

The Kirksville Connection

www.kirksvillemo.org

October 2004

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2004-2005 Kirksville City Council

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Tim Crist, Councilman
Martha Rowe, Councilwoman
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Transportation Sales Tax on November 2nd Municipal Ballot

When voters go to the polls on November 2nd they will have the opportunity to support the continuation of a one-half (1/2) cent sales tax for transportation purposes.

The Kirksville community first approved the Transportation Sales Tax in 1987. The tax has been used for the construction of new streets and the reconstruction of existing streets including asphalt overlay, concrete reconstruction, storm drainage improvements, and related items supporting our transportation system.

The City currently receives about \$1.2 million annually for transportation projects. Though the law allows for transportation funds to be used for other transportation purposes, Kirksville has kept its focus on streets. With the increased importance of the airport in attracting economic opportunities to the community, and the need for citizens to have access to public transportation, the City Council has proposed using a small portion of the tax for airport improvements and funding for public transportation. Under this plan no

more than 5% of the tax (or approximately \$60,000) could be set aside for these purposes. The other 95% of the funding would continue to be used for the street program as usual.

The current transportation sales tax will expire on December 31, 2005. The proposed continuation will provide for the tax through December 31, 2015.

Information on projects funded with the Transportation Sales Tax can be found in the article below.

City Street Improvements

2004 boasted a very busy construction season around Kirksville. Some of the projects you may have seen in progress include:

LaHarpe Street - First Street to Boundary: This street received a major overhaul with new curb, gutter, and storm drainage system, as well as the widening of the driving lanes.

Baltimore Sidewalks - Phase I of this project, which was sidewalk on both sides of Baltimore from LaHarpe to Patterson, is complete and Phase II, which includes sidewalk on the west side of Baltimore from Patterson to Illi-

nois, is nearly complete. These improvements have improved the look of Baltimore as well as the functionality of the sidewalk.

Washington Street - Curb and gutter improvements were completed on Washington Street this summer (photo below).



KIRKSVILLE – WHERE PEOPLE MAKE THE DIFFERENCE™

Parks and Rec Upcoming Events

October 30
Halloween Carnival
Thompson Campus Center
2–4 pm

Memory Lane Matinee
2nd Tuesday of Every Month
Downtown Cinema 8
10:30 am

Free Movie Day
3rd Sunday of Every Month
Kirksville Middle School
2:00 pm

For more information about these and other great fall and winter events, contact the Parks and Recreation Office at 627-1485.

Red Cross Learn to Swim Program

Sign up now for fall swimming lessons. Beginning swimmers will learn to feel comfortable in the water while more advanced swimmers will improve their swimming skills.

Lessons are held Monday, Wednesday, and Friday evenings at 5:30, 6:00, or 6:30pm.

6 30-minute lessons are only \$30.

Session 3 runs from October 25–November 5. SIGN UP NOW!

Kirksville Aquatic Center
627-7665
aquatics@kirksvillemo.org

2004 Shape Up Kirksville Program Nearing Completion

Over 600 Kirksville residents have geared up to Shape Up in the Governor's Shape Up Missouri program. This eight-week statewide fitness challenge is sponsored by Governor Holden and the Missouri Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Health.

Participants registered for the program and then report each week when they have

exercised for at least three times a week for at least 20 minutes per day.

Our community results are reported to the state each week in a friendly competition between Missouri communities. Last year Kirksville placed in the Top 10 in the Shape Up challenge. We are hoping to do better this year, but the real success comes from more people

participating.

This program was initiated to address the alarming rate of cardiovascular disease caused primarily by obesity. The incidence of heart disease, stroke, cancer, obesity, and diabetes in Adair, Macon, and Schuyler counties is higher than the statewide rate for Missouri.

The Shape Up program will

Improvements Funded by the Transportation Sales Tax

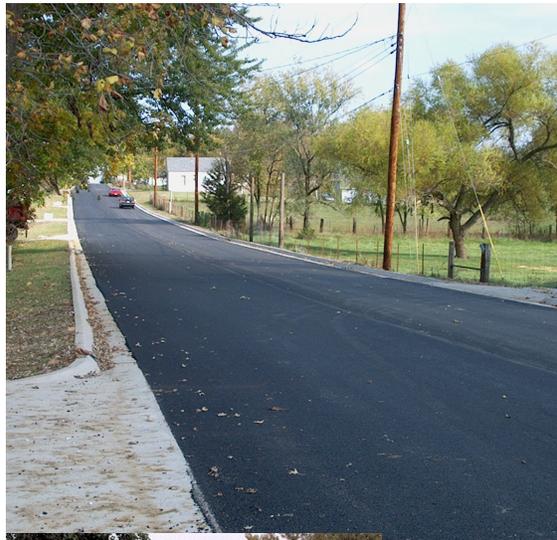


Photo Left: This stretch of LaHarpe, from First Street to Boundary, has undergone extensive repair. The street has new curb and guttering, was widened and resurfaced and work was done to allow for better line of sight at the Osteopathy and LaHarpe intersection. It is now open to traffic.

