



WOODSON TERRACE NEWS



Volume 50
SPRING 2025



We Want to Hear from You!



¡Queremos Escucharte!



From The Mayor's Desk

Summer is just around the corner. We are planning to have the Summer Camp for the children again this year along with Archery and the pool will be opening May 24th, Memorial Day weekend.

Every 10 years or so the city should update the Comprehensive Plan. A company named "The i5 Group" will be helping us to facilitate this plan. The Plan allows us to look at ourselves with the intent to change, evaluate or fix some of the procedures that do not seem to be working. The project will take about a year to accomplish.

For those of you who bring your work vehicles home from the job, our ordinance says that a commercial vehicle cannot be allowed to park on the streets.

Our streets were built in the 1950's & 1960's when most homes had one vehicle. We have had an influx of children in our neighborhoods, and it is hard enough to see children playing with regular vehicles parked in the street much less the commercial vehicles. We are concerned about the children's safety on the streets. The Police will be more Pro-active about this issue!



Mayor Besmer
314-427-2600

What is a Commercial Vehicle?

COMMERCIAL VEHICLE

Every motor vehicle which has one (1) or more of the following characteristics:
[Ord. No. 2033, 2-16-2023]

1. Is used, in whole or in part, for business, commercial or industrial enterprises;
2. Features signage advertising a commercial enterprise or business;
3. Is identified by the type of equipment or cargo it carries;
4. Carries persons or products for hire;
5. Is registered as a commercial vehicle;
6. Is equipped with equipment generally associated with a business, commercial or industrial enterprise, including, but not limited to, ladder racks, plowing blades, external fuel tanks, devices for spraying chemicals and/or similar devices that indicate commercial use of the vehicle.

Public Works

With spring here, it is time to start thinking about the warm weather and outdoor activities. The Woodson Terrace Public Works department has been hard at work getting the pool and park ready for the upcoming season.

New paint was applied to the main pool, and security cameras were installed for increased safety and security.

Town Hall has also received interior and exterior improvements and should be reopened sometime in July.

City-wide chipping will continue weekly on Thursdays (weather permitting) through June. Please have your tree limbs (up to 6" in diameter) at the curb on Wednesday nights.

As a reminder, city ordinance 215.110 states that grass and weeds must be kept under 7" and any debris on the property picked up or a summons will be issued.

A new ordinance, 400.260 B 5, requires homeowners to keep the overgrowth in and around all fence lines under seven inches tall. Code enforcement will begin enforcing this new ordinance starting in August to give property owners a chance to bring the fence lines into compliance.

*Doug Hill
Deputy Director of Public works*

FROM THE CHIEF'S OFFICE

Welcome to Spring Everyone,

I hope this Spring and Summer is filled with fun and relaxation for the wonderful citizens of Woodson Terrace. Myself, along with my officers are going to do our best at making this season safe and enjoyable.

Just a few reminders, please be aware of the city's parking ordinances. There will be more people out walking and children out on bikes and playing. If people have to drive around vehicles parked in "No Parking" areas, this will cause potentially dangerous situations. We will have zero tolerance when it comes to enforcing these ordinances.

You can find all of our ordinances on the city's website.

I will be out driving around during this Spring and Summer, in hopes of getting the opportunity to get out and talk with residents as they are enjoying the beautiful weather. I hope to meet as many of you as I can.

My door is always open at the department, so feel free to stop by and say hello.

Chief Danny Brown





Woodson Terrace Summer Camp 2025-

6-week program for children of the age 6-12. (6-year-olds must have completed Kindergarten.)

Camp dates will be June 16 – July 25.

Resident sign-ups begin May 5th, non-resident sign-ups will begin two weeks later, on May 19th. Sign-ups need to be done in person at City Hall, (4323 Woodson Road Woodson Terrace, MO 63134) between the hours of 8:30am-4:30pm. Please understand that the max capacity of the camp is 50 children, it is encouraged to sign up early!

Resident individual -\$50.00 +\$25.00 activity fee

Resident Family -\$75.00 for up to 3 children, plus \$25.00 activity fee per child.

Non-Residents- \$250.00 per child, plus \$75.00 activity fee.

The activity fee covers all transportation and entry fees to any field trips.

