

Byrnes Mill

Shop With A Cop

You may have seen it mentioned, maybe even took part in one way or another, but do you *really* know the whole story about **Shop With A Cop**? It's not the first of its kind and with a challenge at hand, it won't be the last.

Officer Jason Dowdell and Lt. Roger Ide collaborated and started the program [here] in 2013. The mission is simple – to help kids and their families [who may not otherwise] have a better holiday season. The first year they were able to help two families; a total of three children. The program, which grew slowly at first, has now given the Byrnes Mill Police Department the chance to make the holiday season a little brighter for over 100 children and their families [each year]. In 2016, they were able to provide gifts for 103 kids and celebrate with over 300 people who attended the annual **Shop With A Cop** banquet.



"It would be incredible to be able to do that again this year," said Chief Gary Dougherty. "For a small department, it's pretty amazing. Everyone really pitches in and helps out."

Children who are currently in Foster Care or who are from Jefferson County whose names come from Family Services, local schools and churches, COMTREA or by personal recommendations are added to a list at the Department. They then narrow down the list by cross referencing names

with other area organizations to remove duplicate names while also honing in on the most important needs.

"The biggest challenge isn't finding the need [though], it's in raising the money," the Chief explained.

It's fundraisers such as 50/50 drawings, gun raffles and private donations throughout the year that help to bring it all to fruition.

"Once the list is finalized, we assess our money situation in order to determine how many kids we'll actually be able to help," Dougherty said.

Based on their available funds, Byrnes Mill Police Department will work off of their final list, which is when the fun begins!

After choosing a date to shop, officers meet families at the High Ridge WalMart where they are paired up with one another. Children are given a budget of \$100 each in which to choose whatever they'd like.

"Some of them will break your heart," Chief explained. "Many of the kids just want to get something for their siblings or parents but we encourage them to [at least] choose something for themselves."

Once the shopping is done, all of the **Story continued on page 6**

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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MAYOR'S MESSAGE



Mayor Susan Gibson

Dear Friends and Neighbors ~

It was so nice to see many of you at our 10th Annual Fall Festival. We have had all kinds of weather throughout the years, this was not the best. However, I think those who came early really enjoyed the day.

What never changes with the weather is the hard work and dedication of our staff and our volunteers; all really care about creating a great community event. Everyone pitches in and, like Brigadoon, a beautiful fall event rises in our park and is put away by dusk. Seems like a miracle each time. The friendship and camaraderie that has evolved in the endeavor is very special. My sincere Thanks and genuine appreciation goes to all involved.

Please consider joining in as a volunteer, you will make lasting friends and be a part of something good in our City.

We have two more annual events to look forward to before the New Year. Over Thanksgiving weekend, the Historic Society will open the Hagemeister Cabin again. This time it will be decorated for Christmas, offering a magical trip back in time. Mr. and Mrs. Claus will be there with cider and cookies nearby. For those of you with little ones, you will never find a better place for a visit with Santa. The photos are just precious. I have a series of them of my grandson, Sam.

In December our police have their annual *Shop With A Cop* experience. It starts with our policemen taking kids shopping for their Christmas presents. Then they [police] take all the goodies to wrap for the night of the dinner. Children and their families come for one of the best turkey dinners to be had in Jefferson County, a visit and photo with Santa and take home a bag of wrapped gifts for Christmas morning. It is a wonderful evening.

The police fund the entire project through donations as well as various events and activities organized throughout the year. You can be a part of it by volunteering to help or by making a donation. It is truly in the spirit of the season of loving and light — an opportunity to ensure that families who might not otherwise be able to can celebrate it with the rest of us. Such a tangible expression of what it means to ‘protect and serve’.

I have heard positive feedback from residents for our new format for the Newsletter. I am sure you will find much of interest in this one.

May your upcoming holidays be all that you want them to be.

Susan Sincerely,

Susan

FRANKS ROAD REPAIRS

Roadwork will begin soon to repair damage to Franks Road that occurred during the flood. It is expected to take four to six weeks to complete the project. Portions of Franks Road will be closed throughout construction. Please use caution when workers are present. Keep an eye on the website for more details once they become available and sign-up for notifications at bynesmill.org.



