Be Part of Wentzville’s “Hometown Heroes” Independence Day Parade!

All of us who live in this nation owe the freedoms we enjoy to the heroes who have worked and fought to preserve them—both at home and abroad. This year, Wentzville’s annual Independence Day Parade will honor the City’s past and present Hometown Heroes. All entries in the parade will in some way reflect that theme.

Area businesses, organizations and individuals are invited to participate in the parade by creating a float or another type of parade entry. Please note that during the parade, candy or other items cannot be thrown from the car or float, but individuals walking next to the car or float may hand out these items along the parade route.

Parade entries will be judged for first-, second-, and third-place awards. To obtain a parade application/registration form, call the Parks and Recreation office at (636) 332-9236, or stop by the office in Progress Park. The application form and guidelines can also be downloaded from the Parks and Recreation section of the City’s Web site at www.wentzvillemo.org. Registration deadline is June 21.

Registration fees for parade entries are $25 for individuals and businesses, and $50 for political candidates or political entities campaigning for an office/election issue. No registration fee will be charged for not-for-profit organizations with 501(c)3 status, or for current elected office holders.

So whether you’re in the parade this year or watching it, don’t miss your chance to join with others as we recognize our past and present Hometown Heroes. (see the “Independence Day Event Schedule” in this issue for time and location of all the July fourth activities)

W.I.N.D. Delivers Important Information FAST!

To provide residents up-to-the-minute notifications of important and emergency announcements, Wentzville has instituted a Wentzville Important Notification Delivery (W.I.N.D.) program. When residents sign up for W.I.N.D. they can get City emergency notifications and City announcements in a number of ways—calls to their land lines, cell phones, text messages or e-mails.

Through the W.I.N.D. program, public safety officials will notify residents about imminent threats to health and safety, send alerts about severe weather, water outages, traffic issues and critical police activity. If residents also sign up for City announcements, they will receive information on the topics they designate.

Signing up for the W.I.N.D. program is free for residents, and the information provided will be used for emergency and City announcements. The City will not distribute residents’ telephone numbers or e-mail addresses to any vendor or other organization.

To sign up for W.I.N.D., go to the City’s Web site home page at www.wentzvillemo.org. From the home page, place your mouse cursor on the “I Want To” tab. When the drop-down box of choices appears, click on the “Sign up for the W.I.N.D. Program” link near the bottom of the box, then follow the directions from there. For more information about W.I.N.D., residents can call City Hall at (636) 327-5101.

(continued on page 2)
Renaissance Faire

continued from page 1

can find out more about this year’s St. Louis Renaissance Faire and the scheduled special entertainment and vendors by going to the organization’s Web site at www.renstl.org.

Dates, times and ticket prices for the Renaissance Faire are as follows:

Dates: May 18-19
      May 25-27
      June 1-2
      June 8-9

Times: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Tickets: Daily Pass $15.95
         Season Pass $49.95
         Free for ages 5 and under

Parking: Free

*This article is based on information obtained from the St. Louis Renaissance Faire Web site, www.renstl.org and Faire organizers, as of March 21, 2013.

Don’t Forget, Irrigation System Backflow Test Reports Are Due by June 1

All home and business owners whose properties have an irrigation system must have the system’s backflow devices checked each spring by a certified backflow tester to ensure the devices are working properly. This requirement applies even if the system is not used. Debris build up and damaged parts due to freezing can allow contamination to flow from the sprinklers back into public water lines.

If residents don’t already have the name of a certified backflow tester, they can find a list of local testers in the Public Works/Water Division section of the City’s Web site at www.wentzvillemo.org/water-division.aspx. From the Water Division main page, just click on the Certified Backflow Testers link in the right column, under Quick Links.

Once the testing has been completed, the homeowner is responsible for making sure the results are correctly sent to the City, whether the inspector sends the results or the homeowner sends them. Test-result reports must be sent to Wentzville’s Public Works Department no later than June 1 of each year. Reports received after June 1 will be assessed a $30-per-month fine until the report is received.

