



DISCOVER  
HAZELWOOD

# HAZELWOOD HIGHLIGHTS

SPRING 2024



## THIS ISSUE

75th Anniversary  
Limb Collection  
HRAP  
HBP New Tenant  
Councilman Honored  
Black History Month  
Councilmember Honored  
Marson Foods Opens

## CITY COUNCIL

Matthew Robinson  
Mayor  
mgrobinson@hazelwoodmo.org

### COUNCIL

William Hoops  
Ward 1  
wchoops@hazelwoodmo.org

Robert Aubuchon  
Ward 2  
rmaubuchon@hazelwoodmo.org

Don Ryan  
Ward 3  
dwryan@hazelwoodmo.org

Kelly Wadlow  
Ward 4  
kmwadlow@hazelwoodmo.org

Lisa Matlock  
Ward 5  
lmatlock@hazelwoodmo.org

Warren Taylor  
Ward 6  
whtaylor@hazelwoodmo.org

Robert Smith  
Ward 7  
rcsmith@hazelwoodmo.org

Jen Hatton  
Ward 8  
jmhatton@hazelwoodmo.org

## HAZELWOOD CELEBRATING 75TH ANNIVERSARY

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the formation of Hazelwood as a City and officials are making plans to celebrate.

On October 14, 1969, voters approved the City charter adopting a Home Rule Council Manager form of government. In 1970, a Mayor and City Council was elected with Homer Birchler serving as Hazelwood's first mayor.

Mayor Matt Robinson and the City Council has established a 75th Anniversary Committee and they are currently setting up plans to commemorate the event with a number of programs. The celebration will commence at Hazelwood Day on Saturday, September 7th.



## LIMB COLLECTION UNDERWAY



The Hazelwood Streets Department has begun our annual Limb Collection for City residents. This popular service was restored in 2023 by the City Council with the hopes to continue this every year.

The service started the first week of April and will continue until early May. Public Works has designated specific areas for each week.

Residents should stack trimmings at the curb by 7:00 am the Monday morning of their designated week with the cut end facing the street. Crews will collect brush on each street one time only during the scheduled collection week. It is important that you abide by the schedule

Branches should not be cut into short pieces. Please do not put any wire, metal, trash, garden waste or other debris in the brush that is to be chipped because this could cause serious injury to the crew and damage the chipper. To find out more about our limb collection service and the schedule, go to <https://www.hazelwoodmo.org/603/Limb-Collection>.



# CITY, STATE CREATE NEW WORKFORCE INCENTIVE

The City of Hazelwood has announced a partnership with the Missouri Department of Economic Development to create an innovative program to help new and existing industries.

The Hazelwood Relocation Assistance Program (H-RAP) will mirror the Missouri One Start's relocation incentive to help industries offset relocation costs for new employees who are not residents of the state. One Start is a division of the State of Missouri.



Missouri One Start provides tailored workforce strategies to address unique business needs at no cost to an eligible businesses. The agency will customize services ranging from pre-employment screening and recruitment to designing job-specific training both during and after the onboarding process.

Missouri One Start provides tailored workforce strategies to address unique business needs at no cost to eligible businesses. The agency will customize services ranging from pre-employment screening and recruitment to designing job-specific training both during and after the onboarding process.

Specifically, as part of Missouri One Start's training programs, eligible companies could receive reimbursement up to \$3,500 for each full-time employee who relocates to Missouri for a new job with the company. To receive this benefit, a company must apply and be approved for training assistance through Missouri One Start and specifically request relocation assistance.

The city will match any funds the state provides to a Hazelwood business for relocation of the same new employee. Monies are given as a reimbursement to cover relocation expenses of new employees that previously were not Missouri residents.

"We're excited to embark on this creative new partnership between Missouri One Start and the City of Hazelwood," said Michelle Hataway, Acting Director of the Department of Economic Development.



