

Holiday Greetings from Mayor Rose

Another year almost gone. Another holiday season and the blessings that it brings to share with our family and friends. Another chance to communicate to all of you what has been accomplished and achieved in 2013. Your elected officials and city staff have stayed the course of ensuring that quality development continues in the Horizons development area.



By Mayor Kathy Rose

As of this writing, 1.6 million sq. ft. of building space has been constructed and is 100% leased, bringing more than 1,000 jobs to Riverside. You may ask why this is important. It is important because the growth and expansion in this tax increment financed district allows us to pay our debt service quickly and allows more expendable dollars for future projects slated for downtown.

Through the City's master plan and input from our ETC surveys, we strive to follow your lead in creating the best community to live, work and play. We have developed new trails, expanded senior programming at the Community Center, achieved record numbers in recycling and other sustainable practices, updated our ordinances and codes, implemented new programs to eliminate blight,

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New Program Provides Funding for Blight Removal

A quick drive through the heart of Riverside shows that big things are happening - not only are new buildings going up, but old buildings are coming down. Blight removal is a top priority for the Riverside Board of Aldermen and they recently approved a new program to help encourage more of it throughout town. Through the Blight Removal and Reinvestment Program, the City has funds to assist private property owners with the removal of blighted structures (both residential and commercial) and encourage reinvestment in the property.

"The elimination of blight and improving the image of the City was a common concern heard during the Master Planning Process," Jackie Carlson, Riverside Business and Planning Services, said. "This program allows the City to partner with property owners to make an investment in our community, and move us closer to our goal of having beautiful buildings, streetscapes and public spaces throughout town."

The Board of Aldermen approved an initial investment of \$32,000 into the Blight Removal and Reinvestment Program fund. Property owners who qualify will be able to receive an initial grant for 25% of the cost of demolition (up to \$4,000 per structure) and an additional 25% of demolition costs (up to \$4,000 per structure) if new construction is completed on the property. Additional information about this program can be found on the City's website or by contacting the Community Development Department at 816-741-3993.



Qualifying commercial and residential property owners can receive grants to help cover demolition costs.

Holiday Reminders

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

Unlimited Trash Service: There is unlimited trash pick up on December 27. 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. Open Gym hours are Monday-Thursday, 3-6 p.m., and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. Questions? Call **816-741-4172**.

SU, 1-5 p.m.

M/TU/W/TH, 3-6 p.m.

Open Gym - Basketball

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

Cardio, Strength, Yoga

M/TH, 10-11 a.m.

Line Dancing & Weights

M/TH, 6-9 p.m.

Adult Volleyball (open to all)

W, 10-11 a.m.

Stay Strong, Stay Healthy

W, 12:30-2 p.m.*

Bunco

**first Wednesday of the month*

W, 6-9 p.m.

Pickleball (open to all)

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

Zumba

TH, 12-3 p.m.

Pickleball

No open gym or evening activities December 8, 9 and 10. No fitness classes December 23 - 31.

Stay Connected

www.RiversideMo.com

www.RiversideMo.com/blog/

City of Riverside (Facebook)

@RiversideMo (Twitter)

Riverside Court Clerk Receives Award of Merit

Riverside Municipal Court Clerk Shayla Jones was recently named the 2013 recipient for the Western Association of Court Administrators' Award of Merit. According to Jaye Yingst, the WACA Awards Committee Chairperson, Shayla was nominated and received the Award of Merit because of her "willingness to help other Courts by sharing her knowledge, not only over the phone, but also on her personal time. Shayla is the epitome of what we are all about here in WACA and is a tremendous asset for our profession. We are honored to have her as part of our association." The Award of Merit is given annually to a court administrator in recognition of their dedication to the advancement of the professionalism of court administration. ☺



Riverside Municipal Court Clerk Shayla Jones received 2013 WACA Award of Merit.

Santa's Coming to Town on a Fire Truck!

The Riverside Fire Department will take Santa on an early tour of Riverside this year! Santa will be traveling around the City on a firetruck on Saturday, December 21 beginning at 10 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). Happy Holidays! ☺

Riverside Fire Chief Honored for Funeral Response Team Work

Riverside Fire Division Chief Gordon Fowlston was honored in early November for the work he did on the Missouri Fire Funeral Assistance Team in Prescott, Arizona. Fowlston, along with a team of eight other firefighters from across the state, made the trip to Arizona to help provide funerals for the 19 firefighters who were killed while battling the Yarnell Hill wildfire. Over the course of four days, the Missouri team organized seven funerals, handling all of the details for both the church ceremonies and the services at the burial sites.

For his work, Fowlston was honored with a proclamation from Missouri Governor Jay Nixon and a tool known as a "Pulaski," which is a special hand tool used in wildland firefighting. ☺



Fire Chief Gordon Fowlston received a proclamation from Gov. Jay Nixon.

Google Fiber Not Coming to Riverside (Yet!)

The question on everyone's mind these days is, "When is Google Fiber coming to my neighborhood?" Although the City has submitted a formal letter with a request to be included in the fiber network, Google isn't ready for Riverside quite yet. The Google team has assured City officials that they will be in contact when they are ready to begin discussions about expanding into this area. Any updates on the status of Google Fiber in Riverside will be posted on the City website (check out the Google Fiber Updates link on the homepage) and included in the City newsletter. ☺



Time to License Your Pets

Pet licenses in Riverside expire on December 31. They 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. ☺

Mayor's Letter

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established an aggressive retention program to help existing business and welcomed new residents to our community through new and existing housing opportunities.

2014 is looking equally exciting! I look forward to seeing many of you in the many holiday activities that will quickly unfold. Please notice the banners at Welcome Plaza that celebrate the Park Hill South Marching Band's upcoming trip to London to march in the London New Year's Day Parade on January 1, 2014. I am blessed to join them and am very proud to have our city represented on this international stage. I wish you peace and happiness! ☺

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathleen L. Rose".

Holiday Senior Dinner

The Riverside Department of Public Safety is proud to host the Riverside Holiday Senior Dinner again this year. All seniors in Riverside should have received an invitation in the mail in November. If you did not receive an invitation, please call 816-372-9110 for more information.

Curbside Yard Waste Pick Up

There will be one curbside yard waste pick up day in December:

Friday, December 6

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.

Trash & Recycling Schedule

Friday is trash/recycling pickup day in Riverside, regardless of holidays.

Recycle or trash it? Much of your metal, plastic, and paper waste can be recycled curbside: See a complete list at www.RiversideMo.com/publicworks/recycling

Election Filing

Riverside voters will go to the polls on April 8 for the municipal election. Officials with terms expiring are: Mayor Kathy Rose; Alderman Ron Super, Ward I; Alderman Seth DeRose, Ward II; and Alderman Art Homer, Ward III. Filing opens December 17, 2013 and closes January 21, 2014. 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. 20.



2950 NW Vivion Road
Riverside, MO 64150

Calendar

December 3

Board of Aldermen – 7 p.m.

December 4

Park Board – 6 p.m.

December 6

Curbside Yard Waste Pick Up

December 9

Tourism Commission – 6 p.m.

December 12

Planning and Zoning – 7 p.m.

December 17

Board of Aldermen – 7 p.m.

December 25

City Offices Closed

January 1

City Offices Closed

HOLIDAY LIGHTING CEREMONY

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5

5:45 P.M.

RIVERSIDE WELCOME PLAZA

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.

Parking is available at Renner Brenner Park and City Hall. Please note Vivion Road between Gateway and High Drive will be closed before and during the event.