



# CITY VIEWS

A NEWSLETTER FOR CLAYTON BUSINESS AND RESIDENTIAL CITIZENS

30-Year Clayton Veteran

## Tom Byrne Appointed Chief of Police



Clayton's new Chief of Police  
Thomas J. Byrne

City Manager Scott Randall recently announced the appointment of Captain Thomas J. Byrne as Police Chief for the City of Clayton. Chief Byrne has spent his entire 30 years in law enforcement with the City of Clayton.

In announcing this appointment, Mr. Randall said, "Tom Byrne has exhibited excellence in virtually every capacity throughout his tenure with the Clayton Police Department. It gives me great pleasure to be able to recognize and reward such exemplary performance by promoting Tom to this prestigious position."

The selection of Chief Byrne culminated a six-month selection process, which generated fifty-seven applications from across the country. After an extensive testing process, including a full-day assessment center, Chief Byrne was selected unanimously as the best candidate to assume the position of Chief of Police in Clayton.

Chief Byrne will oversee a department of 52 sworn officers, 14 civilian employees, and an annual operating budget of \$4.7 million.

He most recently served as Interim Chief of Police following the death of Clayton Police Chief Richard Morris, who succumbed to a long-term illness earlier this year.

## Bids Expected for City Hall Renovation Project

In October, the City of Clayton released bid documents to construction companies interested in the City Hall renovation project. The project calls for the demolition of almost two-thirds of the current City Hall building, construction of a new Fire Station and major renovation of the remaining portion of the building that will house the remainder of City Hall staff.

The deadline for submitting bids was November 26. Staff is currently reviewing all submissions. It is planned that the Board of Aldermen will review the bids and award a contract in December.

### **Disruptions will be kept to a minimum**

Due to the construction, City Hall personnel must temporarily relocate. In late December, the plan calls for staff from Finance, Planning, Public Works and Administration to move to the Clayton Police Department building located at 227 S. Central Avenue. Staff will occupy these quarters for eighteen to twenty-four months, while work is completed on the new Fire Station and renovation of City Hall.

### IN THIS ISSUE:

#### **CITY MANAGER'S UPDATE**

MetroLink Update ..... 2

#### **COMMUNITY NEWS**

- From the Mayor's Desk ... 3
- Meeting Schedule ..... 3
- Sewer Lateral Program .... 4
- April Elections ..... 4
- Holiday Trash Pickup ..... 4
- Snow Removal ..... 4
- Wydown Park ..... 5
- Shaw Park Pool Update ... 5
- Aquatic News ..... 5
- Rink Schedule ..... 6
- Special Recognition ..... 6

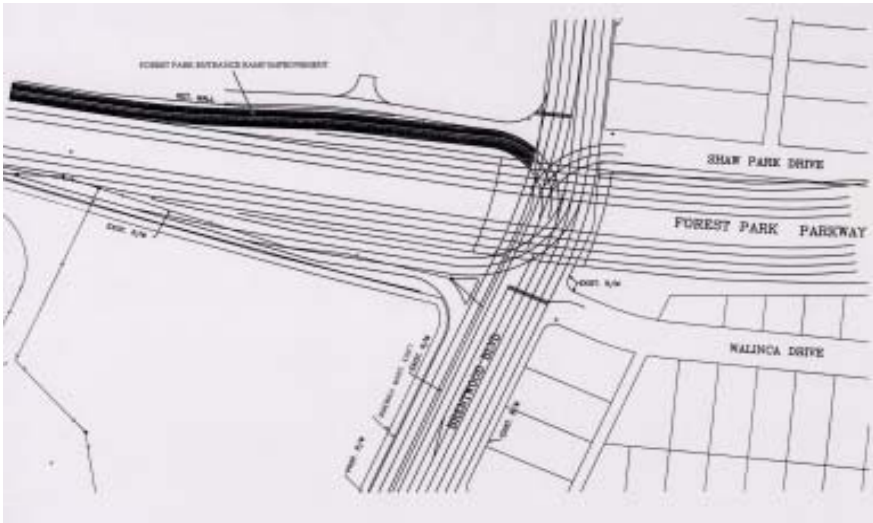
#### **FROM POLICE & FIRE**

- Disaster Preparedness .... 7
- Fire Alarms ..... 7
  
- Facts about Clayton ..... 8

## METROLINK

## Clayton/St. Louis County Agreement

The City of Clayton and St. Louis County have long recognized the need for transportation improvements that are critical in helping address the ever-increasing traffic burden upon Clayton's street system. Recently the City and County joined forces in an effort to improve the interchange at Brentwood and Forest Park Parkway.



