



Volume 30, Number 2
Summer 2014

Town & Country *Times*



BLOCK PARTY
SATURDAY,
JUNE 21
6:30-9:30 PM



**Please utilize the Clayton Road Trail
and walk or bike to the event!**

**THANK YOU TO
OUR COMMUNITY
SPONSORS!**

Mari de Villa
Missouri Baptist Medical Center
Maryville University
The Principia

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!

2020 Vision: A Strategic Plan for the Center of our City



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

We have come a long way since January 8, 1950, when the Village of Town & Country was formed consisting of 162 residents in an area of about two square miles generally centered around the intersection of Clayton and Ballas Roads. With steady growth and major annexations approved by the voters in 1977 and 1991, Town & Country now consists of nearly 12 square miles and 11,000 residents. That growth and geographic expansion transitioned the center of our City further west to Clayton and Mason Roads.



At that central location, the City built our current firehouse in 1991 to better serve our entire community and its new boundaries. In the span of just a few years, a Strategic Plan (1997), a Parks and Open Space Plan (1997), and a Trails and Parks Master Plan (1998) were all completed providing valuable direction to our maturing town. Consistent with this resident-oriented and community-minded planning, 30 acres of land were purchased in 2000 on the adjacent corner from the firehouse around Clayton and Mason Roads and dedicated as Longview Farm Park in 2002. Since then, this *de facto* center of our City has become a focal point and gathering place where we enjoy a steadily emerging sense of arrival and community in Town & Country.



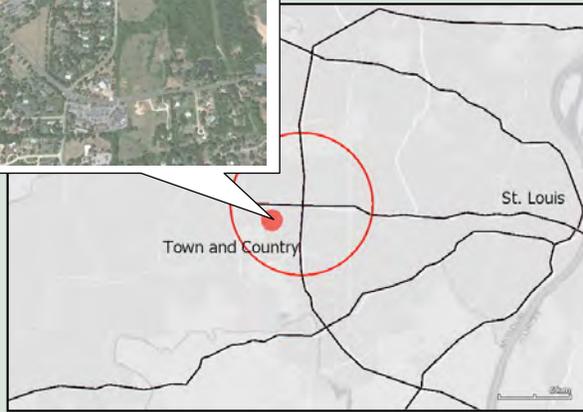
Why Continued Planning is Essential

I would like to echo what my late friend and original member of the Strategic Planning Committee, Jamie Cannon, once wrote:

Anyone familiar with town planning will know that we have just skimmed the surface of possibilities. What all of this implies is that Town & Country must continue to plan for the future. The quality and nature of that future depends on us.¹

The City of Town & Country is located in the geographic center of St. Louis County and assumes a pivotal position within the seven-county East-West Gateway Planning Region. In fact, we sit at the crossroads of the primary north/south connector (I-270) and east/west interstate (I-64) of the metropolitan area, making the City an ideal location for residents, places of worship, educational institutions, healthcare providers, businesses and other organizations. For this reason, our central geographic location regularly attracts the focus of developers and the various interests they represent. Therefore, it is essential that Town & Country move from the back seat of reactive assessment of various proposals to the driver's seat of forward-thinking planning so that we may best manage our City's future. Clearly, we are in the best position to determine what assets or enhancements would bring true value to our community.

In the last issue of the *Times*, I suggested examining this area of our City by stepping back *and* looking forward consistent with a resident-centered 2020 Vision—a continuation of our Strategic Plan published in 1997 with a narrower focus on the area that surrounds the Clayton and Mason intersection. I firmly believe that the future of Town & Country is best guided by charting a decisive path today, so that we can shape how the center of our town will look and serve our community, not just in the foreseeable future but beyond.



Those who call Town & Country home have a strong sense of who we are and what we hold dear. Our commitments to green space preservation and one-acre residential neighborhoods were established long before many of us arrived and will continue long after we are gone. Consistent with those fundamental beliefs, we can add value to our surroundings by assuming control over our future through comprehensive planning among all stakeholders. This place-making process should occur sooner rather than later, so that we may be more proactive with our vision for Town & Country, rather than continuing to react or respond to the desires of others, particularly those who may not share the vision we have for our community.

2020 Vision: Bringing Value to the Center of our Town

It is widely recognized that the area surrounding Clayton and Mason Roads is the hub of our community wheel. From the pastures and playgrounds at Longview Farm Park, to the quaint shops and amenities in and around Mason Woods Village, this has been and will long be a central gathering place. The recent completion of the Clayton Road Trail, with its trailhead feature in front of our iconic firehouse, has connected many neighbors and neighborhoods to this special location, with additional connector trails in various phases of discussion or planning. In fact, the idea that you can drive *through* Town & Country, but you cannot drive *to* Town & Country, is slowly beginning to change as our sense of place and identity continues to coalesce in this area. With Longview Farm Park, the shops at Mason Woods Village, our firehouse and even our community garden, we have the building blocks of a traditional *town square*...a place in the heart of our community where friends and neighbors can gather together to discuss local issues, celebrate community events, and enjoy various amenities suitable for this modest area. The potential for a town square would then connect to many of our neighborhoods by roadways, sidewalks and walking trails.

“Change is inevitable. We won’t be able to simply stand still and run in place. City building doesn’t work that way. Identify the qualities of a community that would have universal appeal, and we have a benchmark we can use to judge the nature of the community in which we want to live.”

