

City of Ellisville  
*Trailblazer*



Fall 2019

## From the Mayor's Desk

Hello Ellisville,

The past year has been a great one for the City of Ellisville. We have improved our position in St Louis County by improving residential and commercial occupancy rates as our total population is closing in on the 10,000 mark. We have improved collaboration with other municipalities, and the threat of the city-destroying forced merger has been eliminated...for now.

We have great collaborative synergies within our city council and staff. Our strategic plans and economic development efforts are impressive and provide a clear path for us to be well positioned to continue to provide the level of services moving forward that our citizens so greatly deserve!

We have been fortunate to have a significant number of our large long term vacant commercial properties start construction, go under contract or open for business as was the case with Aldi. We have seen significant reinvestment in Ellisville by long term existing businesses despite the continued pressure from increased internet sales that threatens all of our retailers and robs us of our valuable sales tax revenue.

Hats off to our Economic Development Commission, Planning & Zoning Commission, my fellow city council members and all the incredible Ellisville employees led by City Manager Bill Schwer. I truly believe that they all have the best interest of our city and its citizens at heart! A great big thanks to the Ellisville Administration, Parks & Recreation, Planning & Community Development, Police and Public Works Departments! They make all of this possible and help make Ellisville a premier place to Live, Work, Play, Shop and Dine! Please remember to shop local, Shop Ellisville! [www.ShopEllisville.biz](http://www.ShopEllisville.biz)

Finally, a very special shout out and recognition of Chief Steve Lewis, Captain Jeff Diehl and the entire Ellisville Police Department for achieving a recommendation for full accreditation!

Yours Truly,  
Mayor Mike Roerman

## Fall Hayrides

Come join us for an evening hayride, and enjoy hot cocoa while roasting hog dogs and marshmallows over an open fire.

Dates: Thursday, October 3 (rain date October 4)  
Thursday, October 10 (rain date October 11)  
Thursday, October 17 (rain date October 19)  
Thursday, October 24 (rain date October 25)

Time: 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.  
Fee: Res: \$7/person;  
Non-Res: \$9/person

Location: Bussmann Pavilion,  
Bluebird Park



## JOB OPENING ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR LOCAL BUSINESSES

The City of Ellisville would like to help our local businesses get the word out that they are looking to fill immediate employment positions. If you are a business located within the City of Ellisville, send us your job opening announcements and we'll post it on our City website. Please send your job postings to: AJ Jones, [ajones@ellisville.mo.us](mailto:ajones@ellisville.mo.us)

## MUNICIPAL COURT INFORMATION

Municipal Courts are part of the judicial branch of government and ultimately accountable to the Supreme Court of Missouri. Municipal Courts are a division of the Circuit Court and are under the direction of the Presiding Judge. Ellisville Municipal Division Court has been in operation for more than 50 years. The Municipal Court Administrator is Joanna Fiehler, her telephone number is (636) 227-3729, and her email is [jfiehler@ellisville.mo.us](mailto:jfiehler@ellisville.mo.us). The court is located next to Ellisville City Hall. Court is held once a month starting at noon in the Council Chambers of Ellisville City Hall. Municipal Court office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., excluding observed holidays. There are several ways to handle a violation citation; some tickets are able to be paid without coming to court by paying the ticket through the Violation Bureau. Eligible citations can be paid by going to the Municipal Courts page on the City of Ellisville's website at [www.ellisville.mo.us](http://www.ellisville.mo.us). If the charge is not listed on the Violation Bureau, a court appearance is required. Persons wanting to plead not guilty, may do so on the court date listed on the citation. It is always encouraged to speak to a licensed attorney with any legal questions. All of Ellisville court cases are available on Missouri's Casenet website, [www.courts.mo.gov/casenet](http://www.courts.mo.gov/casenet). The Ellisville Municipal Court strives to provide support and guidance with assisting defendants to ensure a timely conclusion to all court cases while upholding justice.

## Managed Deer Hunt in Klamberg Conservation Area

Again this year the Missouri Department of Conservation and the City of Ellisville are working cooperatively to administer a managed deer hunt to help control the deer population. During the hunt the conservation area will be closed to the public but the majority of Bluebird Park will remain open. The dates for this year's hunt will start Monday, November 11th and run through Friday, November 15th, 2019.

Five hunters will be selected to participate in each hunt through the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) managed hunt system. All hunters attend a pre-hunt orientation to learn the rules and regulations of the hunt. All are required to use archery or cross-bow equipment, hunt from an elevated stand and are required to harvest an antlerless deer before a second deer (antlered or antlerless) could be taken. A maximum of three deer can be harvested per hunter. No shooting zones of 25 yards are established along the boundaries of Klamberg Conservation Area.