The improvements will include:

- increasing the number of access lanes to and from Brentwood Boulevard and the Forest Park Parkway
- widening Brentwood Boulevard between the Forest Park Parkway and Corporate Park Drive
- new, coordinated traffic signals
- relocated utility lines
- new sidewalks and streetlights

All of this work will be done in conjunction with other improvements and enhancements to Forest Park Parkway. Bi-State Development Agency will coordinate this construction with the work it is doing on the MetroLink Extension project, which will be underway near this intersection. "Traffic issues remain a high priority in Clayton, and it only makes sense for the City and County

to coordinate this work with work being done on the Cross County MetroLink Extension Project currently under design by the Bi-State Development Agency," stated City Manager Scott Randall.

In 2000, the City and County committed to the Brentwood/Forest Park Parkway improvements as part of the proposed expansion of the

Enterprise Rent-A-Car headquarters in Clayton Corporate Park. City staff has worked with the County and the Bi-State Development Agency to develop the scope of work, construction costs, and allocation of those costs for the improvements at this intersection. The City and County agreed to enter into an Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement, and in September, the Clayton Board of Aldermen passed an ordinance authorizing the execution of the agreement between the City and St. Louis County.

In the agreement, the County agrees to convey approximately 19,330 square feet of right-of-way to the City of Clayton to accommodate the widening of Brentwood Boulevard. The total project cost is \$1,766,851 with the City paying approximately \$1.1 million from funds available in the City's budget.

## Sound Walls

### Wydown Forest

The Bi-State Development Agency (BSDA) recently asked property owners in Wydown Forest Subdivision, immediately adjacent to the Forest Park Parkway, if they would be willing to locate a 12 to 20 foot high sound wall on their property line. The construction of this wall would have required a temporary construction easement, and significant disruption in a number of rear yards. Some of the affected property owners did not want the wall and did not agree to the required easement conditions. BSDA then studied the feasibility of building the wall without affecting the property owners who were not in agreement. It was determined that it would not be possible to build the wall on the property lines without the agreement of all property owners, nor would a partial wall provide the desired results.

As a result, a 14 foot high sound wall will be constructed immediately south of the MetroLink track, along the median of Forest Park Parkway. In addition, a "modified jersey barrier" will be installed on the south side of Forest Park Parkway, near the edge of pavement. This 6 to 8 foot wall will provide an additional sound and visual barrier between Forest Park Parkway and adjacent properties. However, none of this work will require any encroachment upon private residential properties.

### Meramec School

BSDA has agreed to install a sound wall adjacent to Meramec School, beneath the Central Ave. overpass, to provide both a sound and visual screen between Forest Park Parkway and School property.

### Davis Place Subdivision

BSDA has also agreed to install a sound barrier in this subdivision, between Brentwood Blvd. and Clayton Road. Details regarding the height and composition of such a barrier have not yet been determined.

## From the Desk of the Mayor



Francis L. Kenney III  
Mayor

This time I hope to provide a little about a lot.

In this City Views, there is another article about MetroLink and how it impacts various Clayton neighborhoods. The property owners of the residential lots in Clayton, east of Hanley along the Forest Park Parkway at the north end of Wydown Forest, are struggling with the placement of a sound wall. Most, but not all, want it built on the south side of the vehicle lanes. Bi-State has indicated it will build it south of the MetroLink tracks but north of the eastbound lanes of the Parkway because of certain logistical and economic issues. Most of the design issues have been reworked to accommodate the affected property owners (other than those who do not want it at all or on its current route). Construction is slated to begin in April of 2003.

Renovation of the outdoor pool in Shaw Park is progressing. The Board of Aldermen approved a contract with a construction schedule calling for completion by Memorial Day 2003 and paid a slight premium for that. The bids for the work were all very competitive but came in substantially higher than expected. All Board members felt the work had to be done and putting it off was only going to increase the cost but we have asked and should soon receive an explanation from the design team of the substantial underestimation of the cost prior to bidding it.

