

# The Vision

Your Source for City of Wentzville News and Events

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2021



SEE LIVE REINDEER AT THE HOLIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS WALK-THRU ON DEC. 13. LEARN MORE ON PG. 7.

**Wentzville** \ Missouri<sup>®</sup>

## Inside this Issue

**TREE LIGHTING AND PARADE**

**LIVE TREE RECYCLING**

**CANDIDATE FILING DETAILS**

**WHAT'S COMING TO WENTZVILLE?**

## Shop Local, Shop Wentzville

The money you spend here comes back here.

With the holidays fast approaching, it's a good time to remember the importance of shopping locally. Shopping locally is the best way to keep your tax dollars working for you! Where we shop, where

we eat, where we have fun — all of these options are what make our community, our home.

READ MORE ON PG. 6



SUPPORT OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES DURING THE HOLIDAYS.

## Welcome New Businesses!

### Luxe Pool & Spa

12684 Veterans Memorial Pkwy.

### Chiro One Wellness Center

1957 Wentzville Pkwy.

### USA Licensed Bows

402 E. Pearce Blvd.

### Balance Nutrition

1842 W. Pearce Blvd., Suite 111

### Claire's

1971 Wentzville Pkwy., Suite 120

### Esse Health Primary Care

1078 Wentzville Pkwy.

### DL Services of Missouri

1000 Corporate Pkwy., Suite 101

## Solid Waste Requests

The City and its contracted hauler work hard to provide service to Wentzville customers in a timely manner. To help collection crews to stay on schedule, residents are asked to follow these guidelines when placing their solid waste out for collection.

- Place carts at the curb no later than 6 a.m. on your collection day.
- Place all solid-waste items inside your cart. Items that do not fit in your cart should be properly bagged and placed at the curb.
- Do not place bulky items or excessive trash at the curb unless you have scheduled a special large pickup.

To report a missed collection, schedule a one-time bulky pickup or make changes to your solid-waste collection service, call (636) 639-2049 or visit [www.wentzvillemo.gov/solidwasterequest](http://www.wentzvillemo.gov/solidwasterequest).



## Business Spotlight: What's Coming to Wentzville?

The following businesses have recently been approved and are in various stages of construction throughout the City.

### Animal Talk

12800 Veterans Memorial Pkwy.

### Aspen Dental

1600 Wentzville Pkwy.

### First Community Credit Union

1000 Parkway Ridge Blvd.

### Freddy's Steakburgers

1510 Wentzville Pkwy.

### Wentzville Rec Center

500 Great Oaks Blvd.

**Would you like to see your business highlighted in *The Vision*?** Email our Economic Development Coordinator, Ben Motil, at [Ben.Motil@wentzvillemo.gov](mailto:Ben.Motil@wentzvillemo.gov).

## Protect Your Sewer

'Tis the season for home-cooked meals! As you prepare delicious dishes this Thanksgiving, keep in mind that fats, oils and grease don't just clog our arteries, they also clog our sewers. Keeping these substances out of the drain is one of the best ways to avoid a sewer backup in your home.

Fats, oils, and grease are found in many of the foods we eat every day — foods such as meat, butter, cooking oil, gravy, sauces, mayonnaise, salad dressing and cheese. These also happen to be some of the key ingredients to our favorite holiday dishes. Help prevent drain and sewer clogs by keeping drains free of fat, oil and grease. Use these reminders from the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District to prevent grease buildup in your pipes:

- Wipe cooled pots and pans with a paper towel before washing.
- Remove fatty foods from plates and the kitchen sink and place them in the trash — not down the drain.
- Can it, cool it and trash it. Pour all cooled cooking fats that will harden into a container such as an empty vegetable, pet food or coffee can. Let these contents cool and throw the can in the trash.





**Mayor Nick Guccione**

I want to take this opportunity to wish you and your families the very best this holiday season. Wentzville residents and business owners have made our community what it is today. Wentzville is known as a compassionate and family-friendly community that welcomes everyone and whose residents rally to support anyone in need — at any time. This was never more apparent than after the passing of Marine Lance Corporal Jared Schmitz.

