# **The Vision**

#### Your Source for City of Wentzville News and Events

#### **MAY/JUNE 2021**





### **Inside this Issue**

**MAY IS BUILDING SAFETY MONTH** 

WENTZVILLE DAYS

**NEW PUBLIC HEARING SIGNS** 

**AQUATIC FACILITIES TO OPEN** 

## Neighborhood Drainage: What You Need to Know

As we move through the rainy season, we would like to share some important tips and reminders from Wentzville's Stormwater Division.

Homeowners and subdivision trustees often inquire about residential detention

basins and drainage in yards and neighborhoods. Is it working properly? Who's responsible for maintenance? Let's review a few key points to help answer these questions and more.

CONTINUED ON PG.3



### Welcome New Businesses!

**The Painted Ladder** 144 E. Pearce Blvd.

**Spa Nova** 1049 S. Callahan Rd., Suite B

**Fit 4 Wentzville** 1305 Lodora Dr.

Vapor World 1959 Wentzville Pkwy.

Leave It To Beaver Photography 24 W. Main St.

**Sinapsis Psychiatry** 207 Creekside Office Dr.

**Crossroads Counseling and Wellness** 2 E. Main St., 3rd Floor

Etrailer (Second Location) 103 Enterprise Dr.



#### Backflow Test Reports Due June 1

All lawn irrigation systems, fire sprinkler systems and commercial service lines within the City of Wentzville are required to contain a backflow prevention device which must be tested annually by a state of Missouri certified tester. Annual backflow test reports are due to the City of Wentzville by June 1. Early-bird filing fees are only \$5 through June 1. Learn more about where to send your backflow testers, view the fee structure and more, at **www.wentzvillemo.gov/ backflowtests**. Questions? Please call (636) 639-2165.



## **Business Spotlight:** The Blue House Downtown

Discover this one-of-a-kind business in the heart of Historic Downtown Wentzville. This unique venue offers private events, a cigar lounge, dinner and drinks and much more.

**OWNER:** Mike Wood (pictured below)

WHEN DID YOU OPEN? March 2020

WHY DID YOU LOCATE YOUR BUSINESS IN WENTZVILLE? I've owned several businesses over the last 35 years. I moved myfamily to Wentzville in 2007 and I moved a couple of my businesses here about 10 years ago. Because the community was growing so much, the business venture really fit the demographics in Wentzville, so it was a good place to start a business.

WHAT DO YOU BRING TO WENTZVILLE BY HAVING YOUR BUSINESS HERE? We're on the map as far as our cigar lounge goes. We also have specialty social groups inside of The Blue House such as the Wine Club, the Whiskey Club and the Culinary Club. We have different events for each of those and they have different followings.

WHAT PRODUCTS/SERVICES DOES YOUR BUSINESS OFFER? The Blue House primarily started as an event venue that can be rented by businesses, charities, individuals, etc. Portions of the venue can be rented or groups can rent the entire space. In addition, there are a number of events put on directly by The Blue House Downtown itself or one of our social clubs.

**WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE THING ABOUT WENTZVILLE?** This community tends to be very youthful ... We're not an aging community. We're very new and up-andcoming with a lot of people moving in from a lot of different places.

WHAT DO YOU HOPE WENTZVILLE WILL EVOLVE INTO IN FIVE YEARS? I would like to see more organic growth — taking existing resources, real estate or property and bringing innovative types of businesses to those, as opposed to building more brick and mortar. More development in downtown would also be excellent.

WHAT OTHER COMMENTS, ADVICE OR NEWS WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE? Entrepreneurs that have any interest in being in Wentzville [should look at starting a business here], it's a very proentrepreneurial, pro-small-business area. To learn more about the Blue House, visit www.thebluehousedowntown.com.





Mayor Nick Guccione

**PIPES AND PONDING AREAS:** Similar to other communities in the St. Louis region, it is normal for stormwater drainage systems to temporarily pond water in yard swales, street gutters and in detention basins. Storm pipe systems are designed to carry a 15-year storm event, which is about 1.5 inches of rain in 20 minutes or 4.5 inches over an hour. When rainfall exceeds this intensity, piped drainage systems become filled and surface ponding occurs until capacity becomes available in the piped system. Residents should avoid driving cars through ponded water on streets during intense rain events.

**BASINS:** It is also normal for the water level in detention basins to rise above the concrete overflow structure during an

## **Message from the Mayor** Neighborhood Basins and Drainage: What You Need to Know Cont'd

intense rain event and slowly release over the next few days. This temporary storage of water in the basin is intended to avoid downstream flooding. Detention basins built after 2008 have additional features for improving water quality as well as providing detention and protecting stream channels from erosion.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE? Routine grounds maintenance of basins is the responsibility of the property owner or subdivision HOA. Annually, this includes mowing, trash and debris removal, erosion control and maintenance of appropriate vegetative plantings. Over time, built-up sediment in detention basins may need to be cleaned by dredging or excavating. This is usually performed by the HOA when the basin has reached about 15 to 20 years of age. The City provides an online inspection portal. Subdivision covenants may outline additional detention basin maintenance to help your neighborhood maintain property values and keep your stormwater facilities functioning effectively.