The reports should be sent to:
Wentzville Public Works Department
Attention: Backflow Testing
200 E. Fourth Street
Wentzville, MO 63385

If residents decide they want to completely discontinue use of their irrigation system, they must have a certified plumber remove the backflow device. The same plumber who removes the backflow device must then send the City a letter verifying that the device has been removed.

Residents who want to install an irrigation system must obtain a permit from the City prior to installation. If residents have any questions about having their irrigation system checked or submitting the test results, they can call the Wentzville Water Department at (636) 327-5102.

From the Board: Did You Know

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2012 Property Rate</th>
<th>per $100 of Assessed Value</th>
<th>Percent of Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wentzville School District</td>
<td>4.9891</td>
<td>68.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Wentzville</td>
<td>0.07902</td>
<td>10.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wentzville Fire District</td>
<td>0.4858</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Charles Comm. College</td>
<td>0.2196</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td>0.2181</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road and Bridge</td>
<td>0.2025</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dev Disability</td>
<td>0.1398</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ambulance District</td>
<td>0.1477</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dispatch</td>
<td>0.039</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Tax</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Tax</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.01%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>7.2324</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Your Property Tax Rate

Real estate and personal property taxes easily account for the largest tax bills each of us receive in a typical year. The largest tax, by far, is to support the Wentzville School District, which represents about 68.7 percent of the total mill levy assessed for Wentzville residents. City assessments represent 10.9 percent.

The Board of Aldermen has reduced the City mill levy in each of the last three years. These efforts have been helped because of the increase in sales and use taxes, meaning that more of the load to operate government can be lifted from homeowners and business owners. The tax bills that were mailed in December were the most recent bills to reflect this reduction. As we move into the new tax year, there will be continued efforts to ensure that Wentzville assesses only the taxes necessary to adequately provide government services.

However, with the recent reductions, some homeowners believe their property tax bills are too high because of flawed county appraisals.

So what do you do if you think your current property taxes might reflect your home’s value when the housing market was in a healthier state, and wonder if you could be paying too much for your property taxes? The good news is, you may be able to lower your property taxes by appealing your local assessor. How?

1. Fact check your assessor’s work.
2. Have your home appraised. (The key to a successful appeal of your property value is comparable sales or “comps.”) Provide evidence of the sale prices of homes that are comparable to yours. An appraisal will cost approximately $400. You may be able to gather sales documentation by researching the assessor’s Web site for recently sold homes in your neighborhood that are comparable to yours, or through your local real estate broker.
3. Call your County Assessor’s Office. Ask them for an appointment to appeal your property taxes. Remember to take all your facts and documentation with you.

Appealing your property tax assessment can be well worth the time. The National Taxpayers Union says that most homeowners who appeal have at least a partial victory, but fewer than five percent of U.S. homeowners even try.

Election Results

On April 2, Wentzville residents went to the polls and voted for the candidates they wanted to lead and serve the City for the next two years. Below is a list of the newly-elected City officials.

Municipal Judge, Two-Year Term
Steve Martin
Alderman Ward 2, Two-Year Term
Chris Gard
Alderman Ward 1, Two-Year Term
Cheryl Kross
Alderman Ward 3, Two-Year Term
Michael (Mike) Hays
Mayor’s Comment: A Parks Construction Update

I’ve recently received a number of e-mails, phone calls, and face-to-face questions from residents about what is going on with the development of Wentzville’s new parks. Residents want to know “What is happening with the City’s new aquatic park, Splash Station?” “When will Heartland Park and Perouque Valley Park be completed so our kids can play on the ball fields there,” and “Why did the City decide to move forward with Splash Station before Heartland and Perouque Valley?”

One thing is clear, the development of these three parks is of high importance to our residents.

I’m glad residents are taking such an interest in the expansion of our parks system, and feel it is important they know the facts about these expansions and when they can expect to begin enjoying these new parks.

Unfortunately, as people have discussed what is going on with the development of the new parks, a lot of false assumptions and rumors have begun circulating. Since the development of these parks is so important to Wentzville residents, I’ve decided to use this column as a way to update residents with the facts and clear up some of the misinformation that has been circulating.

