



# FESTUS FOCUS

City of Festus  
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Festus Focus also available at  
[www.cityoffestus.org](http://www.cityoffestus.org)

January 1, 2011

## We Hope You Had A Merry Christmas And Have A Happy New Year!

### Tour of Lights—



The Grand Opening of the Tour of Lights display in West City Park was just perfect. Santa was escorted into the park by the Police and Fire departments. The fire truck extended a Christmas tree 105 feet into the air on its ladder!

There were many children who were able to spend time with Santa, sing Christmas carols with the 1st United Methodist choir, and enjoy the cookies and hot chocolate. Unexpectedly, fireworks began shooting off at 6:30pm. We would like to give a special thanks to Twilight Fire & Illusions along with Fireworks City for donating the display.



### 2nd Annual Tour of Lights is in the Works!

We had a great time with this event, and we hope even more residents will come celebrate the Christmas season with us next year. Twilight Fire & Illusions has agreed to donate another fireworks display for our Grand Opening Celebration next year. (Thank you!)

### City Involvement

The City is also planning to request funds from the Tourism Board this January for the purpose of installing more electric in the park. This will increase the availability of areas to decorate. We are hoping for more future community involvement in the decorating process.



### Trash Survey Results:

The answers to whether residents would like to pay an additional \$2.14 for a trash cart or \$1 for a recycling cart were approximately 71% no. However, only 55% of respondents answered no to paying \$0.31 in additional cost for the carts.

### Trash Service Fee Changes:

The City Council honored the surveys and approved entering another three year contract with IESI at a cost of \$12.95 per month without the carts. This is \$2.80 less than the current monthly fee. There will be an annual 3% increase.

### Election Filing Closing—

The filing closing date is January 17, 2012, for candidates to file for the offices of Council in wards I, II, III, and IV and City Treasurer for the election on April 3, 2012. The filing fee for both City Council and City Treasurer are \$25.

### Candidates—

The candidates that have currently filed are the incumbent from Ward I Gary Underwood; the incumbent from Ward II Kathy Murphy; and the incumbent from Ward IV Jim Tinnin. No one has filed for Ward III or for the City Treasurer.

**Spring Clean-Up Heads Up-** The annual Spring clean-up provided by IESI will be held on Saturday, April 21, 2012, at the Public Works parking lot from 8am-4pm. There will be IESI employees on site to assist with larger items. Hazardous materials are not accepted.

**Midwest Recycling Center—** In addition, Midwest Recycling Center will be available to collect appliances, electronics, TVs & monitors (\$15.00 fee), hard drives, etc.

**Fall Clean-Up-** A fall clean-up has been added to the list of services this year. We will provide more info later in the year.

### Gannon Avenue Enhancement Project Update—

The second bid process for this project was successful in receiving one that was within the budget. The bulk of the work is to be done on East Gannon, which is the section from A Highway near the bank around to YMCA Drive. There will be some work on West Gannon, but traffic will never be completely blocked. Lanes will remain open at all times. This project will possibly begin at the end of March and is expected to be completed in the summer of 2012.



**Blood Drive**— Donate the gift of life this season at the Festus Public Library. The Red Cross will be at the Library January 10 from 2pm-6pm. For questions about eligibility, please call 1-866-236-3276. If you would like to set an appointment you may either call the Library at 937-2017 or go to [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and choose the "Festus City Hall" location.

**City Banners**— As the old banners deteriorate around Festus, the City will be looking to replace those banners. To help offset the cost, we will be looking for sponsors. No price has been set as of yet. However, if you would like to be on the contact list to receive more information, please e-mail Happy Welch at [hwelch@cityoffestus.org](mailto:hwelch@cityoffestus.org).

**Theft Warning**— The Police Department would like to advise residents to be mindful of locking their vehicles. There has been an increase of vehicle thefts lately. Ten guns have been stolen out of vehicles in the last six weeks. We encourage residents to notify the Police Department of any strange activity in their neighborhoods.

**Snow Routes**— With the harshest couple of months of the year upon us, we would like to inform residents of the snow route procedures. We are hoping that this information will help residents plan ahead for parking when a snow or ice storm is predicted.

- **Primary streets are plowed first.** These include N Mill, S Mill, N 6th, N 9th, N 5th, Central Ave, Horine, Cromwell, N Adams, S Adams, Main Street, Sunshine, Hillsboro, Collins, Pounds, Gamel Cemetery, N 2nd, Walnut, Vine, Harrison, Scenic Drive, YMCA Drive, Gannon, N Creek, and Lee Ave.
- **Secondary streets** are plowed after primary streets by simply fanning out from the primary streets. The snow plows are split into quadrants.
- **Alleys & small side streets are plowed last.**

#### Ways Residents Can Help Out:

- It would be helpful on streets, such as Lee Ave, for cars to be parked as close to the curbs as possible. This makes it safer for the plows and less likely to cause damage to your vehicles.
- If you have an option to park off of the streets, please do so.
- Please do not shovel snow into the streets. It is best to shovel the snow into your front yards.

We hope this year isn't as hazardous as the last, and please be careful to drive slowly in case there is black ice on the roads.



#### Pets of the Month—

The City of Festus has very friendly female calico cat. Also, the City still has a male mixed puppy that is probably 7 months old. He is very cute and

playful. The adoption fee is \$60 for either the dog or the cat. The fee includes an exam, rabies shots, and spaying/neutering. If you would like to adopt, please contact Tim Mullins at 937-6646. We appreciate all adoptions. Thank you!!



Follow the City of Festus on Facebook to stay current on important information that may come up in between the times we print our newsletters.

**Martin Luther King Day Trash Schedule**— Trash pick-up will be running its normal schedule during the week of Martin Luther King Day.

**Senior Tax Filing Assistance**— The AARP will be at the Festus Library from the beginning of February through April 15th to assist Seniors with filing their taxes. Appointments will need to be arranged through AARP. We will have more information in the February newsletter.

#### News Updates—

- **Council Meetings**— January 11 and 25 at 7pm.
- **Workshops**— May be held on January 4 and 18 at 7pm
- **City Hall and Public Works Closed**— January 2 for New Year's Day and January 16 for MLK Day
- **Blood Drive**— January 10 at the Festus Public Library from 2pm-6pm
- **Park Board**— January 26 at 6 pm in the Public Works Building
- **Planning & Zoning Meeting**— January 19 at 6:30 pm
- **Board of Adjustment**— January 9 at 7pm