



Newsletter

May 2014

Aquaport Season Begins this Month

This month marks the unofficial start of summer in Maryland Heights, as Aquaport opens to the public on Saturday, May 24. In addition to daily fun, the park will feature several special events throughout the season.

Residents will have an opportunity to hit the water before everyone else at Resident Night on Friday, May 23 from 6 to 8 p.m. Guests can compete in a Duck Race for a chance to win a 2014 Season Pass. The event is free, but a valid Resident Discount Card is required for admission. Cards will be available that evening at the Maryland Heights Centre; simply bring a photo ID and another document showing Maryland Heights residency, such as an unpaid utility bill, bank statement or voter registration card. Cards are \$5 per year and entitle the bearer to resident rates for Aquaport admission, parks and recreation programs, room rentals and more.

On Memorial Day (Monday, May 26) and July 4, active members of the mili-

tary will get into Aquaport free of charge with military ID. Active military and their immediate families receive resident rates every day with military ID.

Fathers will receive special treatment on Sunday, June 15; their admission is free with a paid child's admission. From 1 to 3 p.m., families can participate in special games and activities.

On designated Thursday evenings this summer (June 12, June 26, July 10 and July 24), Aquaport will host a "Family Happy Hour" from 5 to 6:45 p.m. A volleyball net or basketball hoop will be set up in the lap lanes, while special games for the entire family will be held on the top deck. Be sure to like Aquaport on Facebook to find out each date's special theme and see photos from past events.

Group and private swim lessons, birthday parties and private rentals are also available at Aquaport throughout the season. For more information, visit www.marylandheights/aquaport.

AQUAPORT HOURS AND RATES, 2014 SEASON

Hours*

Monday - Friday: 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Saturday: 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Sunday: Noon - 7 p.m.

Season Passes (Resident)

Youth: \$60

Adult: \$80

Family: \$140

Season Passes (General)

Youth: \$100

Adult: \$140

Family: \$240

Daily Admission (Resident)

Adult: \$5

Youth: \$4

Ages 3 and under: Free

Daily Admission (General)

Adult: \$15

Youth: \$10

Ages 3 and under: Free

**Reduced hours begin Aug. 12, when the park will be open on weekends only.*



CITY IS HOME TO TEN PERCENT OF REGION'S TOP COMPANIES

The *St. Louis Business Journal* recently released its annual report of the top 150 privately owned companies in the region, and 14 of them have headquarters in Maryland Heights. Edward Jones, which has a major campus here, also made the list. The city is proud that these businesses—and nearly 1,700 others—choose to call Maryland Heights home!

- World Wide Technology (2)
- Edward Jones (3)
- Schnuck Markets (10)
- Watlow Electric (54)
- JD Streett & Co. (61)
- Paric Corp. (64)
- Fred Weber Inc. (75)
- Dash Multi-Corp Inc. (84)
- Lodging Hospitality Management (88)
- Amerinet (102)
- Grey Eagle Distributors (105)
- French Gerleman (119)
- Indoff Inc. (127)
- Arch Equity Partners (141)
- Nature's Variety (142)

The Mayor's Message



Mayor Mike Moeller
878-6730

Memorial Day is often considered the unofficial start of summer, which means it's time to indulge in some of the simple pleasures of the season. Maryland Heights has an impressive roster of summer events, many of

them free and all close to home. Why not add a few to your calendar this year?

Aquaport: Unless you have a pool in your backyard, you won't find a more reasonably priced place to cool off this summer. Fulfill your need for speed on the Extreme Bowl or relax while you float along the Lazy River. The park is also available for birthday parties and private rentals (a great way to make this year's family reunion especially memorable).

Parks: Our city is home to a number of wonderful parks, including St. Louis County's Creve Coeur Park, which offers opportunities for boating, biking, walking, team sports and more. But city-maintained parks also boast some impressive amenities. We recently installed splash pads at Eise Park and Vago Park—perfect for cooling off on a hot summer day. The first phase of the McKelvey Woods Trail opened last month, providing a new scenic path for walking, jogging and biking. And of course, kids of all ages can unleash their energy on the playgrounds at Eise, Parkwood, Vago and McKelvey Woods parks.

Summer Concert Series: The Cultural Arts Commission has arranged an incredible lineup of performers for this

year's free concert series. The schedule features Good 4 the Soul on June 20, Clusterpluck on July 18, Kevin Bilchik on Aug. 15 and Lunar Levitation on Sept. 19. All of the shows start at 7 p.m. and are appropriate for the entire family.

