASH & RECYCLING

Memorial Day – Monday, May 28

- Monday routes will be picked up on Tuesday, May 29
- Tuesday routes will be picked up on Wednesday, May 30
- Wednesday routes will be picked up on Thursday, May 31
- Thursday routes will be picked up on Friday, June 1
- Friday routes will be picked up on Saturday June 2