

Ferguson Times

Established 1894 Oct. 1999

CITY OF FERGUSON, MO.

May, 2016

Serving Ferguson and Surrounding Communities

The Ferguson City Council will meet twice in May. All meetings will be held in the City Council Chambers at 110 Church Street. The meeting dates are:
 Tuesday, May 10 at 7:00 p.m.
 Tuesday, May 24 at 7:00 p.m.



Ferguson's Farmers Market



Ferguson Farmers Market opens May 7th for its 14th season. With over 45 vendors, we are a destination for all your fresh farm food needs; our Saturday morning tradition brings you fresh fruits and veggies, picked within 24 hours of our market and brought directly to you by the friendly farmers who grow them.

Enjoy live music in a festive family atmosphere, and discover a wide variety of edible delights, including homemade jelly, farm fresh eggs, cheese, honey, spices, and organic meats. You'll also find an ever-changing array of gift and specialty vendors, selling everything from cut flowers and bedding plants to hand-painted artwork and small-batch soaps.

Sat., May 7th:

"Exotic Trenz Salon" will be presenting gifts bags and coupons 9-11AM
 Band: Forestwood Boys 9-11

Sat., May 14th:

"Benton's Hair Salon" Presents: No-sew Vegetable Bags 9-11AM
 Stop by and visit EarthDance's Chickens, see how backyard chickens might be beneficial for you 8-11:30AM
 Northern Arts Council, crafts for kids, 9-11AM
 Band: Ritenour Jazz Band 9-11

Sat., May 21st:

Painted Effects: Building a Window Sash with hand tools, a hands-on event.
 Band: Raw Earth 9-11

Sat., May 28th:

Whistle Stop stops by with Custard Samples, 9:30-11:30
 Northern Arts Council, crafts for kids, 9-11AM
 Band: Juan and Beelo 9-11

City Walk CONCERT SERIES Plaza at 501
 FREE 7PM-9PM

Marquis Knox Blues May 13

Bob Kuban Variety May 27

Bring a lawn chair. Coolers are permitted. No glass please. Concessions available for purchase on-site.
 501 S. Florissant Rd.
 www.fergusoncitywalk.com



Food Truck



Mondays on the Walk is Here!



May 16, 2016
 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
 Plaza at 501, 501 S. Florissant Rd.
 www.fergusoncitywalk.com

Almost Picasso Demo
 Noon to 1:00 pm

COCKTAIL & APPETIZER RECEPTION



SATURDAY, MAY 7TH

7:00 p.m to 9:30 p.m.

149 North Elizabeth, Ferguson
 \$25 / Person
 Contact 314-302-7589 for tickets

All Proceeds Support of the Ferguson 4th of July Festival

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Ferguson's Annual City-Wide Yard Sale

The annual yard sale will take place on
Saturday, May 28, 2016,
 7:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Do you wish to host a sale?
 Register by phone, 314-521-7721.
 You will be placed on the 'YARD SALE MAP' if you register by May 20th.

Pick up a map at:

- Ferguson Farmers Market, 26 South Florissant
- Paul's Market, 1020 North Elizabeth
- www.fergusoncity.com

The Biggest Yard Sale in History!!!
 Ferguson, Missouri

If You Have Items of Interest, Contact The Ferguson Times – 314-524-1958



Greetings from CityWalk

A few months ago we talked about budgets, and where the downtown business district (also referred to as "CityWalk", or "FSBD", or just "S. Florissant") gets its money from and what it spends it on.

As Spring blossoms we hope you are starting to enjoy a lot of what the downtown business district spends its money on.

Did you go to the Food Truck event on Monday, April 18? This event is sponsored by the downtown business district. Food Trucks will be at the Plaza at 501 on the 3rd Monday of every month, April - October. Planning on going to the opening of the Ferguson Farmers Market on Saturday, May 7, at the Victorian Plaza? It's another event sponsored by the downtown business district. The Farmers Market will be open from 8am-noon every Saturday, May through October.

How about one of the free outdoor concerts? It's free to you, but someone has to pay the musicians. The downtown business district takes care of that. These free concerts are held at the Plaza at 501, 7-9pm, on the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month, May - September (the 4th Friday concert of September will be rolled in StreetFest).

Speaking of StreetFest, or Northern Lights, or even the Twilight Run, the downtown business district donates generously towards those events. And far from Spring, the year will end with the Christmas Carriage Rides, also a free event paid for by the downtown business district.

Have you noticed a pattern to these events? They are all designed to pull people, whether residents or those living in the surrounding area, to the downtown business district. When people come to a business district like ours, they spend money in local businesses, or at the very least, they notice the businesses we have and come back later to patronize them.

