

City of St. Louis

News and Views

May 1, 2025

Message from the Mayor

Farmers Market



The results of the city's survey to gauge resident interest in backyard chickens are in, and the majority of respondents were in favor.

A total of 175 people took the survey, but only 158 are city residents. Some 124 respondents support an amendment to let residents keep chickens. And 111 people said they personally would get chickens.

Some 76 of those survey respondents left written comments that run the gamut from enthusiastic support ("Let us have chickens!!!!") to ambivalence ("It's okay as long as there isn't too many roosters.") to vociferous opposition ("They stink. If I wanted to smell like a farm I'd live in the country.")

My problem with the survey is that respondents are self selected, and I suspect those in favor were more likely to respond than those who oppose.

In contrast, the April 2 St. Louis Sentinel story I published about this issue generated five comments from Mark Yourchock, KC Malone, Kevin T, Patricia Crow and Gary Smith. All were opposed.

I've already gone on record as being opposed to letting residents keep chickens and haven't changed my mind.

St. Louis has one ordinance enforcement officer who already has plenty to do. I don't want to add chicken coop inspector to her duties. No one was clamoring for the right to keep chickens before my council colleague Liz Upton brought it up.

We already have residents who can't keep their dogs under control. As an avid walker I've been threatened by dogs at least twice a year and started carrying Mace for defense. I shudder to think what problems would arise if St. Louis becomes the barnyard capital of Gratiot County.

An old saying comes to mind: "If it ain't broke, don't fix it."

Ralph Echtenaw



The St. Louis Farmers Market will be back again this year starting Thursday June 5th at a new location, under a new name, and with a new partner Alma Artisan and Farmers Market. Gratiot MI Market is now located at the old Treasures building/ Jesus Coffee Shop 201 N Mill St. St. Louis. We will now be open every Thursday year round 2-6pm! (excluding major holidays)

Also, adding a Silent Market every other Tuesday 2-6pm. For those who need a quieter shopping experience. November through May we will add on Saturdays 10am-2pm. Alma Market will keep their location on State St. next to True Value Hardware and from June through October will run 8am to 1pm. We are lining up sponsors, vendors, and now have the capability to host classes and special events.

Please contact Sara Piaskowski at 734-249-3961 or Lisette Smith at 989-824-0152 or email us at gratiotmimarket@gmail.com with questions or ideas. Our new Facebook is Gratiot Markets, Instagram Gratiotmimarket, X Gratiotmimarket.

Memorial Day Parade



Monday 26, 2025

Community Parade

Line Up: St. Louis High School at 9:30am

Parade Time: 10:00am

Ceremonies: Mill Street Bridge

Oak Grove Cemetery

Community Lunch

Immediately Following the parade

St. Louis VFW Post #3055

1295 W Monroe Rd (M46)

Please Register this year

Help us build this Parade! We encourage organizations, churches, youth groups, old cars, tractors, and anyone that wishes to join.

Please come out and support

All Veteran's

Joe Scholtz Memorial Fishing Derby



Saturday, June 7, 2025

Participants must check in at Leppien Park prior to 9:00 a.m.

Fishing is 9:00 a.m. to noon. Registration forms are available at stlouismi.com or can be picked up at City Hall.

Personal Needs Pantry



The Personal Needs Pantry continues to serve the residents of Gratiot County with supplemental personal care items that can't be obtained



with a Bridge/SNAP Card. With generous donations from churches, nonprofits, businesses and individuals they are able to provide for those in need.

The Personal Needs Pantry will be holding a fundraiser on Wednesday, May 21st, from 11 am to 10pm at the Blue Shamrock Pub. A percentage of the business that day will be used to purchase items for the pantry. Please consider supporting the pantry by enjoying "pub grub" in downtown St. Louis!

Any questions can be directed to the church at 989-681-3320.

Memorial Day



City offices will be closed Monday, May 26th in observance of Memorial Day.

Memorial Day Parade Monday, May 26th at 10:00 a.m.

Hazardous Waste Program



June 3rd, 4th & 5th

The city of St. Louis along with the City of Alma will be holding its Annual Hazardous Waste Collection Program on June 3rd, 4th & 5th.

Solid Waste customers should call 989-463-8030 to schedule an appointment to drop off items such as batteries, paint, pesticide/herbicides and cleaning liquids at the Alma Public Services garage located at 800 Washington Street.

Customers are encouraged to utilize this service to dispose of all unwanted waste considered hazardous and not permitted to be placed with the weekly trash collection.

Please Clean Up After Your Pet



The City Ordinance states that "defecation on public and private property other than the owners must be immediately removed."

Please be sure to clean up after your pet when you are taking them out for a walk. We continue to take pride in our City's appearance, so please do your part! Thanks everyone!

Brush pickup for the month of May begins May 5, 2025

This Institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.