WHEN DO I CALL? After a major rain event has ended, if ponded water in your yard or in the street does not recede, please contact the City so we can check the piped system for blockage or debris. Staff will evaluate drainage issues where ponding in yards lasts longer than 24 hours, or longer than 48 hours in detention basins after a large rain event. For more information and to access the City's new online Stormwater Facility Inspection Portal and other resources, visit www.wentzvillemo.gov/ drainage.



## **May is Building Safety Month**

Building Safety Month is a campaign presented during the month of May by the International Code Council (ICC). The goal of this campaign is to raise awareness about the safety and sustainability of buildings. It reinforces the need for the adoption of modern, regularly-updated building codes, and helps everyone understand what it takes to create safe, sustainable structures. "Prevent, Prepare, Protect." is the slogan for this year's building safety month. The ICC's 2021 campaign reinforces the idea that "Building Codes Save."

Everyday, the City's Building Division works with homeowners and builders to protect the public with their commitment to building safety. Enforcing code compliance and embracing safety standards are both processes that support the City's economic development; buildings are made sturdier and longer-lasting. Wentzville's code officials are always working to ensure that the community is safe in the buildings where our constituents live, work and play. We are preventing, preparing and protecting citizens from disasters like fires, weather related events and structural collapse by constructing in compliance with the current codes and confirming conformity through inspections by well-trained, professional code officials. Please visit our Building Safety page at **www.wentzvillemo.gov/buildingsafety** for more information and educational materials for children. To learn more about the International Code Council and the I-Codes, please visit **www.iccsafe.org**.

Prevent, Prepare, Protect. BUILDING CODES SAVE.

Carnival: 6-10:30 p.m. Vendors: 6-10:30 p.m. Children's Area: 6-9:30 p.m.

## Saturday, May 22

McLovin: 12:30-2:30 p.m Rough Ryders: 3-5 p.m. My Friend Mike: 5:30-7:30 p.m. Big Love: 8-10:30 p.m.

Mirage Entertainment: 6-8 p.m.

Superjam: 8:30-10:30 p.m.

Fair & Music Festival

Friday, May 21

Carnival: Noon-10:30 p.m. Vendors: Noon-10:30 p.m. Children's Area: Noon-9:30 p.m.

## Sunday, May 23

Breakdown Shakedown: Noon-2:30 p.m. Trixie Delight: 3-6 p.m.

Please note: While we are moving forward with plans for our upcoming programs and events, the City of Wentzville continues to closely monitor the state of the COVID-19 pandemic. Our top priority is the health and safety of our residents. Because of this, dates, times and details for seasonal events may be subject to change. Connect with the City on social media @wentzvillemo and watch for updates on our website at www.wentzvillemo.gov to stay informed about our upcoming programs and events.

Vendors: Noon-6 p.m. Children's Area: Noon-6 p.m.

Carnival: Noon-6 p.m.





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## **MAY 21-23** In Historic Downtown Wentzville



NEW TECHNOLOGY HELPS WPD PROVIDE SAFETY AND SECURITY.

## WPD Installs Flock Safety Cameras to Help Solve Crimes

The Wentzville Police Department (WPD) is excited to announce it has partnered with Flock Safety, a company that provides an Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) service. WPD has 15 mini-cameras mounted on poles with solar panels deployed strategically throughout the City.

These cameras provide officers with realtime data to capture the make, model, color and license plate from the rear of vehicles traveling throughout our City. The cameras capture actionable evidence and send real-time alerts if a wanted or stolen vehicle passes by. The alerts are then sent to every WPD officer within seconds.

The cameras are not used for traffic enforcement. They do not take photos of the vehicle occupants and there is no facial recognition technology. When new technology is introduced, there is often a question about whether it's tracking citizen movement — this system is not. The data is stored securely in the cloud, and automatically deleted every 30 days on a rolling basis. The data is not sold or shared with any third party.

"Wentzville officers will be able to use this system for both proactive and reactive crime fighting," said Paul West, Wentzville Police Chief.

This system will also provide valuable information when officers investigate

crime, providing much-needed leads to help solve a number of criminal offenses. Officers cannot be everywhere at all times. However, this technology will assist officers and be a force multiplier.

The Flock Safety cameras are just one more tool to assist WPD officers in their efforts to solve and prevent crime. This partnership allows WPD to continue to deliver superior law enforcement service for Wentzville residents, businesses and visitors and to uphold its mission.