CAMP HOURS ARE 9:00-3:30.

There is not an after-camp care service available.

More information will be given at registration including pool day and field trip dates!

Thank you,

Jennifer Pearia (aka Miss Jen)



CITY OF
WOODSON TERRACE

POOL *Hours*

**RESIDENTS ONLY- MUST HAVE POOL
PASS FROM CITY HALL**

OPENING DAY

MAY 24 2025

HOURS: 11AM-7PM

CLOSED JULY 4

**LAST DAY POOL IS OPEN FOR THE SEASON-
AUGUST 30 2025**

**OPEN WEEKENDS ONLY
STARTING AUG 18 2025**

CITY HALL- 314-427-2600



PARKS AND SPECIAL PROJECTS



The warm weather is coming. Enjoy some time with family and friends at our parks and pool. You can rent the pavilions by calling City Hall they are free to rent for Residents.

Also, the community center in the park is available to rent for big parties, events, and business meetings. We also have a nice walking path and playgrounds. There are fields that you can rent for baseball or soccer games/practice. Someone on the team must be a resident of Woodson Terrace.

Beautification awards have started. If you know a house that is kept clean and looks nice, please nominate them or your own house. We need to be able to see the address.

There is a container in City Hall where you can drop off things for Ritenour Food Pantry. Some items you can donate are paper goods, can goods, peanut butter and jelly and other items. No glass items. Please help those in need.

Look on the website, Facebook and marquee for other events in the City. Please contact the parks committee if you have any suggestions for classes, ideas, or beautification award nominations. jwilley@woodsonterrace.net or call City Hall at 314-427-2600.



ARCHERY CAMP

Sign up starts
May 5th through May 23rd.

Residents and non-Residents ages 7-18

Residents are free

Non-Residents \$5 per class

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays from

May 27th through June 26th

9:30 AM - 11:30 AM



ATTENTION! SENIORS OF WOODSON TERRACE

2ND Thursday of every month- Senior Lunch 11am-1pm
(must call city hall to register by the 1st Thursday of the month) **Free to residents 60+ or \$8 for non-residents**

Every other Tuesday - Craft Club 1pm-4pm
Located at the Community Center 4301 Calvert inside the park

If interested Please call City Hall 314-427-2600 to sign up no later then the Thursday before at 12pm.



Pool passes are available starting May 1st.

You must have a pool pass to enter the pool. To get a pool pass you have to be on the Occupancy permit. Unless it is your grandchild. Each pool pass can have one guest. The guest will pay the nonresident rate.

ADMISSION

RESIDENT ADULTS- \$3.00 (16 AND OVER)

RESIDENT CHILDREN- \$1.00 (5-15)

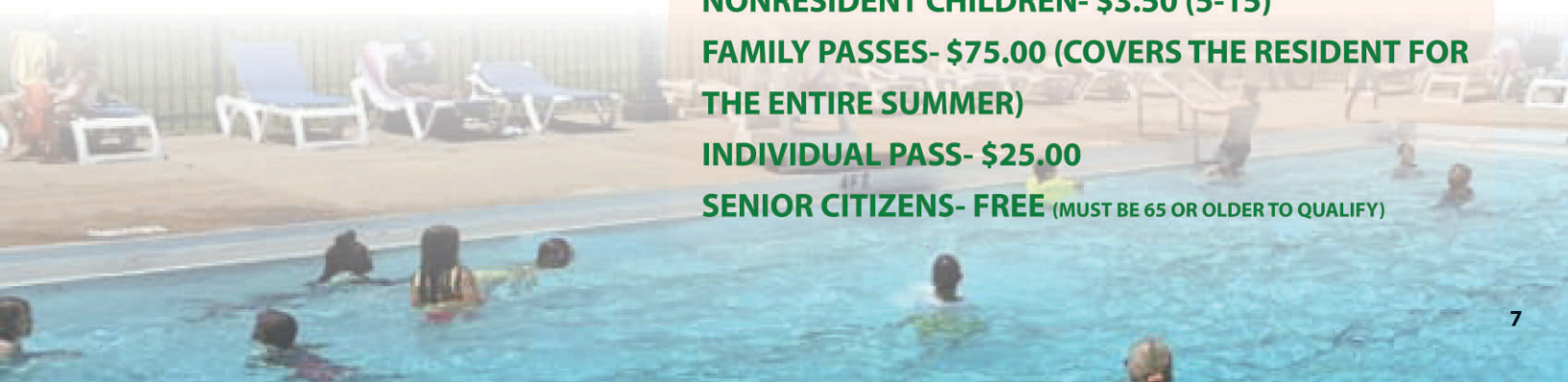
NONRESIDENT ADULTS- \$5.00 (16 AND OVER)