PUBLIC WORKS UPDATES

MEET YOUR NEW PUBLIC WORKS

DIRECTOR - At the October 18 Board of Aldermen Meeting, members voted unanimously to hire Bob Schmidt as the new Public Works Supervisor for the City of Byrnes Mill.

Schmidt will assume all duties of former Director, Tony Whitby, who retired in August.

“WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT BOB WILL BRING A GREAT DEAL TO OUR CITY,” SAID CITY ADMINISTRATOR, DEBBIE LAVENTURE.

He comes with over 21 years of experience, many of which were with the City of Sunset Hills as well as St. Louis County.

“HIS SKILLS WILL ENHANCE THE DEPARTMENT THAT TONY BUILT IN HIS 18 YEARS WITH THE CITY,” SAID LAVENTURE.

Schmidt has a number of projects to tend to in addition to getting the City prepared for the winter months ahead. Keep your eye on the website for Public Works updates and information.

ROAD MAINTENANCE AND SNOW REMOVAL

Following the loss of the proposed tax levies, the City has had to remove a number of private roads from their general maintenance listing which includes snow removal through the winter months. The following roads are currently maintained by Byrnes Mill:

- Old Highway 30/Gravois Rd. *portions only*
- Franks Road
- Franks Court
- Hallmark Drive
- High Ridge Boulevard *portions only*
- Lower Byrnes Mill Road
- Osage Executive Circle
- Osage Executive Drive
- Upper Byrnes Mill Road

In addition to regular maintenance, scheduled work and snowplowing, City crews pick up discarded trash along the City’s maintained roadways twice each month. Please use caution when workers are present.



SIGN UP FOR NOTIFICATIONS

Did you know that the City of Byrnes Mill has implemented a new system allowing you to register for updates, road closures and other important information?

Visit our website at byrnesmill.org and look for the **Notify Me** section on the main page then choose what you’d like to be the first to know!

THANK YOU FOR 18 YEARS!

At the end of August, Byrnes Mill said farewell to long-time employee, Tony Whitby. After 18 years serving the community, Whitby announced his retirement to pursue his own business(es) and spend more time with his girlfriend, Tracy, and grandkids. Whitby owns a development and building company as well as a trucking company, both of which he intends to focus on during his retirement.

In close his to two decades working for the City of Byrnes Mill, the former Public Works Director has seen his fair share of changes.

“When I first started with Byrnes Mill, you couldn't drive down the street without scratching your vehicle because of the brush hanging over the road,” he said.

He’s also been a part of the growth at the Recycling Center, which went from around 150,000 pounds recycled each year to

[now] well over 500,000 pounds.

He feels confident that the success of the City’s Public Works Department lies in continuing with the services they have started.

With main goals pertaining to the City’s infrastructure, Public Works also includes serving as Code Enforcement, Sewer Department, Parks Department, Recycling, Flood Water and Storm Water Manager, just to name a few.

“Working for a small city, you wear many hats,” Whitby explained.

In closing, Whitby said he enjoyed his time working for the City of Byrnes Mill.

“I’ve probably talked to everyone a time or two,” he said.

We’d like to thank Tony for his many years of service, dedication and commitment to our City. Best wishes on your retirement and future endeavors!

“When I first started with Byrnes Mill, you couldn't drive down the street without scratching your vehicle because of the brush hanging over the road,” he said.



**TONY WHITBY,
FORMER PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR**

Congratulations Lt. Ide!

In September, Police Officer Roger Ide was promoted to Lieutenant. Lt Ide served as a deputy with both Jefferson County and Franklin County before joining the Byrnes Mill Police Department in 2009.



"LT. IDE'S DEDICATION TO THE CITY IS EVIDENT IN EVERYTHING HE DOES," EXPLAINED CHIEF DOUGHERTY. **"HE IS A CERTIFIED INSTRUCTOR, WORKS HARD TO MAINTAIN TRAINING FOR OUR OFFICERS, AND KEEPS UP WITH THE MOUNTAIN OF PAPERWORK WE HANDLE."**

Lt. Ide has received several awards from MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Drivers) and Mental Health (CIT). He is an asset to our city.

HOLIDAY SAFETY

The Byrnes Mill Police Department will be extra vigilant this time of year and are encouraging residents to do the same. During the holiday season, thefts are up as are armed robberies. Although many of these will not affect our immediate area, here are a few things they want you to know:

- ⇒ Pay attention to your surroundings
- ⇒ Do not leave items in your vehicle in plain view
- ⇒ Lock your doors

If you are going to be out of town, consider filling out a **Vacation Watch Form**. Available online or at City Hall, the form alerts Byrnes Mill Police to send extra patrol by your residence during your absence.

