



Memorandum

Office of the City Administrator

TO: Honorable Jeff Schlink
Board of Alderman
All Employees

FROM: Petree A. Eastman
City Administrator

DATE: November 18, 2011

RE: City Administrator's Report

Changes at City Hall Coming Soon. With the retirement of Jackie Held as our city Receptionist, our entry foyer at the City Government Center has seemed a bit cold and unfriendly. Now there is also no obvious person to ask for help or direction. We also have been missing a Public Services Administrative Assistant for some time now. So in an effort to provide superior customer service, we have combined these two positions. Starting January 1st, **Ms. Shirley Brown** will sit in our front kiosk as our initial point of contact for customers arriving at City Hall. She will also act as the Public Services Administrative Assistant assisting customers with their public works needs, processing certain permits, providing applications and will be our primary operator answering the main line. When Shirley takes her lunch break and has to work down in the offices of Public Services, we have created a pool of employees to staff the kiosk. Everyone will chip in to learn Shirley's role and help out from time to time, even me. The current Public Works entrance signage will be removed and the exterior door locked during business hours. All visitors will be greeted by Shirley when they arrive. Stay tuned for additional changes coming soon in 2012.

Sales Tax Revenues. November sales tax revenues of \$395,478 were 31.8%, or \$95,449 more than the \$300,028 projected for the month. In looking on a YTD basis, the City has received \$5,300,897, which is 9.5% (\$458,737) above the projected sales tax revenue for the first eleven months of the year.

2012 Budget. The Board of Aldermen will be holding its Public Hearing on the FY2012 Budget on Tuesday, November 22, 2011 during its regularly scheduled Board Meeting. The public is invited to come and comment on the proposed budget. Some slight modifications to the budget have taken place and are likely to take place as a result of the Public Hearing. The Budget can be found on the City's website at:
<http://www.ci.crestwood.mo.us/pdf/2012%20BOA%20Draft%20Budget.pdf>

Here is a summary of our budget:

City of Crestwood, Missouri
2012 Budget Summary- All Funds
Budget For the Year Ending December 31, 2012

