



DISCOVER
HAZELWOOD

HAZELWOOD HIGHLIGHTS

JANUARY 2023

THIS ISSUE

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CITY COUNCIL

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COUNCIL

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HAZELWOOD CELEBRATES MLK JR. BIRTHDAY



Residents and local leaders gathered on January 15th to honor and celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on what would have been his 94th birthday. This is the first time since 2020 that an in-person gathering was held due to COVID restrictions. The program, sponsored by the Hazelwood Community Enrichment Commission, saw a mixture of songs, dance, expressions of appreciation and presentations honoring the civil rights leader.

Pastor Shaun Williams of the Christian Believers Church served as Master of Ceremonies. Hazelwood Mayor Matt Robinson welcomed the crowd and paid tribute to King for his impact and vision.

Dr. Malaika Horne and Gwen Moore served as the keynote speakers at the celebration. The sisters were raised in a house dedicated to the civil rights movement and their mother met Dr. King. The focus of their presentation was the vital role mothers play for families and society.



A special segment of the program, called "What's Your Dream" featured Misha Johnson, a local African-American entrepreneur who presented some of her fashions to the audience and spoke about the impact of her business to the community. Master Lex Jones spoke on the importance of Dr. King on his life and generation.

The event closed with the singing of "We Shall Overcome" along with a candlelight Vigil to Dr. King.



HUDANICK NAMED HAZELWOOD POLICE CHIEF



Interim Police Chief James Hudanick has officially been appointed Police Chief by City Manager Matt Zimmerman. He replaces Gregg Hall, who retired effective January 1, 2023. He was sworn into his new position at the January 4th City Council meeting.

“Jim’s experience and record of achievement not only in law enforcement but within the Hazelwood Police Department makes him the best choice for this position,” Zimmerman stated.

During his 33 year tenure with the city, he has risen through the ranks of the department first starting on the Neighborhood Patrol Team. In January of 2021, Hudanick was promoted to Major and Assistant Police Chief serving as second in command.

Hudanick is a graduate of the Military Police School and served as a Military Policeman with the U.S. Army until he was honorably discharged. He earned a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from Illinois State University. Additionally, he is a graduate of the FBI National Academy.



Chief Hudanick congratulates Major Mark McKeon on his new appointment.

The Chief’s support staff includes his wife Lana and his two adult children.

In one of his first actions, Chief Hudanick announced the promotion of Captain Mark McKeon to the rank of Major.

He will serve as second-in-command for the department. McKeon assumes the role held by Hudanick prior to being named Chief of Police for Hazelwood.

CITY CLERK LOWERY ACHIEVES CERTIFICATION



Hazelwood City Clerk Julie Lowery (center) receives her certificates from Savanna Burton, Megan Eldridge and Mayor Matt Robinson at a recent City Council meeting

Hazelwood City Clerk Julie Lowery, was recently recognized for achieving the designations of both Missouri Registered City Clerk by the Missouri City Clerks and Finance Officers Association (MoCCFOA) and Certified Municipal Clerk from the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC).

Megan Eldridge, City Clerk for the City of Wildwood and Savanna Burton, Deputy City Clerk for the City of Florissant; presented the

certificates to Julie at a December City Council meeting.

“I am very honored and proud to have earned these designations,” stated Lowery. “This achievement will allow me to be better at performing the functions of my job, but also benefit the citizens that we serve.”

Julie began her employment with the City of Hazelwood as the Deputy City Clerk in 2017. Upon the retirement of her predecessor, she was named City Clerk in July 2020.

Previously, she served in municipal government working as a Planning Assistant for Creve Coeur and has over 15 years of executive assistance experience.

Julie is a lifelong North County resident and the mother of a 10 year old daughter.



Julie was joined by her daughter, Elaina, at the certificate award ceremony

PROMOTIONS & NEW HIRES

Congratulations to the City employees who received promotions and to our newest hires!

