

# Ladue Newsletter



## LETTER FROM MAYOR SPEWAK

A new year is before us filled with plans and ideas to build upon our continuing success as a premier community in the St. Louis region. City staff, community volunteers, elected officials and I are looking forward to a year of promise and accomplishments.

As we look back on 2022, we find the foundations for our 2023 planning. In an environment of ever-increasing salary and training costs, competitive hiring practices, and high inflation; we must continue to be fiscally responsible, and we must continue to educate ourselves as to revenue opportunities available to fund our city services. I plan to appoint a Revenue Review Committee to consider our options and future opportunities.

Ladue businesses are a valued component of our community. We continue to look for ways to support them and to assist them in attracting and maintaining sales. Our Comprehensive Plan calls for the creation of an Economic Development Committee consisting of business owners, commercial landowners, residents, City Council members, staff and myself. I am excited to pull a dynamic group together and to develop ways to promote businesses and contribute to the economic health of Ladue.

Our Cellular Advisory Committee opened communication with the major cell carriers and identified paths to improve coverage in Ladue. During 2023, we should see the implementation of several telephone pole sites at existing locations designed to provide better service.

We continue to work on this very important concern for our residents-it was identified as the number one concern of residents in our comprehensive plan survey. Our goal is to obtain high levels of coverage with the least invasive options available to us given current technologies.

We have successfully completed several major Stormwater Initiative projects and we have learned some valuable lessons. I sincerely thank our residents who donated easements so that these projects could be completed and thank all affected for their patience during construction disruption while we work to improve flooding and creek erosion in town.

I think it can be said without doubt that your local government has more effect on your day-to-day activities than your state or federal government. We provide your police protection, life safety and we maintain and improve Ladue streets, sidewalks and pathways. It is always our goal to make life better and to quickly understand and solve problems. Please check our website regularly, sign up for email alerts and contact me, or your City Council members to stay informed. We pride ourselves on being proactive and we want to hear from you. I plan to continue the monthly Coffee with the Mayor that we began this year. I have really enjoyed visiting with you and hearing your thoughts and ideas.

In the new year, let's resolve to be community oriented, to know our neighbors and to find ways to contribute to this treasured community of ours. I am, as always, humbled to serve as your Mayor.

I will see you in our local shops and restaurants-remember to always shop Ladue!

# FROM THE ARCHIVES...

**1936 - 1945**

*Boyle Owsley Redes*

(3/25/1882 - 2/16/1945)

The first mayor, who served from the formation of the City in 1936 until his death in 1945.



**1945-1947**

*Hugh McKittrick Jones*

(11/10/1880 - 11/13/1960)

**1947-1957**

*Edward Saunders Funston*

(5/14/1888 - 7/29/1960)

**1957-1959**

*William Richardson Bascom II*

(9/13/1910 - 5/23/1973)

**1959-1967**

*Magnus Felix Peterson*

(12/29/1898 - 7/31/1987)

**1967-1975**

*Richard Douglas Shelton*

(5/21/1909 - 2/2/1995)

**1975-1995**

*Edith Jenkin Spink*

(5/19/1921 - 6/21/2011)

Ladue's Longest Serving Mayor

**1995-2003**

*Jean Bowling Quensen*

(6/27/1930 -)

**2003-2011**

*Irene Schock Holmes*

(9/13/1954 -)

**2011-2013**

*Anthony Mark Benvenuto*

(12/12/1932 -)

**2013 -**

*Nancy Fabric Spewak*

(5/1/1959 -)



## Meet the Mayors of Ladue

Since the City of Ladue was formed on December 1, 1936, as a result of the consolidation of three villages (McKnight Village, Deer Creek Village and the Village of Ladue) the City has had 11 mayors.



The Mayor, and all members of the Ladue City Council serve on a volunteer basis without pay.

## Update from



Do you know about Spire Energy Rebates? Call Spire's 1-800 number to talk to one of our dedicated Energy-efficiency advisors to receive free, personalized advice on rebates and financing offers.

<https://www.spireenergy.com/rebates>  
If you're ready to upgrade or replace your appliances with energy-efficient natural gas equipment, Spire is here to help make the process quick and simple. Spire has rebates for residential homes, which include; furnace rebates, water heater rebates, thermostat rebates and also offers insulation, furnace, and water heater financing.

<https://www.spireenergy.com/find-contractor>  
Find trusted contractors to upgrade or replace natural gas appliances in your home or business.