Last time, I said that "Explaining how a TIF district works is beyond the scope of this column...", but maybe we'll take swi-pe at it one of these times.

Every third Thursday of the month is our downtown business district board meeting. We meet at 5:30pm in the offices of Pearce Neikirk's office located at 427 S. Florissant Rd. Our next meeting is May 19, 2016. All businesses located in the Ferguson Special Business District are invited and welcomed. We would like to see you at our meetings. If there is anything that you would want to share with your fellow district businesses, let us know, we'd be happy to help you get the word out.

Until next month, keep walking.



The Ferguson Historical Society invites you to our Open House celebrating the history of Ferguson.

Sunday, June 5, 2 pm - 4 pm at the History House, located behind the Ferguson Community Center 1050 Smith Ave.

Our displays include photographs and artifacts from the 1850's to 2016.

The Ferguson Times may be reached . . .
by phone: 314-524-1958
or by mail: Dorothy Seiter, 16 Sandringham, Ferguson, MO, 63135
or by email: cider@att.net
Copy or ads for the paper must be received by the 15th of the month for inclusion in the following month's paper.

The Plumber's Crack

By Oh Baby bigohbaby@sbcglobal.net

Temperatures are rising, flowers in bloom, tattoos are showing, baseball and softball fields are full, families walking and playing in the parks, lawn mowers in overdrive, Farmers Market is up and running. It must be May and time for another riveting addition of the Plumber's Crack.



even a minute. If it's still hooked to your hose a sudden drop in pressure could cause it to syphon back to your water supply. Never leave your hose laying in a pool or fountain unattended. The same thing could happen.

Well so much for a condensed reminder, I got carried away again and didn't even get to the topic I wanted to write about. If you have any questions about any of this or anything else, send me an email and I will get you the answers or use it in another article.

Well my friends it's that time of the year hoses come out, fertilizer gets spread, and pumps get installed in the fountains etc. I hate boring you every Spring with cautions so I'll try to condense it for those of you who just started reading the Crack or just need a reminder. Before you put your hose on turn on your outside faucet and while it's running check the basement or inside wall if your on a slab. If everything is dry inside it's safe to go ahead and put the hose on.

As I so subtly mentioned in the beginning, it's the month of May. I didn't mention the really important things happening this month. Mother's Day is the first one that comes to mind. All you guys out there with kids don't make the excuse that your wife is not your mother. Buy her some flowers and treat her special.

Speaking of the hose I know you see all over Facebook that when we were kids we drank out of the hose and did all those things that kids don't do now and we survived. Well those old hoses were pretty much made of rubber. The hoses we use today have all kinds of fancy chemicals in them, but I still think it's safe to drink after they are flushed out good. Think about this though, what used that hose for a home over the winter and what did they do while they were in there?

Another important day in May is Memorial Day. Please take some time to remember those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our country and thank the ones that served.

The other problem is if they sit in a baking sun those chemicals could release into the water. If you use that liquid fertilizer that hooks on to your hose make sure you remove it when your done and never lay it down for

One other important thing that happens this month doesn't affect you. It's the month of my 43rd wedding Anniversary. It seems like 43 minutes and she is still the love of my life.

As always check on and get to know your neighbors; hug and nurture them baby's and shop locally first

See you at the Market.
God Bless you all, Oh Baby

Present and past issues of the Ferguson Times may be viewed:

fergusoncitywalk.com

P8563, D8563
Premier Plumbing Solutions



Say "I Love Ferguson" When presented your bill and receive..... **\$10 OFF**

Dave Walters (Oh Baby)

Master Plumber / Drain Layer / Licensed / Bonded

- No Service Charge • Free Estimates
- 10% Senior Discount (Maximum of \$50)
- Compare our Price on Water Heaters

524-0222!

IF YOU LIVE IN AN OLDER HOME AND YOU WANT TO HELP MAINTAIN YESTERDAY FOR TOMORROW

CALL BOB 524-1264



See Bob on Job column on Page 17

Provident Offers Free Crisis Counseling Via 24/7 Hotline

For those who may be troubled by the recent terrorist attacks in Brussels and other parts of the world, Provident offers a 24/7 crisis hotline ... 314.647.HELP (4357). Trained crisis workers provide support and compassion, along with information regarding relevant and available resources in the community. Tragic acts of terrorism are occurring on a regular basis and it's difficult to understand why this is happening and what can be done to stop it. Having the opportunity to vent fears and concerns with a therapeutic professional is a positive and constructive way of coping.