- Jamie Cannon



Town squares are public spaces adorned with art and cultural exhibits, as well, which make significant contributions to the cultural fabric of a community, enhancing its shared vision, identity and quality of life. Art has also been recognized by business and municipal leaders for invigorating public places and its significant contribution to economic vitality.² The Longview Farm Park House has already become a prominent showcase of artwork for some very talented local artists. In addition, the Public Art Commission hosts art galleries and exhibits, the plein air competition known as *Impressions of Town & Country*, as well as our annual *Art, Wine and Music* event there. In fact, the St. Louis County Municipal League recently recognized our City's focus on such efforts, led by Alderman Wright and the Public Art Commission, when Town & Country was named the recipient of the League's *Art and Culture* award at its annual banquet on May 29th.



Building on this success, the Public Art Commission has embarked upon another ambitious project to place an original piece of public art to help celebrate the 65th anniversary of Town & Country's incorporation next year. Specifically, renowned artist and sculptor, Harry Weber, has been commissioned to fashion a realistic bronze statue of a horse and dog with additional bronze pieces to be added over time. The Commission feels that the sculpture, named "Discovery," embodies the spirit of Town & Country, and recommends placement of this iconic piece at the Clayton Road trailhead in front of the firehouse, further beautifying the center of our community.



For reasons stated previously, this central location, which extends north along Mason Road to Highway I-64 (where the new pediatric care facility is being developed) and south to Queeny Park (where the dog park is being sited) has inspired considerable attention and concern for its future. By moving into the proverbial driver's seat with respect to all proposals in this area, it would be the collective community that plans and oversees any future development or modifications of key parcels of land in our town square. This is planning at its best—a process driven by community input and thoughtful dialogue by first establishing a collective vision for the property (a 2020 Vision), followed by an implementation process that is open and transparent to all stakeholders and interested parties.

"Why would it not make sense for the city to acquire those lands deemed critical to the future successes of this city and do it right now? When the time comes for the city to use the land, we will do so knowing that we bought the property before it appreciated further."

- Jamie Cannon

The 2020 Vision Process

It is essential to the success of our 2020 Vision planning process that we work with everyone from the adjoining neighborhoods and properties, along with gaining input from others across the City, to develop a blueprint that fosters planning and development consistent with our shared values that will lead to enhancing our surroundings and community assets—a blueprint that reflects who we are and preserves that identity for future generations.

“As both a resident and a business owner in Town & Country, I look forward to working with my neighbors, customers and the city in pursuing the 2020 Vision surrounding our Straub’s location at Clayton & Mason Roads.”

- Trip Straub

Let me conclude by underscoring some essential aspects of our 2020 Vision strategic planning process. First, it will be a *communal* process. 2020 Vision, like top-tier placemaking processes that are occurring around the country, represents an incredibly exciting opportunity for our community. Citizens will have a direct role in shaping what our City will look like and who we will be...*the community transforming places so places can transform the community.*

Second, our 2020 Vision will be an extended and thoughtful process involving public discourse, deliberation, even disagreement. Inevitably, some opinions may clash and the vision of one individual may conflict and compete with that of another, but all of these interactions will occur within a forum that not only invites, but welcomes, a multitude of ideas. True democratic processes can sometimes appear chaotic, yet out of chaos can emerge beauty, order and a mutually shared vision that has been shaped and refined by discourse rather than by decree.

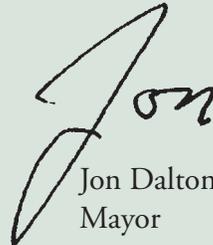
The old axiom is certainly true when it comes to the future of Town & Country—if we fail to plan, we will certainly plan to fail; conversely, if we can roll up our sleeves, seize the moment and the opportunity, we will greatly improve our community today and the chances for its prosperity tomorrow.

* * * * *

I hope and trust the foregoing has drawn your attention to this very important value proposition for our beloved City. Regular communications will continue as our 2020 Vision planning process begins to emerge in earnest over the coming weeks and months. If you have a particular interest or wish to actively participate, please contact me directly at (314) 486-9991.

In the interim, best wishes to all for a healthy, happy and joyous summer season. See you at Fire & Ice!

All the best,



Jon Dalton
Mayor

¹ All excerpts from Jamie Cannon are taken from his work, “Welcome to the New Millennium, Town & Country 2010: A vision for an edge city.”

² American Planning Association. Retrieved from <http://www.planning.org/research/arts/briefingpapers/vitality.htm> on March 28, 2014.

CONGRATULATIONS ELECTED OFFICIALS



At the Board of Aldermen meeting on April 28, the newly elected Aldermen were sworn in. Accompanying Mayor Dalton on the dais, those taking the oath of office are: Ward III Alderman Gussie Crawford; Ward IV Alderman Linda Rallo; Ward II Alderman Amy Anderson; and Ward I Alderman Skip Mange.



HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL

The St. Louis County permanent Household Hazardous Waste facility is in full-swing, and is available to all Town & Country residents. Disposing of HHW in a proper way helps save the environment. When these materials are improperly disposed they can cause harm and destroy our ecosystems. Specifically, they can easily damage the water supply which is a vital resource for not only citizens but also for the organisms with which we share this planet.

To schedule a drop off, and to get all of the specific details about the HHW program, please visit www.hhwstl.com. For further assistance, call St. Louis County at 314-615-8958.