Gateway Dragon Boat Festival: On June 28, Creve Coeur Lake will be filled with the bright colors and rhythmic sounds of dozens of traditional Chinese dragon boats. You can put together a team and compete for prizes or just come out to the park to watch the fun. The event will also include an Asian Fair hosted by the Asian American Chamber of Commerce. For more information, visit www.gatewaydragonboat.org.

Westport Plaza: The popular "Parties in the Plaza" series returns, featuring free live music, food and drink specials and more on the third Thursday of each month through October. Westport will also host a new "Vintage Bliss Market" on June 21 and 22. This juried show will feature a variety of handmade, antique, vintage and re-purposed items for sale. For more information on these and other events, visit www.westportstl.com.

Verizon Wireless Amphitheatre: These shows aren't free, but die-hard fans won't want to miss performances by some of the top names in the music industry. Artists set to stop by the venue this summer include Luke Bryan, James Taylor, Journey, One Republic, Rascal Flatts and many more. Visit www.livenation.com for schedule and ticket information.

Summer is prime time for building memories with family, friends and neighbors. Make sure you take advantage of some of the great opportunities Maryland Heights has to offer this season.

Retiring Officers Celebrate 27 Years of Service to the City

Two longtime members of the Maryland Heights Police Department retired last month, each with 27 years of service to the city.

Officer Bill Keenan joined the MHPD in 1986, just after it was established. Prior to that, he was a member of the University City Police Department. He said the most rewarding aspects of his career in Maryland Heights have been getting to know the other officers and being able to serve the community.

He also recalled one of the most difficult moments of his career: the death of his friend and former University City co-worker Officer Mike King, who was ambushed and shot while on duty in 2008.

“Because our last names came together in the alphabet, we sat next to each other in the police academy and got to know each other quite well, which led to a long friendship,” Keenan said. “His death was a reminder that as police officers, we put



Officer Keenan, Chief Bill Carson, Officer Osterloh

our lives on the line every day when we go to work.”

In retirement, Keenan looks forward to traveling with his wife and pursuing their mutual interest in Civil War history.

Officer Steve Osterloh began his career in private security in 1971. Ten years later, he joined the Lambert-St. Louis Airport Police Department, where he was a patrol officer and detective. He joined the MHPD in 1987; over the years, he has

served as patrol and field training officer, evidence manager and detective. He has been the department’s Community Relations Officer since 2009.

Osterloh recalled some of the significant changes he has witnessed in the city over the last quarter-century: “I have seen Dorsett Road go from two lanes to four lanes. I have seen the construction of the amphitheater, casino and Riverport development, which used to be farmland. I have served under three police chiefs and seen the department grow from its original 40 officers to its current force of 79.”

His most memorable day on the job occurred in 1991, when Maryland Heights police responded to a riot at the Guns-N-Roses concert at the amphitheater. He suffered a scratched cornea, puncture wounds to his right hand and a crushed right foot during the incident.

Osterloh was also well-known in the

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Municipal Calendar

MAY		
5/1	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
5/8	6:00 p.m.	Municipal Court
5/13	5:30 p.m.	Community Development Committee
5/13	7:00 p.m.	Planning and Zoning
5/14	6:00 p.m.	Public Improvements Committee
5/14	6:30 p.m.	Beautification Commission
5/15	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
5/21	6:30 p.m.	Parks & Rec. Advisory Comm. (MHC)
5/22	6:00 p.m.	Cultural Arts Commission (MHC)
5/26		Memorial Day (city offices closed)
5/27	7:00 p.m.	Planning and Zoning
5/28	5:30 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Committee
5/29	6:00 p.m.	Municipal Court

JUNE		
6/5	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
6/10	5:30 p.m.	Community Development Committee
6/10	7:00 p.m.	Planning and Zoning
6/11	6:00 p.m.	Public Improvements Committee
6/11	6:30 p.m.	Beautification Commission
6/12	6:00 p.m.	Municipal Court
6/16	6:00 p.m.	Municipal Court
6/18	6:30 p.m.	Parks & Rec. Advisory Comm. (MHC)
6/19	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
6/24	7:00 p.m.	Planning and Zoning
6/25	5:30 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Committee
6/26	6:00 p.m.	Municipal Court

Meeting details subject to change. Verify at www.marylandheights.com.

Dispatcher Named State 911 Telecommunicator of the Year

On March 18, Police Dispatcher Jeremy Lee received the 911 Telecommunicator of the Year award at the annual conference of Missouri's Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO). Lee was nominated for his role in apprehending the suspect in an armed robbery at the Dorsett Road Schnucks last fall.

