

TOWN & COUNTRY TIMES

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Mark your calendars!!

FIRE & ICE
Saturday,
June 21, 2008



Mayor's Message: State of the City – Progress Promised and Achieved!



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

As I complete my third year serving as your Mayor, I once again have the privilege of reporting that the state of our city continues to advance beyond expectations. Building on our success from last year, I am pleased to report the following:

Progress through Collaboration

Town & Country is, without a doubt, both a wonderful place in which to live, as well as a great place for regional institutions and businesses to prosper and serve the community. We warmly welcome these organizations as our neighbors, and we are extremely gratified that they share our city's emphasis on cooperation and collaboration. Our institutional neighbors have already demonstrated an eagerness to meet with subdivision trustees, neighboring residents, city staff and elected and appointed officials to find positive solutions in matters that might otherwise become sources of conflict or concern.

Although there have been many examples of this *esprit de corps*, these four recent cases in point have already shown mutually beneficial outcomes.

• **Churchill School** - The city was delighted to welcome the Churchill Center & School to Town & Country for the start of the 2007-08 school year. The school moved from Ladue to its 11-acre site just south of the Municipal Center to create an enhanced learning environment for its students, preserving about 3.5 acres of woodlands in the southern part of the school lot, which includes outdoor play facilities and an unlighted track and field. Extensive landscaping and berms were added to the school site, beautifying the existing woods and separating the school from residences to the west. A cooperative arrangement between Churchill and the city for use of Churchill's parking facilities by

those attending city court proceedings and other events at the Municipal Center has removed overflow vehicles from Municipal Center Drive, increasing the safety and security of motorists and pedestrians alike.

• **Town & Country Crossing** - Among the most noteworthy aspects of the Town & Country Crossing project at Clayton and Woodsmill Roads was the successful paradigm shift that occurred in our city when all interested parties put their differences aside and began collaborating to produce the most inspired, beneficial proposal for our residents and the community as a whole. This new approach made the collaboration possible, and it will ensure that Town & Country Crossing becomes a vital and appealing asset to our city for generations to come. In short, the intersection of Clayton and Woodsmill Roads will be enhanced through 10.5 million dollars in roadway improvements and a 2.5 acre lake that will complement the development. Major tenants, such as Whole Foods, National City Bank, FedEx Kinko, Target and other familiar names will serve our community. Fine dining establishments, walking trails and a rehabilitated post oak savanna will also be prominent features of this impressive project.



As a result of the cooperation between the landowners and the city, the original commercial development was reduced by 30 acres. The Planning and Zoning Commission recently approved plans for a prime new residential neighborhood, comprised of 98 luxury villas, attached two to a structure, on the 30 acres located just west of the shopping

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center. The proposed homes are of the “Craftsman Prairie Style”, with a generous use of stone and a layout that minimizes the appearance of garage doors. Extensive landscaping, a lake, gazebos and walking trails will enhance the subdivision. The villas will provide an option for Town & Country residents who wish to stay in our community, but prefer the lower maintenance such a home would offer.

- **Missouri Baptist Medical Center** - During 2007, Missouri Baptist Medical Center expanded its service to our community and region by opening the new East Pavilion, with its state-of-the-art Emergency Room, Cancer Care and Heart Center. In advance of the closing of Highway 40, Missouri Baptist also added a new south entrance and exit to alleviate potential traffic back-ups along Ballas Road. In planning and executing both of these projects, Missouri Baptist showed real concern for its residential neighbors by working closely with both trustees of neighboring subdivisions and individual homeowners to add landscaping, berms and other screening, while maintaining and improving the lush landscaped setting at one of the main “gateways” to our city. In fact, the Medical Center agreed to assume the mainstream cost of upgraded light standards for Countryaire subdivision, and it designed and developed a significant water fixture to improve the ambiance and feel of surrounding greenspace. These attributes are not mandated by our ordinances, but are a direct byproduct of the collaborative approach and cooperative spirit the city at work in Town & Country.

- **Westminster Christian Academy** - Westminster Christian Academy recently announced plans to move its campus to 68.8 acres at I-64/40 and Maryville Center Drive, developing its new facilities within the structure formerly known as West County Technical School, in addition to property to the west previously used by Central Presbyterian Church as a retreat. In keeping with the city’s encouragement of cooperation among all affected parties, Westminster representatives have reached out to neighboring residents and subdivisions to not only share their plans but learn about and act upon neighbors’ concerns, as well. While much work remains to be done, the positive and solution-minded attitude of those involved will surely produce another major landmark in Town & Country.



the house in Longview Farm Park is undergoing a transformation from an unusable/inaccessible relic to a vibrant new community asset with historical significance. Below is an artist's rendering of the new addition.



The area we know today as Longview Farm Park is the remnant of a farm that once encompassed over 350 acres acquired directly from the United States government by the son of a pioneer settler, presumably in the 1820's. The farm was divided several times and passed through the ownership of a few families. The present farmhouse was originally a 1-1/2 story log cabin, thought to be from the 1870's. By the 1920's, the log cabin was covered by a white frame house. Through the years, several additions were added to the original house, dividing the space into various rooms and elevations.

After Town & Country purchased the property in 2000, town hall meetings were held to discuss the best way to maximize the house’s future function for our community. Since it was not ADA accessible and was broken into a number of divided, obsolete spaces, it was clearly not suitable for city events and meetings in its original state. Last year, after many long hours of discussion and attention given to every detail, the Longview Farm House Subcommittee chose the final plans for the house’s renovation, and the construction process began.

During October 2007, the pre-1970 additions to the house were demolished. The two story, front portion of the house will undergo some restoration and minor reconstruction, while in the rear portion of the house, a new, low profile addition will be built. The community gathering space with retractable walls will be available for functions and meetings of various sizes. Additionally, offices for our Parks and Recreation Department, which to date have been working in already overcrowded corners of City Hall, will be relocated there. Powers Bowersox and Associates are the architects on the project, and Diestelkamp Construction Company is the general contractor.

The thorough planning process that preceded this exciting project included extensive financial and budget computations.

Following a strong and favorable cost-benefit analysis, we are working hard to ensure completion on time and within



Community Assets

- **Longview Farm House** - Following through on a plan developed many years ago through city-wide resident input,

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budget. No debt was incurred for the project, which is paid for out of the capital improvements fund. This account has a multi-million dollar positive balance and was created for projects of this very nature. We appreciate your patience during the construction phase as we await the new and improved Longview Farm Park House.

• **Parks and Trails Master Plan** - In 2007, the city began implementation of the 1998 Parks and Trails Master Plan to connect our neighborhoods to local parks. By installing a sidewalk along Clayton Road from Mason Ridge Road to Old Woods Mill Road, the city not

only inter-linked many neighborhoods to one another, but to Longview Farm Park, local businesses and other attractions, as well. In addition, a trail was installed from Clayton Road to Drace Park along Cedar Valley Lane, allowing safer pedestrian access to that park. This year, the city is reassessing the balance of our trails system and updating the Parks and Trails Master Plan as appropriate. Moreover, the Board of Aldermen recently approved the submission of a Surface Transportation Program (STP-S) grant application to provide for a two-phase project representing an exciting opportunity for our city. It would include both the resurfacing of Clayton Road following completion of Highway 40 and the addition of pedestrian trails along Clayton Road that will stretch from Mason Road to Bopp Road. If awarded, the grant will cover 80 percent of the project costs, making possible the installation of trails connecting schools, neighborhoods, parks, bus stops, and business districts.

Expanded Sense of Community

• **City Events and Activities** - I remain fully committed to the



growth of Town & Country's "sense of community", and to this end, much progress was made over the past year, with additional plans for such

opportunities to be implemented in the coming months. In addition to the numerous events offered by the city, I was honored to participate in a number of other community affairs throughout the year. The surrounding photos depict just a few of the enjoyable things that have happened all across town.

Once again, Arbor Day, Fire & Ice and our biggest fall festival to date (redubbed the "Safety Festival") were popular



occasions in 2007. The Town & Country Arbor Day Celebration was recognized as the region's best Arbor Day event at the National Arbor Day Celebration

in Forest Park. Fire & Ice not only brought out the largest crowd in its history, but the culinary offerings of "A Taste of Town & Country" combined with new rides and activities continued to exceed everyone's expectations. In addition, October's Safety Festival was a roaring success, complete with horseback rides, games, storytelling, food, and a beautiful autumn day that made for a memorable experience at Longview Farm Park.

New in 2007, the 1st Annual Town & Country Turkey Trot was held in Longview Farm Park, as well. Despite the somewhat frigid conditions,



community members of all ages turned out in great numbers to become part of a new family tradition on the day after Thanksgiving right here in Town & Country. Our enthusiastic runners and walkers braved the elements and enjoyed a beautiful course throughout Longview Park and the surrounding area, rendering the weather a non-issue. We are already looking forward to the 2nd Annual 5K Turkey Trot,



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which will take place on Friday, November 28, 2008.

The thoughtful planning of these events coupled with a wholehearted reception by our residents allowed for many wonderful occasions when everyone joined together as a community.



