

## Veterans Honor Park Dedication Ceremony scheduled for May 3

The City of Chesterfield is pleased to announce that the Veterans Honor Park Dedication Ceremony will be held on Wednesday, May 3. The ceremony will begin with a social at 5:30 p.m., followed by the flag raising at 6 p.m. The Mayor and City Administrator, Mike Geisel, will deliver the opening statements for the keynote speaker, who will be announced after March 1. The park is located adjacent to the Chesterfield Amphitheater at 631 Veterans Place Drive. This road will be closed during the event.



*The flagpoles and star monument currently under construction at the park.*

The Parkway Central High Band will perform several patriotic ensembles, including the Armed Forces Medley, the National Anthem, God Bless America and various marches. As an educational component, there will be Living Historians representing the veterans who served throughout history. Veterans in attendance will receive a small token of appreciation for their service and there will be light refreshments available after the ceremony. This event is open to the public and is free to attend. Handicap parking and seating will be available. **All donors will receive an email and formal invitation. RSVP's are requested, but not required. Please contact Amanda Miller at 636.537.4711 if you plan to attend.**

The Veterans Honor Park Committee met with the city in August 2012 to discuss a park that would honor past, present and future veterans from of all branches of the Armed Forces. The mission of the park was designed with the intent to educate people about the role of each branch, and to acknowledge their courage and the sacrifices made by the veterans and their families. A curriculum has been created as an educational component to the park, which will be available at [vhp.chesterfield.mo.us](http://vhp.chesterfield.mo.us). This park would not have possible without the generous support of our private and corporate donors, the Municipal Park Grant Commission, AEP River Operations and the City of Chesterfield. Donation opportunities are still available, with the exception of the sold out \$500 pressed concrete paver, at [vhp.chesterfield.mo.us](http://vhp.chesterfield.mo.us). The city would like to thank everyone for their support of the park and hopes to have a great turnout for the Dedication Ceremony! Watch for our next issue of the "Chesterfield Citizen" with photos of the Dedication Ceremony, as well as a full list of donors who made this exciting project possible.

## Earth Day event celebrates 26 years

The Chesterfield Citizens Committee for the Environment (CCE) will host the 26th Annual Chesterfield Earth Day Festival on Saturday, April 29 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Center Court of Chesterfield Mall. This is a FREE community event for all ages to enjoy! Nearly 50 vendors will display everything from native plants to up-cycled art and craft items, along with information on how to improve the environment. The event begins on stage at 10 a.m. with a flag ceremony led by the Boy and Girl Scouts and several award presentations will take place at noon.

*story continues on page 11»*

## Riparian Trail entrance closed at Lydia Hill for Watermark Apartment project



*The map above depicts the existing trail and revised the trail route after construction.*

A portion of the Riparian Trail and the trailhead entrance from Lydia Hill Drive at Veteran Place Drive is now closed for reconstruction due to the Watermark Apartment project.

Trail users can access the Riparian Trail at the northwest entrance, located half a mile further west on Lydia Hill Drive. The Riparian Trail connection will remain closed until Fall 2018 or until construction on the new development and trail route are complete.

## MAYOR

**Bob Nation**

636.537.4711

*Term Expires: April 2017*

## COUNCIL MEMBERS

### WARD I

**Barbara McGuinness**

314.434.7326

*Term Expires: April 2017*

**Barry Flachsbar**

314.434.0471

*Term Expires: April 2018*

### WARD II

**Bridget Nations**

314.795.2200

*Term Expires: April 2017*

**Guy Tilman**

314.495.1810

*Term Expires: April 2018*

### WARD III

**Dan Hurt**

636.532.2035

*Term Expires: April 2017*

**Randy Logan**

636.530.7271

*Term Expires: April 2018*

### WARD IV

**Nathan Roach**

314.616.9981

*Term Expires: April 2017*

**Tom DeCampi**

636.530.0982

*Term Expires: April 2018*

## CITY ADMINISTRATOR

**Mike O. Geisel**

636.537.4711

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## Mayor reflects on past four years

It's been a fast four years! As I reflect on our key city achievements, I am happy to report significant success with fiscal responsibility, the sales tax pool issue, and city transparency.

With the help of our strong City Council, we were able to reduce the annual budget by over \$900,000. We scrutinized employee compensation, reduced the number of take-home vehicles for employees, and cut any expenses which did not directly benefit Chesterfield residents. We continue to view all expenses very critically.

Separately and unrelated to the other financial considerations, we curtailed one year early the collection of the small property tax that we once had. This saved our taxpayers approximately one million dollars and was achieved by setting aside fund reserves over a number of years.

The pool sales tax is a significant issue for Chesterfield and I have reported on any progress several times in this forum. With the passage of House Bill 1561, a cap of 50% was placed on the amount of our sales tax dollars to be distributed to the county pool, saving our city about \$280,000 annually. I was humbled and honored that the Council voted July 18, 2016 as Bob Nation Day in the City of Chesterfield for testifying before the Missouri House and Senate to reform this imbalanced sales tax distribution system. Our ongoing and pending litigation challenging the legality of the pool sales tax system will be moving forward soon. I am hopeful that the judge will decide that the current system is unfair to Chesterfield residents and that the entire county tax

structure can be restructured.

Increased transparency has also been a key priority. With the relatively new appointment of Mike Geisel as our City Administrator, we have worked diligently to keep the public better informed. As an example, our city website now has a readily-accessible transparency portal allowing citizens to view city expenditures, employee salaries, etc. This is another step in the right direction and I am committed to continued improvements in city transparency.

If you have driven by the amphitheater lately, you have probably noticed that our Veterans Honor Park is on its way to completion. What a beautiful tribute this park will be to our veterans! Target completion is in April, with a dedication scheduled for May 3.

A key concern is the future of Chesterfield Mall. You may have read that malls across the country are having tough times with so much online purchasing. With so many stores leaving the mall and the fact that the former owner of the mall chose to stop making payments on their debt, the mall is now in what is called receivership. The court appointed receiver is in the process of determining the best course of action, including pursuing a redevelopment plan. There are many factors that make this a unique challenge. Sears, Macy's, and Dillard's own their own properties and parking lots, use restrictions exist by deed, not to mention other unusual circumstances. Nonetheless, we believe that the property has great value, the demographics of the area are sterling, and there will be a successful outcome that will continue to provide an asset to the City of Chesterfield.

Many of you may have read the headline and article in the Sunday, February 5 Post Dispatch regarding the lease of a vacant lot located at 16559 Old Chesterfield Road. As perplexing as it may be to understand the decision-making and secrecy that took place for many years, I want our residents to know that we have finally released any and all information that the current elected and appointed body is aware of relevant to this eight year old lease/purchase options.

*letter continued on page 3»*

## Transparency portal; budget cuts and Veterans Honor Park the highlights of Mayor's first term

*letter continued from page 2*

I will be asking our City Council to create an ordinance that will preclude any similarly wasteful decision making involving expenditure of taxpayer dollars in the future. As a minimum, a valid and accurate appraisal should need to be obtained before obligating funds for the lease or purchase of real estate.

