



Volume 28, Number 1
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Town & Country Times

STEADY AND CONTINUED PROGRESS SAFEGUARDS TOWN & COUNTRY'S FUTURE — THE STATE OF OUR CITY



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Each year it is my duty and privilege as your Mayor to report on the State of our City. As with all of my responsibilities, I take this obligation very seriously and I am hopeful that this communication proves enlightening for all. I firmly believe that government is here to serve and not surprise, so this message may contain more detail than some may expect, but its expanded content is in keeping with

my commitment to provide a transparent and communicative city government. Ultimately, I hope you will agree that by consistently taking a prudent approach to long-term planning, we have been able to deliver the same quality and level of services you expect from your City.

As you are likely aware, it has been a year in which some of our City's actions have not always been politically popular. Nonetheless, after extensive analysis and consultation with my staff and other noted experts, working collaboratively with our talented Board of Aldermen, I am absolutely convinced that Town & Country's future has been well secured and that it will remain an outstanding place to reside, work, worship, study and relax. As we begin another year in service to the community, I am proud to report that the State of our City is first rate in all respects.

REVENUE POSITIVE: THE 2012 GENERAL OPERATING FUND IS BALANCED (AND MORE)!

General Fund Reserves Are Rock-Solid. As I often assert, prudent and responsible policymakers should "plan for the worst and hope for the best." That is the positive-minded approach we have maintained over the last seven years, and I am proud of the consistent yields that have been generated as a result.

In 2011, Town & Country remained unequivocally strong financially and is well positioned as we enter 2012. In fact, based upon our most current calculations, it is patently evident that we ended the year better than previously projected. The principal factors that led to these positive results were higher than anticipated sales tax revenues, largely generated by new business development in Town & Country Crossing over very conservative assumptions, and the strategic deferral of several capital projects into fiscal year 2012, such as the firehouse project that was delayed until this year in deference to the fire services contract negotiations. Based on preliminary

2011 financial results, the General Fund, which is the City's primary operating fund, performed \$267,000 better than was anticipated in the 2011 Budget. Accordingly, its ending reserve balance is anticipated to decline only by five percent (5%), resulting in an ending fund balance of \$13.7 million. This impressive balance amounts to 140% of our annual operating expenditures.

Moreover, a balanced General Fund Budget was passed for 2012, which is anticipated to add \$21,000 to the Fund's reserves. This budgeted ending fund balance is almost *six times the fund's required reserve level* for 2012 of \$2.3 million, as shown in the graph below.



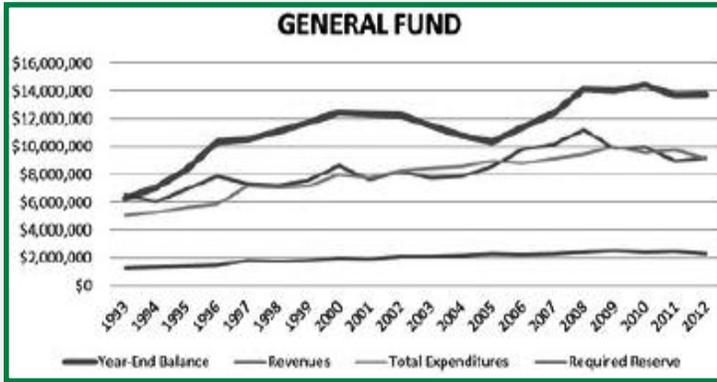
Through conscientious financial planning and fiscal management, we have endeavored to reduce costs whenever possible without jeopardizing service levels. To this end, the 2012 budget was prepared with several overarching goals and objectives, which include providing an adequate, balanced level of services and programs, utilizing existing revenue streams to fund such obligations and commitments, returning certain valued City functions lost to prior budget cuts, and preserving the General Fund reserves consistent with established policies. The Board of Aldermen unanimously adopted the 2012 budget late last year, which guides us to accomplish these goals and positions the City for long-term fiscal health.

Although General Fund revenues are anticipated to decline by 2% in 2012, we have been able to offset this decline by a reduction in operating expenses of over \$580,000 (or approximately 6%) leaving us with a balanced year-end reserve for 2012, as shown on next page.

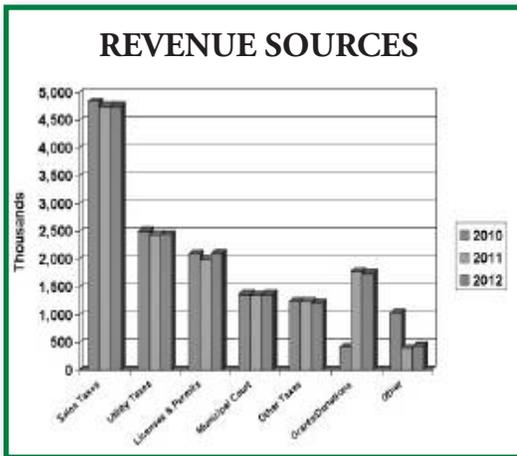
It is important to keep in mind that sales taxes are the City's largest revenue source, generating 34% of all revenues. Sales tax receipts were down 2% in 2011, but are expected to remain level in 2012. Utility taxes are the second

*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!*

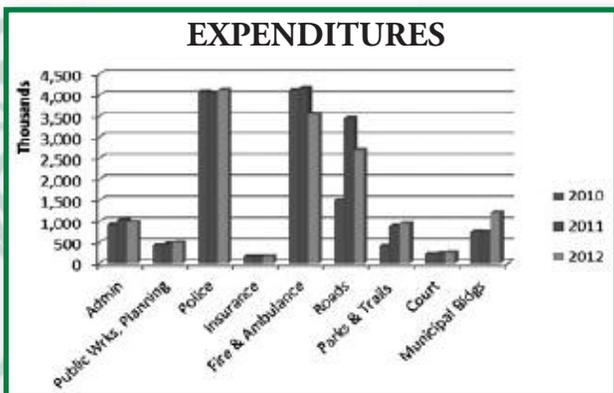
largest revenue source, generating an additional 17% of all City revenues. Significantly, and this is a fact about which I am very proud, the 2012 budget continues to be built around maintaining the Town & Country property tax rate of zero percent (0%), which the City has levied since 1997.



Finally, in terms of expenditures, Town & Country certainly has its priorities properly established. For example, over half (53%) of all City costs are spent on police, fire, and ambulance services as shown below. Noting the budgeting impact of these cost centers, we worked tirelessly to identify collaborative ways in which we can do more for less; hence, reducing enormous City expenses while maintaining, and hopefully improving, the level and quality of service. Fortunately, these efforts paid off significantly. In fact, the fire and ambulance contract was successfully renegotiated in 2011 to reduce the cost of these services by well over \$500,000 for 2012. Moreover, with these and other savings, for example approximately \$120,000 on fire and EMS dispatchers, the current year budget includes the continuation of Clayton Road improvements and improvements to the municipal firehouse to be funded with grants and other City revenues.



The City has no outstanding debt and continues to maintain its AAA credit rating issued by *Standard & Poor's*. In summary, through prudent financial planning and fiscal management, reducing expenses whenever possible without jeopardizing service levels, the City continues to be financially sound through 2012.



RESTRUCTURING OF PUBLIC SAFETY PARTNERSHIPS IMPROVE SERVICES AND CAPTURE SAVINGS

1. Fire and Emergency Medical Services. As previously reported, work began months ago to reduce the cost of fire and emergency medical services provided to the City under a contractual arrangement with the West County EMS & Fire Protection District (WCEMS&F) that has been in place since 1983. Paramount in the negotiation of a new five-year contract beginning in 2012 was that the outstanding level of service provided to our community would under no circumstances be compromised. Not only was our financial goal accomplished by reducing the City's cost in excess of \$500,000 annually, service levels and ancillary benefits to the City were actually enhanced. Examples of improved services include (1) the cooperative development and sharing of a computerized building permit and inspection system that will make our building permit application and review process more accurate and efficient for residents, businesses and builders, while generating approximately \$50,000 in new general fund revenues annually, and (2) access to and utilization of WCEMS&F's new training facility located at its fire station at Manchester and Mason Roads.

From the onset, we were confident that the long-term, positive relationship between the City and the District, which is now in its 28th year, would be an invaluable asset in bringing both sides together to address the seemingly relentless economic challenges of our time, while searching for and identifying ways to update, modernize and improve vitally important public health, safety and welfare functions in a responsible, thoughtful and mutually beneficial manner. While difficult financial times was a leading impetus for commencing the negotiations, our mutual respect and appreciation for each other brought the extensive discussions to a successful conclusion. For the District's cooperation and assistance, we extend our most sincere gratitude.

2. Central County Emergency 911 Fire and EMS Dispatch Services. Similar to the situation with WCEMS&F, our community has received excellent fire and EMS dispatch services for over 30 years from Central County Emergency 911 (CC911); however, after an extensive review and evaluation of this arrangement, it became evident that the associated costs for the services provided exceeded, to a significant degree, comparative pricing of other Fire & EMS dispatch providers. Moreover, through our critical analysis of this long-standing arrangement, we became concerned that our circumstances no longer justified the ownership position we held. For these reasons, a significant change was merited.

Working in concert with the CCE911 Board of Directors, a plan was developed that would change the City's relationship with CCE911 from an equity-based arrangement to a contractual or service contract relationship. This would not only release the City from significant obligations and mandatory pricing based on assessed valuation, but significantly impact the affordability by instituting a "fixed fee" formula. On January 1, 2012, the plan became a reality, yielding approximately \$120,000 in annual General Fund savings with *no* reduction in services for emergency fire and EMS calls and incidents.