Relocation assistance is an effective way to encourage business investment that strengthens communities and our state's economy. This new program will make a powerful economic development tool even more useful for companies that choose to grow in Hazelwood.

Hazelwood City Manager Matt Zimmerman stated affiliating with the state not only makes sense, but continues to demonstrate how strong partnerships benefits everyone.

# H-RAP

"Hazelwood has always been on the cutting edge of economic development and we have succeeded, in large part, because of that vision along with identifying the right partners, like the Missouri Department of Economic Development, to create a great return for the taxpayers."

There is no limitation on where the individual must live as long as they become a Missouri resident from an out-of-state location.

In addition, not only will Hazelwood match the state's reimbursement, but it will provide a similar incentive to the employee if the individual purchases a home in the corporate limits of Hazelwood.

## PROMOTIONS & NEW HIRES

Congratulations to City employees who received promotions, celebrated anniversaries and new hires!

### Promotions:

- Nathan Haase, Captain, Fire Department
- Ted Naughton, Battalion Chief, Fire Department
- Angie Pingel, Code Administrator/Building Official
- Barbara Wiles, Accounting II

### New Hires:

- Emily Carney, Court Clerk Typist
- Daniel Noles, Firefighter/EMT
- Manning Johnson, Police Officer
- Jackson Foster, Police Officer
- Victoria Brainerd, Program Specialist, Parks & Rec
- Logan Garrick, Program Specialist, Parks & Rec
- Steve Lewandowski, Facility Manager
- Stephen Pray, Telecommunicator
- Matthew Crowder, Maint. Worker II
- Alexis Murrel, Tele Communicator

### Anniversaries:

- Sergeant James Sieve, Police Department, 20 Years
- Stanley "Russ" Gibson, 5 Years Fire Dept.
- Battalion Chief Amanda Boyer - 15 Years Fire Dept.
- Tim Benning, Sgt., Police Department, 35 yrs.
- Ryan Counterman, Sgt. Police Dept., 20 yrs.
- Dan Kenner, Audio/Video Tech, 20 yrs.
- Nathan Haase, FF/Paramedic, 10 yrs.
- Lawrence Meyer, Bus Driver, 10 yrs.
- Greg Viehman, Office Manager, 15 yrs

### Retirements:

- Captain Timothy Burger, Police
- Battalion Chief Thomas Stone, Fire Department
- Dan Turner, Mtn. Worker II



## HAZELNUTS

The Hazelnuts is the senior activity organization which is sponsored by the City of Hazelwood for over 45 years. The Hazelnuts invite all Hazelwood residents, age 55 or over to join them. The annual membership dues are \$12 per person. The group meets monthly on the second Wednesday of the month at the Civic Center East 8969 Dunn Road, beginning at 10:30 a.m.

The Hazelnuts meeting includes updates on Hazelwood activities and city council updates. Each month we enjoy entertainment, lectures, and guest speakers on topics important to our members.

During the months of January, February and March we provide snacks and the rest of the year we cater food from several restaurants to enjoy after the entertainment. The cost of the meal is \$12 for members who register and pay for their meal. In December we host a holiday lunch and party for members. After lunch members can stay and play bingo or enjoy other activities.

The City of Hazelwood Parks and Recreation Division offers free senior bus service to residents age 55 and over. Rides to and from the Hazelnut meetings can be provided for you.

For information on the Hazelnuts or the Senior Transportation service contact 314-731-0980.

## COUNCILMAN NAMED IRAQ VETERAN OF THE YEAR

Hazelwood Ward 7 Council Member Robert Smith was presented with the 2023 Iraq Veteran of the Year, awarded by the Veterans Coalition of Greater St. Louis at the Florissant Veteran's Day Parade.

Councilman Smith served in the Army from 1987 - 2008, split between Active Duty and the National Guard. He served in Desert Storm with the 101st Airborne Division, UN's operation in Somalia in 1993 where he fought in the

Battle of Mogadishu and Operation Iraqi Freedom with the IL National Guard's 233rd Military Police Company in 2003 - 2004. He also oversaw the work to rebuild three Iraqi police stations in Al-Mesbah, Al-Karrada and Baghdad Judea and conducted almost daily combat patrols in those neighborhoods in Baghdad.



