



# News from the Hill

Spring 2006

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rockhillmo.net

- **Daylight Savings Time** is Sunday, April 2nd. Remember to check the batteries in your smoke detectors!
- Don't forget to vote on **Election Day**, Tuesday, April 4th
- April 12 6:30-8:30 pm Planning & Zoning Commission meeting to discuss the proposed **Residential Design Guidelines**. Everyone Welcome!
- The **Rock Hill Library** is open at it's new address, 9741 Manchester Road. Stop by and see their new and improved location! Library hours are: Mon-Thurs 12:00pm to 9:00pm, Fri 9:00am to 5:00pm and Sat 10:00am to 2:00pm. Check them on the web at [rockhill.lib.mo.us](http://rockhill.lib.mo.us) or call 962-4723 for more exciting information.

## Rock Hill Public Input Meeting

Wednesday, April 12  
6:30-8:30 p.m.  
at the Rock Hill City Hall

This is your opportunity to review the newly proposed **Residential Design Guidelines** and to provide input on how new infill housing affects you, your neighborhood, and the City of Rock Hill.

Participants will have the opportunity to speak with Planning & Zoning Commissioners, City Staff, and other interested citizens.

Contact City Hall for more information 968-1410

Sponsored by the Planning & Zoning Committee

## State of the City Message from Mayor Julie Morgan

Springtime is here and the face of Rock Hill continues to change for the better.

Because of the weather cooperating, **Walgreens** should be on target to open sometime in May. Also, the **Residences at Tilles Park** is scheduled to begin leasing July of this year. The city will welcome the fifth new development to start this year just south of the Tilles Park apartments. The **Gilroy Law Firm** has been given final approval from Planning & Zoning and is slated to begin soon. The two-story building will be home to the law firm, an art gallery and much more. The new **Heartland Bank**, at Berry and Manchester, is progressing. They have chosen a demolition company, are applying for permits and will hopefully have the building torn down shortly. The **Market at McKnight** project on the southwest side of Manchester is moving forward. The asbestos removal is finished and demolition should begin by late March or early April.

I am pleased to announce that the businesses of Rock Hill have been formally invited to join the **Webster Groves/Shrewsbury Area Chamber of Commerce**. With all of the new business coming to

Rock Hill, this organization will be a wonderful asset for everyone.

Up at City Hall we have a new user-friendly phone system in place. Please listen carefully to the message and you should have no problem getting to speak with the person you need. We also have a new intern on board who has reviewed the status of the Rock Hill website. Changes are currently being made to make this a more valuable means of communication. The agendas and minutes of the Board of Alderman and other committee meetings will be posted, and we are working to get more up-to-date information about all of the developments on the site as well. Check us out at [www.rockhillmo.net](http://www.rockhillmo.net).

The Board of Alderman is currently working on the **2006-07 Budgets** with our City Administrator and department heads. The new fiscal budget shows strong fiscal responsibility and most importantly, accountability. The budget will be ready for approval in April. The Board is also working on a schedule for the remaining streets to be repaired from the original \$3 million street bond. It is estimated that to finish the remaining projects will cost an additional \$5 million. The Board



knows this issue is very important to everyone and is dedicated to finding a financial solution so all the streets get done.

I am pleased to announce the formation of the **Traffic and Safety Commission**. This commission is comprised of three citizens, one from each ward, and the department heads. The group will focus on high speeding areas, traffic issues and other items. We are working toward making Rock Hill a safer place together.

It is that important time of the year again. Tuesday, April 4th is **Election Day**, be sure to get out and vote.

I want to thank everyone for their support and dedication over the last few years, all our hard work is now paying off. We all share in the success of our great city, Rock Hill

Mayor Julie Morgan

## Family Pets are Neighbors Too

When there is a problem with barking dogs in your neighborhood, it is helpful to talk to the animal owner. Although this may be difficult to do at first, communicating with your neighbor is usually the most effective way to resolve the problem. Here are a few suggestions for this difficult situation

- Try to talk to your neighbor when you are not frustrated about the barking
- When you approach your neighbor, be calm and plan to discuss the barking in a friendly way
- Inform them of the time of

day or night that the dog is barking

- Ask the neighbor whether you can contact them, day or night, when the barking is a problem

The most important item to remember is just being a good neighbor.

# Parks Department

Let's hope the worst of winter is behind us and spring is on the way. It won't be long until we have green grass, gardens full of flowers and trees full of leaves. The Parks and Recreation Department would like to renew our efforts in establishing a **Rock Hill Garden Club**. All of our parks have either established gardens or areas where a garden could be created. This would be the perfect project for a neighborhood group or a group of friends getting together for some fun. You can pick the park of your choice to work in and the plants you want to grow. We will provide all the equipment and supplies. All you need is a little time and the desire to make Rock Hill a prettier place

We are also seeking volunteers for the

**2006 Fall Festival Committee.** We need help with organizing events and activities, the parade, food vendors, and publicity. Even though the Fall Festival is several months away, the planning has already started. Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions at 961-1846

With spring right around the corner, we at the Parks and Recreation Department hope everyone takes the time to visit our parks, which are an important part of our community. If you happen to notice something that needs attention, please let us know as soon as possible. These are your parks and we want them to be clean and safe for your use.

