

ISSUE 3

JAN. – MAR. 2024

JEFFERSON

COUNTY, MISSOURI



NEWSLETTER



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- EWGCOG and ARC Awards
- New Online Citizen Services
- High Ridge Civic Center Playground
- and MORE...

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636-797-5400

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636-797-5400

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District 3

Vacant

District 4

[Charles Groeteke](#)
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OFFICES CLOSED

January 15, 2024
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

February 12, 2024
Lincoln’s Birthday

February 19, 2024
President’s Day

EWGCOG AWARD

Jefferson County, MO and the City of Crystal City received the Exemplary Accomplishment by a Local Government, Jurisdiction, Agency or Individual Award for their Partnership to Secure New Manufacturing Facility – James Hardie Industries at the East-West Gateway Council of Governments 58th Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon Program held on November 15, 2023.

The award recognizes the two years of work by government entities to attract and retain the largest corporate investment ever in Jefferson County, MO. The city and Jefferson County worked with economic development entities at the local, regional and state levels to coordinate efforts, including the Jefferson County Economic Development Corporation, Jefferson College, the Jefferson County Port Authority, Greater St. Louis Inc., the Missouri Department of Economic Development and Governor Parson's office.

The James Hardie Industries manufacturing facility makes fiber cement home siding and flooring products. Their plans to build a 1.25 million square foot manufacturing facility in Crystal City, MO is expected to employ 230 people at a pay rate on average of \$35 per hour. Additionally, there will be a significant number of construction jobs for infrastructure improvements and construction of the facility itself.

To learn more about East-West Gateway Council of Governments, visit ewgateway.org.



NEW ONLINE CITIZEN SERVICES

As Jefferson County grows, the services needed to serve citizens grows as well. We are constantly evaluating processes that could improve business with our citizens and workflow for our employees. We are excited to announce, we will be adding CivicPlus Services: CivicDevelopment, Agenda and Meeting Management, and SeeClickFix 311 CRM. We are hopeful to go live with the permitting, licensing and Agenda and Meeting Management modules in Q1 and the other modules by end of 2024.



Welcome to our Permitting, Planning & Zoning, Contractor License, Citizen Complaint and Inspections Portal!

This portal provides the public 24/7 access to the following online services:

Permits

Planning and Zoning

Contractor Licenses

Complaints and Violations

Inspections

Log In

Register

CIVICDEVELOPMENT: Civic Development, previously known as CivicGov, is a multi-module platform including permitting, licensing, code enforcement and planning & zoning. The platform will allow citizens to create an account to apply for liquor licenses, contractor licenses, and permits. Citizens will also be able to pay and receive your license/permit online. Additionally, citizens will be able to track the progress of their applications throughout the process. This will allow for quicker processing, citizens to be more informed and reduction in human error.

The Code Enforcement and Planning & Zoning components will not launch until later in 2024.

SEECCLICKFIX: SeeClickFix 311 CRM by CivicPlus® is a 311 solution that empowers residents to report issues, identify repair needs, share feedback, and ask questions. This platform integrates with CivicDevelopment for even more efficiency. SeeClickFix 311 will be used for all county complaints, not including road and bridge. Road and bridge complaints will continue to use the Tracker Online Service Center.

AGENDA AND MEETING MANAGEMENT: Agenda and Meeting Management, previously known as CivicClerk, will provide more information to our citizens, all in one location. Our current agenda center will receive a facelift and added features. Agendas will have the ability to have attachments, recorded meetings will be timestamped per agenda item, and our council and board members will have a live voting feature that will be displayed for those attending in person. This will create more transparency for our citizens who attend in person and online.

We appreciate your patience as we work through this exciting transition.

If you have any questions, call Deputy Director of Administration Ashley Fears at 636-797-6168.