3. Consolidation of Police Dispatch Services. After years of analysis and planning, the Cities of Town & Country, Creve Coeur and Frontenac concluded that police dispatch services would be greatly improved if the three cities combined their independent dispatch centers into one entity. Fundamental to these deliberations was always a shared commitment that any decision to move forward with consolidation was dependent on improving services to all involved communities. Once financial and service advantages were clearly demonstrated, in March 2011, the West Central Dispatch Center (WCDC) was created, which is proudly located in the Municipal Center of Town & Country.



As expected, a number of transitional challenges were encountered with bringing three previously separate police dispatch services together as one. Nevertheless, under the watchful eye and guidance of the established Board of

Directors, (comprised of the city administrators from each community), the Operations Committee (comprised of each city's police chief), and the General Manager of WCDC, impressive progress has been made to overcome these challenges.

As previously stated, maintaining quality of service was vital in the decision to move forward with consolidation. With that assured, we were able to calculate the financial gains for each of the three participating communities as a result of the consolidation effort, and collectively, the formation of WCDC will save taxpayers about \$200,000 annually. For Town & Country the amount is estimated to be about \$40,000 for the year 2012. It should be noted that the City's savings should continue to improve over the next few years as the cost of certain technical equipment will be transferred to St. Louis County when the new county-wide communication system goes online in 2013 or 2014.

TO SERVE AND PROTECT – PUBLIC SAFETY IN TOWN & COUNTRY REMAINS PARAMOUNT

The men and women of our widely recognized and highly acclaimed Police Department are among our most defining assets. Unfortunately, 2011 was a particularly challenging year in terms of law enforcement and the protection of our community. In fact, throughout St. Louis County, numerous homeowners were the target of no fewer than five serial burglars. Our officers were instrumental in bringing four of the five to justice, and their efforts were publicly recognized at several of the Aldermanic meetings. While serial criminals increased the overall crime reported in 2011 compared to the prior year, historically the crime rate was 47% lower than what we experienced ten years ago, and more than half of all crimes were solved by our officers. Moreover, I was extremely proud to bestow the first Meritorious Service Citation given in our City's history to Corporal Chris Moore for his heroic lifesaving act on June 24th in which he rescued a critically injured young man who was trapped in a burning automobile.

In addition to our "serve and protect" mission, our police officers have long been considered Town & Country ambassadors who serve our residents and businesses in a multitude of ways, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. One resident who was awakened at 1:00 a.m. by a malfunctioning alarm summed up the sentiments of many appreciative members of our community.

"Not knowing what else to do, I called the Police Department...a short while later [the officer] arrived, introduced himself cordially and proceeded to diagnose the problem. Problem fixed! The officer's knowledge and friendly assistance were noteworthy."

To attest to the professionalism of our Police Department, the following was taken from a note to Chief Copeland from St. Louis County Department of Justice Services Intake Officer Stanley Dooley:

"I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to you and your entire department for being one of the most professional and courteous law enforcement agencies in our area. I am an Intake Officer at St Louis County Jail and on several occasions during

interactions with your officers, they are always patient, organized (prepared with booking sheets, warrants, property, etc) and respectful to our staff and the admissions process at the County Jail. We know sometimes it can be a very long process admitting a prisoner into our custody and I appreciate each and every one of them."

As always, the delivery of first-rate public safety services remains the City's number one priority. To that end, we continually monitor and assess our performance in policing, fire protection and emergency medical service delivery, with a keen eye on costs to ensure effectiveness and efficiency. Unlike our police department, EMS and fire protection service is provided under the WCEMS&F contract discussed above. This long-term partnership between the City and the Fire District has proven, throughout the past 28 years, to provide undeniably high quality services in this critical life safety arena.

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS IN DIFFICULT TIMES

In addition to outstanding police, fire and EMS professionals, we are also blessed in Town & Country to have the care and support of a world-class service organization like American Red Cross when disaster strikes. No matter how well prepared we are, no one is immune from the devastating effects of certain calamities. Unfortunately, one family in our community recently was faced with such a situation, as a result of a major fire in their home. The following, however, is a Red Cross volunteer's observations that reflect well on us all as regional friends and neighbors.

"When we arrived we were told the homeowners were thankfully out of the house when the fire started. We canteened (gave cookies and drinks) to the Firefighters and Police Officers. One of the Officers had kicked in the front door to save the 2 dogs inside and the neighbors agreed to keep them safe until the homeowners arrived. All of the emergency responders were so kind and grateful to us for being there as it was a fairly warm night to be fighting a fire that large.

"When the couple arrived they were upset but mostly concerned about their puppies. We took them to the neighbor's house so they could see them and it was so moving to see that reunion. We did provide comfort kits and blankets to the couple but they graciously declined any monetary assistance. I believe they said they were fine and that we should save the money for someone who really needs it.

"What struck me most was how genuinely concerned all the neighbors were for the couple. There was a true sense of community and an almost immediate call to action to do all they could to help – even if all they could do was offer a kind word or a hug."

Planning And Development Continues To Advance Consistently With Our Comprehensive Plan

Construction Healthy in Town and Country – In 2011, the City issued 297 building permits, two more than in 2010. Of these, 131 permits were for non-residential construction, and 166 permits were for residential construction. As a part of the construction review process, the City's Architectural Review Board, lead by Alderman Phil Behnen and a talented group of industry experts, reviewed design plans for twenty-one new homes, fourteen home additions affecting the appearance of the front of existing homes, and one plan for new baseball grandstands at Maryville University. Clearly, Town and Country remains an attractive place to live, work and play.





Community Amenities a Part of Institutional Development in Town and Country

– During 2011, Town and Country welcomed a new major educational campus to our City. Westminster Christian Academy relocated from Creve Coeur to the intersection of Maryville University Drive and South Forty Drive. As a part of the school’s development, Westminster constructed traffic improvements in the vicinity of the campus, as well as leaving 70.1% of the campus as green space. Westminster has retained 62.8% (16.17 acres) of existing young woodlands on the site, and re-

landscaped extensively to buffer neighboring properties and add to the overall appearance of the campus.

Construction is also underway at Missouri Baptist Medical Center, where the framework of the new “West Pavilion” addition is visible, along with a new four level parking deck, with one level below grade, has added 648 new convenient parking spaces. In connection with this construction, the Medical Center, the City of Town and Country and the Missouri Department of Transportation jointly developed a program of modifications and improvements related to roadways and traffic signals that the Medical Center has already completed. Improvements included constructing a dedicated southbound right-turn lane at the main (north) hospital entrance, creating an alternate entrance to the “President’s House”, and implementing a plan to redirect eastbound exiting traffic from the main hospital exit to the signalized exit at Country Aire Drive. The plan utilizes signage, pavement marking, physical barriers, parking permits, parking area assignments for staff, and assignment to south parking areas.



January 12, 2012, saw the dedication of the new Clinical Learning Institute at the Goldfarb School of Nursing, which houses classrooms, simulation labs and offices, on top of the new parking garage. As a part of this new construction, MBMC is continuing to install berms and landscaping at the perimeter of the campus to shield residential areas from any impact associated with the necessary development activities that accompany advancements at a world-class medical center.

As a corollary to such mitigation efforts, and in concert with the City of Town and Country, plans are being finalized for a fitness trail and natural preservation area on 8.18 acres owned by the Medical Center south of the main campus. MBMC will both construct and maintain this asset for the benefit of our community.

During 2011, the City also approved construction of modern baseball grandstands at Maryville University, providing 197 permanent seats and 8

accessible seating spaces on the east side of Athletic Field Drive, with a new press box, storm water detention basin conforming to current MSD requirements, and additional campus landscaping. These athletic field improvements highlight Maryville University’s transition to the NCAA Division II.

Both National and Local Retailers Choose Town and Country – With several large national chain stores such as Target, Whole Foods and Home Depot, and our well-recognized regional enterprises of Schnucks and Straubs, our community remains an ideal location for local specialty retailers, ranging from personal trainers to unique dining establishments. During 2011, several local retailers chose to open in our City, including Z Power Fitness, Merrily We Sew Along Bernina-Gammill, Heavenly Stitches Tailoring and Life’s Little Celebrations Photo Studio at Lamp & Lantern Village, as well as Swim, Bike, Run and Look-After Hair Co. at Schnucks Woods Mill Plaza. A well-known local salon, Ginger Bay, opened a second branch at Town & Country Crossing.



Several additional restaurants and stores opened during the year at Town & Country Crossing, including Wasabi Sushi Bar along the lake, and Mr. Goodcents in the western portion of the center. Dollar Stop, Starcrest Cleaners and Marshall Wireless also opened new branches at Town & Country Crossing during the year. These new retailers add vitality to our community’s shopping centers and expand shopping choices for our residents.

Infrastructure And Service Enhancements Through Strategic Planning And Programming

Going Green and Staying Green. The Town & Country Green Team continues to involve and inform our residents regarding eco-friendly, sustainable practices, and you are encouraged to check the City website for updates and information regarding the ongoing monthly speaker series at Longview Farm Park. Past topics have included home efficiency incentives, “green” architecture, and native plantings. Through a partnership with Ladue Chapel Presbyterian Church/Lee Institute, Maryville University’s Green Maryville Student Association, and Whole Foods, we sponsored a screening of the movie “Bag It” this past November. This film is designed to educate the viewer on the impact of single-use plastics, such as grocery bags and water bottles, on our environment. With spring approaching quickly, the Green Team is very excited about the third upcoming season for our community garden. In partnership with supporting members from our business community and The Principia, the garden has provided a community-based resource that promotes the practice of organic growing and provides educational opportunities for the school.