Promotions:

- Jimmy Becker - Maintenance Worker II
- Sharon Henson - Permit Technician
- Jim Hudanick - Police Chief
- Daniel Myatt - Firefighter/Paramedic
- Phillip Schiffman - Firefighter/Paramedic

New Hires:

- Michael Andretta - Police Recruit
- Ian Benning - Firefighter/Paramedic
- Jesse Brock - Police Recruit
- Nicholas DellaMonte - Police Recruit
- Erik Eichoff - Police Officer
- Mason Gillette - Firefighter/Paramedic
- Jasmine Landry - Telle Communicator
- Christopher Peters - Police Recruit
- Jacob Ritter - Receptionist
- Thomas Thiesen - Firefighter/Paramedic
- Chris Witczak - Telecommunicator

Anniversaries:

- John Drouant - 15 Years
- Doug Littlefield - 30 Years
- John Stroud - 15 Years
- Daniel Turner - 25 Years

CITY EVENTS

Yoga
(Check Calendar for Dates & Times)
Hazelwood Community Center

Senior Yoga
(Check Calendar for Times)
Hazelwood Community Center

Chair Yoga
(Check Calendar for Times)
Hazelwood Community Center

Zumba
(Check Calendar for Times)
Hazelwood Community Center

Senior Fitness Training
(Check Calendar for Times)
Hazelwood Community Center

Hazelwood Parks & Recreation Master Plan Meeting
Thursday, February 2
Thursday, March 2
6:30 p.m.
Civic Center East

City Council Meetings
First and Third Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.
City Hall

President's Day Holiday
February 20
All City Offices are Closed



Mayor Matt Robinson and members of the Hazelwood City Council presented representatives of Hazelwood Community Enrichment Commission a proclamation celebrating Black History Month. In addition, the mayor praised commission members for hosting the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Tribute on his birthday.

LIMB COLLECTION RETURNING IN MARCH

The City of Hazelwood Public Works Department is pleased to announce that limb collection will return in March.

Residents should stack tree and shrubbery trimmings at the curb by 7:00 am the Monday morning of their designated week with cut endings facing the street. Crews will collect brush on each street ONE TIME ONLY during your scheduled collection week.

Branches should not be cut into short pieces. Do not put any wire, metal, trash, garden waste or other debris in the brush that is to be chipped.

Trimming done by a contractor must be hauled away by the contractor and not left at the curb for city crews to pick up. No stumps or limbs larger than 6" in diameter will be taken. If you have questions, call 314-839-3700, Monday -Friday, 8:00 am – 4:30 pm.

The Hazelwood Public Works Department will release a schedule and designated routes for each week's pick up in the very near future. Please look for these announcements on the City's website, Facebook, Nextdoor and other social media outlets.



EMERGENCY SNOW ROUTES REMINDER

City crews work hard during winter clearing streets of snow and ice. During snowstorms, residents are asked to remove all vehicles from the streets in order to make plowing smoother for all involved. Vehicles that remain on designated snow routes after prior warnings will be towed at the owner's expense. Whenever four inches or more of snow or a quarter inch (1/4") of ice is predicted by the National Weather Service, the City will declare a Snow Emergency Alert and enforce the snow routes when the precipitation begins to fall. Crews will work around the clock to first clear emergency snow routes, and then all connected side streets and intersections.



CITY RECEIVES CLEAN AUDIT REPORT

Mollie Malone, with the accounting firm Stopp & VanHoy issued a clean audit report for the City. The report was given to the Hazelwood City Council in late 2022. The report stated the city's financial statements are in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and no material changes were necessary.

Some highlights noted by the auditor was unrestricted cash and cash equivalents increased by \$3.9 Million.

The majority of the growth was a result of funding received through the Federal Government via ARPA and other sources.

It was also noted the city has reduced its long term debt by \$1.2 Million.

In addition, in October of 2022, the City's Finance Department was given a Certificate of Achievement for Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). The award has been presented to the City every year since 1998 making this the 24th consecutive year for this achievement.

The Finance Department and the entire City of Hazelwood staff takes its responsibility to be good stewards of taxpayer funds very seriously.



Assistant City Manager for Finance, Dave Tuberty, receives the GFOA Certificate of Achievement from Mayor Matt Robinson

WINTER CAR SURVIVAL KIT

Winter is upon us and it is important that you have a survival kit inside your car should you get stranded. The Hazelwood Fire Department recommends drivers keep the following items in their vehicles to protect themselves and their passengers:

- Windshield Scraper
- Flares
- Extra Clothing to Stay Warm
- Snacks, Energy Food and Water
- Sand for Tire Traction
- Distress Flag
- Blanket
- Flashlight and Extra Batteries
- First Aid Kit
- Jumper Cables
- Small Shovel
- Phone Charger



The weather changes quickly and everyone needs to be safe and ready for any major snow and ice storm.

