



# the Current

## Holiday Greetings from Mayor Rose

It's time to celebrate! The holiday season is all around us. It's a very sentimental time of year as the memories and feelings rush back to you as you reflect on your own life experiences. Reflection is healthy and rewarding as long as you can assess, learn and grow from the decisions, choices or actions you have made.



By Mayor Kathy Rose

My sharing reflection that drives our City's success has everything to do with two key words - Relationships and Connections. Many may think this is easy to achieve. When in fact to develop a positive culture based around "an upstream from ordinary" philosophy it takes many components. Listening, communicating, respectfulness, trustworthiness, a willingness to be helpful, engaging others, knowledge and compassion are just a few of the ingredients.

Our board and staff are committed to serving our residents and businesses to affect positive solutions and outcomes. As your Mayor it is important to "cultivate and cheerlead" not only those actions within our community but with leaders in the metropolitan region, the State and the nation. We may be a community of

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## City Uses CrimeReports Website to Keep Residents Informed

Want a quick, easy, and free way to stay updated on police and fire activity in Riverside? Visit [www.CrimeReports.com](http://www.CrimeReports.com). The City of Riverside automatically pushes all of the reports from police and fire calls to the website so residents can have reliable and timely information about what's happening in their neighborhood at their fingertips.

"An informed community is a safe community," Riverside Police Major Chris Skinrood said. "Our partnership with CrimeReports gives us the ability to keep the public informed on a regular basis as to what is going on in the community."

The public can access the free crime reports through the website or through the CrimeReports iPhone app. The service even lets citizens sign up for free customizable email alerts, so they can monitor activity in their neighborhood. Riverside began using the CrimeReports website in 2009 and is one of a thousand public safety agencies across the country who make their information available.

"We have to have the community's help to ensure that Riverside stays a safe community. We take proactive policing very seriously, but if we don't know about a problem in an area, we can't take steps to fix it. If you see something suspicious, please call 9-1-1. Many people don't call because they are worried about bothering us. I assure them that they aren't – this is what we are here for," Skinrood added.

Residents can also keep updated on safety information in Riverside by following us on Facebook and Twitter (@RiversideMo and @RiversideMoDPS), and signing up for Nixle.

Nixle is a notification system that will alert residents to emergency weather events, road closings, public safety advisories, disasters, and general city information through email and text message. This is a free service, although regular text message rates do apply. To sign up, visit [www.Nixle.com](http://www.Nixle.com).

## Holiday Reminders

**City Offices Closed:** Please note that City Offices will be closed for the holidays on Thursday, December 25 and Thursday, January 1.

**Unlimited Trash Service:** There is unlimited trash pick up on December 26. This means you will not have to purchase tags for bags that do not fit in your regular trash cart. Please note that this does not include bulky items.

## Community Center

The Riverside Community Center offers free fitness classes and league play every week. The YMCA also offers classes for members at the facility. Questions? Call **816-741-4172**.

### Free Classes and Events

**SU, 1-5 p.m. & M/T/W/TH, 3-5 p.m.**

Open Gym

**M/W/F, 8-9:30 a.m.**

Cardio, Strength, Yoga

**M/TH, 10-11 a.m.**

Line Dancing & Weights

**T/W 10-2 p.m. and TH 11-2 p.m.**

Pickleball

**T/TH, 11-3 p.m.**

Hand and Foot Card Game

**W, 10-11 a.m.**

Stay Strong, Stay Healthy

**W, 12:30-2 p.m. (1st & 3rd)**

Bunco

**TH, 8:30-9:30 a.m.**

Zumba

### YMCA Member-Only Classes

The YMCA offers morning, lunch-time express, and evening classes for members at the Riverside Community Center. A full schedule of classes is available online at [www.RiversideMo.com](http://www.RiversideMo.com).

### Holiday Hours

There will be no Cardio/Strength/Yoga Class December 22-January 2. The YMCA will not hold evening classes on December 24 and there will be no YMCA classes December 25 and 26.

## Town Hall Meeting A Success

**O**n November 6, the City of Riverside hosted our second Town Hall meeting for 2014. The goal of these meetings is to provide an open forum where community members could ask any question they had to the Mayor, Board of Aldermen, and City Staff. More than 50 people attended the two-hour meeting and asked questions about a variety of things, including crime rates, development in Horizons, road and bridge projects, and water and sewer utilities. A complete list of all of the questions asked and the responses provided is available on the City website. If you were unable to make it to the meeting, but have questions about what's happening in Riverside, please do not hesitate to contact City Hall. You can also reach us via the "Contact Us" section of the website. 

## Santa's Coming to Town on a Fire Truck!

**T**he Riverside Fire Department will take Santa on an early tour of Riverside this year! Santa will be traveling around the City on a fire truck on Saturday, December 20 beginning at 9 a.m. He will visit all of the neighborhoods and be handing candy out to the kids. Make sure to watch for Santa in your neighborhood and submit your pictures to the Riverside Facebook Page ([www.facebook.com/riversidemo](http://www.facebook.com/riversidemo)). Happy Holidays! 