As embarrassing as this may have been for our city, I want to stress that we are very proud of our employees and the service they perform for our residents and businesses. The decisions made **primarily** by previous elected and appointed officials should not be associated with our employees and their service to our community. I look forward to a very bright future for our city!

And to end on a positive note, our city's strengths far outweigh our challenges, and in 2016 Chesterfield received several recognitions:

- Ranked #5 – “Ten Smartest Cities in Missouri” (Zippia)
- Ranked #17 in US - “Best Small Cities to Start a Business” (Wallet Hub)
- Ranked #25 in US for “Cities with the Best Money-Management Skills” (Wallet Hub)

Whereas I have long recognized (and continue to do so) that our neighborhoods are our most precious asset, we look forward to continued responsible growth and success for Chesterfield in 2017. The City Council and I appreciate input from our residents and take your concerns seriously. Feel free to call your Councilperson or me anytime. Enjoy spring!

Sincerely,

*Bob Nation*

## Holiday trash pickup

### MEMORIAL DAY: MONDAY, MAY 29

Monday through Friday routes will be picked up on the following day.

## Vote April 4 for the City Council Election Candidates

### MAYOR

Bob Nation (incumbent)  
Randy Logan

### WARD II

Ben Keathley  
Aaron Wahl  
Ryan Miano  
Christopher Natsch

### WARD III

Dan Hurt (incumbent)

### WARD I

Barbara McGuinness (incumbent)

### WARD IV

Matthew White  
Nathan Roach (incumbent)  
Michelle Ohley

To register to vote in St. Louis County, you must be 18 years of age by Election Day, a U.S. Citizen and a resident of St. Louis County. You can register to vote at City Hall, most libraries and schools and at motor vehicle registration offices. The Missouri Voter Registration Application is available online at [stlouisco.com/elections](http://stlouisco.com/elections). Additionally, registration forms can be mailed to you by calling City Hall at 636.537.4000. **The deadline to register to vote for this election is March 8.**



*Food trucks are subject to change. Follow the Food Truck Feast events on Facebook for updates.*

## Food Truck Feasts return to City Hall in March

The area's best food truck vendors are serving up delicious lunch specials on select Fridays from March until October from 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. Tables and chairs will be available outside on a first-come, first-serve basis. To view the food trucks featured each month, visit [chesterfield.mo.us/food-truck-feasts.html](http://chesterfield.mo.us/food-truck-feasts.html). Please mark your calendars with the dates below:

March 31 | April 28 | May 19 | June 30 | July 28 | August 25 | September 29 | October 27

## Who's knocking on my door?

The arrival of nicer weather often means an increase in solicitors—individuals or groups going door-to-door to sell items or services or to request donations. While this activity is legal in Chesterfield, solicitors are required to obtain a permit and might have to pay a fee. Charitable and religious organizations, as well as political canvassers, are exempt from this requirement. If someone knocks on your door with something to sell or a cause to promote, you have the right to ask to see their permit, which is a one-page document typed on official City of Chesterfield letterhead, and has the city's raised seal affixed to the document. If they are unable produce a permit, you are encouraged to report the person(s) to the Police Department at 636.537.3000. **“No Solicitors, No Peddlers” stickers are available free of charge at City Hall or you can call the Customer Service Center at 636.537.4000 and request that a sticker be mailed to you.**

# Where do your taxes go?

HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED WHERE THE PROPERTY AND SALES TAXES YOU PAY END UP? IT MAY BE SURPRISING TO LEARN THAT LESS THAN ONE-EIGHTH OF YOUR SALES TAX AND NONE OF YOUR PROPERTY TAX GOES TO THE CITY.

TAX ON \$300,000 CHESTERFIELD HOME		
Taxing Jurisdiction	2016 Rate Per \$100	Tax Dollars
Parkway School District	\$ 4.2163	\$ 2,403.29
Special School District	1.2409	707.31
Monarch Fire Protection	0.8050	458.85
St. Louis County	0.4120	234.84
Zoo & Museum District	0.2795	159.32
County Library	0.2460	140.22
Community College	0.2185	124.55
Sheltered Workshop	0.0880	50.16
State of Missouri	0.0300	17.10
Metropolitan Sewer District	0.0196	11.17
<b>City of Chesterfield</b>	-	-
	<u>\$ 7.5558</u>	<u>\$ 4,306.81</u>

## PROPERTY TAX FACTS

There are numerous political districts which levy a property tax in the Chesterfield area, so deciphering the tax bill can be confusing. For an example (see left), we used a \$300,000 home value and applied the 2016 tax rates for a resident in the Parkway School District and Monarch Fire Protection District. If you live in the Rockwood School District, however, the district's rate is \$4.6678 resulting in \$2,661 in taxes received by the school district.

The city has not assessed a property tax since 2014. In total, different entities including St. Louis County, the State of Missouri, school districts, fire districts, and other taxing districts will have collected approximately \$150 million in property taxes from Chesterfield residents and businesses during 2016.

## SALES TAX FACTS

Since Chesterfield was incorporated in 1988, the residents have voted to establish two sales taxes: a one-half cent parks tax and one-half cent capital improvement sales tax. In addition to these Chesterfield taxes, the following organizations benefit from Chesterfield's commitment to retail growth (see right).

## ST. LOUIS COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY SALES TAX

St. Louis County has placed "Proposition P" on the April 2017 ballot to impose a ½ percent sales tax for public safety. This tax is projected to generate an estimated **\$80,000,000** in new revenue, of which St. Louis County would receive \$46 million and the remaining \$34 million would be shared with the 90+ municipalities based on population.

According to their website, the 2017 county budget for police was \$106,233,785 and the county's overall general fund revenues were \$240,177,550. If passed by a simple majority of voters, the \$46 million influx represents a 43% increase over the 2016 police budget and a 20% increase over the county's total 2017 general fund revenues.

The proposed tax will cost Chesterfield consumers approximately **\$7.2 million** of which an estimated **\$2.4 million** would be returned to the city for police and public safety.

## Sales Tax Revenues Generated by Chesterfield For The Year Ending December 31, 2016

<b>Projected Total Sales</b>	<b>\$ 1,446,677,778</b>
<b>Missouri State Sales Tax</b>	
General revenue (3%)	\$ 43,400,333
Educational Fund (1%)	14,466,778
Dept of Conservation (.125%)	1,808,347
Dept of Natural Resources (.1%)	1,446,678
Total State Sales Tax (4.225%)	<u>61,122,136</u>
<b>St. Louis County Sales Taxes:</b>	
* Local Sales Tax (1%)	14,466,778
Metro Sales Tax (.50%)	7,233,389
Parks, Trails & Pool (.10%)	1,446,678
Transportation Tax (.50%)	7,233,389
Mass Transit Tax (.25%)	3,616,694
Children's Services (.25%)	3,616,694
Emergency 911 Tax (.10%)	1,446,678
Metro Parks / Arch Tax (0.1875%)	2,712,521
Total St. Louis County Tax (2.8875%)	<u>41,772,821</u>
<b>City of Chesterfield Sales Taxes:</b>	
Parks Sales Tax (.50%)	<b>7,233,389</b>
Capital Improvement (.50%) - Chesterfield (85%)	<b>6,148,381</b>
Capital Improvement (.50%) - County Pool (15%)	1,085,008
Total Chesterfield Tax (1.00%)	<u>14,466,778</u>
<b>Chesterfield Valley TDD Tax (0.375%)</b>	<u>2,892,574</u>
<b>Total (8.4875%)</b>	<b>\$ 120,254,309</b>

\*Distributed as part of the County-Wide Sales Tax Pool. Chesterfield receives approximately \$7,000,000 from the pool.