Don't forget that the **Oakhaven Park** shelter is available for picnics, birthday

parties or other events for up to 25 people. We also have gazebos for rent at **Whitfield and Hensley Parks**. To arrange for use of these facilities contact the Parks and Recreation Office.

I would like to invite everyone to our **20th Annual Tree City USA/Arbor Day Program** on Sunday May 21 at Hensley Park from 2:00-5:00pm. To celebrate, we will have the first of two **Music in the Park** concerts. So mark your calendar, bring your lawn chairs, your lunch and join us for an Arbor Day Family Picnic with Music in the Park. You might even win a tree in our attendance prize drawing.

# Public Works

The Public Works department will schedule work, once the budget has been completed, and target some streets for repair that will have asphalt overlays and concrete slab replacements. These streets will be in addition to the asphalt repairs around the city this spring and summer due to the freeze and thaw effect we had this winter.

Let's not forget the annoying pest we all call the Mosquito. St. Louis County Vector Control will spray for mosqui-

toes this spring and summer. I have some **helpful hints** that will control the mosquito population. **1.)** Empty out all containers with standing water. **2.)** Keep your house and garage gutters clean. **3.)** Remove standing water in old tires that are lying around. **4.)** Change water in your bird bath every three days. Mosquitoes love to breed in stagnant water. If any questions or concerns, Please call me, Ron Meyer, at 961-4849 or City Hall at 968-1410 regarding your complaints.

Park restrooms will open back up April 1<sup>st</sup>. If any questions about the parks, please call, 961-4849

There will be construction traffic all around town this spring and summer. Please drive cautiously through construction zones as safety is our first priority.

Thanks and have a great spring!

Your Public Works Team

# Fire Department

It is that time of the year to set your clocks forward one hour and **check the batteries on your smoke detectors** throughout your house. The following are a few other helpful safety tips to keep your family safe in case of a fire or other emergency.

- Install smoke detectors on every level, near bedrooms, in the garage and away from air vents. Be sure to check the batteries twice a year.
- Keep items away from the stove that could catch fire
- Keep a fire extinguisher in the kitchen, and know when and how to use it

- Use safety plugs in electrical outlets, especially if you have small children
- Avoid overloading electrical outlets and running cords under carpet and furniture
- Plan and practice a fire escape route from every room
- Install a chain ladder to escape from upper levels and **practice using it.**
- **Teach children not to hide from firefighters**
- Identify a place outside to meet in case of a fire
- Know how to call for emergency as-

sistance.

- In case of a fire, crawl low, under the smoke and keep your mouth covered
- Feel closed doors with the back of your hand. If hot, use another exit. If not hot, open the door slowly and check for smoke and fire
- Meet at the designated meeting place outside, then call for help. **NEVER RETURN TO A BURNING BUILDING!**

# News from Your Ward

## Ward 1-Alderwoman Edith Brown and Alderman Ed Johnson

It is the start of a new year and time to review the things we like most about Rock Hill, our home town. Some of the things to like about Rock Hill are the new business developments, it is centrally located to the highways, it is in a good school system, and has a safe and friendly community atmosphere. Novus Developments, Walgreen and Tilles Apartments are a few examples of our current redevelopment projects. Our Webster Groves School system ranks high among public systems in the state and is asking for your support to get better. MO-DOT (Missouri Department of Transportation) is asking to make highway 64/40 wider and better. Now what can we do to improve our safe and friendly community atmosphere? Following are ten things we can do to improve our **safe and friendly community atmosphere**:

-Try to get along better with your neighbors.

-Speak and wave to your neighbors and visitors to our town.

-Start a neighborhood community group like Neighborhood Watch.

-Start a neighborhood calling tree and use it.

-Start a family and community movie night in the park.

-Start a community garden with the local school and community groups.

-Plant some flowers or vegetation in your yard, community garden and/or our parks (to be coordinated with our Park and Recreation Department).

-Call the police if you see a suspicious person(s) in you neighborhood, (we want to be safe first then friendly to our visitors).

-Bring your suggestions to the next Board or Ward meeting.

-Give your suggestions to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen.

Edith Brown and Ed Johnson

## Ward 2-Alderwoman Sheri McCann and Alderman Matt Knuckles

Finally! I hope you have seen the bulldozers on the S/W corner of Manchester & McKnight. By the time you read this, there should be evidence of demolition for **Market at McKnight**. This is exciting news for every citizen who participated in the hundreds of hours of meetings to determine what we, the citizens, wanted to see in the way of a development here in Rock Hill. The new Walgreens should be up and running to serve residents and bring revenue to the city by the summer. The old eyesore known as the Gerber site will soon be apartments that can be converted to condos. Sometimes it seems as though we are pushing a string uphill, doesn't it. Recently, communications from City Hall have needed improvement. Regular quarterly newsletters will help. We should be back on track with this. We promised that the website will

be updated regularly so you can stay abreast of city events and we will post updates regarding developments.