Earlier this year, we were honored to show our support of the Schmitz family. On Sept. 22, during a Wentzville Board of Aldermen meeting, a special ceremony was held to honor the life of Marine Lcpl. Jared

## Message from the Mayor: Rallying in Support

Schmitz who paid the ultimate sacrifice on Aug. 26, 2021, when he tragically lost his life — along with 12 other U.S. servicemen — while defending our country in Afghanistan.

I and members of the Board of Aldermen, along with Senator Bob Onder, Representatives Nick Schroer and Richard West, and members of the UAW Local 2250, joined together to offer condolences and to collectively thank the family of Lcpl. Jared Schmitz for his service and sacrifice. The ceremony included a proclamation from the City of Wentzville declaring July 8 of every year as “Marine Lance Corporal Jared Schmitz Day” in Wentzville. This is the date, in 2019, that Schmitz was officially sworn into the Marine Corps. Schmitz devoted himself to the Marine Corps’ values of honor, courage and commitment. The nation and the City of Wentzville will forever be grateful for his dedication and determination to protect the country he loved.

The outpouring of love and support from this community following Jared’s passing was humbling. Everyone came together and the world saw what we have always known

— that Wentzville is made up of community members who are the best of the best. You make me proud to be the Mayor of Wentzville and I’m sincerely honored to continue to serve you. I look forward to the great things ahead in 2022! Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!



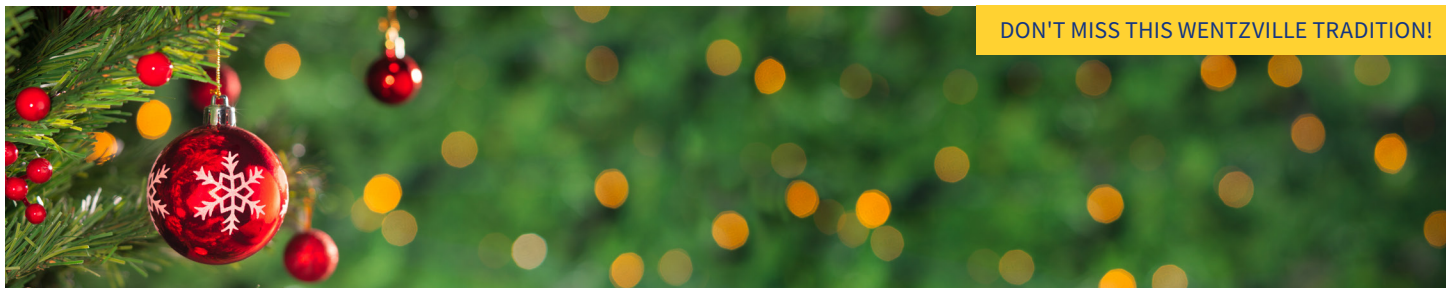
## Keep Your Deliveries Safe

Protect your packages from “porch pirates” this holiday season (and year-round) with these tips from the Wentzville Police Department (WPD).

- Schedule deliveries when you will be home, or have packages delivered to a trusted friend, family member or a commercial locker.
- Request a signature to receive your package.
- Increase your home security with surveillance cameras.
- Report any suspicious activity to WPD by calling (636) 327-5105. If you have a surveillance system, WPD would love to partner with you! WPD’s “Video Surveillance Camera Registration Program” is a voluntary program that allows you to partner with WPD to assist during investigations.

If you register your surveillance system and a crime occurs, WPD can quickly identify anyone that has cameras nearby. This helps WPD to collect video evidence and follow up on leads to solve the crime. WPD is NOT asking for access to your system. This voluntary program simply provides a way to know where video surveillance systems are located throughout the community. To register your surveillance system, please visit [www.wentzvillemo.gov/wpdvideoregistration](http://www.wentzvillemo.gov/wpdvideoregistration). If you have any questions, please contact Detective Sergeant Wessel at (636) 639-2138.





DON'T MISS THIS WENTZVILLE TRADITION!