For individuals needing multiple, in-person therapy sessions, contact our First Appointment Line at 314.533.8200. Provident offers five locations in the metropolitan area-Midtown, Ferguson, Creve Coeur, South County and Fairview Heights.

Provident's licensed therapists have various areas of expertise, ranging from adult and childhood mental health disorders to behavioral and relationship issues within the family. Simply contact the first appointment line at 314-533-8200 to determine the most appropriate therapist and to schedule an appointment.

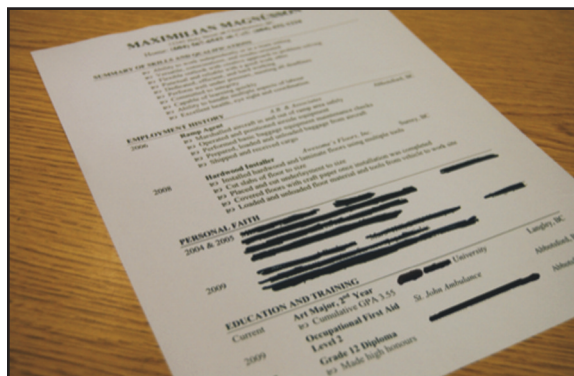
Provident accepts many insurance plans and also maintains a steep sliding scale. For youth under the age of 20 who reside in St. Louis County, there are no out-of-pocket expenses, thanks to the Children's Service Fund grant. For more information about Provident, go to our website at www.providentstl.org.

About Provident

Serving the St. Louis Area since 1860, Provident is an accredited, nonprofit, United Way-funded agency that helps individuals and families to a brighter future through counseling, suicide prevention and intervention, and community support programs.

JOBS and MORE STL Continues Training, Hosts Resume Writing Workshops

Are you tired of sending out applications and never getting the job you want? Does your resume wow? Do you have trouble finding and keeping that perfect job?



JOBS and MORE STL is a Ferguson-based 501(c)3 non-profit, providing training and motivation in the job search process. JOBS and MORE STL's goal is to arm job-seeking achievers with the skills and drive necessary to find employment that aligns with their individual strengths and interests.

On March 19, JOBS and MORE STL hosted a special, free, one-day resume writing seminar at the Ferguson Municipal Public Library. Here are some resume dos and don'ts that JAM passed along to those who attended our workshops:

- DON'T: Have an overly cluttered resume. The document should have the right amount of "white space."
- DO: Pay attention to spelling and grammar!
- DON'T: Attempt a "one size fits all" resume.
- DO: Tailor your resume to fit the job. Emphasize your experience that best aligns with the job you are seeking. Include key words from the job listing, if possible.
- DON'T: Have a resume that is too long or too short. The resume length should correspond to the amount of experience you have accumulated, not some arbitrary number of pages. BUT, longer does not automatically mean better.
- DO: Verify that your contact information is correct.
- DO: Highlight your accomplishments, and your competitive advantage. What makes you the best candidate?
- DON'T: Sell yourself short. Most of us have accomplished more than we realize. Jobs and More STL can help you identify and describe those accomplishments if you're struggling to do so.

Would you like to learn more, or attend a future FREE Workshop? Contact JOBS and MORE STL at jobsandmorestl@outlook.com, 314.283.2215, on the web jobsandmorestl.org or on our Facebook page for dates and locations of the RISE ABOVE Workforce training workshop and Resume Writing Workshops.

Contact us, if you'd like more information about the services offered, to enroll in one of our workshops, to make a tax-deductible charitable contribution, or to volunteer to serve as a mentor, fundraiser or workshop facilitator.

Upcoming Events at the Ferguson Public Library

For more information, call the library at 521-4820 or visit our website, ferguson.lib.mo.us

**ON YOUR MARK,
GET SET...
READ!**

Summer Reading Program 2016 May 23-July 30

Exercise your mind this summer and read!

Join our all ages program and track your reading to win great prizes, including chances at a FitBit for adults, a Kindle Fire tablet, and weekly drawings for Cardinals tickets! We also have fun programs scheduled all summer long:

- May 26: Coloring Kickoff Party with Painting for Peace - 4 pm
 - June 2: Poetry reading and workshop
 - June 14: Get Ready! Get Set! Go Science! with Mad Science
 - June 16: Author event with Carol Anderson and Left Bank Books
 - July 14: Animal Champions with the St. Louis Zoo
- Get in the game with us this summer -**



READ!

FOREST PARK OWLS: HIDING IN PLAIN SIGHT



Join us and Mark H.X. Glenshaw for a fascinating talk about the Great Horned Owls living in Forest Park. Mark is an award-winning naturalist who has closely observed and documented the lives of Great Horned Owls since December 2005.