As I write, we are preparing to renovate City Hall, primarily undertaken to accommodate a vastly improved and safer firehouse. The existing fire bays and sleeping quarters are antiquated and not suited to accommodate the larger improved equipment and greater number of firemen on duty.

Because of the fiscal planning and prudence of prior Boards, the City is able to pay for these large capital improvements by borrowing from itself. Policy instituted in the early 1990's created funds and revenue sources to help this Board make substantial infrastructure improvements without having to raise taxes. The current projects test that planning.

Which leads to the recently passed general fund budget. It was very tight and took a reduction in staffing levels (but not in the fire department) to achieve a balanced budget. The Board does not feel this reduction in staff will have a negative impact on the service level to you. The Board did however authorize a five percent (5%) pool for merit pay increases as well as an increase, not to exceed 5%, for each employee who is below the midpoint of their salary range after any merit pay increase, with the latter pay increase given on the employee's anniversary date. There was much discussion among Board members about the pay increases but we all believe the City employees are essential for providing good government. Hopefully revenues will increase as the economy improves and other revenue sources will become available so that future boards do not have to struggle with possible budget deficits or reduced services.

I hope it has been a good year for each of you and I believe that if we all work at it, next year will be better than this. Have a happy and safe holidays.

## December Meeting Schedule

The following list of public meetings contain all regularly scheduled meetings of the City of Clayton. Meetings may be added, canceled or rescheduled, in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, as the need arises.

**For information about meeting locations during the renovation of City Hall, contact the staff liaison assigned to the committee.**

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| <b>Dec. 2</b>  | Plan Commission<br>City Hall - 5:30 p.m.     |
| <b>Dec. 2</b>  | Parks & Recreation<br>The Center - 7:00 p.m. |
| <b>Dec. 5</b>  | Board of Adjustment<br>City Hall - 5:00 p.m. |
| <b>Dec. 9</b>  | Art Commission<br>City Hall - 7:00 p.m.      |
| <b>Dec. 10</b> | Board of Aldermen<br>City Hall - 8:00 p.m.   |
| <b>Dec. 13</b> | CRSWC<br>The Center - 7:30 a.m.              |
| <b>Dec. 16</b> | Plan Commission<br>City Hall - 5:30 p.m.     |
| <b>Dec. 17</b> | Board of Aldermen<br>City Hall - 8:00 p.m.   |
| <b>Dec. 19</b> | Landscape Committee<br>City Hall - 5:00 p.m. |
| <b>Dec. 27</b> | CRSWC<br>The Center - 7:30 a.m.              |

## City Hall, *continued from Page 1*

During the moving process, residents may experience minor disruptions in City services. "During the weekend of the move, there may be a brief period in which transmission of the City's cable channel and web site will be interrupted, while equipment is being moved and systems reinstalled. Nevertheless, staff is committed to keeping these disturbances to a minimum," stated Assistant City Manager Lenore Toser-Aldaz.

### **Budget**

Although some construction costs have increased slightly, there have been significant savings realized in areas such as asbestos abatement and relocation. The total cost of the City Hall renovation project is still expected to be within the original estimate of \$7.55 million.

## **Sewer Lateral Repair Program**

In January of 2002, the sewer lateral repair program took effect. Eligible homeowners were offered up to \$3,000 reimbursement expenses for repairs needed on lateral sewer lines. Owners of a single family home, townhouse, duplex, condo, or a multifamily building containing not more than six dwelling units are eligible and are assessed \$28.00 per year on their annual tax bill. In a condominium building with six units or less, only one \$28.00 sewer lateral tax will be assessed to this property, since only one sewer lateral services all six units. Multifamily properties that contain more than six dwelling units per property are not eligible for this program. The sewer lateral tax was first added to the 2001 real estate tax bill.

Apparently condominium owners in building containing more than six units have received tax bills that have included this assessment. Owners, who have been erroneously charged, may seek reimbursement. To initiate the reimbursement process, a letter requesting a refund of the \$28.00 tax must be directed to the City of Clayton's Public Works Department and must specify why the property was incorrectly assessed. A copy of the paid real estate tax receipt must be enclosed.