## Tree Lighting and Christmas Parade

**Make plans to join us in Historic Downtown Wentzville on Sunday, Dec. 5.**

You won't want to miss this special Wentzville tradition! The annual Tree Lighting ceremony will take place at 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 5. The tree is located at the intersection of Pearce and Luetkenhaus boulevards, across from Pete's Drive-In. Wentzville Mayor Nick Guccione will officially light the tree just prior to the start of the annual Christmas Parade.

The parade will begin at approximately 6 p.m. in Historic Downtown Wentzville near the intersection of Linn Avenue and Pearce Boulevard. The parade will travel east on Pearce Boulevard and north on Luetkenhaus

Boulevard, ending at the Wentzville Fire Protection District Headquarters at 502 Luetkenhaus Blvd.

At the Fire Station, following the parade, attendees can enjoy cookies, candy canes, hot chocolate and a visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Staging for the floats will take place at Pearce Hall at 317 W. Pearce Blvd. To register your float or for more details, call Donna Marie Pierre at (636) 332-8801.



## Recycle Your Real Christmas Tree

Curbside collection of real Christmas trees is available for Wentzville residents with trash collection service. Trees, which must be free of decorations, lights, tinsel, garland, etc., and cut into less than four-foot sections, may be placed at the curb on your regular collection day between Jan. 3 and Jan. 21. For questions, please call (636) 639-2049.

Residents may also drop off natural trees to one of the three City parks below, between Dec. 26\* and Jan. 16 (during regular park hours). Trees must be free of decorations, stands, coverings, lights, etc.

- Progress Park, 968 Meyer Rd.
- Heartland Park, 100 William Dierberg Dr.
- Rotary Park, 2577 W. Meyer Rd. (\*Jan. 10-16)

## Wentzville Wonderland Holiday Display Contest

Decorating for the holidays? Enter your home in the City's "Wentzville Wonderland Holiday Display Contest!" Between Dec. 1 and Dec. 17, participants can submit a photo of their holiday display by posting it in the City's Wentzville Wonderland Facebook event. Displays will be voted on by the public via a polling system on the City's social media channels.

Winners will receive a custom Winter Wonderland yard sign to display on their property! One display will be chosen in each of the following categories: Biggest and Brightest, Social Media Favorite and Mayor's Choice. To review the guidelines and locate contest-submission details, please visit [www.wentzvillemo.gov/winterwonderland](http://www.wentzvillemo.gov/winterwonderland).

*Please note: Submissions are subject to City approval. Displays that violate Wentzville's City municipal code will not be accepted. 2020 winners are not eligible to participate again until 2022.*







CDBG FUNDING PROVIDES HOUSING-ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

## Community Development Block Grants

Maintaining our neighborhoods and assisting our residents are top priorities for the City of Wentzville. Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) are instrumental in helping the City achieve these goals. Based on eligibility, CDBG funding provides a variety of housing-assistance programs from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, through St. Charles Urban County, for the purpose of assisting local residents.

**Home Improvement Loan Program** — Provides up to \$10,000 as a 0% interest, five-year forgivable loan for home improvements, emergency repairs and property maintenance concerns to eligible residents. Please visit the City's website at [www.wentzvillemo.gov/cdbg](http://www.wentzvillemo.gov/cdbg) to access an application; or complete the application online by visiting the St. Charles City portal at [www.wentzvillemo.gov/sccportal](http://www.wentzvillemo.gov/sccportal) — deadlines may apply.

**First-Time Homebuyer Program** — This program works with participants to gain firsthand knowledge about the essentials of getting mortgage-ready to buy their own home and how they may qualify for financial assistance of up to \$10,000 that can be used for a down payment and closing costs. Various eligibility

requirements and restrictions apply for each of these programs and includes income verification. Please visit the City's website at [www.wentzvillemo.gov/cdbg](http://www.wentzvillemo.gov/cdbg) to access an application; or complete the application online by visiting the St. Charles City portal at [www.wentzvillemo.gov/sccportal](http://www.wentzvillemo.gov/sccportal) — deadlines may apply.

**Affordable Rental Program and Homeless Prevention Program** — The Affordable Rental Program provides private acquisitions and rehabilitation of dwellings that would be rented to income-qualified elderly, disabled or veterans at affordable rates. The Homeless Prevention Program provides assistance to those who may become homeless due to inability to pay utility and/or lease payments. To learn more or for placement in the program, please call Coordinated Entry at 2-1-1.