- **“Neighborhood News”** - To provide opportunities for more community awareness and involvement, we have established a system to collect resident submitted articles describing noteworthy events around town, and the citizens have responded! With the addition of the “Neighborhood News” feature to the Town & Country Times, our newsletter has grown in both content and community interest, with evidence of community spirit at every turn. This ever-growing section is about you—the residents of Town & Country - so please feel free to submit an article and share your good news with your neighbors. See “Neighborhood News” on page 16 for more information.

- **New City Website** - Speaking of good news – we have a brand new city website! In order to serve our residents better, our city staff has been diligently working to develop this innovative website to make all the city information you need just a click away. Be sure to visit our new city website at www.town-and-country.org to see our great new look firsthand and experience the website’s extremely user-friendly format for yourself. An article further outlining our new website may be found on page 9 in this edition of the Town & Country Times.

AAA Credit Rating and Solid Financial Condition

Without reservation, I can proudly report that the City of Town & Country continues to function as an excellent steward of the taxpayers’ money. Through prudent fiscal management and careful budgetary planning, we have been able to continue delivering high-level services to residents **without levying a personal or real property tax**. In fact, Town & Country’s finances remain in superb condition with a General Fund reserve that exceeds our annual operating expenditures by more than 100 percent. For 11 consecutive years now, the city’s property tax rate has been set at zero due to stable sales tax revenues and responsible spending practices. Based on preliminary financial results, operating revenues exceeded operating expenditures by more than \$500,000 in 2007, increasing the General Fund reserve by almost 5 percent.

The city’s stable outlook, strong financial operations, low debt profile, and sound management style has once again earned Town & Country Standard & Poor’s credit rating of “AAA”, the highest rating possible, which our city has consistently maintained since 2001. Furthermore, the City of Town & Country has been included in Standard & Poor’s U.S. Public Finance Report entitled AAA-Rated Credits in U.S. State & Local Government Finance, dated October 2006. There are only 70 municipalities in the United States that carry the S&P “AAA” rating, and we are extremely proud that Town & Country is the only city in the State of Missouri that has ever achieved this honor.

Architectural Review Board

After much study, careful planning and input from a number of sources, I appointed our city’s first Architectural Review Board in 2007 to (1) develop a system of criteria and standards against which applicants could objectively measure their development projects, and (2) properly and fully evaluate both residential and commercial projects in Town & Country. Thanks to the support of our Board of Aldermen, the new Architectural Review Board is comprised of a diverse group of residents who have the skills and commitment to properly and fully consider all applications. Although all commercial projects and those residential projects involving serious disagreement will still require Board of Aldermen review and approval, they must first be comprehensively reviewed and receive a positive recommendation by the Architectural Review Board. Our ARB now enables the city to offer more objective criteria for an approvable project and places the thorough review of such projects in the hands of experts.

Since its first meeting in May 2007, the ARB has reviewed and approved thirteen residential projects and forwarded approval of two commercial buildings to the Board of Aldermen. The ARB has also been considering whether changes should be made in the city’s sign regulations and will forward recommendations to the Board of Aldermen accordingly. The ARB meets on the second Monday of each month at the Municipal Center.

Improved Commission Structure

There is hardly a more vital asset to our community than the many volunteers who devote themselves to membership on our city’s commissions. These dedicated citizens focus on such matters as our city budget (Finance Commission), our employee pension and healthcare plan (Benefits and Insurance), our tremendous city parks and magnificent surroundings (Parks & Trails and Conservation Commissions) and our community-wide events (Community Relations), to name but a few.

I believe that good ideas stemming from City Hall are always

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made better with input and analysis brought forth by our commissions. Significantly, however, our commission structure had not kept up with the times and was slowing down the good work of our commissions. With this in mind, last year, I appointed a committee that met over many months, gathered input from area leaders, and formulated a report and recommendation for improvement in this area. Thereafter, a bill was introduced to adopt the recommended changes, which focused on streamlining our commissions, clarifying the jurisdiction of each and otherwise making a crucial city function even better.

Now that these changes have been implemented, I am currently working with all of the Commission Chairs to renew or update commission appointments. Accordingly, if you are interested in becoming involved in your community as a commissioner, I would welcome the opportunity to discuss your particular area of interest with you.

Public Works and Infrastructure Improvements



The Public Works Department has spent the last year completing several projects while formulating a long-term plan for the city's infrastructure. Among the projects implemented in the past year included \$400,000 in storm water improvements

to address the stabilization of creek erosion in the Bryn Wyck and Pebble Acres Subdivisions, replacement of deteriorated concrete street slabs in Mason Valley, Arlington Oaks and Karvilla West subdivisions and the resurfacing of deteriorated asphalt pavement in Chateau Estates and Radcliffe Subdivisions, among other significant and important undertakings. The city also completed a major rehabilitation of streets in Radcliffe Subdivision, Bon Chateau Lane and Mason Knoll Drive

We are continuing to work on a complete analysis of the pavement condition of all streets within the city. The rankings established through this process will allow the Department to implement a long-term program that most effectively addresses the needs of the residents. This program is intended to utilize structural treatments such as asphalt resurfacing, concrete replacement and complete pavement rehabilitation to enhance the quality of the city's roadways.



Safe and Secure Neighborhoods

I am extremely grateful for the men and women who have dedicated themselves to serve the citizens of Town & Country in the noble and sometimes dangerous profession of law enforcement. Sleepless nights, harsh weather conditions, belligerent drunks, investigations that take them into less than desirable situations are all managed with the highest standards of professionalism and skill. During the past year, our crime rate was maintained at some of the lowest levels in 20 years, and even our traffic accidents decreased significantly. Burglaries were again at 25-year lows, and 9 of the 13 that were committed were expertly solved by our detectives.

These accomplishments distinguished 2007 as another year of broad recognition for the Town & Country Police Department, since the Department was honored by many outside organizations for the extraordinary devotion to service and protection it demonstrated. Our own Chief of Police, John Copeland, was named the State of Missouri's Chief of the Year, a prestigious award given by the Missouri Police Chiefs Association. He was also recognized by Mothers Against Drunk Driving for his outstanding leadership in the region in the fight against drunk driving. In addition, Town & Country police officers were recognized for their individual outstanding performances, with the Chief awarding three Letters of Commendation and seven Awards of Excellence for the arrests of armed robbery suspects, the apprehension of a burglar soon after commission of his crimes, the investigation of a home invasion on our university campus, the excellent manner in which a 12-year-old autistic child was safely stopped after a vehicle pursuit, and numerous other praiseworthy acts that were accomplished in the course of our police officers' routine daily responsibilities.

* * * * *

I hope and trust that this "State of the City" message has provided you with both news of past accomplishments and insights into exciting new projects on the horizon, not only for the purpose of informing you, but to involve you with the inner workings of your city. Thanks to our community's commitment to collaboration on these projects, we may all look forward to a historic year in which the citizens of Town & Country will continue reaping the considerable benefits they will afford us. I appreciate the tremendous support I have received over the past three years, and I pledge to continue earning that support as we look to our community's very bright future.

All the best,

Jonathan F. Dalton
Mayor

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS FOR ALDERMEN – WARDS 1 & 2



Nancy Marshall Avioli

Candidate for Alderman Ward 1 Running Unopposed

It has been an honor serving as your Alderman, Chairman of the Community Relations Commission, and Member of the Strategic Land Use Committee. I believe a strong commitment to community is important for every citizen, and our residents are exceptional in this regard. I am originally from a small town in Missouri and have lived in several communities in the St. Louis area. It wasn't until we moved to Town & Country five years ago that I experienced that same "small town" sense of community I enjoyed in my childhood. For this and many reasons, it has been a privilege serving the residents of our City.

In my professional life, I am an assistant general counsel for Monsanto Company specializing in mergers and acquisitions. Prior to joining Monsanto, I was an attorney in private practice as well as a Certified Public Accountant for a Big Four accounting firm. My husband, Michael, and I are the proud parents of four boys.

As your Alderman, I will continue to be guided by the following principles:

Support Residents' Priorities: Elected officials should not be afraid to listen and seek input on important issues facing the City. I will continue representing your priorities and concerns.

Preservation of our Community: I am dedicated to preserving our small town character in the middle of a large metropolitan area. Preservation of our neighborhoods through maintaining current zoning ordinances will be a priority, along with encouraging the sensible growth of revenue opportunities for our City consistent with our Comprehensive Plan.

Fiscal Conservatism: As a former accountant, I am fiscally conservative and will continue supporting sound fiscal management and preservation of our no city-level property tax policy.

I would be honored to have your vote to retain me as your Ward 1 Alderman.



Tim Welby

Candidate for Alderman Ward 2

I am pleased to announce my candidacy for re-election as Alderman in Ward 2. It has been an absolute pleasure serving my constituents and offering myself as a valuable resource. My values haven't changed. I am still a strong defender of one acre residential zoning; protecting and preserving the natural beauty of our neighborhoods, parks, and other green space; and being fiscally responsible in order to maintain a zero percent city property tax. I have worked hard over the past two years to uphold these principles and I plan to continue to do so in the future, as your Alderman.