The facility is located at: Lemay HHW Facility
291 E. Hoffmeister
St. Louis, MO 63125

Accepted materials: paints, stains, varnishes, wood preservatives, pesticides, herbicides, poisons, solvents and strippers, aerosols, motor oil and filters, gas cylinders (pit size or smaller), fluorescent tubes, batteries, driveway sealant, mercury-containing devices, gasoline.

COFFEE WITH A COP

Friday, September 12
8:00 -10:00 AM

Join your neighbors and Town & Country Police officers for coffee and conversation! No agenda or speeches, just a chance to ask questions, voice concerns, and get to know the officers in your neighborhood.

Meet at Starbucks in
Mason Woods Village,
13448 Clayton Road

For more information, please contact
Community Relations
Officer Katie Exline
314-587-2892 or
exlinek@town-and-country.org

30 YEARS OF SERVICE & PROTECTION

November 28, 2013, marked the 30th anniversary of the Town and Country Police Department. Prior to this date in 1983, the City operated a Department of Public Safety which served as both a police and fire department. After the annexation of a large area to the west of the then current city limits a decision was made to split police and fire services, and the Town and Country Police Department was formed.

Back in 1983, priority was given to the major obstacles associated with starting up a police department and many smaller decisions like uniforms and badge styles were deferred. The end results were generic uniforms and badges. Since 1983 we have changed our department patch once, changed uniforms colors and styles a total of two times, and...



...changed the appearance of our police vehicles five times.

While we were very happy with our current uniform, patch, and police cars, we felt the 30th anniversary would be the perfect opportunity to introduce an updated badge design that was more identifiable with the City of Town and Country.



With the help of then Sergeant John Flanagan, the de-facto department artist, we came up with a sketch of our City logo drawn on a shield style badge. After working with the Lawman Badge Company on artwork for the new badge, and getting approval from the Police Commission, the badges were ordered.



The new badge, displayed to the right, incorporates the Clayton Road firehouse, which is part of the City logo; the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, which is where our officers derive their ultimate authority; and the year 1983, which is when the Town and Country Police Department was formed.



Original artist's rendering



Final version

PLANNING DIRECTOR SHARON ROTHMEL RETIRES

After many years with the City of Town & Country, Sharon Rothmel has retired. In her positions of Planning Director and Community Economic Opportunity Coordinator, Sharon professionally and expertly managed daily planning and development in Town & Country, including overview of zoning, subdivision, signs and building.

Sharon was deeply involved in the lengthy and difficult approval process for both Manchester Meadows and Town & Country Crossing and played a major role in several City annexations as well as the acquisition and planning of our three beautiful parks.

Sharon Rothmel is known throughout the St. Louis region and the State of Missouri for her professionalism, integrity, and dedication to excellence, and discharged her duties on a daily basis with impeccable ethics, attention to detail and service to her City, its elected officials and all those she encountered.

On March 31, Sharon worked her last day with the City and was sent off with many thanks for her willingness to faithfully serve our community since 1987, and our best wishes to begin what we hope will be many years of a joyful and happy retirement.

Once Upon a Time...

... or more specifically on April 30th Churchill Center & School presented a Fairy Tale inspired Art Show.

The exhibit was a school-wide project with every student participating either through a piece of art or creative writing. A reader's theatre presentation of Jack & the Beanstalk, a living museum, video taped choir performances and drama performances of Snow White and the Gnomes and The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig were some of the highlights of the evening.

Tying the fairy tales into a fleur-de-lis contest and judging was a suggestion made by Jean Morris of the Kirkwood Iris Society. Jean believes gardens based on stories or fairy tales introduce children to two parts of culture: literature and gardening. A garden with an assembly of storybook irises can interest children in reading, and reading storybooks can interest children in irises. The iris judging and competition was held on May 8th in the Churchill Library and featured design entries created by Churchill students and using irises grown in the school's own garden.

Truly this was a fairy tale come true for students and guests!