Contact Clayton's Public Works Department at 314.290.8541 with questions about the sewer lateral repair program or the reimbursement process.

## **April 2003 Municipal Election**

On Tuesday, April 8, 2003, the City of Clayton will hold an election to select individuals to fill one aldermanic position for each of the City's three wards.

Persons interested in running for the office of alderman are required to file a Declaration of Candidacy form with the City Clerk. A filing fee of \$50.00 is due at the time of candidacy declaration. The first day for filing the forms for the April election is December 24, 2002 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. The last day for filing will be January 21, 2003 at 5:00 p.m.

Candidates for the position of alderman must: be at least 25 years of age, be a registered voter, have lived in the City of Clayton for two years prior to the election date, and be a resident of the ward from which they are seeking election.

Those candidates who file a declaration on the first day of filing will be placed on the ballot by random drawing. Candidates filing after December 24 will be placed on the ballot in the order declarations are received.

For more information, contact Catherine Moore at 314.290.8469.

## PUBLIC WORKS HOLIDAY SCHEDULES

### What to do with your holiday wreath and tree

Holiday trees will be collected at the curb during the month of January according to the regular yard waste collection schedule. Alley pickup will not be available. After January, holiday trees must be cut and assembled into 4' X 2' bundles, which will be considered yard waste and will be picked up at the rear of the home on regularly scheduled yard waste pickup dates. Please dispose of wreaths as trash. Any greenery attached to a metal or synthetic frame is also considered trash.

### Holiday Trash Pick-Up

During the holidays, waste pickups normally scheduled for Wednesday, December 25, 2002, and Wednesday, January 1, 2003, will be picked up the following day. During these weeks, customers whose trash is normally picked up on Thursday will remain on that schedule.

### In Case of Snow

When two or more inches of snow is predicted, the City asks residents to park vehicles off the street. Cars parked on narrow streets and in cul-de-sacs hamper the City's snow and ice removal operations. Anyone leaving an automobile on the street may not be able to get into their cars due to the snow drifts left by plows.

Property owners are also reminded that they are responsible for removing snow and ice from sidewalks adjacent to their property. Please do so promptly for the safety of school children and other pedestrians.

## Wydown Park Artwork Is Installed



On September 23, 2002, a sculpture by artist Todd Frahm was installed in Wydown Park. The piece, titled "Youth," is an acorn, which appears to be emerging from its limestone base. The piece weighs almost 7000 pounds.

The artist was hired to create a work that enhanced the park's naturalistic environment and one that would be safe enough for an area where children will play. "We feel that Mr. Frahm has created a piece with which visitors to the park can safely interact, and one that suits the environment perfectly," said Interim Parks and Recreation Director Ann Jacobs.

In 1999, the City initiated plans for the redesign of Wydown Park. The Parks and Recreation Commission and the Clayton Art Commission collaborated on acquiring artwork for the park. In December of 2001, a

Request for Qualifications was published, offering artists the opportunity to submit resumes and information about their work. Mr. Frahm's proposal was selected from submissions by eight artists, who had responded to the call. The cost for the artwork was funded by the Clayton Parks Foundation.

## Shaw Park Pool Update

Work on the infrastructure of the Shaw Park Pool reconstruction project was the primary focus of construction during the fall. "Because mother nature has cooperated, the project is on schedule and is running at a pretty fast clip," stated project manager John Wulf of the City's Public Works Department. All demolition has been completed. Workers have been concentrating on the installation of the plumbing, which provides filtering and draining for the pools. The rock bases and portions of the concrete work have already been completed on all three pools, which allowed the contractor to continue working during the wet weather. The foundation of the new filter building, which is located behind the existing bleachers, has also been completed. The walls are up and the roof of the new north addition to the existing bathhouse will be installed soon. The foundation for the south addition is in, and the installation of plumbing and electricity is underway. This sets the stage for interior work on the bathhouse and filter building during the winter months. The Shaw Park Pool is scheduled to reopen on May 24, 2003.