**COVID-19 Hardship Assistance** — This program provides short-term rent, mortgage and utility assistance to eligible households facing foreclosure or eviction for residents impacted by COVID-19. For placement in the program, please call Coordinated Entry at 2-1-1.

Questions regarding any of these programs can be directed to Wentzville's Building Official, Jessica Isaak, at [Jessica.Isaak@wentzvillemo.gov](mailto:Jessica.Isaak@wentzvillemo.gov) or (636) 639-2046.

## Candidate Filing Opens Dec. 7

Beginning Tuesday, Dec. 7, 2021 at 8 a.m., candidates may begin filing for the elected municipal offices that will appear on the April 2022 ballot. Candidates must file in person at City Hall, located at 1001 Schroeder Creek Blvd. The filing period will remain open until 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 28, 2021. This reflects a change to the state law regarding filing dates for candidates for elected office.

Positions open for filing include one Alderman from each of the three Wards. There is a \$25 fee, due when filing. City ordinances state that candidates running for Alderman must be at least 18 years of age; a U.S. citizen; and an inhabitant and resident of the City for at least one year prior to the election. Candidates running for Alderman must also be a resident, at the time they file and during the time they serve, of the Ward from which they are elected.

If you have questions or need additional information, please call the City Clerk's office at (636) 639-2012. When made available, packets can be accessed at [www.wentzvillemo.gov/cityclerk](http://www.wentzvillemo.gov/cityclerk).

## Upcoming Meetings: Save the Date!

### Planning and Zoning Commission

Nov. 3 and Dec. 7 at 6 p.m. at City Hall

### Board of Aldermen

Nov. 10, Nov. 17 and Dec. 15 at 6 p.m. at City Hall

To view meeting agendas, please visit [www.wentzvillemo.gov/agendas](http://www.wentzvillemo.gov/agendas). To view calendars for other scheduled board and commission meetings, please visit [www.wentzvillemo.gov/calendar](http://www.wentzvillemo.gov/calendar).

## Solid Waste Holiday Collection Schedule

**Veterans Day** — The Veterans Day holiday will not affect the collection schedule.

**Thanksgiving** — For the week of Nov. 22, collection will be as follows: solid waste collection will remain the same on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. On Thursday, Nov. 25 and Friday, Nov. 26, collection will run one day late.

**Christmas and New Years** — The Christmas Day and New Year's Day holidays will not affect the collection schedule this year, as they both fall on a weekend.

## Holiday Hours

City offices will be closed on the following days to observe these upcoming holidays:

- Veterans Day: Nov. 11
- Thanksgiving: Nov. 25 and 26
- Christmas: Dec. 23 and 24
- New Year's Day: Dec. 31

Progress Park Recreation Center may have an amended schedule to observe these upcoming holidays.

- Veterans Day, Nov. 11, open 6 a.m.-8 p.m.
- Thanksgiving, Nov. 25, closed
- Day after Thanksgiving, Nov. 26, open 6 a.m.-8 p.m.
- Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, open 6 a.m.-3 p.m.
- Christmas Day, Dec. 25, closed
- New Year's Eve, Dec. 31, open 6 a.m.-6 p.m.
- New Year's Day, Jan. 1, closed

To view hours and programs at the Wentzville Ice Arena, please visit [www.wentzvilleicearena.com](http://www.wentzvilleicearena.com).

# Board Update

## Shop Local, Shop Wentzville Cont'd



**Meet the Board of Aldermen** (left to right): Jeffrey Ottenlips, Ward 2; Michael Hays, Ward 3; Robert Hussey, Ward 1; Mayor Nick Guccione; Bryan Harr, Ward 1; Michael Lovell, Ward 3; Tricia Byrnes, Ward 2. You can find contact information and more when you visit [www.wentzvillemo.gov/boa](http://www.wentzvillemo.gov/boa).

Our businesses and restaurants are an integral part of the distinctive character of Wentzville. Local businesses are owned by people who live in this community and who are highly invested in Wentzville's future.