Significantly, during the past year, we have received several applications to install solar panels at residences, as members of our community search for ways to be more energy efficient and create a “greener” community. In response, our City Hall Staff, Planning and Zoning Commission and Board of Aldermen have carefully considered each application and the impact it could have on surrounding homeowners and neighborhoods. In each case, both the applicant and all interested parties were afforded extensive opportunities to express concerns and opinions, and in my experience, this level of open, cooperative consideration results in the most favorable and productive outcome possible.

Nonetheless, we recognize that the advent and acceptance of new technologies can sometimes present challenges. To better understand and manage such challenges and potential conflicts, the City is moving forward with

development of a set of standards with which we can consider new forms of alternative energy applications within our community. To that end, I have appointed a committee consisting of Alderman Tim Welby (Ward 2), Alderman Fred Meyland-Smith (Ward 3), Alderman Phil Behnen (Ward 4), Planning and Zoning Commissioner Jim Klingler and Architectural Review Board member Jim Woodworth to draft those standards and bring them forward for public review. They have already held several meetings and should soon have an ordinance ready for consideration.

Clayton Road Trail Reality. Linking our neighborhoods has long been a goal of the Parks and Trails Master Plan. Over ten years ago, a vision was set forth to develop a pedestrian facility which stretches across our community. With the implementation of the Clayton Road Resurfacing and Pedestrian Enhancements Project, the planting of these seeds so long ago is about to bear fruit. Through a process that was based in cooperation and inclusiveness, we have labored for a number of years to assemble the necessary resources for this ambitious undertaking. It will not only provide a safer, smoother surface for driving on Clayton Road, but will also allow us to traverse on foot, bicycle or rollerblade from one end of our City to the other. For more information, please see the more extensive article regarding this project on page 11 of this newsletter, as well as further details on the City's website at www.town-and-country.org.



Storm Water and Other Infrastructure Plans Advanced. The Public Works and Storm Water Commission continues to work diligently on several things that impact our quality of life, as well as the quality of our streams. This past year, they began the evaluation of more effective tools to control erosion and sediment during residential construction. Although our requirements for post-construction controls are ahead of the regional curve, it is important to find a manner in which we can minimize the impact of these activities on neighboring properties and our regional waterways while they are occurring. The need for this effort is reflected in the 36 projects that have been identified as a part of our Storm Water Control Program. Funded by a portion of the 1/2 cent sales tax for Parks and Storm Water, this ever-evolving program is seeking to resolve approximately \$6.3 million worth of storm water control issues over the next 10+ years. The first four of these projects are slated for implementation in the spring or summer of this year. They range from collection system installation in areas where storm sewers were not required under a less restrictive regulatory period to stream bank stabilization, which will protect properties and structures from erosion. This program allows us to quantify the needs of these projects and applies a value-based ranking that will maximize our resources.

Branch Chipping Scheduled to Return. The Fall Branch Chipping Program, which always enjoyed great popularity throughout our community, was last provided in fall 2009, and the feedback regarding its suspension has been overwhelming. We listened to our constituents and through careful consideration found a manner in which to provide the necessary resources to bring this community service back to life. Although changes in its administration will occur, it is our goal to provide a reasonable level of service to all members of the community while controlling the overall cost of the program. Currently, the Public Works and Storm Water Commission is reviewing numerous options in an effort to achieve this goal.

Street Repairs in Progress. Albeit slowed down due to economic conditions and other matters beyond our control, the City continues to make every effort regarding the planning and programming of infrastructure maintenance and

repairs. In fact, thanks to the expert input of our Public Works and Storm Water Commission and the diligent service of our Public Works Director, we have another busy season of road improvements planned. Continued implementation of the long-term capital improvements program will include replacement of deteriorated concrete streets slabs on Wexford Wood Court, Pinetree Lake Court, Barnbridge Road, as well as continuation of the work deferred in Arlington Oaks, Wellington Terrace, and Claymark Drive. It is anticipated that the removal and replacement of selected concrete street slabs will begin in late March and continue through the spring and early summer.

The City has also planned the asphalt resurfacing of numerous streets as a part of the Mill and Overlay Project. This will include the removal of the existing pavement surface and replacement with a new, smoother riding surface on Barrett Station Road, Westmoor Place, Windmoor Place, Ridgemoor Lake Court, Delvin Drive, Delvin Court, and Tidewater Court. Because of advantageous pricing received during the bidding process this winter, the Public Works and Storm Water Commission is also evaluating the possibility of including additional streets that were initially programmed for future years. This project should begin in April and will continue through the summer months. If you live on one of the affected streets in either project scope, look for a mailing from the Public Works Department with additional information regarding the schedule.

TOWN & COUNTRY'S SENSE OF COMMUNITY ELEVATED BY EVENTS FOR ALL AGES AND INTERESTS

Simply securing our City's public safety and financial position does not a community make, but by facilitating a full array of social and other opportunities for friends and neighbors to get together, we strengthen the fabric of our town in much the way that a family transforms a house into a home. Below is a summary of just a few of the gatherings that took place over the last year, demonstrating that Town & Country is at its best when we come together.

- *Art, Wine & Music* first annual event featured local artists and raised money for an art display system and sound system at the Longview Farm House. With leadership from Alderman Steve Fons and Laura MacDonald, the Community Relations Commission made this event a huge success. Thank you to Villa Farotto for donating the delicious fare for the event and all the sponsors who made this event feasible. Don't miss the second annual event on February 17. Call the Parks Department at 314 434 1215 for tickets.
- *Arbor Day* brought a cold and rainy Arbor Day Celebration. Fortunately, the Longview Farm House enabled the event to be held as planned, albeit indoors. Native Missouri seedlings were given to the public. The Town & Country Garden Club, Mason Ridge Garden Club, the Conservation Commission, and the Parks and Trails Commission each had booths giving out plants, educational material and crafts for children. Thank you to all the volunteers who made this day possible!
- *Fire & Ice*—The City received unprecedented generosity from local businesses to make the annual Fire & Ice event possible this year. Businesses donated \$15,000 in cash and approximately \$10,000 in in-kind products and services. Mari de Villa provided substantial support with a naming sponsorship, as well as complementary water and shirts at the event. Thank you to all community sponsors for supporting this Town & Country tradition!





- *Fall Festival, Clayton Road Classic, and Impressions of Town & Country*—Town & Country was alive with activity with three events taking place concurrently! On the same beautiful fall day, residents were cycling Clayton Road, competing with their artistic abilities, and enjoying family entertainment. Kicking off

first was the Impressions of Town & Country art competition. Artists came to Longview with a blank canvas, then set up around town for a day painting en Plein Air, or outdoors. Thirty-nine artists painted all day, and then returned to the Longview Farm House for an awards ceremony, art sale and reception. Prestigious judges Marilynne Bradley, Gina Alvarez, and Billyo O' Donnell awarded the prizes to both the 18 and up category and the high school artists. The talent was impressive, and Town & Country in the crisp fall created an excellent source of inspiration for all the artists that participated.



- The inaugural *Clayton Road Classic* began at 8:00 in the morning with a police escort along Clayton Road starting and ending at Plaza Frontenac. The Town & Country/Frontenac Chamber of Commerce, with support from the City of Frontenac and the City of Town & Country, coordinated to make

this event a huge success with almost 200 riders. The morning was capped off with the best Fall Festival to date. Longview Farm Park was transformed into a sea of bubbles and music, crafts and games. For the first time in three years, the event was able to be held in the great outdoors, with the warm and sunny weather attracting a record crowd! Special thanks go out to Lucky Lane Preschool for sponsoring the Bubble Bus and the glitter crown booth.

- *Holiday Boutique*—The Third Annual Holiday Boutique, sponsored by the Town & Country Community Relations Commission was a smashing success, featuring some of the area's most talented vendors. On November 12, Longview Farm House was abundant with hand-made items crafted by vendors who live in Town & Country and nearby communities. Shoppers were treated to complimentary coffee and cookies while shopping for unique gifts, jewelry, decorative arts, gourmet chocolate, and wonderful items for children.

- *Turkey Trot*—A record number of runners and walkers congregated in Longview Farm Park the day after Thanksgiving for the annual 5K fun run/walk. Multiple canine companions graced the course this year with Klondike, owned by Chris and Alyson Barclay, taking the distinction of "Top Dog." Thank you to Fred and Mary Kay Wiesehan for arranging the attendance of Santa and Mrs. Claus, who gave teddy bears to the children.



- *Breakfast with Santa*—Children and parents alike enjoyed a fun-filled morning of crafts and games, breakfast, and, best of all - no line for pictures with Santa. Tickets for this event sold out so quickly last year that a second seating will be added this year.

In addition to these many public events, our City, through the generosity and prominence of certain residents, has played host to many visiting dignitaries over the recent past, including Patriarch Bechara Peter Rai of the Maronite Church (on his first visit to the United States) and former President Pervez Musharraf of Pakistan. These and many others cultural, religious, and artistic activities occur with regularity throughout Town & Country given our wonderfully diverse population.