Once voters approved the one-half-cent Project Parks Sales Tax in 2010, we were able to obtain the financing needed to develop three new parks—Splash Station Aquatic Center, Heartland Park, and Perouque Valley Park. Between these three new parks, we expected to add more aquatic opportunities, ball fields, trails, lakes, and passive green space that residents could enjoy for generations to come. Prior to the passage of the Parks Sales Tax, we had the land available to add more parks, but lacked sufficient funding to build and then operate an expanded parks system.

All three park projects began in October of 2011. Originally each park was started as a separate project, with all the designs being worked on simultaneously. A committee consisting of representatives from the Board of Aldermen, Park Board, School District, City Staff, consultants and residents discussed the merits and issues facing the construction of each park.

One thing the committee addressed was a schedule of tasks for the construction of each park, which included concept and development design, surveys, and environmental studies. As the schedule of tasks for the three parks progressed, it became apparent Heartland Park and Perouque Valley Park had longer lead times than Splash Station, as those two parks were more dependent upon submissions to and approvals from outside agencies, such as the Department of Natural Resources and Corps of Engineers. By contrast, Splash Station was able to move more quickly into the construction phase of the project because it needed fewer outside agency approvals. The development processes for all three parks, however, have been moving ahead simultaneously.

The committee also recommended bundling together the Heartland Park and Perouque Valley Park projects, with the hope that would provide the City an economy of scale with things like staging of materials and equipment, grading, seeding, sodding, and so forth. At its last meeting in February, however, the Board of Aldermen decided to turn down the recommended bid for developing the two parks, due to complications with the submitted bids. At its first work session in March, the Board asked staff to go back out to bid on the two parks, but suggested bidding the parks separately instead of bundled, and putting out the bid on Heartland Park first, followed by the bid process for Perouque Valley Park.

At this time, it appears the first of May will be the soonest the first bid can be solicited. Once bids are opened and reviewed it can be a two- to three-month process to award the bid and another month or two for completion of the construction agreement and actual starting date. Once construction on the park is completed, the turf on the ball fields will still need at least one or two growing seasons to get established. This means it could be as late as 2015 before the ball fields will be open for play.

Construction on Splash Station, however, has continued despite a setback in construction due to rock encountered during excavation. At this time, the delay has moved our expected completion date back to the second week of September, which means we probably won’t be able to open the pool for use until 2014. We do, however, hope to hold an open house for residents to visit and tour Splash Station sometime this fall.

Although the rock has added cost to the construction of Splash Station, at this time the additional costs have not exceeded the five-percent contingency funds that were allocated for this project. I know some residents have worried over what would happen to the Heartland and Perouque Valley Parks projects if there eventually are cost overruns on Splash Station. At this point, there has not been a cutback to the Perouque Valley or Heartland Park projects due to the rock issue encountered at Splash Station Aquatic Center.

The Board has discussed the issue of possible overruns with City staff, and at this time the thought is we can use the City’s $1.2 million Parks Fund balance to cover overruns if they should occur. When the Project Parks Sales Tax was passed, we expected it to bring in just a little over $2 million annually, $1.64 million of which would be used to reduce our bond indebtedness on the parks projects, with the remainder used for operational expenses on the new parks. Since we haven’t as yet incurred operational expenses on the new parks, that money is still in our Parks Fund balance and could be utilized. In addition, so far, the receipts from the Parks Sales Tax have exceeded initial projections.

I hope this article answers residents’ questions and clears up some of the confusion about these three important projects. While the development stage of these three great additions to our parks facilities may be painfully slow for some of our residents, it’s important to remember we are moving forward with them. City staff and officials are as anxious as residents to see these parks completed, but feel they owe it to taxpayers to remain prudent and judicious as we move forward with them. I invite any residents who have questions about these projects to contact me or their Board of Aldermen representative.

