

## LETTER FROM MAYOR SPEWAK

I would like to express my sincere appreciation and gratitude to our residents on the passage of Prop L. Prop L will provide substantial support to Ladue's Police, Fire and Public Safety workers that you have come to value so highly. I am proud of the superior services we provide and proud of the men and women who serve you so selflessly.

It was a wonderful experience to speak with so many of you and hear your thoughts regarding City services and your ideas on how we can continue to provide these top tier services and enhance our operations.

I would like to formally welcome our new City Clerk, Stacey Mann. Stacey comes to us with years of experience in city government. You will find her to be knowledgeable, friendly and helpful. Please stop by and say hello if you are in City Hall.

Your City Council and Ladue staff have begun the Strategic Planning process so that we may define specific objectives following our newly updated Comprehensive Plan. We will be putting the Strategic Plan together in the next few months and share on our website when it is complete. It is exciting to see so many months of work on the Comprehensive Plan begin the implementation phase.

The Ladue Building Department is undergoing renovations to better serve your needs. The Building Department is temporarily located in the Police Department Building at 9345 Clayton Road.

Permits, plans and applications should be dropped off at this location. We look forward to a July completion date.

We have new businesses open in the Clayton Road Business District with several more under construction. I want to welcome our new businesses and their owners. We are excited to have you in town. Best of luck to the new owners of Imagination Toys, a treasured spot for so many of us. Please take a moment to stop into our new stores when you visit your favorites and meet our new owners. Our businesses are a vital part of our community and I encourage you to shop Ladue first.

The City is fortunate to have many interested citizens who volunteer their time on various City committees. We make a great effort to have efficient and effective committee meetings. If you have an interest in serving, please check our website and complete our short application. We would love to have your participation in City government.

In closing, please remember to check the City website on a regular basis. There you will find meeting information, important announcements and helpful tips. I encourage you to access the City alert section and sign up for email blasts in areas of interest for you. We hope you will take the initiative to stay informed.

As always, I am available and always enjoy hearing from you.

- Mayor Spewak

### FROM THE ARCHIVES...

As a part of the 85th Anniversary events related to the founding of the City of Ladue on December 1, 1936, the City held a <u>favorite memories contest</u>. The winner of the contest was long time Ladue resident, Joe Rechter.

Below is his winning submittal:

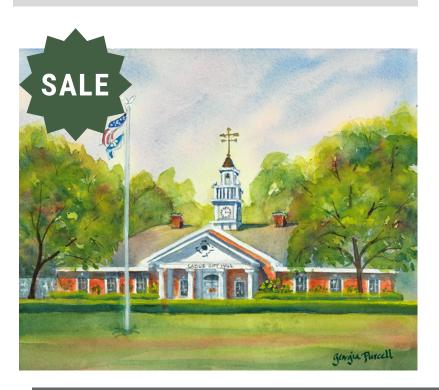


My best memories as a kid in the 1950's and 1960's was the RURAL nature of Ladue. We lived on Maryhill, where my father built a house in 1952. People thought we were crazy for moving so far West! What is now Salem Estates was once a farm. I remember the farmer did not have a car or access to a car on a regular basis and my dad would drive him to Clayton so that he could got to the grocery store, post office, etc.

The corner of Warson and the Ladue cut-off was, I believe, the Comfort's home, a Maritz & Young on the top of the hill, but at the corner of their property, they kept horses in a fenced-in area along Warson Road. Ladue was horse country back then with miles of trails (and many people with barns and horses on their property) that probably still exist. Behind our house at Mary Institute, adjacent to the May Field, M.I. had stables and boarded horses at the school. The site of what was to be Country Day was also a farm. We lived adjacent to the property and back then people would burn their trash. Our trash burner was knocked down in a high wind and caused a large brush fire that took out a big piece of the land behind our house which included both our back yard and the hill on CDS property!

The other memories are some of the businesses in Ladue along Clayton Road that are long gone. There was the Hay Shaker, a hamburger place where Baskin Robbins currently is located - across the street where the Janet McAfee Building is located was Sir Johns Den a great restaurant. Ladue Lockers was the butcher shop and Schnarrs was a grocery store, not a hardware store. Not to mention, Busch's Grove - what a loss, such great memories.