When deer numbers are high, other plant and wildlife species struggle to survive or disappear altogether. To be responsible land managers, deer numbers should be kept in balance with the other species at Klamberg Conservation Area. MDC strives to meet their Constitutional mandate which includes the wise management of our natural resources. These management efforts often include population control through harvest.

The Ellisville City Council voted to modify the Ellisville City Code to allow for the managed hunts to help control the deer population in Ellisville and surrounding area as the growing number of deer are creating a danger for vehicle accidents and destruction of native plants and trees.

If you have questions regarding the hunt, you can contact Erin Shank, Wildlife Biologist with the Department of Conservation at (314) 301-1506 or Lisa Blumer, Director of Parks and Recreation at (636) 227-7508.

# Half Cent Sales Tax Storm Water Improvement Project Update

The City of Ellisville completed street improvements on Wolff Lane between Clayton Road and the dead end this summer. The improvements included removal of the existing street and replacement with a new 26' wide asphalt street with concrete curbs and gutters, installation of a new storm water system, removal and replacement of driveway approaches, utility relocation and other miscellaneous items such as grading and sodding. The City would like to thank the property owners on Wolff Lane who granted easements for the new storm sewer system.



Carmel Woods During Construction

Klamberg Lane is also scheduled for rotomilling of the existing asphalt surface and installation of a new 2" asphalt surface layer. This work will be completed later this fall.

The City is in the process of designing a right turn lane on Clarkson Pines Drive at Clarkson Road. This work is anticipated to be completed this year. The City is also in the process of designing a new sidewalk along Barbara Ann Lane between Reinke Road and East Meadow Lane. This work is scheduled for construction in 2020.

The City will be contacting all residents impacted by these projects to discuss the proposed improvements and/or schedules for completion of the work.

These projects are being completed under the half cent sales storm water improvement tax. The City of Ellisville would like to thank all of the residents impacted by the projects for their patience and cooperation during these improvements. If you would like additional information on the half cent sales tax storm water projects, please contact John Collins, Assistant City Engineer, at (636) 227-9660 V/TDD or [jcollins@ellisville.mo.us](mailto:jcollins@ellisville.mo.us).



Wolff Lane Before Construction



Wolff Lane After Construction

The City is currently completing street improvements on Carmel Woods Drive. This work includes complete concrete street removal and replacement. This work is expected to be completed this fall.

## Easy Adult Dance Classes

Offered by St. Louis Community College Continuing Education and Ellisville Parks and Recreation.

Back by popular demand, Instructor Karen Merlin will be teaching a variety of dance classes at the Park Administration Building in Bluebird Park.

The evening classes include: Ballroom Dance, Swing Dancing, Easy Social Dance, Latin Dance and Line Dancing. All the classes begin the week of September 9th and continue for eight weeks. No partners are required, singles are welcome!

For fees and to register for these classes, please call (314) 984-7777 or register on-line at [stlcc.edu](http://stlcc.edu) and click on the "Continuing Education" link.

## NON-CITY SPONSORED COMMUNITY EVENTS

The City of Ellisville would like to help you promote your local community events. If you are planning an event within the City of Ellisville, send us your event announcements and we'll be happy to post it on our City website.

Please send your community event announcements to: AJ Jones, [ajones@ellisville.mo.us](mailto:ajones@ellisville.mo.us)

## National Night Out 2019

**National Night Out** is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, and a more caring place to live. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances.

Millions of neighbors take part in National Night Out across thousands of communities from all fifty states, U.S. territories and military bases worldwide on the first Tuesday in August. In Texas and select areas including the City of Ellisville, National Night Out is celebrated on the first Tuesday in October. Neighborhoods host block parties, cookouts, flashlight walks, parades, contests, youth activities, anticrime rallies, visits from emergency personnel, and much, much more.

From **6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on October 1st**, residents in neighborhoods throughout Ellisville are asked to lock their doors, turn on outside lights and spend the evening outside with neighbors and police.

This is a great way to build a safer community and to get to know your neighbors and your surroundings. National Night Out triumphs over a culture that isolates us from each other and allows us to rediscover our own communities. Make this the year you and your neighborhood participate in the National Night Out event. Download the registration form and send to Sergeant Nancy Walker at [nwalker@ellisville.mo.us](mailto:nwalker@ellisville.mo.us) by September 20 to make sure you are included in all the details of this event and to make sure City Officials and police officers know to visit your event.

## VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION



### Visit-A-Bit Program

Visit-A-Bit Program is a weekly volunteer program and offers visit tasks, by which volunteers can connect with homebound seniors in their communities. This program is designed to directly address senior loneliness and isolation in St. Louis City and County, St. Charles and Jefferson County. We're seeking volunteers that would like to be part of bringing happiness, joy, and purpose back to our aging community. Also welcoming seniors that would benefit from a weekly volunteer and offering weekly Tele-Bingo games! If you are interested and would like more information, please contact Lisa, the Visit-A-Bit Coordinator at (314) 918-7171 ext. 1255 or email [lpathenos@vnastl.org](mailto:lpathenos@vnastl.org).

## Pooch Plunges at the EDGE Aquatic Center



The EDGE is going to the dogs again this year after the Aquatic Center closes for the season. The plunges are on Thursday, September 5th, from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. and Saturday, September 7th, from 9:00 a.m. – noon. Fees are \$3.00 per person and \$7.00 per dog. Funds from the events assist with continued maintenance of the Ellisville Dog Park. Sponsors for this year's event are: Tri City Bird and Animal Clinic, Auto Spa Inc., The Fountains of West County and Allen Roofing and Siding.

## Breakfast with Santa

Santa will be accepting wish lists from children and posing for pictures so moms and dads...don't forget your camera. A light breakfast will be served. Preregister in the park office or by calling (636) 227-7508.

Date: Saturday, December 7

Time: 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Fee: \$5.00 per person  
(children under 1 FREE)

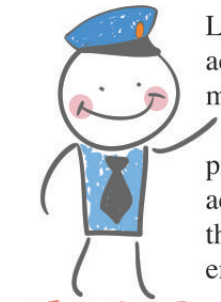
Location: Park Administration Building



## Recycling in Ellisville

The City provides at no charge, weekly recycling services to all single family residences. Collection of recyclable goods is every Wednesday. Recycling containers are provided and are available to pick up at City Hall. Although most household items are acceptable, please note the following will not be accepted in the recycling bins: Motor oil, insecticide, herbicide or hazardous chemical containers, hardcover books, plastic shopping bags (these should be returned to your grocery or department store), plastic sheets, tarps or wrap. Monthly electronic recycling is on the first Thursday of each month at Bluebird Park.

## Missouri Police Accreditation for the Ellisville Police Department



Lately there has been a lot of talk about accreditation in policing, and what it means for the community. Unlike teaching accreditation, medical accreditation or other professional accreditations, law enforcement accreditation is not required or associated with the ability of the agency to do their jobs. Law enforcement accreditation is about policies, procedures, and adhering to best

practices. A little known fact, across the country it is estimated only seven percent of all police agencies are accredited. In the St. Louis area, approximately ninety percent of agencies are accredited or are in the process of seeking accreditation.

At the writing of this article, the Ellisville Police Department is scheduled to hold its Missouri Police Chiefs Accreditation Onsite review in late July.

The Ellisville Police Department has been a quality police agency for decades, providing professional responsive police service to its community. So why pursue accreditation? Accreditation involves outside members of the policing community reviewing files that consist of policy and procedure as well as reviewing proofs of compliance. Proofs of compliance are factual entries that show that the agency is not only following their policy manual, but also proving that they are regularly doing the right thing. Here in Ellisville it is the spirit of accreditation that we value the most. While our policies are mirror reflections of law enforcement best practices, it is not for the sake of the policy that we are responsive to our community. It is because that is who we are to our core, a group of professional men and women dedicated to the community we serve because we chose this profession to protect the Ellisville community. Accreditation, for our agency, will be an affirmation of the fine policing that our agency does on a daily basis.

It is anticipated that the Ellisville Police Department will receive their accredited status in the months following their onsite inspection and will maintain accreditation with triennial inspections by the Missouri Police Chiefs Association who act as the governing body for State Accreditation. We are proud of the work we do, and in providing proof to our community that their police agency truly is among the best in the area.

## Community Policing in West County

The Ellisville Police Department has been providing professional police services for many years to the residents, businesses and visitors to the City of Ellisville. This involves police patrols, response to calls for service, proactive community programs and so much more.

One of the most recent criticisms of policing in the St. Louis area is a perceived lack of coordination and cooperation between agencies. There were questions as to the ability of the many police agencies that make up the St. Louis Policing Community to communicate effectively and efficiently. This could not be further from the truth. Several Chiefs of Police, including the Ellisville, Ballwin, Chesterfield and Manchester Chiefs met to discuss both the perception and the reality of policing in West St. Louis County.

