

CITY OF
LADUE



Established 1936

NEWSLETTER

FALL 2015

There is a lot going on in our beautiful city!

The City Council confirmed my recommendation to appoint Steve Lynn as Fire Chief. Chief Lynn has been with the City since 2009. When you meet him, you will find him to be a natural leader who puts the services we provide and our citizen's needs first. We are very fortunate to have extremely skilled and dedicated Fire/EMS personnel. Steve has a great respect for their contribution to our community.

Speaking of fire service, we are in the early stages of design and development for Firehouse 1. Once complete, the exterior elevations will be on display in City Hall. As you know, Firehouse 2 was completed in 2014 and is serving our personnel and residents very well. Chiodini Associates remain the project architects. Paric Corporation has been retained as construction managers for this project. After going out for bid in late spring, we will likely break ground in early summer of 2016. As with the first house, we are funding this project from our Capital Improvement Fund and our General Fund Reserves. Our careful budgeting and sound fiscal management allow us this opportunity.

The 2016 budget will be presented to City Council for approval at our December Council Meeting. The budget is a collaborative effort between staff, department heads working with Julie O'Guinn, Finance Director, who is committed to sound budgeting and wise spending.

Leaf pick up is in full swing. Please follow our easy guidelines. Leaves should be placed on your property adjacent to the street no more than 10 days in advance of your pick up date. Check the City website for leaf zones and pick up dates. Our crews work through inclement weather and sometimes on Saturdays to stay on schedule and clear the leaves. I hope you will give them a friendly wave when you see them on your lane. Your public works employees are a dedicated group!

The McKnight Road project is complete and our new road and sidewalks are lovely. It is wonderful to drive down McKnight Road and see joggers and walkers enjoying themselves safely on the sidewalk. Please be mindful of the 30mph speed limit, not just on McKnight, but on most of our City roads. We have many residents who enjoy running, walking and biking. A safe, slow speed allows all of us to share the roads.

Our next road project is Price Road.

The road is being replaced and

sidewalks are being updated and added north of Ladue Road. While this project may cause a few traffic headaches over the next year, the result will be a brand new road that will serve us for many years.

The Stormwater Study is in the field study phase. Our storm water engineering firm conducting the study, HR Green, is working to identify priorities. Next year, we will work on avenues to address these problems. I want to extend a big thank you to Anne Lamitola, Public Works Director, who is spearheading the study for you. Her knowledge and expertise are invaluable.

Join me in welcoming Will Penney, as our new full time Building Commissioner. Will comes to us from the City of Eureka and is very experienced in his field. The Building Department is seeing a high volume of plans submitted for new construction and remodeling projects. You will find Will ready to help and eager to get to know you. Thank you to Mike Gartenberg, an outside consultant, who has served as our Building Commissioner for many years. We greatly appreciate all he has done for the City.

Laura Rider, City Clerk and Assistant to the Mayor, is getting to know many residents. Laura has quickly become the "go to" person for residents and city staff alike. You are sure to discover, as we have, that her affable nature, her professionalism and her knowledge of city workings are a positive force.

At the September Council meeting, we honored a very special 30 year employee, Police Chief Rich Wooten. Rich has worn many hats in 30 years, but I am most grateful for the one he is wearing now. Chief Wooten is the type of leader who has everyone's respect. He is open, transparent and genuinely cares about his officers and his community. The exceptional group of men and women who wear our police uniform deserve no less.

Remember to shop Ladue first for everyday items and unique gifts. Our stores have a personal flavor and they are a part of our neighborhood. Supporting them supports our community.

Wishing you and yours the happiest of holiday seasons. Stop in and see me when you have the chance. I welcome your ideas and opinions. It is an honor and a privilege to lead Ladue's capable and talented staff in serving you.

Mayor Nancy Spewak



Message From Fire Chief Lynn

Dear Citizens of Ladue,

My name is Steven Lynn and on July 15th, 2015 I was appointed your new Fire Chief. I would like to take this opportunity to tell you a little about myself and to thank the members of the Police and Fire Board and the City Council for this opportunity.