His highest awards were the Combat Action Badge, the Meritorious Service Medal and the Soldier's Medal for Heroism. He earned the Soldier's Medal after entering a burning apartment building to rescue civilians while on patrol in Baghdad.

In addition, Councilmember Robert Smith received a proclamation from Mayor Matt Robinson and the Hazelwood City Council for the recognition from the Veteran's Coalition of Greater St. Louis.

The Mayor, with the unanimous support from the City Council, recognized the councilman as its first ever "Hazelwood Veteran of the Year." After the presentation, Mayor Robinson announced that from this point forward, every year the City will honor a Hazelwood Resident Veteran of the Year along with a Hazelwood City Employee Veteran of the Year. Councilman Smith was joined by his wife and son for the well-deserved award.



## BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION

Mayor Matt Robinson and the Hazelwood City Council approved a special proclamation commemorating Black History Month at their January meeting. Stephanie Boykin, Yolanda Brown and James Roberts, members of the City's Community Enrichment Committee, were on hand to receive the proclamation.



## RECYCLE DAY RETURNING

The City of Hazelwood's Green Committee is developing their next "Recycle Day". The event is scheduled (tentatively) for Saturday, June 8th. Doors will open at 9:00 am and will remain open until 11:00 am.

This year's event will be held at the Boeing Parking Lot located on the southeast side of Fee Fee Road, approximately 500 feet northeast of James S. McDonnell Boulevard (across from Leonard Masonry Inc.). Vendors include Auto World, Citi Shred and Republic Services. More information will be posted on the City's website as we get closer to the date.



# PLANS UNDERWAY FOR HAZELWOOD DAY!

Plans are being made for Hazelwood Day this coming September! Given this will be the beginning of our 75th Anniversary Celebration, we are making plans for a great event. Some of the plans already in place are:

- 2 inflatable obstacle courses 3:00-7:00p.m.
- Face painting and Balloon sculptures, there will be two of each, 3:00-7:00p.m.
- Klondike Kids Exotic petting zoo, 3:30-6:30p.m.
- Bubble Bus, 6:00-7:30p.m.
- Free Bingo, 3:30-5:00p.m.
- Horseshoe tournament 2:00-completion
- Classic Car Show, 3:00-7:00p.m.

Musical entertainment will feature:

- The Charles Glenn Group 3:30-6:30p.m.
- Taylor Made - A Tribute to Taylor Swift 7:30-9:00p.m.



## IDI CUTS RIBBON AT HAZELWOOD BIZ PARK

Cleveland based Industrial Commercial Properties (ICP), owners of Hazelwood Business Park, formerly the St. Louis Mills Mall; hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony for IDI Distributors. The company is a nationally recognized leader providing insulation to commercial and industrial wholesale clients and leases 27,000 SF



"We are very excited that IDI Distributors has agreed to become our first tenant at Hazelwood Business Park", stated ICP owner Chris Semarjian. "Given the quality

of this client, along with the interest generated by the site, we are confident more announcements will be forthcoming soon."

ICP converted the 1.3M SF facility into logistics, distribution, office and light manufacturing.



IDI Distributors Local Manager Dan Podor stated relocating to Hazelwood Business Park was an easy decision.

"HBP made perfect sense for us. We are able to reduce our overall footprint with a facility that allows us to be

more efficient. In addition, the ease of access from Interstate 270 and Highway 370 will allow us to better serve our clients."



Dan Lesinski and Billy Spence of Newmark Zimmer serve as leasing brokers for Hazelwood Business Park. They finalized a deal with Christy Campbell & Matt Eastin of Cushman Wakefield who represented the new tenant .