Police work hard to ensure the safety of residents so if you see anything suspicious, please reach out to the Department at (636) 677-7727.

Shop With A Cop

The Byrnes Mill Police Department could not complete this big task without support from the community. If you're interested in making a contribution towards the program, send to:

Spring Hills Presbyterian Church
6247 Upper Byrnes Mill Road
Byrnes Mill, MO 63051
Attn: Shop With A Cop

Shop Local

From the mom-and-pop shop to unique service providers, Byrnes Mill is proud to serve the community alongside over 50 diverse businesses. We encourage you to Shop Local, Dine Local and Contract Local by choosing to do business with those who are proud to call the City of Byrnes Mill their home.

All Five, LLC
Anna Beth Arms
Arenz Pest Management Solutions
Auto Zone Stores Inc.
Baumgartner Rental Properties
Big T Recycling
Billyo Art
Byrnes Mill Mobile Home Community
Byrnes Mill Stables
Choice Rentals
Circle K
Company B BBQ
Complete Fitness
Designed To Be Home
DtRt Environmental
Enterprise Bank & Trust
Eclectic Trading Company
El Mariachi
ENFAB
Exploration Station
Fritz Stonework and Retaining Walls
Forest Lawn Pet Cemetery
The Grounds Guys of St. Louis County
Haskin's Surveying
High Ridge Church Of Christ
Highway 30 Towing
Hinton Healthcare
Hood's Discount Home Center
Lawn Guy Grass Cutting
McDonald's
Midwest Crane Repair
Midwest Physical Rehab
Milestones and Memories Photography
Mobility Quad, LLC
Nassar Tire Company
NL Contractors
The Point of Refuge
Pure Plumbing, LLC
R Town Real Estate, LLC
Realty Executive Premiere
Red Mountain Creations
Richard Meyer Insurance
Quentin Sehie Landscaping, LLC
Shelton Collision
Taco Bell
Unique Gifts & Engravings
Walgreens
Woolsey Motors

EVENTS & NEWS

Celebrate an Old Fashioned Christmas

To help kickoff the holiday season, The Northwest Historical and Preservation Society of Jefferson County is sponsoring its annual "Christmas at the Hagemeister House" located on Lower Byrnes Mill Road in Byrnes Mill Park.

The 1873 historic log cabin is transformed into a magical, old-fashioned Christmas setting, creating the perfect holiday tradition for families. Festivities include pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus, storytelling, Christmas music, hot cider, cookies, and a Christmas market to purchase hand-made wreaths and other festive items.

"THIS IS A BIG EVENT FOR THE CHILDREN," SAID RHEA MILISITCH, COORDINATOR OF THE EVENT. "EVERY YEAR IT IS BECOMING MORE OF A SUCCESS AND WE LOVE SEEING NEW FACES."

"Christmas at the Hagemeister House" festivities will be held **Saturday and Sunday, November 25 and 26**, from 1-4:30 p.m. at Byrnes Mill City Park located at 3803 Lower Byrnes Mill Rd. Bring your friends and family out to enjoy this great, holiday tradition!

For additional information, please call (636) 375-3558.

The Northwest Historical and Preservation Society of Jefferson County welcomes you to:

CHRISTMAS

at the

Hagemeister House

November 25 & 26
1:00 to 4:30 PM

Byrnes Mill City Park
Lower Byrnes Mill Road

Santa

Cookies

Hot Cider

Christmas Market



Sponsored by the Historic and Preservation Commission of Byrnes Mill.

Fall Festival Recap

Close to a dozen vendors greeted festival goers as they made their way through the park up to the Hagemeister House. The cabin, filled with old time crafters, brought people back to a simpler time where needlework and churning butter were part of the day-to-day. Families were able to take part in a number of activities outdoors including face-painting, rope making and even barrel rides for the little ones. New this year was the building of a traditional, hand-hewn log cabin model by Rob Insko and Dan Burns of Cedar Hill. Live music from Miss Crystal and the Codgers and Missouri Fiddlers added to the atmosphere as did the barbeque and fresh air! The City would like to thank everyone who made this event possible from the volunteers and crafters to the local churches and community in attendance. For the full festival article, visit byrnesmill.org.