### NOTES:

- (1) Excludes North Outer Forty TDD (.625%) and Blue Valley CID (1%) Sales Taxes as they apply to only a portion of the Valley and Sales data is not readily available.
- (2) Actual sales tax received by most entities will be net of State's 1% collection fee.
- (3) The Capital Improvement Fund gives 15% of its collection to St. Louis County.

## OASIS Spring Classes

OASIS has partnered with the City of Chesterfield to bring learning opportunities for older adults to City Hall. All classes will be held in the Council Chambers.

### GREAT DECISIONS: FOREIGN POLICY ASSOCIATION

Monday, March 13-May 8. 1-3 p.m. Fee: \$60. Sessions: 8. Investigate eight of the major foreign policy challenges facing American in 2017 in this thought-provoking series from the Foreign Policy Association. Background information, current data and policy options are presented by a textbook and various videos. Discussion topics include The Future of Europe, Trade and Politics, U.S. Foreign Policy and Petroleum, Prospects for Afghanistan and Pakistan, Nuclear Security and more.

### THE INSPIRING HISTORY OF THE IRISH IN ST. LOUIS

Friday, March 17. 1-2:30 p.m. Fee: \$19. Follow the moving account of St. Louis' Irish immigrants in their struggle to survive bigotry and discrimination. See how the Irish survived, flourished and became a vital part of St. Louis history.

### DEBBIE REYNOLDS

Friday, April 7. 1-2:30 p.m. Fee: \$17. A legend in her own right, this presentation will walk you through her outstanding career - from "Singin' in the Rain" to "The Unsinkable Molly Brown" - in addition to her marriage to Eddie Fisher and her incredible Hollywood memorabilia collection.

### ALICE FAYE

Friday, April 28. 1-2:30 p.m. Fee: \$17. Enjoy this nostalgic presentation about popular box office actress/singer, Alice Faye, as her work is chronicled in some classic films from the 1930s and '40s. Find out why she made the bold decision to walk away from Hollywood at the height of her career.

To register for the OASIS programs, call 314.862.4859 x24 or visit [oasisnet.org/STL](http://oasisnet.org/STL) for more information.



City of Chesterfield, St. Louis County and Metro representatives unveil new MetroBus stops.

## Chesterfield partnership brings new MetroBus stops

On January 25, 2017, Chesterfield Mayor Bob Nation joined Metro transit representatives and St. Louis County Councilman Mark Harder to officially introduce the upgraded bus stops, which feature new shelters, seating, signage and improved Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility. The bus stop enhancement project added new amenities to seven key MetroBus stops in Chesterfield, with an eighth scheduled to receive the enhancements later this year. These upgrades were paid for by the Chesterfield Transportation Development District (TDD).

Four of the upgraded stops are located on Chesterfield Airport Road in Chesterfield Valley, two are on Chesterfield Parkway and one is located on Swingley Ridge Road in front of RGA's facility. The eighth stop, which will receive enhancements later this year, is located south of Chesterfield Mall outside of a new senior living development currently under construction.

## Diabetes education program coming to City Hall

*The Medicine Shoppe*

Medicine Shoppe Pharmacy will be offering its popular Diabetes Specialized Care program to Chesterfield older adult residents at no charge beginning Tuesday, April 18 from 10 a.m. until noon. The luncheon program will take place at City Hall and will consist of three sessions of individualized care and coaching delivered over 12 weeks. Two other group meetings will take place at City Hall throughout the program on May 23 and July 11 and in-between sessions can also be arranged to help with individualized guidance in with meeting nutrition and activity goals.

Clinical pharmacist and diabetes educator Amy DeWein will guide participants in small group sessions (6-8 people) as they learn information and skills through dynamic interaction to manage Type-2 or pre-diabetes. For more information or to register for this program, call Amy DeWein at 314.308.0911.



## Seniors can receive FREE tax preparation assistance

If you are 60 or older you may be eligible to receive FREE tax preparation assistance from St. Louis County's Older Resident Program. Federal and State returns will be prepared for those who meet the income guidelines for the Missouri Property Tax Credit also known as the "Circuit Breaker." Forms are prepared by appointment at the Sachs Branch Library. Call 314.615.4037 to see if you qualify or set up an appointment today.

## 4th Annual Senior Sampler scheduled for April 7

The Chesterfield Older Adult Task Force, in partnership with the West County Family YMCA, is hosting the 4th Annual Senior Sampler on Friday, April 7 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the West County Family YMCA, located at 16464 Burkhardt Place in Chesterfield. This free event is for persons 50+ who will be offered sample products, product and services information, demonstrations and health screenings. Free shuttle services provided by Delmar Gardens will be available from Central Park. **For more information about this event, call 636.537.4000.**



*The Sampler has over 40 vendors specializing in health, wellness and services for older adults.*

## Meet us every Wednesday for Senior Walking Club!

(See Parks Guide for locations)

Grab a friend and come out and exercise on the beautiful trails in Chesterfield! Every week, the Senior Walking Club will meet at a new park at 9 a.m. and walk the trail to see and learn about native trees, plants and wildlife, while getting some great exercise! If the weather is under 40° or in inclement weather, we will move the walks to Chesterfield Mall (west entrance between Macy's/Dillard's). A representative from the Parks, Recreation & Arts Department will guide the walks. **If you are unsure of the location, please call 636.812.9500.**

## Pickleball returns!

Pickleball is back from dawn to dusk at the Chesterfield Valley Athletic Complex! Paddles and balls are available at the Parks Office, adjacent to the courts, during regular hours of operation. All that is needed to use the equipment is a valid driver's license. Pickleball is a paddle sport for all ages that combines elements of tennis, badminton and ping-pong.

For those that are 55 or older, the Senior Sizzler events provide the opportunity to join other Chesterfield residents, members of the West County Family Y, and different organizations that have programs for seniors. Want reminders for Older Adult Programs? **Email [communications@chesterfield.mo.us](mailto:communications@chesterfield.mo.us) to be added to our monthly email list!**



Mondays, September through May  
10 a.m.-1:30 p.m.  
Ballwin Golf Course (333 Holloway Road)

Are you 55 or older and interested in making new friends, hearing great speakers, going on exciting trips and playing cards? Meetings of the Lafayette Older Adult Program (LOAP) are open to residents of Ballwin, Chesterfield, Ellisville, Manchester, Wildwood, Winchester, the Parkway School District, and Rockwood School District. Coffee, soda and dessert provided. Please bring your own sack-lunch. **For the LOAP schedule, please visit [chesterfield.mo.us/loap-meeting-schedule.html](http://chesterfield.mo.us/loap-meeting-schedule.html). For more information, call 636.812.9500.**

\*Special luncheons may involve separate fees.

