The City of Brentwood Welcomes New Police Chief Joseph Spiess, Jr.

After a nationwide search, the City of Brentwood has a new police chief: Joseph L. Spiess, Jr., formerly of the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department. Mayor Chris Thornton appointed Spiess as Brentwood Police Chief on March 5, and the Board of Aldermen approved the appointment unanimously. Chief Spiess began his role March 12, 2018.

Spiess retired from the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department in 2015 after 32 years as a police officer in the St. Louis community. Since 2012, he has provided training and site assessments on workplace and school violence prevention strategies through his business, JLS Consulting. In 2015, he co-founded Blue Line Technology. Spiess has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Saint Louis University and a graduate degree in management from Webster University. He is a graduate of the St. Louis Police Academy.

“Joseph Spiess’ extensive law enforcement experience and commitment to officer training and evaluation will be an asset to the Brentwood Police Department,” said Mayor Thornton. “He has a passion for safety and proven success in implementing new strategies to reduce crime. We are pleased to welcome him to our community.”

Chief Spiess shared some thoughts on his new role:

What interested you in the Brentwood Police Chief position?
The City of Brentwood is a vibrant community with excellent opportunities to live, work and play. The long history of the City, the energy of new commerce, and the closeness of the residents drew me to Brentwood. I saw the Chief of Police position as an important role to provide quality service and protection to Brentwood, and leadership to our police officers.

What are your top three priorities for the Brentwood Police Department?
The top priority is to assure our department is as well trained and operates as safely as possible. Law enforcement can be a very challenging and dangerous profession, especially in today’s environment, and a well-trained and professional approach is vital to quality service. Another priority would be the protection and service to our community. While the Brentwood community is safe, our officers will strive to provide the best police service possible for the safety of all. My third priority would be the continuing evaluation and improvement of the process of implementation of upgrades to security in key areas of our community, to include our schools and churches.

What do you see as the police department’s role in the community?
I see the role of the Brentwood Police Department as a source of protection and pride for our citizens and visitors. Law enforcement’s role in the community is complex and includes functions such as advisors, guardians and peacekeepers.

I am excited to start a new journey with our law enforcement professionals in Brentwood, to work with Brentwood City government as part of the team of quality service to our community, and to meet our citizens, schools, churches, and business leaders in the months ahead.
Dear Residents,

When I was young, history didn’t appeal to me much. I took the required classes in high school and college and did well enough, but I think it is fair to say that I had no real interest in the subject. As I have gotten older, and perhaps wiser, I find that I have developed a genuine interest in history. One of the things that I find most fascinating is that with all the changes time brings, certain things...certain themes, don’t seem to change much at all! As we near the Centennial of our fair City, I wanted to take this opportunity to look at how much Brentwood has changed, and how we have remained fundamentally the same, over the last 100 years. I hope you will agree, we have a lot to celebrate here in Brentwood.

In the late 1800s, the area now known as Brentwood was best known as one of the stops on the Manchester Trail heading west out of St. Louis. An entrepreneur by the name of Thomas Madden owned much of the property in the area and many of the local businesses that served the steady stream of travelers on the trail. He operated a rock quarry and built a tavern, barbershop, grocery store, and blacksmith shop. The blacksmith shop property was later given to build St. Mary Magdalen church, which is still an important part of the community today. The town came to be known as Maddenville.

In the early 1900s, street car lines, rail service and the automobile made the area more easily accessible, and families began moving to Maddenville to raise their children in the relative tranquility outside the city of St. Louis. As more people moved to the area, farmers began building homes and selling lots to newcomers. By 1919, Maddenville was a thriving, active community. Late that year, the residents of Maddenville discovered that neighboring Maplewood was planning to annex their community and make it a part of Maplewood. Driven by a desire to remain independent and establish their own school district, the residents of Maddenville acted quickly to incorporate as the Village of Brentwood, Missouri.

Over the next ten years, Brentwood developed a bad reputation due to the large number of taverns and gambling houses located mostly in the area near the intersection of what are now Manchester Rd. and Brentwood Blvd. The citizens of Brentwood decided it was time for a change and elected their first Mayor, James (Jim) Willingham, who ran on a law and order platform. In just two years, Mayor Willingham made good on his campaign promises. The City cracked down on illegal activity, made the hoodlums perpetrating it unwelcome, and the City was once again a good place to raise a family. Mayor Willingham also presided over the incorporation of Brentwood as a fourth-class (a statutory, not quality, designation) city with the form of government (wards and aldermen) we still have today.