Out of this meeting, and an honest reflection on the quality of service we each provide to our respective communities, we proudly agreed that we all strive for the highest possible levels of service. We also recognized that there are areas that each of our agencies excel in and can assist the other agency in times of need.

Currently the Ellisville Police Department participates in the following cooperative policing organizations/entities: The Major Case Squad of Greater St. Louis, the St. Louis Area Police Chiefs, the FBI National Academy Associates, the Law Enforcement Officials of Greater St. Louis, MACTAC Civil Disturbance Training, the SLAPCA Code 1000 response group, Emergency Management Response, St. Louis Area Criminal Information Exchange, the St. Louis Crusade Against Crime, the St. Louis County and Municipal Police Academy and receives the services of the St. Louis County Communications Division.

With all of these existing cooperative groups, in West St. Louis County, recognizing that we provide services not just for our residents, but those who visit our communities, we saw even greater opportunities to improve police services. With this in mind, we have added to the sharing of services amongst the West County police departments, crime scene investigations, criminal investigations, canine corps, traffic enforcement, accident investigation, drug recognition experts, standard field sobriety testing instruction, West County regional training, traffic reporting, social media sharing, augmenting and assisting each other as the opportunity presents itself. These cooperative programs are in their beginning stages, but as we find ways to improve upon policing for the area, we will continue to strive towards the best possible service and most professional policing.

## Ellisville Police K9 Program



**One of the most challenging roles in law enforcement is that of a police K9 handler.**

The constant training and mindful deployment of the K9 makes this position sought out by those officers who want to challenge themselves and make a considerable contribution to

our agency and community. Even before officers are tasked with this incredible responsibility, they must complete eight grueling weeks of K9 training. Right now, Officer Josiah Peacock is completely immersed in this challenge at Shallow Creek Kennels in Sharpsville, Pennsylvania. This article will give a little insight into his training and Officer Peacock's decision to apply for the position of K9 Officer.

Our department has one K9, named Officer Dark, who is certified as a dual-purpose dog. This means that he is certified in area searches, building searches, article searches, tracking, obedience, aggression control and narcotics (room, vehicle and locker). Officer Dark has been with our agency for four years and was previously assigned with Corporal Corey Smith who started our K9 program. The training at Shallow Creek Kennels is a refresher course for Officer Dark since this is where he was initially raised and trained. It is a new experience for Officer Peacock who was recently selected as our next K9 handler. We asked Officer Peacock what a typical day looks like and he shared the following:

*A typical day is waking up early, walking our dogs and putting them in the vehicle. We have a small briefing in the morning, and we all head out to our training location for the day. We work our dogs all day every day and it is very exhausting. By the end of the week, I can tell Officer Dark is ready for a break, as am I. As far as the type of training we do, it is different every day and new items get added and more complex each day. Officer Dark has made it easier on me because he already knows his job(s). I just have to learn how to make him work. There is also classroom time that we have to do on occasion if it is too hot or bad weather. So far, we have taken two written tests and most of my nights consist of studying and completing training logs.*

As far as the kennel itself, Shallow Creek Kennels was chosen due to an exceptional history of producing successful K9 handler teams. Quality training is an investment and

after a great deal of research Shallow Creek Kennels was clearly one of the most top-rated training facilities. The K9 teams from St. Louis County Police

Department and Eureka Police Department, as well as several others also use Shallow Creek Kennels for training. As far as living arrangements, Officer Peacock described the following:

*Our sleeping arrangements, located at Shallow Creek Kennels, include a full kitchen where we can make our own dinners. We stay in a building with several rooms on the kennel property. I have a roommate who is from New York DOC. We have 20 officers in the class all of which are from various places including Virginia, Pennsylvania, North Dakota, Michigan, Wisconsin, Kentucky, and Illinois. The training staff is very knowledgeable, (I would consider them experts in the police dog field) and have several years of experience in training as well as being handlers during their law enforcement careers.*

We asked Officer Peacock why he was interested in the incredible responsibility of becoming a K9 handler. Not only is it an added responsibility to him professionally, but also personally.

He said that he received the blessing from his wife to take on this new role.

*My wife is very supportive and encouraged me to take this opportunity to apply for the K9 handler position. She and my family are behind me 100%.*

*I became interested in being a K9 handler after a couple years of being in law enforcement with my previous agency. I was always in awe of watching the dogs work and do what they do best. I always volunteered to go with the handler and his partner when they needed a backup officer when doing a track, or if we had a K9 team working that night, I was always sure to utilize them if the need arose. I like the idea of having a K9 partner with me at work every day because I know he will do what it takes to do his job in protecting me, my coworkers and the citizens. I believe that having a K9 program is a major advantage for community relations type activities. The networking possibilities with other departments and communities are endless.*

We cannot wait for Officer Peacock and Officer Dark to return home and put all his training to work!