## CORP "Neighbor Driving Neighbor"

St. Louis County's Older Resident Program (CORP) Neighbor Driving Neighbor program matches volunteers with older adults living nearby who need rides for medical appointments and other high priority destinations. This free service offers a viable alternative to those who no longer drive and need other options for these basic needs, allowing them to remain healthy and living independently longer.

Dedicated volunteers use their own cars for rides that are scheduled at least five days in advance and are free of charge for the recipient. For the volunteer, the program offers flexibility for designating preferred days and hours, as well as geographic areas to which they will drive. Orientation, defensive driving training and mileage reimbursement, plus other educational and social activities also are available.

CORP provides many opportunities for helping older adults, utilizing professional skills, plus assisting with administrative activities. **For more information, to schedule a ride, or for volunteer openings, please call 314.615.4516 or email [rgillespie@stlouisco.com](mailto:rgillespie@stlouisco.com).**

## Safety Town registration night on April 12

Safety Town is a nationally recognized preschool safety program that teaches 4, 5 and 6 year olds about a wide variety of safety issues including bicycle safety, water safety, school bus safety and stranger danger. The program includes classroom activities, as well as outside hands-on activities in the miniature Safety Town city.

The program is hosted and staffed by the Chesterfield Police Department in cooperation with the Chesterfield Rotary, the Chesterfield Kiwanis and the Parkway School District. The program is conducted for six, two-week sessions during the summer months.

Safety Town is one of the department's most popular programs. In addition to commissioned police officers, the Safety Town staff includes teen counselors from area middle and senior high schools who assist the police officers in leading the

program. All Safety Town sessions for 2017 will be held at the Parkway Early Learning Center, located at 14605 Clayton Road in Ballwin. Registration preference is given to Chesterfield residents and to those children who have NOT previously attended a Safety Town session.

For more information, please contact [ppowers@chesterfield.mo.us](mailto:ppowers@chesterfield.mo.us) or 636.537.6769.

### OPEN REGISTRATION NIGHT

Wednesday, April 12 at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall

### SAFETY TOWN SESSIONS

Session 1	June 5-June 16 (10 a.m.-noon)
Session 2	June 5-June 16 (1 p.m.-3 p.m.)
Session 3	June 19-June 30 (10 a.m.-noon)
Session 4	June 19-June 30 (1 p.m.-3 p.m.)
Session 5	July 10-July 21 (10 a.m.-noon)
Session 6	July 10-July 21 (1 p.m.-3 p.m.)



Chief Ray Johnson stands proudly with the 2016 VIPs.

## Police thank volunteers for service

On January 25, 2017, the Chesterfield Police Department recognized the "VIPs" (Volunteers in Policing) for their invaluable service in 2016. These wonderful volunteers do a wide variety of jobs that assist our department and the city immensely, including National Night Out, Resident Vacation Checks, Prescription Drug Take Back, and large event parking and traffic direction. In total, the VIPs worked 1,158 hours in 2016!



Would you like to receive text updates on major road closures, emergency situations, missing persons and more? Sign up at [nixle.com](http://nixle.com)!

## Lock it up!

The City of Chesterfield has experienced quite a few car break-ins recently, with the majority of incidents occurring in public parking areas. In each of these incidents, a car window has been smashed to steal purses and personal items in plain view. The Police Department is diligently working to follow up on each these cases, while trying to stress the importance of proactively preventing others.

**PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE YOUR VALUABLES IN PLAIN SIGHT. IF YOU CAN SEE IT THROUGH YOUR WINDOW, A BURGLAR CAN TOO.**

Take your valuables with you when you park, or at least lock them in the trunk or somewhere secure and out of sight. Help us keep Chesterfield safe. **If you are a victim or if you spot any suspicious behavior, please contact 636.537.3000.**



From left: Officer Lowe, Officer Rupp, Officer Kaatmann and Captain Nestor.

## Officers recognized for live-saving efforts

On January 20, the Chesterfield Police Department recognized three officers for their role in helping save the lives of two people in two separate incidents that occurred in 2016. The city is proud to have a dedicated staff of officers who go above and beyond the call of duty to assist citizens. The Chesterfield Police Department shares many of these stories and more on the department's Facebook page. Like us to learn more about the department and our experiences with the residents and visitors to Chesterfield!



Rendering of new Pfizer Research Facility.



Rendering of TownPlace Suites.

# Chesterfield continues steady investment in new development

**PFIZER RESEARCH FACILITY.** Pfizer will be starting work on a new research facility at the intersection of Olive Boulevard and Chesterfield Parkway West. Initial construction will include 262,000 square feet of research space for the company with opportunities for expansion in the future. The \$200 million expansion shows Pfizer’s continued commitment in the City of Chesterfield with a new location that will serve the company for years to come.

**TOWNEPLACE SUITES.** TownePlace Suites will soon begin construction on a 65,000 square foot, 112-room hotel within the Chesterfield Blue Valley Development. Construction is planned to start in May 2017, with an anticipated opening in May 2018. The hotel will benefit from being within a short walk of the recently completed Pecan Legacy Park.

**For more information on these projects or those currently under review, please contact the Planner of the Day at 636.537.4733 or visit the Active Projects Database at [chesterfield.mo.us](http://chesterfield.mo.us).**

## Street improvements scheduled for 2017

**GREENTRAILS DRIVE SOUTH.** The City of Chesterfield obtained a federal Surface Transportation Program (STP) grant to fund 70% of the costs to reconstruct Greentrails Drive South from Ladue Road to White Road. Construction on this project began in the summer of 2016, and will be completed in the spring of 2017.

**CHESTERFIELD PARKWAY EAST PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE.** In 2015, the City of Chesterfield secured a Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant to fund 50% of the costs to construct a pedestrian bridge over I-64 near Chesterfield Parkway East. This project will provide a safe means of crossing I-64 for both pedestrians and bicyclists. Construction on this project began in the summer of 2016, and will be completed in the spring of 2017.



Rendering of Chesterfield Parkway East Pedestrian Bridge.

**SCHOETTLER ROAD BRIDGE.** The city makes every effort to obtain grant monies when available. Most recently the city used grant funding to overlay Edison Avenue, to construct a new bridge on Timberlake Manor Drive, to reconstruct Ladue Road, and to reconstruct Appalachian Trail. In addition to the projects described above, the city has secured grant funding for the replacement of the Schoettler Road Bridge. That project is currently in the right-of-way acquisition phase. Construction is scheduled to commence this summer, if the city is able to obtain the right-of-way necessary to construct the project.