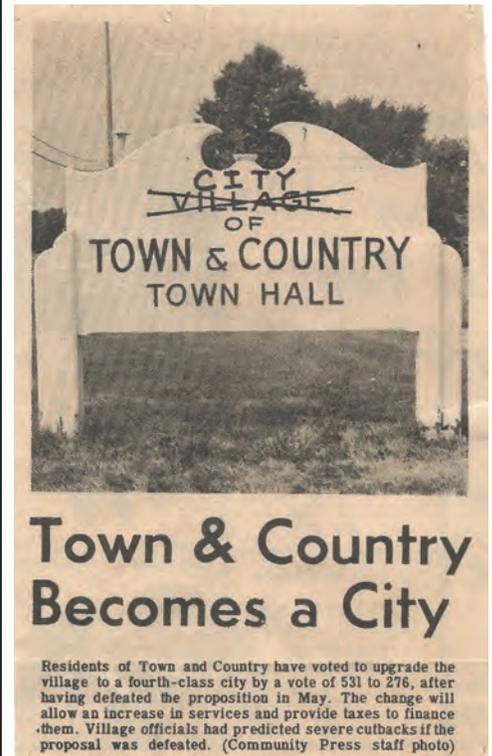
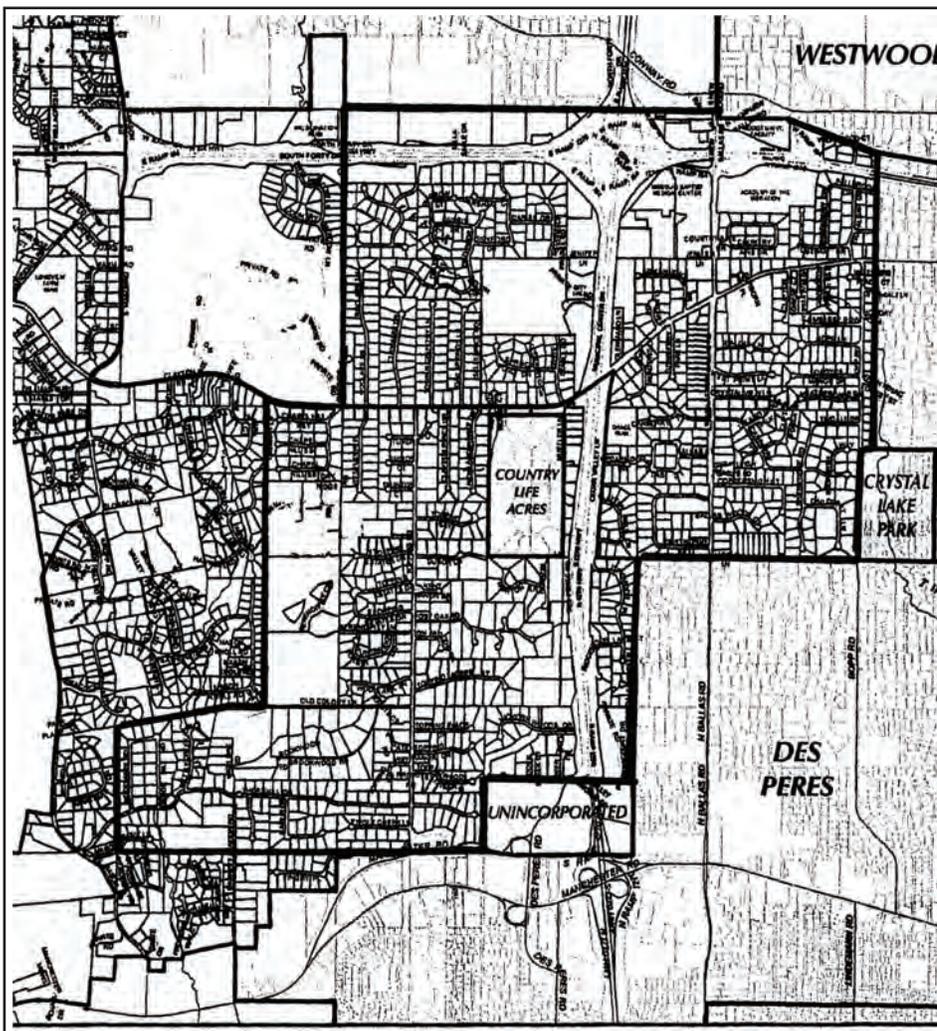
THE HISTORY OF TOWN & COUNTRY

Part 2

*By: Town & Country Historical Society
Skip Mange, President*

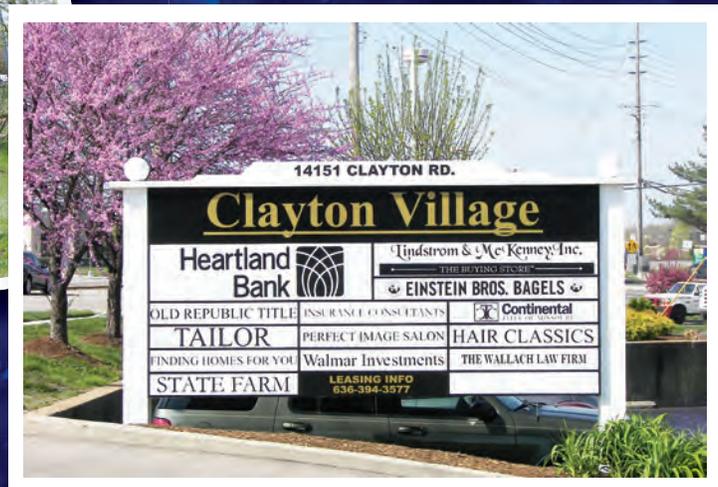
In the Spring Newsletter I started a series of articles about the history of Town & Country. Part 1 outlined how the Village of Town & Country was formed in 1950. Part 2 is about how the Village became a 4th Class city under State Law.

After an unsuccessful attempt in March 1974, the voters in the Village of Town & Country on August 6, 1974 approved a ballot issue to transform the village into a fourth-class city with a Mayor and Board of Aldermen. The following map shows the boundary of the city at that time overlaid on a map of that part of the current city. The government center of the city continued to be located just west of the intersection of Clayton Road and Ballas Road.



