

## City of Kirkwood Awarded \$1.5 Million Grant for Train Station Restoration

The City of Kirkwood received notice that it was awarded a Transportation Alternatives program grant through the East-West Gateway Council of Governments for the Historic Kirkwood Train Station Restoration project that the City is undertaking in conjunction with the Historic Kirkwood Train Station Foundation. The \$1.5 million award will support various interior and exterior renovations to the train station such as; a new roof, heating and cooling system, window and door restoration, ADA compliant restrooms and ticket counter, an accessory storage building, as well as a covered exterior platform for train passengers.

The Train Station Foundation has been hard at work raising the \$4.6 million needed to complete the project. This grant, along with

generous donations from individual donors and grants already received by the Foundation, brings the amount raised to date for the project to \$2,268,367.00, or nearly half-way to the estimated \$4.6 million cost of this exciting project that will be the station's first renovation since 1941.

The Foundation is continuing its fundraising efforts, via a GoFundMe page and other programs, to reach their \$4.9 million goal, as construction is not expected to start until 2024. You can support the Historic Train Station Foundation's fundraising efforts by mailing a contribution to this address: The Historic Kirkwood Train Station Foundation 101 W Argonne Drive, Kirkwood, MO 63122

**\$2,268,367 RAISED!**



## Kirkwood and Des Peres Begin Police, Fire and EMS Dispatching Partnership

The cities of Kirkwood and Des Peres have executed a 5-year dispatching partnership in which all emergency 911 calls originating within Des Peres city limits will be handled by the City of Kirkwood including police, fire and emergency medical service. This decision was formalized by both cities in early-January with an official cutover date of April 1 following months of careful planning and cooperation between the two cities to ensure a seamless transition.

Kirkwood operates a joint dispatching operation as an extension of their Police and Fire departments in which Glendale and Warson Woods are currently members. Des Peres has contracted with Kirkwood for Fire & EMS dispatching services since 2016 and will now expand that arrangement to include calls for police service. The decision for Des Peres to outsource emergency dispatching to

Kirkwood using a consolidated format was motivated almost entirely by cost.

Standalone dispatching centers are becoming rare in the St. Louis region given the extraordinary costs associated with maintaining the technology and infrastructure, training employees on new equipment and protocols, and meeting accreditation standards. These financial and operating burdens make it highly attractive for smaller cities like Des Peres to combine operations into regional assets that serve a broader population, a trend that has emerged over the past two decades with great success. Today, these centralized dispatching centers, such as the dispatch center Kirkwood operates, dominate the St. Louis market and represent nearly 75% of all dispatching services provided to the region.

## Kirkwood Arts Commission in Need of Commissioners and Volunteers



Kirkwood ARTS COMMISSION

The Kirkwood Arts Commission will have two open commissioner positions starting June 2021. The Commission promotes and sponsors the arts and participation in the arts for the benefit of the Kirkwood community. The Commission has nine members who serve three-year terms. Please submit a Volunteer Profile Form to apply for an appointment to the Arts Commission at [kirkwoodmo.org/joinus](http://kirkwoodmo.org/joinus). You may also receive an application by visiting or contacting the City Clerk's Office at [aschelb@kirkwood.org](mailto:aschelb@kirkwood.org) or 314-822-5802.

The Commission is also seeking volunteers to assist with proposed and current visual arts and music programs. To volunteer please apply at [kirkwoodmo.org/artsvolunteer](http://kirkwoodmo.org/artsvolunteer).

We encourage persons of all backgrounds and interests in the arts to apply as commissioners and volunteers. You need not be a Kirkwood resident to serve on the Arts Commission or to volunteer for its programs.

If you have any questions, email staff liaison Kyle Henke at [henkek@kirkwoodmo.org](mailto:henkek@kirkwoodmo.org).

## Mayors For Meals Food Donation Drive

The City of Kirkwood, in partnership with the St. Louis Area Foodbank, will participate in Mayors for Meals 2021. This event will take place on Saturday, May 8th from 9am-12pm at the Historic Kirkwood Train Station. A National Guard truck will be at the Train Station to collect donations from residents of Kirkwood and its surrounding communities. Suggested donation items include; canned meat, canned vegetables, canned fruit, peanut butter, cereal, pasta, dish soap, sanitizing wipes, soap, lotion, toothpaste, baby formula, feminine products, shampoo/conditioner, diapers, toilet paper and paper towels.

Since last March, the St. Louis Area Foodbank has distributed close to 50 million meals, a 39% increase compared to pre-pandemic efforts, with 75% of individuals reporting they were seeking additional assistance as a result of COVID-19. Although restrictions are easing up around the metro area, and people are looking to get back to a more normal way of life, the effects of COVID-19 are still being felt, and those in our communities who are most vulnerable, are still in need of our help.

Last year the St. Louis Area Food bank collected over 53,000 lbs of donated items from 26 participating municipalities, including Kirkwood. Let's do our best to beat that record this year!

## Kirkwood Garden Club Plant Sale at the Kirkwood Train Station



The sale will be at the Kirkwood Train Station on Saturday May 8, 2021 from 9 a.m. to noon. There will be a large selection of plants to choose from. Garden Club members will also answer any gardening questions you have. Funds raised are used to support the Train Station gardens, provide funds for a horticultural scholarship, and help beautify the community.