PAWTASTIC NEWS

ARC Award

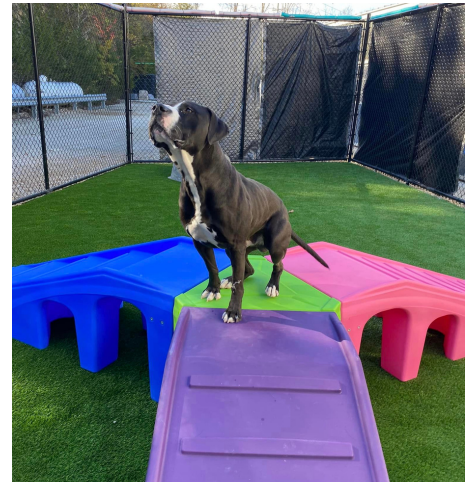
Congrats to the Jefferson County Animal Resource Center for receiving a “No Kill” Shelter Award from Best Friends Animal Society in October 2023 for having over a 90% live release rate in 2022.

Best Friends Animal Society is a non-profit animal welfare organization. Their goal is to help all shelters within the US become no kill. The ARC has worked hard and made great progress over recent years with their euthanasia rates. The ability to ever be 100% no kill is unfortunately not obtainable due to bite cases, dangerous dogs, etc.

The ARC continues to strive to keep euthanasia rates low and find the animals in their care the best homes!



Improvements to Dog Playground



Our furry friends at the Animal Resource Center recently got an upgrade to their outdoor play area with new artificial grass turf, 8-foot fencing and dog ‘playground’. The new artificial grass turf is made especially for pet use, covering approximately 750 square feet. This provides the animals with a stable and solid service for them to run, jump, and lay down more comfortably.

The 8-foot fence is a much needed improvement to the previous 4-foot fence, keeping dogs properly contained within the play yard.

The new playground equipment is great for staff to assess if the dog is familiar with stairs or different surfaces. It is also fun for them to run and jump off.

Our furry friends are loving their new play yard surface and are no longer getting little rocks stuck in between their paws.

CRAIG BURGARD IS NEW CODE ENFORCEMENT MANAGER



Craig Burgard was appointed to the role of Code Enforcement Manager in the Code Enforcement Division for the County Services and Code Enforcement Department at the October 10th County Council meeting. The Code Enforcement Manager oversees the division related to building permits, plan review and inspections as well as code enforcement. Additionally, he functions as a chief building official.

Craig began his career in the County Services and Code Enforcement Department as a Project Manager in 2022. Prior to coming to Jefferson County, he was the Housing Inspector for Jefferson Franklin Community Action Corporation conducting inspections in both Jefferson and Franklin Counties. Additionally, he has 29 years of experience as a Firefighter, sixteen of those years as a Fire Investigator. Burgard was also a member of the Jefferson County Fire Investigator Team where his focus was on building construction that would relate back to the fire investigation side.

“Craig is a valuable part of the County Services team and has a passion for public service,” said Director of County Services and Code Enforcement Mitch Bair. “His wealth of experience and knowledge make him a prime candidate for the position.”

Please visit the [Code Enforcement](#) page to learn more about the Code Enforcement Division and to apply for [permits](#) and [contractor's licenses](#).



MASTER PLAN ON SCHEDULE

The Visualize Jefferson County Master Plan process continues to be on schedule with a projected completion of Spring/Summer 2024. Under Missouri state law, the Master Plan functions as a guide to local elected and appointed officials on how growth and development decisions are made.


The process began in February 2023 and has entailed several community meetings including advisory panels discussing existing conditions, gathering public input and presenting summaries of public input. The most recent Advisory Panel meeting, held in August, presented considerations and discussed “Key

Recommendations” of the plan. These recommendations function as the spine of the plan. The next component of the Master Plan will be the “Land Use Framework” that will aid in guiding policy and legislative decisions on how and where development should occur.

Another Advisory Panel is currently planned to take place in Q1 of 2024 where residents and other stakeholders will have opportunities to provide input.