I have a wonderful wife of twenty-one years and two beautiful daughters eighteen and fourteen. The oldest daughter is attending University of Missouri S&T in Rolla, Mo. She is currently studying Chemical Engineering with an anticipated graduation date in 2019. My youngest daughter is a freshman in high school and is following in her sister's footsteps. Both daughters have a love of music greater than I can ever image and routinely are found singing every chance they get. My wife is a Data Analyst for a worldwide chemical company based in St. Louis and a full time house manager. I say this because if it was not for her our household would be out of control.

Now let me tell you a little about myself. I am 42 years old. I was born and raised in Troy, Illinois and attended Triad High School. During my time at Triad I wish I could say I was concentrating on my academics, however I mainly focused on soccer. I have played soccer since I was a small child and had the opportunity to play in Europe in 1989.

After high school I attended MacMurray College working on a biology degree. After two years at MacMurray it was clear I needed to make a change, the change came in the form of meeting an amazing woman who taught me the value of growing up, although twenty-two years later she may still say I have not! After my sophomore year I transferred to the University of Central Arkansas where I pursued a Physical Therapy degree. Unfortunately I was never accepted into the program, however graduated in 1996 with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology. Still having a love of physical therapy I returned to Illinois to attend Belleville Area College to become a Physical Therapist Assistant. In 1998 I graduated with honors and accepted a job with Alton Memorial Hospital.

At this point I began volunteering for the local fire department. I had no idea that this would steer me into the position I have today. I quickly learned that I could make a career out of firefighting and once again returned to school. After obtaining my paramedic certification and firefighting certifications I took a full time position with the City of Highland Illinois.

While at Highland I began pursuing a Master's Degree in Public Administration (completed December 2013). After five years with the City of Highland I accepted a position with the Boeing Company as a Firefighter/Paramedic. During my time with Boeing I learned aircraft rescue and fire alarm systems however missed the excitement of multiple EMS/Fire calls. Knowing I needed to find a more active fire department, I began searching in St. Louis County for open positions. *The City of Ladue* was accepting applications,

not knowing if they would even entertain the idea of hiring me due to the lack of St. Louis Fire Academy, I took a chance.

The chance has paid off tenfold. I still remember receiving the call from Chief Ted Jury informing me that I had been selected for the job and *The City of Ladue* would sponsor me as I complete the St. Louis County Fire Academy. I completed my training at the academy and began my career with *The City of Ladue* in April 2010. From the moment Chief Jury notified me of the position the citizens and employees of Ladue have welcomed me with open arms.

Three years into my career with the Ladue Fire Department I was selected for a Lieutenants position and served under Captain Gary Kreitler. This proved to be an amazing opportunity. Captain Kreitler and I meshed as if we had worked together for thirty years and continued to develop a professional and personal friendship.

In early 2015 the fire chief's position became vacant and several officers, senior members, and retired personnel approached me asking if I was going to put in for the position. After many hours of conversation with my wife and other close individuals I decided to participate in the process.

After several months I received notification that I was the top candidate and city officials were seeking council approval of my appointment.

On July 15th I began what I hope to be the best times of my career. It is a privilege and honor to serve the members of the Ladue Fire Department, employees of *The City of Ladue*, and the citizens of Ladue. As I have described to the Captains and Lieutenants of the Ladue Fire Department, my leadership style is based on two principles: trust and respect. I demand this of myself and the individuals who work for *The City of Ladue* Fire Department. I believe we have one of the best departments in St. Louis County and will continuously strive to be better.

Once again, I would like to thank *The City of Ladue* Police and Fire Board as well as the City Council for entrusting me with Fire and EMS protection for the citizens of Ladue. I would like to thank Mayor Nancy Spewak and Chairman William Francis for believing in me and supporting me through these first couple of months.

As they say, "my door is always open". Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. My office is located at 9213 Clayton Road or I can be reached by cell phone at (314) 258-0661.

Sincerely,

Steven Lynn
Chief Steven Lynn



Fall & Winter Chimney Safety

Every year, **The City of Ladue Fire Department** (LFD) responds to multiple chimney fires. Some are minor, but some are major catastrophes that can result in the tragic and unnecessary loss of life and/or property. With home heating costs rising, many residents will turn to less expensive wood heat in the winter. This means the potential for chimney fires will rise. The following information is intended to help you understand chimney fires and prepare your wood heating system for safe operation.

