



Newsletter

August 2014

Maryland Heights Plans Groundwork for Building a Healthier Community

Healthy cities provide vibrant and attractive spaces where the physical and social environment supports the wellbeing of the entire community.

Healthy Maryland Heights is an initiative to enhance Maryland Heights as a safe, active, and interconnected city for everyone who lives, works and plays here. This project is creating goals and objectives that can evaluate the city's progress towards becoming a healthier community while promoting active lifestyles and general wellbeing. Another purpose of the initiative is to ensure that health impacts are considered in broader policy creation and within the city's long-term planning process.

Healthy Maryland Heights is establishing a vision for a community that integrates physical and social activity into daily routines. Many of the goals and objectives can be divided into four themes:

- Improving streets, trails, and sidewalks to better connect

amenities and making it easier to walk to destinations

- Making roads safer for vehicles, pedestrians, and cyclists to share
- Planning for natural hazards and preventing future harm to the community
- Reducing barriers for senior residents so they can stay active, continue to develop personal interests, and maintain social networks

Nationwide and regionally, cities are planning for healthy communities. Healthy Maryland Heights demonstrates the City's commitment to the wellbeing of all those who live, work and visit here.

Please direct any comments or questions about Healthy Maryland Heights to Hilary Perkins by emailing HPerkins@MarylandHeights.com, or post comments on the city's Facebook page. We want to hear your ideas about what makes Maryland Heights a healthy community.

IN THIS ISSUE

Growing Businesses	pg. 2
Mayor's Message	pg. 2
City Welcomes New Communications Manager	pg. 3
MHPD is here 24/7	pg. 3
Municipal Calendar	pg. 3
Community Events	pg. 4
New Police Officers	pg. 4
Dog Day of Summer	pg. 5
Theatrical Auditions Opening Soon	pg. 6
Lion Forge Enjoys Online Success	pg. 6
City Council Minutes	pg. 7
City Recruits for Public Service	pg. 7

MARYLAND HEIGHTS IS HOME TO SOME OF AREA'S FASTEST GROWING BUSINESSES

Congratulations to the three Maryland Heights-based companies that made St. Louis Business Journal's recently announced list of the 25 fastest growing companies in the St. Louis area.

The ongoing success of local businesses is a mark of pride for the city. Mayor Moeller said he hopes to see even more locally owned companies make it to the list next year.

The three companies and their associated placements on the list:

- **Number 11, Total Hockey**
A specialty retail chain offering a wide range of equipment and accessories for hockey and lacrosse.
- **Number 12, Nature's Variety**
A natural pet food company that produces Instinct and Prairie brands of dog and cat food.
- **Number 18, World Wide Technology**
A technology solutions company that serves private and public organizations around the world. WWT also had the highest 2013 revenue of all the companies on the list.

St. Louis Business Journal ranked locally-based, independent businesses based on their revenue growth between 2011 and 2013.

The Mayor's Message

As our community changes, it is important that the City's programs and amenities serve the needs of residents throughout all stages of life. For this



Mayor Mike Moeller
878-6730

reason, we are working to enhance existing programs and establish new ones designed to improve the health and wellbeing of all our residents—seniors, children, adults, and families.

By creating an environment that encourages healthy lifestyle choices such as walking rather than driving to local destinations or playing in the park versus watching television, Maryland Heights is becoming a healthier community. As you read in the front cover article, a healthy community is defined by its ability to “integrate physical and social activity into daily routines” and promote a sense of wellbeing and belonging among residents.

To further incorporate elements of a healthy community into the fabric of Maryland Heights' services, policies, and programs, the Council is working with staff to create a framework document to organize all elements of healthy communities into attainable, meaningful, and measurable goals and objectives. This document, entitled Healthy Maryland Heights, will guide the City as it implements a plan to establish a vibrant, healthier community.

The City is strongly committed to making fitness and living a healthy life convenient, fun, and affordable for residents. Recently, the City celebrated the completion of the first phase of

the McKelvey Woods Trail, as well as two new splash pads at Eise and Vago parks. To further improve mobility, connectivity, and safety for walkers, joggers, and children, the Department of Public Works is installing sidewalks in the Arrow Heights and Voshen Park subdivisions. The project will begin in September and end by the end of the year.