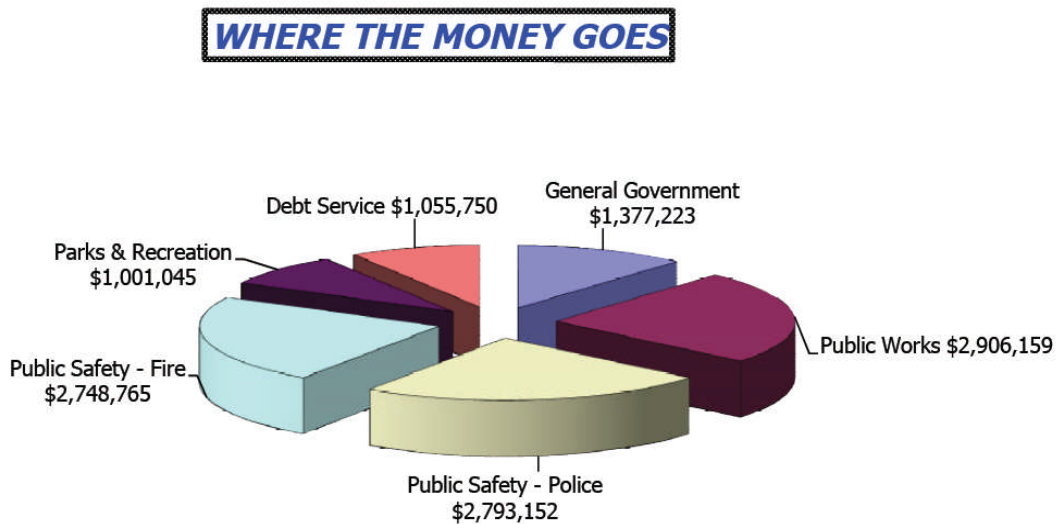
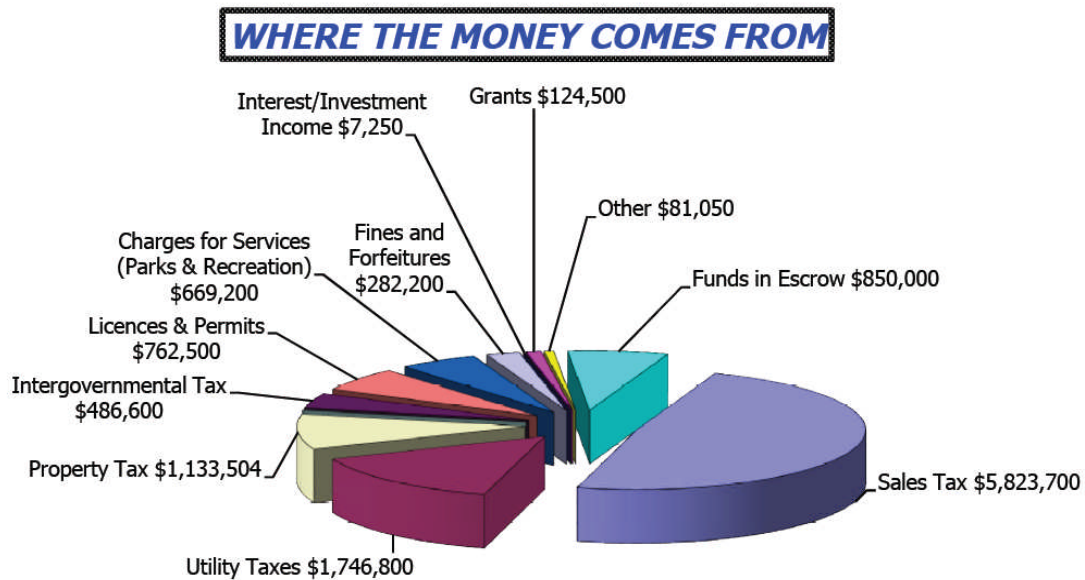
| REVENUES | Major Funds | | | Non-Major Fund | Total |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| | General | Capital Improvement | Park & Stormwater | Sewer Lateral | |
| Taxes: | | | | | |
| Sales | \$ 3,500,400 | \$ 1,077,500 | \$ 1,245,800 | \$ - | \$ 5,823,700 |
| Utilities | 1,746,800 | - | - | - | 1,746,800 |
| Property | 1,133,504 | - | - | - | 1,133,504 |
| Property- Prop "S" | - | - | - | - | - |
| Intergovernmental | 486,600 | - | - | - | 486,600 |
| Licenses and permits | 762,500 | - | - | - | 762,500 |
| Charges for services | - | - | 529,200 | 140,000 | 669,200 |
| Fines and forfeitures | 282,200 | - | - | - | 282,200 |
| Investment earnings | 5,000 | 1,500 | 500 | 250 | 7,250 |
| Grants | 8,500 | 116,000 | - | - | 124,500 |
| Other | 40,500 | 9,000 | 31,550 | - | 81,050 |
| Total estimated revenues | <u>\$ 7,966,004</u> | <u>\$ 1,204,000</u> | <u>\$ 1,807,050</u> | <u>\$ 140,250</u> | <u>\$ 11,117,304</u> |
| EXPENDITURES | | | | | |
| General Government | \$ 1,316,773 | \$ 60,450 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 1,377,223 |
| Public Works | 1,366,678 | 1,048,650 | 350,581 | 140,250 | 2,906,159 |
| Public Safety: | | | | | |
| Police | 2,746,709 | 46,443 | - | - | 2,793,152 |
| Fire | 2,718,765 | 30,000 | - | - | 2,748,765 |
| Parks & Recreation | - | - | 1,001,045 | - | 1,001,045 |
| Debt Service | - | - | 1,055,750 | - | 1,055,750 |
| Total estimated expenditures | <u>\$ 8,148,925</u> | <u>\$ 1,185,543</u> | <u>\$ 2,407,376</u> | <u>\$ 140,250</u> | <u>\$ 11,882,094</u> |
| REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES | \$ (182,921) | \$ 18,457 | \$ (600,326) | \$ - | \$ (764,790) |
| Transfers: | | | | | |
| Transfer in | 201,543 | 48,000 | 850,000 | - | 1,099,543 |
| Transfer out | - | - | (249,543) | - | (249,543) |
| CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES | <u>\$ 18,622</u> | <u>\$ 66,457</u> | <u>\$ 131</u> | <u>\$ -</u> | <u>\$ 85,210</u> |

NOTES: Of the \$66,457 excess in the Capital Improvement Fund, \$50,000 is reserved for the future purchase of a fire truck.