## The Center of Clayton Aquatics News

Guests are invited to enjoy a swim in the warm water of The Center of Clayton Leisure Pool during special holiday hours. During December, the pool will open at 11:00 a.m. on weekends and on Clayton School District holidays. The pool will close one half hour before The Center closes each day. For more information, call 314.290.8501.

## Cool Fun at the Shaw Park Ice Skating Rink

The Shaw Park Ice Skating Rink will be open to the public between November 29, 2002 and March 2, 2003.

### Public Ice Skating Hours

Monday	3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday	3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday	11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Thursday	3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
(adults only)	6:45 p.m. – 8:45 p.m.
Friday	3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
	6:45 p.m. – 8:45 p.m.
Saturday	noon – 2:00 p.m.
	6:45 p.m. – 8:45 p.m.
Sunday	noon – 2:00 p.m.
	6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

### Special Holiday Hours

Extra public sessions will be added from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Clayton School District school holidays. These dates are: December 23, 24, 26, 27, 30, 31, Jan 17, 20 and Feb 14, 17. No sessions will be held on December 25. There will be no public skate session February 8 from 6:45 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. Sessions will be held on January 1 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

### Cancellations

Public Skating sessions are subject to change and may be cancelled due to weather conditions that create unsafe skating conditions. Information on the Shaw Park Ice Rink Hotline (314.432.0432) offers current session information.

### Daily Admission Rates (effective January 1)

New fees will go into effect on January 1, 2003.

Adult Resident	\$4.00	Corporate Adult	\$5.00
Youth Resident	\$2.00	Adult Non-Resident	\$6.00
Senior Resident	\$2.00	Youth Non-Resident	\$3.00
Resident Family Special	\$8.00	Senior Non-Resident	\$3.00
Non-Resident Family Special	\$12.00		

### Season Pass Rates

(Available only to Clayton residents or members of the Clayton corporate community)

Family	\$65	Senior	\$35
Adult	\$45	Corporate Family	\$80
Youth	\$35	Corporate Adult	\$55
Replacement Cards	\$5		

### Skate Rentals

The City maintains a large inventory of skates, which are available in youth and adult sizes. All skate rentals are \$1.50.



Battalion Chief Matthew Jurotich

## Special Recognition

At the annual awards luncheon of the St. Louis County Fire Training Officers Association and the Greater St. Louis Area Fire Chiefs Association in October, Clayton's Battalion Chief Matthew Jurotich received the Special Recognition Award. He was honored for his efforts in planning and coordinating a Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) training exercise held at Washington University in May. The drill, which was the largest of its kind ever held in Missouri, included representatives of all emergency response agencies in St. Louis County.

## In Case of a Major Disaster

A major disaster can happen at any time. A hazardous material accident could force your family to evacuate your home. A winter storm, earthquake or tornado could cut off gas, water, electricity and/or phone services. Most of the time we are unaware that a disaster is about to strike. Individuals can, however, make preparations that will protect loved ones until help arrives. One of the first steps is to make or update a family disaster plan. Discuss with family members what to do in case of an emergency; where to go if you not able to stay at home; where will you meet if you are not together when the emergency occurs; and what will you need to survive until help arrives. Depending on the scope of the disaster, it could take up to three days for meaningful assistance to arrive. After you have your plan developed, you should have a family disaster kit ready for immediate use.

Supplies for this disaster kit should be stored in a large plastic container with wheels, a backpack or a duffel bag. These supplies include:

- one gallon of water per person per day in plastic containers to reduce the possibility of breakage; store at least a three day supply
- ready to eat canned food, canned juices, high-energy foods, vitamins, comfort foods and special foods for infants or family members on special diets; again, a three day supply
- first aid supplies including bandages, antiseptic, soap, latex gloves, nonprescription drugs such as aspirin, antacid, anti-diarrhea medication
- clothing and bedding such as sleeping bags, sturdy shoes, rain gear, blankets, hats, gloves, thermal underwear and sunglasses
- tools and emergency supplies such as: battery-operated radio, flashlights, fire extinguisher, pliers, adjustable wrench, matches in a water proof container, liquid soap, personal items, household chlorine bleach
- special items for infants, medication for family members, books and games for entertainment and important family documents
- food, water and medications for pets (Remember that if you are forced to evacuate your home, many shelters will not allow animals. Contact the Humane Society or the Animal Protective Society for more information about caring for pets during disasters.)