The Council and staff are particularly focused on the needs of our senior residents. October marks the one year anniversary of the very popular Silver Sneakers program, which offers discounted fitness classes to seniors. The next round of classes and activities begins in September. To see all the classes offered, I encourage residents to read the Fall Parks and Recreation Programming Guide included in this newsletter.

Above all, the City's most significant financial investment in our residents' health and wellbeing is the new community center. The planned facility will more than double the amount of space available for activities with a walking track, spinning room, and indoor swimming pool with lap lanes. With more room, the City will be able to expand existing programs, such as Silver Sneakers and children's camps, to incorporate a greater range of activities and scheduling dates.

Making Maryland Heights a healthier community is not about nagging residents to eat better and exercise more, but providing the amenities and infrastructure that make leading an active lifestyle more convenient, fun, and safe. Be well!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "mike moeller".

City Promotes New Communications Manager

Last month, Gabby Macaluso was promoted to the position of Communications Manager. Gabby previously worked as a member of the city’s Customer Service Team, interacting with residents and business owners face-to-face. From the ground up, she learned the ins and outs of the community.



“Working as a member of the Customer Service Team has given me an extensive knowledge of the city,” Macaluso said. “Combining that with my background in community outreach provides me with a unique approach to serving as Communications Manager.”

Macaluso holds a B.S. and M.P.P.A. from the University of Missouri–St. Louis. While working on her Master’s degree in Public Policy Administration, she completed an internship with Maryland Heights that was

focused on budget and policy review for the Community Development Department. She also completed assistantships with the M.P.P.A. program and the East-West Gateway Council of Governments’ Regional Plan for Sustainable Development (RPSD). Through this position, she provided support services focused on community engagement and outreach.

While working on the regional plan, she learned the value of clear and open communication between residents and their local governments.

“I realized that resident input is essential for creating policies and programs that benefit and improve the community,” Macaluso said.

This experience, which continued with an internship at the policy-based nonprofit, FOCUS St. Louis, convinced Macaluso to pursue a career in public relations and outreach. Her dedication to creating more cohesive and informed communities prepared her well to serve as the City’s new Communications Manager.

“I’m working with staff and the City Council to improve our website and design programs so that residents are better connected to their local government,” Macaluso said. “My goal is to help strengthen the positive working relationship between city government and our constituents.”

MHPD is Here 24/7

In life, we all know that sometimes things just happen. Here at your police department we are available at all times, day and night, to help with those things which need our attention. As opposed to some police departments which are only open during regular business hours, before they turn their calls over to be answered by another agency (or worse yet, a voice mail system), your Maryland Heights Police Department is open 24 hours per day, every single day of the year, including holidays and weekends.

You know what’s normal in your subdivision and around your place of business. If you notice something that seems out of place, something which seems ‘not normal’ to you, there’s a good chance it may be something we need to deal with.

If you need us, just give us a call at (314) 298-8700 or come on by. There is no need to wait until you think it might be a more

See Police, page 5

Municipal Calendar

AUGUST		
8/1		MH Night Out registration available
8/5	6:00 a.m.	Primary Election Day
8/7	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
8/12	5:30 p.m.	Community Development Committee
8/12	7:00 p.m.	Planning and Zoning
8/13	6:00 p.m.	Public Improvements Committee
8/13	6:30 p.m.	Beautification Commission
8/14	6:00 p.m.	Municipal Court
8/15	7:00 p.m.	Summer Concert Series: Kevin Bilchik
8/20	6:30 p.m.	Parks & Rec. Advisory Comm. (MHC)
8/21	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
8/27	7:00 p.m.	Planning and Zoning
8/27	5:30 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Committee
8/28	6:00 p.m.	Municipal Court

SEPTEMBER		
9/4	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
9/9	5:30 p.m.	Community Development Committee
9/9	7:00 p.m.	Planning and Zoning
9/10	6:00 p.m.	Public Improvements Committee
9/10	6:30 p.m.	Beautification Commission
9/11	6:00 p.m.	Municipal Court
9/17	7:00 p.m.	Beautification Awards
9/17	6:30 p.m.	Parks & Rec. Advisory Comm. (MHC)
9/19	7:00 p.m.	Summer Concert Series: Lunar Levitation
9/23	7:00 p.m.	Planning and Zoning
9/24	5:30 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Committee
9/25	6:00 p.m.	Municipal Court
9/25	6:00 p.m.	Cultural Arts Commission

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

What's Happening throughout the City?