Wentzville's exceptional quality of life and local economy rely on where you spend your money and do your shopping. Sales tax is a direct and vital lifeline to essential City services as money spent in Wentzville directly impacts our residential services. The money you spend here comes back here — in the form of recreational programs, police officers, City improvements and more. Shopping locally keeps businesses here, providing jobs, and benefiting our schools and area nonprofits.

The holiday season is a great reminder to shop local, and Saturday, Nov. 27, is the perfect time to pledge your commitment to local spending. Small Business Saturday, which is held each year on the Saturday after Thanksgiving, is an annual celebration of small businesses. On this day each year, at the start of the holiday season, consumers are encouraged to shop locally. The day aids small businesses by drawing attention to their importance in our economy.

If there's one thing we can all do to make our dollars work for this community, it's to shop local. Gas up here before you leave town. Grab dinner in Wentzville on your way home from work. Make your tax dollars work for you and your community. Shopping locally benefits all of us.

This is your community. Keep your money local — spend here, invest here. Shop Local. Shop Wentzville.

## Five Reasons to Shop Local

On average, for every \$100 spent in a chain store \$14 is reinvested in the community. But did you know that for every \$100 spent at a local store, an average of \$68 is reinvested in the community? That money paves our roads, employs our friends and neighbors, maintains our schools and makes Wentzville a great place to live, work and explore!

As consumers, we have the power to shape our City. Isn't that an amazing thought? When you shop in Wentzville, you are pledging to make a concerted effort to impact our local businesses. So why should you choose to shop local?

- 1. Tax Dollars:** Keep your tax dollars working for YOU! The City sales tax you pay funds improvements to parks, roads and services in YOUR City.
- 2. Jobs:** Wentzville businesses grow and can create more jobs right here — jobs help local families!
- 3. Personalized Service:** Local businesses are owned by your neighbors and friends, they care about you and are invested in our community.
- 4. Unique Options:** Locally-owned businesses provide a wide range of product choices for everyone in the community.
- 5. Savings:** When you shop in Wentzville — right here where you live — you'll save money, gasoline and time!



## Holiday Night Lights at Rotary Park

To learn more, view a schedule or register for any of these events, please visit [www.wentzvillemo.gov/hnl](http://www.wentzvillemo.gov/hnl). If you have questions, call Wentzville Parks and Recreation at (636) 332-9236.

### 5K & FUN RUN: DEC. 5

The Holiday Night Lights 5K and Fun Run will take you through our amazing light display at Rotary Park just in time for the holiday season! Runners in the 5K will race through the Stonemoor subdivision on paved sidewalks and into the rolling hills of Rotary Park. This race is fun for the entire family! For those competitive racers, the top three overall male and female 5K finishers will each win a gift card! All racers will receive a sweatshirt (sizes are not guaranteed), finisher medal and post-race snacks. This race will be chip-timed.

### WALK THRU: DEC. 13

This walk-thru event allows participants to enjoy the Holiday Night Lights display at a slower, more intimate pace. Attendees will stroll through the one-mile light display, experience enchanted scenes, twinkling lights and joyful carolers. After walking the illuminated route, come inside the Kolb Building, which has been transformed into a winter wonderland with decorated trees from local businesses and organizations, enjoy refreshments and get your picture taken with Santa! Live reindeer will also be available for a festive holiday photograph!

### DRIVE-THRU DISPLAY: STARTS NOV. 26

The annual Wentzville Holiday Night Lights drive-thru display at Rotary Park opens on Friday, Nov. 26. Enjoy a one-mile light display that features large illuminated commercial scenes and tunnels of twinkling lights. This holiday display is a great way to experience the magic and joy of the season close to home.

### SLEIGH HAYRIDES

Book a wintertime, tractor-pulled hayride through beautiful Rotary Park to tour the breathtaking Holiday Night Lights. Sip hot chocolate, munch on cookies and listen to holiday music while sitting around the bonfire. The hayride will hold a maximum of 25 people, including lap children. Rides are scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis. You must register ahead of time by calling (636) 332-9236. A two-week notice is required.

