

# The Vision

November/December 2018

*your source for*  
**CITY OF  
WENTZVILLE**  
*news & events*

## Holidays in Wentzville

There are more than enough Wentzville activities to keep your family busy this holiday season. From light displays and Bingo with Santa, to sleigh hayrides and an exciting New Year's Eve Lock-In – you'll find something to entertain you and your kids and keep everyone in the holiday spirit! To learn more about the events planned for November and December, please see pages 5 and 6.

## Candidate Filing Opens Dec. 11

Beginning Tuesday, Dec. 11, at 8 a.m., candidates may begin filing for the elected municipal offices that will appear on the April 2019 ballot. Candidates must file at City Hall, located at 1001 Schroeder Creek Blvd. The filing period will remain open until 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 15, 2019. Positions open for filing include one Alderman from each of the three Wards and Municipal Judge. There is a \$25 fee, due when filing. Additional information is below. If you have further questions, please call the City Clerk's office at (636) 327-5101.

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 he/she files and during the time he/she serves, of the Ward from which he/she is elected.

City ordinances state that candidates running for Municipal Judge must be a licensed attorney, qualified to practice law in the state of Missouri, and a resident of St. Charles County at the time of his/her election. The Municipal Judge does not need to reside within Wentzville city limits. The Municipal Judge must be between 21 and 75 years of age.



## Tree Lighting and Christmas Parade

The Annual Tree Lighting will start at 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 2. The tree is located at the intersection of Pearce and Luetkenhaus boulevards, across from Pete's Drive-In. Gathering for the Tree Lighting will begin at 5:30 p.m., with holiday musical entertainment to kick off the festivities. 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; it will travel east on Pearce Boulevard and north on Luetkenhaus Boulevard, ending at the Wentzville Fire Station #1 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. If you plan to have a float in the parade, please call Donna-Marie Pierre, parade coordinator, at (636) 332-8801.

# City Reminders

## Rain, Rain, Go Away

Over the last decade, St. Louis has received 43 inches of precipitation on average, annually. This October, parts of Wentzville received more than 2 inches of rain in 20 minutes (a 25-year, 20-minute rain event). With intense, heavy rain, residents often wonder if infrastructure is blocked and why there is water in their streets or yard swales.

Similar to the region, the City's piped storm infrastructure manages up to a 15-year, 20-minute rain event. The October rain event exceeded that design standard. When this happens, it is an expected and planned part of the system for most yard swales and streets to provide overland flow relief to help keep drainage away from home foundations. This may occur again during large/intense rains in the future. Please do not drive through flooded areas. Remember – safety first!

If water does not recede within an hour or so after an intense rainfall, or if surface water affects your home or parked vehicles, please call the Concern Hotline at (636) 639-2121 during business

hours to route concerns efficiently to appropriate staff. After hours, call (636) 327-5105 for non-emergency issues that need immediate attention. You can also enter a concern through the City's website at [bit.ly/reportaconcern](http://bit.ly/reportaconcern).

**When large, intense rainfall occurs, it is an expected and planned part of the system for yard swales (as pictured) and streets to provide overland flow relief.**



## Curbside Recycling Changes Are Coming

Changes are coming to your recycling program. The recycling industry has changed significantly this year worldwide. China, the primary market for single-stream recycling, has implemented strict policies regarding their intake of recyclable materials. This has been influenced

by the contamination that frequently occurs with single-stream recycling, primarily caused by paper products and “wish-cycling,” which is the practice of tossing questionable items into the recycling cart, hoping that they can somehow be recycled.

Changes in single-stream recycling are impacting cities around the world, including the City of Wentzville. In partnership with Meridian, the City's waste hauler, we will be

modifying our recycling program to continue curbside recycling at the City of Wentzville in some capacity. This will involve a change in the types of items that are currently accepted. Please watch for additional details on the City's social media channels and in the City's printed publications, along with notifications directly from Meridian about how you can recycle right!