Remember, Spring Residential Large-Trash Pickup Is May 6-10

This year’s free Spring Large-Item Pickup will take place May 6 through May 10, and with the City’s change to a five-day-a-week pickup schedule for trash, residents can put out their bulky items for pickup on their regularly scheduled trash pickup day that week. This service is for Wentzville residential customers only and all items should be placed at the curb by 6:00 a.m. Below is a list of the types of items residents can easily dispose of through this free service.

All appliance items limit of 1 of each type per household!

Appliances that will be accepted are:
• Refrigerators  • Freezers  • Air-conditioners
• Washers  • Dryers  • Stoves  • Televisions

NOTE: Items with Freon should be put to the side of all other items and a separate truck will pick them up.

The following items will not be accepted:
• Tires • Batteries (lead acid) • Waste Oil
• Yard Waste • Bricks • Concrete of Any Kind
• Railroad Ties • Any Liquids • Car or Engine Parts of Any Kind

Basketball hoops are not picked up unless residents call the Public Works Department ahead of time and clearly state that they want theirs picked up.

If residents have questions about the free Spring Large-Item Pickup, they can call the Wentzville Public Works Department at (636) 639-2049 during business hours, Monday through Friday.
### May Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUNDAY</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
<th>SATURDAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>6:00 a.m. Large-Trash Pickup&lt;br&gt;7:00 p.m. Park Board Meeting&lt;br&gt;310 W. Pearce Blvd.</td>
<td>7:00 a.m. Large-Trash Pickup&lt;br&gt;6:00 p.m. Board of Aldermen&lt;br&gt;310 W. Pearce Blvd.</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. Planning &amp; Zoning&lt;br&gt;310 W. Pearce Blvd.</td>
<td>6:00 a.m. Large-Trash Pickup&lt;br&gt;6:00 p.m. Board of Aldermen&lt;br&gt;310 W. Pearce Blvd.</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. Free Movie in the Park: Wreck It Ralph&lt;br&gt;Rotary Park</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. Storm Water Advisory Committee&lt;br&gt;310 W. Pearce Blvd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Mother’s Day</td>
<td>14 8:00 a.m. Open Registration for Swim Lessons Parks &amp; Recreation Office&lt;br&gt;10:00 a.m. 4:00 p.m. Renaissance Faire**&lt;br&gt;Rotary Park</td>
<td>15 6:00 p.m. Municipal Trials&lt;br&gt;1019 Schroeder Creek Blvd.</td>
<td>16 6:00 p.m. Storm Water Advisory Committee&lt;br&gt;310 W. Pearce Blvd.</td>
<td>17 7:00-9:00 p.m. H.O.P.P. Nights&lt;br&gt;Progress Park Center</td>
<td>18 6:00 p.m. Board of Aldermen&lt;br&gt;310 W. Pearce Blvd.</td>
<td>19 6:00 p.m. Planning &amp; Zoning&lt;br&gt;310 W. Pearce Blvd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Renaissance Faire**&lt;br&gt;Rotary Park&lt;br&gt;12:30-2:00 p.m. Coffee Talk With the Mayor 310 W. Pearce Blvd.</td>
<td>20 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Renaissance Faire**&lt;br&gt;Rotary Park</td>
<td>21 6:00 p.m. Board of Aldermen&lt;br&gt;310 W. Pearce Blvd.</td>
<td>22 6:00 p.m. Board of Aldermen&lt;br&gt;310 W. Pearce Blvd.</td>
<td>23 6:00 p.m. Free Movie in the Park: Wreck It Ralph&lt;br&gt;Rotary Park</td>
<td>24 6:00 p.m. Municipal Trials&lt;br&gt;1019 Schroeder Creek Blvd.</td>
<td>25 6:00 p.m. Storm Water Advisory Committee&lt;br&gt;310 W. Pearce Blvd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Renaissance Faire**&lt;br&gt;Rotary Park</td>
<td>27 City Offices Closed for Memorial Day**&lt;br&gt;10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Renaissance Faire**&lt;br&gt;Rotary Park</td>
<td>28 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Camp Wentzville Day Camp Opens&lt;br&gt;Progress Park</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### June Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUNDAY</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
<th>SATURDAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Father’s Day</td>
<td>17 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Magic Camp**&lt;br&gt;Progress Park</td>
<td>18 9:30 a.m. Municipal Court&lt;br&gt;1019 Schroeder Creek Blvd.</td>
<td>19 6:00 p.m. Board of Aldermen&lt;br&gt;310 W. Pearce Blvd.</td>
<td>20 6:00 p.m. Municipal Trials&lt;br&gt;1019 Schroeder Creek Blvd.</td>
<td>21 July 4th Parade Registration Deadline**&lt;br&gt;Parks &amp; Recreation Office</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
|        | 23     | 24      | 25        | 26       | 27     | 28       | 29 **See article in this edition of Vision. **Call City Hall at (636) 327-5101
City Pool Opens May 25