## Totems Exhibit – *Personal Stories in Fiber*

Enter an enchanted forest of 3-dimensional art quilts. Between 4 and 6 feet tall, each totem is the artist's unique creative expression in fiber, fabric, embellishment, and stitch. The exhibit will be at the Park Administration Building in Bluebird Park and is free and open to the public.

**Full Exhibit:** Friday, October 4, 2019 through Wednesday, October 9, 2019

### Special opening weekend hours:

- Saturday, October 5, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Sunday, October 6, noon to 5:00 p.m.
- **Sunday, October 6 - Opening Reception 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

**All other hours:** Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**Partial Exhibit:** Thursday, October 10 – Friday, November 1, 2019



## Hot Dog It's Chili!

*Friday, October 18, 5:30-8:30 p.m.,  
Bluebird Park*



Mark your calendars for the **7th Annual Hot Dog It's Chili** in Bluebird Park! Event goers will come out to listen to the band, go on a hayride, participate in the children's activities, purchase food from vendors, taste chili, and support the locals. Chili teams must follow guidelines, but the recipe is up to each individual. Cast your vote for "people's choice" while a panel of judges search for the BEST chili! Teams are formed by local businesses, organizations and families in search of a friendly competition, prizes, and bragging rights! Musical entertainment will be announced at a later date. If you are interested in participating, please contact Sally Grobelny at (636) 227-7508 or at [sgrobelny@ellisville.mo.us](mailto:sgrobelny@ellisville.mo.us).



**American  
Red Cross**

### AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE IN BLUEBIRD PARK

Give the gift of life on Thursday, September 5th, from 3:00 - 7:00 p.m. and again at holiday time, on Thursday, December 26th, from noon - 4:00 p.m. at the Park Administration Building in Bluebird Park.

Please go to [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and use sponsor code: **Ellisville** to schedule a time, or just stop in if you have the time.



## Electronic Recycling Events in Bluebird Park

The City is partnering with Adonis Recycling for Electronic Recycling Events on Thursdays, September 5th, October 3rd and November 7th from noon – 5:00 p.m. in Bluebird Park. They recycle anything that has ever had a current running through it.

There are fees to recycle some items:

- \$50 Rear Projection and Televisions with Tubes,
- \$25 CRT Computer Monitors
- \$5 Printers
- \$10 Microwaves and Flat Panel Televisions.

These fees are subject to change based on their costs to recycle. For more information about Adonis Recycling, go to their website at: <http://adonisrecycling.com/>

### City Council Directory

Mayor Mike Roerman  
16273 Autumn View Terrace Dr.  
(314) 479-8988

#### District 1 Council Members

Vince McGrath  
234 Mar El-Court  
(314) 853-3480

Stephen Chismarich  
268 Lemar Park Ct.  
(314) 368-8076

#### District 2 Council Members

Linda Reel  
1239 Polo Lake Dr.  
(314) 954-0066

Mick Cahill  
42 Covert Ln.  
(314) 281-4112

#### District 3 Council Members

Cindy Pool  
1536 Virginia Dr.  
(314) 757-2316

Dan Duffy  
258 Bonnie Court  
(314) 750-0065



## Smart Driver Course

The AARP Smart Driver Course, offered by AARP Driver Safety, is the nation's largest classroom and online driver safety course and is designed especially for drivers age 50 and older. When you complete the course, **you could qualify for a multi-year discount on your car insurance.**

### The AARP Smart Driver Course will refresh you on:

- Effective safe driving practices, skills and strategies you can use on the road every day
- Defensive driving techniques to help you deal with aggressive drivers
- Local laws and traffic rules for drivers
- Proper maintenance of your vehicle so it's safe before you drive.
- And much more!

**Dates:** Sept 18th and Nov 13th

**Time:** 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m..

**Fee:** \$15.00 AARP members - \$20.00 non-members

**Location:** Park Administration Building, Bluebird Park

**Instructor:** Paul Wengler

**Registration:** (314) 780-8465

Please bring your Driver's License and AARP card.

## What's Happening in Ellisville? *Subscribe to City News!*

Did you know you can sign up to receive email notifications from the City? Perhaps you'd like to know when the City Council will be meeting next or what's on an upcoming meeting agenda.

Just visit our website at [www.ellisville.mo.us](http://www.ellisville.mo.us) and click on "Notify Me" on the right hand side of our home page.

From there you can subscribe to whatever notifications you'd like to receive! You can also sign up to receive text messages from the City.