FIRE CELEBRATES FOUR SAFER GRADUATES

The Hazelwood Fire Department recently had four of their SAFER Grant Firefighter/Paramedics graduate from the St. Louis County Fire Academy, Inc.: Phil Schiffman, Dan Myatt and Max Kelly. This was their final step in becoming a certified Firefighter/Paramedic with the Hazelwood Fire Department.

Chief Dave Herman and Deputy Chief Dan Luley attended at the January 10th graduation ceremony and presented each of the candidates with their graduation certificate from the St. Louis County Fire Academy, Inc.

Congratulations to all.



SAFER Graduates pose with Fire Chief Dave Herman (center) and Deputy Chief Dan Luley (far right).

AROUND THE HOUSE: PRUNING ROSES

Late winter is a good time to prune your rose bushes and with spring around the corner, your roses will get a fresh new start. Experts recommend these pruning tips: Clean leaves away from the plant's base. Remove dead/brown stems first by cutting them at the base. Cut stems in the center of the plant that cross and rub each other. Cut any stem that is narrower than a pencil. Cut stems at a slight angle at the buds that are pointing out away from the plant's center. Cut stems 18 to 24 inches from the ground level. Make sure to clear all the clippings and debris away when you are done! When you do the pruning, it is important to use a sharp hand pruners to reduce stress on the stems. Our resident garden expert recommends using bypass pruners and pruning gloves!

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS STARTS IN MARCH

Daylight Savings Time is scheduled to begin on Sunday, March 12th. Move your clocks ahead one hour!



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The City of Hazelwood has a number of job openings for interested parties. The City offers competitive wages with a number of outstanding benefits.

To find out more, visit <https://mo-hazelwood.civicplus.com/Jobs>.

COUNCIL UPDATES

- Council unanimously passed an ordinance changing the start time of all City Council meetings from 7:30 pm to 6:30 pm
- Recognized Domestic Violence Awareness Month and staff involved in this effort.
- Revised Chapter 600 of the city code increasing Package Liquor Licenses from 15 to 18.
- Officially swore in Jim Hudanick as the new Police Chief.
- Approved an ordinance placing a local 3% tax on sales of adult use marijuana on the April ballot .
- Considered an amendment to Chapter 215 of the City Ordinance by adding a new section relative to the offense of vehicle prowling and tampering.
- Heard a presentation from Industrial Commercial Properties (ICP) and Big Sports Properties on the proposed development at the former St. Louis Mills Mall.
- Received a report from the city's accounting firm outlining a clean audit.
- Approved a series of amendments for Aviator Business Park for the construction of a new Moto Mart convenience store and gas station.
- Received a proclamation from the Stars and Stripes National Museum and Library recognizing Hazelwood as a Stars and Stripes City.

COUNCILMEMBER SINGLETON NOT SEEKING RE-ELECTION TO COUNCIL



Ward 8 City Councilmember Mary Singleton has announced she will not seek re-election to the Hazelwood City Council. Singleton has been on the Council since 2008.

Councilmember Singleton has been active in Hazelwood and St. Louis County since moving to North County in the late 1970's.

She was a community volunteer and joined a group of Riverwood Trails subdivision residents who successfully sought to annex the subdivision into the City of Hazelwood. She served as treasurer and co-chair of the group.

In 2008, Mary won as a write-in candidate for Ward 8 when the former member resigned. During her tenure, she helped to establish the Green Committee (a group of concerned Hazelwood citizens committed to sustainability) and successfully passed an ordinance to prohibit short term home rentals. She also worked tirelessly to promote the city's Neighborhood Watch program and was recognized for her attention to constituent issues.

Mayor Matt Robinson praised Councilmember Singleton for her service to the community. "We are sad to see Mary not seek re-election, she leaves with the gratitude and respect from all council members and staff. She has been a true advocate for Hazelwood and Ward 8."

In her personal life, Mary owned and operated a consulting business doing training and other educational activities with various organizations. She earned a Master's Degree in Counseling. Mary and her husband Dwight, who is retired from Boeing, are the parents of two sons. Her plans are to spend more time with family and travelling once her term ends.

CITY COUNCIL RACES SET FOR APRIL

Hazelwood City Clerk Julie Lowery announced that three of the four incumbents will seek re-election to the City Council, with one seat becoming open for a new candidate.

Incumbents Robert Aubuchon (Ward 2) and Warren Taylor (Ward 6) are running unopposed while Ward 4 Councilman Dan Herin, has filed a notice to run as a write-in candidate and will be opposed by Kelly Wadlow.