Follow us  
@cityofladue



# Election Judges Needed

In the upcoming April 4th, 2023, General Municipal Election in St. Louis County, voters will be choosing candidates and deciding on ballot issues for various public entities. Election Judges and Student Election Judges are needed to administer such elections in Missouri.

The St. Louis County Election Board is accepting applications for people who are interested in serving as Election Judges for the April 4th, 2023, Election. Additionally, the Election Board has an excellent High School Student program that gives students an opportunity to work with veteran Election Judges providing hands on experience in learning how elections are conducted.

Election Judges play a pivotal role in making it possible for citizens to rightfully exercise the franchise on Election Day. A typical election may have approximately 65% of voters cast ballots on Election Day at over 200 polling places across St. Louis County. Election Judges set up the voting equipment at the polling location, manage the voting process, and secure the ballots for collection at the Election Board. They are truly the “backbone” of the electoral process.

Election Judges are awarded a financial stipend of \$280 for their service. Students may receive a stipend of \$170 or earn 16 community service hours. Serving as an Election Judge gives citizens a chance to perform an important civic duty and allows them to actively participate in their community.

Contact Jim McHugh of the St. Louis County Election Board to learn more.  
(314) 615-1858  
[jmchugh@stlouiscountymo.gov](mailto:jmchugh@stlouiscountymo.gov)



## Modifications to Section 102 of the City Code

At the September City Council meeting proposed modifications to Section 102 of the City Code were approved. The modifications include, trustee notification requirements, additional review by the BOSTA Committee in certain situations, changes to fees for tree removal permits, and changes to tree replacement requirements.

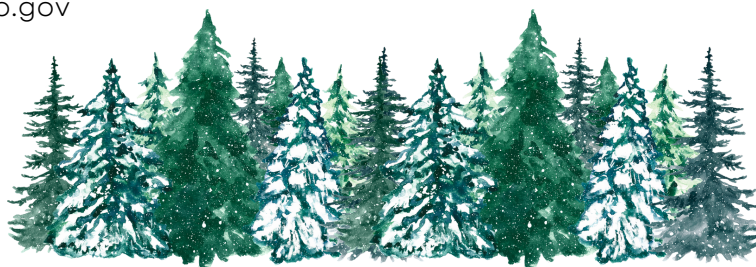
All tree removal applications require signatures from subdivision trustees. If the applicant can show proof that the plans were submitted to trustees and the trustees failed or refused to provide signatures after 30 business days, then this portion of the ordinance will be satisfied.

When 5 or more trees or 25% or more of the trees on a property are being removed, then the permit application is to be reviewed by the BOSTA Committee.

When tree replacement is required, at least 50% of replacement trees must be canopy trees from the City approved tree list, and at least 25% must be Missouri Native trees.

Tree removal permits that require review by the BOSTA Committee will have a fee of \$270. Tree removal permits that do not require review by the BOSTA Committee will have a fee of \$135.

- Sean Seed





# PUBLIC WORKS & BUILDING UPDATES



Looking back on this year, four notable projects were completed under the direction of the Public Works Department:

- Clayton Road ADA sidewalk improvements between Louwen and McKnight. Six-foot wide concrete sidewalks replaced deteriorated asphalt pathways. This project was funded through the Road & Bridge fund.
- Robin Hill/McKnight Lane/Brookside Streambank Stabilization project. 840 feet of storm channel were renovated that included bank stabilization, a triple box culvert, retaining walls, and landscape restoration. Brookside Lane, McKnight Lane, and portions of rear yards of Robin Hill Lane were impacted by this project. This project was funded through ½ cent sales tax Stormwater fund.
- Willow Hill Stormwater Infrastructure Project. 3000 feet of storm sewer pipe were installed varying from 12" to 42" in diameter. Roadway improvements were also required including vertical curb installation. The Willow Hill subdivision as well as Loren Woods & Lorenzo Lane were impacted by this project. This project was funded through the ½ cent sales tax Stormwater fund.
- Microsurfacing of Litzsinger between Warson and McKnight, McKnight between Ladue & Clayton, and the southbound lanes of McKnight between Lindworth and Litzsinger, and Clayton Road east of Lay Road. This project was funded through the Road & Bridge fund.