JOE RECHTER LADUE RESIDENT





Mayor Spewak and City Archivist Charlie Hiemenz buried a time capsule on December 2nd to commemorate Ladue's 85th Anniversary of incorporation. The time capsule contains many interesting items.....to be revealed by a future generation!!!

#### FOR SALE

In conjunction with the 85th anniversary events, the City of Ladue commissioned Ladue resident, Georgia Purcell, a local artist and member of the St. Louis watercolor society, to create 25 limited edition 11x14 watercolor prints of the Ladue city hall, and 25 sets of note cards.

These items may be purchased, while supplies last, at a cost of \$75.00/per print, and \$20.00/ set of 10 note cards.

Please contact Shelly Benson at 314-993-3439 if you would like to purchase one or more of these wonderful pieces of Ladue history...great as gifts or framed for an office or home study.

## DEER CREEK PRESERVE UPDATES

Did you know that improvements will soon be made to the City's Deer Creek Preserve property? This property, located at 9810 S. 40 Drive, and formerly known as Edie's Mulch site, will be improved utilizing funding from both the Municipal Park Construction Grant, administered by the Municipal League, and from easement proceeds received from MSD for the Deer Creek Sanitary Sewer replacement project.

The phase one plan is shown below. Improvements, to be constructed by mid-2023, include:

- 10-foot-wide shared-use asphalt trail running along the S. 40 Drive frontage
- Modest parking area
- Creek crossings for the trail
- Tree and shrub plantings

A future phase will include the looped trail shown as number 8 on the plan image below. Future phases will also consist of ongoing landscaping as well as additional honeysuckle removal. Tree & shrub plantings will be a major component of the project and is necessary to begin replacing the significant vegetation that was removed by the recent MSD sanitary sewer work.

#### PHASE ONE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN - JULY 2021



Based on review of the overall master plan and priorities identified through feedback from the two open houses, survey input, and review the City Staff, a priority implementation plan was created for the park development. This plan focuses on the development of the trail and modifications to the operations area due to MSD project construction as a backbone to the park. This first phase of construction will serve as catalysts to activate the park and establish a foundation for additional amenity development and extended trail connections.

Future trail connections from this first phase will be explored to link the Clayton Road Business District and surrounding neighborhoods.

Along with the trail development this priority implementation plan includes a reduced trailhead concept with eight parking spaces for park users.

The reestablishment of a landscape buffer along the north side of the park following clearing due to the MSD construction project and a buffer between the trail and transfer operations yard are also included in this priority plan for safety and separation of the uses.

- Clayton Road Connection Primary
- Parking Lot (8 Spots)
- Restored Berm /
- Walk Loop / Future Connection

- 2 Trail Alignment (10' wide)
- 4 Stormwater BMP
- 6 Buffer Bridge / Culvert
- 8 Future Park Loop Walk (8' wide)

## LIVING LEGACY PROGRAM

Ladue City Council recently adopted a Living Legacy program which allows giving opportunities for both the Deer Creek Preserve property and Rodes Park.

Tributes and memorials can be a meaningful way to remember a loved one or special occasion in a lasting way. The City will work with interested residents to ensure a tribute enhances the aesthetics and open space experience that is central to our natural areas and parks. The Department of Public Works along with the Beautification, Open Space and Tree Advisory Committee have established guidelines that will provide criteria to determine appropriate design and placement of each tribute in the context of protecting the character of our open spaces.

A resident may also decide to give a monetary tribute gift to the City of Ladue as a thoughtful way to celebrate special occasions for family and friends. Your tax deductible gift will help Ladue restore and maintain Rodes Park or Deer Creek Preserve. Tribute recipients will receive a customized acknowledgment card to notify them of the gift. All donors and recipients of memorials or tributes will be recognized in the Ladue newsletter.

Please visit the Beautification tab under the Public Works page of the website at www.cityofladue-mo.gov for additional information on these projects and programs, or contact the Public Works Department at 314-993-5665.

Over twenty volunteers worked hard at the Deer Creek Preserve Honeysuckle Hack held on November 13, 2021. This was a successful community event sponsored by the City's BOSTA Committee. Be on the look-out for future

creek clean-up events.