On the afternoon of Oct. 7, 2013, the Maryland Heights Communications division received several 911 calls reporting a robbery and stabbing at Schnucks. The suspect fled on foot after robbing the victim and stabbing her in the chest. Officers immediately responded and searched the area for the suspect with the city's K-9 units but were unable to find him. Three hours later, a citizen contacted the police department and said she had seen a man throw clothing into a sewer around the time of the robbery. She remembered only that the subject was driving a small, tan four-door car and also provided the first two digits of the license plate.

The investigating officer contacted Jeremy Lee to ask him to research various law enforcement databases in an effort to locate



Gooch (left) and Lee

the vehicle. He found several potential matches; continuing with his search, he discovered that one of the vehicles' owners lived in Maryland Heights and had been previously arrested for robbery. He shared this information with Maryland Heights detectives, who later arrested both the subject and his accomplice. The men were charged with first degree assault, first degree robbery, armed criminal action and tampering with evidence.

"If it had not been for Jeremy's perseverance and commitment to detail, it is likely

these subjects would not have been apprehended," Capt. Rex Gooch said.

Lee's interest in law enforcement work goes back to his teen years. At age 15, he joined the Bridgeton Police Department's Police Explorers program. Four years later, he became a full-time communications operator for the Overland Police Department. In 2000, he joined the Maryland Heights Police Communications division, where he serves as Livescan administrator and communications trainer. He is also a member of the Maryland Heights Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and completed his certification with the National Association for Search and Rescue (NASAR) in 2011.

"Since he was hired, Jeremy has proven his dedication to the department numerous times and is always willing to assist fellow employees, especially with issues involving technology," Gooch said. "He has taught himself about technology systems and has even assisted the city's IT staff with projects. His involvement has resulted in continued effectiveness for the communications center."

McKelvey Woods Trail Opens with Ribbon Cutting, Fun Walk



On Saturday, April 5, the city and Great Rivers Greenway celebrated the grand opening of the first phase of the McKelvey Woods Trail with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and "Waggin' Tails on the Trail" 3K fun walk. When completed, the trail will connect Aquaport and the community center to Creve Coeur Park.

Keep Mosquitoes from Ruining Your Summer Fun

After a cold, snowy winter, spring's longer days and warmer temperatures are giving many residents the chance to enjoy being outside. Unfortunately, when the mercury rises, mosquitoes also come out to play.

Both the City of Maryland Heights and St. Louis County have programs in place to control the local mosquito population. The city sprays neighborhoods on a weekly basis to exterminate adult mosquitoes, while the county uses larvicide to kill eggs and larvae. These programs typically begin in May, when the weather is consistently above 60 degrees, and continue through August or September.

Residents can also take a number of steps

to help keep these pesky predators at bay. The most effective method of preventing the spread of mosquitoes is to eliminate sources of standing water, since this is the only environment in which mosquitoes can lay their eggs. Use this checklist to ensure that your yard doesn't become a mosquito breeding ground:

- Clean rain gutters and downspouts
- Discard old tires
- Empty flower pots, buckets, cans and other containers that collect water
- Store boats, wheelbarrows and other items upside down
- Empty, clean and refill birdbaths and small wading pools weekly
- Stock ornamental ponds with fish that eat mosquito larvae

- Repair leaky outside faucets
- Secure swimming pool covers tightly
- Keep grass cut and bushes trimmed

To help protect against mosquito bites and West Nile virus, residents should spray clothing and exposed skin with insect repellent containing no more than 50 percent DEET for adults and no more than 10 percent DEET for children age 2 to 12. Consider wearing light-colored clothing, long-sleeved shirts and pants and socks, and limit outdoor activity at dawn and dusk when mosquitoes are most active.

For more information about mosquito-related issues, visit www.stlouisco.com/doh.

Council Approves Contracts for Road Improvement Projects

The following is a summary of action taken at the March 20 and April 3 City Council meetings. For complete meeting minutes, visit www.marylandheights.com.

