

City of Ellisville
Trailblazer



Winter 2012

Ellisville General Election - April 3, 2012

An election will be held on Tuesday, April 3, 2012, to elect a Mayor and one Council Member from each of the three Districts. The following individuals have filed as candidates and are listed in the order that they filed:

Mayor

Dawn Anglin, 1219 Marsh Avenue
Michelle (Shelly) Murray, 1419 Virginia Drive
Robert Srote, 1378 Marsh Avenue
Adam Paul, 1194 Oak Hill Court

Council Member District One

Matt Pirrello, 1045 Lemar Drive
Robert Clark Compton, 1209 Fairview Drive

Council Member District Two

Linda Reel, 1239 Polo Lake Drive

Council Member District Three

Roze Acup, 98 Weis Avenue

Polling places will be published in a local paper shortly before the election and all registered voters should also receive postcard notifications of polling places from the St. Louis County Board of Election Commissioners.



If you have not already registered to vote, you may do so at all motor vehicle registration offices, at most State offices, public libraries, Ellisville City Hall or by mail with the appropriate form. For more information regarding registration or for the location of your nearest registration site, call the St. Louis County Board of Election Commissioners at (314)615-1800 or visit their website at www.co.st-louis.mo.us/elections. The last day to register to vote in the April 2012 election is Wednesday, March 7, 2012.

PROPERTY MARKING KITS

Beginning January 2012, the Ellisville Police Department will provide special property marking kits to residents as a way to better protect their property from theft. The kits can be loaned out for up to a week to provide residents enough time to mark their property.

The kits include a permanent invisible fluorescent marking pen, a special black light flashlight, an inventory list for marked items, and one ID decal to place on a door or window. This will alert thieves that all items of value on premises have been marked for ready identification.

Residents are asked to put their driver's license number on their property and valuables with these pens. The marking is only visible under ultraviolet light, making it easier for police to identify the property and connect a thief to a specific incident and location. Each surface is different, so owners should take care to properly mark the item thereby avoiding damage to their property.

For more information, contact the Ellisville Police at (636)227-7777 or email Sgt. Nancy Walker at nwalker@ellisville.mo.us.

MAYOR'S CORNER



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Well, I knew this day would come. I certainly didn't think it would happen so fast. I guess the ol' saying; "time flies when you're having fun" is altogether true...and I have!

It is with some sadness that I bid you all a farewell as your Mayor. I have truly enjoyed representing you and the City of Ellisville, and I hope I have done you all proud over the past six years.

I have learned so much along the way – humility, patience and kindness are just a few. The City's success has little to do with me and everything to do with you. We all really enjoy this town. We have the best residents of any in the region. I know, because I have met them personally.

I have also learned that municipal operations are not smoke and mirrors. The dedicated staff is exemplary. Led by our City Manager, Kevin Bookout, they handle the day-to-day operations with the utmost professionalism. Our Police Department is second to none with their commitment to protecting our residents and businesses and making our streets safe. Our Public Works folks do an outstanding job ensuring our streets are safe to travel when it snows and keeping our parks looking the best they can along with so many other things. Our Parks and Recreation Department continues to host exceptional programs throughout the year. Our Engineering Department is constantly providing

improvements to our infrastructure, and our Planning Department remains committed to quality commercial and residential redevelopment to ensure our economic sustainability.

We have all accomplished so much over the past six years. We entered into a multi-jurisdictional cooperative agreement with our neighboring cities relative to the Great Streets Initiative and saw the construction of the new Public Works Facility and the Parks and Recreation Aquatic Center. We established our Economic Development Commission, started a Farmers Market and began fundraising for a dog park. We conducted town hall meetings and adopted an Economic Development Strategies Implementation Plan to better understand the economic conditions of the City and set a course of action for our City's future. We have also maintained property tax levels without cutting the services we provide to our residents. None of these achievements could have been accomplished without the cooperative efforts of your marvelous and committed City Council Members.

I would like to thank you, the residents of Ellisville, for allowing me the opportunity to serve you and our wonderful City. Lastly, I would like to thank Linda, the love of my life, for her understanding while I spent so many hours away from home representing our City.

Farewell to all, and thank you once again for this unforgettable opportunity. May God bless you and your families.

Many thanks,

Mayor Matt Pirrello

Pave the Way to the Ellisville Dog Park!