# TIME TO PROCRASTINATE...

Many insects, such as parasitic wasps, lacewings and sweat bees, find a comfortable winter home in leaf litter, hollowed stems of plants and in underground burrows. These natural dwellings allow the insects to complete their life cycle during the winter and emerge in spring to the benefit of us and our plants. These insects feed on problem insects, such as aphids, bagworms, Japanese beetles, spider mites, mealy bugs and also provide expert pollination for our favorite garden flowers and shrubs. So let's help the good guys get the bad guys.

Delay your garden clean up until daytime temps reach 50 degrees F for 5-7 consecutive days. This will usually be sometime in early to mid April here in St Louis. This simple timing strategy gives these beneficial insects the time they need to complete their winter slumber. If you must start earlier, then cut the plant stems to

ground level, but save the stems and place in an inconspicuous spot in your garden rather than bagging up the debris. Try the same practice for fallen leaves and you will also be helping dozens of caterpillar species that rely on leaf litter for winter protection.

A healthy population of beneficial insects will reduce the need for pesticides and provide a safer, healthier environment for all of us.

#### For more info, take a look at:

- Doug Tallamy's Nature's Best Hope
- Jessica Walliser's Good Bug Bad Bug
- Danae Wolfe's article in The American Gardener,
- "Where Do Insects Go In Winter?" January/February 2022

## LADUE FIRE DEPARTMENT SEEKS ACCREDITATION

First and foremost, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Police Chief Ken Andreski and his wonderful staff for achieving accreditation. Accreditation is a comprehensive review of current practices and procedures by peers. Chief Andreski and his team deserve significant praise for this multi-year accomplishment... well done!

The City of Ladue Fire Department will begin the process of Accreditation through the Center for Public Safety Excellence starting in early 2022. This group was born through a collaboration of the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) and the International City/County Management Association (ICMA).

In 1873, the IAFC was formed to provide a forum for fire and emergency service leaders to exchange ideas, develop standards, uncover latest products, and determine best practices. This organization has grown into one of the most respected and beneficial organizations to contribute to the professional development of the fire and emergency services.

The ICMA was born from the development of local government managers. The first recorded local government manager was in Staunton Virginia in 1908. Many municipalities began following this practice which gave birth to City Managers and City Administrators. Over the years, this organization began developing best practices and contributed significantly to the professional development of public administrations.

In 1986, the IAFC and the ICMA came together to develop a framework for continuous improvement of the fire and emergency services.



Through this collaboration, the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI) was conceived to award accreditation to fire and emergency service agencies based on NFPA, IAFC, and numerous other governing bodies standards. Recognizing the need for distinction between personnel credentialing and department accreditation, the Center for Public Safety Excellence was incorporated as an umbrella for CFAI and the newly formed Commission on Professional Credentialing (2006). From its inception, CPSE has valued having a diversity of involvement from professional organizations, including IAFC, ICMA, the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF), NFPA, the Insurance Services Office (ISO), and the Department of Defense.

Ok, enough of the history lesson, you are probably asking yourself, "why is this necessary?" Many citizens believe, if it is not broken, then why try to fix it. This logic is not entirely flawed but raises the question of, how do we know it's not broken. The fundamental principal behind accreditation is self-evaluation. The City of Ladue Fire Department has not changed its service delivery model of fire and emergency services delivery since 1975. The question is, does this model still meet the needs and demand of an ever-changing environment.

The City of Ladue Fire Department has seen many changes over the last 46 years consisting of increased call volume, complexity of call nature, educational requirements, increased continuing education requirements, highly developed technical rescue standards, and increased regional mutual aid complexities. These changes are significant! (cont.)

#### ACCREDITATION CONT.

It is the goal of the City of Ladue Fire Department to provide the best emergency services in a fiscally responsible manner. The accreditation process will provide feedback on our current delivery model and how it compares to National Standards and peer departments. This feedback is welcomed and will be used as a tool to develop short-term and long-term planning.

This process will include significant stakeholder input to include residents. A series of townhall meetings will be held to obtain citizens perception of Ladue Fire Department operations and future needs. Please feel free to contact the Ladue Fire Department with any questions or discussion.