The City of Hazelwood Community Enrichment Commission will soon begin judging for the Blue Ribbon Home Awards, to be presented in the Fall of 2024. The program recognizes Hazelwood residents who keep their homes and yards in immaculate condition, making Hazelwood a more attractive place to live. Beginning in the Spring, late April and May, the Commission members drive the city streets looking for homes to nominate for the Blue Ribbon Award. Homes are judged for their "curb appeal" based on the upkeep of the home, yard and any viewable structures. Six to eight individual homes and one Multi-Family Dwelling complex from each City Ward are nominated for final judging. During the month of June, the Commission members again drive the streets of the City judging the nominated homes. Two homes from each City Ward and one Multi-family Dwelling from the City are then selected as the Blue Ribbon Homes of the year. These homeowners are awarded a Blue Ribbon Award and honored at a City Council meeting in August.

The Blue Ribbon Home Award program is held every two years. Residents may also nominate homes for this honor by calling the Recreation Office at (314) 731-0980 and giving the address of the deserving home.

## GRG SURVEY

Great Rivers Greenway (GRG), St. Louis' regional greenway agency, is exploring where pedestrian and bike connections can be improved in North County! In an effort to reach as many people as possible, GRG is currently hosting a Listening Tour in several communities including Hazelwood. Go to [www.greatriversgreenway.org/noco/](http://www.greatriversgreenway.org/noco/) to learn more while taking a brief survey.



## I-270 NORTH PROJECT COMPLETION CELEBRATED

The completion of the \$278 million I-270 North Project was celebrated with an official ceremony on December 12th in Hazelwood. Missouri Governor Mike Parson joined state and local elected officials along with the Missouri Department of Transportation and contractor team to cut

the ribbon on this four-year long makeover.

"The I-270 North Project demonstrates the success we can achieve when government, private industries and local communities invest in transportation infrastructure to ensure Missourians have safe roads and bridges to travel to work, take their kids to school and transport their goods and services," said Missouri Governor Mike Parson. "This is a great example of our infrastructure and workforce development efforts working together for the betterment of our communities."



## CITY CELEBRATES MARSON FOODS OPENING

Marson Foods, LLC, a premier manufacturer of quality waffle products for K12 and Food Service, officially opened their new \$35 million, 147,000 square foot baking facility in Hazelwood. The company's expansion to the area includes the establishment of a modern distribution facility and automated production lines to increase their sales capacity.



Marson Foods Co-owner, Jan Marson, believes they are poised for success in Hazelwood. "We saw the momentum in Hazelwood, and we wanted to contribute to that job creation and economic growth." She adds, "Our facility's advanced technologies will allow us to continue to use the highest quality ingredients to create millions of

of nutritious meals that will not only be sold to schools around the country, but will feed those in need. We are grateful that the State of Missouri believed in our vision and were a supportive partner in this endeavor."

Marson Foods began operations at the Hazelwood facility in October 2023, hiring 16 employees at a salary well above the average for the St. Louis County. While they are currently producing approximately 1 million waffles per week, their goal is to increase production to 2 million waffles per week by the end of 2024.



The Marson Foods Bakery is just the latest facility to open in Kansas City-based NorthPoint Development's Hazelwood Tradeport, a 355-acre

industrial park. The City of Hazelwood and the Missouri Department of Economic Development facilitated the Marson Foods' investment, and believe their company culture of serving the community, commitment to above average wages and diversifying the workforce, and their plans to expand make this new facility an exciting addition to the local economy.



Mayor Matt Robinson is proud to have Marson Foods call Hazelwood home. "Hazelwood offers an experienced workforce and



is perfectly situated to pair grain and flour producers with advanced manufacturing facilities." He adds, "We are thrilled to have trusted partners like the NorthPoint, Missouri Department of Economic Development and Steadfast City to make this project a reality."



Marson Foods benefited from the Missouri Works program, a tool that helps companies expand and retain workers by providing access to capital through withholdings tax along with Chapter 100 tax abatement from the City.