This newsletter is far too short to recount the entire history of Brentwood, even the abridged version, but I encourage you to spend some time perusing the wealth of information available on the Brentwood Historical Society’s website (https://bwd1919.wordpress.com/). Here are just a few of the interesting things I came across:

• A 1927 handbill from the Brentwood Progressive Association recommending four candidates as trustees (prior to becoming a fourth-class city, the town was governed by the board of trustees). Two of the candidates are recommended on the basis of their service on the Brentwood Parents and Teachers’ association. The handbill also states that the candidates are unanimously in favor of ending the “Fee System for Police and Police Magistrates” in the interest of having efficient public safety services.
• A 1950 handbill exhorting the population of 7,500 to vote in favor of the expansion of City Hall and the addition of new library space (where our library is today). The headline reads, “Vote Yes for the proposed New Library and Addition to City Hall. No Increase in Taxation!”
• A 1951 article in a local paper with the headline “TV for firemen – A REALITY”. Local businesses donated the funds to purchase a television for the fire department.
• A photograph from the 1940s looking south down Brentwood Blvd. with a “Liquor Store” sign prominent on the right-hand side.
• A 1957 photograph of flooding in Audubon Park, looking west along Wrenwood. It is amazing how much of the area is underwater!
• A photograph from the 1950s looking east down Manchester Road from Dorothy. The entire stretch is underwater (again) and the caption reads “some things never change” (I challenge this statement, but more about that in future newsletters!).

By now you are probably wondering, “what’s your point?” Well, here it is. Spend some time looking at our past and you will see how much our physical surroundings have changed. It is almost impossible for me to recognize Brentwood in any of the photographs that are more than 40 years old, but when I read the articles and see what was important to the people at the time, well... “the fundamental things apply as time goes by.” We want good schools for our children, we want to live in a safe neighborhood, we want efficient government; in short, we want to raise our families in a strong community. THESE, my friends, are the things that never change. They’re what we live for and why we live in Brentwood.

Next year will be a year to celebrate our community. The City, the Brentwood Century Foundation and other community organizations are planning monthly events to bring us together to commemorate our past and energize our future. Highlights will include a “Party of the Century,” an event honoring our long-time residents, an “off the hook” Brentwood Days celebration, neighborhood block parties, and a weekend of community service the like of which we have never seen before! You can find the details on the Brentwood Century Foundation website (www.brentwood100.org). Join the celebration. Be a part of our proud heritage.

I wish you and your families a happy and healthy spring 2018 in Brentwood, Missouri.
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Help Keep Our City Beautiful

Fallen sweet gum balls, leaves and tree debris – oh, my! Help keep Brentwood beautiful and keep your neighbors safe by following these guidelines:

- **DO** keep sidewalks in front of your residence free of litter or debris.
- **Do NOT** sweep or deposit any litter or debris, including leaves and yard clippings, into the street or gutter. These items can be transported into nearby storm sewers or water bodies and create environmental issues or street flooding.
- **Do NOT** block sidewalks by parking on them. Sidewalks are designed for pedestrians and not heavy equipment or vehicles.

Brentwood’s Public Works Department maintains the streets free of debris/litter. Public Works crews also clean storm grates. If you notice debris or litter in your street, please submit a “Report a Concern” (from the home page of www.brentwoodmo.org) or call City Hall at 314.962.4800. Thank you for being a good neighbor!

Welcome to Brentwood!

Firefighter/Paramedic Andrew Brinkman is a veteran of the US Army and was twice deployed to Afghanistan as an airborne infantryman.

Firefighter/Paramedic Tim Iovaldi is a graduate of the St. Louis County Fire Academy, where he was a team leader.

Blooming in Brentwood

A new pollinator garden will bloom in Brentwood this spring, thanks to a grant from Wild Ones-St. Louis.

The 2,600-square-foot, fully native garden was planted next to the Public Works facility at 8330 Manchester Road.

This garden attracts native pollinating insects, such as bees and butterflies, and supplies much needed nectar, food and shelter for survival. The grasses and forbs will provide a respite and seasonal forage of plant seeds sought after by birds.

Wild Ones is a nonprofit organization that provides grants for landscaping projects incorporating native plants in an educational setting. Wild Ones encourages landscaping with native plants in residential, business and public landscapes.

Spring Safety Suggestions

Whether you are taking a trip or planning a stay-cation, review these home safety tips from your Brentwood Police Department.