## At the Community Center

### 2021 Aquatic Center Season Passes are on Sale!

Season passes are available online at [www.kirkwoodparksandrec.org](http://www.kirkwoodparksandrec.org), if you need a little help with our online registration give us a call at 314-822-5855 and we will be happy to help you! On Sunday May 16 the Community Center front desk will be open special hours, noon to 6pm, so that you may purchase your Aquatic Center season pass in person. Scholarships are available for families in need. More information about the Courtney Shupe Scholarship Program is available at [www.kirkwoodparksandrec.com](http://www.kirkwoodparksandrec.com).

### Instructed Water Fitness Season Passes

All classes run June 5, 2021 to August 7, 2021  
Residents: \$120  
Non-Residents: \$150

**Water Aerobics** classes are the coolest way to exercise during the summer. All fitness levels welcome. Classes take place in the shallow end of the competition pool with various instructors throughout the week.

Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays from 10:45am to 11:45  
Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:40pm to 8:40pm

**Aqua Zumba** uses dance and fitness moves to the backgrounds of fun, upbeat music, integrated into a water based work out. All skill levels and abilities are welcome to join the party.

Saturdays from 9:00am to 4:45am

**X-Stream** Are you ready to pump up your water workout? This class uses the power of the current, strengthening virtually muscle in your body. Instructor Lisa Huseman has numerous years of experience teaching all things water, with exercise as her specialty.

Wednesdays from 10:05am to 10:35am

### Pool Parties at the Aquatic Center

Aquatic Center Pool Parties include 15 all-day admissions with flexible arrival time, 2 party tables for an hour and a half and permission to bring a cake into the Aquatic Center. The party area can be reserved daily during one of the following times:

10:00am to 11:30am (Saturdays Only)  
12:30pm to 2:00pm  
3:00pm to 4:30pm  
5:30pm to 7:00pm

Residents: \$100 and \$6 for each additional guest

Non-Residents: \$165 and \$11 for each additional guest

Season Pass Holders: \$70 and \$4 for each additional guest

### Women's Self Defense Workshop at the Performing Arts Center

Saturday May 22, 2021 • 4:00pm - 6:00pm

\$20 per person

This workshop will be facilitated by Metro Krav Maga Kickboxing. You will develop safe habits and understand how predators think and choose their victims. Avoid ploys and tricks predators use to trap their victims. You'll also learn how to quickly and effectively defend yourself and get away.

### Broadway in a Day

Saturday May 22, 2021 • 9:30am - 3:00pm

Ages 6-18

\$30 Resident / \$35 Non-Resident per child

Presented by Kirkwood Youth Theater. There will be a performance at 3:00pm

### Learn to Tap Workshop

Sunday May 22, 2021

Ages 4-6 • 1:00 to 3:00pm

Ages 7-12 • 3:30 to 5:30pm

If you've ever wanted to learn to tap dance, here's your chance to try it out and have some fun on stage! Tap workshops will be taught by Michelle Westerman of Shine Bright Dance Project on the mainstage of the new Kirkwood Performing Arts Center (210 E. Monroe). Parents are welcome to attend a short performance 15 minutes before the conclusion of the workshop. No prior dance experience required. Tap shoes encouraged but not required. Workshops are \$25 for residents and \$30 for non residents. Sign up at [www.kirkwoodparksandrec.org](http://www.kirkwoodparksandrec.org).

### Snores n' Smores Family Campouts

Saturday, May 22 & Saturday, June 19

Rainout date July 17

Grab your gear and join us for an overnight adventure in Kirkwood Park! Enjoy a campfire, hayrides, night hike, and stargazing with the whole family. You bring the tents and camping gear, we'll bring the hot dogs, soft drinks, and s'mores (bring your own food and beverage if you'd like; no glass bottles please). Check-in and tent setup begins at 5 p.m. Dinner and activities begin at 6 p.m. Lights out at 10 p.m. Breakfast 7-8 a.m. Tents must be cleared out by 9 a.m. Check-in at the firepit between Sugar Creek and Lions Pavilions. Pre-registration required. COVID precautions will be taken; specific guidelines will be determined closer to the campout.

### Colored Pencil Art Open Studio Classes

Fridays from 1:00pm - 3:30pm

\$10 per class

This studio is geared towards both beginners and seasoned CP artists! Suggested materials include prisma color colored pencils - set of 48 or larger - Stathmore 400 or 500 series Bristol vellum surface sketch paper, kneaded eraser, 2H and 2B pencils.

### Kirkwood Parks Volunteer Opportunities in May

Please contact Parks Volunteer Coordinator Kylie Christanell at 314-984-5993 or [kparkv@kirkwoodmo.org](mailto:kparkv@kirkwoodmo.org) to get more information about these volunteer opportunities.

- May 8th - Free the Trees in Greentree Park, 2202 Marshall Road, 8:30 to 11:00am
- May 11th - Twilight Weeding in Fillmore Park, 340 S. Fillmore Ave., 5:00 to 7:00pm
- May 22nd - Free the Trees in Greentree Park, 2202 Marshall Road, 8:00 to 11:00am
- May 25th - Twilight Weeding in Mitchell Park, 115 Mitchell Pl, 5:00 to 7:00pm