**OTHER PROJECTS.** The city maintains 176 miles of public roads and nearly 300 miles of sidewalk. However, there are several roads in the city limits which are either private or maintained by other agencies. For example, the Missouri Department of Transportation maintains I-64, Olive/Clarkson Road, Boone’s Crossing, Long Road, and parts of Wild Horse Creek Road. St. Louis County maintains Chesterfield Parkway, Baxter Road, White Road, Kehrs Mill Road, Chesterfield Airport Road, parts of Wild Horse Creek Road, and several other roadways. The city is pleased to inform that St. Louis County has plans to improve Chesterfield Parkway West (I-64 to Olive Boulevard) and Kehrs Mill Road in 2017. **For additional information, contact the St. Louis County Department of Transportation at 314.340.4100.**

## 2017 Concrete slab replacement program

Two concrete slab replacement projects are expected to be completed in 2017. These projects will involve the replacement of 30,000 square yards of concrete slabs on 16 different residential streets. Residents adjacent to the planned replacement areas, along with subdivision trustees, will receive project notification by mail. The streets scheduled for slab replacement are listed below:

- Cedar Bridge Court
- Cedar Bridge Road
- Chesterfield Estates Court
- Chesterfield Estates Drive
- Countryside Manor Court
- Forsheer Court
- Forsheer Drive
- Joyceridge Court
- Kaywin Court
- Kimwood Drive
- Ridge Crest Drive
- Riverdale Circle
- Scenic Woods Court
- Shady Valley Drive
- Wharton Way Court
- Woodcliff Place Drive

Slab replacement work will begin in April and will likely extend into the fall. **For project details, visit, [chesterfield.mo.us/city-projects.html](http://chesterfield.mo.us/city-projects.html).**



# Be a good neighbor and a responsible dog owner-pick up after your pet

Every responsible dog owner agrees...picking up after your dog is a must. No matter where or when it occurs, there is NO excuse for not scooping. So here are 10 reasons why every dog owner must be responsible for picking up every time.

1. It's the law. Just like littering, it's unlawful NOT to pick up after your dog, and your violation is subject to fine.
2. It's common courtesy. Cleaning up after your dog shows respect for your neighbors and your community. Only irresponsible dog owners leave their dog's mess for others to step in or clean up.
3. Dog waste is unhealthy. Abandoned dog waste can host diseases and/or parasites which can infect other dogs who come into contact with it, or be transmitted to people who accidentally step in it and track it home. Particularly at risk, are children who play on the ground. Disposing of dog waste immediately helps all dogs stay healthier and reduces feces borne parasites and illnesses.
4. Dog waste biodegrades slowly. Some people think it is okay to leave dog waste because it will break down naturally. However, the process is very slow, and, especially in places where the dog population is high, abandoned dog waste can accumulate faster than it breaks down.
5. It's not fertilizer! In fact, dog waste impedes landscaping efforts. Leaving dog waste encourages other dogs to mark that spot by urinating over the previous dog's scent.
6. Dog waste pollutes the water. Dog feces, like any feces, contains high levels of nutrients, like nitrogen and phosphorus, which actually pollute the water. Cleaning up after your dog is environmentally responsible. And please don't dispose of dog waste in storm drains: storm drains are a direct conduit to our water system!
7. Dog waste is unsightly. We all deserve to live in a clean city where we can be proud and step lightly.
8. Dog waste tops the list of complaints against dogs. More than dog aggression, nuisance barking or unsupervised dogs, most complaints against dogs are about people not cleaning up after their dogs.
9. Dog waste makes all dog owners look bad. Every time you don't pick up after your dog, you are giving one more reason for others to dislike dogs and dog owners.
10. Your actions set an example for others. When you pick up after your dog, you are part of the solution! And your actions will help convey the message that it's the right thing to do. Consider carrying extra bags to offer to others as a subtle and neighborly hint that cleaning up after our dogs is what responsible dog owners do.



*Pet waste bags are available at Eberwein Park.*



*The Emerald Ash Borer kills Ash trees by damaging sapwood and interrupting the tree's ability to transport fluids.*

## Street Ash tree removal begins work this spring

The Public Works Department maintenance crews will continue removing Ash trees in the public right-of-way (typically the area between the sidewalk and the street), due to the Emerald Ash Borer. Each of the city's 5,500 remaining Ash Trees will be removed over the next six years. The Ash Trees are regularly assessed by the City Arborist, and those trees that are in poor condition are generally removed first. All trees to be removed will be marked with white spray paint near the base of the trunk on the street side. Residents who have a street tree adjacent to their property scheduled for removal will receive notification by mail.

The stump will be removed at a later date by a contractor using a grinding process. Once the stump has been removed, the contractor will backfill and seed the area. Any additional work required is the responsibility of the homeowner. If you would like more information about the Residential Street Tree Planting policy and procedures, program application and the Tree Guide, visit [chesterfield.mo.us/residential-street-tree.html](http://chesterfield.mo.us/residential-street-tree.html). Applications received before August 31, 2017 will be eligible for fall planting. Applications can be mailed or dropped off at City Hall. Hard copies of these materials are available at City Hall during regular business hours. **For questions, please call 636.537.4000.**



*Black-eyed Susans (Rudbeckia Hirta) are native to North America and one of the most popular wildflowers grown.*

## 2nd Annual Family Native Gardening Grow-Off Competition applications due on March 17

Just a reminder that the applications for the 2nd Annual Garden Grow-Off Competition will be accepted until March 17, 2017. The gardens will be reviewed by committee members and/or city staff in late summer of 2017 and a winner announced in the fall. The winner will receive an annual membership to the Missouri Botanical Garden!

Residents can participate in Chesterfield's Family Native Gardening Grow-Off by creating a new garden in your yard that attracts wildlife and helps restore habitat for pollinators, birds, butterflies, and small mammals. Gardens may be planted in any part of your yard with the minimum area of 50 square feet. All gardens MUST be planted and maintained by the homeowners, rather than a professional service.

In addition to the amount and variety of native plants used, the following items will be used as primary criteria for garden evaluation:

- Food sources: native plants, seed producers, berries, fruits, nuts, nectar producers.
- Water sources: pond, stream, water garden, birdbath.
- Cover for animals: mature native trees, thicket/native shrubs, roosting box.
- Nesting places: mature native trees, thicket/native shrubs, other native vegetation, nesting box (birdhouse), pond.

**To apply, visit [chesterfield.mo.us/family-gardening-grow-off.html](http://chesterfield.mo.us/family-gardening-grow-off.html).** For additional resources, gardening tips, and information on native plants, please visit the Chesterfield Citizens Committee for the Environment web page at [chesterfield.mo.us/citizens-committee-for-the-environment.html](http://chesterfield.mo.us/citizens-committee-for-the-environment.html).

## Volunteers needed

Are you looking for a way to make a difference and be more involved in your community? The City of Chesterfield depends on numerous volunteers every day to keep the city running smoothly and to help staff and elected officials make important decisions to shape the City's future.