- **Meet your neighbors.** This makes it easier to recognize a person who doesn’t belong. Neighbors who communicate are more likely to look out for one another.
- **Report loiterers.** Loitering is often a precursor activity for thieves, enabling them to case the area.
- **Immediately report suspicious activity** by calling 911, and be sure to get a good description of any subjects you report as well as the location.
- **Keep gates to backyards locked** and secure at all times.
- **Be sure your house number is visible** from the street, so police or emergency personnel can find it quickly should they ever need to respond.
- **Keep porch lights on at night.** This makes suspicious persons visible and illuminates your house number.
- **When away for extended periods,** make sure your home has a “lived in” look. Have lights on timers. Ask a neighbor to park in your driveway and clear any newspapers/fliers that may accumulate.
- **Lock your car,** take your keys, and hide your belongings.

The Brentwood Police Department provides vacation checks, plus child car seat installation and prescription medication disposal.

FIRE STATION AND LIBRARY OPEN HOUSE

The Brentwood Fire Department and Brentwood Public Library invite the community to an Open House on Saturday, May 5, 11 am-1 pm. Take a tour of the firehouse, kick off the summer reading program, and more.
Meet the Brentwood Planning & Development Team

The Planning and Development Department provides vital services to Brentwood residents, businesses, the development community and other City departments. The department provides land use planning, zoning, building code administration, code enforcement, floodplain management and community and economic development services.

“Our department interacts with people in the Brentwood community daily, whether it is a resident applying for an occupancy permit or a business obtaining a business license,” said Planning and Development Director Lisa Koerkenmeier, “We enjoy working with those we serve.”

The Planning and Development team possesses experience in all facets of planning, zoning, building and code enforcement.

THE TEAM
Lisa joined the City of Brentwood as the department’s director in May 2016. She has over 25 years of city planning and zoning experience and in 1998 completed the qualifications to be a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP). Lisa earned a Master of Science in geographical studies specializing in urban planning.

Neil joined the City in March 2016 as a Multi-Disciplinary Inspector and was promoted to Building Official in September 2017. He has earned several certifications from the International Code Council (ICC), including Certified Building Official (CBO), Building Inspector-Commercial and Fire Inspector I and II. He has a Bachelor of Arts in business administration and a Master of Arts in communication.

Steve started his role in October 2015. He has earned ICC certifications including Property Maintenance and Housing Inspector. Steve has over 20 years of construction experience building custom homes. He is proficient in zoning practice and zoning regulations. Will joined Brentwood in October 2017 with over 30 years of municipal experience. He earned a Bachelor of Science in construction technology and has significant knowledge and training in floodplain management. Will’s ICC certifications include Building Inspector-Commercial, Building Inspector-Residential and Plans Examiner.

Kelsie joined the City in April 2016 and held similar housing inspector and code enforcement officer positions in the St. Louis region. In a previous position as a rehab specialist, he gained valuable experience in historic preservation and home remodeling. Kimberly joined the team in September 2016 with over 10 years of municipal experience in public works and parks and recreation. She has extensive knowledge of several municipal computer applications and has a Bachelor of Science degree.

Each Planning & Development vehicle is identified with the Brentwood logo.


CODE AND COMMUNITY
“Although there are various local and state laws such as zoning and building code requirements we must abide by, and fees and permits we must collect for the City, first and foremost our team of professionals is here to help people and educate the public,” Koerkenmeier said. “The Brentwood Municipal Code is implemented to ensure residents have safe homes to live in, maintain an exceptional quality of life for all, and encourage reinvestment in the community.”
Books and Fun at Brentwood Public Library

SUMMER READING CLUB
Get ready to rock out this summer as we kick off the Libraries Rock! Summer Reading Club for all ages and stages of readers. The fun starts in May. Details at your library.

GRANT FUNDS NEW LIBRARY COMPUTERS
The Library has received an $11,760 grant to help purchase new public computers and laptops and also to replace staff computers. This grant is supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Missouri State Library, a division of the Office of the Secretary of State. We are so pleased to be able to use these funds to keep providing this important service in our community. Look for the new computers this spring!