As you can see, the City is transferring funds from the Parks and Stormwater Fund, which is funded by a dedicated sales tax, to the General Fund and the Capital Improvement Funds. This is part of a repayment plan when the General Fund and the Capital Improvements Fund lent monies to the Parks Department for the construction of the Aquatic Center at Whitecliff Park. This repayment comes at a good time because without the repayment of those funds, the General Fund (which pays for police, fire, public works and administration) would be operating at a deficit. Unfortunately, in coming years, those repayments are not likely to allow us to balance the General Fund budget. In the coming year, the Mayor, Board of Aldermen and I will be looking at ways to rectify this serious problem.

You should also note that this budget reflects no increases in employee compensation. This will be the third year employees of the City have gone with no merit or cost of living adjustments. This is a serious problem insofar as without increases, especially for cost of living, the purchasing power of our employees has actually decreased. This means, in effect, that employees have been taking yearly pay cuts. This is a major concern in attracting and retaining superior employees. It will ultimately affect the services now received by citizens.

You should also know where we get our monies and how the City spends tax dollars:



You should note that most of our funding, about **52%**, comes from Retail Sales taxes. Only about **10%** of the City's revenues come from real estate taxes. We do not expect the Mall redevelopment and businesses that may come as part of actual development to add significantly to our revenues from retail sales for several years.

So where does the rest of your property taxes go? To schools, MSD, the County and myriad of other “taxing districts”:

RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE PROPERTY TAX BILL

How are the monies shared?

| <p>Market Value of Home</p> <p>\$ 175,000.00</p> <p>Assessed Value of Home</p> <p>\$ 33,250.00</p> <p>Assessed value is equal to 19% of Market Value</p> | <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: right;"><u>Rate/\$100</u></th> <th></th> <th style="text-align: right;"><u>\$</u></th> <th style="text-align: right;"><u>%</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Metropolitan Sewer District</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 0.0818</td> <td>\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">27.20</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1.2%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sewers - Gravois Cr.</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 0.0800</td> <td>\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">26.60</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1.1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>School - Lindbergh</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 4.0619</td> <td>\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1,350.58</td> <td style="text-align: right;">58.3%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>St. Louis Community College</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 0.2200</td> <td>\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">73.15</td> <td style="text-align: right;">3.2%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Special School District</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 1.0125</td> <td>\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">336.66</td> <td style="text-align: right;">14.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>County General</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 0.2000</td> <td>\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">66.50</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2.9%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>County Health Fund</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 0.1400</td> <td>\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">46.55</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>County Park Maintenance</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 0.0500</td> <td>\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">16.63</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0.7%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>County Bond Retire</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 0.0280</td> <td>\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">9.31</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0.4%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Roads and Bridges</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 0.1050</td> <td>\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">34.91</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sheltered Workshop</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 0.0840</td> <td>\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">27.93</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1.2%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>State of Missouri</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 0.0300</td> <td>\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">9.98</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0.4%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Metropolitan