Stay up to date on the Master Plan process by visiting the [Visualize Jefferson County Master Plan website](#).

PERSONAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT LIST DUE MARCH 1, 2024



2024 Personal Property Assessment List
Bob Boyer
Jefferson County Assessor

**AVOID
PENALTY
Return by
March 1, 2024**

YEAR	ACCOUNT	EFILE	E-FILE PIN
2024		 <small>To e-file your Personal Property Assessment List refer to the enclosed letter. TO E-FILE: www.jeffco.mo.org/assessor</small>	

NAME CHANGE: _____
ADDRESS CHANGE: _____
DATE MOVED: _____

If you are changing to a PO Box, you must provide your physical address here: _____

NOTE: If you are moving out of Jefferson County it is your responsibility to notify your new assessment authority.

SCH	FIRE	AMB	ROAD	CITY

SITE ADDRESS: _____

PART "A"

Listed below are the items you reported for the 2023 tax year. Draw a line through any items that you did not own on JANUARY 1, 2024. List any items not shown below in the appropriate space on the back of this form. **THIS COMPLETED FORM SHOULD REFLECT ALL PERSONAL PROPERTY OWNED AS OF JANUARY 1, 2024. DO NOT LIST LEASED VEHICLES.**

Thousands of Jefferson County Residents opted-in to receive their 2024 Personal Property Assessment List electronically. The email to submit your electronically filed assessments was sent out on January 3, 2024. This is a huge savings to the taxpayers of Jefferson County cutting the cost of postage and printing, as well as making it easier for residents to file their assessments.

The Jefferson County Assessor's Office will be mailing hard copies of assessment lists the week of January 8, 2024. Taxpayers still have the option to E-File their 2024 Assessment List. When they receive their 2024 Assessment list, it will provide a link to the [E-File website](#), account number and PIN for taxpayers to E-File.

Per Missouri State Statutes, assessment lists are to be returned to our office before May 1st to avoid late penalty. If you do not receive a 2024 assessment list by the end of January, please contact the Assessor's Office at 636-797-5343 or ppassessor@jeffcomo.org.

WARMING CENTERS

Winter is quickly approaching which means temperatures will be dropping. If you or someone you know needs relief from the cold, the United Way in Partnership with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services offers a list of warming centers. Scan the code to learn more.

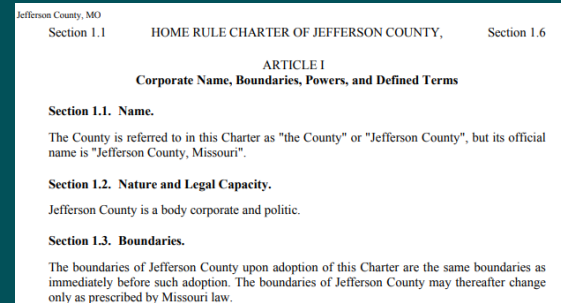


Check with the warming center before going to ensure the location is open and to learn about their current requirements.

Did you know?

Did you know, Jefferson County, MO became a charter county in 2008. Prior to 2008, Jefferson County was a first-class county governed by the Missouri statutes that dictated how the county should operate with a three-person commission making up the legislative and executive branches of government.

As a charter county, a County Executive, elected count-wide, makes up the executive branch. The legislative branch is made up of seven (7) council members elected by the people within each district. A charter county provides not only more checks and balances, but also gives the citizens more say in how their county operates their own government.



NEW PLAYGROUND AT HIGH RIDGE CIVIC CENTER

The Jefferson County Department of Parks and Recreation is proud to announce the completion and opening of it's new state of the art Playground at the High Ridge Civic Center, 2800 Community Lane, High Ridge, MO 63049. A ribbon cutting was held on December 1, 2024 to commemorate.

This new playground was purchased and constructed with funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), and is now ready for use by our residents!