**YOUR RECYCLING PROGRAM IS CHANGING.**

**PLEASE WATCH FOR MORE INFORMATION ON OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.WENTZVILLEMO.ORG](http://WWW.WENTZVILLEMO.ORG) AND ON THE CITY'S SOCIAL MEDIA CHANNELS.**

**PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD, AND LET YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS KNOW THAT CHANGES ARE COMING SOON.**

## Protect Your Identity during the Holidays (and Year Round)

While you're out shopping here in Wentzville during the holiday season, I'd like to remind you to protect yourself and your identity. During the holidays, in addition to spending more money, we tend to be busier, more stressed and more distracted than other times of the year. Identity thieves take advantage of our distraction by secretly stealing our identities. Nothing takes the joy out of the season faster, than being an identity theft victim.

Identity theft occurs when someone uses your name, Social Security number, date of birth or other identifying information, without permission, to commit fraud. For example, someone could open up a credit card or a get a loan using your information. If you react quickly, you can prevent more damage. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) suggests that you take these three steps as soon as possible:

**1. Place an initial fraud alert:** Ask one of the three credit reporting companies to put a fraud alert on your credit report; they are required to inform the other two companies. An initial fraud alert can make

it harder for an identity thief to open more accounts in your name. The alert lasts 90 days, but you can renew it.

**2. Order your credit reports:** Now that you've set up an initial fraud alert, you're entitled to a free credit report from each of the three credit reporting companies. A free annual report is a great option – even if you haven't been the victim of identity theft.

**3. Create an identity theft report:** An identity theft report gives you some important rights that can help you recover from the theft. To create one, file a complaint with the FTC and print an identity theft affidavit. Use the affidavit to file a police report and to create your Identity Theft Report.

It can be devastating and stressful to deal with identity theft. To help lessen the threat, here are some simple ways to protect yourself during this busy shopping season.

**1. Use your credit card:** Limit your use of checks and debit cards. When you use either of these, the money is taken directly from your bank account. If fraud does occur, it can be much harder and time consuming to get the money refunded. Credit cards generally give you a longer period to catch the fraud before you are held liable.

- 2. Leave your purse at home:** For women, take a wallet that fits in your coat pocket and leave your purse at home. Forty percent of all identity theft occurs when a purse is stolen. If you must take a purse, use a cross-body style that zips.
- 3. Watch your statements:** Frequently monitor your financial statements to help catch theft immediately. Most banks offer account alerts that you can set up online to notify you of unusual spending.

Identity theft can be expensive, not to mention a hassle. You don't want to spend your time during and after the holidays on the phone with credit bureaus and credit card companies. So, take the steps necessary to protect yourself!



Mayor Nick Guccione

## Customer-Service Enhancements

### PAY BY PHONE 24/7/365

As of Oct. 1, the City of Wentzville now gives you access to your utility account 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Pay your bills on your own time — with no waiting. Access your account instantly through a secure, automated system to get real-time balances, payment amounts and due dates. To make your payment over the phone, please call (833) 326-7020.

### OPT-IN TO RECEIVE TEXT REMINDERS

Residents and business owners can now also opt-in to receive utility bill reminders by text (instead of by phone call). To change your preferences, please call (636) 639-2155.

Welcome to  
Wentzville!

**Stay True Boutique**  
1002 Quartz Canyon Dr.

**Friedrichs Physical Therapy**  
1015 Meyer Rd.

**Vapor 100**  
1201 Wentzville Pkwy., #105

**Detox Yoga**  
1155 Wentzville Pkwy., #109

**Northstar Insurance Advisors**  
100 Mall Pkwy., #101

New Businesses

## Important News

### Billing Cycle Changes Will Take Place in 2019

In order to increase meter reading and billing efficiencies, beginning on Jan. 1, 2019, water meters – for both Wentzville residents and businesses – will now be read on the last two working days of each month. (Previously, they were read around the 20th of each month.) This change will result in a more fluid billing process with improved consistency on bill delivery date, due date and delinquent processing. So what does that mean for you?

1. Your bill will arrive in the mail later than usual. After the new billing cycle changes take place, bills will arrive between the fifth and eighth day of each month.
2. Due dates will move forward approximately five days, with the bill due date near the 20th of each month.
3. Shut-off dates will also move forward approximately five days, with shut-offs scheduled near the 25th of each month.