TUESDAY, MAY 3

6 PM



Ferguson Municipal Public Library
35 N. Florissant Rd.
521-4820 - ferguson.lib.mo.us

Save the date, July 30, 2016

It's the day of the first Annual Brian Fletcher Memorial Charity Golf tournament. To benefit *I Love Ferguson*, our non profit 501c3, run by all volunteers, which has donated more than \$140,000 back to the communities in which we live.

The Tournament will be held at Normandie Golf Club, with registration at 7:00 a.m. \$70 per golfer, includes refreshments and more.

Call the I Love Ferguson store to sign up or donate 314.254.7400.

Thank you to those citizens "in the arena"

By Mayor James W. Knowles III



"It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat."

Theodore Roosevelt, 26th President of the United States –
Excerpt from his speech "Citizenship in a Republic"

If this month's quote sounds familiar, that's because I've used it a few times before. Sometimes there is no other quote or phrase that can quite sum up the message, and because of that, this quote bears repeating.

This past month we have seen the absolute best from citizens who have thrust themselves into public service, either as candidates for elected office, elected officials themselves, or just motivated citizens working to improve their community by being involved in the electoral process. In all, six dedicated residents ran for public office, two stepped down from public office, dozens worked and contributed to support the ballot initiatives, and thousands got out to vote. Each of those citizens who participated played an important role in the political process.

Because politics and politicians are held in such low regard, it is often difficult to find people who want to get involved in the political process.

It is hard to find people that are willing to sit on a board or commission in our community much less run for City Council. It takes a lot out of people to make the time commitment necessary, but even more so, it takes a special commitment to put one's self in the public "arena" as Teddy Roosevelt would put it. Whether you sit on the Park Board or City Council, you are likely to become the target of criticism for some decision you will make. Today, most people do not want to involve themselves in something that takes away from their family or personal time, and then subjects them to additional criticism. However, as Teddy would go on to say later in his speech, the involvement of people in politics and government is the very foundation of what it is to live in a democratic republic. Without people willing to step into that arena, there is not much of a democratic government left.

As we say goodbye to former Councilmembers Dwayne James and Mark Byrne, we should commend them for their service, their sacrifice, and their commitment to this city. They have both served through some of the greatest growth and development this city has seen in decades, as well they have served through some of the most trying and difficult times. Their service has been honorable, selfless, and with the interests of the entire community in mind. They both deserve our utmost respect and gratitude.

While we are losing two great public servants, our City Council is gaining two tried and tested public servants with a long history of leading in this community. First Ward Councilmember Linda Lipka and Second Ward Councilmember Heather Robinett have long histories of being dedicated and involved citizens in our community, and I know they are ready to hit the ground running as we confront the many hurdles ahead, as well as the many great opportunities ahead.

I'll end with a reminder, that "being in the arena" isn't just running for political office or sitting on a board or commission, it's every resident that takes an active role in trying to better the community. It is neighborhood leaders, business leaders, and average citizens that take the time to stand up and give of themselves to improve our community. It is these residents willing to be "in the arena" that has helped make Ferguson a wonderful community and will continue to help us grow and move forward.

Ferguson Neighborhood Organizations

Dates & times subject to change. Check www.fergusoncity.com

Group	Next Mtg.	Location	Contact
Forestwood Park Neighborhood Group	May 3 7 pm	Emmaus Bible Chapel 900 Highmont	Donald Stevens 314-561-0379
Jeske Park Neighborhood Assc.	May 12 7 pm	Ferguson Community Ctr. 1050 Smith Ave	Kate Mazzacavallo katemazza@yahoo.com
Nesbit-Newton	June 2016	St Peters UCC 1425 Stein Rd	Paul Beins2016 314-869-5080
Northwest Ferguson	TBA	First Baptist Church 333 N Florissant	Shelley Davis leeshel57@sbcglobal.net
Old Ferguson East Neighborhood Assn.	TBA	Corner Coffee House 100 N Florissant	Glenda Rickard 314-364-4306 glenda.rickard@mercy.net
Old Ferguson West Neighbors	May 26 7 pm	Corner Coffee House 100 No Florissant	Larry Robinett ldrobinett@gmail.com
Robert-Superior Neighborhood Group	TBA	Ferguson Community Ctr. 1050 Smith Ave	Irene Kidd kiddirene87@gamil.com
Southwest Ferguson Neighborhood Group	May 9 7 pm	Our Lady of Guadalupe 17 Hawkesbury	Atefa Young atefayoung@yahoo.com
Wabash Neighborhood Assn.	TBA	First Baptist 333 N Florissant	Shonnette Morgan sdenisemor@hotmail.com
North Hudson Neighborhood	TBA	Ferguson Community Ctr 1050 Smith	May Simmons hudsonhills63135@gmail.com
North Hills Neighborhood	May 9 7 pm	Our Lady of Guadalupe 17 Hawkesbury Dr.	Keith Kallstrom 314-524-1720
North Elizabeth Neighborhood	May 2 7 pm	Ferguson Community Ctr. 1050 Smith Ave	Renee Benage rbenage@sbcglobal.net
Ferguson Woods	TBA	North Hills Methodist 10771 Trask Dr	Ella Jones Ejones@fergusoncity.com Rosalyn Lee Rlee@fergusoncity.com