What causes a chimney fire?

Your woodstove is designed to safely contain a wood-fueled fire. Your chimney is designed to expel the byproducts of combustion--the substances given off by burning the wood. As these substances go up your chimney, creosote is formed through condensation caused by the relatively cooler flue. Creosote is usually black in color, and can be dry and flaky, tar-like, drippy or sticky, or even form a hard and shiny coating on the inside of your chimney. Regardless of its appearance, ALL forms of creosote are highly combustible! If enough builds up in your chimney, it is only a matter of time before you could have a destructive chimney fire.

Restricting air flow, burning "green" wood and cooler flue temperatures all contribute to a faster buildup of creosote.

As creosote burns, it will often expand tremendously (remember those fireworks 'snake' pellets that are small cubes until you light them--then they expand to many times their original size? That's creosote!), and can partially or completely block your chimney--which in turn can fill your home with heat and deadly smoke.

How does a chimney fire damage my chimney?

If you have a pre-fabricated metal chimney, a chimney fire can cause buckling or warping at the inner liner joints. If this occurs, the chimney should no longer be used and should be replaced.

Masonry chimneys can have very high temperatures (2000 Degrees Fahrenheit!) during a chimney fire. These extreme temperatures can cause the mortar to fail, chimney liners to collapse and cause damage to the outer masonry materials. If tiles crack and/or masonry is displaced, this creates a pathway for the fire to spread to the wood structure in your home. Because of the high temperatures, enough heat can even conduct through a perfectly good chimney and ignite your home during a chimney fire!

How do I prevent a chimney fire?

The good news: Chimney fires are preventable. Here are a few tips to help you get through this heating season safely:

NEVER burn your Christmas tree, cardboard, wrapping paper or trash. These items can spark a chimney fire as hot pieces of burning material travel up your flue.

- Do not burn wet wood! Using dry, seasoned hardwood is best, as burning wet wood can lower flue temperatures, causing more creosote to condense on the inside of your chimney.
- Get your chimney cleaned & inspected before you burn every year. I cannot emphasize enough how important this is. Yes, it costs money, but it could save your house from burning down; it might even save your life!
- Build smaller, hotter fires that burn more completely, thereby reducing creosote buildup in your flue.
- Check your smoke detectors. Change the batteries, and make sure they are in good working order. Replace older detectors. Carbon Monoxide detectors are a must-have as well!

What to do if you have a chimney fire:

- Get everyone out of the house to a safe distance.
- Call the fire department immediately!
- If you can do so with no risk to yourself (remember, your home can be replaced--you can't!):
 - Open the woodstove doors and put out/minimize your heating fire with an ABC/Dry Chemical powder extinguisher
 - Close the doors on the woodstove
 - Close all air inlets to the woodstove
- Once you've had a chimney fire, do not use your woodstove again until you have had an inspection and cleaning done. Any chimney fire damage and subsequent repair is usually covered by your home owner's insurance policy, so give them a call!

The Ladue Fire Department wants you to have a safe heating season with your woodstove. Hopefully this information will be useful as you prepare your home for winter heating. If you have any questions please feel free to contact us at 314.993.0181.

I would like to give special thanks to John Meyers of the Colchester Center Fire Department for allowing me to reproduce this article.

For more information regarding chimney fires, please visit the Chimney Safety Institute of America at www.CSIA.org.