SUPPORT TOWN & COUNTRY

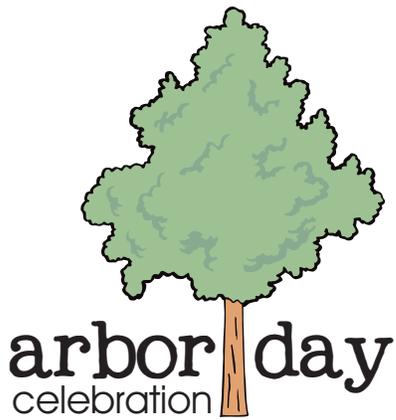
Businesses and organizations are important members of the community. Like our residents, they too have chosen to call Town and Country home, providing a wide variety of goods and services that enhance our quality of living. In addition, they also enable our property tax rates to remain at zero (0) as they contribute a majority of our annual budget through sales tax and license fees.





“The role of the city and its residents is to help these useful businesses succeed. Their success, after all, is also our success.”

- Jamie Cannon



The Arbor Day Celebration and Egg Hunt were huge successes! The City gave away approximately 700 native seedlings to celebrate its 14th year as a Tree City USA. Children of all ages enjoyed the beautiful Spring day in Longview Farm Park. Thank you to Equine Assisted Therapy for organizing the Egg Hunt! Children were delighted by the colorful eggs, stuffed animals and prizes. Thank you to the volunteers from the Parks & Trails Commission and the Community Relations Commission who helped make this day a success!



Thank you to a special group of 2nd Graders from The Principia who came to Longview Farm Park to celebrate Earth Day. Mr. Doug Hoff and his class planted sixty seedlings along the Mason Ridge Road border of the park. Look for a grove of redbuds and dogwoods to bloom there for years to come!

OUT OF THE HORSE'S MOUTH

A message from the folks at Equine Assisted Therapy

One of the many uses of Town & Country's lovely Longview Farm Park is Equine-Assisted Therapy (EAT). As the name states, this non-profit program seeks to enhance the daily lives of the mentally and physically challenged in the community. The City of Town & Country has been so gracious in working with Equine-Assisted Therapy in making this program available to all who might benefit from this unique form of activity in a world where options are few.

We are also grateful to our T&C friends and neighbors as, through the years, they have served to care deeply for our herd and add their eyes and ears to assure the safety and well-being of them.

EAT is celebrating its 10th year in 2014, and as we start out this season, we've brought in 2 horses you've all become accustomed to: Brody and Dusty, and two new guys: Sarge and Buddy. Odin, our Norwegian Fjord, will be coming back to the park once his training is complete.

We're happy to talk with you and answer your questions any time.

Contact Ginni at ginni@eatherapy.org or 314-221-3642.



Talented Artisans and Crafters Needed for the

Holiday Boutique



Shoppers! - MARK YOUR
CALENDARS FOR
SATURDAY,
NOVEMBER 15
9AM TO 3PM

The annual Holiday Boutique has become a very popular go-to event for handcrafted, trendy jewelry, gifts, home décor and more. The Community Relations Commission is looking for vendors who would like to share their talents at this year's event. On Saturday, November 15, the beautiful Longview Farm House will be filled with handcrafted items made by 25 local, talented artists and crafters. This is the 6th anniversary for this great event, and each year it just gets better!

Don't miss your chance to be a vendor at this popular boutique. Applications are now being accepted. If you are interested, please go to www.town-and-country.org, click on Holiday Boutique in the right side column for vendor application and details, or contact Mary Olsen at olsenm@town-and-country.org or 314-587-2804. ✧

Longview Farm House Rentals Unique Events



- Weddings
- Graduation Parties
- Retirement Parties
- Corporate Retreats
- Birthday Parties

(314) 434-1215
Lindsey Hodge or
hodgelf@town-and-country.org
www.town-and-country.org



SUMMER CAMPS

AT LONGVIEW FARM PARK

Registration is required for each camp

NEW! TAKE A CULTURAL JOURNEY THROUGH ART

Monday, July 14 - Thursday, July 17

Students will explore Mexican, African, Japanese and Indian Art. Each day will present a new culture and art project, so join us for one or all of the sessions. Age appropriate projects will be presented for younger children and for older students.

Classes taught by Mary Beth Wilson, art instructor and Public Art Commission member

Times: Ages 4 - 7 from 9AM -10AM • Grades 2 - 6 from 10AM - Noon

Location: Longview Farm Park Pavilion and Farm House

Fee: \$5 per student per day materials fee

Call 314-434-1215 to register



NITRO JOE HALF-DAY SUMMER CAMP

Monday-Friday, June 23-27

Children will experiment with detective skills to determine the identity of mystery powders. Students will also understand the aerodynamics of paper airplanes and gliders. Personal ecosystems will be created with live plants and worms. Basic electricity will be discussed and students will construct their own battery powered device. Various experiments with physical and chemical changes will excite and astound students. Children will even have the opportunity to create their own science slime. Each day will have a take-home experiment completed by the students.

Ages: Entering Grades 1-5

Fee: \$130.00

Location: Longview Farm House

Time: 8:30 -11:30 AM

Call 314-434-1215 to register



YOGAKIDS IN NATURE

Monday -Thursday, June 16 -19 (June 20 is the rainout makeup day)

In our fast-paced world, we know that kids need to re-connect with nature. Yoga improves children's attention, focus, flexibility and strength. Each YogaKids class will incorporate yoga poses and a nature activity. The activities and crafts involve using all the senses to calm the mind and observe nature. A light, healthy snack will be provided. Children should bring a yoga mat and a water bottle to camp.