In the first four weeks of implementation, the Flock camera footage was utilized on seven different occasions by WPD to locate and/or arrest suspects. As technology and crime trends change, these ALPR cameras allow WPD to remain at the cutting-edge poised to continually provide safety and security for the City of Wentzville.

> "Our officers will be able to use this system for both proactive and reactive crime fighting."

- Paul West, Wentzville Police Chief

#### Utility Tax Rebate Application Period Closes May 28

Between now and May 28, Wentzville residents can apply for a City utilitytax refund. To apply, eligible residents should use one of these methods:

- Email the required documentation to City.Inquiry@ wentzvillemo.gov;
- Mail the required documentation to: Utility Tax Rebate, City of Wentzville, 1001 Schroeder Creek Blvd., Wentzville, MO 63385; or
- Setup an appointment to apply in person at City Hall by calling (636) 639-2155.

Please include your phone number on all rebate items emailed or mailed so City staff can contact you, if necessary. Eligibility requirements are as follows:

- You must rent or own your primary residence in the City of Wentzville.
- You must be at least 65 years old or considered totally disabled by Social Security.
- You must have a maximum 2020 gross income of \$46,450 for a single-person household or \$53,050 for a married-couple household. These income requirements are set by the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Learn more about eligibility and application requirements online at **www.wentzvillemo.gov/taxrebate**.



#### Municipal Election Results

On April 6, Wentzville residents took to the pools to cast their vote for Wentzville City leadership.

Congratulations to our newly elected (and re-elected) City officials who will be sworn in at the Board of Aldermen meeting on April 28.

For Countywide results, please visit **www.wentzvillemo.gov/election**.

- Judge Michael "Mike" E. Carter
- Alderman, Ward 1 Bryan Harr
- Alderman, Ward 2 Jeff Ottenlips
- Alderman, Ward 3 Michael Lovell



#### **PUBLIC SERVICE** RECOGNITION WEEK

Celebrated the first week of May since 1985, Public Service Recognition Week is organized annually by the Public Employees Roundtable and its member organizations to honor the men and women who serve our nation as federal, state, county and local government employees.

Public servants do amazing things across our great nation, around the world, and in our hometown and community. So, take a moment this month to thank a public service employee for their dedication to a job well done!



## **Board Update:** New Public Hearing Signs Encourage Community Engagement

As the fastest growing city in Missouri, Wentzville has a very active public hearing process. Local developments are added to our City year-round and it's important to us that our residents understand the projects taking place.

At the Board's direction, and in order to improve awareness of the public hearing process, late last year staff redesigned the City's public hearing notices. Special care was taken to ensure the signs were large, easily visible from the roadway and eye-catching in design and color.

As a board, our goal was to increase awareness of and promote engagement in Wentzville's public hearings so that residents might feel more informed about the growth happening in our community and involved in the processes that manage that growth.

Wentzville's new public hearing notices make it easier than ever to get information about upcoming public hearings. These signs are posted on properties throughout Wentzville to announce public hearings for a variety of proposed City projects and developments. The new, eye-catching designs include three key elements:

- Specific letter-color combinations to indicate the type of project being reviewed;
- 2. A QR code that residents and business owners can scan with a mobile device to access a webpage with more information; and
- 3. The date and time of the public hearing being announced.

Residents and business owners can use the letter-color combos to quickly identify the proposed developments taking place throughout the community. Yellow signs with a "P" indicate general Public Hearings and orange signs with a "Z" designate public hearings for Zoning Changes. Signs that are blue with a "C" signify a public hearing for a Conditional Use Permit, while green signs with a "V" indicate a public hearing for a Variance Application. Have a question about the public hearing process? Call the Planning and Zoning Division at (636) 327-5101.

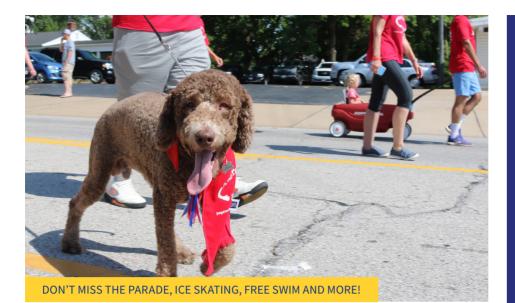








Want to learn more? Please visit www.wentzvillemo.gov/BeSignSavvy to watch a quick sign-overview video. You can find details about upcoming public hearings at www.wentzvillemo.gov/pz.



## 4th of July in Wentzville

Check out the parade, then join us at Progress Park for swimming, live music and fireworks!

#### Parade

#### (Please note: new time and new route!)

The annual 4th of July Parade starts at 1 p.m. at the Wentzville Ice Arena, travels south on Luetkenhaus Boulevard, turns right (west) onto Pearce Boulevard and ends at the old City Hall near the Pearce Boulevard and Allen Street intersection.