Photo Bottom Left: Meadow Lane is just one of the streets that are being prepared for concrete repair or asphalt overlay as a part of the City's annual street improvement program.

Both of these projects were funded through the Transportation Sales Tax.



Every Vote Counts—Cast Your Ballot on November 2nd!

Finance Department Receives Award



At the September City Council Meeting, Mayor Masten presented the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to Finance Director, Laura Guy-Rice (photo left). The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) honored the Finance Department for its comprehensive annual financial report.

This is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting; its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management. Kirksville is very proud of its Finance Department for reaching this level of achievement.

Water Bill Reminder

For residential water and sewer customers, the minimum bill is \$36.84 for 600 cubic feet of water (bi-monthly) or \$18.42 for 300 cubic feet of water (monthly). If water usage is below 600 cubic feet (bi-monthly) or 300 cubic feet (monthly), the minimum billing still applies. Current minimum rates are as follows:

- * water - \$1.99 per 100 cubic feet of water usage
- * sewer - \$2.11 per 100 cubic feet of water usage
- * trash - \$6.00 per month per water meter
- * tax - 2% on water

Rates are subject to annual revision.

Aquatic Center Ready for Winter

City crews have been busy readying the Aquatic Center's indoor pool for winter. A leak this summer required that the pool be drained and repaired, but now the pool is open and ready for citizens to enjoy.

"We have really worked on cleaning the facility, ensuring high water quality, and

training the staff so that the pool can be a more enjoyable experience for patrons," said Interim Recreation Director, Stephanie DeLaney.

The current hours for the Aquatic Center are: 6-8 am Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, noon-7pm Monday-Friday, 9am-8pm Saturday, and 1-6pm Sunday.

Fall Baseball and Softball a Big Hit

The City of Kirksville offered a fall baseball/softball league for the first time this year. Nearly 150 area youth participated in the seven-week season. Games were played on Saturday mornings at the North Park Complex. "This is a great opportunity to get more use from the fields while the weather is still nice enough to play," said City Manager, Mari Macomber.

For more information on activities at North Park, visit the Parks & Recreation section of our web site at: www.kirksvillecity.com

Downtown Partnership

The City of Kirksville, the Downtown Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Commission and a downtown property owner completed a successful partnership project. New businesses opened and existing businesses had expanded in the block of Washington Street west of Main Street. The sidewalk in this block was in disrepair and needed to be replaced.

Through this public/private partnership, the sidewalk was replaced and makes this block much more appealing and usable.

The TIF was created to assist with infrastructure improvements in the downtown area. It is the expectation that these improvements will bring additional revenue into the area, and a portion will go into the TIF to make even more improvements.

City of Kirksville Calendar of Events

<u>Event</u>	<u>Day/Time</u>
Halloween Carnival at Thompson Campus Center	Saturday, October 30 2-4pm
Scary Movie Night at the Aquatic Center— Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone. Patrons can bring their own raft and float while watching the movie. Snacks will be provided. \$2.50 admission.	Saturday, October 30 6pm
Arthritis Foundation Water Aerobics—Aquatic Center Stretching and toning to help keep joints flexible and muscles strong	Monday—Friday Noon—1pm
Friends Senior Aerobics—Aquatic Center Low to medium intensity, stretching, mobility, ton- ing, and flexibility in a fun, social atmosphere.	Mon-Wed-Fri 1:30—2:30pm
Evening Water Aerobics Medium to high intensity, toning, and weight loss	Monday—Friday 5:30-6:30pm
Coffee and Cards at Days Inn FREE Fun!	Mondays 9-11am
Hike Bike Stroll—Meet at the YMCA trailhead for a stroll around the City's hike/bike trail.	Monday—Friday 9am

For more information about City sponsored activities or to be placed
on our monthly mailing list, contact Robin at 660-627-1485.

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**The
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