NONRESIDENT CHILDREN- \$3.50 (5-15)

FAMILY PASSES- \$75.00 (COVERS THE RESIDENT FOR THE ENTIRE SUMMER)

INDIVIDUAL PASS- \$25.00

SENIOR CITIZENS- FREE (MUST BE 65 OR OLDER TO QUALIFY)





We Want to Hear from You!



Woodson Terrace is updating its comprehensive plan that will create a shared vision for the next twenty years, guiding decisions on land use, infrastructure, economic development, housing, parks and recreation, and overall quality of life in Woodson Terrace. Visit the plan website or scan the QR code to take the community survey that will help determine priorities for the comprehensive plan.

We look forward to hearing from you!



HOW YOU CAN PARTICIPATE:



Attend an Open House!

Tuesday, July 8, 2025
5:00 - 7:30 pm
Woodson Terrace Community Center
4300 Calvert Avenue



Take the Community Survey!

Use the QR code here or visit
www.OurFutureWoodsonTerrace.com





¡Queremos Escucharte!



Woodson Terrace está actualizando su plan integral, el cual establecerá una visión compartida para los próximos veinte años. Este plan guiará decisiones sobre el uso del suelo, infraestructura, desarrollo económico, vivienda, parques y recreación, y la calidad de vida en general en Woodson Terrace. Visita el sitio web del plan o escanea el código QR para completar la encuesta comunitaria que ayudará a determinar las prioridades del plan integral.

¡Esperamos contar con tu participación!



CÓMO PUEDES PARTICIPAR:



Acompáñanos en una reunión comunitaria

Martes, 8 de julio

5:00 - 7:30 pm

Centro Comunitario de Woodson Terrace
4300 Calvert Avenue



¡Responde la Encuesta Comunitaria!

Usa el código QR aquí o visita el sitio web.
www.OurFutureWoodsonTerrace.com



www.OurFutureWoodsonTerrace.com 9

Woodson Terrace Veterans Committee

The Woodson Terrace Veterans Committee consists of our Mayor, Lawrence Besmer, Caroline Martin, Chairperson, VFW Post #2365 and American Legion Post #143.

We would like to report on an outstanding achievement for our City of Woodson Terrace. Our Committee, Mayor Besmer, myself and our VFW Post #2365 Commander, Cedric Gillespie and American Legion Post #143 Commander, Walter Lobster started meeting in February to plan the Vietnam War's 50th Year Commemorative Anniversary with a luncheon held in our City's Community Center. The Committee gathered about four times to plan this Event. Our Agenda consisted of planning and organizing this Veterans Program. We spent the time at each meeting initiating, finalizing and reviewing what was needed to make our Veterans 50 year Commemorative Anniversary Program a success. The Event was held on Saturday, March 22, 2025.

We wanted to make the Event and activities dignified and memorable. To reflect sensitivity and appreciation for the solemnity of this war, the losses suffered by many and the sacrifices of all who served. We wanted to recognize the service and sacrifice of Vietnam Veterans and their families during the Anniversary Commemorative period of this year of 2025. During that era, when our Veterans returned home, they were welcomed home and treated very badly. Each Veteran has his or her own experiences of this in his or her own memory. We wanted to give these Veterans the respect and honor they earned.

We contacted the Pentagon for the well earned pins they are supplying to all Veterans of all branches for their Service for this 50 year Commemorative Anniversary. The Pentagon sent pins, paper work with a detailed description of what each item represents on the pin and Proclamations from the President. The pins also had inscribed on them "Thank You for Your Service" to present to each Veteran.

We would like to thank our City's Police Department for their Service in guiding each Veteran to our location and our Public Works Department in their hard work in setting up the room for our luncheon in the Community Center.