This year's theme is, "Sweet Land of Liberty." Floats will be judged for overall first, second and third place, along with Mayor's Choice and Best Musical Entry for first and second place. To view the parade route map or register your float, please visit **www.wentzvillemo.gov/libertyfest**. You can also download your application and register by calling Progress Park at (636) 332-9236. The float registration deadline is June 11. A \$10 late fee will be applied to applications submitted after this date. This parade itself is FREE to observe.

#### **Free Swim**

#### (Only for Wentzville residents.)

This year's Free Swim will be held from noon-5 p.m. at the Progress Park Pool. This will be open to residents only; preregistration is required. The afternoon will include fun contests and giveaways! After you swim, you can enjoy free activities at the Progress Park baseball field. It is a great way to dry off and relax before the fireworks!

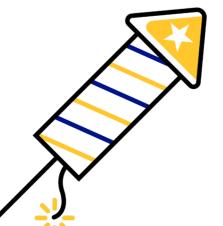
#### **Ice Skating**

This special public session at the Wentzville Ice Arena (910 Main Plaza Dr.) will take place from 5:30-8:30 p.m. on July 4. Admission is \$6 and skate rental is \$3. By attending this session, you will receive preferential parking in the Wentzville Ice Arena parking lot with a great view of the fireworks at 9:05 p.m. If you cannot attend the skate session, but would like to experience the fireworks from a great vantage point, you can still join us for \$10.

#### **Live Music**

This year's music will be performed by That '80s Band from 6-9 p.m. We will have alcoholic beverages available for purchase while you kick back and enjoy the tunes.

If you have any questions regarding 4th of July events, please send an email to fun@wentzvillemo.gov.



#### Wentzville Aquatic Facilities to Open This Summer

This information is current as of April 19, 2021. For up-to-date information, please visit **www.wentzvillemo.gov/parksandrec**.

Like many aquatic facilities in the area, Wentzville Parks and Recreation did not open its aquatic facilities in 2020. While we plan to open pools this summer, the season will look very different from years past.

Wentzville Parks and Recreation currently operates two aquatic facilities: Progress Park Pool and Splash Station Aquatic Center. For 2021, we will start the season by limiting the use of Progress Park Pool to programming only, which includes aquatic fitness classes. swim lessons and Camp Wentzville. Splash Station will be open daily for public swim with two, threehour sessions. Reservations will be required. These changes will allow us to limit attendance at the pool, if needed. There will be a 30-minute gap between sessions to allow staff to clean the facility.

There is a phased plan in place to eliminate the need for reservations and open more public swim hours at Progress Park Pool later this summer; however, the ability to move into other phases depends heavily on the number of lifeguards the City is able to hire, as well as guidelines set by the CDC.

For more information, including pricing and hours, please visit **www.wentzvillemo.gov/aquatics**.

To apply for a lifeguard position or any other open position with the City of Wentzville, please visit www.wentzvillemo.gov/hr.





1001 Schroeder Creek Blvd. Wentzville, MO 63385 PRSRT STD U.S. POSTAGE **PAID** St. Louis, MO Permit #495

#### ECRWSS Postal Customer



#### **Holiday Hours and Solid Waste Collection**

**MEMORIAL DAY:** City Hall will be closed for Memorial Day on Monday, May 31. Trash, recycling and yard-waste collection for the week of Memorial Day is as follows: Monday pickups will move to Tuesday, Tuesday pickups will move to Wednesday, and so forth, ending with Friday pickups taking place on Saturday, June 5.

**INDEPENDENCE DAY:** This year, Independence Day falls on a Sunday. City Hall will be closed to observe the holiday on Monday, July 5. Trash, recycling and yard-waste collection will not be affected by this holiday.

For information about resident-only free swim at Progress Park Pool on Sunday, July 4, please check out pg. 7. Paid admission will be required at Splash Station on that day.

## **ONE-STEP** Solid Waste Service Requests



#### **2020 Consumer Confidence Report**

The Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report (or CCR) is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made to provide safe drinking water to Wentzville residents. A copy of the complete 2020 CCR can be found at **https://dnr.mo.gov/ccr/MO6010849.pdf**. If Internet access is not available, a hard copy can be requested and mailed to you by contacting the City's Water Division at (636) 639-7564.



Wentzville residents can add, remove or change any solid-waste services, report a missed collection or schedule a one-time pickup directly from a computer or mobile device.

Residents are asked to complete a short online form, which can be found at **www.wentzvillemo.gov/solidwasterequest**.

This form is for all missed pickup and service requests for solid waste, yard waste, rigid and fiber recycling. This service is only for Wentzville solid-waste customers. To complete a request by phone, simply call (636) 327-5101.

DON'T FORGET: Your carts must be at the curb by 6 a.m. on your collection day to ensure you are not missed.