Respectfully,

Chief Steven & Lynn, MPA, EFO

#### LADUE RESIDENTS RECEIVE CONSERVATION AWARD

In November of 2021 the Missouri Conservation
Heritage Foundation named Ladue residents
Lotsie and Rick Holton as National Lewis and Clark
Awardees. They were presented with the Missouri
Legacy Conservation Award, recognizing their
lifelong leadership, philanthropy and commitment
to conservation in Missouri.

A large focus of their work has been protecting and improving the water quality of Missouri's streams and rivers. Rick was a leader in founding the Deer Creek Watershed Alliance in 2008. The Alliance is a Missouri Botanical Garden ("MBG") program that works to protect and improve water quality in 11-mile-long Deer Creek, which originates in Creve Coeur, and flows through Ladue and 20 other communities before merging with the Des Peres river. Rick still serves as the Chair of the Watershed Steering Committee and has led many citizen efforts to clean Ladue's creeks. He and Lotsie are also working with the MBG on cultivating a rain garden on their property in Ladue. On a broader Missouri level, Rick was cofounder of the Great Rivers Habitat Alliance, which supports preservation of the flood plains and rural agricultural heritage of the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers, and served on the Missouri Conservation Heritage Board.





Lotsie Holton, a 7th generation descendant of explorer William Clark, is herself known as an intrepid traveler, pilot and explorer. From summiting Mount Kilimanjaro to trekking to see orangutans in Borneo, and sailing the Komodo Islands in search of the Komodo dragon, she has pursued adventure around the world. No surprise that she is a past President of the St. Louis chapter of the Explorers Club, which supports scientific exploration and resource conservation. To inspire young people in this area she shares stories and videos of her many adventures to school groups. She currently serves on the board of American Rivers in Washington, DC. and has been an engaged supporter and donor to many St. Louis institutions including the Saint Louis Zoo, Saint Louis Science Center, Chanel 9 Television (PBS), Trailnet and the Garden Club of St. Louis.

# 2022 SPRING LEAF SCOLLECTION SCHEDULE

Week of April 18 5A 3B 5C 3A Week of April 18 4B 1A Week of April 25 2A 1B 4A 2B Week of April 25 3C 5B



- No grass, hedge, lawn clippings or sweet gum balls will be collected
- Leaves should not be placed out for collection more than 10 days in advance.



Stay up to day on current events, crime alerts, and city news by subscribing to the City's Email Notification service. Signing up is easy, simply go to www.cityofladue-mo.gov and select "Email Notification Sign-up" from the home page.

Be sure to also like and follow us on social media!

in www.linkedin.com/company/laduemissouri



## Volunteers Needed

The City of Ladue is currently accepting volunteer applications for our various boards & commissions. If you would like to apply, or are interested in learning more, please contact Stacey Mann at smann@cityofladue-mo.gov or 314-993-3439.



### 2022 BRUSH COLLECTION SCHEDULE

#### SECTIONS 1 & 3

Week of:

March 7th July 5th
April 4th August 1st

May 2nd September 6th

June 6th October 3rd

#### SECTIONS 2 & 4

Week of:

March 14th

April 11th

May 9th

September 12th

June 13th October 10th

- To guarantee pick-up, have brush or leaves out no later than 7AM on Monday of your scheduled week.
- Not all sections will be picked up on Monday, collection will happen throughout your scheduled week.
- Brush may be up to 10" in diameter and 10' in length. Larger diameter wood must be a minimum of 6' in length (no firewood lengths).
- Hedge trimmings, stumps, roots and dirt balls are not accepted.
- Brush should be stacked parallel to the road and back edge of pile should be no further than 3' from road.
- Please do not mix leaves and brush together. Items mixed together will not be picked up until they are separated.

You can always find this schedule and collection details on the city website.

#### MESSAGE FROM CHIEF ANDRESKI

#### Dear Residents of Ladue:



COVID-19 has brought forth many challenges to life over the last many months, including an increase in targeted crime in St. Louis County and across the country. Locally, criminals are relentless in their efforts targeting neighborhoods as they search for unlocked vehicles and homes. While crimes of this nature are not new to us, the level of persistence is. Additionally, the dangerous behavior demonstrated by some of these criminals has heightened our concern for the safety and well-being of Ladue citizens.