Time: 9:30-11:30 AM

Location: Longview Farm Park (meet at the pavilion)

Ages: Entering Kindergarten-4th Grade

Cost: \$90 Instructor: Sara Clem is Yoga Alliance certified

To register on-line go to Salveoyoga.com and click on Store



Walk the park or run an errand while your children enjoy the class!!!



SUMMER LEGO CAMPS

AT LONGVIEW FARM HOUSE

June 9 - 13

Film Making Animation
Jr. Robotics

\$150
\$150

Grades 2-5
Grades 1-4

8:30 - 11:30
12:00 - 3:00

July 7 - 11

Mining & Crafting 2 (MINECRAFT®)
Mining & Crafting 2 (MINECRAFT®)

\$110
\$150

Grades 1-6
Grades 1-6

8:30 - 11:30
12:00 - 3:00

July 14 - 18

Under the Sea

\$110

Grades Pre-K
Ages 4/5

9:00 - 11:30

July 21 - 25

NASA Space Camp Adventures
EPIC Ninjago Adventures

\$110
\$110

Grades 1-5
Grades 1-5

8:30 - 11:30
12:00 - 3:00

July 28 - August 1

NEW! Amazing Animals: It's a ZOO!

\$110

Grades Pre-K - 2

9:00 - 11:30

August 4 - 8

Mining & Crafting 2 (MINECRAFT®)
Mindstorms ROBOTIC Design &
Visual Programming

\$150
\$150

Grades 1-5
Grades 4-8

8:30 - 11:30
12:00 - 3:00

Bricks 4 Kidz camps are held at Longview Farm House.

For the descriptions for each LEGO camp, or to register, go to:

www.bricks4kidz.com/Missouri-Ballwin-Chesterfield/, search Longview in location.

DISCOVER SOMETHING NEW!

ART CLASS FOR PRE-SCHOOLERS



Monday, August 25, 10 - 11AM
Monday, September 15, 10 - 11AM
Drace Park Pavilion
Geared toward ages 2-5

Come and be creative with hands on activities that explore art in nature!
Taught by Mary Beth Wilson, art instructor and Public Art Commission member.

Registration is required. Call (314) 434-1215
\$5 per student, per class materials fee

Bring a lunch or snack to enjoy at the Drace Park playground before or after the program!



YOGA AT LONGVIEW

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. This class will meet outdoors down by the lake. In cases of inclement weather, the class will meet inside the Longview Farm House.

Tuesdays and Thursdays: 8 - 9 AM
Fee: \$15/class: \$60/5-class package;
\$100/10-class package
To register on-line go to:
Salveoyoga.com and click on Store

Instructor: Sara Clem of Salveo Yoga has been practicing yoga for 18 years. She is skilled in tailoring classes to her students' skill level and teaching yoga as a friendly practice anyone can do! Sara is Yoga Alliance certified.



Light and Shadow All Around Us

Bentley Studio, Ltd. Original Photography Exhibit
at Longview Farm House

Opening Reception Friday, July 18, 5:30PM – 8:00PM
On view Monday, July 7 through Monday, September 22

This event is free and open to the public and refreshments are provided.

Weekly gallery hours M, W & F from 8AM – 12N,
or by appointment Questions? Lindsey Hodge 314-434-1215

Town & Country Crossing



JOIN US FOR FREE FAMILY FRIENDLY MOVIES ALL SUMMER!
FOR MOVIE UPDATES VISIT
WWW.TOWNANDCOUNTRYCROSSING.COM

Summer Movie MANIA

SAVE THE DATES

SHOWTIMES: 8:00PM
FRIDAY, JUNE 20
HERE COMES THE BOOM
FRIDAY, JULY 18
LEGO: THE MOVIE

**DON'T FORGET
YOUR BLANKETS
&
LAWN
CHAIRS!**

GOLD'S GYM GRAND OPENING

Mayor Dalton and the Board of Aldermen joined the Town & Country/Frontenac Chamber of Commerce, Gold's Gym staff, residents and the members of the community in a ribbon cutting ceremony on May 1st to welcome Gold's Gym to Town & Country.



NEW BUSINESSES IN TOWN & COUNTRY

Bender, Weltman, Thomas, Perry & Co.
424 S. Woodsmill Road, Suite 340

Burn 1000
1036 Town & Country Crossing

Cardio Partner Resources
259 Lamp & Lantern Village

Caris Healthcare
13995 Clayton Road

Fleet Feet Sports
1030 Schnuck's Woodsmill Plaza

Gold's Gym
13869 Manchester Road

LC Corporate, LLC
12977 N. Outer Forty, Suite 100

Mason Road Wealth Advisors, LLC
424 S. Woodsmill Road, Suite 340



NEW VETERINARIAN IN TOWN & COUNTRY

Town & Country Veterinary Hospital is excited to welcome our new associate veterinarian, Dr. Kelley Molitor. Dr. Molitor knew she wanted to be a veterinarian from the time she was a little girl. She loves forming a special bond with her clients and improving the lives of her patients. She completed her undergraduate studies in Animal Science and received her Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 2008. Dr. Molitor spent six years at a practice in O'Fallon, Missouri, where she gained valuable experience. She is very excited to be joining our team at Town & Country Veterinary Hospital.