It is important to keep these items where they can be reached quickly. In an emergency, you may have only seconds before you need to leave your home. Items that have expiration dates such as medicines, water, food and batteries should be changed before they expire or at least twice a year.

For more information on disaster preparedness, please contact the Clayton Fire Department at 314.290.8485.

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## False Alarms

False fire alarms not only place unnecessary financial burdens on the City of Clayton and its taxpayers, they also pose a threat to public safety. Residents and businesses of Clayton are therefore asked to do what they can to reduce the number of false fire alarms. A “False Alarm Violation” is any situation in which the Fire Department responds to an emergency via fire alarm system alert, but finds no reason for the alarm to exist. False alarms needlessly take fire apparatus out of service, which could put others in jeopardy who might be experiencing a true emergency. “If building occupants are exposed to false alarms on a regular basis, they tend to become complacent and do not react. When an alarm sounds for a real fire, they think it is just another false alarm,” stated Fire Chief Mark Thorp.

The Board of Aldermen recently increased the fee for false fire alarm violations. Letters will be sent to a property owner as a result of the first two false alarm violations. Offenders will be charged \$50 for the third infraction, \$100 for the fourth and \$150 for the fifth. For the sixth through the tenth, the fine is \$200 plus court costs, and after that the fee is \$1000 plus court costs. Ultimately, the increase in the false alarm violation fee is meant to encourage individuals to keep their alarms in good repair. When fire alarm systems are not maintained, they tend to cause false alarms. The new fee structure applies to residential and business fire alarm systems.

Questions relating to fire alarm systems and the false alarm fees should be directed to Assistant Chief/Fire Marshal John LaVenture at 314.290.8486 or via e-mail at [johnl@ci.clayton.mo.us](mailto:johnl@ci.clayton.mo.us).

# FACTS ABOUT CLAYTON

**Q.** What is the CRIME PHONE?

**A.** The CRIME PHONE is a automated telephone notification system that provides timely safety tips and delivers a recorded voice message alerting citizens of crimes occurring in their neighborhood.

The service is free to all Clayton residents and business owners. A citizen can request to be included in the service by calling the Clayton Police Community Services Unit at 314.290.8424.

What would you like to know? Clayton citizens are invited to ask questions of their City officials. Forward your questions to: City of Clayton, ATTN: Judy Kekich, 10 North Bemiston, Clayton, MO 63105; Fax them to 314/863-0295; E-mail them to: [jakekich@ci.clayton.mo.us](mailto:jakekich@ci.clayton.mo.us)

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

<b><i>In Case of Emergency</i></b> .....	<b>911</b>
City Manager .....	290-8400
Economic Development .....	290-8473
Finance .....	290-8443
Fire (non-emergency) .....	290-8485
Planning and Development .....	290-8453
Mayor/Board of Aldermen/City Clerk .....	290-8469
Parks and Recreation .....	290-8500
Park Program 24-Hour Registration .....	290-8501
Personnel .....	290-8449
Police (non-emergency) .....	727-4130
Public Works .....	290-8540
TDD .....	746-0495

## STATEMENT OF ACCESSIBILITY TO ALL CITIZENS

It is the City of Clayton's goal to make programs and facilities accessible to all individuals. If you or someone you know has a disabling condition and would like more information and support for accessibility of all programs and facilities, please contact us at 290.8501(V). Sign interpreters may be scheduled upon request. Suggestions for future programs are welcomed.

## City of Clayton

10 North Bemiston Avenue  
Clayton, Missouri 63105

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U.S. Postage  
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Permit No. 1197

### MAYOR

Francis L. Kenney, III

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Beverly A. Wagner

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Linda Goldstein  
Jill S. Belsky

#### Ward III

Alex Berger III  
Daniel L. Human

### CITY MANAGER

Scott S. Randall

### CITY VIEWS EDITOR

Judy Kekich

"The Mission of Clayton City Government is to foster a vital, balanced community composed of outstanding neighborhoods, quality businesses, commercial and government centers, premier educational institutions, and a healthy natural environment through an open, accessible and fiscally responsible government."



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