We sent out invitations to many areas of Missouri and RSVP's poured in from all over the state of Missouri. The luncheon was very well attended. 170 Veterans with a guest came for the luncheon. 90 Veterans were proudly personally presented with their pins, detailed paperwork and a Proclamation from the President was read to them.

VFWA of VFW Post #3944 graciously requested to volunteer to help. The Chaplain, John Clark of VFW Post #3944 pleasantly performed

all the prayers for the program. Members from VFWA of VFW Post #3944 assisted with bringing in the eight Veterans from the VA Home in Bellefontaine Neighbors, who were in wheelchairs. These VFWA of Post #3944 members also served the food to everyone who was there.

Members of VFWA of VFW Post #3944 beautifully presented each pin to each of the 90 Vietnam Veterans. Mayor Besmer stood at the microphone and read each Veteran's name, branch of Service and year or years they were in the Vietnam era. Then smiling ladies from VFWA #3944 would remove a pin from a silver tray, present it to the Veteran, then salute each Veteran afterward and say "Thank you for Your Service." Then the gracious lady behind her would present the paperwork to each Veteran. She would also salute each Veteran and say "Thank you for your Service". Nickie Crabtree and Sue Hedrick did a fantastic job with this.

This took quite a long time, but it was well worth the time to see how these Vietnam Veterans faces lit up, because they were finally being recognized with the respect they had earned.

Then all sat down for a scrumptious lovely meal. Everyone gave high praise for their food. Everyone enjoyed the luncheon social and delighted in the comradeship.

Two of our active duty Marines in full dress uniforms, Sgt. Darrion Rodgers graciously volunteered to invite everyone in saying our "Pledge Allegiance to the Flag". Sgt. Fernando Sanchez read the paperwork presented to them of the details of the inscription on the pins.

Sgt. Major Carlos Askew with the Missouri State Marine Recruitment Office was our Guest Speaker. He spoke with his memories and his heart, because his father was in the Vietnam era. He brilliantly read the Proclamation from the President "Thanking each one for his or her outstanding memorable Service".

Sheryl Gerrein sang beautifully each branch of the Military Service with a standing ovation.

It was a very humble and extraordinary day for the City of Woodson Terrace to have performed this Service to Vietnam Veterans. And again, we would like to thank each Woodson Terrace Veterans Committee Member, our Mayor Lawrence Besmer, VFW Post #2365, American Legion Post #143, our Police Department, our Public Works Department, VFWA to VFW Post #3944, VFW Post #3944 and anyone who helped to make this Event the success it was.





Outstanding job everyone!!

This 50 year Anniversary Commemorative Vietnam War Recognition Program Era was celebrated in 2025 and will not be recognized publicly by the Pentagon until five or ten years from now; because it is a Commemorative Anniversary Program. We wanted to do the luncheon this year because of that.

We have attached some pictures of this Event for your enjoyment.

Caroline Martin

Veterans Committee Chairperson

Phone: (314) 324-6883





VFW
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

Post 2365
Missouri 12th District

**AMERICAN
LEGION**
POST 143



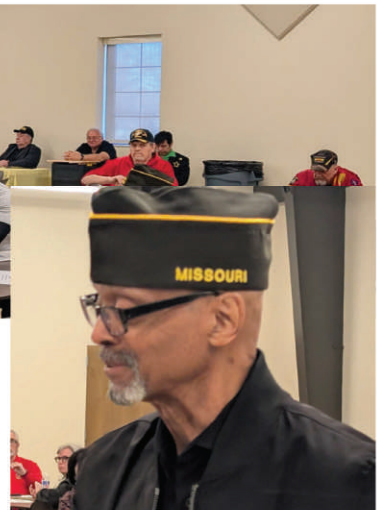
The American Legion Post 143 and VFW Post 2365 were proud to play a part in planning the Vietnam Veterans 50th Commemorative Anniversary honoring Vietnam War veterans. Both organizations extend their deepest gratitude to Alderwoman Caroline Martin, Chair of the Woodson Terrace Veterans Committee, for her leadership in organizing this meaningful tribute, and to Mayor Lawrence Besmer for his unwavering support of the veteran community.