During my first term as Alderman, I have had the privilege to chair the Community Relations Commission, the P.H.A.S.E. Commission, and the Tree Board. I am currently chairing the Public Works and Storm Water Commission, along with the Clayton Road Task Force, which was created in response to the closure of Highway 64.

Under my leadership:

- Community Relations enhanced several events to create a stronger sense of community in Town and Country. These included expanding both the Fall Festival and the Arbor Day Celebration, creating two fun-filled family events at Longview Farm Park. In 2006, our Fire and Ice Celebration added "A Taste of Town and Country". These changes were overwhelmingly successful and have taken the sense of community to a higher level.
- Public Works and Storm Water, in conjunction with Parks and Trails, has started working to expand the sidewalks on Clayton Road, east of Mason Road to our eastern city limits.
- Clayton Road Task Force planned a safe environment while keeping traffic flowing during the Highway 64 closure. This ensures pedestrian, cyclist, and motorist safety.

I ask for your vote on April 8th, and look forward to my continued representation of Ward 2. Thank you.

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS FOR ALDERMEN – WARDS 2 & 3

**John Hoffmann*****Candidate for
Alderman Ward 2***

I'm 55-years-old and currently semi-retired. I have an extensive background in public safety having spent 30-years as a police detective, fire investigator and police administrator. I have six years experience in transportation and transit. I also have a background in journalism having covered Congress and the Justice Department for public safety management trade magazines. Also while living in the Washington DC area I covered pro baseball, college football and basketball as a sportswriter. My wife and I moved back to St. Louis due to failing health of my mother. I am currently the PA announcer and official scorer for basketball and baseball at Webster University. I work during evening rush hour at MoDot as an editor for a traffic reporting company serving media outlets and MoDot.

In 2006 I led the fight against the Fire District annexation attempt that would have cost Town and Country residents thousands of dollars in taxes. During that effort the city at first tried to keep me from seeing consultant and committee reports concerning fire service until I hired a lawyer and threatened to sue. That got me interested in city politics.

I am concerned with some spending by the city that appears to be wasteful or to benefit a select few at the cost of many. I believe it is important for there to be an alderman on the board with a strong background in government service who is willing to vote no on measures that appear wasteful. I would also like to see better oversight of new home contractors by the city staff to keep neighborhoods cleaner and safer with fewer disruptions during new home construction.

I believe that the city must help our existing businesses prosper. At the same we need to keep our one-acre zoning requirements without adding new business districts.

**Steve Fons*****Candidate for
Alderman Ward 3
Running Unopposed***

My family moved to this wonderful community six years ago because of the quality of life that we all enjoy here. We chose Town & Country because of its beautiful green spaces and the emphasis it places on families and neighborhoods. I choose to run to ensure the continuance of these values. If we as residents and heads of our families do not step forth to serve our community, others who will are not necessarily looking out for our best interests.

As a seasoned Alderman, I bring high energy and sound judgment to this wonderful community. I am committed to managing our fiscal affairs and to avoid raising residential property tax. I am an independent thinker and I don't waffle on decisions. I bring to the table tough negotiation skills, and I do not rubber stamp the first proposal that is submitted.

I want to preserve the "country" in Town & Country by reviewing commercial developments that "make sense". I want to preserve our zoning to contain commercial and office building developments to existing sites and to maintain our one-acre zoning. We do not need high-density residential apartments or condominiums. I like to work to curtail commercial, office and high-density residential development that only worsens the traffic congestion we already experience.

It has been a pleasure serving as your City Alderman the past four years, and I am honored to serve you for the next two years.

CANDIDATE STATEMENT FOR ALDERMAN – WARD 4



Phil Behnen

Candidate for Alderman Ward 4 Running Unopposed

I look forward to your continued support to serve as your Ward 4

Alderman. I take the responsibility of being your public servant very seriously and promise to work hard to make sure our great community maintains our high quality of life and continues to improve. I take great pride working with my fellow Aldermen and consulting with members of the community to uphold the fiscal responsibilities we all share.

As a CPA and Certified Financial Planner®, I am very proud to serve as the Chairman of the Finance Commission. Town & Country is the only city in the State of Missouri to achieve Standard and Poor's prestigious AAA rating. Our fine city is on the short list of municipalities in the country that achieved this AAA rating without a property tax. This is a difficult challenge, but our city is fortunate to have an outstanding Finance Director and City Administrator.

A new challenge this year for me has been the formation of our Architectural Review Board, which I proudly serve as the Chairman. The Board reviews all new home construction, major remodeling projects and all commercial buildings. We want to challenge residents and developers alike to assure all construction is of the highest quality and architecturally pleasing, which will help preserve all of our high property values. We have encouraged recycling, tree preservation and are a leader in addressing storm water runoff.

Both of my Boards are comprised of highly qualified members of the community who all work extremely hard together. I would like to thank all of them and city staff for their dedication and commitment.

I thank you for your vote and support to represent Ward 4 as your Alderman and always welcome your feedback at behnenpj@town-and-country.org.

A Tribute To Kirkwood And All Public Servants

Captain Gary Hoelzer

The headline in the February 6th edition of the Kirkwood-Webster Journal read, **"It's about duty, not money—Area's elected officials find satisfaction in serving public"**. The article, written by Journal municipal beat reporter Todd Smith, perked my interest as the article detailed interviews with mayors from Kirkwood, Webster, Glendale, Warson Woods, Shrewsbury and Oakland regarding their dedication to public service. As I picked up the paper around 6pm on February 7th I thought, "I'll have to save this one to read when it's quiet." Yet, "quiet" did not come until several days later...for within one hour of that moment five public servants lay dead in neighboring Kirkwood with Mayor Swoboda critically wounded. Ironically, reporter Todd Smith also suffered a gunshot wound in the attacks.

Mr. Smith got it right—for nearly all of those who serve their communities in municipal and local government, there is a profound sense of community-spirit that motivates them to sacrifice hundreds of hours with little or no pay to make their neighborhood, city or county a better place to live, work and raise a family. Council members like Connie Karr and Michael Lynch, and our own aldermen and mayor, spend countless hours bringing government service close and personal to their neighbors and fellow citizens. They are the unsung heroes of our nation and are the epitome of the best of our democratic republic. Out of tragedy comes the recognition and reminder that we owe a lot to those who represent our local interests in the public square, as well as those like Ken Yost who serve their communities in public works, development, parks and finance.

For my fellow officers who gave the ultimate sacrifice in serving their community I can only say "well done". The vast majority of police officers and firefighters who wear the badge have pledged their lives to protect others, knowing that one day that oath could cost them their lives. All too many times the cost of an orderly society is paid with the blood of such men and women. Yet, officers like Tom Ballman and Bill Biggs had made peace with that realization long before the night of February 7th. No police officer or firefighter can wear the badge for very long before they are confronted with the eventual cost that they may have to pay. Those unwilling to make that sacrifice will eventually give up the badge for another line of work.

This commitment to duty was highly evident the night of February 7th as the last act of Sergeant Biggs' life was to press his emergency alert button on his portable radio to warn others of the emerging danger, without which a number of additional lives would have been lost. And the commitment to duty demonstrated by the two Kirkwood officers who ran into the council chamber after hearing gun shots, knowing that with each stride they could be getting closer to their own death.

So perhaps we can extend the scope of Todd Smith's original article – from mayors to aldermen to public works to parks to development to clerks to police and fire..."it's about duty, not money!"

SAFETY COMMITTEE

Mayor Jon Dalton has established a safety committee to ensure that all who visit, attend meetings or work at the Municipal Center can concentrate on their business at hand without fear. The committee is comprised of city staff and selected elected officials whose mission is to institute procedures, staffing and structural improvements for the safety of all.

Town & Country Launches New Website



www.town-and-country.org has a new look and feel!

In an effort to better serve the residents, the City of Town and Country has developed a new and improved website. While the website address will remain the same, the look and content has been updated so it is more user friendly with added information.

Some of the enhancements to the site include:

- A condensed menu on the home page
- A new banner displaying picturesque scenes of Town & Country
- Easy to use sub-menus
- New pages filled with more content and pictures
- A "Community Links" page that contains direct links to community organizations
- "New Resident Information" page with important information that those moving to Town & Country will need

- A "Service Request" page allowing citizens to request city services online
- An additional enhancement providing the "E-mail Subscription" list. This feature allows residents to register to receive minutes and agendas from public meetings via email, as well as to sign up for various email updates provided by the City. Those who currently receive information via the Electronic Community Notification Network (ECNN) or the Crime Prevention and Safety Network (CPSN) will need to register on the new website to receive these email updates. Be sure to register today – in one simple step!

The new website is an effort to offer improved service to residents. Please take some time to visit the new www.town-and-country.org.