Busy Summer at Westport Plaza

Westport Plaza is buzzing with activity this summer. Its biggest event, Vintage Bliss Market, attracted 5,500 people to the city during June in quest of vintage themed apparel, home goods, and other items. "We organized the Vintage Bliss Market to increase foot traffic at Westport, support local businesses, and meet a market demand for vintage items," said Emily Lewis, the Senior Marketing Coordinator for Westport Plaza.

Upcoming events at Westport include:

- Free outdoor lunch concerts every Friday through Sept. from 11:30-1:30
- "Wheels in Motion Classic Car Show" — Sept. 7 from 9:00 – 4:00
- Missouri Brewfest — Oct. 18

Register for City's 'Night Out'

Mark your calendars for Oct. 7, when neighborhoods across the City will celebrate "Maryland Heights Night Out."

Residents are encouraged to organize block parties on their streets or in their subdivisions. The event is designed to bring neighborhoods together and raise awareness about crime prevention, safety, and community partnership. The City provides party planning kits and treats for kids upon registration. Visits from elected officials, police officers, K-9 units, and fire protection district officials may also be arranged.

Registration forms will go live on www.marylandheights.com on Aug. 1. Request

a party planning kit after that date by calling Gabby Macaluso at (314) 738-2204.



Officer Terry Wiedner with a group of resident children during Maryland Heights Night Out 2013.

Five New Officers Join Maryland Heights Police Staff

Five new officers have been sworn in to the Maryland Heights Police Department this summer. The department now is fully staffed at 97 employees, including 79 commissioned officers. Below is an introduction from each of the new officers.



Ben Berges has been involved in law enforcement for six years and worked for the Franklin County Sheriff's Office prior to coming

to Maryland Heights, and served one year as President of the Franklin County Deputy Sheriff's Association. Berges will be working as a patrol officer, and said he enjoys going home after work knowing that he made a difference in someone's life during his shift.

"I am a strong believer in Community Oriented Policing ... [that] creates a relationship between the police and the public that harbors a safer community," Berges said.



Chief Carson congratulates Officer Fry at the Swearing in Ceremony for new officers.



Maureen Baker graduated from the St. Louis County and Municipal Police Academy and was employed by Uni-

versity City Police Department for more than five years before accepting a position as a patrol officer in Maryland Heights. Baker said she enjoys the challenges of her work and helping others, and that every day is different from the day before.



Matthew Fry got a later start at police work than other new officers. He has been married for more than 13 years and has

three children. With the encouragement of his wife, he made the life changing decision to join the county police academy.

"After trying my hand in a couple different career fields, I realized I don't want to be doing anything besides police work," Fry said.



Kaleb Becar was a park ranger with the City of Kirkwood for two years before graduating from Jefferson College Law Enforcement Academy. Becar is originally from

See New Officers, page 7

Dog Day of Summer will Close Season With a "Woof!"



Human and canine friends alike have the opportunity to swim together Sept. 1 as Aquaport hosts the annual Dog Day of Summer.

Just after Aquaport closes for the season, the gates will reopen at 6:15 p.m. to well-mannered dogs and their guardians for a fun evening of splashing around the pool. Dogs will have access to all of the park's amenities except for the slides, though the kiddie pool is reserved for small dogs only.

"The last day of the pool being open is the only time we can put the dogs in the water,"

said Mary Vaughan, Director of Parks and Recreation. "Most dogs love water and their owners like to play in the water with them ... This has become a very popular event."

Admission for one dog and one human companion is \$10. Each additional human is \$3 and each additional dog is \$5; no more than two dogs are allowed per human. An adult must accompany any child under 18 years of age.

Dogs must be recently bathed and kept on a leash unless swimming. All dogs are required to wear an ID tag and have a current Dogport tag or current vaccination records (including rabies and distemper). To avoid a long line at Aquaport, pre-register your dog at the Maryland Heights Centre any day after Aug. 11.

Animals other than dogs and puppies younger than 6 months old will not be permitted to attend because they lack the required vaccinations. For more information, call (314) 738-2599.



Last year's Dog Day was a hit with swimmers on four legs and two.



Police Are Available 24/7 For Any Potential Issue

Police, continued from page 3

convenient time for us to deal with your question. Although it is possible that the specific employee you may need to speak with might not be on duty at the exact time you call or stop by, there will always be someone here to talk with you.