The event was well attended by Veterans honored to receive a commemorative pin and to be shown gratitude and appreciation for their sacrifices by the many guests.

The American Legion Post 143 and VFW Post 2365 want to promote youth programs in Woodson Terrace. Both posts are actively working to raise awareness about their youth scholarship programs, which Woodson Terrace families and youth may not be aware of. The American Legion Boy's State, Oratorical, Cadet Law Enforcement and the VFW's Voice of Democracy and Patriot Pen are a few of the sponsored programs. These programs offer valuable opportunities for personal growth, education, and community engagement.

State Representative Stephanie Boykin, an active member of both posts, took the opportunity before a large crowd of veterans and elected state officials at the state capital, highlighting both organizations' alliance to the vibrant city of Woodson Terrace. Her involvement underscores the posts' ongoing commitment to their community and their role in serving the veterans of Woodson Terrace and of St. Louis.



Woodson Terrace Neighborhood Watch

Key Tips for Spring Neighborhood Watch:

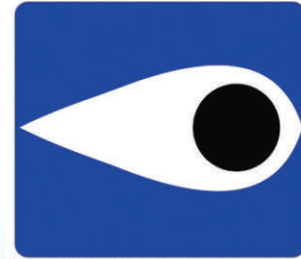
SECURITY MEASURES:

- **Lock all doors and windows:** Ensure vehicles are locked and valuables are not left in plain sight.
- **Trim bushes and trees:** Remove any overgrown vegetation that could hide criminal activity.
- **Improve lighting:** Install motion-detection lights and illuminate entrances.
- **Strangers:** Never open your door to anyone that you do not know.
- **Security:** Consider investing in an alarm or an in-home camera system.
- **Be Observant:** Be observant of those of those who may be posing as repair men, construction workers, or service workers, who might be thieves. If their behavior or location seems out of the ordinary, notify the police.

AWARENESS AND VIGILANCE:

- **Be Aware:** Report suspicious activity or unusual behavior to our police department real time or submit an anonymous tip at 314-696-1653 or email: tips@woodsonterrace.net.
- **Get to know your neighbors:** Build relationships and foster a sense of community.
- **Participate in community events:** Attend neighborhood events and activities to strengthen bonds.

NEIGHBORHOOD
WATCH



WE LOOK OUT FOR EACH OTHER

COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT:

- **Neighborhood Watch Meeting:** Attend our next Meeting on May 22, 2025 at 6 P.M. at the Woodson Terrace Community Center to have discussion of concerns and have interaction with your neighbor's .
- **Connect with local law enforcement:** Follow us on Social Media! We are on Facebook at City of Woodson Terrace Police Department.
- **Be friendly:** Get to know your immediate neighbors. Be familiar with what type of vehicles they drive, whether they have out-of-town guests, or if they will be having hired services performed at their homes. This can be one of the best ways to deter crime. Woodson terrace Neighborhood Watch Phone (314) 427-5858

Detective Matt Anton and Chief Danny Brown

Woodson Terrace Neighborhood Watch

Phone: (314) 427-5858

Woodson Terrace Officials

4323 Woodson Road, Woodson Terrace, Missouri 63134

314-427-2600 • 314-427-0571 (Fax)

MAYOR

LAWRENCE "BUTCH" BESMER
9848 GUTHRIE AVE
(314) 427-2600

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

DOUGLAS ZAIZ
(314) 427-2600

WARD I ALDERMAN

CAROLINE MARTIN
9648 AMITY COURT (314) 324-6883

WARD II ALDERMAN

STEPHEN STEWART
9841 GUTHRIE
sstewart@woodsonterrace.net

ROBERT WELBY

9468 HAROLD (314) 429-7017

WARD III ALDERMAN

GREG MILLS
9257 STANSBERRY (314) 276-4633

JOAN WILLEY

9523 GUTHRIE (314) 239-1705

WARD IV ALDERMAN

MARYANNE ZAIZ
9222 MACON
mzaiz@woodsonterrace.net

JOHN "JACK" BELFORD

9347 STANSBERRY (314) 427-1105

CHIEF OF POLICE

DANNY BROWN
(314) 427-5858



CITY HALL

SARAH PIEL
CITY CLERK (314) 427-2600 EXT 1675

LINDSEY BUXMAN SERNA
CITY COLLECTOR/P.A. ASSISTANT
(314) 427-2600 EXT 1674

KYLA HILL
FINANCIAL MANAGER (314) 427-2600
EXT 1669

DOUG HILL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS
(314) 427-2600 EXT 1373