Jenn Hatton has submitted a petition to run in Ward 8 seeking to replace Mary Singleton who chose to not seek re-election.

Voting will take place on Tuesday, April 4th with the new council seated shortly after that.



PARKS DEPARTMENT MASTER PLAN MEETING SET

Doug Littlefield, Superintendent of the Hazelwood Parks and Recreation Department has announced the establishment of two master plan meetings for Pershall Park. The Thursday events will be held on February 2nd and March 2nd at 6:30 pm at Civic Center East. Parks staff invites the public to gain insight and provide input regarding their long range goals for Pershall Park.

HAZELWOOD POLICE READY FOR POLAR PLUNGE

Once again this year, the Hazelwood Police Department will be sending a team to the 2023 Polar Plunge. Monies raised from the event will go to Special Olympics Missouri Athletes.

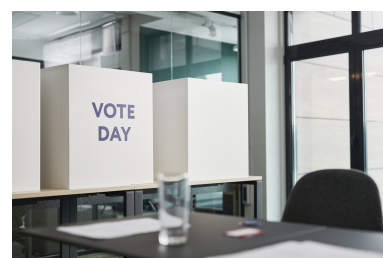
The event is open to all, all you need to do is raise \$75 of donations. We are in competition with other area police departments and our team is working hard at raising more money than anyone else. In past years, the Hazelwood team has won the prize for best costumes.



If you are interested in being a part of Hazelwood Police Department Team, go to <https://support.somo.org/team/471420>.

ST. LOUIS COUNTY ELECTION JUDGES NEEDED

On April 4th, St. Louis County Municipal General Elections will be held where St. Louis County voters will choose candidates for various local offices and decide on ballot issues for public entities. Election Judges and Student Election Judges are needed to administer these elections in Missouri.



Election Judges play a pivotal role in making it possible for citizens to rightfully exercise their voice on Election Day. A typical election will have over approximately 65% of voters cast ballots on Election Day at over 200 polling places across St. Louis County. Election Judges set up the polling place, manage the voting process, and secure the ballots for collection at the Election Board. They are truly the “backbone” of the electoral process.

Serving as an Election Judge gives citizens a chance to be part of a grand community experience and to perform an important civic duty. If you have any questions or wish to serve as an election judge, please email Jim McHugh at JMcHugh@stlouiscountymo.gov or call 314-615-1858. To find out more, go to www.stlouiscountyvotes.gov.

TORNADO SAFETY TIPS FROM CODE ENFORCEMENT

With tornado season quickly approaching, now is the time to review safety procedures to insure you are prepared.

Tornadoes can destroy buildings, flip cars, and create deadly flying debris and they can happen anytime and anywhere. Some tornadoes can bring intense winds over 200 mph. Remember, the Midwest is often called Tornado Alley - if we are under a tornado warning, find shelter immediately.

PREPARE NOW for a tornado by:

Knowing the signs of a tornado, including a rotating, funnel-shaped cloud; an approaching cloud of debris; or a loud roar, similar to a freight train. Sign up for emergency notifications on Hazelwood’s Swift 911 Emergency Contact System at <http://www.hazelwoodmo.org/293/Emergency-Information>. The (NOAA) Weather Radio also provides emergency alerts.

Become familiar with the warning sirens. Pay attention to weather reports. Meteorologists can predict when conditions might be right for a tornado. Identify and practice going to a safe shelter in the event of high winds, such as a safe room or a storm shelter.

The next best protection is a small, interior, windowless room on the lowest level of a sturdy building.



NOW HIRING

FOR 2023 WHITE BIRCH BAY SEASON

Positions Needed:
Lifeguards
Concessions
Front Desk

Contact Aquatic Supervisor Jeff Knowles
314-513-5073
jknowles@hazelwoodmo.org



Dreaming of summer already?

So are we!

That means we are accepting applications for the 2023 White Birch Bay aquatic season! We are hiring lifeguards, concessions, and front desk staff.

Apply by email or picking up a copy of an application at the Hazelwood Community Center!

- Benefits
- American Red Cross Lifeguard certificate paid for
 - Only counts for lifeguard candidates
 - One set of uniform
 - Amazing pay
 - And more!

For more information, contact Aquatics Supervisor Jeff Knowles at 314-513-5073 or email him at jknowles@hazelwoodmo.org