Be sure to grab your sunglasses, beach towel, and sunscreen and head to Wentzville’s Progress Park pool on Saturday, May 25, for the pool’s official opening of the 2013 season. Beginning on May 25, the Progress Park pool will be open seven days a week, from noon until 7:00 p.m., through August 17, except in cases of inclement weather or unforeseen circumstances. In addition, on Friday, June 7, from 4:00-7:00 p.m., the City will again host a FREE Resident Swim time. Splash Station won’t open in time for the 2013 season, but the City anticipates holding a special Open House in the early fall, once construction of the new aquatic center is completed.

2013 daily fees are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Users</th>
<th>Resident</th>
<th>Card Holder</th>
<th>Nonresident</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age 13 &amp; Under</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 14 &amp; Older</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Citizen (60 &amp; up)</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All-season pool-pass fees:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pool Membership</th>
<th>Resident</th>
<th>Corporate</th>
<th>Nonresident</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>$60.00</td>
<td>$85.00</td>
<td>$110.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Household*</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>$175.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Individual</td>
<td>$45.00</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>$80.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Household</td>
<td>$65.00</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>$120.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*A household membership consists of 2 adults and 3 children (ages 22 and younger), living in the same household. Additional children may be added for an additional $25 per child.

To receive the resident rate, you must show your resident I.D. card each time you visit the pool. Resident I.D. cards can be purchased for $5 at the Parks and Recreation office, and they get you in free on the day of purchase. Proof of residency, such as a current water bill, is required to purchase a resident I.D. card.

Children age nine and under must be accompanied by a responsible adult who is at least 16 years old. Only children age six and under are allowed in the baby pool, and children must not be left unattended in the baby pool. Toddlers must wear swim diapers. Swim diapers can be brought from home or purchased for $2.00 at the pool concession stand.

If you work up an appetite while at the pool, you can ease your hunger pangs at the pool’s full-service concession stand. The concession stand offers hot dogs, nachos, pretzels, soft drinks, ice cream and many more food items.

Lockers are available to store personal belongings, but you need to bring your own locks. All locks must be removed at the end of each day.

Swim Lessons Available for Kids at All Levels!

Wentzville Parks and Recreation swim lessons offer a variety of age and skill levels, times, and sessions throughout the summer. This variety allows parents to choose just the right swim-lesson time and level for their children. Wentzville’s youth swim-lessons program has everything from group lessons for children as young as six months, to one-on-one help for children ages five and older. If you are unsure where your child should be placed, don’t worry. Our instructors will be able to determine within the first class if adjustments are needed.

Resident registration starts at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 7. Nonresident registration starts at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 14. Walk-in registrations will receive priority. Call-in registrations will be returned in the order they are received. The program is broken into four, two-week sessions, with classes running Monday-Thursday. Fridays and Saturdays may be used to make up cancellations due to weather. Registration deadline is two weeks prior to the start of the session. If students want to cancel a registration, a $15 administrative fee will be charged.

Free Evening at the Pool for Residents

Residents can relax and enjoy a free evening at Wentzville’s Progress Park pool on Friday, June 7, from 4:00-7:00 p.m. Bring proof of residency, your beach towel, sun screen, and the whole family to enjoy this free evening of water fun. Proof of residency can be a personal property tax receipt, City water/sewer bill, or a City-issued resident card. A driver’s license does not qualify as proof of residency. And if you get the munchies while you’re at the pool, don’t worry. The concession stand will be open with snacks available for purchase.