Municipal Center Photo Wall

Have you been to the Municipal Center lately and admired the wall to the right of the Board Room doors? If not, you should stop by and see it sometime. It is filled with fabulous pictures of residents enjoying our City events. Last summer, after David Bentley of Bentley Studio Ltd., graciously shared over 200 pictures taken at Fire & Ice, we decided the newsletter was not the only place we could showcase these great photos. So, we hung 11 of the best pictures on the wall for all the visitors to the Municipal Center to enjoy. After great times were enjoyed at Safety Festival and Turkey Trot last fall, we changed out the summer pictures and replaced them with residents having some fall fun.



As the old pictures are replaced with new ones, we would like to give away these remembrances of good times past. So, modeling ourselves similar to a Washington, D.C. White House tradition, if you see a picture that you would like, contact Mary Olsen at the Municipal Center at olsenm@town-and-country.org, or 314-432-6606 to get the photo.

A picture is worth a thousand words - come by the Municipal Center and see for yourself!

STAY INFORMED - Receive Information From The City Via Email

If you would like to receive emails from the City about upcoming meetings & events or timely crime prevention information, the solution is a click away! Visit the City's redesigned website, www.town-and-country.org and sign up for the Electronic Community Notification Network (ECNN) or the Crime Prevention and Safety Network (CPSN) and you will receive email updates as soon as they are broadcast. Additionally, users of our e-mail subscription list feature may register to receive documents from many of our commissions and boards.

Enrolling is easy - simply click on "City Government", then go to "Public Notices", then to "Click here to sign up to receive Public Notices via e-mail!" Complete the registration screen and choose the updates you would like to receive.

Current users of the ECNN or CPSN will need to register to continue to receive these important updates.

JEFF MYER – SO LONG FRIEND AND COLLEAGUE

After 17 years of dedicated service and protection as a police officer, Sergeant Jeff Myer has announced his resignation to become the new Dean of Students for Christian Brothers College High School. Jeff was not only the epitome of a professional law enforcement officer but was also one of the significant bridges between the community and the Police Department through the various innovative programs he either initiated or facilitated.



Sgt. Jeff Myer, Art Holliday and Kim Hibbs on the set at KSDK

Jeff was the official spokesman for the Police Department, seen regularly on local media outlets offering his advice and expertise on a wide range of public safety topics. Whenever a significant story popped up in St. Louis news, Jeff's cell phone would begin to ring from the area television reporters who were seeking his insight on the story. He had a regular feature on the KSDK noon news for several years highlighting various issues that affected the police, the community and public safety.

Beyond the camera, Sergeant Myer frequently addressed crime and safety issues with our young people at the various schools located in Town and Country, as well as neighboring communities. One of his educational projects was securing a grant and additional funding for SIDNE, the Simulated Impaired DrivINg Experience, a battery-powered vehicle that simulates the effects of impairment from alcohol or other drugs on a motorist's driving skills. Through a cooperative effort between the Creve Coeur and Town & Country Police Departments as well as a dozen schools and businesses, Town & Country and Creve Coeur became the first police departments in the State to utilize this educational tool.

One of Jeff's most successful initiatives was the establishment of the Town & Country and Creve Coeur Citizens Police Academy, including the Advanced Academy. Over 200 residents have graduated from the CPA over the past five years. The basic nine-week course, developed nearly entirely by Sergeant Myer, is one of the most successful ongoing Citizens Academies in the State of Missouri. Jeff also initiated the Town & Country Community Emergency



Response Team with over 200 residents graduating from the training since its inception in 2003. Through Jeff's direction, the Town & Country CERT program is now part of the Meramec Valley Citizens Corps and its members have served throughout the country on disaster relief efforts.



CERT members assist in the evacuation of T&C Healthcare.

Jeff's other community activities are too numerous to mention in a brief article but some of the highlights include his role in the very successful Greens for Green Charity Golf Tournament that has raised thousands of dollars for local charities. He has also coordinated several very successful Safety Fairs along with the Fire & Ice Celebration. His community outreach was recognized by the Town & Country / Frontenac Chamber of Commerce, who named Jeff their Ambassador of the Year for 2005. His hand was also observed in the recent transformation of the City web site, and Jeff was a frequent contributor to this newsletter.



On a typical spring afternoon when Sergeant Myer was not at the police station or in one of our schools or businesses, he was found on the baseball diamond at CBC High School. In 2004 Jeff was invited to join the baseball coaching staff at the High School, beginning his formal relationship with the school. In his first year as freshman coach, Jeff led the team to a 21-6 record! With his success on the diamond mentoring young men, as well as his skill in the classroom instructing them on law enforcement and safety topics, Jeff's talents beyond the badge began to emerge and CBC administrators began to take notice. When Ray Bahr, Dean of Students for over 30 years, announced his retirement Jeff quickly emerged as the logical choice in taking up his mantle.

Beyond the diamond and the classroom, Jeff also volunteers his time to Big Brothers Big Sisters, mentoring a young teen and giving him one of the most precious gifts of all—time. These and other extra-duty activities that Jeff did on his own time were evidence that involvement and partnering in the community was not only what he did professionally, but who he is personally. He will be greatly missed and we wish him the best of success in his new position at Christian Brothers College High School.

Beautification Grant Program Helps Subdivisions



With the spring planting season around the corner, now is a good time for subdivision trustees to think about beautifying subdivision entrances and cul-de-sac islands. The City's Beautification Grant program is a matching grant program intended to encourage subdivisions to enhance these areas with landscaping, irrigation systems and even new subdivision entry signs. Under the program, the City can reimburse up to \$5000 (or 50 % of eligible costs, whichever is less), after approved projects are complete. Subdivision trustees can find out more information about this program by checking the city's website at www.town-and-country.org (under Planning and Development Department, choose Planning), or by contacting Sharon Rothmel, Planning Director, at 314-432-6606, ext. 113, or rothmelsh@town-and-country.org.

In Memoriam

JOHN MCCOOK

Former Community Relations Commission member John McCook passed away in December. Until last fall, John was an active member of the Community Relations Commission, chairing seminars and graciously arranging for the appearance of Ronald McDonald at Fire & Ice. John's kindness will be missed.

LOU BERRA

West County EMS & Fire Protection District lost a valued member of their family in January with the death of Paramedic/ Firefighter Lou Berra.

Reduce Reuse Recycle Naturally!

Why Recycle Electronics?

A little known fact is that many electronics contain toxic substances such as lead, cadmium, mercury, and arsenic. When these substances find their way into the waste stream, they may threaten the environment and human health. If possible, we should try to keep them out of landfills. So, what can you do with an old computer, television set, cell phone or other electronic item?

Good news!

The St. Louis Regional Partnership for Electronics Recovery has developed *e-cycle St. Louis*, a collection program with numerous drop-off locations for used electronics. Residents of St. Louis County as well as Jefferson County, St. Charles County, and the City of St. Louis can bring items to the collection sites, where the equipment is either refurbished or properly disposed. Fees may apply for many items to offset the labor and disposal costs involved with electronics recycling.

The *e-cycle St. Louis* program is sponsored through a grant from St. Louis-Jefferson Solid Waste Management District and Missouri Department of Natural Resources. The collection sites are registered to comply with standards established by the Partnership to ensure environmentally safe handling and disposal of electronics.

For information about *e-cycle St. Louis*, including locations, items accepted, and applicable fees, visit www.ecyclestlouis.org.

QUESTION: How Do I Get A "No Outlet" Sign At The Entrance To My Subdivision?

ANSWER: There are some requirements which first have to be met. First, the street must be a street which is of "public access". This means that even if it is a private street, the City will still install the sign atop an existing street identification sign if there are no other restrictions, such as a gate, which impedes traffic in or out of the subdivision. Also, the street must actually terminate without another means of exit. These signs lose their effectiveness when installed as a means of deterring cut through traffic at streets or subdivisions which have an alternate entrance / exit. If your subdivision meets the above criteria, the next step is to have the president of your trustee organization request "no outlet" signs in writing to: Craig Wilde, Director of Public Works, 1011 Municipal Center Drive, Town & Country, MO 63131.



D.A.R.E. Program At Churchill School

In August 2007, Churchill Center & School opened its new facility in Town and Country and immediately a partnership was formed between the school's administration and the city's police department. Before the students and staff ever arrived that first day, plans were already in place to ensure that their safety and security needs would be met. School administrators offered Town & Country police officers tours of the building and provided them with floor plans which were subsequently down-loaded into the patrol officer's in-car computer systems. Administrators also made it clear that a police presence inside the school was welcome at all times and encouraged officers to visit frequently. School officials also indicated a desire to take advantage of the many school related programs offered by the Town and Country Police Department. One such program, D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance education), is currently being taught to twenty-two 5th grade students by School Resource Officer (SRO) and certified D.A.R.E. Instructor, Officer Chris Hunt.

D.A.R.E. is a police officer led series of classroom lessons that teach children from kindergarten through 12th grade how to resist peer pressure and live productive, drug and violence free lives. The program was developed as a joint effort between the Los Angeles Police Department and the Los Angeles Unified School District in 1983. It initially focused on elementary school children, but has now been expanded to include middle school and high school students.