If you see something that looks suspicious while on your way home late at night, please stop and call us as soon as you see it. Some people want to wait until the next morning to make us aware of what they observed, thinking we might be too busy late at night to deal with the problem. Often times, that morning call is too late for us to do anything about it.

If you happen to be at work, in the middle of the day, and discover you may have become the victim of fraud, please avoid

waiting until you get home that evening to let us know. If you call us right away, we can start to look into it immediately. If we determine the crime is in progress, we want to be able to address the problem without delay; that gives us a better chance at resolving the issue for you. If it's not happening when you call, you likely will be able to respond to the police department after work to supply all of your information to the officer.

You are not going to bother us by calling, so please feel free to do so; it's what we are here for. We all would rather get multiple calls about the same problem than not get any calls at all because everyone thinks someone else already called. Even if you think "it's nothing," give us a call anyway. Give us the opportunity to determine if it's nothing or something; it might be some-

thing really important we wouldn't get to look into without your call.

We realize there are people who do not want to give us their name or people who don't want to get involved; most times we have no problem with that. All we ask is that you give us the chance to get involved. We don't want you to put yourself in any danger; it's not your job to do so. We just want you to share the information with us, even if you want to remain anonymous.

More crimes are prevented by the watchful eye of citizens than you may think, and of course in an emergency you should always call 911. With your help, we can all work together to make our community a safer place for all of us. Thanks!

Officer Mark Fedak

Lion Forge Enjoys Online Success

Since its founding a little more than a year ago, Lion Forge Comics has committed to the digital market as its avenue to success.

Lion Forge is a Maryland Heights-based comic book production company that distributes books mostly through online marketplaces, emphasizing the future of comics as a medium that will be read primarily on tablets and other digital devices.

The company got its start after co-founder David Steward II sold his business in consumer products and contacted co-founders Carl and Issac Reed about developing original stories and concepts for comic books.

“We were all fans of comics and saw opportunities to develop content there, especially with the changing landscape that digital brought to the industry,” Steward said.

Lion Forge now has 35 comic titles in production that cater to a variety of age groups and include adaptations of classic hit TV shows like “Knight Rider,” “Saved By the Bell” and “Miami Vice.” They also produce original titles in genres that range from super hero, to romance, to horror. Steward said the company’s success stems from having

a great team of writers and artists that provide strong visuals and highly creative storytelling.

Steward’s father is the founder of World Wide Technology, one of the largest companies in Maryland Heights. Steward said he was attracted to Maryland Heights as a place of business partly because of WWT’s long relationship with the city, along with great access to major roadways and the airport, and gathering places such as Westport Plaza.

Infrastructure access to the Internet is the quality Steward said is most important for a digital production company like Lion Forge. Maryland Heights was named the digital capital of Missouri last year by Google, because of the strength of the city’s online business community and the active presence of local businesses on blogs and social media.

The Lion Forge team also travels to comic conventions throughout the U.S., including major conventions in San Diego, Chicago and New York, to promote their comics and identify the types of content that are in demand, but not readily available. Steward said in the near future, Lion Forge hopes to expand its content into motion comics, animation and video games.



Lion Forge team members sign copies of their “Miami Vice” comic at the 2014 WonderCon convention in California.



AUDITIONS OPENING SOON FOR FALL THEATRICAL PRODUCTION

Maryland Heights’ Parks and Recreation department is hosting tryouts this month for its Be a ★ on Stage fall theatrical production. Actors, singers and dancers ages 6 to 21 are invited to audition at 6:30 p.m. Aug. 18 and 19 at the Maryland Heights Centre for the chance to be part of the show.

“Princess Whatsername,” is a story about a lost princess who meets a variety of familiar fairy tale characters that help her solve her own personal mystery. The comedic fantasy will feature several musical scenes and is expected to run 90 minutes.

Anyone interested in auditioning for the show must submit an audition application. Applications can be obtained at the front desk of the Maryland Heights Centre or by emailing Jennifer Van Dyke at JVanDyke@MarylandHeights.com.

Rehearsals will mainly be held Mondays and Thursdays. The performance will take place Thursday, Nov. 13 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 16 at 2 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at a discount rate before Nov. 13. See the fall/winter parks program guide for more details.