Sheri McCann

The Chamber of Commerce is a key element of any city and should therefore be treated like one. The Chamber of Commerce can offer support for local businesses and networking within the community. Rock Hill is delighted to be joining the **Webster Groves-Shrewsbury Chamber of Commerce**. You may contact Kevin King for chamber information at 961-4142.

A special "Thank You" to McDonalds who has been an outstanding supporter for Rock Hill. Whenever the city has had a special event, we could always depend on

McDonalds. Other wonderful supporters have been Hacienda, Café Brazil and Shakers Bath House. By joining a Chamber, businesses can support one another and be part of a larger team.

With all the new developments in Rock Hill, there will be many additional businesses in our city that will benefit from joining the Webster Groves-Shrewsbury Chamber of Commerce.

Matt Knuckles

## Ward 3-Alderwoman Edie Barnard and Alderman TJ Redmond

There are many things happening in Ward 3. The new Walgreen's at Manchester and Kortwright is on target for a summer opening. Thankfully Heartland Bank will begin demolition of the old Western Auto within the month. During construction the bank will erect a fence, to provide a visual barrier during the construction of their new facility. This will be a welcome departure from the current site. After much discussion, consideration, and research, the board has approved a plan to landscape the area directly behind **Colonial Square**. Although we had hoped to put in a new privacy fence, the cost was too high, and prob-

lems with sewer lines, clearance issues for trucks, and existing trees, created overwhelming obstacles. We ultimately concluded that creating a visual barrier by planting a variety of trees and shrubs provided the best solution.

The Novus redevelopment continues to progress. The redevelopment agreement was amended, but still requires that the project continue on the North side. There are a number of provisions that provide incentives to insure the completion of the entire project.

We are pleased to welcome the **library** to Ward 3. If you haven't been there, you owe yourself a trip. It is a grand improvement from the old location and best of all we no longer have to cross Manchester to get there.

That's the scoop from Ward 3. As always, we appreciate all you do to contribute to our City.

Edie Barnard and TJ Redmond



Rock Hill City Hall  
9511 Manchester Road  
Rock Hill, MO 63119  
968-1410 968-4843 - Fax  
rockhillmo.net

#### Frequently Called Numbers

City Hall	968-1410
Fire	962-6254
Police	962-6600
Court	962-6265
Parks & Rec.	961-1846
Library	962-4723
Public Works	961-4849

#### ROCK HILL CITY OFFICIALS

Julie Morgan	Mayor	968-1410
Edith Brown	Alderwoman Ward 1	968-2374
Edward Johnson	Alderman Ward 1	962-3165
Sheri McCann	Alderwoman Ward 2	968-2452
Matthew Knuckles	Alderman Ward 2	962-2491
Edie Barnard	Alderwoman Ward 3	968-4231
T J Redmond	Alderman Ward 3	963-3201

Address info

## Police Department

With springtime approaching and the weather getting nicer people will open their doors and windows to let in the fresh spring air into their homes. A big problem is hearing the constant barking of dogs. A neighbor's barking dog can be a real nuisance and very irritating, so be courteous to your neighbors and bring your dog inside. You must remember when your dog is outside he is usually barking away from the residence in which he lives. So you may not notice the barking, but if the dog is barking towards a neighbor's house, be assured they can hear it loud and clear. If your dog is outside and you leave your home, please bring your dog inside.

This is also the time to remind everyone that there will be children playing outside in and around the neighborhood streets. Take a little extra time with your driving by obeying the speed laws and stop signs. You never know when a child will run out into the street or pop up on a bicycle or skateboard. Remember it could be **YOUR** child.

## Spring 2006 Calendar of Events

### April

**April 1**-Outdoor restroom facilities in all parks are open

**April 2**-DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME-CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS AND CHECK THE BATTERIES ON YOUR SMOKE DETECTORS!

**April 4**-Election Day

**April 6**-11:30am Senior Citizen Lunch and Bingo at Webster Groves Recreation Center, 33 Glendale Avenue - \$5.00

**April 8**-9:30am-Easter Eggstravaganza-Steger School. Activities include an Easter Egg hunt, musical entertainment, snacks, prizes, and a visit from the Easter Bunny. \$4.00 for Rock Hill Residents; \$6.00 for non-residents. Pre-registration at City Hall required by April 3.

**April 12**-6:30-8:30 Residential Design Guideline Meeting at City Hall. Everyone welcome!

**April 20**-6:30pm-Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

### May

**May 4**-1:30am Senior Citizen Lunch and Bingo at Webster Groves Recreation Center 33 Glendale Recreation Center-\$5.00

**May 11**-Stroup Field Adult Softball League Begins

**May 18**-6:30pm - Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

**May 21**-2:00-5:00pm 20th Annual Tree City USA/Arbor Day-Music in the Park Family Picnic-Hensley Park-We hope you will Bring your blankets, lawn chairs, friends and neighbors, as we enjoy an afternoon of great music.

Please note that all Park and Recreation Commission meetings are located at the Parks and Recreation office, 827 N. Rock Hill Road