Council Member Linda Reel and the Ellisville Dog Park Committee are well on their way to raising the funds needed to build an off-leash dog park in Bluebird Park. The planned dog park will be near the softball fields at Bluebird Park and will be open to the general public. Those wishing to use the park will be able to purchase an annual membership through the City of Ellisville. The fees generated from the membership will be used to offset the maintenance costs for the park. To date the committee has raised \$8,000 towards their goal of \$20,000.

If you'd like to be part of the effort to make the dog park a reality there are several ways to participate:

- Donate at the Park Administration Building in Bluebird Park

- Purchase a commemorative brick. Bricks range in price from \$100 - \$250.
- Join the Dog Park Fundraising Committee
- Bring your dog to the **Yappy Hour**, Friday, May 16 from 6:00-7:30 p.m. at the Bluebird Park Tennis Courts. Fee is \$5.00 and includes snacks and beverages.
- Let your dogs play at the Pooch Plunges at the EDGE Aquatic Center, Thursday, September 6 at 5:00 p.m. and Saturday, September 8 at 9:00 a.m. Fee is \$3.00 per person and \$7.00 per dog.

For more information, please contact the Parks and Recreation Department at (636)227-7508.

Understanding the Proposed Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District

The City of Ellisville is currently exploring the possibility of creating a tax increment financing (TIF) district to redevelop the area that is the southwest quadrant of the intersection of Manchester Road and Kiefer Creek Road. TIF is an economic development tool that allows cities and counties to encourage development in areas of the community that would not otherwise develop or redevelop without some type of financial assistance. The financial assistance under TIF is the ability to use a portion of the incremental increase in property taxes, sales, earnings, and other locally collected taxes resulting from the new development to pay for certain authorized improvements. Existing taxes are not impacted. TIF is one of the few sources of redevelopment financing assistance available to local governments.

In order for TIF to prove viable, the proposed area must pass the “but for” test. The developer must certify by sworn affidavit and the governing body must find that the proposed redevelopment would not occur “but for” TIF assistance. The areas that qualify for TIF must be (1) a conservation area, (2) economic redevelopment area, or (3) blighted area. This City’s proposed TIF district has not been subjected to growth and redevelopment through private investment over the course of the past several years and is not anticipated to be redeveloped without the adoption of TIF.

TIF can often be difficult to understand and, as a result, we have provided several commonly asked questions and answers below. In addition, the City invites the residents and businesses to participate in the redevelopment plan and redevelopment project approval process. Notices of the meetings are posted at City Hall and online at www.ellisville.mo.us. A public hearing is scheduled for Monday, March 5 at 7 p.m. at the Park Administration Building, Bluebird Park, 225 Kiefer Creek Rd.

The City is not put at financial risk. TIF project costs are paid solely from the incremental tax revenues resulting from the redevelopment, not from the municipality’s general fund. The revenue stream may be used to reimburse the developer on a “pay-as-you-go” basis or to repay bonds issued by the TIF Commission. The risk lies with the developer who has invested in the project and relies upon the repayment through the TIF.

The approval of a TIF is not a tax rate increase. The incremental taxes referred to in the name are those new property taxes resulting from construction or rehabilitation of buildings, new earnings taxes resulting from increased

construction or rehabilitation of buildings, new earnings taxes resulting from increased employment on the site, and sales taxes resulting from new retail activities on the site. It is these new taxes that are used to pay for development costs over a period of up to twenty-three years.

TIF is not a tax abatement program. All property owners and businesses located in a TIF project area must pay the same amount of taxes that would have been paid if the area was not a TIF project. The TIF designation does not reduce the amount of taxes collected; it instead alters the distribution of the tax revenue stream. The taxes existing prior to TIF designation continue to flow to the taxing districts that previously received those tax dollars. The incremental taxes, the difference between the amount of taxes paid in a TIF project area in the year prior to the establishment of the TIF project area and future years, are set aside in a special allocation fund to either reimburse the developer for amounts expended to construct certain authorized improvements or to make periodic payments to retire the TIF bonds issued to pay for those improvements.

Other taxing districts do not suffer from the approval of a TIF. The proposed redevelopment is occurring in an area of the community that would not otherwise redevelop without the TIF assistance. School districts will continue to receive all of the tax revenue that they received before approval of a TIF redevelopment plan and projects. TIF uses only those incremental tax revenues that exist because of the new project enabled by the TIF assistance. Areas that do not qualify for TIF assistance will continue to develop and the taxes generated will continue to go to the county and other taxing jurisdictions.