D.A.R.E. goes far beyond traditional drug abuse programs

that emphasize drug identification and the harmful effects of drugs and alcohol. D.A.R.E. not only warns children not to use these substances, but how to resist the pressures to try them. D.A.R.E. teaches children the skills they need to recognize and resist the subtle and overt pressures that may lead them to experiment with drugs and alcohol.

The primary goal of D.A.R.E. is the prevention of substance abuse and violence avoidance among school aged children. D.A.R.E. accomplishes this goal by:

- Providing students with accurate information about alcohol and drugs
- Teaching students how to say "no" to drugs while providing alternatives to drug use
- Teaching students decision making skills and about the consequences of their behavior
- Building students' self esteem and teaching them to resist peer pressure

In addition to his D.A.R.E. visits, Officer Hunt frequently eats lunch and enjoys recess activities with all students on a weekly basis, and he communicates often with the school's administration. The Churchill Center and School is not only a great addition to our community, they are proving to be a great partner as well.



AARP's Driver Safety Program A Classroom Refresher



The Town & Country Police Department is sponsoring a Driver Safety Program at the Municipal Center in Town and Country. This classroom refresher program is designed to meet the specific needs of drivers 50 years of age and older. It covers age related physical changes, declining perceptual skills, rules of the road, and local driving problems. Some automobile insurance companies provide multi-year premium reductions to graduates of this program.

Classes will be held in two, 4-hour time blocks, over a two day period. Current dates are May 13 and 14, 2008, from 9:00am to 1:00pm. Attendees are requested to arrive 15 minutes early to sign in and pay the \$10 fee. Light refreshments will be provided.

Please call Phil Briggan at 314-993-1928 to sign up. Class is limited to the first 25 participants.

New Businesses in Town & Country

Ameren UE
555 Maryville Centre Drive

J.A. Whitney
13498 Clayton Road

Arts & Frame
13941 Manchester Road

Lewis & Clark Advisors LLC
1716 Hidden Creek

Burns & McDonnell
425 S. Woods Mill Road

Peabody Investments Corp.
425 S. Woods Mill Road,
Ste. 160

Centerpointe Outpatient Program
763 S. New Ballas, Ste. 320

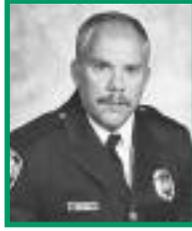
Red Hat Inc.
424 S. Woods Mill Road

Gresham Smith LLC
600 Mason Ridge Center Drive, lower level

TAP Consulting
425 S. Woods Mill Road

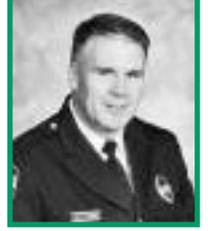
Police Department Promotions

Congratulations are in order for newly promoted Lieutenant Steve Nelke and Sergeant John Flanagan. Steve has been with the Town & Country Police Department for 23 years and has served as a detective, a member of the Major Case Squad and the multi-jurisdictional St. Louis area fugitive apprehension team known as CUFF. His assignment leading up to the promotion was as a Watch Commander where he supervised all police operations for a given shift. He has been in law enforcement for over 29 years beginning his career with the Jennings Police Department as a cadet when he was 19 years old.



Steve is not only known for his skill as an investigator and his hands' on approach as a supervisor, he has also been observed throughout the city after major storms with a chain saw in hand removing trees from blocked roadways. He is truly committed to Town & Country and providing exemplary service and protection, demonstrated by two letters of commendation and two Awards of Excellence. His reliability is also evident by nine years of perfect attendance.

Sergeant John Flanagan has served with distinction for 14 years with T&C and for a total of 22 years counting his distinguished career with the United States Marine Corps. He has served as a Traffic Safety Officer, use of force instructor, field training officer and his most recent assignment was in the detective bureau where he boasted a 70 percent clearance rate on crimes he investigated. For perspective, the national norm for clearances is around 20 percent!



John is one of the most decorated officers in the history of the department, receiving one letter of commendation and seven Awards of Excellence—from saving a life to arresting dangerous robbery suspects. But perhaps his commitment and dedication to the City was most evident after he suffered a near career-ending injury when his right leg was crushed between two vehicles on I-270 in 2005. His determination to return to duty drove him during rehabilitation and he proved his ability just six months later when he completed the department's semi-annual 1.5 mile run in under 11 minutes!

Lost & Found



If you lost it, we may have it—from bicycles to picnic baskets. Call or email Captain Gary Hoelzer if you want to check the police department's "lost and found". He can be reached at 314-567-4900 x131 or at hoelzerga@town-and-country.org.



Chamber Of Commerce Scholarship Opportunity

Each year the Town & Country/Frontenac Chamber of Commerce awards three \$1000 scholarships towards college tuition to exemplary graduating seniors in our area. The scholarships are awarded at the May Awards Luncheon. This year's application deadline is March 31. For applications, specifics and more information on the scholarship program, please contact Holly Walker at 314-434-2520.



DO YOU KNOW

1. CAN YOU NAME AND GIVE LOCATIONS OF THE TOWN & COUNTY PARKS?
2. HOW MANY FORTUNE 500 COMPANIES ARE HEADQUARTERED IN TOWN & COUNTRY?
3. HOW MANY MAYORS HAVE THERE BEEN IN TOWN & COUNTRY?

Answers found on page 15

Charity Golf Tournament To Benefit Backstoppers And Other Local Charities

On Monday, May 19th, the Town & Country Police Department and the Des Peres Department of Public Safety will host the Fifth Annual “Greens for Green” Charity Golf Tournament at The Landings at Spirit Golf Club in Chesterfield. The past four tournaments helped raise over \$80,000 to benefit the BackStoppers, Missouri Special Olympics as well as numerous other charitable organizations.

Those in attendance will have the opportunity to meet and get to know many of our local police officers and first responders. These dedicated men and women are there for us when the need arises, and by supporting this important charity event, you can ensure that they know the community stands behind them.

100 percent of the proceeds from the tournament will be given to local charitable organizations, including the BackStoppers, which provides financial assistance for police officers and firefighters killed in the line of duty. Unfortunately, there will



always be a need for this association and your sponsorship will ensure that the families of those who have made the ultimate sacrifice will be financially secure.

Past community support for the “Greens for Green” Charity Golf Tournament has been nothing short of spectacular. In order to ensure another successful event, the support from our community must carry on. If you are able to make a charitable donation, or you have items to contribute, the Town & Country Police Charity Fund is an IRS 501c3 organization.

If you would like to receive more information about the tournament, make a contribution or register a team to play, please contact Town & Country Officer Paul Wilson at 314-432-4696 or by email at wilsonpm@town-and-country.org, or Des Peres Detective Brad Perry at bperry@desperesmo.org. Registration forms are also available on the City’s website, www.town-and-country.org. Space is limited so be sure to register early.

We are most appreciative of the cor support and hope to see you on Monday, 19th at The Landings at Spirit Golf Club!

Registration Form on page 15

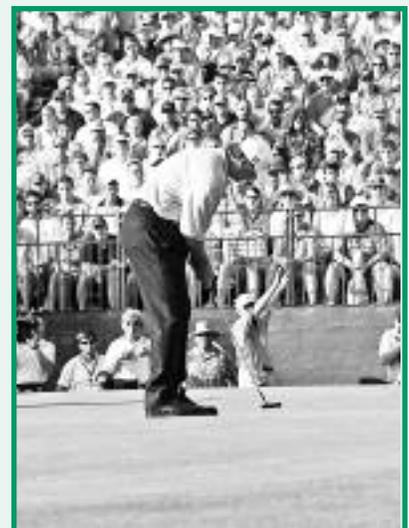


BMW Championship

The BMW Championship, the third of four PGA TOUR Playoff events in the drive for the FedExCup title, is set for September 1-7, 2008, at Bellerive Country Club. The championship will be the third event in the PGA TOUR Playoff series. The PGA TOUR Playoffs for the FedExCup will feature a progressive cut through the first three events to determine the final 30 players who will qualify for THE TOUR Championship, where the FedExCup Champion will be determined. Bellerive will host the top 70 players in the world competing for the final spots in THE TOUR Championship and the ultimate prize of \$10,000,000.

All proceeds from the BMW Championship benefit the Evans Scholars Foundation, which since 1930 has provided full tuition and housing scholarships to deserving golf caddies. More than 800 Evans Scholarship recipients are enrolled in college annually. Since the program began, more than 8,500 caddies have graduated from college as Evans Scholars.

For more information, visit: www.BMWChampionshipUSA.com



THE FIFTH ANNUAL
TOWN & COUNTRY POLICE & DES PERES PUBLIC SAFETY
GREENS FOR GREEN CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

MONDAY, MAY 19TH, 2008

CHECK-IN AND LUNCH BEGIN AT 11:00 AM • TEE-OFF AT 12:30 PM, FOLLOWED BY BANQUET DINNER
THE LANDINGS AT SPIRIT GOLF CLUB • CHESTERFIELD, MO

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT MISSOURI SPECIAL OLYMPICS, THE BACKSTOPPERS AND OTHER LOCAL CHARITIES.