For example, just this past month we had a resident who arrived home to realize there were two suspects rifling through her vehicle. She startled them and as the suspects fled, they fired three gun shots into the air. We have also responded to calls for service where the criminals used the garage door opener left inside an unlocked vehicle to gain access into the home. Criminals have also entered homes through unlocked doors, only to steal keys and steal the vehicle from the driveway.

The purpose of this letter is certainly not to scare you. We simply want to raise more awareness to the reality we are dealing with to help keep you safe. The men and woman of the Ladue Police Department are dedicated to the safety of our residents and have increased patrol efforts throughout the city to help deter these types of crime. We are also coordinating with other municipal police departments, adding technology such as License Plate Reading cameras, and authorizing additional staffing at various times throughout the year. However, the best way to prevent these crimes is to harden the target. What we mean by this is we need your help. We ask that you perform the following crime tips every time you park your car and enter or leave your home to help deter criminals from returning.

- Lock your doors and windows.
- Remove your keys/key fob from your vehicles.
- Hide or remove valuables from plain view.
- Activate your home or vehicle alarm.
- Never confront a suspect. Call the police whenever you see or hear anything suspicious 911 for emergencies or (314) 737-4600 for the non-emergency line.

We also recommend you sign up for "Crime Alerts" through our website, cityofladue-mo.gov. The link to sign up can be found on our homepage under the tab, "Email Notification Sign-Up."

By completing these basic tips, you are helping prevent crimes from occurring, and you are also helping improve the safety of the community for your family and neighbors.

Sincerely.

Ken Andreski, Fr.

Chief of Police



#### **SAFETY TIPS**

- Pets are curious. They may bump into, turn on, or knock over cooking equipment. Keep pets away from stoves and countertops.
- Keep pets away from candles, lamps, and space heaters.
- Always use a metal or heat-tempered glass screen on a fireplace and keep it in place.
- Keep pets away from a chimney's outside vents.
  Have a "pet-free zone" of at least 3 feet (1 meter)
  away from the fireplace. Glass doors and screens
  can stay dangerously hot for several hours after the
  fire goes out.
- Consider battery-operated, flameless candles.
   They can look and smell like real candles.
- Some pets are chewers. Watch pets to make sure they don't chew through electrical cords. Have any problems checked by a professional.

#### **SMOKE ALARMS**

- Have working smoke alarms on every level of the home. Test your smoke alarms at least once a month.
- If the smoke alarm sounds, get out and stay out.
- Never go back inside for pets in a fire. Tell firefighters if your pet is trapped.

# Pets and Wildfires

Make sure pets are included in your family's wildfire evacuation plan. Build an evacuation kit for each pet in your household. Ensure each kit is a size and weight that can be quickly and easily loaded into a vehicle when packing to evacuate.



### **FACT**

Pets or wild animals have a part in starting about 750 home fires per year. These involve cooking equipment, fireplaces and chimneys, space heaters, lamps, bulbs, wiring, and candles.





nfpa.org/education ©NFPA 2018

City of Ladue 9345 Clayton Road Ladue, MO 63124

## Elected Officials

Mayor Nancy Spewak nspewakecityofladue-mo.gov

## Stacey Kamps

Councilmember - Ward I skamps@cityofladue-mo.gov

#### John Howell

Councilmember - Ward I jhowellecityofladue-mo.gov

#### John Fox

Councilmember - Ward II jfox@cityofladue-mo.gov

### Patrick Hensley

Councilmember - Ward II phensley@cityofladue-mo.gov

### Hal Burroughs

Councilmember - Ward III hburroughs@cityofladue-mo.gov

#### Bill Brennan

Councilmember - Ward III bbrennan@cityofladue-mo.gov

## City Directory

Mayor 314-993-3439 ext. 1101

Administration 314-993-3439 / 314-993-5652 (f)

Building 314-997-6308

Municipal Court 314-993-3919

Public Works 314-993-5665 / 314-994-3195 (f)

Police (Non Emergency) 314-737-4600

Police (Administration) 314-993-1214

Fire (Non Emergency) 314-993-0181 / 314-993-0412 (f)

City Clerk smann@cityofladue-mo.gov