Source: “FAQ” Missouri Economic Development Financing Association

Babysitting Basics - Saturday, April 28 9:00 a.m. - Noon (for children 12-15 years of age)

This three-hour interactive class includes getting started, taking care of baby, kids’ ages and stages, entertaining the kids, keeping things safe, and being prepared for emergencies and first aid. Participants are asked to bring a regular-sized baby doll to practice baby care skills.

Pre-registration is required, and the fee is \$28.00 per person. To register, please contact the Park Administration Center at (636)227-7508, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Voters Will See Proposed City Charter Amendment on Ballot

This April, voters will see a new item on the ballot, Ordinance #3058. The ordinance is a proposed amendment to the City Charter which will provide for staggered four-year terms of office for the Mayor and other members of the City Council. If the amendment is approved, the two consecutive term limits will remain in effect. The placement of the ordinance on the ballot follows the January 4 town hall meeting that the City Council hosted to discuss the amendment with residents.

During the town hall meeting, Mayor Matt Pirrello gave a brief presentation about the benefits of the amendment. Mayor Pirrello explained that the extended terms as well as staggering the terms of both the Mayor and the Council Members would allow the newly-elected Council members more time to become effective policy makers. The amendment would reduce the political disruptions and diversions associated with more frequent elections. In addition, the change would minimize the City's need for spending additional monies on Council elections that occur more frequently. Approximately two-thirds of the residents attending the early January town hall meeting voted in favor of placing the amendment on the ballot. As a result of the overwhelming interest by residents, on January 18 the City Council unanimously approved placing this item on the April ballot for voter consideration.

Currently, the City Charter states that each elected official shall serve three-year terms with only the Council Member elections being staggered. As a result, during every third election year there stands a possibility of a complete majority turnover on the City Council with the elections of the Mayor and three Council Members. The proposed amendment states that three Council Members from each district would be elected to a four-year term beginning April 2013. The April 2015 election would elect the additional three Council Members from each district to a four-year term with the election of the Mayor remaining at a three-year term. The election of the Mayor to a four-year term would begin April 2018.

Great Streets

After the adoption of the Great Streets Master Plan (Plan) by the City of Ellisville on April 13, 2011, the cities of Ballwin and Wildwood have followed suit. Ballwin adopted the Plan May 2, 2011 while Wildwood adopted the Plan on November 21, 2011. Although, the cities of Winchester and Manchester

have chosen not to adopt the Plan at this time, the work and progress continues.

After several rounds of meetings with the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) and East West Gateway Council of Governments, the three cities (that adopted the Plan) have zoned in on specific improvement projects as part of implementing the Plan. These projects will be dove-tailed with MoDOT's resurfacing project slated for 2014. In Ellisville, the specific descriptions for potential projects are as follows:

- Landscaped medians along Manchester Road within the Town Center area; and
- Street lighting along Manchester Road, again, from approximately Covert Lane to Ranchmoor, will enhance visibility and safety by providing appropriate light levels; and
- Sidewalk infill which will allow for complete pedestrian connectivity from the western city limits to the eastern city limits; and
- New multi-use trail from Westglen Farms in Wildwood to Strecker Road; and
- Illuminated street signs at all signalized intersections, including City logo and address range with the posts painted black; and
- Address bollards located in front of certain properties along Manchester Road identifying the address block number; and
- Wayfinding signage at certain locations along Manchester Road directing people to points of interest; and
- New bus shelters at two key locations along Manchester Road; one east of Kiefer Creek and another west of Covert.

In the coming months, the cities and MoDOT will select the projects for implementation and begin design work and engineering. The work conducted in the coming months will provide a number of visual benefits to the Manchester corridor in the near future. It is truly an exciting time for Great Streets!



City Council Approves 2012 City Budget

The City Council unanimously approved the 2012 budget at its meeting on December 21, 2011. This followed months of work including Council review meetings and a public hearing in December.