March 20:

- Rejected all bids for the 2014 Pavement Maintenance Program - Concrete Pavement Replacement
- Amended the 2013 Budget by transferring funds between departments in the general fund, increasing the sewer lateral fund, authorizing an advance to the sewer lateral fund from the reserve fund and transferring funds from the general fund to the reserve fund
- Amended Sections 2-28 and 2-92, Qualifications, of the Municipal Code related to qualifications for mayor and council member
- Approved an appraisal services agreement with Real Estate Analysts Limited for acquisition of real property and rights-of-way for Adie Road - Phase III Project (Fee Fee Road to

- Schuetz Road)
- Approved a professional services agreement with O.R. Colan for the acquisition of real property and rights-of-way related to the Adie Road Phase III Project
- Authorized the installation of one fire hydrant on Lindbergh Boulevard south of Margate Hall Drive as requested by the Maryland Heights Fire Protection District
- Approved a contract with N.B. West Contracting for the 2014 Pavement Maintenance - Asphalt Overlay Program
- Approved a contract with St. Louis County for mosquito control services
- Renewed a contract with R.L. Mueller to provide food service products for Aquaport for the 2014 season with option for renewal in 2015
- Approved a contract with Bazan Painting Company to provide painting services for Aquaport
- Approved a contract with Chesterfield Lawns and Landscaping Service

to provide landscape maintenance and mowing services for various city properties during the 2014 season

April 3:

- Amended the 2013 South Heights TIF Fund Budget by transferring \$20,000 from the debt service program to the Economic Development Program
- Amended the city's investment policy by clarifying that no less than 25% of investments shall mature within one year of any date
- Authorized the purchase of rights-of-way and temporary slope construction licenses in connection with the Progress Parkway Improvement Project (Westport Plaza Drive to north of Kimler Drive)
- Approved a Service and License Agreement with Info Tech for Bid Express electronic bidding
- Authorized the purchase of 309 Old Dorsett Rd. in the amount of \$80,000

VOTERS APPROVE PROP S, RETURN INCUMBENTS TO OFFICE IN APRIL ELECTION

On April 8, Maryland Heights voters returned all five incumbents on the ballot to office: Mayor Mike Moeller, Ward 1 Councilman Ken Gold, Ward 2 Councilwoman Kim Baker, Ward 3 Councilman Chuck Caverly and Ward 4 Councilman Jim Carver. They took the oath of office at a reorganizational meeting of the City Council on Tuesday, April 22.

Proposition S also passed with the support of approximately 75 percent of voters. The measure authorized the City Council to increase the sewer lateral fee paid by homeowners as part of their annual property tax bill. At press time, the City Council had not yet set the new fee level, which would be no more than \$50. The increased revenue will cover funding shortfalls and enable the city to continue operating the program at current levels of service. Since its inception in 2000, more than 700 residents have benefited from the program. More information is available at www.marylandheights.com/sewerlateral.

LOCAL PHOTOGRAPHER'S WORK NOW ON DISPLAY AT GOVERNMENT CENTER

Work by local photographer Carolyn Schlueter will be on display in the Government Center lobby this month. Schlueter, an active member of the St. Louis Camera Club, captures a wide variety of subjects with her lens. A public reception celebrating the display will be held at 6 p.m. on May 15. Refreshments will be served.

Sign Up Now for Summer Camp Fun

Time is running out to secure your child's spot in one of the city's popular summer camps! The Parks and Recreation Department offers fun day camping opportunities for kids of all ages, including:

Tiny Tots Camp: Held daily from June 9 through Aug. 1 at the Maryland Heights Centre, this morning camp keeps toddlers busy with fun activities and social interaction. Children ages 2½ to 3 may attend from 9 a.m. to noon on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday, while Thursday and Friday sessions are reserved for kids age 2 to 2½. Fees are \$14/day for residents and \$17/day for non-residents.

Mini-Indoor Camp: Children ages 2½ to 5 will love this camp's activities and adventures. Camp meets in the preschool at the Maryland Heights Centre from 9 a.m. to noon. Three weekly sessions are offered: June 2-6, Aug. 4-8 and Aug. 11-15. Fees are \$70/week for residents and \$85/week for non-residents.

Kids Club Summer Camp: Held at Eise Memorial Park from 9 a.m. to noon, this camp gives kids ages 3 to 6 plenty of time for having fun and

making friends. Eight weekly sessions are held from June 9 through Aug. 1, so kids can attend for one week or several. Fees are \$70/week for residents and \$85/week for non-residents.

Theme Camp: This camp for kids ages 5½ to 8 offers different themed activities each week. This summer's themes include Clever and Crazy Crafty Creations, Circus Camp and Olympic Week. Sessions are held June 2 through Aug. 1 and meet from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Vago Park. Campers will swim at Aquaport once per week, weather permitting. Fees are \$90/week for residents and \$108/week for non-residents.

Camp Fun Under the Sun: Held at Vago Park from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., this camp for kids ages 6 to 13 includes exciting activities like kickball, soccer, crafts, games, songs and nature walks. Campers will swim at Aquaport once per week, weather permitting. Fees are \$90/week for residents and \$108/week for non-residents.