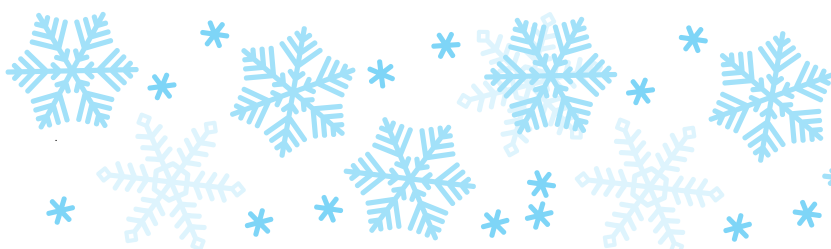
We look forward to an exciting 2023 where we will begin construction on two projects:

- Dielman Road sidewalk improvements and pavement rehabilitation which includes the installation of a sidewalk on the west side of Dielman from Ladue Road to Tamarack.
- Deer Creek Preserve project, located at 9810 S. 40 Drive. The property will be converted into a public open space including a walking trail, benches, and a small parking area.

The City is also working on updating the 2012 Sidewalk plan by developing a 2023 Walkability Plan. The Public Open house was held for the plan update on November 10th. Please visit the City's Public Works webpage at <https://www.cityofladue-mo.gov/departments/public-works-214> to learn more about this plan update as well as the others mentioned in this article. Please feel free to call the Public Works Department at (314) 993-5665 or email us at [publicworks@cityofladue-mo.gov](mailto:publicworks@cityofladue-mo.gov)



HONEYSUCKLE HACK WAS A VERY SUCCESSFUL EVENT THAT TOOK PLACE ON NOVEMBER 5TH. OVER 23 PARTICIPANTS REMOVED HONEYSUCKLE FROM THE DEER CREEK PRESERVE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 9810 S. 40 DRIVE



# Cell Antenna in the Subdivision?

Ladue is known for its beautiful, quiet residential areas that incorporate wooded areas and substantial landscaping, but this can be a disadvantage when it comes to providing adequate cell coverage. The City's Zoning Ordinance does not allow the installation of cell towers or antennas on residential property, and residential property covers 77% of the City's land area. Of course, utility poles are allowed in easements in residential areas, and cell antennas are allowed on utility poles. This provides a few opportunities for cell antennas in the residential areas where people live (and increasingly also work).

When installed on an existing pole, a cell antenna is typically placed on top of the pole and all equipment is attached to the pole. The height of such installations varies but generally the antenna has a more far-reaching impact if it is taller than the average utility pole. The City has streamlined the process for the installation of antennas on poles up to 50 feet in height. Poles greater than 50 feet may require additional review depending on the proximity and height of other utility poles.

Unfortunately, the City has no control over which cell carriers will propose antennas and where they will propose them. All we can do is try to make the carriers aware that additional antennas are desired in the City and try to make sure the approval process isn't so cumbersome that it dissuades their efforts.

On utility easements and roadway easements in privately maintained subdivisions, cell antennas may be installed, but, in addition to City approval, such antennas also need approval from the Subdivision Trustees. Although there are often aesthetic concerns, there are several advantages of having a cell antenna in your private subdivision. These include the ability to charge rent from the cell carrier, as well as the improvement of cell service in your neighborhood.

In addition, on privately owned property the owner has control over the details of the cell installation, including appearance, height, number of antennas, color, etc. In certain circumstances, the carrier might also be willing to address aesthetic concerns by installing additional landscaping or following other material or design requests from the Subdivision. If agreement cannot be reached on a pole location along a roadway, an antenna may be placed on a utility pole that is not along the roadway, but that lies, instead in a utility easement. This can be challenging, though, since the antenna needs to be readily accessible for occasional maintenance.

As more and more technologies require cellular data, having good cell coverage in residential areas will become increasingly important for quality of life and property values. If you know of a good location within an easement in your subdivision that also has good road or driveway accessibility, you can contact City Planner, Andrea Sukanek at 314-997-6308, ext. 1202 or [asukanek@cityofladue-mo.gov](mailto:asukanek@cityofladue-mo.gov). We cannot guarantee that anything would be installed at the proposed location, but we can start making a list of potential locations to provide to cell carriers if they are looking for options.





# MESSAGE FROM CHIEF ANDRESKI

Tragedies like the one that occurred at the Central Visual and Performing Arts (CVPA) School in St. Louis City, on Monday October 24, thrust conversations of active shooters into the spotlight and leave many questions left unanswered. While we are not able to answer all those questions in this newsletter, we did want to address a few that were recently asked. First and foremost, the students, staff, and families at CVPA remain in our thoughts and in our hearts. We also commend the officers from the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department (SLMPD) for their heroic actions and response.