David Bentley, Bentley Studio, Ltd., graciously and generously photographs many City events throughout the year and donates his professional photographs to the City. Thank you, David, for sharing your time and talents with your community!

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With a refreshing glimpse of bipartisanship, President Obama quoted former President Lincoln during his recent State of the Union address to make the point that government should be focused upon, if not limited to, doing those things that the citizenry cannot do better for themselves. Irrespective of the application of this philosophy in Washington, D.C., we manifest it every day in Town & Country. Stated differently, we focus our resources, talents and time at City Hall to provide all residents, businesses and visitors to our community the highest level of core government functions—most notably public safety and infrastructure services—while supporting responsible growth and development consistent with our comprehensive plan and zealously protecting the residential nature of our peaceful City. By all measurable criteria, I am proud to say 2011 was a terrific year in Town & Country, and we are positioned for continued success in 2012.

In order to continue building on last year's accomplishments, I remain committed to maintaining our City's strong fiscal health and its high standards of excellence, while continually seeking opportunities to bring our community together throughout the year. I sincerely appreciate your ongoing support, and I am hopeful that you share my enthusiasm for our City's exciting progress and plans for the future. Town & Country is a beautiful place to live and work, but it is the people who live and work here that make it a truly special community.

All the best,

Jonathan F. Dalton
Mayor



*Candidate for
Ward 1*

DOROTHY COOKE

Concern about the current direction toward “progress” taken by our city government and what it means for the future of our community has prompted me to seek election to the Town and Country Board of Aldermen. I have lived and worked in Town and Country for 25 years. While we all know that change is inevitable, I do not believe we must sacrifice the “character” of our city that so many have worked so hard to achieve and maintain. Ours is a unique **residential** community and the protection of the rights and property of its residents is the first and foremost concern of its elected officials.

I will work for preservation of the natural spaces that beautify our community, for maintenance of our zoning ordinances, for enforcement of all ordinances, for inclusion of non-lethal methods in our deer management plan and for openness, respect, honesty and neighborliness at City Hall from elected, appointed and salaried individuals and throughout Town and Country. Having dealt with people as a medical internist for 34 years, an advisor and consultant for insurance companies, labor unions, business and medical review organizations and a subdivision Trustee, I will bring a fresh perspective to the Board of Aldermen.

I challenge each resident of Ward 1 to speak out and be heard. I will listen.

Dorothy (Greco) Cooke



*Candidate for
Ward 1*

RICHARD “SKIP” MANGE

I am proud to have served our city in the past, and would like to do so again as your Alderman. For three years I served on the Public Works and Storm Water Commission and the Planning Commission. In 1999 I was elected Mayor and re-elected in 2001. In 2002 I was elected to the St. Louis County Council representing central west county and served in that position for five years.

During my time in public office I was active in several area Chambers of Commerce and other civic organizations. I served on the St. Louis County Municipal League Executive Board. I am particularly proud of the fact that I was a reasoned voice on a number of local and regional issues of importance to both the City of Town & Country and St. Louis County.

I graduated from Brentwood High School and Washington University with a degree in Civil Engineering. I spent four years in the US Army as an officer including service in Vietnam. I spent over 20 years in the engineering and construction business. I went back to school in 1981 and earned my Missouri Teachers Certificate in Mathematics. I taught at Parkway North High School for two years and then joined the faculty of The Principia School. I spent the next eight years teaching math and science at Principia. In 1996 I retired from teaching and became active in public service.

I support continued protection of our residential zoning laws. I will work to keep the city budget under control, along with perusing opportunities to encourage retail re-development, in order to maintain our zero property tax rate. I support a deer management program that includes both lethal and non-lethal means until an acceptable population is reached, and than a continuing non-lethal maintenance program.

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS — FOR WARD 2



*Candidate for
Ward 2*
AL GERBER

I'm proud to have served as your Alderman in Ward 2 for the last two years. It has been a pleasure meeting you in neighborhood gatherings to discuss city issues.

During my term, I have consistently voted to keep taxes low and to balance our city budget. In fact, Town and Country homeowners still pay zero property tax rates. I voted to support our Mayor and City Manager as they negotiated a substantial cut in our Fire/EMS cost while keeping a high level of service. This, among other steps, will allow the city to return to a positive financial position by next year. Our large emergency reserve and our AAA bond ratings are intact.

The State Legislature changed the smoking laws, causing us to adjust our alcoholic beverage ordinances to stay consistent. As originally drafted, it would have been easy for drinking establishments to move into our town. I proposed successful amendments that prevent any new bars from opening within our city limits.

Most of my constituents tell me that they want our city to craft a long term deer management plan. I proposed a plan that uses lethal methods to lower to the population to a safe level, then uses non-lethal means to maintain that level. So far the Board has only dealt with the lethal part, so I will keep pushing for management that is safer and cheaper in the long run.

If elected to a second term, I will continue to be responsive and helpful to citizens in my ward. I will work for city government that puts the residents first, that promotes community, and is fiscally responsible. Please give me your vote on April 3.



*Candidate for
Ward 2*
CHUCK LENZ

CHUCK LENZ - Resident of West County since 1972, moving to Mason Valley in Town & Country in 1986. My wife, Karen and I have two adult sons, both graduates of Parkway West. For over 30 years, I held various positions in the pharmaceutical industry.

During our sons' school years, I was active in Parkway School District and Parkway Swim Club. Since moving to Town & Country, I have served on the Town & Country, Board of Adjustment, Town & Country Police Commission and from 1992-1993 served an appointment to the Board of Alderman for Ward 2. I am also a trustee of Mason Valley Place Subdivision. In addition, I have attended the majority of Board of Alderman and Finance Committee meetings for the past 10 years.

Town & Country depends on **sales tax revenue and license fees** to generate the majority of the revenue needed to provide city services. Our two major shopping centers have vacant store fronts with Manchester Meadows (Old Wal-Mart) being almost empty resulting in loss of needed revenue. The city needs to continue to encourage new business to move into these vacant areas.

Town & Country is a fantastic place to live and raise a family. With new development being at a standstill, it is imperative that we continue to maintain the zoning standards that have been a tradition in the city. Our Parks have now been developed and will need ongoing support.

I seek and need your support and **YOUR VOTE** for Alderman Ward 2. As your Alderman, I would be responsive to the needs of **ALL RESIDENTS!** I have gained insight and knowledge of the city and how it works over the years which will allow me to work well with, city staff, Board of Alderman, the Mayor and residents. Please Vote **APRIL 3RD**



Candidate for Ward 3

STEVE FONS

It has been a privilege and an honor to have served as your Alderman for the last 8 years. As a seasoned Alderman, I want to ensure continuance of high standards that we expect in our community. I ask for your continued support for my **Re-Election to a Fifth Term.**

I bring experience, analytical thinking and sound judgment. I am committed to controlling and managing our City's fiscal affairs so that a residential property tax can be avoided. I am an independent thinker and I don't waffle on decisions. I bring to the table tough negotiation skills and do not rubberstamp the first proposal that is submitted. I have made sure that each and every proposal presented to the Board is closely scrutinized.

I will continue to maintain our high standards for zoning to contain commercial and office building developments to existing sites. We do not need high-density residential apartments and condominiums. I will continue to review and curtail commercial proposals that "make sense". We do not need to add to our current traffic congestion which we already experience.

Positions Held

- ***Chairman, Longview Farm House:*** Coordinated the architectural review process for the new addition and renovation of Longview Farm House.
- ***Chairman, Police Commission***
- ***Chairman, Parks and Trails:*** Proposed a walkway from Old Woods Mill Road to Longview Farm House which has been widely accepted and utilized in the community.
- ***Chairman, Conservation Commission:*** Coordinated with City staff Arbor Day and Fall Festival
- ***Chairman, Public Relations:*** Wine Tasting Fundraiser
- ***City Liaison, West County EMS***
- ***City Liaison, Town and Country/Frontenac Chamber of Commerce***

I believe in high ethical standards in all aspects of providing services to our community. I earnestly seek your continued support. Together we can preserve Town and Country as a premier residential community.



Candidate for Ward 3

GUSSIE CRAWFORD

My name is Gussie Crawford, and I would like to request your consideration as your representative as Alderwoman for Ward 3.

I have lived in the West County area for 65 years and have been at my current residence for 47 years. I have enjoyed calling Town and Country my home and if elected, I feel I could offer some unique qualifications as a member of the Board of Aldermen.

I am a retired registered nurse, mother of two, and grandmother of seven. I have spent much of my life volunteering. Becoming involved in sports with my children led me down an administrative path in my volunteer work.

For the last thirty years I have served as registration and membership chairperson for the Ozark AAU, USA Swimming, and USA Track and Field where it has been my responsibility to work with 15,000 plus athletes, parents, and officials. This has given me a great deal of experience with planning, policy, budgets, and administration..

I remain the only female President of the National Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) in its 124 years, where over 500,000 members are involved at all levels of competition in 32

sports. I also served as a member of the U.S. Olympic Committee and was instrumental in bringing the Olympic Festival home to St. Louis.

My background as an administrator and a national ambassador gives me a unique understanding of dealing with the public as well as administrative duties.

I strongly believe in fiscal responsibility and will be a good steward to my constituents. Our city's aim to preserve open spaces is also my goal. Our building codes and zoning restrictions should be carefully guarded.

We are fortunate to reside in such a beautiful city, and if elected I will do my best to keep it so.