Do you have an expertise or interest in the areas of finance, architecture, parks, older adults, positive choices for youth, preservation of human rights, planning and development, history, art, environmental efforts or information technology? Below is a listing of the Boards, Committees and Commissions:

- Alliance for Positive Youth
- Architectural Review Board
- Board of Adjustment
- Citizens Committee for the Environment
- Development Advisory Council
- Finance & Administration Citizens Advisory Committee
- Historic & Landmark Preservation Committee
- Human Rights Commission
- Management Information Systems Advisory Committee
- Older Adult Task Force
- Parks, Recreation & Art Citizen Advisory Committee
- Planning Commission
- Police Personnel Board

**To learn more about these committees and how you can help, contact City Clerk Vickie Hass at [vhass@chesterfield.mo.us](mailto:vhass@chesterfield.mo.us) or call 636.537.6716. For more information, visit [chesterfield.mo.us](http://chesterfield.mo.us) and search "Boards & Committees."**

## Water - our most precious resource

Did you know that only 3% of the world's water is fresh water, and two-thirds of that amount is tucked away in frozen glaciers unavailable for use? All over the world, local communities rely on a reliable, safe and sanitary supply of water to support lives and livelihoods. Lakes and rivers supply much of the water that comes out of our faucets. We must keep these water sources clean and healthy. **Stop by the CCE booth at the Earth Day Celebration on April 29 and receive a free reusable water bottle!**



## THIS EARTH HOUR, SHINE A LIGHT ON CLIMATE ACTION.

Switch off your light and  
switch on your social power  
at [earthhour.org](http://earthhour.org)

25 MAR 2017 | 8:30 PM

60+  
EARTH  
HOURS

## Celebrate Wildlife Week March 6-10

This week is a great time to get outside and understand the wildlife in your communities. Even small actions can make a big difference:



- Plant a tree or pollinator garden.
- Find more items to recycle this week.
- Conserve Water by washing dishes or clothes only when the washers are full.
- Use cloth shopping bags instead of plastic.
- Visit the Butterfly House, Lone Elk Park or the Wild Bird Sanctuary to observe local wildlife.

Visit [nwf.org](http://nwf.org) for more ideas and information about connecting to wildlife. **CCE will have an informational display with giveaways at the Sachs Public Library during regular library hours from March 6 until March 24.**

## Items collected at Earth Day Festival at Chesterfield Mall

The popular recycling drive-thru takes place on the parking lot between Macy's and Sears. Limited capacity exists for most vendors, so **first come/first-served**. The drive-thru is open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 29. The following items are being accepted:

- All single-stream recyclables (glass, plastic, paper, cardboard, etc.).....Republic Services
- Bicycles.....St. Louis Bicycle Works
- Electronics, TVs, computers and small appliances\*.....MRC Recycling
- Used clothing, linens and paired shoes.....Remains, Inc.
- New and used building materials.....Habitat for Humanity
- Buttons, beads, board games and children's books.....St. Louis Teacher's Recycle Center
- Fabric and sewing notions.....Charity Sharity
- Documents for offsite Shredding \*5-box limit per family; **limited capacity**.....Pedro's Planet  
**Onsite document shredding is NOT available.**
- Prescription and over-the counter medications.....Chesterfield Police Dept. and CAPY

\*Fees for TVs include: CRT TVs 26" or less - \$30/each. CRT TVs 27" or more - \$50/each. Console/rear projection TVs - \$50/each.



Earth Day will offer informational exhibits, free tree and native pollinator wildflower giveaways, eco-friendly products and entertainment.

## Electronics recycling available at Earth Day event

*story continued from page 1*

Meet Ranger Rick, the mascot of the National Wildlife Federation, and wish him a happy birthday! A limited supply of native trees, plants and other giveaways will be available from the CCE. A variety of entertainment will also take place on stage throughout the event.

Nearly anything that can be recycled will be collected at the drive-thru recycling area from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. on the parking lot between Sears and Macy's at Chesterfield Mall. Items that are not accepted include alkaline batteries and light bulbs. **Onsite document shredding will NOT be available this year**, however, documents can be left with Pedro's Planet that will be shredded offsite. Most items are free of charge, but certain fees apply to some TVs (see information above). Availability to accept items based on vendor capacity. **First come, first-served.**

# Fireflies light up the Butterfly House this summer

## MORPHO MARDI GRAS

March 1-31

Tuesday through Sunday (closed Mondays)

10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Adults: \$6

Seniors (ages 65 and older): \$5

Children (ages 3 to 12): \$4

Children ages 2 and younger and Missouri

Botanical Garden members are free.

The Morpho Mardi Gras event features a glass Blue Morpho sculpture in the conservatory by artist Craig Mitchell Smith. Smith's Garden of Glass exhibit will appear at the Missouri Botanical Garden this summer. Thousands of Blue Morpho butterflies will flood the conservatory during Morpho Mardi Gras. The exhibit hall, which features a variety of invertebrates, will be decorated in a Mardi Gras parade motif, and visitors will have the opportunity to make their own masquerade mask.

## FRIDAY NIGHT FLIGHT

Friday, March 10

5:30-7:30 p.m.

Members: \$25. Nonmembers: \$35.

Dine on appetizers from Championship Catering and sample wines and other libations, from Total Wine & More, in the midst of live jazz music from the National Blues Museum. Meet Daisy, the adorable fennec fox, from the Endangered Wolf Center and see the glass Blue Morpho Butterflies, created by artist Craig Mitchell Smith. Guests will take home a souvenir tasting glass. Reservations should be made in advance.

## SPRING FLING/PLANT SALE

Saturdays and Sundays, April 1-May 31

10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Celebrate the important animals that help make the gardens grow! Each week, a different pollinator will be highlighted through fun facts, crafts, games, and other family friendly activities. Come and learn



*Fireflies are among the many species that are bioluminescent, meaning that they can produce their own light. Photo courtesy of Karen Fletcher.*

more about bees, ladybugs, bats, and of course, butterflies! Most activities are included in admission. Spring Fling is a celebration of budding trees, sprouting flowers, and the arrival of pollinators to the gardens! Let the horticulture experts at the Butterfly House help you plan your pollinator garden! All plant sale proceeds benefit Project Pollinator.

## BOOKWORM BREAKFAST WITH THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR

April 22 & 23

9:30-10:30 a.m.

Members: \$15. Nonmembers: \$20.

Munch on a smorgasbord of all The Very Hungry Caterpillar's favorite foods. Guests will meet live caterpillars and butterflies, listen to readings of Eric Carle's "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" book and explore the interactive Bug Stations. This special day will be captured by a souvenir photo with The Very Hungry Caterpillar! Reservations required. Space is limited.

## FANCY TEA WITH MOMMY AND ME

Sunday, May 7

Morning Tea: 10-11:30 a.m.

Afternoon Tea: 2-3:30 p.m.

Members: \$15. Nonmembers: \$20.

Grab your favorite gal for a tea party! Eat tasty treats and sip on delightful drinks!

No party would be complete without some fabulous take-home favors. Learn about the beautiful and fancy butterflies at this "can't miss" party. Reservations required. Space is limited.

## SUMMER BUGGIN' FIREFLY FESTIVAL

Wednesday, June 14 & June 21

8-9:30 p.m. All ages.

Get the wiggles out and the ants out of your pants during Summer Buggin'! The popular celebration of Earth's living lanterns returns! There will be firefly crafts and games, a visit to the butterflies in the Tropical Conservatory, and information all about these "bright" beetles. Wrap up the evening on an outdoor journey to see real fireflies (weather permitting). Please bring one flashlight per person. Come prepared for a short walk and wear walking shoes. Reservations should be made in advance.

## FIREFLIES AFTER DARK

Wednesday, June 28

7:30-9:30 p.m. Adults only.