Sunset Concert at Rotary Park

It’s summer time and the living and listening is easy at Wentzville’s Sunset Concert, which will be held on Friday, June 8, from 7:00-10:00 p.m., at beautiful Rotary Park. Bring your lawn chair or blanket, then relax and listen to a live, music concert as the twilight shadows softly fall on the Park’s amphitheater.

The concert is free. Concessions and beer will be available at very reasonable prices. Be sure to come early enough to find a good seat, purchase your snacks, and settle back for a relaxing evening filled with music and the beauty of the outdoors.
Camp Wentzville—
A Full Summer of FUN!

Camp Wentzville promises kids ages 6-12 a full summer of FUN this year. With a variety of activities like arts and crafts, field trips, swimming almost every day, and much more, there’s something for all kids to enjoy!

Camp Wentzville will meet at Progress Park from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and run for 11, one-week sessions, beginning May 28 and continuing through August 9. The cost per session for Camp Wentzville is $75 per child for residents, and $90 for nonresidents. Registration deadline is two weeks prior to the start of each session, so early registration is recommended. A $15 late fee will be added to registrations after the deadline. Birth certificates must be presented at the time of registration to verify the age of the camper.

For kids who need more time, there are Sunrise and Sunset Camps available before and after our regular camp times. Sunrise Camp is from 7:00-9:00 a.m. and is $25 for residents and $30 for nonresidents. Sunset Camp is from 4:00-6:00 p.m. and is $25 for residents and $30 for nonresidents. If campers wish to register for both Sunrise and Sunset Camps during a session, the cost is $40 for residents and $50 for nonresidents.

For more information about Camp Wentzville, check out the summer edition of the Fun Times Parks and Recreation magazine, or call the Wentzville Parks and Recreation office at (636) 332-9236.

Keep Kids Alive—
Drive 25 This Summer

Although motorists should always be extra cautious and drive slowly through residential neighborhoods, it becomes even more important to do so over the summer when more kids are outside playing. The difference between driving 20 mph and driving 30 mph can be catastrophic if a child suddenly runs out into the street when you’re driving.

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration figures show a dramatic increase in pedestrian-fatality rates with only modest increases in motorist speeds. If a pedestrian is hit by a car traveling only 20 miles per hour, there is a 5-percent fatality rate. At 30 miles per hour the pedestrian-fatality rate jumps to 45 percent, and at 40 miles per hour, the fatality rate zooms to 85 percent.

What is surprising is that most speeders in residential areas live right in the neighborhood. When your foot gets a little heavy on the accelerator as you drive in and out of your neighborhood, you are putting your neighbor’s children, your children’s friends, and possibly your own children at risk. The few seconds or minutes you might save in time just aren’t worth it.

So remember, this summer be extra vigilant when driving through residential neighborhoods, drive slowly, and avoid any distractions that would take your attention away from the road and what is going on along both sides of the road. Keep kids safe and alive this summer. Drive 25. It’s a rule we can all live with.

One-Day American Red Cross Babysitting Course

Current or future babysitters ages 11 through 15 will want to make sure they sign up for this one-day American Red Cross Babysitting Course. The course, which will be held from 1:00-7:30 p.m., on Sunday, June 2, at the Green Lantern, will provide information and training babysitters need to keep children safe and make the babysitting experience more fun for everyone. The course will cover topics like safety and safe play, basic care, first aid, leadership, and professionalism.

To keep this six-hour program fun and exciting, it will be filled with videos, lively discussions, fun activities, and real-life situations. Participants will receive a handbook to take home and a certificate for completing the course. They should also bring a sack dinner and snack with them.

Cost for the course is $100 per student. The Green Lantern is located at 506 South Linn in the historic area of Wentzville. The class size is limited, so early registration is recommended.

Don’t Wreck Your Budget.
Wreck-It Ralph
is Free for the Whole Ralph!

No need to wreck the family budget taking the whole family to the movies when Wentzville hosts its Free Movie in the Park on Friday, May 10. That night, bring the whole family to beautiful Rotary Park for a free viewing of Disney’s animated comedy Wreck-It Ralph. In this PG-rated film, Ralph decides he’s tired of playing the bad guy and starts game hopping through the arcade to prove he can be a hero. The chain of events he triggers, however, threatens everyone in the arcade-game world.

The movie begins. Also, make sure you arrive early enough to get a good seating, and since a movie just isn’t a movie without the magic of the theater, be sure to bring a lawn chair or blanket for everyone. The movie starts at 8:00 p.m. that evening. There will be a sack dinner and snack with them.

MAGIC CAMP Makes Things Appear & Disappear!

Kids ages 6-12 will see their summer nothing-to-do blues vanish when they enroll in Wentzville’s week-long Magic Camp. Campers will get their own magic box to take home, enabling them to perform new tricks for friends and family long after the camp ends. They will also learn comedy skits, balloon art, magic puzzles and lots more. The camp culminates with campers presenting a family magic show.

Magic Camp runs from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., June 17-21, at Peine Ridge Elementary. The cost for the camp is $195 per camper. Enrollment is limited, so sign up early. This camp promises to provide kids a magically good time!
Street Repairs This Summer Call for Extra CAUTION by Motorists

Although no major road projects are slated for construction this summer, the City has scheduled a considerable amount of slab replacement, asphalt street maintenance throughout Wentzville over the summer months. Motorists should slow down and use extreme caution when driving through these areas. Watch for work crews, lane changes, and other motorists navigating through those areas. Also, when driving in any construction area, avoid distractions like cell phones, adjusting your stereo, eating, or anything else that draws your attention from the road. It only takes a second of inattention to cause an accident. Drive safely this summer.

Residents can find out where construction projects will be in progress around the City by going to the home page of the City’s Web site at www.wentzvillemo.org, and clicking on the Construction Updates link near the bottom of the page. Once they’re on the Construction Updates page, they will find links taking them to not only updates on street construction, but also updates for stormwater, parks, and transportation projects.

City-Utility-Tax Refund Application Available Until May 31

Eligible residents who want to apply for a refund on City utility taxes they paid in 2012 have until the end of office hours on May 31 to do so. The refund amount is according to what was listed as “City Tax” on the resident’s electric, gas, and phone bills during 2012.

To be eligible for the refund, individuals need to either rent or own their primary residence in the City of Wentzville, be at least 65 years old or considered totally disabled.

Residents can apply for the refund at either the City’s Utility Service Center, located at 5 West Pearce Boulevard, or at City Hall, located at 310 West Pearce Boulevard. When applying for the refund, residents will need proof of residency (such as a current utility bill), income and/or disability, and copies of their gas, electric and primary phone bills for the months they were eligible. Also, to comply with Missouri’s section 208.009 that prohibits a local public benefit being distributed to illegal aliens, residents will be required to present one of the following: a driver’s license, social security card, or birth certificate.

If residents have further questions about the refunds, they can call Wentzville City Hall at (636) 639-2151, or the Village Square Utility Service Center at (636) 639-2155.

City Addresses Tall Grass and Weeds on Vacant Lots on Concern Basis

When the recession hit the housing market with brutal force in the summer of 2008 and local developers struggled to stay afloat, the City began experiencing increased issues with property maintenance on vacant lots. To protect the safety, welfare, and investments of residents who live in Wentzville neighborhoods that are not fully developed, City ordinance governs the acceptable height of grass and weeds on vacant and undeveloped lots. Residents who live in neighborhoods with vacant lots that are in violation of City ordinance restrictions need to call the Building Division of the City’s Community Development Department at (636) 327-5102 and report the violations. Residents can also report violations through the City’s Concern Center by calling (636) 639-2121, or by logging onto the City’s Web site at www.wentzvillemo.org and clicking on the “Report a Concern” link in the left column on the City’s home page. Below is a brief synopsis of City ordinance restrictions on the allowed height of grass and weeds on vacant and undeveloped lots within Wentzville City limits.