CANDIDATE STATEMENT — FOR WARD 4

Running Unopposed



*Candidate for
Ward 4*

PHIL BEHNEN

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Alderman of Ward 4 and Board of Aldermen President. I appreciate your strong support and look forward to another term with high expectations. It has been an honor to serve with our Mayor, Jon Dalton and our City Administrator/Police Chief, John Copeland.

As Chairman of your Finance and Economic Opportunities Commission, the past few years have been challenging not only for our municipality but municipalities all over the country. I feel fortunate to work with a board of such highly competent individuals. We made some hard decisions to consolidate services and cut overhead and I appreciate all the sacrifices the employees of Town & Country have made. Our Police, Fire and ambulance service remain second to no one. The City has maintained our AAA credit rating and remains one of the few municipalities with no property tax, no fire tax and no residential utility tax. The Finance Commission will continue to work hard to maintain and grow our strong sales tax base into the future.

In addition, as Chairman of the Architectural Review Board, we are responsible to review all business and residential construction in the City. This diverse group of individuals made up of residential architects, a commercial architect, a home builder, residential sales agents and an attorney all bring a different skill set and work hard to meet the high standards of the community. We will continue to encourage recycling of old building materials, reducing water run-off, increasing landscaping and tree plantings and promoting solar technology and other green building methods. Construction of beautiful new homes and rehabbing of existing homes has continued through the market slow down which is a very good sign for our community.

I value your input at behnenpj@town-and-country.org and appreciate your vote of support.

New Businesses *in Town & Country*

Amerisure Insurance
540 Maryville Centre
Drive, Suite 230

Ceral Byproducts
14500 S. Outer Forty,
Suite 502

Clean Coal
425 S. Woodsmill Road,
Suite 200

Corner Café
777 S. New Ballas,
Suite 002

**Federated Mutual
Insurance**
12813 Flushing Meadows,
Suite 200

Ginger Bay Salon
1184 Town & Country
Crossing

Groove
555 Maryville University
Drive, Suite 225

**Lindstrom & McKenney
(second location)**
2821 N. Ballas Road,
Suite 120

Professional Imaging
777 S. New Ballas Road,
Suite 005

**Security National
Mortgage**
12977 N. Forty Dr.,
Suite 203

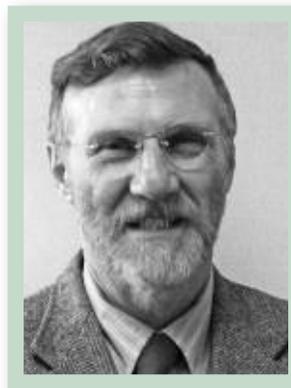
**Town & Country West
At Home**
12855 N. Forty Dr.,
3rd floor

VIP Cleaners
1054 Schnucks
Woodsmill Plaza



NEW EMPLOYEE

Neil Cantwell

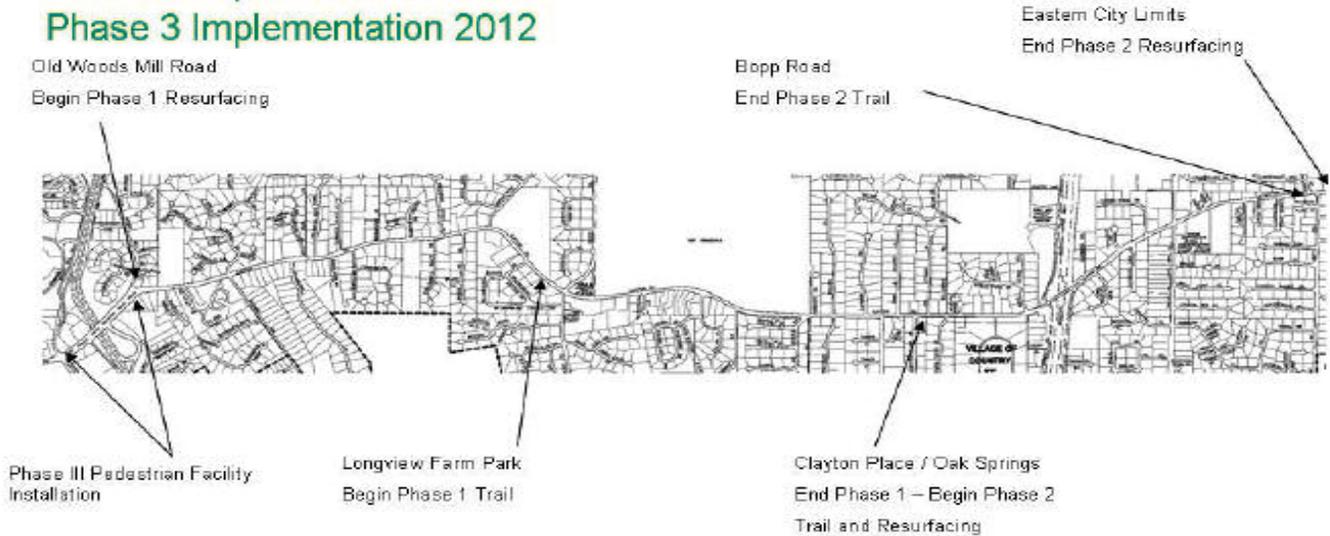


Next time you're in the Development Office, please say hello to Neil Cantwell, our new Code Official. Neil comes to us with many years of Code Official and Building Official experience, having served as Building Official in Normandy from 1979 to 2005 and in Rock Hill from 2005 until joining our staff. Neil is a Certified Building Official and certified in residential and commercial plan review and property maintenance. On a personal note, Neil has many interests: he fences, carves wooden birds and animals and is currently very involved in building his own cabin in Washington County on weekends. We welcome Neil to Town & Country.

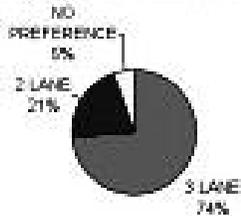
What's Happening on Clayton Road?

What has been a common question over the past few months. Starting this past fall and working through the winter months, we have been implementing Phase I of a three phase project on Clayton Road. The plans call for the installation of an 8 foot wide multi-use trail from Longview Farm Park eastward to Bopp Road. The project also includes the resurfacing of Clayton Road from HWY 141 to our eastern City Limits near Bopp Road as well as the installation of pedestrian facilities across HWY 141 linking the existing sidewalk at Old Woods Mill Road to that at Woods Mill Road.

Phase 1 Implementation 2011
Phase 2 Implementation 2012
Phase 3 Implementation 2012



Lane Configuration Preference - All Residents



The City has been successful in securing \$3.8 Million in grant funding from the Federal Highway Administration for resurfacing the project.

To assist in the planning

and implementation process, a Task Force consisting of four residents and two aldermen has been created. They have been working diligently over the past years to insure that this project is completed in a timely and effective manner. Up to this time, they have held three open house style public meetings, solicited additional resident input through a direct mailed questionnaire and have been seeking the advice of various experts in the fields of traffic engineering, trail planning, construction practices and use analysis as a part of the 24 Task Force meetings to date.

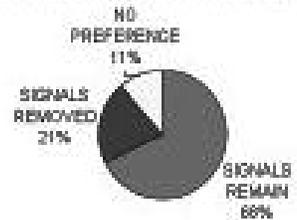
The Task Force solicited responses to a questionnaire from all residents regarding the lane configuration (3 lanes vs. 2 lanes) of Clayton Road from Mason Road to Bopp Road. The question of personal preference in regard to the intersection configuration

(signals vs. stop signs) was also asked. As a sign of how important this project is to the residents of the City, in excess of 1200 responses were

returned. This translates to approximately 37% of households providing input. See the included charts with basic questionnaire results. The questionnaire is just one variable which is being considered as a part of the Task Force's deliberations. More input is continuously being sought and analyzed by its members.

This process will continue to be ongoing as the project is developed and implemented by the end of 2012. Taking the time to utilize public input and fully understand all of the options available has been the hallmark of the process and will continue on. Currently, we are in the process of easements and right of way for the second phase of the project (Clayton Place Drive – Bopp Road) and obtaining plan approval for the third phase.

Intersection Control Preference - All Residents



For more information on the project, check us out at
www.town-and-country.org/PublicWorksCapitalProjects.aspx
www.facebook.com/claytonresurfacing



Breakfast with Santa!

 FALL FESTIVAL

Fall & Winter Events



TOWN & COUNTRY
TALENTS AND TREASURES
Holiday Boutique





IN Winter ents

.....
2nd Annual
Impressions of
Town & Country
Art Competition
.....





*Town & Country Community Relations Commission
Presents*

Art, Wine & Music

February 17, 6-8 PM

Longview Farm House, • 13525 Clayton Road

Event Tickets: \$20

Ticket price includes heavy
hors d'oeuvres by Villa Farotto and drinks.

Art of local artists will be on display and for sale.

Ticket sales and a percentage of art sales benefit the Longview Farm House. A quartet from The Town & Country Symphony Orchestra will provide music through the evening.

After-party Reception at John Mineo's

An after-party reception with live music is being offered by John Mineo's Restaurant, including a sumptuous buffet of elegant Italian fare. Drinks will be available for purchase at a discount. Ten percent of the after-party proceeds will benefit the Longview Farm House - After-party Tickets: \$20

Registrations for both events must be made in advance.

*This event sold out last year, so secure your reservation early!
To register over the phone with a credit card, call 314-434-1215.*



Have a Heart for Art!