Features include:

- Poured-In-Place (PIP) surface
- Swing Area
- Ninja Fitness Climber
- Fabric Shade
- Inclusive 10 Spin
- New Slides and Climbers
- Dual Racing Slides
- Castle Theme (including "Moat")
- MADE IN MISSOURI



This new addition to our Park system will provide many years of use and enjoyment for our young Jefferson County residents and their families!



UPCOMING PROGRAMS:



Christmas Tree Recycling Program December 26 - January 15

Free

Festus Elks Club; Pleasant Valley Nature Preserve;
Sunridge Park;
Lower Parking Lot of Courthouse, Hillsboro



Youth Basketball Winter Camp Feb. 10, 17, 24 and March 2

\$45 per player

Grade 1-3: 8 to 9 a.m.

Grade 4-6: 9:15 to 10:15 a.m.

Sacred Heart Gym, Crystal City



Winter CoRec Volleyball

Starts Jan. 24

\$250 per team

High Ridge Elementary Gymnasium

PROGRAMS

YEAR-ROUND PROGRAMS:

*SS denotes Silver Sneakers Program

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Saturday
SS Classic High Ridge Civic Center at 9:30 a.m.	Yoga Flow High Ridge Civic Center at 11 a.m.	SS Strength & Balance High Ridge Civic Center at 9:30 a.m.	Gentle Yoga High Ridge Civic Center at 8:45 a.m.	Fitness Flow Yoga High Ridge Civic Center at 8 a.m.
Cardio/Strength High Ridge Civic Center at 5:30 p.m.	SS Circuit High Ridge Civic Center at 12:30 p.m.	Cardio Boxx High Ridge Civic Center at 5:30 p.m.	SS Chair Yoga High Ridge Civic Center at 10:30 a.m.	Restorative Yoga High Ridge Civic Center at 9 a.m.
Zumba High Ridge Civic Center at 7 p.m.	High Intensity Interval Training High Ridge Civic Center at 4:30 p.m.	Zumba High Ridge Civic Center at 7 p.m.	Full Body Burn High Ridge Civic Center at 4:30 p.m.	
	Martial Arts (Tae Kwon Do) High Ridge Civic Center at 6:30 p.m.		Martial Arts (Jujitsu/Judo) High Ridge Civic Center at 6-8 p.m.	

Register for events: jeffcomo.org/parks

Parks Phone Number: 636-797-5334

Cancellation/Information Hotline: 636-797-6101

Follow us on Facebook: facebook.com/jeffcoparks

WORDS FROM THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE



Business is full steam ahead as 2024 begins.

First up on our list of to-dos is to complete the implementation of our CivicPlus services: Civic Development, Agenda and Meeting Management, and SeeClickFix. I know you learned more about these services earlier in the newsletter, but I want to say I, myself, am very much looking forward to these services going live. It's going to be such a positive addition for our citizens and employees alike.

Also, we are putting the finishing touches on the Master Plan and hoping by Spring/Summer 2024, we'll have the Master Plan finalized.

These projects, our employees have put their heart and soul into making sure they are the best for both the citizens and employees of Jefferson County, MO.

One event I always look forward to is the State of the County Address held in February. That's my opportunity to share the achievements and forthcoming goals for the county. I also want to thank Herculaneum School District for graciously hosting it again this year.

Additionally, I want to personally congratulate the City of Crystal City and our employees here at Jefferson County for receiving the East West Gateway Council of Governments Exemplary Accomplishment by a Local Government, Jurisdiction, Agency or Individual Award for their Partnership to Secure New Manufacturing Facility – James Hardie Industries. There have been countless hours of work and meetings to make James Hardie happen. I'm so proud and thankful to all who have been involved.

2024 is going to be another year of big changes and growth. Lots of good things continuing to happen here in Jefferson County.

I wish you all the best in 2024.

**Regards,
Dennis J. Gannon
County Executive**

We're Hiring!