Ladue Police officers, in conjunction with departments throughout the region, consistently train and plan for large scale events such as this, with the hopes we never have put that training to the test. However, the reality is we never know what dangers we may face and must always be prepared. What everyone saw regarding the SLMPD response, which was exceptional, should be the norm and that is exactly how we train. Our officers have a tremendous response time anywhere in the city and we have no doubt our officers will rush in to face whatever challenges they may encounter.

Additionally, our department has continued to strengthen relationships with the various schools located within our venue and work with each of them to ensure the safety and security of everyone involved. Again, these events are always at the forefront of our thoughts and ones we continuously prepare for as first responders. Please remember that if you or one of your family members see something that is concerning, please immediately notify our department so that our well-trained officers can become involved.

Ladue Police Dispatch – (314) 737-4600

Ladue Police Administrative Line – (314) 993-1214

Emergency – 911

Crime Tips – [Crimetips@cityofladue-mo.gov](mailto:Crimetips@cityofladue-mo.gov)

Sincerely,

*Ken Andreski*

Chief of Police



## Storm Water Update

After Proposition S did not pass in 2019, the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District (MSD) reestablished the Operation, Maintenance, and Construction Improvement (OMCI) taxing subdistricts. MSD agreed to allocate up to 50% of the Deer Creek OMCI revenue collected within Ladue for the City to use on eligible storm water projects. The City applied to MSD for the OMCI funds to be utilized on the Robin Hill Lane – McKnight Lane Bank Stabilization project. MSD reviewed the application and determined that the project is of public benefit and is eligible for reimbursement. Currently, the OMCI reimbursement program has a three-year duration. The City has received \$305,253 in FY2021 funds and will receive \$310,206 in FY2022 funds. The amount of FY2023 funds to be reimbursed will be determined next year.

MSD has also agreed to reimburse \$500,000 to the City for work on the Willow Hill Storm Water Infrastructure project. This agreement was made when MSD declined to proceed with the project, and the City decided to undertake the project to alleviate flooding in the area.

# City of Ladue Fire Department

## Achieves ISO Class 2 Rating

It is my pleasure to inform you that the City of Ladue Fire Department has received an Insurance Service Office (ISO) rating of 2. The Insurance Service Office was formed in 1971 as an advisory and rating organization for the property/casualty insurance industry. This rating helps insurance companies determine rates based on the ability and competency of the local fire department. This review occurs every four to six years and is welcomed by Ladue Fire Department as we continue to strive for excellence.



Class 1 is the highest rating a department can achieve with 10 being the worst. In Missouri, the City of Ladue is amongst 57 other departments that have received a rating of 2. Only 8 departments in the State of Missouri have reached a rating of 1. Nationally, we are now amongst 1925 other departments that have received a rating of 2 and only 474 departments nationwide have reached a rating of 1. The below graph demonstrates both Missouri and Countrywide.

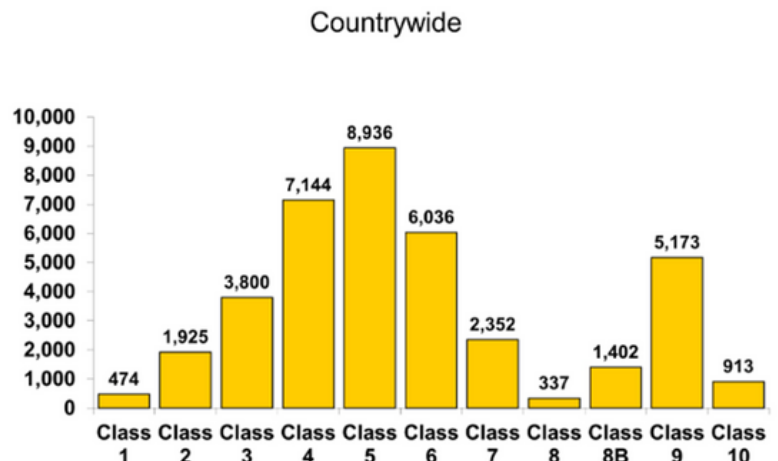
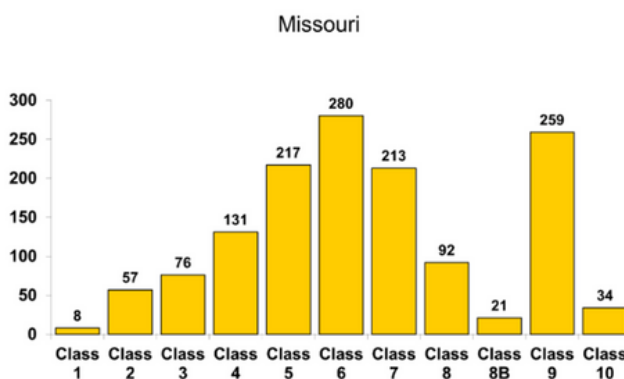
Below is a table showing the progression we have made over the last twenty plus years. We will continue evaluating and improving our process in order to maintain the ISO of 2 with the hope of someday achieving an ISO rating of 1.