City ordinance states vacant lots adjacent to a structure have to be mowed and maintained, and that weeds and grass on these lots can’t be taller than 8 inches. According to the ordinance, “adjacent” includes adjacent properties across the street from a structure as well as next to it. Weeds and grass on vacant lots adjacent to occupied properties can be slightly taller, but must be kept to a maximum of 12 inches.

Undeveloped land of three or more acres, however, does not fall within these limitations. With undeveloped lots of this size or larger, the owner is only required to keep to the above height limits within a 16-foot boundary along the road right-of-way and boundaries that are contiguous to occupied properties. Except for instances where violations would be injurious or dangerous to public health, some tracts of land that are not bound by these restrictions include agricultural cropland, forested areas, stormwater facilities, mitigation areas regulated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and native or seasonal grasses on public recreational facilities.

When vacant lots are found to be in violation of this ordinance, the owner of the lot is notified of the violation by the City, and is then given a specified amount of time to correct the violation. If the violation is not corrected within the specified time limit, the City has the authority to have the weeds/grass mowed and removed, and then assess the property owner the cost for doing so. The cost then becomes a first lien on the property until it is paid.

Residents can help City staff monitor and enforce this ordinance by reporting any suspected violations. In doing so, they will help keep Wentzville a great place to live, work and play for everyone.
**Ready for a Treasure Hunt?**

**Citywide Yard Sale is May 4!**

Don’t forget Wentzville’s Spring Citywide Yard Sale is Saturday, May 4. To make it easy to find the treasures you’re looking for, before you start cruising the sales pick up a Citywide Yard Sale Booklet for only $2—less than the cost of a gallon of gas! The booklet includes a map, a listing of all the registered yard sales, and a brief description of the items to be sold and the hours of each yard sale.

Citywide Yard Sale booklets will be available during regular business hours through Friday, May 3, at City Hall, located at 310 West Pearce Boulevard, and at the Utilities Service Center, located at 5 West Pearce Boulevard. **Booklets can also be purchased at the Parks and Recreation Office, located in Progress Park at 968 Meyer Road, all the way through Saturday, May 4.**

So get your Citywide Yard Sale booklet, and happy treasure hunting!

---

**Holiday Hours**

City offices in Wentzville will be closed Monday, May 27, in observance of Memorial Day, and again on Thursday, July 4, for Independence Day.

There will be no change in the operation schedule of the Wentzville Recreation Center on Memorial Day, and the pool will be open as well. The Wentzville Recreation Center will be closed on July 4, but the pool will be open for Free Swimming that day from noon until 7:00 p.m.

---

**Independence Day Event Schedule**

Make plans now to attend Wentzville’s full day of fun on July 4. You won’t want to miss any of it, and it’s all FREE!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Independence Day Parade</td>
<td>Pearce Blvd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noon-7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Free Swimming at City Pool</td>
<td>Progress Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00-6:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Inflatable Kids’ Rides</td>
<td>Progress Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00-9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Live Music*</td>
<td>Progress Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:05 p.m.</td>
<td>Fireworks Display</td>
<td>Progress Park</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Individual band contracts not finalized at publication time.

---

**Holiday Trash Pickup Schedule**

The week of May 27, residents’ trash pickup days will be moved back by one day to allow for the Memorial Day holiday. Monday pickups will take place on Tuesday, Tuesday pickups will be on Wednesday, and so forth, ending with Friday pickups taking place on Saturday. The following week trash pickups will go back to their regular schedule.

The week of July 1, only pickups scheduled on Thursday and Friday will be affected, in order to accommodate the Independence Day holiday on July 4. That week, Thursday pickups will be on Friday and Friday pickups will be on Saturday. The Monday and Tuesday pickups will not be affected. The following week trash pickups will go back to their regular schedule.

If residents have any questions about the holiday pickup schedule, they can call the Public Works office at (636) 639-2049. Residents can also find a list of all the holidays that affect the pickup schedule in the Public Works/Solid Waste & Recycling section of the City’s Web site at www.wentzvillemo.org.