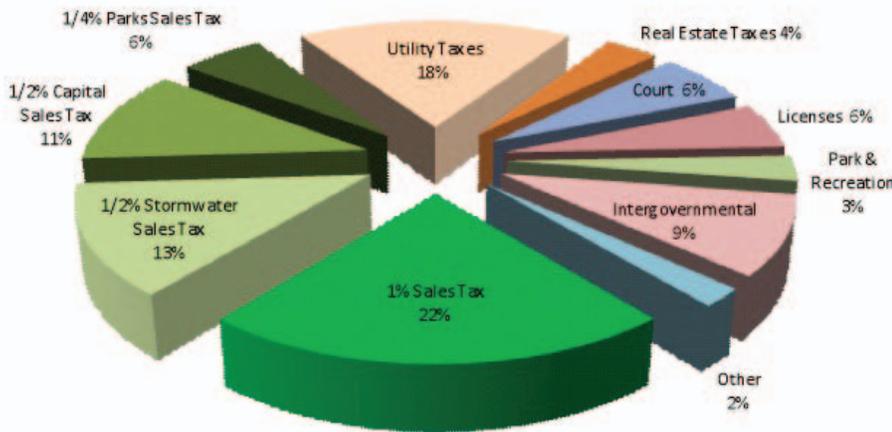
The budgeted revenue for 2012 is \$10,400,610. A little over half of this will come from sales taxes. The City continues to apply for grants to stretch our dollars. The City also receives funds from the State. There are several other minor revenue sources which support our City.

million for street work during 2012. Street work is planned for Marsh, Hunter’s Glen, Bonnybridge and Dogwood Grove. Also included is an overlay on Strecker Rd., crack sealing, mudjacking and concrete slab replacements.

The budget includes the following services:

- Trash, Leaf/Brush & Recycling Pickup
- The Edge Aquatic Center
- Crime Prevention & Safety
- 4th of July Festival
- Concerts in the Park
- Four DARE programs
- Boys & Girls Scout Partnerships
- 5K Run
- Seasonal Farmers Market
- Tree Planting & Replacement
- Trail Maintenance
- Youth/Adult Recreation Programs
- Playgrounds
- Police Halloween Program
- Street Lights
- Snow Removal

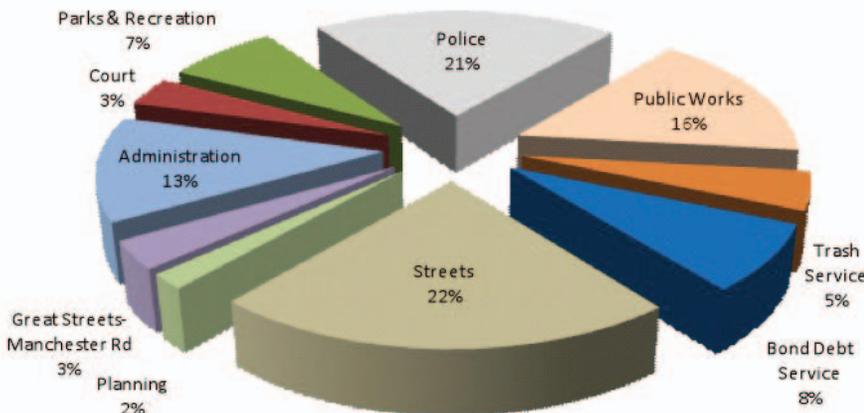
2012 BUDGETED REVENUES



Budgeted expenditures for 2012 total \$10,272,291. This means that the City was again able to provide all ongoing services with a current year balanced budget.

The Council adopted a Capital Improvement Plan which lists major expenditures for 2012 – 2016, and they reviewed and approved the City’s long-term goals. These are both a part of the City Budget process.

2012 BUDGETED EXPENDITURES



The 2011 Budget received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association. This is the 16th year this highest award has been received.

Ellisville Community Farmers’ Market

Back by popular demand the Ellisville Community Farmers’ Market will feature seasonal market fare from local farmers and artisans from 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m every Thursday. The market also features children’s activities, regional entertainment, barbeque, local wines and other refreshments. For more information, visit their website at www.ellisvillefarmersmarket.org.

During 2011 you, the voters, approved a Capital Improvements sales tax. This, along with the Storm Water sales tax, was instrumental in the City being able to budget almost \$2.0

Upcoming Events

Kids Easter Egg Scramble

Saturday, March 31 at 10:00 a.m.
Bluebird Park near Bussman Shelter
Children ages 1 to 9 years old

The public is welcome to attend free of charge, and no pre-registration is required. The siren will go off at 10:00 a.m. sharp, so please allow extra time for parking.