Zoo Museum Distirct</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 0.2671</td> <td>\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">88.81</td> <td style="text-align: right;">3.8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>County Library</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 0.1630</td> <td>\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">54.20</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2.3%</td> </tr> <tr style="background-color: #e0f0e0;"> <td>City of Crestwood</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 0.4410</td> <td>\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">146.63</td> <td style="text-align: right;">6.3%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Property Tax</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 6.9643</td> <td>\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2,315.63</td> <td style="text-align: right;">100.0%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | | <u>Rate/\$100</u> | | <u>\$</u> | <u>%</u> | Metropolitan Sewer District | \$ 0.0818 | \$ | 27.20 | 1.2% | Sewers - Gravois Cr. | \$ 0.0800 | \$ | 26.60 | 1.1% | School - Lindbergh | \$ 4.0619 | \$ | 1,350.58 | 58.3% | St. Louis Community College | \$ 0.2200 | \$ | 73.15 | 3.2% | Special School District | \$ 1.0125 | \$ | 336.66 | 14.5% | County General | \$ 0.2000 | \$ | 66.50 | 2.9% | County Health Fund | \$ 0.1400 | \$ | 46.55 | 2.0% | County Park Maintenance | \$ 0.0500 | \$ | 16.63 | 0.7% | County Bond Retire | \$ 0.0280 | \$ | 9.31 | 0.4% | Roads and Bridges | \$ 0.1050 | \$ | 34.91 | 1.5% | Sheltered Workshop | \$ 0.0840 | \$ | 27.93 | 1.2% | State of Missouri | \$ 0.0300 | \$ | 9.98 | 0.4% | Metropolitan Zoo Museum Distirct | \$ 0.2671 | \$ | 88.81 | 3.8% | County Library | \$ 0.1630 | \$ | 54.20 | 2.3% | City of Crestwood | \$ 0.4410 | \$ | 146.63 | 6.3% | Total Property Tax | \$ 6.9643 | \$ | 2,315.63 | 100.0% |
|--|---|-----------|-------------------|---------------|-----------|----------|-----------------------------|-----------|----|-------|------|----------------------|-----------|----|-------|------|--------------------|-----------|----|----------|-------|-----------------------------|-----------|----|-------|------|-------------------------|-----------|----|--------|-------|----------------|-----------|----|-------|------|--------------------|-----------|----|-------|------|-------------------------|-----------|----|-------|------|--------------------|-----------|----|------|------|-------------------|-----------|----|-------|------|--------------------|-----------|----|-------|------|-------------------|-----------|----|------|------|----------------------------------|-----------|----|-------|------|----------------|-----------|----|-------|------|--------------------------|------------------|-----------|---------------|-------------|---------------------------|------------------|-----------|-----------------|---------------|
| | <u>Rate/\$100</u> | | <u>\$</u> | <u>%</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Metropolitan Sewer District | \$ 0.0818 | \$ | 27.20 | 1.2% | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sewers - Gravois Cr. | \$ 0.0800 | \$ | 26.60 | 1.1% | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| School - Lindbergh | \$ 4.0619 | \$ | 1,350.58 | 58.3% | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| St. Louis Community College | \$ 0.2200 | \$ | 73.15 | 3.2% | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Special School District | \$ 1.0125 | \$ | 336.66 | 14.5% | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| County General | \$ 0.2000 | \$ | 66.50 | 2.9% | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| County Health Fund | \$ 0.1400 | \$ | 46.55 | 2.0% | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| County Park Maintenance | \$ 0.0500 | \$ | 16.63 | 0.7% | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| County Bond Retire | \$ 0.0280 | \$ | 9.31 | 0.4% | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Roads and Bridges | \$ 0.1050 | \$ | 34.91 | 1.5% | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sheltered Workshop | \$ 0.0840 | \$ | 27.93 | 1.2% | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| State of Missouri | \$ 0.0300 | \$ | 9.98 | 0.4% | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Metropolitan Zoo Museum Distirct | \$ 0.2671 | \$ | 88.81 | 3.8% | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| County Library | \$ 0.1630 | \$ | 54.20 | 2.3% | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| City of Crestwood | \$ 0.4410 | \$ | 146.63 | 6.3% | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total Property Tax | \$ 6.9643 | \$ | 2,315.63 | 100.0% | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Remember when calculating your property taxes you first multiply the “Market Value” of your home by 19% to get your “Assessed Value”. Then you multiply your Assessed value by the total rate to get the total property taxes paid. As you can see, in your average Crestwood home, **only about \$147 or 6.3% of your entire property tax bill comes to the City.** These funds help the City provide to citizens police and fire services, maintain our infrastructure (roads, sidewalks, bridges) and our parks.