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

Gold Sponsor (Free Foursome, Major Signage & Recognition)	\$1000 or more
Silver Sponsor (Major Signage & Recognition at Banquet)	\$500-\$999
Bronze Sponsor (Large Signage)	\$200-\$499
Hole Sponsor (Signage at Tee Box)	\$100
Entry Fee	\$100 per golfer



TO BECOME A SPONSOR

Individual or Company Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Level of sponsorship and/or items donated: _____

Register Player Names: _____

REGISTER PLAYER NAMES:

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

Contact person for team: _____ Phone: _____

Please return this form and any donations and checks to:

Town & Country Charity Fund • C/O Paul Wilson
1011 Municipal Center Drive • Town & Country, MO 63131
Phone: 314-432-4696 Fax: 314-432-4991 • Email: wilsonpm@town-and-country.org



ANSWERS TO DO YOU KNOW

1. Longview Farm Park, just west of Clayton and Mason Roads' intersection
Preservation Park, North Outer Forty (just west of the Mormon Temple
Drace Park, Cedar Valley Drive, (east side of 270 at Clayton Road)

2. 4 - Charter Communication, Energizer Holdings, Kellwood, and Solutia
(Information from <http://money.cnn.com/magazines/fortune/fortune500/states/M.html>)

3. 12 - Robert Garrett, William Schneider, Harold Schuchmann, Alan Wheeler, Betty Perry,
Peggy Symes, Diane Hertlein, John Marx, Skip Mange, Tom Tener, David Karney, Jon Dalton

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS



NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

If you have news to share, let us know. We will be featuring small articles about exciting activities involving our residents in the **NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS** column. Send your news and photos to Mary Olsen at olsenm@town-and-country-org, and we will print as space allows.



On January 21, **Giant Steps of St. Louis**, a not-for-profit organization in Town & Country that provides therapy and educational support to children with autism spectrum disorder, received a grant from **Ronald McDonald House Charities of Metro St. Louis** at the McDonald's restaurant in Lamp & Lantern Village. This grant money will purchase four Apple iMac computers and educational software.

Giant Steps addresses the core disabilities of autism and helps children acquire communication, functional living, academic and social interaction skills. As students progress, Giant Steps facilitates and supports their inclusion in public school classrooms.

Present to receive the educational technology grant were **Stuart Block**, Town & Country resident and Ronald McDonald House Charities Board member, Giant Steps student **Jared Erskine**, Ronald McDonald House Charities Grants Committee member **Rachel Eilbott**, and McDonald's Owner/Operator **Colleen Schoendienst**.



Every Little Bit Helps!



The **Little Bit Foundation**, which makes it home in Town & Country, proudly accepted \$15,000 from **Ronald McDonald House Charities of Metro St. Louis, Inc.** to support its efforts of providing clothing and supplies to disadvantaged school children in St. Louis.

"It is wonderful to be able to recognize the outstanding work The Little Bit Foundation is doing to really make a difference in the lives of these beautiful children," said **Colleen Schoendienst**, owner and operator of the Lamp & Lantern McDonald's restaurant and member of the Ronald McDonald House Charities grant committee. Co-founders **Rosemary Hanley** and **Elise Tierney** were all smiles as they gratefully accepted the check from Colleen on behalf of the foundation.

Recognizing that regular attendance and preparedness are important to educational success, the award will help The Little Bit Foundation (TLBF) collect and distribute clothing, uniforms, backpacks, school supplies, and hygiene kits to St. Louis students in need. The Little Bit Foundation is a 501C-3 nonprofit organization presently serving approximately 2,700 students in 11 inner city schools. To learn more about TLBF, e-mail lilbit2@cbchs.com, or call 314-365-2600.

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Metro St. Louis provides a "home-away-from-home" for families of seriously ill children, and support to organizations that serve the needs of children. The award received by TLBF was part of the more than \$130,000 granted to local organizations in the fourth quarter of 2007. **For information about the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Metro St. Louis, visit www.rmhcstl.com.**

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Dirty Jobs



T&C resident Stuart Block with Mike Rowe, host of the Discovery Channel's "Dirty Jobs".

Town & Country resident **Stuart Block** has a dirty job. This is not just hearsay; a national TV show has proclaimed it so. The Discovery Channel's acclaimed series "Dirty Jobs" has featured Stuart Block's company, on not one, but two episodes. Sorting scrap is very popular among "Dirty Jobs." It must be, because after the first episode was filmed in 2005, the series returned to Cash's Scrap Metal & Iron on the St. Louis riverfront to film a second episode at the company's river terminal.

The newer episode, titled "Steel Mill Worker," aired in January on the Discovery Channel. The show's description at the "Dirty Jobs" web site says "**Mike Rowe** gets dirty in St. Louis as he works with a river barge demolition team and then melts down the scrap steel into molten metal." Previously, Rowe and his crew visited Cash's in August 2005 to do a segment about processing and salvaging scrap.

"Dirty Jobs" must be impressed with the work Block and his crew accomplish at their river terminal in St. Louis - "We are one of three places out of 170 shows that they have been to twice," says Stuart Block, president of Cash's. Stay tuned, who knows when they might return.

Mason Valley Subdivision
Annual Progressive Dinner

The Mason Valley subdivision is among the largest in Town & Country, with 155 homes. It is a community with many long-term residents and lots of tradition. Regularly held events include a Labor Day family picnic and bike parade, mixed doubles tennis tournament, monthly bridge group, monthly women's bunko group, and quarterly men's anti-bunko group outings.

One of the most popular traditions that has been in place for some 20 years is the annual Holiday Progressive Dinner. The typical format for this event begins with the entire group divided to two homes for appetizers. This



One of Five Dinner Homes Hosted by Chuck and Val Gillum

Pictured (Clockwise from left): Dan Dolan, Chris Conger, Jacqui Elsperman, Lynn Gunter, Val Gillum, Mark Bierk, Carolynne Huether, Chris Even



First Stop of the Evening for Appetizers

Pictured: Suzy Gunter, Susie Johnson, Nancy Hood

course is followed by smaller groups sent to four or five dinner houses, followed by a final full-group gathering at one brave citizen's home for the dessert course. Another festive event was held in December, with attendance of nearly 100 party goers.

Jon Dalton Selected As One Of The
Best Lawyers In America

For the second year in a row, Mayor Jon Dalton has been selected by his peers in the legal profession for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America*® 2008 (Copyright 2007 by Woodward/White, Inc., of Aiken, S.C.). Since its inception in 1983, *Best Lawyers* has become universally regarded as the definitive guide to legal excellence, since it is based on an exhaustive peer-review survey in which more than 25,000 leading attorneys cast almost two million votes on the legal abilities of other lawyers in their specialties, and because lawyers are not required or allowed to pay a fee to be listed. Upon selection by their peers, all candidates must undergo a thorough ethics review before they may be included in *Best Lawyers*. *Corporate Counsel* magazine has called *Best Lawyers* "the most respected referral list of attorneys in practice."

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Sharing & Caring

Town & Country residents, **Jordan Block** and **Gabrielle Putnam**, recently volunteered at Scruggs Elementary school as part of their school's Language Arts program. Sixth grade students from MICDS have been visiting this south St. Louis school, comprised of predominantly refugee families, for the past 3 years. Each year, MICDS students share their time and resources by providing much appreciated books and school supplies which accompany them on their visit to the school. On this particular morning, the girls had the opportunity to observe a school wide assembly directed by Principal Beverly Phillips emphasizing "cooperation and peace". When the assembly ended, the girls were invited into the classrooms to interact with the Scruggs Elementary students on a one to one basis. Jordan



especially enjoyed assisting them with their daily writing assignment, while Gabby loved reading them a story from one of the donated books. The morning seemed to pass way too quickly, and it was time for the girls to return to their own classes at MICDS. Everyone was touched when the Scruggs' children displayed their appreciation with a great big group hug, which nearly caused them all to take a tumble. All the children look forward to spring, when a celebration in May will bring them back together for the day. Once again, they will learn and play together- only this time at MICDS. Neither Jordan nor Gabby will forget the lessons they learned from the children they had the privilege of getting to know that day. Every child has the right to a good education and we all have an obligation to make it a priority.



A Visit With The Mayor

Town & Country resident Emmaline Huels got a first-hand lesson in City government when she visited Mayor Dalton at the Municipal Center. Emmaline interviewed Mayor Dalton for a project in Ms. Bouquet's third grade class at Visitation Academy, while dedicated dad, Stu Huels, chaperoned Emmaline's twin siblings Jon and Nora. Following the interview, the Huels toured the City's dispatch center and police department. Mom (Holly) was out of town on business and unable to participate.



Giving Kindness, Love and Friendship

It was a blistering, cold day on Sunday, January 27th, but it was warm and toasty inside Garden Villas Retirement Community. Several students from Principia School's Philanthropy Class visited the residents of Garden Villas and provided complimentary manicures and hand massages. Their mission is "...to ease the paths of others," and their goal was to make the afternoon enjoyable, educational, conversational and friendly for the residents. The event ended with delicious refreshments provided by students and staff.