Dr. Molitor's focus is on canine and feline preventative care. Her other professional areas of interest include dentistry, internal medicine, and general surgery. She is a member of the Greater Saint Louis Veterinary Medical Association and the American Veterinary Medical Association. Dr. Molitor lives in West County with her husband and their two felines named Joey and Benny, two Westies named Bailey and Gus, and multiple cichlid fish. When she's not caring for pets at the hospital, she enjoys spending time outdoors, cycling, rollerblading, reading, and traveling. She is looking forward to meeting all of our wonderful clients!!!!

SMOKE DETECTORS SAVE LIVES



There have been great strides in home fire prevention and life safety over the past several decades. Building codes are frequently updated to incorporate the latest, most cost-effective ways to maximize the chances of survivability and minimize loss during a house fire. While these updates are integrated into the design and construction of a new home, essential updates are required to be incorporated into a home during additions and remodeling work.

One of the most basic updates to a home involves the installation of a comprehensive smoke detector system in the home. Current codes require smoke detectors in each bedroom, outside of each bedroom (or group of bedrooms), on each floor of the home and in any unfinished storage areas. Even if only a small portion of the home is being remodeled, the experience of tragic loss of life in the St. Louis area demonstrates that updating the smoke alarm system in a home is essential. Most homes have at least one stand-alone smoke detector, and many have some sort of integrated

system. Smoke detectors have a recognized life of 10 years, after which their ability to accurately alert is drastically reduced or eliminated. The intent of a comprehensive smoke detector system is to alert residents quickly of a fire in a more remote area of the home. With many homes having multiple levels, it is imperative that detection of a fire in the lower levels alert occupants in upper levels who may be sleeping or otherwise unable to hear a single smoke detector sounding elsewhere in the home. Once a fire starts in a home, the combustion of all of the manufactured materials and plastics can create a fire with room temperatures that exceed 1400 degrees in well under 4 minutes. Additionally, the gases and smoke from a fire on a lower floor will rise to the upper levels of a home, making a second story living area unable to support life in under 2 minutes.



While older technology required extensive wiring to be run at a cost of several thousand dollars or more, modern consumer-grade smoke detector systems are available that can be wirelessly interconnected, with each detector operating off of battery power. Certainly, a hard-wired system that operates off of household power is the most reliable, but for partial remodels or even a simple safety upgrade to your home, the battery powered wireless systems are a non-intrusive and cost-effective solution. Most homes require between 7 and 10 detectors by code, with a complete battery powered wireless system costing between \$300 and \$500.

When a fire does occur, there is no better news to first responders as they arrive than to find out that everyone made it safely out of the home. With the technology so readily available, it is a disheartening reality that the loss of life in house fires that our region continues to see is so easily preventable. Please take a moment to assess your home's smoke detectors and contact West County EMS & Fire District at 636-256-2000 if you have any questions.

With the technology so readily available, it is a disheartening reality that the loss of life in house fires ... is so easily preventable.

GREEN SPEAKER SERIES

August 5, 2014, 7 PM

The nonprofit Sadhana Forest is working in India, Kenya, and Haiti to reforest degraded land, but their work goes much deeper than that. They are also teaching sustainable living, increasing food security through ecological transformation, reclaiming wasteland to productivity, and restoring the water cycle and raising the water table, all of which help raise the living standards of the local villagers.

Aviram Rozin and his wife left their native Israel in 2003, and started the work of planting trees on 70 acres of land in south-east India. In 2010, they won a prize from the Humanitarian Water and Food Award, an organization that promotes global best practices in water and food security initiatives.

Come hear Aviram share the inspiring story of the establishment and growth of an ecological and humanitarian effort that is improving living conditions for some of the world's poorest people. More information on Sadhana Forest can be found at its website, sadhanaforest.org.

Please check the Town & Country calendar at www.town-and-country.org for the location of this event and for information on all Green Speaker Series events. All are welcome.

FIREWORKS PROHIBITED



With Independence Day celebrations on the horizon it is a good time to remind residents that the possession and discharge of fireworks is unlawful in the City of Town & Country, as it is in most jurisdictions in St. Louis County. Fireworks have become easier to obtain year round with the advent of fireworks supermarkets just a short drive from St. Louis County, and because of that the frequency of illegal use has increased. To ensure a safe and peaceful summer I have copied an excerpt from the City Code below, which includes the definition and prohibited uses of fireworks. If you would like to report fireworks, please contact the Town & Country Police Department at 314-737-4600.

SECTION 210.305: FIREWORKS

A. The term "fireworks", as used in this Section, means and includes any combustible or explosive composition, or any substance, or combination of substances, or articles prepared for the purpose of producing a visible or an audible effect by combustion, explosion, deflagration or detonation, and includes blank cartridges, toy pistols, toy cannons, toy canes or toy guns in which explosives are used, the type of balloons which require fire underneath to propel the same (except those used to transport persons), firecrackers, torpedoes, skyrockets, Roman candles, Dago bombs, sparklers, colored flares, cylindrical fountains, colored cone fire, box fire and torches, wheels, magic snakes, cone fountains, colored mines and shells, aerial bombs, missiles or other fireworks of like construction and any fireworks containing any explosive or flammable compound, or any tables or other device containing any explosive substance. The term "fireworks" shall not include toy pistols, toy canes, toy guns or other similar devices using paper caps containing twenty-five hundredths (25/100) grains or less of explosive mixture, nor shall it include colored safety flares, the use of which shall be permitted at all times.