JUVENILE DEPARTMENT

**Deputy Juvenile Officer
Youth Care Worker**



**Great benefits.
Career growth.
Close to home.**

APPLY AT [JEFFCOMO.ORG/HUMANRESOURCES](https://jeffcomo.org/humanresources)

COUNTY COUNCIL CORNER



I'm Gene F. Barbagallo, your District 2 council member. I come from a long family history, totaling over 100 years of residency in Jefferson County, MO. I'm a Fox High School Graduate, United States Airforce Crash Fire and Rescue Academy veteran with cross training of Pilot Rescue, and a retired Union Teamster.

This is my first term as a County Council member, but I am very familiar with serving Jefferson County, MO. I have spent over 13 years on the P.W.S.D C-1 Water District Board and am currently serving as Vice President. Also, I am a former member of the Planning and Zoning Board and Zoning Adjustment Board. Currently, I am a member of the Jefferson County Republican Club and Manager of Barbagallo Farms

L.L.C. I wanted to serve as council member to be a voice for the citizens of Jefferson County and to make sure they are heard. I'm a big proponent of preserving green space while developing in areas deemed fit for development.

While there are a lot of great things taking place within my district and the county, I'm especially excited about the road improvement projects that are planned for Saline Road overhaul and Old Lemay Ferry. Ensuring our roads are up to par and safe for the large amount of traffic they take on is key. Seckman Road, while not in my district, is another large project that I'm so glad is taking place.

As council member, it's thrilling to see such a large project such as James Hardie come to fruition. This is great for providing well-paying job opportunities in Jefferson County and positive for the county in general.

I also must mention, the SB190 tax break for senior citizens in the county. As recently turning 73, this is a hot topic for a lot of citizens including myself. What I want to say is we are cautiously moving forward with consideration. We are moving slowly as we have to be conscious of the implications it may cause. We are closely observing other entities who have already implemented, noting the ripple effect to make sure what we propose won't result in negative implications for the county and residents.

Overall, I'm happy to serve the citizens of Jefferson County and thank you for electing me. Stay safe and healthy this new year.

Sincerely,

Gene F. Barbagallo (R), District 2
Phone: 636-797-5501
gbarbagallo@jeffccmo.org



Tips for New Year's Resolutions

As 2024 rolls around, many people reflect on their life and goals for the future. This can prompt the what often seem like obligatory New Year Resolutions.

Resolutions tend to get a bad wrap of being temporary or not followed through.

But, resolutions can be a good opportunity to make changes on your own terms.

Here are a few tips to help you keep those resolutions through the new year.

Set SMART Resolutions

Setting resolutions that are specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and timely will give you a better chance at sticking to your resolutions.

Limit the Number of Resolutions

Setting goals to spend less, work out more and get promoted sound like a great plan, but you may be setting yourself up for failure. Start with one resolution for better chances of success.

Be Flexible

Allow flexibility by accommodating for change or modified resolutions.
If you slip up one day, acknowledge and then get back on track.

Categorize Goals Between Short and Long-Term

Create a plan which links aspirational long-term goals with short-term realistic goals that are easier to achieve.
Be sure to celebrate the small successes.

Winter Safety Tips



PREPARE YOUR HOME

- Have warming food and drinks
- Winterize your home
- Check your heating
- Check batteries in smoke and CO detectors

PREPARE YOUR VEHICLE

- Check tires' tread
- Keep gas tank full
- Prepare emergency kit: food, water, batteries, flashlight, battery powered radio, first-aid kit, extra clothes & blankets



PREPARE FOR EMERGENCIES

- Stock bottled water and ready to eat food
- Keep up-to-date emergency kit & medications
- Extra batteries
- Pet supplies & medications

TAKE PRECAUTIONS OUTDOORS

- Dress in layers
- Carry a cell phone
- Sprinkle cat litter or sand on icy patches
- Work slowly while doing outdoor chores



For more safety tips, visit [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov).