



# the Current

## A Message from the Mayor

### Honoring Our Fallen Hero, Jeff Taylor

In life, there have been many world events that occurred where you always will remember what took place and where you were when it happened. One of those events impacted the lives of each of us at the City of Riverside and a host of others, locally, regionally and throughout this great country. Master Patrolman



Jeff Taylor passed away on June 3 from injuries sustained while assisting in Joplin.

Jefferson Taylor was seriously injured by lightning on May 23, 2011 during a search and recovery exercise in Joplin, Mo. after their devastating EF5 tornado struck on May 22, 2011. He passed away in Springfield, Mo. on June 3, and was laid to rest on June 8.

The first fatality in the City's 60-year history shook the core of so many. Overcome by sadness, we were uplifted by the words and actions of others in their tribute to Jeff and honoring his life. The funeral at Pleasant Valley Baptist Church was a sea of uniformed police, fire and emergency responders, with Governor Nixon contributing in the eulogy, and the Mayor, Police and Fire Chiefs of Joplin in attendance.

Once Jeff's casket was loaded onto Riverside's fire truck, we left the church and went up I-35 north to Cameron to complete our journey at Graceland Memorial Cemetery. The funeral procession was several miles long. Again, the actions of others comforted us as we witnessed communities like Excelsior Springs, Kearney, Holt and other small town volunteer departments that lined overpasses. Cars, trucks and semis in the southbound lanes of I-35 had pulled over and were stopped. People standing along roadways saluting, hands over hearts or waving flags. The people in Cameron welcomed us with open arms and flag lined streets provided by the Patriot Guard. As we made our way through town, past City Hall, residents and business owners stood proudly. The cemetery procession was beautifully orchestrated with all uniformed personnel on foot leading the fire truck to its final destination. There were memorable moments at the grave side with the ringing of the bell, the delivery of flags to Jeff's small sons, the on cue witness by Flash, Jeff's K-9, and the last radio transmission that was broadcast across the mutual aid ban that "Officer 145 was out of service."

I share this with you so that we never forget. We never forget how proud we are of the men and women that protect and serve us. I encourage each of you to take a moment and ask a member of our department how they are doing or tell them thank you for their service. As mayor for this community, I am thankful, proud and inspired. ~

Kathy Rose



Many people knew Taylor from his work with the department's K-9 Unit from 2007 through 2010.



Officer Taylor recently received an award for 5 years of dedicated service to Riverside. He was also Officer of the Year in 2008.

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## Community Center Events

### Pickleball

Every Monday this Summer  
6 to 9 p.m.  
FREE

Pickleball is a combination of ping pong, tennis and badminton. The game is played on a small court using a wiffle ball and large paddles. Wiffle balls and a limited number of paddles are provided. No experience necessary; you can learn as you play!

### FREE Mammography Screening

Tuesday, July 19  
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Availability is limited to 25 women. Appointments will be given to women who are uninsured or under-insured. Women **must** register in advance through NurseLine at 816-932-6220.

## Stay Connected

[www.RiversideMo.com](http://www.RiversideMo.com)

[www.RiversideMo.com/blog/](http://www.RiversideMo.com/blog/)

City of Riverside (Facebook)

@RiversideMo (Twitter)

## Trash Pick Up Schedule

Friday .....July 1  
Friday .....July 8  
Friday .....July 15  
Friday .....July 22  
Friday .....July 29

# Stay Safe Around Fireworks

**T**he best way to protect your family is not to use any fireworks at home. Attend public fireworks displays, and leave the lighting to the professionals. Lighting fireworks at home isn't even legal in many areas, so if you still want to use them, be sure to check with your local police department first. If they're legal where you live, keep these safety tips in mind:

- Children should never play with fireworks, such as firecrackers, rockets, and sparklers, which are just too dangerous. If you give children sparklers, make sure they keep them outside and away from the face, clothing, and hair. Sparklers can reach 1,800° degrees.
- Buy only legal fireworks. Illegal fireworks usually go by the names M-80, M100, blockbuster, or quarter-pounder. These explosives were banned in 1966, but still account for many fireworks injuries.

- Never try to make your own fireworks.
- Always use fireworks outside and have a bucket of water and a hose nearby in case of accidents.
- Steer clear of others — fireworks have been known to backfire or shoot off in the wrong direction. Never throw or point fireworks at someone.
- Don't hold fireworks in your hand or have any part of your body over them while lighting. Wear some sort of eye protection, and avoid carrying fireworks in your pocket — the friction could set them off.
- Point fireworks away from homes, and keep away from brush and leaves and flammable substances. The

National Fire Protection Association estimates that local fire departments respond to more 50,000 fires caused by fireworks each year.

- Light one firework at a time (not in glass or metal containers), and never relight a dud.
- Don't allow kids to pick up pieces of fireworks after an event. Some may still be ignited and can explode at any time.
- Soak all fireworks in a bucket of water before throwing them in the trash can.
- Think about your pet. Animals have sensitive ears and can be extremely frightened or stressed on the Fourth of July. Keep pets indoors to reduce the risk that they'll run loose or get injured.

If a child is injured by fireworks, immediately call 911. If an eye injury occurs, don't allow your child to touch or rub it, as this may cause even more damage. Also, don't flush the eye out with water or attempt to put any ointment on it. Instead, cut out the bottom of a paper cup, place it around the eye, and immediately seek medical attention — your child's eyesight may depend on it. If it's a burn, remove clothing from the burned area and run cool, not cold, water over the burn (do not use ice).

Fireworks are meant to be enjoyed, but you'll enjoy them much more knowing your family is safe. Take extra precautions this Fourth of July and your holiday will be a blast! 🎆



## Board Adopts FY 2011-2012 Budget

**M**ore than two months of budget discussions came to an end on June 22 when the Board of Aldermen adopted the Fiscal Year 2011-2012 budget. The City's fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30, which is also the deadline for the budget for the upcoming year to be adopted.

In the weeks leading up to the budget adoption, Board members heard presentations from each department. Staff provided updates on current programs and presented proposals for new projects. Board members had the opportunity to ask questions, request additional information and make suggestions about budget requests.

The approved budget has \$36,874,558 in total expenditures, which includes \$20,604,500 in capital improvement projects and \$9,127,850 out of the general fund.

The Board continued support for the City's community service contracts, including programs like the Healthy Citizens Initiative and partnerships with community organizations such as Northland Health Care Access and Platte Senior Services. Infrastructure projects around the City will also continue in the coming year, including work done to Northwood Road, 41<sup>st</sup> Street and the upper Line Creek trail.

The complete budget document will be available in late July and can be obtained through the City's website or by calling City Hall at (816) 741-3993. ↪

## Enjoy a Night Out Against Crime

**T**he Riverside Police and Fire Department invite you to participate in the 28th Annual National Night Out celebration from 5 to 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 2 at the Riverside Community Center.

National Night Out is an annual event that takes place in 10,000 communities in 50 states. 36 million people are expected to take a stand against crime and drug abuse at this year's event. The event is designed to strengthen our neighborhoods through police-community partnerships. The goal is to heighten awareness in crime and drug prevention, build support and participation in local anti-crime programs and most importantly, send a message to criminals that our neighborhoods are organized and fighting back. It's also the perfect opportunity to get to know your neighbors, fire fighters and police officers.

Activities include: swimming, raffle prizes, CSI School, safety tips, Riverside's K-9 Unit, Emergency Management, Riverside SWAT Unit, ATV Unit, fire trucks and police cars on display. Grilled hamburgers, chips and drinks will be provided.

For more information on the National Night Out program, visit [nationalnightout.org](http://nationalnightout.org). ↪



## Donate Flowers

Have perennials that need to be split? The City of Riverside is looking for donations of perennials to plant along the linear trail along NW Platte Road.

For more information about how to donate your plants and flowers, contact Meredith Hauck at 372-9023 or by email at [mhauck@riversidemo.com](mailto:mhauck@riversidemo.com).



## Free Fitness Classes

The Riverside Community Center offers free fitness classes during the week.

M/W/F from 8 to 9:30 a.m. is Yoga/Cardio/Strength Class.

M/Th from 10 to 11 a.m. is Line Dancing and Weights.

Wed. from 10 to 11 a.m. is Stay Strong Stay Healthy Class

The Community Center is also open for Open Gym hours, Monday-Thursday from 3 to 6 p.m. and Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m.

## Senior Dance

Grab your dancing shoes and head over to the Senior Dance on Monday, July 25.

This FREE event is at the Community Center, 4498 NW High Drive, from 1 to 3 p.m. and features the Ed Smith Band.

See you there!

## Calendar

### **July 4**

City Offices Closed

### **July 5**

Board of Aldermen – 7 p.m.

### **July 6**

Park Board – 6 p.m.

### **July 11**

FPAL Golf Tournament - National  
II Golf Course in Parkville

### **July 14**

Planning & Zoning – 6 p.m.

### **July 18**

Tourism Commission – 6 p.m.

### **July 19**

Board of Aldermen – 7 p.m.

### **July 28**

Planning and Zoning – 7 p.m.

## Celebrate 60 Years and Do Good

**R**iverside is turning 60. And we have just one birthday wish this year: Do good. Everyone. For anyone. Plant a tree, rescue a puppy, buy a stranger a cup of coffee – whatever you're into.

**Get out there and do some good!** Let us know about your plans ahead of time and we'll be glad to supply you with "Do Good" shirts and signs to use. Contact us at

[DoGood@riversidemo.com](mailto:DoGood@riversidemo.com) or give us a call at (816) 372-9023. You can also download posters and logos from the City website.

**Share your story!** Submit your stories, pictures and videos to us using one of these methods: Upload directly to the City of Riverside Facebook Page ([facebook.com/riversidemo](https://facebook.com/riversidemo)); Tag us! Tag City of Riverside on Facebook, use the hashtag #riversidedogood, or tag YouTube videos with "Riverside" and "Do Good"; Email us at [DoGood@riversidemo.com](mailto:DoGood@riversidemo.com); or deliver your items to City Hall, 2950 NW Vivion Road.

**Get a move on it!** We'll be collecting and highlighting your good deeds from May 1 through August 31. Prizes will be awarded at Riverside Riverfest on Saturday, September 17.

For more information or to look at previous good deeds, visit [www.riversidemo.com/dogood](http://www.riversidemo.com/dogood) or contact us at (816) 372-9023. 

# Do Good.

RIVERSIDE, MO UPSTREAM OUTREACH

Riverside is turning 60 this year. Help us celebrate our birthday by doing good in the community.