Steven Lynn, Fire Chief

Assure Your Senior Loved Ones Are Truly Safe

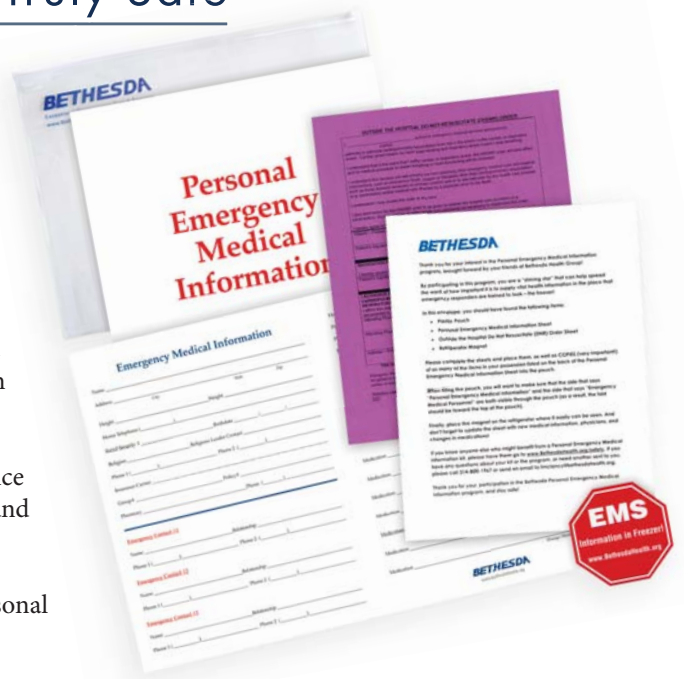
Emergencies can happen to anyone at any time. In a critical situation at home, police, fire and all EMS responders need all vital personal emergency information as soon as they arrive.

So they know where to look no matter what home they may be called to, responders ask it be stored **in the refrigerator's freezer where they are trained to look!** The info should contain all family contacts, doctors, medications, allergies, special needs, and more.

Bethesda Health has made it possible for all citizens of Ladue to now get a **FREE** preprinted "Personal Emergency Medical Information" kit complete with freezer-safe zipper pouch, total data card, refrigerator magnet and more.

These kits have been proven to save lives and are endorsed by the Ladue Police and Fire Departments, American Red Cross, Gateway and Abbott Ambulance and other first responders.

Simply go to www.BethesdaHealth.org/Safety and request one - A Personal Emergency Medical Information Kit will be mailed to you - no charge!



Thoughts on Crime Prevention

"The best defense is a good offense" is an adage that has been applied to many fields of endeavor, including sports and military combat. It also can be applied to the field of crime prevention.

Consistently, over the years, the crime of larceny (stealing) and burglary make up the largest portion of our yearly Part 1 criminal offenses. In many of these offenses, the property was taken from unlocked vehicles, open or unlocked garages, unlocked homes and by employees having access to the residence and the property inside. Additionally, in 50% of the reported burglaries the home or the attached garage was entered through an **"Unlocked"** door or window.

Think of a larceny and burglary as a three legged stool, a stool that can only stand if all three of the legs are present. Now think of the three "legs" as **incentive, attitude** and **opportunity**.

Incentive relates to what is going on in the persons life or the motive that will cause them to steal, things like debt, drug addictions or difficult time...etc. **Attitude** relates to what the person is willing to do to accomplish his/her mission. **Opportunity** relates to a combination of favorable circumstances or situations that exist to make the crime possible. Given the previous statistics on crime in Ladue, opportunity is where you can go on the offensive.

Criminals look for opportunity where the reward outweighs the risk of being caught. How can I, with little effort, maximize my financial reward or gain? To fulfill their need, they only need to identify homes and cars that are unlocked with unsecured valuables inside. In many cases, we see re-occurring crimes of opportunity which are preventable.

To remove opportunity:

- Lock your vehicle – (yes, even in your driveway);
- Remove valuables from inside your car;
- Lock all your doors – (yes, even when you are home);
- Use your alarm system;
- Store valuable jewelry, currency, checks, credit cards in a safe or locked container; and
- Limit or control who has unrestricted access to your home.

These few simple tips turned into re-occurring habits can make a significant impact on the crime and property stolen from our city.

Create your best defense by going on the offensive! Take a few moments identifying your habits which may create opportunity for a criminal to steal your property and cause needless distress in your life.

Anticipate your regrets!