Arbor Day Ceremony

Thursday, April 12 at 2:00 p.m.
Park Administration Center in Bluebird Park

This year, 2012, marks the 31st consecutive year that the City of Ellisville has been a Tree City U.S.A. All those in attendance will receive a seedling from the Department of Conservation.

Bluebird Park Honeysuckle Removal Day

Saturday, April 14 from 9:00a.m. to Noon
14 years and older

Please join the Ellisville Park Board for a morning of work in Bluebird Park. To participate, please call the (636)227-7508 or e-mail lblumer@ellisville.mo.us to sign-up.

Heartsave CPR and AED Training

Saturday, April 14 from 9:30 a.m. to Noon
Park Administration Center in Bluebird Park
Adults and children 12 years and older

Pre-registration is required, and the fee is \$50.00 per person (\$45.00 for Residents).

Prescription Drug Take-Back Program

Saturday, April 28 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Ellisville Police Station, 37 Weis Avenue

Citizens are encouraged drop off any unused or expired prescription and over the counter medications. This includes tablets, capsules, small vials (injectibles), and all other solid or liquid dosage forms. Needles will not be accepted. This program is free and anonymous, and no requests for identification will be made. For more information, contact the Ellisville Police at (636)227-7777 or visit www.dea.gov to find additional drop off locations.

Lafayette Older Adults Program - L.O.A.P.

Monday, February 23 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00p.m.
Monday, March 12 from 10:00 a.m.to 2:00p.m.
Monday, March 26 from 10:00 a.m.to 2:00p.m.
Monday, April 9 from 10:00 a.m.to 2:00p.m.
Monday, April 23 from 10:00 a.m.to 2:00p.m.
Monday, May 14 from 10:00 a.m.to 2:00p.m.
Ballwin Golf Course, located at 333 Holloway Road

If you are 55 plus, this is a great group for you to become involved in! Pre-registration is required at the cost of \$1.00 per person for all upcoming special luncheons and trips.

2012 Spring Brush Chipping Program

District 1 – April 16
District 2 - April 23
District 3 - April 30

For more information, please visit www.ellisville.mo.us.

Bluebird Park Concert Series

7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Tim Cunningham

Thursday, June 7

The Planet Boogie Band

Thursday, June 14

Hudson and the Hood Doo Cats

Thursday, June 21

Air Force Band

Thursday, June 28

The Giving Tree Band

Thursday, July 12

The Erin Bode Group

Thursday, July 19

Billy Peek

Thursday, July 26

(Rain dates if needed are August 2 and August 9)

EDGE Aquatic Center

Opening for the fourth season, the EDGE Aquatic Center is gearing up for a “splashtacular” year featuring Early Bird Discount Swim Memberships, Group and Private Swim Lessons, Kids Play on the Splash Pad, Family Dive-In Movie Night, a Night of Swimming Under the Stars, Birthday Splash Parties and the third season of the Ellisville/Wildwood Gator Swim Team that expects to be even bigger and better than last year.

For registration or additional information, please call the Park Administration Office between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. M-F at (636)227-7508 or visit www.ellisville.mo.us.

Service Requests, Concerns or Questions

There are many avenues residents can take if they have a City-related request, concern or question. Calling City Hall at (636)227-9660 is the quickest way to get an answer to your question or resolve a problem. Another quick option is to access the City's website, www.ellisville.mo.us, and complete a Service Request/ Comment Form online. This method delivers the completed form immediately to the appropriate department. The Service Request Form below can be mailed or delivered to City Hall, 1 Weis Ave. Ellisville, MO, 63011. Simply complete the form by providing a brief description of the request and the location. Fill in your name, address, and daytime number so that we may keep you informed. However, if you wish to remain anonymous, please contact a Council Member. Staff is not permitted to take anonymous complaints.