Council Approves Watlow Expansion

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

June 20:

- Increased the 2014 Stormwater Fund Budget by \$10,000 in the Millwell Subdivision Project
- Amended Section 2-46, Standing Committees, of the Municipal Code related to the establishment of an Economic Development Committee
- Authorized Change Order #1 with Karrenbrock Excavation LLC for the 36 Millwell Subdivision Storm Water Improvement Project
- Authorized a contract with Patonville School District for the use of the Remington Traditional School gymnasium
- Approved Retail Liquor by the Drink and Sunday by the Drink Liquor License for Homewood Suites Riverport-Airport West, 13639 Riverport Drive
- Authorized the Municipal Housing and Community Development Cooperation Agreement of 2015-2017
- Approved an ordinance enacting a “PDM” Planned District for Watlow Electric Company on 13.11 acres located at 12001 Lackland Road
- Approved a conditional use permit for a fine arts school located at 2500 Metro Boulevard, petitioner DaySpring Arts and Education
- Approved payment for property located at 87 Progress Parkway related to the Progress Parkway Roadway Improvement Project

July 3:

- Approved an Original Package Liquor License for Gourmet to Go, 1865 Craig Road

City Seeks Residents for Public Service

As a city that strongly values the opinions of residents in creating policy, the Mayor is currently receiving residents interested in serving as members of the City’s numerous boards and commissions.

“I’m certain there are qualified residents who will find a commission to suit their interests,” Mayor Mike Moeller said. “Resident participation is vital in moving our city forward.”

Below is a list of boards and commissions with vacancies. For more information, contact the Maryland Heights City Clerk’s Office at (314) 291-6550.

- Board of Adjustment
Term of Office: 5 years
- Beautification Commission
Term of Office: 3 years
- Cultural Arts Commission
Term of Office: 3 years
- Economic Development Commission
Term of Office: 6 years
- Human Rights Commission
Term of Office: 3 years
- Stormwater Advisory Commission
Term of Office: 3 years
- Traffic Commission
Term of Office: 1 year

If you are a resident of Maryland Heights and are interested in serving on a particular board or commission please complete the application form at www.marylandheights.com.

New Officers, *continued from page 4*

Idaho and came to Missouri when he was recruited to play lacrosse for Lindenwood University. Becar said he enjoys the variety of work involved in being a patrol officer, especially the investigative aspects of his work.



Alex Waldroup spent around two years as a police officer in Richmond Heights. He was born and

raised in Arkansas and received a degree in criminal justice from Lindenwood University before attending the St. Louis County and Municipal Police Academy.

“What I enjoy most about being an officer is the ability to be a role model for children,” Waldroup said. “I also enjoy the ability to see firsthand how we can positively affect and help victims.”



Officer Becar’s wife pins on his badge at the Swearing in Ceremony held June 19 at the Government Center.



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 Maryland Heights, MO 63043

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Mission

We will provide superior municipal services in a safe and appealing setting in order to attract and retain residents committed to our city, thriving businesses and premier hospitality venues.

GOVERNMENT CENTER

PHONE
 (314) 291-6550

FAX
 (314) 291-7457

CITY ADMINISTRATOR
 Mark M. Levin

CITY CLERK
 JoAnn Cova

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE
 David Watson

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
 Wayne Oldroyd

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS
 Bryan Pearl

MUNICIPAL COURT

PHONE
 (314) 291-6036

COURT ADMINISTRATOR
 Gerald Durfee

POLICE

EMERGENCY
 911

NON-EMERGENCY
 (314) 298-8700

CHIEF OF POLICE
 Bill Carson

TIPS HOTLINE
 (314) 209-TIPS (8477)

MARYLAND HEIGHTS CENTRE AND AQUAPORT

2344 MCKELVEY ROAD
 (314) 738-2599

DIRECTOR OF PARKS & RECREATION
 Mary Vaughan

PUBLIC WORKS

2715 FEE FEE ROAD
 (314) 298-6800

AFTER HOURS/EMERGENCY
 (314) 298-8700

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feedback@marylandheights.com

FACEBOOK

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TWITTER

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CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

WARD 1



Ken Gold
 434-2543



Don Hunt
 878-8579



Kim Baker
 275-4954



Ed Dirck
 878-9001

WARD 3



Chuck Caverly
 566-0424



Michael Hachmeister
 291-4236



Jim Carver
 Pres. Pro Tem
 291-8958



Norm Rhea
 739-0096