CONSTRUCTION UNDERWAY

Construction is now underway for the City's first villa development. Located on Upper Byrnes Mill Road, **Villas at Olde Mill** will offer options for those who are either downsizing or simply interested in lower maintenance property.



VILLA RENDERING

Although the builder, Bill Williams Construction, has been doing business in the area for over 40 years, this will be his first villa

development. Costing between \$215,000–\$235,000 for nearly 1,200 sq. ft., the villas will have the option of adding a deck along with other amenities.

The City thought that by adding a development like this to their Comprehensive Plan, they would help fill a need in the aging population but also for younger couples who need less maintenance. When the project is complete, there will be a total of six single-home villas.

SHOP WITH A COP (CONT...)



gifts are brought back to City Hall, where they are wrapped by members of Spring Hills Presbyterian Church and Point of Refuge. Then volunteers from the Police Department and City decorate the hall, complete with Christmas trees, donated by a local lot in Byrnes Mill, lights and more. Kids and their families as well as other community members are invited to the banquet, which includes an awards ceremony, good food and a visit from Santa himself, who helps to pass out the gifts before the night ends.

Each child gets to visit with Santa and take home a framed photo of themselves (and family). Police Officer Jason Dowdell also made ornaments for everyone to take home from off the Christmas tree.

It takes a whole team to put together an event of this magnitude -- from the caring vision of Lt. Ide to the community supporters who take part every year. There are a number of great community partners including Brian Stevens at Company B BBQ who does all the cooking for the dinner and donates some of the food.

"He has been instrumental in the success of the banquet," Chief said.

Special Thanks goes to friends at Spring Hills Presbyterian Church and Point of Refuge Church for doing such a great job wrapping the gifts, WalMart in High Ridge for providing shopping "helpers" and a private check-out lane as well as a percentage off the total sales, Deer Creek USA Golf and Fore Honor Event Center for use of the space, volunteers and everyone who contributed to success of **Shop With A Cop**.



Byrnes Mill is hoping to expand the outreach and serve more kids by challenging other law enforcement agencies to start their own **Shop With A Cop** program.

If you're interested in making a financial contribution to help make the holidays a little brighter for some deserving children, please send your check made payable to **Spring Hills Presbyterian Church** to:

Spring Hills Presbyterian Church
 6247 Upper Byrnes Mill Road
 Byrnes Mill, MO 63051
 Attn: Shop With A Cop

Be sure to put "Shop With A Cop" in the memo line. All donations are tax deductible. Thank you for all your support!



Get to know your police

The Byrnes Mill Police Department is comprised of 15 officers serving the community 24-hours/7-days per week. The team has many years of combined experience with a genuine heart to serve. Throughout the year, officers give their own time to take part in various fundraisers and outreach projects while enhancing relationships within the community. Police officers should be commended for their hard work and dedication to ensuring the safety of the Byrnes Mill area as well as their commitment to the residents in our community.

Full-Time Officers
 Chief Dougherty
 Lt. Ide
 Corporal Iken
 Officer Dowdell
 Officer Reed
 Officer Robinson
 Officer Schroeder

Part-Time Officers
 Officer Hancock
 Officer Grobe
 Officer Allen

Reserve Officers
 Officer Alter
 Officer Riemer
 Officer Hoff
 Officer Shomaker
 Officer King



BYRNES MILL POLICE DEPARTMENT

Hagemeister Roof Restoration

The City of Byrnes Mill along with the Northwest Historic Preservation Society would like to thank a few individuals who took it upon themselves to make improvements to the Hagemeister House.

The cabin, located in Byrnes Mill City Park, was experiencing leaks caused by nails in the structure of the roof. Eric Huff and Steve Crider voluntarily replaced the nails with over 500 screws and washers after shoring the attic so that the work could be done.

“THEY DONATED ALL OF THEIR TIME SO WE ONLY HAD TO PAY FOR THE MATERIALS,” SAID RHEA MILITSCH, PRESIDENT OF THE NORTHWEST HISTORIC AND PRESERVATION SOCIETY.

Historic Society members, Victor McCrackin and Terry Harper helped



Restoration on the roof

prepare the area for work with trimming the brush and assisting with shoring the attic.