Due to the change, your January usage bill will include a larger-than-usual bill cycle with nearly six weeks of usage. After this bill, which will be due in February of 2019, the bill cycle will level back out to approximately four weeks of usage.

We appreciate your patience with this change and look forward to increased efficiency in our utility billing process. If you have any questions, please contact Utility Billing at (636) 639-2155.

**These billing cycle changes help us increase efficiency and improve consistency.**



### Round Up to Give Back

Did you know that by simply electing to "round up" your monthly utility bill to the nearest dollar you can make a positive impact on our senior community? So how does it work? If you sign up, your monthly bills will be rounded up to the next highest dollar. For example, if your bill is \$44.25, you would pay \$45.00. The funds raised from this program are donated to our local Meals on Wheels program, which is facilitated through Wentzville's Green Lantern Senior Center. To sign up to give back, please call (636) 639-2155.

## Business Spotlight

### B&B Theatres Wentzville Tower 12 100 Wentzville Bluffs Dr.

**Business Owners:** Bob & Bridget Bagby and Rick Podhorn

**What year did you open?** 2016

**What influenced you to locate your business in Wentzville?** Mr. Podhorn brought a proposal to the theatre chain who were very interested in the market.

**What do you feel you bring to Wentzville by having your business here?** The magic of movies.

**What products/services do you offer?** Digital picture and sound; grand screens; reclining seating; expanded food and beverage; full-service bar.

**What's your favorite thing about Wentzville?** Being accepted and embraced by the Wentzville community.

**What's next for your business?** Continuing with cutting-edge technology and customer experience.

**Any other comments you'd like to share?** B&B Theatres started in 1924 and continues to provide quality productions more than 90 years later.



# Making Holiday Memories

## Holiday Night Lights 5K & Fun Run Nov. 17 at 4:50 p.m.

Be the first to enjoy our Holiday Night Lights display with a 5K or one-mile run on Nov. 17! The Holiday Night Lights 5K will take you through the light display at Rotary Park just in time to see the lights before the holiday season kicks off! (Note: the first portion of 5K will leave Rotary Park and enter Stonemoor subdivision). This race is fun for the entire family. Registration starts at 3 p.m.; race starts at 4:50 p.m.

The first-place winners of the 5K in each of the following age groups will receive awards: 10 and under; 11-14; 15-19; 20-29; 30-39; 40-49; 50-59; 60-69; 70 and older. The top three overall males and females will also receive awards, but they will not be awarded for winning their age group. The first 100, 5K entrants will also receive a custom race shirt! Medals will be awarded after the last 5K runner has completed the course. The one-mile race will begin once the 5K route is clear and medals have been awarded. The cost is \$40 for the 5K and \$35 for the Fun Run.

## Holiday Night Lights Walk-Thru Dec. 3 from 5-8 p.m.

This walk-thru event on Monday, Dec. 3, allows participants to enjoy the Holiday Night Lights display at Rotary Park at a slower, more intimate pace. Attendees will stroll through the one-mile light display, experiencing enchanted scenes, twinkling lights and holiday-themed music. After walking the illuminated route, participants will enjoy refreshments, photo booth fun, beautifully decorated Christmas trees on display and a photo with Santa. Decorated trees are donated by local businesses and organizations. To donate a tree from your business or organization, please contact [fun@wentzvillemo.org](mailto:fun@wentzvillemo.org). Cost is \$3 in advance and \$5 at the door, per person; children under age two are free. Inclement weather date if we cancel the event: Dec. 4.

## Sleigh Hayrides

Beginning Nov. 26, you can book a wintertime, tractor-pulled hayride through beautiful Rotary Park to tour the breathtaking Holiday Night Lights. Rides are available on Mondays and Wednesdays at 6 p.m., 6:45 p.m., 7:30 p.m., 8:15 p.m. and 9 p.m. (Except on Monday, Dec. 3 and Monday, Dec. 24). Sleigh Hayrides are perfect for scouts, church groups, picnics, company parties or family/neighborhood get-togethers. 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. A two-week notice is required; no refunds will be given, unless the display is closed. Rides are \$130 for residents and \$145 for nonresidents. You can pay ahead of time for an additional lap around the park with your group for an extra \$25.