Maintenance Crew Activity. The Public Works maintenance crew has completed in-house selective concrete slab replacement on Vicary Drive and Bardmont Drive. Park maintenance personnel are in the process of grinding stumps which remain from prior street tree and park tree removals. Street maintenance personnel will begin crack sealing later this month.

Street Sweeping. The contractual sweeping of all City streets began on November 14, 2011 and should be completed by November 23, 2011.

Whitecliff Park Service Bridge. The three concrete girders were delivered and installed on October 20, 2011. The bridge deck was poured on November 9, 2011. The contractor is currently forming the corral rail and prepping the parking area. This project is scheduled to be completed in early December, weather permitting.

Board of Adjustment. On November 10, 2011 the Board of Adjustment approved two variances, one which will allow a deck to be installed within the rear yard setback at 9311 Cherry Brook Lane; the other will permit a covered deck within the rear yard setback at 9123 General Grant Lane.

Planning and Zoning Commission. The Planning and Zoning Commission met on November 2, 2011 in order to consider a request for a Conditional Use Permit from DaVita Dialysis. DaVita is proposing to move its operation from 9901 Watson Road to Building B within Sappington Square. The Planning and Zoning Commission unanimously recommended approval of the requested CUP.

Public Works Board. The Public Works Board will meet at 7:00pm on November 16, 2011, immediately following an open house for the Spellman Avenue reconstruction project (4-7pm in the BOA Chambers). This project is currently under design by HR Green, with construction planned for the spring of 2013. Eighty percent of the Spellman Avenue reconstruction project will be reimbursed to the City through a grant from East West Gateway. During the open house, area residents will be able to meet with City Staff and the design consultant in order to address any concerns they may have about the project. As part of the Public Works Board meeting, the consultant will provide a brief presentation on the details of the project, including the challenges of meeting the new MSD water quality requirements.

Spellman Avenue Phase II. Public Works Staff is currently reviewing qualifications from the twelve engineering firms that responded to the Request for Qualifications for design services for the reconstruction of Ponderosa, Acorn (Ponderosa to Oak Ridge), Oak Ridge, and Holmes, also referred to as Spellman Avenue Phase II. Once the most qualified consultant is selected a contract will be negotiated in accordance with MODOT requirements. The Mayor and Board of Aldermen will likely consider a contract for engineering design services for this project in early 2012.

Sanitary Sewer Lateral Program. In October the City received four requests for sanitary sewer lateral repair, of which two were approved.

Parking Lot Behind Long School. As part of the recent construction project at Long School, the City allowed the Lindbergh School District to utilize its parking lot at the southeast corner of Crestwood Park. In return, Lindbergh agreed to overlay the parking lot at the conclusion of the project, which has been completed. City Staff would like to thank Karl Guyer and all the representatives of the Lindbergh School District for their cooperation during the extensive renovations at Long School and Crestwood Elementary.

Animal Control Report. The Animal Control Officer responded to 111 animal related calls in October, including 9 complaints, 16 requests for information, 10 wildlife calls, 21 lost and found calls, and 23 adoption inquiries. During the month of October the Animal Control Officer picked up six dogs, one raccoon, and 107 dead animals. The shelter had 30 animals on hand at the beginning of October, and 28 animals on hand at the end of October.

Aquatic Center. The 2011 Aquatic Center Report has been completed and will be presented to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen on November 22, 2011. At that time the Mayor and Board of Aldermen will consider fee increases and a change in the Aquatic Center admission policy.

Community Center:

- Winter program registration has been underway since September. Participants have been very receptive to the recent changes in the registration policy, whereby residents no longer need to wait until December to sign up for classes that begin in January. There are currently 127 people already registered for winter programs at the Community Center.
- We currently have 556 participants registered in the fall session, which is up from 484 at this time last year.
- Community Center staff will be on hand at Crestwood Court for the Art Feast event on Saturday, November 19. We will be hosting an Arts and Crafts table and promoting the Department and upcoming programs from 11 am until 4 pm.
- On Thursday November 10 the Community Center Staff conducted a day trip to the Fabulous Fox Theater. Participants were provided a Fox Theater tour, a lunch buffet at Vitos, and the showing of Billy Elliott.
- Several holiday events will be held in December, including a Holiday Lights Tour and Gingerbread House Creations at the Community Center and a Candle Light Tour and Christmas Story Time at the Sappington House. Santa will be making his visit to the Community Center on Saturday, December 17, from 9 to 11 am at our new Donuts with Santa event. Tickets are still available for \$3 for residents and \$5 for non-residents.
- The Crestwood-Kirkwood Youth Theatre's performance of 'The Jungle Book Kids' will run December 1-4, 2011. All performances are at the Robert Reim Theatre at the Kirkwood Community Center. Tickets are \$5 each and may be purchased by calling the Kirkwood Community Center.
- Staff is currently working on developing the spring and summer program brochure and, as always, welcomes any input or ideas for new activities that could be offered.
- The Community Center will be closed on December 24, 25, 31 and January 1 for the holidays. The Center will open at 6:00 a.m. on January 2 for all those making New Year's resolutions and wanting to use the Fitness Room.

Shred-It-Day. Deputy Chief Arnoldy, Lt. Avery, Officer Provaznik and Akin along with Chief Paillou and Connie Melching participated in our third Shred-It-Day on October 29, 2011. The Crestwood Police Department in conjunction with Lakeshire and Sunset Hills

Police Departments worked together in the fund raising effort for **Crime Stoppers**. Volunteer Police Explorers from St. Louis City also assisted in this event. The Crestwood location at the old Macy's parking lot generated \$1,330.00 for Back Stoppers. Six large containers of surplus prescription drugs and medication were also collected and will be turned over to the D.E.A. for proper disposal. This was a very successful event that was enjoyed and appreciated by all.