At Fireflies After Dark, you will enjoy delicious appetizers, taste a variety of libations, and go on moonlit strolls to see real fireflies. Bring your friends and learn about what makes these little insects twinkle. Please bring one flashlight per person. Come prepared for a short walk and wear walking shoes. Reservations should be made in advance.

**The Sophia M. Sachs Butterfly House is located in Faust Park at 15193 Olive Boulevard. See [mobot.org](http://mobot.org) or call 636.530.0076 for more information.**

# Faust Park announces three new events in 2017

## THORNHILL OPEN HOUSE FEATURING WOMEN OF FAUST'S HISTORIC HOMES

March 25-26

12-4 p.m.

Free to the public

In celebration of Women's History month, the women of the first family to live at Thornhill in Faust Park will be highlighted on this special weekend. Learn about the family of Missouri's second governor and the lives of women on the frontier in the 1800s through first person reenactment.

## BIKE THROUGH TIME AT FAUST PARK

Sunday, March 26

9-11 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

\$5/person. Ages 13+.

The rich and colorful history of Faust Park will come alive as you ride your bicycle through the park grounds. Group will be led by the St. Louis County Parks Historian with frequent stops along the 2+ mile route of historic buildings in Faust Park. Advanced registration is required.



*Blacksmithing demonstration.*

## THORNHILL OPEN HOUSE WEEKENDS

March 25 & 26, May 13 & 14, June 24 & 25, August 26 & 27

12-4 p.m.

Free to the public

Come visit the home of Missouri's second governor, Frederick Bates, to learn about

his role in forming Missouri into what it is today. The house is partially furnished. Also on the site are the original 1820s and 1860s barns, the smokehouse, ice house, peach orchard and blacksmith shop. The estate also includes the family cemetery, burial site of the governor and his wife, Nancy.



*Faust Schoolhouse with pump.*

## A RENDEZVOUS WITH THE PAST

April 22-23

6 p.m.-9 a.m.

Faust Park Thornhill Estate

\$30/person (meals are included)

Campout with a Park Ranger on the site of an original Spanish land grant, where the oldest existing governor's house in Missouri still stands in Chesterfield at Faust Park. Explore the life of an early pioneer in the Louisiana Territory with a tour of Thornhill before sleeping under the stars. Dinner and breakfast provided. Bring your own camping gear. A limited number of tents available for \$10 extra. Reservations must be made in advance.

## HISTORIC VILLAGE OPEN HOUSE

April 29 & 30, June 17 & 18, July 29 & 30

12-4 p.m.

Free to the public

The historic homes in the Village at Faust Park will be open for free tours on the above weekends this summer. Guides in period dress will be available to answer questions about the buildings, as well as the volunteer-attended heritage gardens in the Village.

Varying number of buildings may be open for this free event due to staffing.

## TEA WITH NANCY

May 6 & May 7

11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Faust Park Thornhill estate

\$30/person. All ages.

Come join Mrs. Frederick Bates (Nancy), and other period dressed re-enactors, at 200 year old Thornhill in Faust Park for a full tea. What better way to celebrate Mother's Day early than with polite conversation, a light meal and tea amongst friends of the second governor of Missouri? Feel free to wear your tea party best. Space is limited. Reservations must be made in advance.

## TINY HOUSE ON A GRASSY SPOT

Saturday, May 20

9 a.m.-1 p.m.

\$30/child. \$15/adult. (1 adult per 2 children required)

Bring your children and explore the childhood world of a famous Missouri writer. Learn how to make food from scratch over a fire just as you would on the prairie. Make crafts discussed in this book series, and explore the prairie and little house and more. Price includes lunch and all craft/activity supplies. Reservations must be made in advance.

## FAUST OLDEN DAYS OF SUMMER FOR KIDS

Fridays, June 9, 23 & July 14

9 a.m.-12 p.m.

\$10/child in advance. \$15/child day of event. (Parents are FREE with paid child)

Special event for kids age 2 to 12. Many history-related activities planned, including blacksmith demonstrations, rope making, candle dipping, butter churning, hayrides and ride on the historic St. Louis Carousel. Group rate is available.

**For more information about these events, or to register, please call Lori at 314.615.8328 or visit [stlouisco.com/parks](http://stlouisco.com/parks).**



*Summer Clay Class at Art Unleashed.*

## Art Unleashed offers creative outlets for kids over spring break

Looking for a creative outlet for your children over Spring Break? Join Art Unleashed for “Music and Movement” with Papa Wright and Tiffany Scrapper! During this three-day workshop, March 14 through 16 from 9 a.m. until noon, students will learn how to play a variety of percussion instruments to create rhythm and sound effects, as well as create pieces of art inspired by music. Back by popular demand, there will be a Pokemon Fun 2.0 Workshop over Spring Break on Tuesday, March 14, where students will create art inspired by their favorite Pokemon characters.

Beginning the week of April 10, new six-week sessions will begin for both children and adults of all abilities. Choose from wheel throwing, mixed media collages, anime drawing and more!

Registration is also open for the week-long summer camps, for children ages 3 to 18, with early bird pricing through March 31. The summer camps at Art Unleashed are designed to encourage experimentation with a variety of art materials, while exploring a wide selection of subject matter. There are several new sessions this summer, including Encaustics, Digital Illustration and Character Design, Wearable Art and Art that Grooves. From learning how to throw on the pottery wheel to creating a functional cardboard chair, the unique camps aim to unleash each child's creativity! Adult evening classes will still be available throughout the summer.

Art Unleashed also continues to host birthday parties, scout workshops, and private events. **For more information about rentals, classes and camps or to register, please visit [artunleashed.org](http://artunleashed.org).**

### CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SUMMER CONCERT SERIES LINE-UP

Gates open at 5:30 p.m. Music from 7-9 p.m.  
Free to the public at Faust Park.

June 6		Bob Kuban Band
June 13		Fanfare
June 20		Trilogy
June 27		Spectrum Band
July 11		Abbey Road Warriors
July 18		Volcanic Ash
July 25		Radiogram
August 1		Butch Wax & the Hollywoods
August 8		Scott Laytham/Karl Holmes Duo
August 15		Billy Peek

### GOLF CLASSIC

Monday, April 24  
10:30 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Persimmon Woods Golf Club

Come out and golf for a good cause at the 27th Annual Golf Tournament, sponsored by Lindell Bank. Great food, drinks, games and prizes lined up-reserve your spot today! **To register, visit [chesterfieldmochamber.com](http://chesterfieldmochamber.com).**



*Thousands of spectators come out to the park to enjoy live music and entertainment under the stars at the Chamber's Summer Concert Series.*

## Chamber of Commerce kicks off Summer Concert Series in Faust Park

Each summer, the Chesterfield Chamber of Commerce hosts a Summer Concert Series on Tuesday nights in Faust Park. Beer, wine, soda, water, popcorn and candy are available for purchase along with area restaurants offering food at affordable prices, so no need to bring your own! Food trucks will be at all the summer concerts. **For rainout information, visit [chesterfieldmochamber.com/summer-concert-series](http://chesterfieldmochamber.com/summer-concert-series).**

For details on First Thursday Coffee, General Membership Meetings, Business Roundtables, Business After Hours and other Chamber events, visit [chesterfieldmochamber.com](http://chesterfieldmochamber.com).