Town & Country resident, **John Wright**, general manager/COO of Norwood Hills Country Club located in North St. Louis County, has received the "Excellence in Club Management Award" for 2007, for private country/golf clubs with over 600 members. This national honor is co-sponsored by Club and Resort Business magazine and the McMahon Group. It is an annual award that recognizes private club general managers who have exhibited outstanding skills in managing their club. The award ceremony was in January, 2008, at the exclusive Isleworth Country Club in Orlando, Fl - home course of Tiger Woods.

Happy Birthday, Esther Davis!

Congratulations to **Esther Davis**, who resides at Garden Villas Retirement Community. She recently celebrated her 100th birthday on December 11th with family and friends.

Garden Villas
Mardi Gras

Garden Villas Retirement Community celebrated Mardi Gras 2008 as residents **Ed and Ruth Gammeter** were crowned Mardi Gras King & Queen.



PARKS AND RECREATION



How Do I Rent A Park Picnic Pavilion?

Pavilions are available to Town & Country residents and Town & Country businesses. To make a reservation, call 314-432-6606 or download a pavilion rental request form from www.town-and-country.org. Payment may be made over the phone with a credit card or by cash/check through the mail or in person.

What amenities are in the picnic pavilions?

Shelters are equipped with electrical outlets, lights and picnic tables. Playgrounds and restrooms are located adjacent to each of the pavilions.

How much do picnic pavilions cost and how many people do they hold?

Park	Fee	Seating Capacity	Parking Capacity
Longview Farm Park	\$50	50	45
Drace Park	\$40	40	25
Preservation Park	\$30	30	30

Welcome Home Equine Assisted Therapy Horses



This April, the beloved horses at Longview Farm Park will be returning. While Warrior, Poncho, and Buck have been

holding down the barn this winter, Smokey, Yogi, and Mr. Snickers have been missing the endless offering of carrots. (Please remember that Warrior has no teeth and cannot have treats!) With the return of the rest of our equine family there is a need for financial help to uphold the standard of care that these great horses need. Equine Assisted Therapy offers an adopt a horse or cat program. For just \$100 a month you are able to help support one of your favorite residents of Longview Farm Park. With your \$100 donation, your name will appear on a plaque inside the barn in front of your chosen horse or cat. For more information and the adoption form please visit www.Equine-AssistedTherapy.org. Thank you in advance for your support of our beloved horses.



Description: Join the race you'll never forget! The St. Louis Adventure Challenge is a mini-version of The Amazing Race! Co-ed teams of three will travel the St. Louis area searching for hidden check points, by walking, running or biking. The team will be tested with both mental and physical challenges. Teams may choose to compete in the short course (approximately 2-4 hour

race) or the long course (approximately 4-8 hour race). Adult teams of three may be made with any combination of female/male ratio but must be co-ed. Youth (under 18) may only compete in the family division with a parent/guardian on the same team. This is a self-sufficient race. Each team is required to bring their own food and water, one compass and one cell phone. Each teammate requires one bike and one helmet. The St. Louis Adventure Challenge is brought to you by the following parks and recreation departments: Des Peres, Town & Country, Ellisville, Ballwin and St. Louis County. Call 314-835-6150 to register or for more information.

Registration begins April 2 and the deadline is September 21.

Ages: 18 and Older for Adult Teams; Any Age for Family Teams

Day: Saturday, October 4, 2008

Time: 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Teams: #6818 \$120 Adult Co-ed Team of 3 - Long Course

#6819 \$75 Adult Co-ed Team of 3 - Short Course

#6820 \$100 Family Team of 4 - Short Course

#6821 \$75 Family Team of 3 - Short Course

Location: All teams will meet at Queeny Park. Maps and clues will be given on race day!

PARKS AND RECREATION



SWING INTO TENNIS

Junior Team Tennis

Join the Team!

Compete against other community tennis teams. Ages 12+

Where: Preservation/CBC Cadet Park Courts
(12625 N. Outer 40)

When: Starting June 5th for 6 weeks

Practice Times: Thursdays 8-9 PM

Cost: \$60/Player (Matches Additional Cost)

Tennis Nights

WHERE: Preservation/CBC Cadet Park Courts (12625 N. Outer 40)

When: M & W 6/2-6/18; 6/23-7/9; 7/14-7/30;
8/4-8/20; 9/8-9/24; 9/29-10/15
6-7 PM ADULT I 7-8 PM ADULT II

T & TH 6/3-6/19; 6/24-7/10; 7/15-7/31;
8/5-8/21; 9/9-9/25; 9/30-10/16
6-7 PM ADULT I 7-8 PM ADULT II

Cost: \$54/session



Weekly Summer Camps

Where: Preservation/CBC Cadet Park Courts
(12625 N. Outer 40)

When: Monday – Friday 8 AM – 10 AM
ages 12 and older
10 AM – 12 PM ages 5 – 11

Week 1	June 2 - 6
Week 2	June 9 - 13
Week 3	June 16 -20
Week 4	June 23 - 27
Week 5	July 07 - 11
Week 6	July 14 - 18
Week 7	July 21- 25
Week 8	July 28-Aug 1

Cost: \$100/WK



Saturday Tennis

Where: Preservation/CBC Cadet Park Courts
(12625 N. Outer 40)

When: SATURDAYS 6/7-7/17; (NO 7/4) 7/26-8/30
9-10 AM ADULT I 10-11 AM ADULT II
11 AM-12 PM AGES 7-15

Cost: \$54/session

Call the Creve Coeur Park and Recreation Department at 432-3961 for more information or to register or visit their web site at www.creve-coeur.org to download an application.



Hot Mamas In Training

Hot Mamas in Training fitcamp has been created as a way for moms to get in shape and stay in shape while keeping baby by your side. Hot Mamas in Training will deliver a challenging and motivating workout no matter what your fitness level. We will build your cardio endurance, sculpt your tummies, legs, glutes, and upper body. Look to us to create or bring back that Hot Mama in you. Best of all you are surrounded by moms just like you and your child. So, whether you are a new mama or a veteran mama: if you have a stroller, we've got the class for you.

Location: Longview Farm Park
13525 Clayton Rd

Register: 314-517-7497

Days: Monday and/or Wednesday

Session 1: April 7th-May 28th (no class on Memorial Day)

Session 2: June 9th – July 30th

Session 3: August 11th – October 1st

Time: 9:30-10:30 AM

Cost:

2 days/week is \$128/session

1 day/week is \$64/session

To sign-up for classes call Karen McDoniel at 314-276-6204.



MEETINGS & EVENTS

**All meetings subject to change*

MARCH 2008

DATE	DAY	TIME	MEETING (LOCATION)
Mar 18	Tue	7:00PM	Police Commission (Municipal Center)
Mar 20	Thu	7:00PM	Court (Municipal Center)
Mar 24	Mon	6:00PM	Board of Aldermen Work Session (Municipal Center)
Mar 24	Mon	7:00PM	Board of Aldermen Regular Meeting (Municipal Center)
Mar 26	Wed	7:00PM	Planning & Zoning Commission-Staff Review (Municipal Center)
Mar 26	Wed	7:30PM	Planning & Zoning Commission Regular Meeting (Municipal Center)
Mar 31	Mon	7:00PM	Parks & Trails Commission (Municipal Center)

APRIL 2008

DATE	DAY	TIME	MEETING (LOCATION)
Apr 01	Tue	7:00PM	Conservation Commission (Fire House)
Apr 03	Thu	7:00PM	Court (Municipal Center)
Apr 10	Thu	7:00PM	Community Relations Commission (Fire House)
Apr 14	Mon	3:00PM	Architectural Review Board – Staff Review (Municipal Center)
Apr 14	Mon	3:30PM	Architectural Review Board (Municipal Center)
Apr 14	Mon	6:00PM	Board of Aldermen Work Session (Municipal Center)
Apr 14	Mon	7:00PM	Board of Aldermen Regular Meeting (Municipal Center)
Apr 15	Tue	7:00PM	Police Commission (Municipal Center)
Apr 17	Thu	7:00PM	Court (Municipal Center)
Apr 21	Mon	6:00PM	Board of Adjustment (Municipal Center)
Apr 21	Mon	7:00PM	Parks & Trails Commission (Municipal Center)
Apr 23	Wed	7:00PM	Planning & Zoning Commission-Staff Review (Municipal Center)
Apr 23	Wed	7:30PM	Planning & Zoning Commission Regular Meeting (Municipal Center)
Apr 28	Mon	6:00PM	Board of Aldermen Work Session (Municipal Center)
Apr 28	Mon	7:00PM	Board of Aldermen Regular Meeting (Municipal Center)