Make A Difference Day. The 6th annual Make a Difference Day was held on October 22, 2011. Approximately 175 volunteers took on various projects. The high profile project was working on a home that had suffered damage during the New Year's Eve tornado. The house was the home of a severely disabled child. Damage was repaired and a large tree was replaced so she could see a tree from her room. Work continues as landscaping and a new front porch will be replaced. Clean up efforts occurred in four of Crestwood's parks and Father Dickson's Cemetery. Flowers were taken to Bethesda Senior Home and Crestview Senior Living. The Crestwood Police Department and Neighborhood Watch members would like to thank the Crestwood Fire Department for the hospitality they showed our volunteers and the labor involved in providing and cooking lunch for all.

Hail to the Chief. Chief Mike Paillou was the guest speaker for the 236th United States Marine Corps Birthday Ball held at the Missouri Athletic Club on November 11, 2011. Chief Paillou is the second Marine in the family. His father served in the Marine Corps and was wounded during the Korean War. Chief Paillou's son Hunter is currently serving as a United States Marine at Camp Lejuene, N.C.

Defensive Tactics Training. Two eight hour sessions on defensive tactics, use of force, mace and taser were conducted on November 7th and the 9th at the community center. Offices McFarland, Akin and Maloney along with Officers Duffield and Berberich presented the training in their specific fields. Patrol officers, sergeants, detectives and staff officers participated in this valuable training.

Firearms Training. The department will be conducting the fifth firearms training session at the St. Louis County Range on Thursday November 17th 2011. This session will consist of combat shooting skills.

Search Warrant. A search warrant was executed in the Forrest View Apartment Complex on November 4th 2011. An investigation initiated by Officers McFarland and Balsman resulted in a search warrant being issued after several controlled buys by members of Kirkwood S.E.G. St. Louis County Tacticle Officers assisted in executing the search warrant. One quarter pound of Marijuana, ¼ pound of Hashish along with one pump action shotgun were seized. Three individuals were arrested for various felony charges.

Fall 2011 CERT Class. The Fall 2011 CERT (**C**ommunity **E**mergency **R**esponse **T**eam) class was completed this past Saturday, with the fire extinguisher drill, tabletop exercise and disaster simulation. Eleven citizens completed the course with five being

Crestwood residents. CERT training promotes a joint effort between our emergency services personnel and our citizens. If a disastrous event overwhelms or delays the emergency services personnel, CERT members can assist others by applying the basic response and organizational skills they learned during training. These skills can help save and sustain lives following a disaster until help arrives. The eleven completed the 24 hours of training during the three week period. The class was funded by a donation from the Crestwood-Sunset Hills Rotary Club.

Maplewood CERT Exercise. Assistant Chief Mark Menning and Deputy Chief Frank Arnoldy were involved in the planning and conducting of a CERT Exercise in Maplewood this past Saturday. Twenty-five CERT members including 16 from Crestwood and 9 from Maplewood, along with the Eureka Search and Rescue Team, searched residences that are going to be demolished, established a CERT command structure and documented their results. The CERT members all enjoyed the exercise. The CERT members also were allowed to tour a Lustron house, which is one of the all metal houses that came in kit form and was assembled on the site, post World War II.

Disaster Preparedness. In preparation for our winter season, families can be prepared by packing the following in a winter disaster kit:

- Water, at least one gallon daily per person for three days. Food, at least enough for three to seven days.
- Non-perishable packaged or canned food, juices, foods for infants or the elderly, snack foods, non-electric can opener, cooking utensils, fuel, paper plates, utensils.
- Blankets and pillows.
- Clothing, seasonal, rain gear, sturdy shoes.
- Medical supplies, first aid kit, medicines, prescription drugs.
- Special Items, for infants and the elderly.
- Toiletries and hygiene items.
- Moisture wipes.
- A flashlight and extra batteries.
- Radio, preferably a battery-operated and NOAA weather radio.
- Cash, since banks and ATMs may not be open or available for extended periods.
- Important documents in a waterproof container. Examples include insurance, medical records, bank account numbers, and social security card.
- Keys for the house, important buildings and even cars.
- Toys, books and games.
- Tools, it is a good idea to have a set with you during the storm.
- Vehicle fuel tanks filled.
- Pet care items.
- Proper identification, immunization records, ample supply of food and water, a carrier or cage, medications, muzzle and leash.

For more information visit www.Ready.gov, and www.fema.gov/plan/index.shtm for a thorough look into disaster preparedness and a more detailed list of emergency supplies. Also, www.Ready.gov/kids is an excellent resource for information on how to involve children in the process of assembling the family's Disaster Supply Kit.

