



Wednesday • 02.04.2026

WHERE YOUR STORY LIVES

stltoday.com • \$3

St. Louis to be host for Olympic soccer games

Energizer Park will be 1 of 6 satellite venues

BY TOM TIMMERMANN
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

The Olympics are coming back to St. Louis.

The city that hosted the 1904 Olympics, the first to be held in the United States, will be part of the 2028 Los Angeles Games, hosting games in the soccer competition at Energizer Park, the LA28 organizing committee announced Tuesday.

Exactly what games will be in St. Louis, what rounds, and whether it will be the men's or women's tournaments (or both) won't be known until April. And who will play in the games won't be known until qualifying ends in early 2028. But the world, or at least some part of it, will be coming here.

"We are honored," said St. Louis City SC's president, Diego Gigliani. "We are ready."

Energizer Park, which for purposes of the Olympics will be called St. Louis Stadium, will be one of six satellite venues

outside of Los Angeles. While the final matches of the men's and women's tournaments will be played at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, the early round games will also be played in New York City; Columbus, Ohio; Nashville; San Jose; and San Diego.

The uncertainty about how many games will be here and who will be playing makes it difficult, for now, to figure what it will mean financially for the region. About the only thing people can be confident of is that, in the buildup to

Please see OLYMPICS, Page A5

Hoskins: Local-run elections are best

Secretary of state breaks with Trump on a takeover

BY KURT ERICKSON
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

JEFFERSON CITY — Missouri's top election official disagrees with President Donald Trump's call to nationalize elections, telling lawmakers Tuesday that locally run elections are safe, secure and the law of the land.

Republican Secretary of State Denny Hoskins, who is aligned with Trump on much of the president's agenda, said he is breaking with the president on his latest comments on elections, which came Monday in an appearance on former Co-Deputy FBI Director Dan Bongino's podcast.

"The Republicans should say, 'We want to take over. We should take over the voting in at least 15 places.' The Republicans ought to nationalize the voting," Trump said.

{p data-t="{"}}Nationalizing voting could mean transferring control over elections from state or local governments to the federal government to make the voting process more uniform across the U.S. Currently, each state decides how its elections are run, ranging from absentee voting rules to voter photo identification laws.

Trump also wants Congress to pass a law requiring proof of U.S. citizenship for voter registration.

Noncitizens are barred from voting in state and federal elections. Missourians registering to vote must check a box stating they are U.S. citizens.

Hoskins, in an appearance before the House Budget Committee for a review of his office's budget request, said he disagrees.

"I personally don't believe we should nationalize elections," Hoskins said. "I have not been part of any conversations, emails, texts about nationalizing elections."

Trump's suggestion is contrary to the U.S. Constitution's delegation of election administration to state governments. He discussed the concept in an August social media post, but has amped up his election rhetoric heading toward the midterm elections.

"Remember, the States are merely an 'agent' for the Federal Government in counting and tabulating the votes," he wrote in August. "They must do what the Federal Government, as represented by the President of the United States, tells them, FOR THE GOOD OF OUR COUNTRY, to do."

Please see ELECTIONS, Page A5

MISSISSIPPI RIVER

GOING WITH THE FLOW



DAVID CARSON, POST-DISPATCH

The towboat A B York pushes barges through ice on the Mississippi River north of Alton on Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2026. Despite high temperatures well above freezing in St. Louis most of this week, it's the lows in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa and northern Illinois that will keep sending ice downriver. According to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, while winter ice can slow river traffic, the lock and dam system helps keep the river navigable for barge traffic. The U.S. Coast Guard says there is more ice on the Mississippi this year, after years of unusually warm winters and record setting heat.

Lions Club moving market after St. Charles' demand

BY ETHAN COLBERT
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

ST. CHARLES — For more than three decades, the Saturday farmers market here has been the Lions Club's largest fundraiser of the year. In recent years the organization has given about \$50,000 annually from the market to local charitable causes, from free eye exams for children to dictionaries for schools to supplies for food pantries.

Then St. Charles started to demand a portion of the market's registration fees.

Last year it was one-quarter of the fees, or \$16,000. This year, it would have been one-half. And next year, the city said, it would be three-quarters.

"That's a lot of money," said Lions Club

President Dexter Enders, "especially when you think about what even a \$1,000 would mean for some of these charities."

Now the Lions Club has had enough. It recently told the city that it's leaving for St. Peters, up the road.

The issue has been simmering for years, since St. Charles first asked the Lions Club to start chipping in cash to cover such things as advertising and portable toilets. But it has come to a boil in recent weeks, as the city jacked up the charges on the club — and as the city mayor, Dan Borgmeyer, touted a new grand plan for farmers markets in downtown St. Charles.

Please see MARKET, Page A5

Hazelwood considers law to oust council members

BY NASSIM BENCHAABANE
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

HAZELWOOD — A new law here would allow the council to oust an elected official for making "rude and derogatory" remarks during meetings — after multiple councilmember outbursts in recent years.

The legislation, which the council is expected to approve Wednesday night, comes after one council member called two colleagues an obscenity and another council member cursed a resident, both at public meetings.

"It's putting everyone on notice: This is what is appropriate and what is not appropriate," said Pat Kelly, executive director of the Municipal League of

Metro St. Louis, of which Hazelwood is a member.

Such incidents have drawn headlines in other local cities, including Ferguson, where a council member showed his middle finger to a resident who interrupted him during a July meeting, and O'Fallon, Missouri, where the mayor was caught on a hot mic calling council members "idiots" during a meeting in January.

Laws like the one in Hazelwood are meant to send a clear message to the council — and the public — that bad behavior will have consequences, and to hold the city to that commitment, said Kelly, the municipal league director.

Please see HAZELWOOD, Page A5

Inside

MARKETS	A6
NATION & WORLD	A7
OPINION	A8
OBITUARIES	A10
SPORTS	B1
LET'S EAT	B10

Activate your digital subscription

Scan to set up your digital login. STLtoday access is included in your subscription. STLtoday.com/activate



Weather

Plan your week: For a 5-day weather forecast for our region as well as the national outlook, please see PAGE B12

Cold man river