Bring Conservation Home Program

Through the St. Louis Audubon Society

In recent years, St. Louis Audubon has become more involved with the active restoration of habitats within the metropolitan area through volunteer projects like native tree planting and honeysuckle removal. Such efforts on public lands are important, but are not sufficient to stem the decline of native plants and animals in our communities. The greatest potential for habitat restoration in our cities and suburbs is on private lands—individual homeowners and businesses in the St. Louis Region. However, these spaces are often ignored and assumed to have little or no value as bird and wildlife habitat. Yet, if managed prudently, private lands collectively offer tremendous potential for urban wildlife habitat. The St. Louis Audubon Bring Conservation Home Program has been created to address this opportunity.

Recently the Audubon Society along with Ladue's Public Works Department planted numerous types of vegetation. A Pollinator Garden containing Prairie Dripseed, Wild Strawberries, Mountain Mint, and an assortment of grasses, were used in this effort to create a more native habitat for birds and butterflies.



How the Program Works

- 1- Advice provided to landowner through “house calls” made by Habitat Advisors. Habitat Advisors are trained in a variety of Conservation practices for suburban landscapes.
- 2- House Calls are made by Habitat Advisors who come by appointment to your home after landowner submits an online application.
- 3- The house call includes a review of your goals for your landscape, an assessment of your yard and recommendations in a written report.
- 4- The written report will provide a menu of recommendations on how to improve your landscape.
- 5- Program Pay Off – when you achieve a certain level of conservation, you earn one of three levels of certification; silver, gold or platinum.
- 6- The Real Pay Off - providing a bird habitat in your yard, possible Monarch butterfly and songbird migration, attractive native landscape, less storm runoff from the landscape, lower utility bills especially for watering and more.
- 7- Homeowner Cost – 50% off regular program fee (Currently \$50). The minimum fee is \$25. Upon reaching a particular level of certification, the homeowner may want to purchase a sign for placement in their yard. Current cost of the sign is \$20.
- 8- Non-Residential Properties – program is not restricted to Ladue residential properties.

Email Notification Service

We are proud to announce that the City's website now offers “Email Notification” service. This service allows you to receive an email for the following categories:

- 1- City Council and Committee/Commission Meeting Agendas
- 2- Crime Alerts
- 3- Ladue Current Events

We encourage you to sign up for this service.

The sign up bar is located at the bottom right side of the homepage at www.CityOfLadue-MO.gov



City Of Ladue Historical Archives

As *The City of Ladue* approaches its 80th anniversary in 2016, The *City of Ladue Historical Archives Committee* is actively seeking items related to Ladue's rich history, including:

- Papers of former Ladue public officials
- Subdivision plans, files, documents, records, etc.
- Ladue building plans (residential, commercial, institutional)
- Old photographs of the Ladue area
- Old newspaper articles/periodicals pertaining to Ladue

If you or someone you know has City of Ladue related memorabilia that you or they would be interested in donating to *The City of Ladue*, please contact:

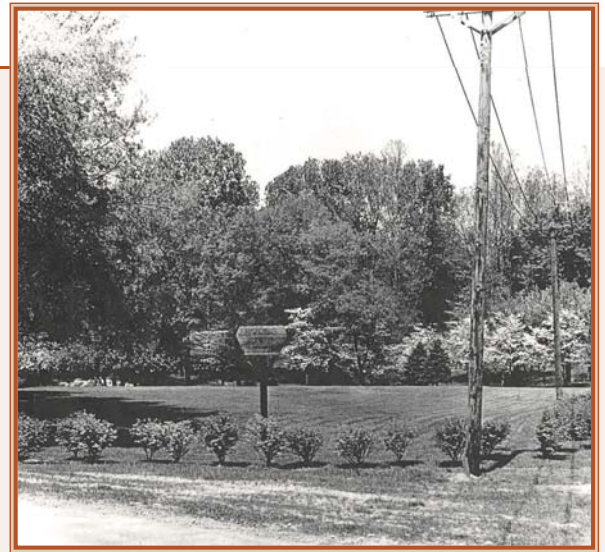
Charlie Hiemenz – Chairman, Ladue Archives Committee
Phone #: 314.991.9176
Email Address: achiemenz@aol.com

Ladue Trivia

Rodes Park sits at the intersection of Ladue and Warson Roads. This triangular shaped tract of land was purchased on July 20, 1944 from Minnie Rubinstein for the sum of ten dollars (\$10.00). The park was subsequently named after Boyle O. Rodes (1882 – 1945) who was appointed to the Board of Trustees of the Village of Ladue in 1936 and was elected the first mayor of *The City of Ladue* (1936 – 1945) when, on December 1, 1936, the Village of Ladue merged with McKnight Village and Deer Creek Village to create *The City of Ladue*.