BOB BODLEY RETIRES

Bob Bodley, the dedicated and knowledgeable Code Official for the City of Town & Country, retired from the City at the end of 2011.

Hired in 1998, Bob Bodley came to the City after a long career in fire fighting, where he attained the rank of Battalion Chief in Overland. After joining Town & Country, Bob consistently stayed updated with building codes and current trends while receiving many awards from his professional organizations and peers. Bob served as president of Missouri Association of Building Officials and Inspectors (MABOI) in 2003 and 2004, and was awarded the President's Award in 2001 and 2005. This award was given for *Recognition On Outstanding Contributions to MABOI*. In 2006, Bob received the Louis J. Stoppleman Award from the Missouri Association of Building Officials and Inspectors for his outstanding performance in Code Enforcement and Building Code knowledge; and was appointed Executive Secretary of Region 6 of the International Code Committees. In 2011 MAIBOI honored Bob by naming their scholarship the *Robert J. Bodley, Jr. Academic Scholarship*.

In addition to all of the awards, and most importantly, Bob has earned the love and respect of staff, residents and contractors alike with his prompt and attentive service. If you built a house, a deck, a pool, or remodeled in Town & Country in the past 14 years, you surely encountered Bob's kind and well-informed style. Bob filled the halls of the Municipal Center with his winning smile and eagerness to always lend a helping hand. His fantastic team-player attitude will be dearly missed, and we all wish Bob the very best in his retirement!



*City Administrator
John Copeland and
Mayor Jon Dalton
wished Bob Bodley
well on his
retirement*



WE'RE LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD PEOPLE

The Town & Country Community Relations Commission, Green Team Commission and the Public Art Commission are looking for a few new members to fill out their rosters. Please consider joining one of these active commissions and get involved in some exciting opportunities in the City.

The Community Relations Commission sponsors the upcoming Art, Wine & Music event and Holiday Boutique held each fall. These two very successful events attract Town & Country residents and others from neighboring communities. Members of the Community Relations Commission also chair a booth at Arbor Day and Fall Festival, and often volunteer at other City events.

The Green Team Commission, was established in 2008 with the mission to implement sustainable practices, raise awareness and promote stewardship, with the goal of reducing our carbon footprint. The Green Team sponsors booths at City events and most recently initiated a Green Speaker Series. These presentations are usually held once a month at the Longview Farm House and feature interesting speakers and films promoting "green" practices and sustainability.

The Public Art Commission promotes arts throughout the community of Town & Country through education, exhibits and events. The commission sponsors an annual Plein Air painting competition called "Impressions of Town & Country," a one day event, which challenges artists, from around the region, to paint the outdoor beauty and landscape of Town & Country. Judging, award ceremony, art sale and reception follow. Other ongoing projects include the acquisition of the first piece of Public Art in the history of Town & Country.

Commission meetings are usually held once a month. If you would like to apply for these, or any other commissions, please go to www.town-and-country.org, click on Forms & Applications from the left-side menu, and click on the Commission Application listed under Administration, or contact the City Clerk, Pam Burdt, at 314-587-2806, or burdtps@town-and-country.org.

P

Parks and Recreation

Tribute Trees

Dedicate a Tree for Mother's Day or Father's Day!

Do you need a special Mother's Day or Father's Day gift? Why not honor a parent with a tree in a Town & Country park? Trees gifts include a customized plaque to honor your special person. You can surprise your loved one by taking a family walk and revealing their personalized tree. The tree and plaque will last far longer than any flowers or ties and you can watch it grow year after year! Tree donations are \$275 for a 1 1/2-inch caliper and \$350 for a 2-inch caliper tree. Call Anne Nixon for more information at 314-434-2128.



NEW PARKS & RECREATION EMPLOYEE

Gene Russo

The City would like to welcome the newest employee in the Parks and Recreation Department, Gene Russo. Gene has been hired as the Park Maintenance Technician and comes to the City with 18 years experience in landscaping and property management. After graduating from the University of Missouri with a Bachelor of Science degree, Gene ran his own land maintenance company for many years. He is fluent in Spanish and has a wide array of talents including plumbing, roofing, siding, and electrical skills. Look for Gene "Geno" Russo in the parks. We welcome him to the City team!



FIELD LOTTERY

Preservation/Cadet
Park Field Lottery

Wednesday, Feb. 22, 4 PM

CBC High School
Dining Hall

For more information
contact:

Tony Kosciolek

E-mail: Kosciolekt@cbchs.org

Phone: 314-985-6046



Picnics in the Park!

The pavilions in Town & Country's parks make a great spot for any celebration, picnic or meeting! Each covered pavilion has large picnic tables, electric outlets, restrooms and a playground.

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

Call today and reserve conveniently over the phone. Lindsey Hodge at 314-434-1215.

Or download a request form at: <http://www.town-and-country.org/CityParks>.

EVENTS AT LONGVIEW FARM HOUSE

2011 was an exciting year for a variety of events at Longview!

LUNCHEON



Wedding

Three unique sections of the historic Longview Farm House are available for rental at \$50 per section per hour. It's the perfect place for an unforgettable event.

Call Lindsey Hodge at 314-434-1215!



Anniversary Party



Business meeting

Baby or Bridal Shower



SAVE THE DATE! SATURDAY, MAY 19 AAA WILL HOST A FAMILY SAFETY AND RECYCLING FAIR 10 A.M. TO 2 P.M.

This free event is open to the public and will be held at AAA's Town and Country location at 12901 North Forty Drive, just east of Highway 40/64 and Mason Road.

With a festival atmosphere, the "green" expo will feature a host of recycling opportunities for area residents, including paper shredding and collection of old or broken electronic equipment. In addition, residents will learn about personal and automotive safety and can take advantage of free vehicle inspections.

"We're pleased to host this event and bring together the resources of the St. Louis area to promote safety and raise awareness about the importance of sustainability and reducing our carbon footprint," said Phil Linck of AAA. "Whether you're interested in spring cleaning or making sure your car is safe for the road or checking the fit on your child's bike helmet, we'll have something for everyone."

Event highlights will include:

- Technicians from AAA Approved Auto Repair facilities will be on hand to perform a complimentary 40-point vehicle maintenance inspection and test the battery on your vehicle.
- E-waste will be accepted by 1-800-GOT-JUNK for proper recycling at no charge. E-waste items include computers, keyboards, printers,

scanners, fax machines, telephones, CD players, camcorders, and other personal electronics.

- Paper document and file shredding will be available courtesy of Cintas.
- An environmental specialist from the St. Louis County Department of Health will keep you informed about the latest trends in waste management and recycling.
- Learn about Valvoline's advanced recycled motor oil that exceeds industry specifications while saving on natural resources.
- Have your bicycle helmet fitted properly by an expert. Free helmets will be provided while supplies last.
- Experience the No. 22 Shell-Pennzoil-AAA Dodge Charger from the 2012 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series and view electric and hybrid vehicles on display.
- Enjoy complimentary food and beverage compliments of NAPA Auto Parts.
- And much more!

For more details about the event, call (314) 523-7350 ext. 6821, or visit AAA.com/Family

SCOUT FLAG CEREMONY



Mayor Dalton welcomed Webelos Scout Pack 630 from Christ Prince of Peace School for a special flag ceremony at the September 26th Board of Aldermen meeting. Performing the flag ceremony satisfies one of their rank advancement and reinforces the value of citizenship and honoring the flag. Pictured are: Mayor Jon Dalton, Nicholas Newman, Nathan Clem (Town & Country resident), Clark Griffin (Town & Country resident) and Webelos Leader Mike Griffin (Town & Country resident)

3RD GRADER AT MASON RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SETS NEW MATH FACT SCHOLARS WORLD RECORD



At 8:00 a.m. on October 19, 2011, Haseeb Malik arrived at Mason Ridge Elementary School prepared to complete the last six tests, in the final level, of the MATH FACT SCHOLARS weekly math skills testing program. That morning, Haseeb was also prepared to **set a new world record.**

Haseeb had already completed six levels in the MATH FACT SCHOLARS program in record time. "As a 1st grader, Haseeb completed 105 timed tests, covering skills with basic addition, subtraction, multiplication and division facts, plus more advanced timed tests, covering multi-digit computation, including mental multiplication of multi-

digits and long division skills, in just 29 testing sessions." recalled Erika Rizer, Math Fact Scholars Co-Chairperson at Mason Ridge.

"While in 2nd grade, Haseeb completed the Olympian Series–Fractions Level and the Olympian Series–Decimals Level, a total of 50 math skill tests, in just eight testing sessions.

In these two levels of the program, students are tested on their skills with adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing fractions and decimals. Typically, these math skills are not introduced to students until they are in 5th and 6th grade." explained, Diana Dunbar, President of Math Fact Scholars.

When the Olympian Series – Percents Level was implemented in September, Haseeb spent hours practicing for the tests using the practice tests in the MATH FACT SCHOLARS math practice workbook. "My mom helps me practice one hour every day", stated Haseeb.

With just minutes remaining before the testing session was to end on October 19th, Haseeb completed the final test in the series and earned the Olympian Series–Percents Level trophy. **Haseeb set a world record for completing all seven levels (180 math tests) in the MATH FACT SCHOLARS program in just 41.5 testing sessions!**

"We are proud of our son the way he worked so hard to achieve his goal." said Haseeb's parents, Balqeas and Ahmed Malik.