## Time to Renew Your Pet and Business Licenses

**P**et and business licenses in Riverside expire on December 31. Pet licenses are required for any dog or cat that is let outside the confines of a private building, and require the owner to submit a proof of vaccination. The fee for a dog license is \$6, or if the dog is spayed or neutered, \$4. There is no fee to license cats. Licenses are available at Public Safety, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. You can also license your pet by mail. Just mail a copy of your pet's current certification of rabies vaccination, your contact information, and payment in the form of a personal check, cashier's check or money order payable to the City of Riverside to Records Unit c/o Riverside Public Safety, 2990 NW Vivion Road, Riverside, MO 64150.

Business licenses are required for every business operating or providing a service within the City. This includes both businesses physically located in Riverside and contractors and service providers that are operating within the City. Licensing fees are \$48 per year for non-industrial businesses, \$84 per year for heavy industrial businesses. To renew your license, simply complete the form you should have received in the mail from City Hall and return it before January 1. Renewals received after January 1 will be assessed a penalty. 

## City Ordinance Bans Feeding Deer

The Riverside Board of Aldermen adopted an ordinance at its November 18 meeting to add Section 205.125 of the City Code to ban the feeding of deer within City limits.

The new ordinance prohibits residents from providing or making available food or other substances for consumption by deer within the City, either on private or public property. The ordinance does not apply to naturally growing vegetation, planted vegetation in yards or gardens, or bird feeders. Property that is larger than 10 acres is also exempted from the ordinance, but are required to follow applicable rules from the Missouri Conservation Department pertaining to the feeding and baiting of deer.

If an individual is found to be in violation of this code, they will be subject to the penalties outlined in the Animal Regulations Section (Chapter 205) of the City Code. Those include a fine of not less than \$200 and not more than \$500 and/or imprisonment for a period not to exceed 30 days. Each day/time that the violations occur will be treated as a separate offense.

"This is a safety issue in our community. Our goal is not to issue citations, but to help reduce the harm being done as a result of deer over-population in our area," City Administrator Greg Mills said.

According to the National Wildlife Health Center, feeding deer causes large groups to congregate in the area, which increases the spread of diseases and parasites. In addition, if the food sources are near busy roads, more deer are hit and killed by traffic. They suggest a better alternative to feeding the deer is to plant native trees and shrubs that provide food (nuts and fruit) and cover (evergreens). ↪



## Curbside Yard Waste Pick Up

There will be a curbside yard waste pick up day on **Friday, December 5**. On this day, any yard waste left at the curb will be collected with your usual trash and recycling pick up. Please remember that all leaves must be placed in recyclable yard waste "leaf bags" and twigs must be no longer than three feet and bundled and tied.

**Questions?** Contact Public Works at 816-741-3908.

## Insurance Help and Coat Drive

Humana will host a free event on December 8 from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Community Center to help residents sign up for health insurance. The Community Center is also collecting coats/gloves/hats/blankets for residents in need through December 17.

## Mayor's Letter

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3,000 population and less than six square miles but our reach and impact far exceeds our city limits.

As we close 2014 we celebrate milestones and accomplishments-Argosy's 20 year anniversary, Eagle Animal expansion, Quik Trip's construction on their new 3rd gen design, Classic Parts expansion, Yang Feng expansion, construction of MartinRea automobile supplier, Northpoint Development's first office building in Horizons, acquisition and demolition of building at intersection of Gateway and Vivion, opening of upper and lower Line Creek trail connections, our YMCA programming at the Riverside Community Center, our ETC survey community satisfaction scores, new housing and several new residents that we welcome to our community.

We look forward to our vision and growth for 2015. May you embrace your own relationships and connections as you celebrate this season. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! ↪

*Kathleen L. Rose*

## Election Filing

Riverside voters will go to the polls on April 7 for the municipal election. Officials with terms expiring are: Alderman Mike Fuller, Ward I; Alderman Aaron Thatcher, Ward II; and Alderman Brad Cope, Ward III. Filing opens December 16, 2014 and closes January 20, 2015. Those interested can file at City Hall during regular business hours, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday, except for these dates when City Hall will be closed: Dec. 25, Jan. 1 and Jan. 19.



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## Calendar

### ***December 2***

Board of Aldermen – 7 p.m.

### ***December 5***

Curbside Yard Waste Pick Up

### ***December 8***

Tourism Commission – 6 p.m.

### ***December 11***

Planning and Zoning – 7 p.m.

### ***December 16***

Board of Aldermen – 7 p.m.

### ***December 25***

City Offices Closed

### ***January 1***

City Offices Closed

# **HOLIDAY LIGHTING CEREMONY**

## **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4**

### **5:45 P.M.**

## **CORNER OF GATEWAY AND VIVION**

Join us as we kick off the holiday season with the holiday lighting and a performance by the Park Hill South Marching Band!

Bring non-perishable food to donate to Hillcrest Transitional Housing and be entered to win a \$250 Zona Rosa Gift Card! One raffle ticket will be given for every five items donated.

The event will be held in the parking lot next to the Corner Cafe. Parking will be available in that parking lot, at City Hall, and at Renner Brenner Park.