Recreation of the church. Courtesy of First Baptist Church of Chesterfield.



Photo of the First Baptist Church today. Courtesy of First Baptist Church of Chesterfield.

# First Baptist Church becomes the cornerstone of worship and education in Chesterfield

By Ann Chrissos

*Chesterfield Historic & Landmarks Preservation Committee*

The First Baptist Church of Chesterfield (FBCC) celebrated its 170th anniversary on November 20, 2016. According to church pastor Reverend Stubblefield, “the theme for the anniversary celebration was ‘Staying Connected through Excellence.’” An entire weekend of celebratory activities included: a gospel concert; the annual outreach donation of Thanksgiving baskets; a pictorial directory; a mortgage burning ceremony; and culminated in the Sunday morning worship service with guest preacher Reverend Tonnie Bradford. The gospel concert, comprised of former and current members of the church as a means of “staying connected,” was held on Friday, November 18 at 7 p.m. under the direction of Lawrence D. Johnson, FBCC Director of Music and Fine Arts. Touches of Love Delivered, the church’s annual outreach mission, delivered over 200 baskets to families in need throughout the greater St. Louis area. The mortgage burning ceremony for the first mortgage on the church’s sanctuary took place during the Sunday morning worship service. Finally, guest preacher Bradford, pastor of Friendship Baptist Church, East St. Louis, IL, encouraged the church members to continue to be a “local church with a global mission.”

The First Baptist Church of Chesterfield was founded in 1846 when slave owner Leah (Maria\*) Long veered from the custom of

having Christian slaves attend church with their owners by granting her slaves a parcel of land in a grassy field. The land, located today at the southeast corner of Chesterfield Parkway West and Wild Horse Creek Road, was divided into two sections. On one section, a roughly hewn log cabin became the first church building and on the other a cemetery was established. Male and female slaves from miles around came to the site to clear the land, hew the logs, and to construct their own place of worship. Besides providing a place for religious services, the church also served as a school where the “Three Rs – Reading, ‘Riting and ‘Rithmetic” were taught.

By December 1875, the Church had approximately thirty members, who became the legal owners of the property. The deacons at that time were: “Brothers Samuel Harris, Lott Monroe, Pleasant Moore, Squire Green, Samuel Jackson, William Brooks and Samuel Brisco.” Sisters Anna Hubbard and Elvira Norris were also important church leaders. “Revivals were held when the farmers were not busy in the fields.” Friends and neighbors traveled long distances to worship and socialize together. As time passed, “Rally Day” was held on the third Sunday of June where mass baptisms, along with worship and feasting, were the highlights of the day.

New churches were built on the original site in 1870, 1911 and 1975. However, the Church acquired a new location under the pastorate of Rev. Robert F. Loggins, Sr. He was instrumental in purchasing eleven acres of land on Wild Horse Creek Road. The congregation moved to its new home in August 1996 where it continues to grow. The cemetery was dedicated as a memorial park and it has been nominated to the National Register of Historic Places. Today, “First Baptist Church of Chesterfield continues her commitment to being a blessing to others by committing increasing funds to outreach and missions assisting in disaster relief, crises support for needy families and foreign missions.”

## SOURCES


*Historical Book Committee. 162nd Anniversary Book of First Baptist Church of Chesterfield. Missouri. 16 Nov. 2008.*

*Mitchell, Herman interviewed by George & Ann Chrissos on October 5, 2016.*

*Stubblefield, T. D. “First Baptist Church of Chesterfield Celebrate 170th Church Anniversary.” October 11, 2016.*

*\*According to church archives Maria Long donated the land, but descendants of the Long family maintain that Leah Long was the person who gave the land.*



 This newsletter is printed on recycled paper.

**Dated Material:** Please deliver by March 3, 2017

## Civic Orchestra presents Frager and Franck; annual pops concert

In April, the Civic is excited to present their 2017 Florence Frager Young Artist Competition winner. The

ST. LOUIS  
CIVIC ORCHESTRA



competition, which started in the mid-70s and was named after a member's mother in 1993, has allowed the Civic to support young talent in the community and showcase them with a full symphonic orchestra for over 40 years. Congratulations to Jerome David Eulentrop, the 2017 winner. Performing the Sibelius Violin Concerto in D minor, this talented 16 year old is a resident of Winfield, Missouri and studies with Annie Dupre and Alex Wolaver. The orchestra will also present Symphony in D minor by César Franck.

### 2017 Upcoming Concerts

Frager & Franck  
Sunday, April 23 at 3 p.m.  
William D. Purser, DC Center, Logan University

Annual Pops Concert  
Thursday, May 18 at 6:30 p.m.  
Chesterfield Amphitheater

**For updates about the Civic, please follow them on social media (Facebook and Twitter). Tickets, newsletter sign up and additional information is available at [stlco.org](http://stlco.org).**



*Students in the STAGES Academy premiere groundbreaking works and the classics. Photo courtesy of ProPhotoSTL.*

## STAGES St. Louis and Academy kick off a blockbuster 2017

The STAGES Performing Arts Academy, now in its thirteenth year, continues to inspire students with the invaluable art of musical theatre as it offers classes in the disciplines of voice, dance, and drama. The middle school performing group, "Triple Threats," will put on its own production of "Snoopy, The Musical" from April 28 through April 30. Tickets are only \$8 and go on sale March 27. Enjoy "Mystical Magical Musicals at the Academy" from March 13 through March 17 or enter the wacky and wonderful world of Dr. Seuss in "Oh, the Thinks You Can Think," or learn the fundamentals of theatrical makeup in the thrilling new camp, "Stage Makeup: Fantastic Beasts and How to Make Them." And rediscover the magic of Disney with the two performance workshops: "The Little Mermaid" (grades 2-4) and "Beauty and the Beast" (grades 5-8).

Registration also is now open for summer camps from June 5 to August 4. Enjoy engaging day camps featuring returning favorites of "Broadway Babies" and "Acting Adventures," as well as an array of magical new programs, including "On Your Feet," "Rock the Mic," "Neverland Pirates," and more. STAGES' unique Broadway Performance Workshops include "Seussical Kids" and "RENT." Exciting dance and acting intensive offerings for teens are also available. Camps are held Monday through Friday at various times. **Chesterfield residents SAVE 10% on registration, up to a \$16 savings per student!**

The STAGES St. Louis blockbuster lineup includes Andrew Lloyd Webber's inspiring "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" from June 2 to July 2; Dolly Parton's "9 to 5: The Musical" from July 21 to August 20; Rodgers and Hammerstein's "South Pacific" from September 8 to October 8; and the TYA version of "Seussical" from June 14 to July 2. According to Artistic Director Michael Hamilton, the season "explores the triumphant powers of family, friendship, loyalty, and community in an ever challenging world." Single tickets go on sale April 3. **For more information or to purchase tickets, call 314.821.2407 or visit [stagesstlouis.org](http://stagesstlouis.org).**