B. It shall be unlawful for any person within this City to sell, possess, offer for sale, expose for sale, give, use, discharge or explode any fireworks, except as provided in Subsection (C) of this Section. However, nothing in this Section shall prohibit the possession or use of blank cartridges for theatrical purposes, signal purposes in athletic contests or sports events, or for the use of militia Police or military organizations.

C. Nothing contained in Subsection (B) of this Section shall prohibit the possession or use of fireworks for pyrotechnic displays given by a fair, association, the officials in charge of any public park, any civic or public organization, or group of individuals, any of which shall have first obtained a permit from the St. Louis County Department of Public Works and otherwise complied with the terms of this Section.

RULES FOR ON-STREET PARKING



When the number of vehicles at your house exceeds the parking space in your driveway, the next best alternative may be on-street parking. However, please remember that when Public Safety units are responding to an emergency, seconds count and can make the difference between saving a life or catching a burglar. One of the biggest obstacles to the timely response of Police, Fire, and EMS is improperly parked vehicles. When on-street parking becomes necessary, please follow the rules below to ensure your safety and the safety of your neighbors:

1. If you must park on the street, your right hand wheels must be within eighteen (18) inches of the curb. Parking as close to the curb as possible allows for the safe passage of other vehicles. When deciding which side of the street to park on, select the side opposite the fire hydrant(s).
 2. Do not park your vehicle near a vehicle which is parked on the opposite side of the street. City Ordinance 355.080 requires a minimum of twelve (12) feet of width of the roadway for the free movement of vehicular traffic. Twelve (12) feet is the amount of clearance needed for fire trucks and ambulances to safely pass a parked vehicle. Many of the city's older streets were designed and built prior to current building codes, which means that the street width does not allow for parking on both sides of the street.
 3. Do not park within fifteen (15) feet of a fire hydrant (violation of City Ordinance 355.010, B, 2). Maintaining this clearance around a fire hydrant allows firefighters room to connect hose lines in a timely manner without having to work around obstacles.
 4. Do not park within thirty (30) feet of any stop sign (violation of City Ordinance 355.010, B, 4). The curves of an intersection are designed to permit large apparatus, like fire trucks and ambulances, to turn and use the entire intersection. Vehicles that are parked too close to the intersection will create delays for these vehicles. In addition, the parked vehicle may obstruct the view of the stop sign from other motorists.
 5. Last, but not least, close your windows and lock your doors. An unlocked vehicle gives a thief a KEY opportunity!
- If you are planning an event at your residence and are expecting a large number of vehicles, please stop by the Police Department and request a supply of complimentary, temporary NO PARKING signs. These signs can be posted on one side of your street (the side with the fire hydrant(s)) to ensure safe passage for Public Safety vehicles.

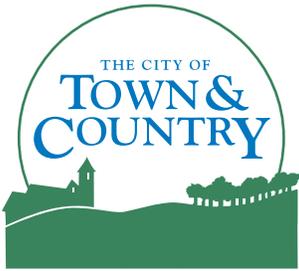
A MESSAGE FROM MSD PROJECT CLEAR: PICK UP PET WASTE

When it rains, there is potential for rainwater to wash thousands of pounds of pet waste down storm drains and into area creeks, streams and rivers. Remember - if it is on the ground, it is in our water.

Pet waste is not only a threat to water quality, but to public health as well. There are bacteria and micro-organisms in pet waste such as roundworms, E.coli and giardia that can make people sick if they're ingested. Adults working in their yards, children playing outside and family pets are all at risk for infection from some of the bacteria and parasites found in pet waste. What you can do:

- Scoop the poop! Pick up pet waste from your yard. It is not a fertilizer.
- Carry disposable bags while walking your dog to pick up and dispose of waste.
- Bury waste in the soil at least twelve inches deep and cover with at least eight inches of soil to let it decompose slowly.
- Bury the waste in several locations and away from vegetable gardens.
- Wash your hands after exposure to pet waste.





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FIRE & ICE

SATURDAY, JUNE 21 • 6:30-9:30 PM

The biggest Town & Country party of the year will enjoy a new location! We will utilize two properties in the middle of town near the intersection of Clayton and Mason Roads for a good ole-fashioned BLOCK PARTY. The event will be held in the grassy area east of Straub's and on The Principia property directly east of the Fire House (see map on front cover). Clayton Road will remain OPEN throughout the event. The Police Department will control vehicle traffic and cross pedestrians.

Come enjoy dinner at the Taste of Town & Country area! Local restaurants offer a variety of dinners, desserts and drinks (cash only). Alcohol may be served, carried, and consumed South of Clayton Road only. Visit our sponsor booths for raffles and prizes! Listen to the local favorite, the Featherstone Drive Band. Children will enjoy huge inflatable bounce houses free of charge! Visit the Fire House to explore fire equipment and meet real firefighters! Bring your lawn chairs for the grassy areas to enjoy the evening with your family and friends! An intimate fireworks display will enchant all ages at dark (around 9:15 PM)!

Cars can park at: The Principia; Longview Farm Park; First Church of Christ Scientist; and The Church of the Good Shepherd. Shuttles will run between the Fire House and each of the parking locations throughout the event.

Mason Woods Village shopping center will remain open during the event. Parking in this center will be for customers of those businesses only. No event parking.

Fireworks will be launched on June 22 at dark if the event is rained out. Check the city website for weather related event updates. www.Town-and-Country.org

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