CHILDREN’S ACTIVITIES
Baby/Toddler Story Time | Tuesdays at 9:30 am
Pre-school Story Time | Tuesdays at 10:30 am
Big Ideas Club | Tuesdays at 3-4 pm | Ages 6+
Kids’ Crafts | Fridays at 3:30 pm | April 20, May 18
Brentwood Recreation Complex
Read to Dogs! Twice a Month!
Tales and Tails | First Wednesdays at 3:30 pm
Paws for Reading | Fourth Thursdays at 6 pm

ADULT ACTIVITIES
Adult Craft Nights | First Wednesdays at 6 pm | April 4, May 2
Adult Craft Mornings | Thursdays at 10 am | April 12, May 10
Brentwood Book Club | Tuesdays at 6:30 pm | April 10, May 8

Library closings:
Sunday, April 1 - Easter Sunday
Sunday, May 27, and Monday, May 28 - Memorial Day

Check out our website calendar for events and information: www.brentwoodlibrarymo.org. Or call us at 314.963.8630.

CITY SERVICES

CodeRED Emergency Notification
Sign up to receive notifications of impending emergencies or critical community alerts via phone, email or text. Click on the CodeRED logo on the home page of www.brentwoodmo.org or call 314.962.4800 to sign up.

Knox HomeBox Loan Program
The Brentwood Fire Department offers a 90-day Knox HomeBox loan program for residents who have a temporary special need or physical disability preventing them from opening their front door to Brentwood fire and medical personnel in event of an emergency. Using this system should alleviate the need for forced entry, and prevent potential related damage, should Fire personnel need to enter the home quickly to provide medical care. The 90-day loan program is first-come, first-served. Residents with long-term needs can consider purchasing a permanent Knox HomeBox. Contact the Brentwood Fire Department for more information.

MAGIC Bus: 314.581.4842
This free service transports Brentwood residents age 60 and older or adults with disabilities.

Notary
Notary of the Public services are available 8 am-5 pm Monday-Friday (except holidays) at Brentwood City Hall.

Recycling
The City of Brentwood offers curbside single-stream recycling free of charge for all residents. Eighteen-gallon recycling bins or 64-gallon recycling carts are available through the Public Works Department while supplies last. Brentwood Forest residents may use the 18-gallon bins or smaller carts designated for Brentwood Forest.

Report a Concern
Citizens can make requests or submit concerns through the MyGov request-tracking system via the home page of www.brentwoodmo.org.

Click on “Report a Concern,” choose from a variety of categories and submit your request. You’ll receive feedback when the request is received and also will receive updates as the request is investigated by City staff.
Movie at the Firehouse - April 13
Movie begins at 7 pm at Brentwood Firehouse, 8756 Eulalie Avenue
Enjoy a special showing of “Coco.” Bring chairs and thick blankets, to enjoy
the movie right next to the fire trucks. **FREE**

Brentwood and REI Park Clean Up - April 21
Clean-up begins at 10:30 am; Lunch served at 11:30 am at Oak Tree Park
Help keep the parks beautiful. Join us at Oak Tree Park for a little spring
cleaning, then enjoy lunch, compliments of Brentwood Parks & Recreation. Wear proper clothing and bring gloves. Trash bags will be provided. **FREE**

Tons of Transportation - May 5
10 am-1 pm at Brentwood Recreation Complex
The cities of Brentwood, Maplewood and Richmond Heights invite you to see, touch and take a seat in a police car, excavator, fire truck and more! **FREE**

Kids to the Parks - May 19
10 am at Busy Bee in Memorial Park
This nationwide celebration of the great outdoors organized by National Park Trust is designed to connect kids and fami-
lies with their local parks. Celebrate the native pollinators of Missouri parks with a hike, sensory activities and crafts. **FREE**

Music on the Menu - June 15, July 20, August 17
Food trucks starting at 6:30 pm; Bands play 7-9 pm at Brentwood Park
Brentwood Park’s summer concert series moves back to Friday nights in 2018. With live music and food trucks, it’s a rock-
in’ good time for the whole family! Beer will be available for purchase from Craft Beer Cellar. Each month features differ-
Sponsored by West Community Credit Union and CIBC. **FREE**

2018 Summer Camps
Parks & Recreation is offering specialty camps this summer to help your child learn a new sport and expand their mind:
Chess Wizards, Crayola World of Design, LEGO Minecraft, Abra-Kid-Abra Circus Camp, Ozzie Smith’s Mini Hitters and
Baseball/Softball Camps, Paul Zarky Soccer and ‘Get High on Sports’ Camps, and Brentwood Flag Football Camp. For more information on these camps or to see previews for July camps, call 314.963.8689.

To register for any event or program, please call 314.963.8689 or visit the Brentwood Recreation Complex.