## Holiday Night Lights Drive-Thru Starting Nov. 23 from 5:30-9:30P

The annual Wentzville Holiday Night Lights display at Rotary Park opens on Friday, Nov. 23 for the holiday season. 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 a winter wonderland close to home. Drive-thru admission is only \$8 for vehicles holding up to six passengers; \$1 per additional person after the sixth. On Saturday evenings (ONLY) at the Kolb Building, you can enjoy a visit with Santa and see beautifully decorated trees on display from various businesses and organizations. To view the full schedule, please visit [www.wentzvillemo.org](http://www.wentzvillemo.org).

## Bingo with Santa

This fun family event will be held on Dec. 8 at 11 a.m. at Progress Park. Join Santa for lunch and bingo! Lunch will be pizza, salad, cookies and punch. Everyone is welcome to snap a photo with Santa after lunch, with bingo following immediately after. There will be gifts for every round won, and there will be several games of bingo played! Including four corners, diagonal, traditional and coverall! The cost is \$15 per resident and \$18 per nonresident. Save when you reserve a table of 10 for \$110. Everyone attending must register.



To register, please visit [www.wentzvillemo.org](http://www.wentzvillemo.org) or call (636) 332-9236.

## Events and Reminders

### Groundbreaking for David Hoekel Parkway Phase 2

Wentzville, St. Charles County and the Missouri Department of Transportation will host a groundbreaking ceremony to mark the beginning of construction activity on David Hoekel Parkway (DHP) Phase 2 in

Wentzville. This phase of the DHP project includes a new interchange on Interstate 70 near Point Prairie Road, a realigned north outer road and the extension of DHP to Goodfellow Road.

The groundbreaking ceremony will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 27 at 2 p.m. on Goodfellow Road between Limmerick Avenue and Brookfield Boulevard.



### New Year's Eve Lock-In at Progress Park Recreation Center

Start the New Year right by joining your friends at Progress Park for an overnight New Year's Eve Lock-In! The event (for ages 8-13) will begin at 7 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 31 and end at 7 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 1. The cost\* is \$40 for residents and \$50 for nonresidents. To register, please visit [bit.ly/wentzvileregistration](http://bit.ly/wentzvileregistration).

Under adult supervision, participants can play in organized games, compete in contests, dance the night away and make memories of a lifetime. Scheduled events include Bubble Soccer and challenges, basketball and volleyball competitions, crafts to bring home, a chance to win raffle baskets, a countdown dance, and much more! Late-night food and breakfast will be provided. Lock-In participants can purchase items from the concession stand throughout the evening. Participants must register in advance. \*Late registrations will be accepted on Dec. 31 until 3 p.m. There will be a \$15 late-registration fee, per child.

### Community Development Block Grants

Maintaining our neighborhoods and helping our residents are top priorities for the City of Wentzville. Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) are instrumental in helping us achieve these goals. CDBG funding comes from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, through St. Charles Urban County, for the purpose of helping low- and moderate-income households. CDBG funding covers several programs, from helping to maintain a home, to receiving transportation. The Home Improvement Loan Program is a good option to research if a homeowner is cited for a property maintenance violation, which they don't have the funding for. Reach out to the contact below to find out how to apply for a loan for these types of repairs.

- Home Improvement Loan Program** – Five-year, forgivable, no-interest loan to eligible residence to make repairs and improvements to their owner-occupied property. Low- or no-interest loans to eligible residents to make repairs and improvements to owner-occupied property, including handicapped accessibility. This program can also help residents pay for corrections to their property, which have been cited violations by a Wentzville inspector, if qualified.
- Transportation Program** – This program provides transportation to eligible residents for necessary medical, shopping and other essential services. A limited number of trips for each selected applicant will be made available.

Various restrictions apply for each of these programs, including income verification. Applications will be available at [bit.ly/WentzvilleCDBG](http://bit.ly/WentzvilleCDBG); deadlines may apply. Questions regarding any of these programs can be directed to Wentzville's Building Official at [Jessica.Isaak@wentzvillemo.org](mailto:Jessica.Isaak@wentzvillemo.org) or by calling (636) 639-2046.



## Five Reasons to Shop in Wentzville during the Holidays

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 – both big and small. So why should you chose to shop local?

1. You keep your tax dollars working for YOU! The City sales tax you pay funds improvements to parks, roads and City services in YOUR City.
2. Wentzville businesses grow and can create more jobs right here – jobs help local families!
3. When you do business with local merchants, you're doing business with friends and neighbors.
4. You save money and gasoline!
5. You spend less time driving on highways and more time doing things you enjoy.



Wentzville Board of Aldermen (from left to right): Michael Hays (Ward 3), Brittany Gillett (Ward 2), Robert Hussey (Ward 1), Bryan Harr (Ward 1), Mayor Nick Guccione, Jeff Ottenlips (Ward 2), and Matt Swanson (Ward 3)

## Put Your Money Where Your House is

With the holiday's 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. 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.

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 us all.

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

## Shopping Safety Reminders

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.
2. Remember where you parked your car. Take a photo of your car or a nearby landmark.
3. When shopping after dark, park in a well-lit area.
4. Shop in pairs. Take a friend shopping with you.
5. When returning to your car, keep your car keys in your hand.
6. Avoid carrying large amounts of cash. Pay for purchases with checks, credit or debit cards.
7. Don't leave your phone, purse or other valuables visible in your parked car.
8. Hide your bags. Don't leave purchased merchandise in your parked car where it can be seen.



ECRWSS  
Postal Customer

# HAPPY HOLIDAYS

from the City of Wentzville

## Holiday Trash Collection Schedule

### VETERANS DAY

The Veterans Day holiday will not affect your collection schedule.

### THANKSGIVING

For the week of Nov. 19, collection will be as follows:

- ▶ Trash collection will remain the same on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.
- ▶ On Thursday, Nov. 22, and Friday, Nov. 23, trash collection will run a day late. Thursday's collection will move to Friday and Friday's collection will take place on Saturday, Nov. 24.

### CHRISTMAS

For the weeks of Dec. 24 & Dec. 31, collection will be as follows:

- ▶ Trash collection will remain the same on Monday.
- ▶ Then, Tuesday's collection will move to Wednesday, Wednesday's collection will move to Thursday and so forth, with Friday's collection taking place on Saturday, Dec. 29 and Saturday, Jan. 5, respectively.

For questions, please call (636) 327-5102,  
Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



## Holiday Hours

**City offices will be closed on the following holidays:**

- Veterans Day (observed), Nov. 12
- Thanksgiving, Nov. 22 & 23
- Christmas, Dec. 24 & 25
- New Year's Day, Jan. 1

**Progress Park Recreation Center holiday hours:**

- Veterans Day, Nov. 11, open 10:30 a.m.-6 p.m.
- Veterans Day (observed), Nov. 12, open 6 a.m.-9 p.m.
- Thanksgiving, Nov. 22, closed
- Day after Thanksgiving, Nov. 23, open 6 a.m.-9 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

Hours are subject to change.

## Save the Date

Make plans to attend one of these upcoming City meetings!	<b>Planning and Zoning</b> 6 P.M.   NOV. 7 AND DEC. 4	<b>Downtown Committee</b> 6 P.M.   NOV. 27
<b>Friends of the Wentzville Parks</b> 5:30 P.M.   NOV. 1 AND DEC. 6	<b>Board of Adjustment</b> 6 P.M.   NOV. 8 AND DEC. 13	<b>Parks and Rec Board Tree Committee*</b> 5 P.M.   DEC. 6
<b>Parks and Recreation Board</b> 6:30 P.M.   NOV. 5 AND DEC. 10	<b>Board of Aldermen</b> 6 P.M.   NOV. 14 & 28 AND DEC. 12	<b>Stormwater Committee</b> NO MEETINGS UNTIL FEBRUARY