I would like to thank the men and women of the Ladue Fire Department who work exceptionally hard at being the best and doing the right thing. A special thank you to Assistant Chief/Fire Marshal Jeff Johnson who played a significant role in this achievement. And as always, thank you to Mayor Spewak, Fire and Police Board, and the City Council for their continual support for excellence.

Again, it is my pleasure to inform the Citizens of Ladue that we have achieved and ISO rating of 2!

Respectfully,

*Steve Lynn, MPA, EFO*  
Chief of Police



1999 Survey	2017 Survey	2022 Survey
60.22	79.01	86.46
ISO Class 4	ISO Class 3	ISO Class 2

# CPR - It Really Does Work!

On November 12th, Jeremy Bespalko's life would forever change. As he was preparing for his daily run, he just wasn't feeling "right". He decided to sit down for a few minutes to see if he could shake it off. Moments later he was unresponsive. His cousin was visiting from out of town and recognized his unresponsiveness and jumped into action. Having some experience as a first responder, he evaluated Jeremy and determined he did not have a pulse and was not breathing. He immediately began CPR and activated EMS.

Crews arrived on scene within minutes to find this individual doing "high quality" CPR. The crews took over and began Advance Life Support (ALS) care. It was determined that Jeremy was in a lethal heart rhythm and would need to be "shocked" in attempt to stabilize. After two shocks and delivery of a cardiac drug, Jeremy's heart converted into a normal rhythm. Crews quickly began post cardiac arrest care and transported him to the hospital in stable condition. At 11:35 AM, Jeremy was taken off the breathing tube and sedation drugs. He began responding appropriately and appeared to have no neurological deficits.

After several days of testing and implantation of an internal pacemaker/defibrillator, he was released feeling "completely fine". When he returned home on the 16th, Jeremy reached out to the Ladue Fire Department, requesting to meet the crew that saved his life. This was an extremely special day for the crews as it is not often cardiac arrest are reversed and patients are completely neurologically intact.

So, who are the real heroes of this story? Well, there are many! The first hero is truly the cousin who began immediate CPR and activated EMS. Then the amazing dispatcher and crew that responded that performed ALS skills with calmness and precision. And finally, the amazing medical staff at Mercy Hospital.

The American Heart Association has campaigned for years the concept of "Chain of Survival" which is early CPR, early EMS activation, early defibrillation, and post cardiac arrest care. On November 12th, each component of this Chain of Survival was performed exceptionally, changing the outcome of this 49 year male who went into cardiac arrest!

Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation truly works! In a future article, I will dig deeper into how CPR is performed, the physiological effect, and the potential outcomes. In the meantime, if you would like more information about CPR or to schedule a class, please feel free to reach out me as I would be happy to help in any way I possibly can.

A special thanks to Jeremy Bespalko for allowing me to tell his story!!! I am so happy that we could be part of this tremendous outcome and wish him the best for years to come.

*Steve Lynn, MPA, EFO*  
Chief of Police





City of Ladue  
9345 Clayton Road  
Ladue, MO 63124

## Elected Officials

Mayor Nancy Spewak  
[nspewak@cityofladue-mo.gov](mailto:nspewak@cityofladue-mo.gov)

Stacey Kamps  
Councilmember - Ward I  
[skamps@cityofladue-mo.gov](mailto:skamps@cityofladue-mo.gov)

John Howell  
Councilmember - Ward I  
[jhowell@cityofladue-mo.gov](mailto:jhowell@cityofladue-mo.gov)

John Fox  
Councilmember - Ward II  
[jfox@cityofladue-mo.gov](mailto:jfox@cityofladue-mo.gov)

Patrick Hensley  
Councilmember - Ward II  
[phensley@cityofladue-mo.gov](mailto:phensley@cityofladue-mo.gov)

Hal Burroughs  
Councilmember - Ward III  
[hburroughs@cityofladue-mo.gov](mailto:hburroughs@cityofladue-mo.gov)

Bill Brennan  
Councilmember - Ward III  
[bbrennan@cityofladue-mo.gov](mailto: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](mailto:smann@cityofladue-mo.gov)