MIKE PELSOR
CODE ENFORCER (314) 427-2600 EXT 1673

NATOSHA FOLEY
COURT ADMINISTRATOR (314) 427-2600
EXT 1667

SARAH EARLS
COURT CLERK (314) 427-2600 EXT 1670



Frequently Asked for Phone Numbers

EMERGENCY

FIRE DEPARTMENT

CITY HALL

WOODSON TERRACE POLICE DEPARTMENT

ST. LOUIS COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL

POISON CONTROL

ST. LOUIS COUNTY

WASTE CONNECTIONS

AMEREN

SPIRE

MISSOURI AMERICAN WATER

METROPOLITAN SEWER DISTRICT

BI-STATE WILD LIFE HOTLINE

911

(314) 428-1122

(314) 427-2600

(314) 427-5858 STATION • (636) 529-8210 DISPATCH

(314) 831-6500

(800) 222-1222

(314) 615-5000

(636) 321-2100

(314) 342-1000

(314) 621-6960

(866) 430-0820

(314) 768-6200

(855) 945-3435



Please keep an eye on the marquee sign in front of City Hall for information on classes, chipping, plowing, meetings and other city news.

City Calendar of Events

Please note that the planning & zoning and economic development meetings are scheduled as needed. Please call or check online for details and meeting days.

MAY

- 6 Craft Club (1-4 PM)
- 7 Municipal Court
 - Housing (2 PM)
 - Court (5 PM)
- 8 Senior Luncheon (11 AM – 2 PM)
- 8 Budget, Job & Wage Study Committee (7 PM)
- 11 Mother's Day
- 15 Board of Aldermen (7 PM)
- 20 Craft Club (1-4 PM)
- 22 Neighborhood Watch Meeting (6PM at Community Center)
- 26 Memorial Day (City Hall Closed)
 - Memorial Day Celebration (9:30 AM)

JUNE

- 3 Craft Club (1-4 PM)
- 4 Municipal Court
 - Housing (2 PM)
 - Court (5 PM)
- 12 Senior Luncheon (11 AM – 2 PM)
- 15 Father's Day
- 16 Camp Starts
- 17 Craft Club (1-4 PM)
- 19 Board of Aldermen (7 PM)
- 20 First Day of Summer
- 30 Last day of Fiscal year (Business License Due)

JULY

- 1 2025/2026 New Fiscal year begins
- 1 Craft Club (1-4 PM)
- 2 Municipal Court
 - Housing (2 PM)
 - Court (5 PM)
- 4 Independence Day (City Hall Closed)
- 10 Senior Luncheon (11AM – 2PM)
- 15 Craft Club (1-4 PM)
- 17 Board of Aldermen (7 PM)
- 25 Camp's Last Day

Get Connected

There are many ways to connect with and contact the City of Woodson Terrace.

Phone: 314 427 2600

Fax: 314 427 0571

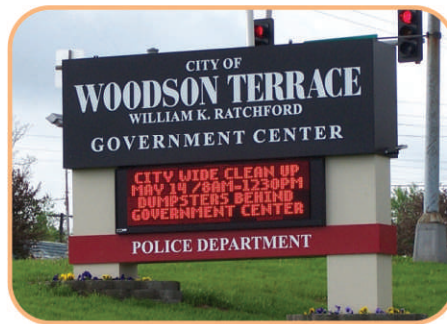
Email: cityclerk@woodsonterrace.net

www.woodsonterrace.net

www.woodsonterrace.net/Facebook



And as always, check the marquee in front of City Hall for the most up to date information.



CITY OF WOODSON TERRACE
4323 Woodson Road
Woodson Terrace, MO 63134
314 427-2600

OPEN MONDAY – FRIDAY 8:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.
EXCEPT 1ST WEDNESDAY OF MONTH CLOSE AT 4:00 P.M.

BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETINGS 3RD THURSDAY OF EACH
MONTH – 7:00 P.M.