Haseeb shared his motivation for working so hard to accomplish his goals, "I wanted to earn all the MATH FACT SCHOLARS medals and trophies and break a world record." he proudly stated. Haseeb is now an ambassador to the MATH FACT SCHOLARS program at Mason Ridge, where he volunteers each week as a test grader helping to grade other student's tests and helping them achieve their math goals too.

TOWN & COUNTRY VETERINARY HOSPITAL NOW OFFERING ADULT STEM CELL THERAPY FOR YOUR PET

Stem cell therapy is now available for your pets locally at Town & Country Veterinary Hospital. For many of us, the term "stem cell" brings to mind highly debated moral and ethical issues. This is not an issue with animals as we are using adult stem cells deriving from fat (adipose) tissue as opposed to embryonic stem cells. These stem cells originate from your pet's own body and therefore there are no problems with rejection or disease transmission. This new and exciting therapy is used to treat dogs suffering from cartilage, tendon and ligament injuries, osteoarthritis, hip and elbow dysplasia, and poorly healing fractures. There are also studies presently going on for

use of this therapy in treatment of liver failure, feline kidney disease, allergies, irritable bowel syndrome and various autoimmune conditions. The potential positive effects are endless. Town & Country Veterinary Hospital looks forward to seeing how stem cell technology can benefit our beloved pets now and in the future.

For additional information, or to see if your pet is a candidate for stem cell therapy, please contact Dr. Stacey Wallach, Town & Country Veterinary Hospital, at 636-227-7387. Learn more about Town & Country Veterinary Hospital and their additional veterinary services at www.tcvhstl.com.

NEW POLICE OFFICER

We would like to welcome Jeff McNutt to the Town and Country Police Department. Jeff was hired on September 7th, 2011, coming to us from the Crystal City Police Department, where he had worked for the last two and one-half years. While working at Crystal City, Jeff twice received the Officer of the Year award, a significant accomplishment given that the award was presented by an organization outside of the police department, the local Optimist International Club. Jeff has an Associates Degree in Liberal Arts from Jefferson College. He and his wife Sarah live with their four children (two boys and two girls) at their home in Jefferson County.



2012 Citizens Police Academy

The Town and Country Police Department will again join Creve Coeur, Des Peres, Frontenac, and the Olivette Police Departments to present the West County Multi-Jurisdictional Citizens Police Academy. The Academy will give citizens the opportunity to learn about law enforcement through practical training and exercises.



Town and Country Police vehicles set up for a role play involving a felony car stop.

The Citizens Police Academy is to promote understanding between residents and their police officers regarding their respective goals. By promoting this relationship, citizens and law enforcement can work together to make the community a safer place to live.



Students will participate in a mock felony car stop.

Topics covered in the Academy will include Constitutional and Criminal Law, the "Use of Force", a Taser demonstration, criminal investigations, traffic safety, pursuits, D.W.I. Enforcements, patrol tactics, victim/witness responses to criminal activity, 911 dispatch operations, and much more.

Participants will have the opportunity to fire a department issued firearm under the close supervision of a Firearms Instructor. Participants will also experience real life, role play scenarios.

The Citizens Police Academy will begin on **March 6th** from 7:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M. and will meet on **Tuesdays** for nine weeks with a graduation ceremony on May 1st. The Academy is open to all residents, as well as non-residents, providing that space is available, who are 21 years of age or older.

The Citizens Police Academy is free of charge.

For more information or to enroll in the Citizens Police Academy contact Officer Kent Berry at berryk@town-and-country.org or 314-587-2887.

Make it a New Years Resolution! VOLUNTEER WITH CORP!



Did you know that the Saint Louis County Department of Human Services provides a wide array of volunteer opportunities through the County Older Resident Programs (CORP)?

Many positions offer flexibility, regarding hours, days, time commitment and location. Some examples include: driving older adults to doctor appointments and grocery stores; picking up and delivering prescriptions, groceries and household items; and visiting homebound seniors. Other volunteer options involve administrative or professional skills, such as phone receptionist, data entry, paralegal and computer coach. There also are opportunities for individuals or groups to share specific talents and skills (e.g., music, arts, storytelling, etc.) for special events that bring seniors together to socialize. How about "resolving" to give a little of your time for a very worthy endeavor. You will likely obtain a lot of satisfaction knowing you are helping out seniors in your own community! Please contact CORP Coordinator, Terese Labovitz at (314) 615-4435; tlabovitz@stlouisco.com; and let her know that 2012 is the year for you to participate as a CORP volunteer! Individuals with hearing impairments may call (314)615-4425.

NEW YOGA CLASSES

With 2 opportunities to try it for free!

Come try a yoga class on us! Stretch, strengthen and center yourself in the beautiful setting of Longview Farm Park. This vinyasa yoga class is suitable to all levels. From the complete novice to an experienced yogi, this class will be tailored to accommodate multiple levels.

Location: Longview Farm House, 13525 Clayton Rd.

Time: 9:30-10:45 AM

Instructor: Sara Clem-Sara is a Town & Country resident and has been practicing yoga for 11 years. She is Yoga Alliance certified and looking forward to offering these new classes in her own community.

Free Classes: Thursday, March 8th AND Tuesday, March 13th

Session A Dates: Tuesdays (4/3, 4/10, 4/17, 4/24, 5/1, 5/8)

Session A Cost: \$72

Session B Dates: Thursdays (3/15, 4/5, 4/12, 4/19)

Session B Cost: \$48

If you can not register for a full session, daily admittance is \$15/class. Watch for outdoor yoga and youth yoga classes coming this summer!



MISSOURI BAPTIST MEDICAL CENTER COMMUNITY OUTREACH

All programs are free-of-charge and reservations are required. Please call 314-996-5433 for reservations and specific locations.

Free Health Screenings

Cholesterol & Glucose Screenings at Your Neighborhood Dierbergs.

Cardiologists recommend that you monitor your cholesterol and glucose on a regular basis. To make it easy, Missouri Baptist will provide FREE screenings in the pharmacy department at your neighborhood Dierbergs Markets. This screening is FREE and measures your glucose, total cholesterol and HDL. No fasting is required – advance appointments are recommended.

FEBRUARY - West Oaks Dierbergs – Wednesday, Feb. 22, 1:30-5 p.m.

MARCH - Lafayette Center Dierbergs – Wednesday, March 7, 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Telegraph Dierbergs – Wednesday, March 21, 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Bone Density Screening

This FREE bone density screening can help determine your risk for osteoporosis. This screening is only available to post-menopausal women, who are not currently being treated for the disease. Appointments recommended.

Thursday, March 22, 4-7 p.m.
Missouri Baptist Outpatient Center – Sunset Hills, 3844 South Lindbergh Blvd.

Lunch and Learn...

Getting Ahead of Your Headaches

Cheryl Faber, MD, neurologist

With more than 150 different types, nearly everyone has experienced a headache at one point. Join Dr. Faber for lunch and a discussion about the prevalence of headaches, what causes them and what you can do to better manage yours. Box lunches will be provided.

Tuesday, Feb. 21, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

Jewish Community Center, Marilyn Fox Building, 16801 Baxter Road

Evening Programs ARCH

Gallbladder Disease Treatment: From the Simplest Solutions to Surgery

Giuseppe Aliperti, MD, gastroenterologist
Omar Guerra, MD, general surgeon
Rachel Matusiak, RD, registered dietitian

Gallstone disease, one of the most common gastrointestinal disorders, affects approximately 10-15 percent of adults in the U.S. Our panel of medical specialists will discuss the risks for gallbladder disease, and the latest in its diagnosis and treatment, including lifestyle changes that can help manage the symptoms. Refreshments will be served.

Wednesday, Feb. 29, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
The Hilton St. Louis Frontenac, 1335 South Lindbergh Blvd.

A Caregiving Plan for Your Loved One

Poonam Jain, MD, geriatrician
Nancy Troutman, JD
Duane Wesche, RPh, pharmacist

According to AARP, approximately 30 million families provide care for an older adult today – and this number is expected to double in the next 25 years. Regardless of age, many older adults dream of remaining independent and living at home for as long as possible. This dream can become a reality, however, it does require some careful planning and caregiver support. Join our panel of experts for tips on how to develop a caregiving plan that best fulfills the needs and wishes of your loved one. Refreshments will be served.

Tuesday, March 13, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Jewish Community Center, Staenberg Family Complex, 2 Millstone Campus Dr.

Nutrition Check Up: Secrets for Keeping Pounds Off - for Good!

Sherri Hoyt, RD, registered dietitian

Have you ever “lost” weight, only to “find” it back again? Want to be a long term loser? Join us and learn the top nutrition tips for keeping those hard-earned pounds off for good! Enjoy samples of recipes that help fill you up without filling you out, and participate in a body composition analysis, including body fat and muscle percentages.

Wednesday, March 28, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Jewish Community Center, Marilyn Fox Building, 16801 Baxter Road

CERT TRAINING BEGINS

• **MAY 8, 2012**

The Town & Country and Creve Coeur Police Departments, along with the Creve Coeur Fire Protection and West County EMS and Fire Districts have partnered together to offer citizens specialized training, known as CERT, to assist the community in the event of a large-scale disaster. Our program is part of the Meramec Valley Citizen Corps Council, which includes CERT programs from several local municipalities and fire districts.

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training was designed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is designed to train citizen volunteers to assist their communities after disasters, such as an earthquake. Topics covered during the training include: disaster preparedness, fire suppression, medical operations, light search and rescue, disaster psychology, and terrorism. Required training manuals, as well as some supplies, will be provided for participants.

