

City of St. Louis

News and Views

December, 2024

Message from the Mayor



The city entered somewhat uncharted territory after the retirement of longtime Economic Development Director Phil Hansen in November.

Instead of hiring a full-timer to replace Hansen, City Manager Kurt Giles went with two part-time interns who, for now anyway, take over for Hansen and work 30 hours/week each.

However, their positions are somewhat fluid, as Josh Leppien, 24, and Elsie Burton, 22, report directly to Giles, who may utilize them in other roles.

This is good news as the city administration (not to mention residents) benefits from the inclusion of youth. Young people are more likely think outside the box, and that's beneficial in any organization. "That's how we've always done it" should never be said to justify anything, and I hope Josh and Elsie take that to heart.

Elsie is a recent Michigan Technological University graduate with a bachelor's degree in scientific and technical communication and an associate's degree in humanities. Her skills range from marketing and social media management to technical writing and applied mathematics. "I hope to use my education and experience growing up in a small community on Beaver Island to get to know this community better and share what makes it so great!" she said.

Josh is the great grandson of Fred and Gertrude Leppien, for whom the park was named. He grew up in Alma and recently graduated with a master's degree in political science from Villanova University. "I am thankful to be working for the City of St. Louis while working on a master's degree in public administration," he said.

Feel free to contact Elsie and Josh by phone or email:

Josh: (989) 681-3017 or jleppien@stlouismi.com

Elsie: (989) 681-3017 or eburton@stlouismi.com

Thanks to election workers

Many thanks to City Clerk Jamie Long and election workers Janie Hunt, Sue Whitford, Terry Root, Robin Hart, Payton Kuhn, Don Burch, Tina Redes and Ashley Bullard for the fourth time this year! They handled more than 1,000 voters on Nov. 5, including 100 in the first hour! "This group worked so hard to keep everything running as smooth as possible," Long said. "They are a great group of people!"

Newsletter column archive

For what it's worth, I've put my past city newsletter columns on my personal blog site. Visit it at <https://echtinaw.blogspot.com/> if you need something to make you sleepy.

Looking Forward to 2025

We hope everyone has a peaceful Holiday Season and look forward to 2025.

St. Louis will have plenty of projects and activities going on again this coming year and we will keep you up on them as time goes by.

To stay informed on what is happening here, register to receive our Constant Contact e-newsletter. Just email jlong@stlouismi.com and let us know that you would like to be added to the mailing list.

We remind you as always, how important it is to spend your dollars locally. Please make it part of your "New Year's Resolutions" to support our local businesses as much as possible! Our Business Directory, which has a lot of great information, can be found at www.stlouismi.com/local.

Thanks to everyone in St. Louis for all their support! We hope you all have a happy and prosperous New Year.

City Office Closing



City Offices will be closed December 24th, 25th, 31st and January 1st.

*Have a Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year!*

Snow Removal



With winter in mind, please remember to keep fire hydrants and drains clear of snow.

It is illegal to plow snow from your driveway or walks into or across the street as this can hinder snow removal by City crews.

To view the City's Snow Removal Program visit <https://www.stlouismi.com/government/public-works-and-utilities/dpw/>

No Parking on City Streets



There is no parking on City Streets from 2:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. November 1 to May 1.

It is also a violation to park in any manner which creates a hazard or impedes snow removal.

City Hall Office Hours:
Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. & 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.



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Christmas Parade December 5

The annual **St. Louis Small Town Family Christmas Parade** and reception with Santa Claus will be Thursday, December 5.

Parade lineup will begin at 5:30 PM at Frosty Cone and stretching west on North Street. The parade will start at 6:00 PM.

The reception will begin right after the parade ends and will be held at the St. Louis High School Cafeteria.



Power Outages



In case of after-hours power outages, residents are to call the Central Dispatch non-emergency number at 989-875-7505 and the on-call Electric Department employee will be dispatched.

Support St. Louis Businesses



Please eat, shop and relax in Beautiful Downtown St. Louis this Holiday Season



City Council Meetings are the first and third Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m.

Brush pickup for the month of December begins December 2, 2024.

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