“THEY ALSO SEALED THE OUTSIDE OF THE CABIN ALONG WITH THE PORCH,” MILITSCH ADDED.

More work is planned for the future.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Northwest Historic and Preservation Society is looking for new members. If you have a love for history and community, this might just be the organization for you!

Meetings are held the 1st Thursday of the month at 7 pm inside the Jefferson County Library, High Ridge Branch.

Take part in upcoming events such as the two-day Christmas Open House to be held Thanksgiving weekend and the 30th Anniversary Celebration in 2018.

For more information, please call 636-375-3558.



REGISTER YOUR PETS —

Just a friendly reminder that all pets are required to have tags registered through the City.

Registration is annual.

For more information, call

City Hall at
636-677-7727.

Online registration is available at
byrnesmill.org.

Be the first to know!

WEBSITE & COMMUNICATION UPDATES

Over the last few months, the City of Byrnes Mill has been working on updates that will ease in navigation of our website as well as introduce **“Notify Me”**, a communication piece that will allow individuals to *opt in* to receive information, news and updates as they come available. In addition, residents can also sign-up to receive Agendas and Minutes for Aldermen meetings as well as information on road closures and delays. Please join us in spreading the word about new, faster communication already in the works. We want you to be the first to know and we need your help to spread the word!

City of Byrnes Mill Communication Form

Please sign me up for:

Name _____

Address _____

Spouse/Children's Names _____

Phone _____

Email Address _____

Special Notes _____

Signature _____ Date _____

- Important Information
 - News & Updates
 - Road Closures/Delays
 - Board of Aldermen Agenda
 - Board of Aldermen Minutes
- Additional options available at byrnesmill.org**

By signing above, you give the City of Byrnes Mill permission to contact you via email, social media and/or telephone for important updates and information pertinent to residents. In order for us to add you to the group Facebook page, please confirm your address, contact phone number, and social media display name. We will then contact you via email once we are ready to roll out these new lines of communication. Please send this information via email to: byrnesmill.communication@gmail.com or mail completed slip to:

Byrnes Mill City Hall, 141 Osage Executive Circle, Byrnes Mill, MO 63051
Be sure you tell us which forms of communication you would like to sign up for.



City of Byrnes Mill

141 Osage Executive Circle
Byrnes Mill, MO 63051

Municipal Complex

Byrnes Mill City Hall

141 Osage Executive Cir.

Byrnes Mill, MO 63051

Phone: 636-677-7727

Fax: 636-677-5533

www.byrnesmill.org

Hours: Mon-Fri

9am–4:30pm

City Administrator/Clerk:

Debbie LaVenture

Collector/Deputy City Clerk :

Tracy McAfee

City Attorney: Robert Sweeney

Police Department

Chief of Police: Gary Dougherty

Lieutenant Roger Ide

Phone: 636-677-7727

Phone: (non-emergency): 636-797-9999

Municipal Court

Judge: Colby Smith-Hynes

Prosecuting Attorney: Allison Sweeney

Court Administrator: Elise Gannon

Prosecuting Attorney Clerk: Julie Farthing

Court Night: 2nd & 3rd Tuesday

Public Works

4197 Lower Byrnes Mill Rd.

Byrnes Mill, MO 63051

Supervisor: Bob Schmidt

Staff: Aaron Dillard, Brandon Rock,

Zoey Rock

Hours: Monday- Friday, 7am–3:30pm

Phone: 636-671-0021

Code Enforcement:

Dave Taylor

Part-time availability

Phone: 636-677-7727

EMERGENCY: DIAL 911

Elected Officials

Mayor Susan Gibson

Board of Aldermen

Ward 1: Glenn LaVenture, Bob Prado

Ward 2: Cindy Davies, Jerry Klipsch

Ward 3: Rob Kiczenski, Mary Scheble

Board of Aldermen Meetings

1st and 3rd Wednesday, 7pm

Boards & Commissions

Planning & Zoning (Meetings as needed)

Ann Walters

Lisa Hosey

John Scheble

Cindy Davies

Rick Schweppe

Richard Ross

Planning & Zoning Meetings

2nd Monday, 7pm

Board of Adjustment (Meetings as needed)

Sally Eads

Ron Davies

Pete Frisella

Craig Morris

Doug Smith

** All meetings are open to the public.*