### CARRIAGE RIDES

Get into the holiday spirit by experiencing the Holiday Night Lights display on a majestic horse-drawn carriage and enjoy a magical trip through Rotary Park! Rides are scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis and you must register ahead of time.

Surprise your special someone by proposing during a romantic carriage ride! Limited days and times offered. In order to keep the surprise, please email [Daniel.Lewandowski@wentzvillemo.gov](mailto:Daniel.Lewandowski@wentzvillemo.gov).

## It's Santa Season!

### Santa Visits

Santa will be happy to schedule a special visit to your ho-ho-home! Between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 18, or Sunday, Dec. 19, Santa Claus will stop by your home for a special hello. A tracking system will allow you to watch Santa Claus as he travels around town and gets closer to your home! You can also choose to have Santa bring you a special holiday present with yummy goodies and toys for an additional cost. This program is for Wentzville residents only. To sign up to have Santa stop by, please call (636) 332-9236.

### Letters to Santa

Wentzville Parks and Recreation is partnering with Santa Claus again this season to make sure he receives your special letter! Partake in this holiday tradition by writing a letter to Santa. Wentzville Parks and Recreation will mail your letter and help Santa deliver his reply to you. But write your letter fast! Santa is a very busy man and needs all letters sent to him by Dec. 17. You can find a letter template at one of the many mailboxes around town or at [www.wentzvillemo.gov/letterstosanta](http://www.wentzvillemo.gov/letterstosanta).

### Santa Saturdays at Rotary Park

While you are enjoying your Saturday drive through the enchanted Holiday Night Lights display, we encourage you to stop by the Kolb Building and say hello to Santa. Check out Santa's schedule so you don't miss him at [www.wentzvillemo.gov/hnl](http://www.wentzvillemo.gov/hnl).



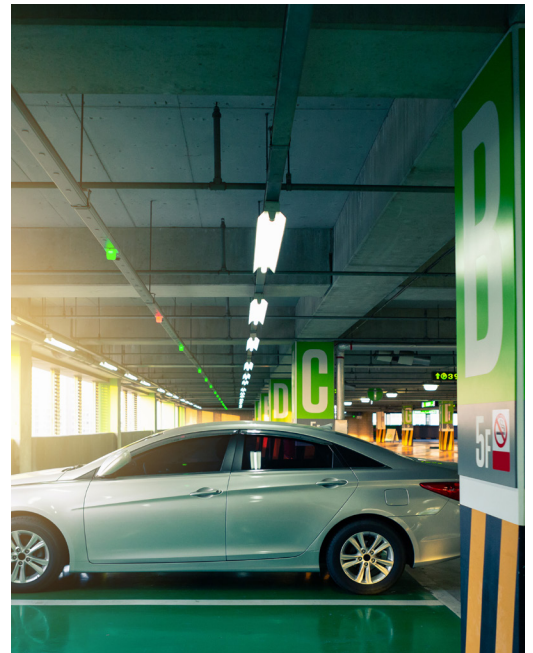


**ECRWSS  
Postal Customer**

## Safe Shopping Tips from the Wentzville Police Department

Take time to ensure you have a safe and happy holiday season! These steps may help reduce your chances of falling prey to a criminal act. For more information, please call the Wentzville Police Department at (636) 327-5105. When shopping, take the following precautions.

- 1. Be aware of your surroundings.** Stay off of your phone and be alert.
- 2. Remember where you parked your car.** Take a photo of your car or a nearby landmark.
- 3. Park smart.** When shopping after dark, park in a well-lit area that is close to the store's entrance.
- 4. Shop in pairs.** Take a friend out shopping with you — it's always more fun to shop with a friend!
- 5. Be prepared.** When returning to your car, keep your key fob in your hand.
- 6. Stick to credit/debit cards.** Avoid carrying large amounts of cash; opt to pay for purchases with credit cards.
- 7. Hide your valuables.** Don't leave your phone, purse or other valuables visible in your parked car.
- 8. Keep your bags out of sight.** Don't leave purchased merchandise in your parked car where they can be seen.



**Shop.Eat.  
Explore.Repeat.**