Winter/Spring 2018 Activity Guide
This guide includes all programs, classes and events through April. Pick up your guide at the Brentwood Recreation Complex or view it online at [www.brentwoodmo.org/activities](http://www.brentwoodmo.org/activities). Look for the Summer Activity Guide in late April.

Rentals
Looking for a place to hold your next meeting or family event? Whether it’s indoors at our Recreation Complex, outdoors at a pavilion, or a mix of both at the newly remodeled Busy Bee, Brentwood Parks & Recreation has a spot for you. Call 314.963.8689 for details.

Brentwood Recreation Complex & Brentwood Ice Rink
2505 S. Brentwood Blvd., Brentwood, MO 63144
Recreation Center: 314.963.8689 | Ice Rink: 314.963.8680
[www.brentwoodmo.org/parks](http://www.brentwoodmo.org/parks) | [www.brentwoodmo.org/ice](http://www.brentwoodmo.org/ice)

[Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/BrentwoodParksandRec)
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<th>APRIL</th>
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<td>1 Library Board, 6:30 pm</td>
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<td>3 Library Board, 6:30 pm</td>
<td>3 Ways &amp; Means Committee, 6 pm</td>
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<td>5 Ways &amp; Means Committee, 6 pm</td>
<td>5 Brentwood Community Shred Day, 9 am-noon</td>
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<td>9 Municipal Court, 6 pm</td>
<td>5 Fire Station and Library Open House, 11 am-1 pm</td>
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<td>10 Ward 1 Meeting, 6:30 pm</td>
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<td>21 Stormwater Inlet Painting, 10 am-2 pm</td>
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<td>25 Board of Adjustment, 7 pm</td>
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<td>24 Ward 4 Meeting, 6 pm</td>
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<td>25 Public Safety Committee, 5:30 pm</td>
<td>29 Ward 4 Meeting, 6 pm</td>
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<td>25 Site Plan Review Subcommittee, 6 pm</td>
<td>29 Ward 3 Meeting, 7 pm</td>
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<td>26 Coffee with the Mayor, 9 am</td>
<td>30 Site Plan Review Subcommittee, 6 pm</td>
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<td>26 Board of Adjustment, 7 pm</td>
<td>31 Coffee with the Mayor, 9 am</td>
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<td>28 National Take Back Day, 10 am-2 pm, Brentwood Police Department</td>
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**COMMUNITY SHRED DAY**

Brentwood residents may dispose of personal/confidential paperwork on Saturday, May 5, 9 am-noon at Brentwood Recreation Complex. Questions? Call Secure Document Destruction, 314.795.0004.

*Future Shred Day dates: August 4, Nov. 3*

**ROAD & UTILITY CONTACTS**

- **Brentwood Boulevard and Hanley Road**
  St. Louis County, 314.615.1120

- **Manchester Road**
  Missouri Department of Transportation, 888.275.6636

- **All other streets in Brentwood**
  Brentwood Public Works, 314.962.4800

- **Streetlight or Power Outage, Downed Wires**
  Ameren Missouri, 800.552.7583

- **Water Main Breaks or Leaks**
  Missouri American Water, 866.430.0820

- **Stormwater and Wastewater Issues**
  Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District, 314.768.6260

All meetings and events are subject to change or cancellation. Check www.brentwoodmo.org for updates.
Brentwood, Missouri Ranked #8 Best Place to Live in the United States!

In a March 2018 ranking of the best places to live, Brentwood is in the top 10! Data company Niche.com rates locations’ overall quality using several key factors, including crime rates, quality of schools, housing trends, employment statistics and access to amenities.

City of Brentwood Elected Officials

**Mayor Chris Thornton** / Chris@brentwoodmo.org 314.963.8601
**Judge Patrick Dignam** / muni@brentwoodmo.org 314.963.8622

**Ward 1 David Dimmitt** / ddimmitt@brentwoodmo.org 314.961.6489
**Ward 1 David Plufka** / dplufka@brentwoodmo.org 314.440.8394

**Ward 2 Sunny Sims** / esims@brentwoodmo.org 314.338.8305
**Ward 2 Brandon Wegge** / bwegge@brentwoodmo.org 314.283.9413

**Ward 3 Andy Leahy** / aleahy@brentwoodmo.org 314.962.2318
**Ward 3 Steve Lochmoeller** / slochmoeller@brentwoodmo.org 314.963.0565

**Ward 4 Kathy O’Neill** / koneill@brentwoodmo.org 314.961.2716
**Ward 4 Tom Kramer** / tkramer@brentwoodmo.org 314.968.2378

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