CERT training is offered to all city residents and is FREE of charge. The training is conducted on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 – 9:30 PM for 5 consecutive weeks and a practical exercise

on Saturday June 16. The next class is scheduled to begin on May 8.

This year the CERT classes will be held at the new West County EMS and Fire Training Facility at Manchester and Mason Rd.

Additionally, businesses located within the city limits interested in providing CERT training for a group of employees, can host a class during normal business hours. Edward Jones, Monsanto and Maryville University employees have completed the training and are better prepared to assist and respond should a disaster occur while they are at work.

It is important to have trained citizen volunteers available to assist our police and fire departments and the community in the aftermath of a disaster. **If you would like to enroll and/or receive additional information regarding CERT, please contact Officer Kent Berry by email at berryk@town-and-country.org.**

Additional CERT information is also available at the FEMA website, www.ready.gov.

The Top Ten Factors in Becoming a Victim of Crime

By: Detective James Gorman

2011 was a challenging year for many of our residents and the police department in responding to a steady series of crimes committed by hard core criminals. It is not unusual to have one career criminal commit a number of crimes before they are finally apprehended, but 2011 saw at least five suspects, all of whom had spent time in prison, commit dozens, if not hundreds of crimes through the St. Louis metro area including Town and Country.

When crimes occur in waves our officers and detectives swing into action and put on a full court press until the perpetrators are behind bars, but they can leave many victims in their wake until that occurs. After interviewing a number of these criminals prior to their re-entry into the prison system, we gathered some insight on how they chose their victims and committed their crimes. So in the spirit of "Top Ten" lists as seen on late night talk shows, here we go:

The Top Ten Factors in Becoming a Victim of Crime

Number 10



"I live in Town and Country, it won't happen to me". Wrong! The old saying for any business enterprise of "location, location, location" holds true for those who steal and burglarize to earn a living. Career criminals are often addicted to controlled substances and need to acquire (steal) to support their addiction. The homes in West County

and particularly in Town and Country are tantalizing targets because they contain a multitude of expensive items, which are easy to convert to cash. Thinking that it can't or won't happen to you is like the proverbial ostrich syndrome. Take steps to safeguard your home.

Number 9

Not belonging to Town and Country Police Department's Crime Prevention and Safety Network (CPSN). The CPSN is a free email alert program offered by the Police Department. When a crime is reported an email is forwarded to the members to alert and inform residents. An informed citizenry is a powerful tool in crime prevention. Having multiple pairs of eyes scanning the neighborhood ready to report suspicious activity to the police is far more effective than having a marked patrol car drive through the area a few times a day. Signing up is easy, visit the City of

Town and Country web site www.town-and-country.org and click on "E-Mail Subscription Lists" on the left tool bar; or contact the Police Department at 314-432-4696.

Number 8

Not reporting suspicious people, vehicles and/or incidents to the Police right away. As was mentioned above, reporting suspicious activity to the police quickly is very effective in deterring crime. Recently a resident noticed her outside motion sensor lights go on in the early hours of the morning. She saw a figure of a man walking in her backyard and immediately dialed 911. Within minutes four police cars arrived on scene and began searching for the subject. Although the subject was not located, police were able to recover key shoe print evidence that later linked the career criminal and serial burglar as the subject who was in the resident's back yard. Bottom-line, if you see someone or something that does not look right, call the police immediately by dialing 911 or calling our dispatch center at 314-737-4600.

Number 7

Leaving on vacation or an extended period of time without requesting a neighbor, a family member or the police to check your residence. In keeping with the theme of watchful eyes, before you leave for an extended period of time, take a few minutes to help keep your home safe while you are away. Call a trusted neighbor or friend and tell them that you will be away. Ask them to keep an eye out for suspicious activity around your home and to collect the mail, newspapers and packages. You may also want to call the police department and request a vacation check of your property. It's free and only takes a couple of minutes to setup. Call the Town and Country Police during business hours at 314-432-4696.

Number 6

Advertising your purchases. Career criminals do their homework. Many of those who were apprehended by the Town and Country Police confessed that they have driven through the neighborhoods casing or window shopping for homes to burglarize. One of the best days for them to "cruise" your street is trash day. All those empty boxes that you discarded are advertising your newly acquired flat screen TV, Playstation, Wii, computer, etc. Rather than just tossing out the empty boxes, cut them up and fold them up inside out thereby hiding the manufacturer's labeling. This way if a disreputable individual passes by or is working at or nearby your home, it will look like just a bunch of brown cardboard rather than a showroom window.

Number 5

Failure to conduct good backgrounds on household workers. No one would pay a criminal to come into his or her house...or would they? Some have done just that when they failed to conduct good background checks on household workers. Before you hire anyone to work for you in or outside your home, be cautious and check the person out as thoroughly as you can. Check with the Better Business Bureau (BBB). Ask a family member, neighbor, or friend if they could personally recommend someone. Then ask the individual for references and contact them. Go online and conduct a background check. A simple web search on the phrase 'background check' revealed 113,000,000 results of potential sites that will allow you to check a person for any prior criminal history. You may have to subscribe or pay a nominal fee for the search but consider this: Recently a resident hired a house cleaner from a Craigslist ad without checking her background only to become the victim of a theft of thousands of dollars of jewelry. Don't be penny-wise and pound-foolish when it comes to protecting your home.

Number 4



French doors. Of all the types of doors which homes have, French doors are some of the easiest doors to force open even when the knob and deadbolt locks are applied. Failure to properly secure both the doors of a French door system by sliding the door bolts into the floor threshold and header jam may allow them to be forced open by pushing from the outside where the two doors meet.

As was the case with our most recent serial burglar, he told Town and Country detectives he looked for homes that had French doors, and that all he had to do was push the two doors open with his shoulder. Once inside he simply closed the French doors and went to work stealing expensive gold jewelry. If your house has French doors and they are not equipped with floor and header sliding bolts, many after-market solutions are available at hardware and locksmith stores.

Number 3

Packages on the front porch. One burglar chose what house to burglarize by targeting those that had packages left near the front door. When UPS or Fed Ex delivers packages they typically ring the doorbell. If no one is home, the packages sit out for everyone to see until the resident returns. Those houses become prime targets. If



you are having a package delivered and you will not be home to accept it, here are a few suggestions:

- Make arrangements to have it delivered to a neighbor who can accept it for you.
- If you are able, have it delivered to where you work.
- Designate a specific location where the package is to be placed, preferably in the rear of the house or out of view from the street.

Lastly request that the service NOT affix an "Attempted to Deliver" tag to your front door or window. Burglars look for these too. Ask to have the notice placed on a rear door instead.

Number 2



Inactive alarm systems. Several of our burglarized homes were equipped with state of the art alarm systems that were turned OFF at the time of the burglary. If you have expended your resources to have a system installed, use it. Residents have told us that they don't like the hassle of constantly turning on and off the alarm or in some cases have just moved into the home and do not know how to operate the system. Taking just

a few minutes to learn your system and using it properly is far more advantageous than dealing with the aftermath and heartbreak of a burglary. Our officers would rather respond to a false alarm than to a burglary. We do not have any false alarm fees in Town and Country.

Finally the number 1 factor in becoming a victim of crime is...

Number 1

Unlocked doors! Yes, over 90 percent of our crimes involving thefts from vehicles and about half of our home burglaries involved entry through an unlocked door. Several of our serial criminals never forced entry! They made their living by stealing from residents who left houses and vehicles insecure. In many of the cases where thefts involving unlocked doors had occurred, the victim told responding officers that they thought things like this did not happen in Town and Country. Remember number 10 in our listing "The Ostrich Syndrome". Criminals, whether they are of the hardened serial type or the opportunist teenagers who roam the neighborhood in the night, are hoping that you keep thinking that way. Why make it so easy for them? The simple 'turn of a key' and 'click of a lock' is often all it takes for these nefarious characters to move on and leave your home and possessions alone.

While you cannot totally eliminate the possibility that you will be the victim of a criminal act, you can take positive steps to greatly reduce the likelihood. If you would like a crime prevention specialist to conduct a vulnerability survey of your home or business please call Officer Kent Berry by calling 314-432-4696 or he can be contacted by email at berryk@town-and-country.org.



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Arbor Day Celebration ♡ egg hunt

Saturday, March 31 • 9-Noon (Egg Hunt at Noon)

Longview Farm Park



TREE CITY USA

Did you know Town & Country has been certified as a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation? Come celebrate at the City's annual Arbor Day Celebration!

During the Arbor Day Celebration free seedlings will be available to the public along with educational booths and activities. Enjoy a morning of crafts and games with your children! Prepare for the gardening season by taking advantage of the free "Ask the Master Gardener" booth. Come experience PBS Kids "Explore the Outdoors" activities during this event!



This event is a great opportunity for community service! Help foster a healthy park by planting native species in the woodland. We will be planting trees, shrubs and plugs suitable for all ages. If your group (scout group, neighborhood, garden club, etc.) would like to participate, call Anne Nixon at 314-434-2128. Community Service Patches will be awarded for service hours on this day.

This year Arbor Day will be paired with the Equine Assisted Therapy annual Egg Hunt. Registration for the Egg Hunt is on-site beginning at 11 AM and the hunt begins at Noon. Cost for the Egg Hunt is \$10/participant. Please bring your own basket.



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