MAY 2008

DATE	DAY	TIME	MEETING (LOCATION)
May 01	Tue	7:00PM	Conservation Commission (Fire House)
May 03	Thu	7:00PM	Court (Municipal Center)
May 10	Thu	7:00PM	Community Relations Commission (Fire House)
May 14	Mon	6:00PM	Board of Aldermen Work Session (Municipal Center)
May 14	Mon	7:00 PM	Board of Aldermen Regular Meeting (Municipal Center)
May 16	Wed	7:00PM	Police Commission (Municipal Center)
May 17	Thu	7:00PM	Court (Municipal Center)

May 21	Mon	6:00PM	Board of Adjustment (Municipal Center)
May 21	Mon	7:00PM	Parks & Trails Commission (Municipal Center)
May 23	Wed	7:00PM	Planning & Zoning Commission – Staff Review (Municipal Center)
May 23	Wed	7:30PM	Planning & Zoning Commission Regular Meeting (Municipal Center)
May 28	Mon	HOLIDAY	– CITY OFFICES CLOSED
May 29	Tue	6:00PM	Board of Aldermen Work Session (Municipal Center)
May 29	Tue	7:00PM	Board of Aldermen Regular Meeting (Municipal Center)

JUNE 2008

DATE	DAY	TIME	MEETING (LOCATION)
Jun 03	Tue	7:00PM	Conservation Commission (Fire House)
Jun 05	Thu	7:00PM	Court (Municipal Center)
Jun 09	Mon	3:00PM	Architectural Review Board – Staff Review (Municipal Center)
Jun 09	Mon	3:30PM	Architectural Review Board (Municipal Center)
Jun 09	Mon	6:00PM	Board of Aldermen Work Session (Municipal Center)
Jun 09	Mon	7:00PM	Board of Aldermen Regular Meeting (Municipal Center)
Jun 12	Thu	7:00PM	Community Relations Commission (Fire House)

COMMUNITY EVENTS

DATE	DAY	TIME	MEETING (LOCATION)
Apr 05	Sat	9:00AM	ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION (Drace Park)
Apr 09	Wed	12:00PM	Town & Country/Frontenac Chamber of Commerce Lunch Meeting (Marriott West)
May 14	Wed	12:00PM	Town & Country/Frontenac Chamber of Commerce Lunch Meeting (Marriott West)
Jun 11	Wed	12:00PM	Town & Country/Frontenac Chamber of Commerce Lunch Meeting (Marriott West)
Jun 21	Sat	6:00PM	FIRE & ICE (Westminster Christian Academy Grounds)



St. Louis County Has A New Program To Encourage More Recycling



Minimum Level Of Service

The St. Louis County Department of Health is in the process of implementing a new minimum level of service ordinance for waste haulers who collect trash from one- and two-family residences. The ordinance was passed by the County Council and applies countywide to both municipalities and unincorporated areas alike. The new minimum level of service ordinance requires that all licensed waste haulers provide the following:

- Once-a-week trash collection
- Once-a-week recycling collection
- Twice-a-year bulky waste collection

Additional services may be offered, but are not required by law to be a part of a resident's basic service package.

(Bulky waste pickup is for those items too large to be placed in a regular residential trash receptacle; during a bulky pickup, residents are limited to five items that each weigh 75 pounds or less.)

“Single-Stream” Recycling

New advances in the collection and processing of recyclables (called “single-stream” recycling) made it the right time for Saint Louis County to set a goal of 50% waste diversion by the year 2010. The “single-stream” method of recycling allows residents to collect all of their recyclable items in a single container. The items are then sorted at the processing plant. By eliminating the need for sorting on the part of the resident, participation rates in recycling programs have gone up dramatically. After making the switch to “single-stream”, Ballwin saw their participation rate increase by 65%, Northwoods saw a 225% increase, and Rock Hill saw a 300% increase!

The benefits of “single-stream” collection include the following:

- All recyclables are collected together without residents having to sort anything.
- The list of recyclable items is dramatically expanded by “single-stream” to include items such as paperboard juice cartons, foil wrap, and six different types of plastic containers.
- Collection is more cost effective because haulers can use the same equipment as they do for regular trash (there is no need for compartmentalized trucks). As more and more haulers move to automated and semi-automated waste collection, this is important because “single-stream” recycling can be collected in the same types of carts used for regular trash.

If followed diligently, “single-stream” recycling can result in more than 70% of the average resident's trash being recycled – an extremely impressive waste diversion rate!

Please note: The new minimum level of service ordinance does NOT require residents to recycle. The new law specifies which services must be provided to residents by haulers as part of any basic trash collection package – it does not specify which services a resident must use.

What The New Minimum Level Of Service Means For Municipalities

Any municipality that already has a stricter minimum level of service requirement will not be affected by the new county ordinance, nor does the ordinance prevent municipalities from enacting stricter municipal minimum level of service ordinances in the future.

Any municipality with a valid contract for waste hauling services that was already in effect as of January 1st, 2008, does not have to implement the new minimum level of service requirements until the existing contract expires.

Any municipality that operates a drop-off recycling center and that also independently meets certain waste diversion goals set by the County Council does not have to implement the once-a-week recycling pickup portion of the new minimum level of service ordinance.

The ordinance does not prohibit haulers from offering additional services to residents such as twice-a-week trash collection or back-door collection, nor does it prevent municipalities from entering into contracts with waste haulers that include such additional services.

Common Questions Being Asked By Residents:

I have heard that landfill rates will rise if everyone recycles ... is that true?

No one knows for sure. However, the faster local landfills fill up, the sooner trash haulers will have to haul our trash to more remote locations – and that will definitely increase costs.

My hauler currently picks up aluminum, plastic, and paper for free. Why can't that program continue?

Your hauler is not providing that service for free – they are including it in your basic service package. The new minimum level of service simply expands the recycling services being provided to you as part of your basic waste collection package.

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Whom do I contact if my hauler is not providing the minimum level of service?

If your hauler is not providing you with the minimum level of service, then that hauler is in violation of the Saint Louis County Waste Code. You can report this to your Saint Louis County Department of Health at (314) 615-8958. (Please note that all haulers have been asked to submit compliance plans indicating when they will be able to meet the new minimum level of service requirements. Different haulers will achieve compliance at different times; however, all haulers have been asked to comply by April 1st, 2008 at the latest.)

What Can I Recycle?

With the following expanded list of items, it is easy to see how the average household can recycle up to 70% of their waste! Labels and lids do not need to be removed and containers only need a quick rinse to remove most residue – they do not need to be washed. Many haulers even collect these items all in the same container. Please contact your waste hauler for details about their recycling service.

PAPER PRODUCTS

Anything That Tears!

Acceptable

- Newspapers (and inserts)
- Magazines
- Catalogs, paperback books
- Wrapping paper
- Phone books
- Junk mail
- Office paper, file folders, and envelopes (even with windows)
- Corrugated cardboard (flattened and broken down to 2' x 2' or smaller)
- Other paperboard boxes– cereal, dry foods, beverage cases, frozen foods, and gift boxes
- Waxed cardboard

Unacceptable

- No heavily soiled cardboard

GLASS

Acceptable

- Food and beverage containers

Unacceptable

- Light bulbs
- Mirrors and windows
- Ceramics, dishes, or drinking glasses

PLASTICS

Acceptable

Check for the recycling symbol on the bottom of the container. Numbers 1-7 are acceptable **EXCEPT #6.**

- Beverage containers
- Milk and juice jugs
- Laundry and liquid dish soap bottles
- Dairy product tubs (butter, yogurt, or margarine)
- Health and beauty containers

Unacceptable

- # 6 Plastic (Polystyrene, Styrofoam)
- Toys
- Hose and pipes
- Plastic bags
- Films, tarps, and plastic sheets
- Containers that contained hazardous materials (anti-freeze, pesticide, motor oil, paint, etc.)

ALUMINUM AND STEEL/TIN CANS

Acceptable

- Aluminum cans
- Clean foil
- Food or pie trays
- Any metal food cans
- Empty aerosol cans

Unacceptable

- Paint cans

Although you are not required to recycle, your waste service costs won't change if you choose not to use the service. For questions on the minimum level of service, please contact the Saint Louis County Department of Health at (314) 615-8958.



MAYOR

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ALDERMEN

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PHIL BEHNEN
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ARBOR DAY

Saturday, April 5, 2008
Drace Park
9 AM - Noon

Activities for Kids!
Educational Demonstrations
FREE seedlings



Town & Country's Arbor Day Celebration promises to be fun for the entire community! Bring your family to **Drace Park** to get your free seedlings to take home and plant. While you are in the park take advantage of the flat, paved walking trail by bringing your strollers, bicycles or pets - or bring a picnic lunch to enjoy with your family. Children will have a chance to dig for (gummy) worms, participate in a scavenger hunt, and plant a community tree. At the same time, we will have a community clean-up of I-270 organized by the Town & Country Police Department in which volunteers can participate.



**COME CELEBRATE TOWN & COUNTRY
BEING AWARDED A TREE CITY USA AGAIN!**



The mission of the City of Town & Country is to maintain a hospitable environment for our residents and other stakeholders and to foster a "sense of community" among ourselves through the following values:

*Integrity, Respect, Fiscal Responsibility, Safety and Security,
Quality of Life, Community, and Excellence!*



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