Service Request Form

If you have a city-related request or question, please complete the form below. Provide a brief description of the request and the location. Fill in your name, address, and daytime number so that we may keep you informed. Mail or deliver to City Hall, 1 Weis Ave. Ellisville, MO 63011

Please indicate your problem by marking the appropriate box:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Speeding | <input type="checkbox"/> Sidewalk |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Illegal parking | <input type="checkbox"/> Dogs Barking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Litter | <input type="checkbox"/> Weeds |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tree Trimming | <input type="checkbox"/> Pedestrian Trails |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic Sign | <input type="checkbox"/> Parks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Street Maintenance | <input type="checkbox"/> Street Light |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Abandoned Vehicle | <input type="checkbox"/> Noise Nuisance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stormwater | <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic Signal |

Brief Description (or other problem not listed)

Location of Problem

Your Name _____

Your Address _____

Daytime Phone _____

Summer Employment

The Ellisville Parks Department has many seasonal employment opportunities. You can pick up an application at either Ellisville City Hall or the Park Administration Center in Bluebird Park Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. You may also download an application at www.ellisville.mo.us. All mailed applications should be made attention to Sherri Klekamp at 225 Kiefer Creek Road, Ellisville, MO 63021. Applicants must be **16** years of age or older. For any questions, please contact Sherri Klekamp at (636)227-7508 or at sklekamp@ellisville.mo.us.

Seasonal Openings:

- Day Camp Counselors
- Summer T-Ball Coaches
- EDGE Aquatic Center Concessions Attendants
- EDGE Front Desk Cashiers
- *Lifeguards *Swim Coaches
- *Swim Lesson Instructors

*If you are interested in being a lifeguard, swim team coach, or swim lesson instructor, apply online at www.midwestpool.com. For more information, contact Lindsey Ellsworth, Midwest Pool Management at (314)432-1313.

City Council Permits Residents to Keep Chickens

The City Council recently voted in favor of amending the City Code to allow residents to keep chickens, effective March 1, 2012. Each single-family dwelling is allowed to keep no more than four hens. The chickens must be kept outside in a coop with a running pen. No roosters are allowed. The City encourages residents to review the regulations of the ordinance online at www.ellisville.mo.us or at City Hall. For more information, please call (636)227-9660.



City of Ellisville
1 Weis Avenue
Ellisville, MO 63011-2192
www.ellisville.mo.us

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City Council Directory

Mayor Matt Pirrello
1045 LeMar Dr.
(636)394-5300

District 1 Council Members

Clark Compton
1212 Fairview
(636)394-4951

Dawn Anglin
1219 Marsh Ave.
(636)230-6916

District 2 Council Members

Linda Reel
1239 Polo Lake Dr.
(636)386-3983

Troy Pieper
734 Ridgewood Manor Dr.
(636)256-7819

District 3 Council Members

Roze Acup
98 Weis Ave.
(636)675-1887

Michelle Murray
1419 Virginia Dr.
(636)227-7015

KIDS' SAFETY DAY

As a community service, the Ellisville Police Department will sponsor a Kids' Safety Day featuring FREE child car seats and bicycles/helmets inspections on Saturday, May 19, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The event will be held in the parking lot of St. John Lutheran Church located at 15800 Manchester Road in Ellisville.

Trained, certified car-seat technicians will be available to check car seats for safety. The technicians will teach parents how to properly install the car seat and how to safely restrain the child. Typical problems with car seat installation include:

- Improper use (or no use) of locking clips or shoulder harness clips
- Loose seat belts securing the car seat
- Parents tend to move children up to the next child restraint too early
- Use of recalled or old seats
- Use of seats that have been in a collision

Each car seat inspection will take approximately 20 minutes. For more information on the car seat inspections and to schedule an appointment for faster service, contact Sgt. Nancy Walker at (636)227-7777 or email at nwalker@ellisville.mo.us. "Drive-ups" on day of the event are also welcomed.

Besides the car seat inspections, the Police Department offers the Child Safety Helmet program. The purpose of the program is to help reduce the incidence of unintentional injury to children related to non-use or improper fitting of child safety helmets. Children can bring in their existing safety helmet for inspection and fitting by a certified police officer. They also can inspect bicycles for safety and correct fitting. A very limited amount of free helmets will be available to residents who cannot afford them.

Parents will be able to pick up information on other child safety issues such as child fingerprinting and bicycle safety issues. The Ellisville Police Department along with other neighboring police and fire departments will display emergency equipment and have police officers and fire fighters on hand to answer any questions. Free refreshments including hotdogs, soda, water, pizza, popcorn and much more will be available along with games and prizes for the children. Raffles will be drawn for gift certificates donated by area businesses.