To register or get more information about summer camps, visit www.marylandheights.com and click on the Program Registration icon or call (314) 738-2599.

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department for playing the role of Santa Claus during the department's annual holiday visit to Ranken Jordan Pediatric Bridge Hospital.

With Osterloh's retirement, Officer Mark Fedak will step into the role of Community Relations Officer. Like his predecessor, Fedak began his law enforcement career in private security while he attended college, where he earned both bachelors and masters degrees. He joined the MHPD in 2005

and is also the voice behind the city's automated phone system.

Fedak said he looks forward to working to "strengthen the relationship between the police department and citizens and help them better understand what we do and why, which will hopefully make them more comfortable sharing information with us about what is going on in our community. We can't be everywhere all the time, but with the help of our citizens, we can get a better grasp on what is working well and what needs our attention."

New Recreation Facility Proposed for Former Fitness Center

If given Council approval, the building at 12545 Dorsett Road—which over the years has housed several gyms, including Vic Tanny, Bally Total Fitness and Blast Fitness—will once again be used for sports and fitness activities.

Mavericks Athletic Center has requested a conditional use permit to operate a fitness and recreational sports center at the site. The company offers youth basketball camps, leagues, tournaments and training at several gyms around west St. Louis County; this would be their first permanent location. The City Council is expected to vote on the proposal at the May 1 meeting.

“We teach boys and girls the proper fundamentals, technique and skill of basketball, enabling each player to transition from youth basketball to high school to college,” owner Jim Remmers said. “We

began with three teams and just 21 players in a small elementary school gym, and today we have more than 150 kids and 20 teams.”

The 71,600 square foot facility would be divided into several uses: 67 percent of the space would be dedicated to the athletic center, 25 percent would be used for a fitness center, five percent would be for concessions and three percent would be for office space. Mavericks is currently negotiating with a regional chain to operate the fitness center within the facility.

The company employs four full-time coaches and one part-time coach and would add a full-time janitor as well as part-time staff for the concession stand/retail store and scoring table. Once the facility is fully operational, more jobs may be added, Remmers said.

As he searched for a permanent location



for Mavericks, Remmers said the city’s central location and accessibility initially drew him to the Dorsett Road site.

“Maryland Heights offers great accessibility, with easy access from I-270, I-70 and Hwy. 40, along with the Page extension and Maryland Heights Expressway,” Remmers said. “That alone makes it the ideal location for the Mavericks, but Maryland Heights is also a great community of families and residents who care about and support local businesses.”

In May, Nation Honors Officers Killed in the Line of Duty

The 15th of this month marks National Peace Officers Memorial Day, which falls within National Police Week, when our nation pays tribute to the local, state and federal peace officers who have died in the line of duty. Events include the Annual Blue Mass, Candlelight Vigil, Wreath Laying Ceremony, National Police Survivors Conference and more, drawing 25,000 to 40,000 law enforcement officers and their families to Washington D.C. every year. The holiday was created when Congress asked President John F. Kennedy to designate May 15 to honor fallen peace officers; he signed the bill into law on Oct. 1, 1962.

According to the Officer Down Memorial Page (www.odmp.org), which honors all law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty, 46 of the 105 nationwide

“Line of Duty Deaths” in 2013 were motor vehicle-related deaths. The state of California had more officers killed in the line of duty than any other state, and half of those officers were killed in motor vehicle-related deaths.

In the February 2014 issue of this newsletter, Officer Osterloh reminded everyone about Missouri’s Move Over Law. In short, when an emergency vehicle is moving with its emergency lights and siren activated, you must yield to it by driving as far as possible to the right side of the roadway and stopping your vehicle. If you are passing an emergency vehicle with its lights activated that is stopped on the side of the road, you must move your vehicle into the next lane over. If that lane is not open, you must slow down and proceed with extreme caution. To not follow these

requirements is a violation of the law.

In just the last two years we have had five instances here in Maryland Heights where your police officers were injured due to some vehicle-related incident. While a few individuals choose to use their vehicles in an attempt to intentionally hurt peace officers, many officers are injured by the unintentional—but still negligent—acts of motorists. Please do your part to always be cautious and careful while driving; pay attention to your driving, not to something else. Follow the Move Over Law, don’t drink and drive, don’t text and drive and avoid the use of mobile phones. By following these simple guidelines, we can all help to reduce the number of peace officers killed or injured in the line of duty.

Officer Mark Fedak



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Mission

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GOVERNMENT CENTER

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