Mayor Boyle O. Rodes
1936 - 1945



Did You Know

The Saint Louis Wind Symphony is a 501 C3 non-profit, all-volunteer, auditioned concert band dedicated to the highest quality performance of serious literature for wind groups of all sizes.

It is comprised of sixty-five auditioned, highly skilled musicians from both Missouri and Illinois. Most performers are current and former music educators, former military musicians and professional musicians who believe that the importance of music is demonstrated not only by passing the knowledge onto others, but also by active participation in its creation.

They are committed to enriching the community by sharing the love of music with a diverse spectrum of community organizations and providing educational opportunities for area students.

Their performances are always spirited and include a wide variety of musical styles including marches, light classics, jazz, orchestral transcriptions, the finest contemporary wind literature, the best of Broadway, stage and screen and patriotic renditions.

Visit www.STLWindSym.org to view their 2015 through 2016 Season Concert schedule.

City Improvements

Sidewalk & Curb Removal & Replacement, Storm Sewer Installation, and Pavement Restoration

The City of Ladue has received **Federal Funding to cover 80%** of the costs associated with improvements to Price Road. The scope of work includes the replacement of existing asphalt sidewalks located on the west side of Price between Delmar and Clayton Road with concrete vertical curb and concrete sidewalk that meet ADA requirements. Some new storm sewers will be installed as part of the project. The existing asphalt pavement will be resurfaced on the entire length of Price Road between Delmar and Clayton.



Gershenson Construction Company, Inc. has been awarded the project as the lowest responsive bidder. The storm sewer work will begin Fall 2015 with sidewalk work taking place in the Fall of 2015 and Spring 2016. The pavement work (milling of existing surface, placement of new asphalt surface, and pavement markings) will occur in Spring 2016. The overall completion date is June 15, 2016. There will be no road closures or detours; however there will be lane closures which could cause delays. Thank you in advance for your patience during the construction of Price Road. Please contact the **Public Works Department** at 314.993.5665 with any questions or concerns.

Attention Trustees

Are you a Trustee for your neighborhood association? **Does** the City have your current contact information?

Please contact: Shelly Benson at City Hall with updated information at 314.993.3439 or sbenson@CityOfLadue-MO.gov.

Fall 2015 Leaf Pick-up Schedule

October

Date	Section		
05	1B	4A	2A
12	5B	3C	2B
19	5A	3B	5C
26	4B	1A	3A

November

Date	Section		
02	1B	4A	2A
09	5B	3C	2B
16	5A	3B	5C
23	4B	1A	3A

December

Date	Section		
07	1B	4A	2A
14	5B	3C	2B
21	5A	3B	5C
28	4B	1A	3A

Residents may visit the city's website at www.CityOfLadue-MO.gov, click on "leaf & brush schedule", type in your address and your pick up date will pop up. You may also click on the "leaf map" to view your location in *The City of Ladue*.

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City Of Ladue Information

City Council

Ward 1 A. Charles Hiemenz and John Howell

Ward 2 John Fox and Patrick Hensley

Ward 3 Hal Burroughs and Bill Brennan

Contact information is available on the City website at:
www.CityOfLadue-MO.gov



City Directory

Mayor 314-993-3439 ext. 245

Administration 314-993-3439

Building 314-997-6308

Municipal Court 314-993-3919

Public Works 314-993-5665

Public Works – Fax 314-994-3195

Police (non-emergency) 314-993-1214

Fire (non-emergency) 314-993-0181

Fire – Fax 314-993-0412

Fax (all other departments) 314-993-5652

Website www.CityOfLadue-MO.gov

E-mail lrider@CityOfLadue-MO.gov
nspewak@CityOfLadue-MO.gov

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