Maintenance Which Requires a Permit

There is frequently some confusion as to what maintenance jobs require a permit from the City of Ferguson. Below is a brief list of jobs for which you will need to pull a permit.

Mechanical: air conditioner/furnace installation, generator, etc.

Electrical: upgrade of electrical panel size, alarm system, new circuits, any work that requires new electrical lines to be installed, etc.

Plumbing: stack replacement, sewer lateral repair, water service repairs, etc.

Building permits are required for: remodeling, fire restoration, room additions, sheds, decks, pools, etc. The requirements include three (3) sets of professional sealed plans, property survey, site plan, and material list. The plans along with a building permit application are submitted for review which could take up to two (2) weeks for approval.

Permits are also required for fences, driveways, POD's and dumpsters.

All electricians, plumbers and mechanical contractors must be licensed by St. Louis County.

Please call the Public Works department at
314-521-7721 with any questions.

MEMORIAL DAY Monday May 30, 2016 Trash Pickups

Monday routes will be picked up on Tuesday, May 31st

Tuesday routes will be picked up on Wednesday, June 1st

Wednesday routes will be picked up on Thursday, June 2nd

Thursday routes will be picked up on Friday, June 3rd

Friday routes will be picked up on Saturday, June 4th

Ferguson Community News Page is published monthly and paid for by the City of Ferguson.

City of Ferguson City Council: James W. Knowles, III, Mayor; Linda Lipka, Ward 1; Ella Jones, Ward 1; Dwayne James, Ward 2; Laverne Mitchom, Ward 2; Keith Kallstrom, Ward 3; Wesley Bell, Ward 3. City Manager: DeCarlon Seewood. Public Relations Intern, 314-524-5229.
City Hall: 110 Church Street, 63135, 314-521-7721. Website: www.fergusoncity.com. Contact Us by Email: Information@fergusoncity.com

Ferguson Community News Page

Be sure to stop by the Recreation Office to register or call us at (314) 521-4661.

COMMUNITY CENTER

Facility Rentals

Use one of the Ferguson Community Center's Multipurpose Rooms for your next event or gathering. These spacious rooms are perfect for any occasion. Also, newly opened is the Ferguson Event Center, a 5600 square foot air-conditioned facility with a stage toward the front of the room, which can accommodate up to 300 guests for your next wedding reception or family reunion. Call up to the Ferguson Community Center for booking information, pricing, and any additional information at (314) 521-4661.

PROGRAMMING

Silver Sneakers

The Ferguson Community Center is now enrolled in the Silver Sneakers program for seniors! This program offers free admission to the Ferguson Community Center and Silver Sneakers exercise classes that will be offered in the near future. Check with your health insurance provider to see if you apply! For more information call the Ferguson Community Center, 314-521-4661.

Children's Tumbling

This class starts off with coordination and balance exercises followed by basic tumbling skills such as forward rolls, back bends, and cartwheels. Gymnastic or ballet shoes, leotard and tights are highly recommended but not required. No jeans, baggy clothing, tennis shoes, or bare feet. Ballet shoes recommended.

Age: 3 ½-7 years old
Start Date: Mon., May 9 (8 week session)
Time: 5:45pm-6:40pm (3-1/2-7 years old)
6:45pm-7:40pm (8-13 years old)
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Fee: \$34/Members; \$39/Residents; \$44/Non-Residents

Children's Tap & Ballet Dance

A wonderful opportunity for a child to learn creative movement along with simple dance steps and routines in tap and ballet. Tap and ballet shoes, leotard and tights are highly recommended but not required. No jeans, baggy clothing, tennis shoes or bare feet. Ballet shoes recommended.

Age: 7-15 years old & 8-13 years old
Start Date: Mon., May 9 (8 week session)
Time: 5:45pm-6:40pm (3-7 years old)
6:45pm-7:40pm (8-13 years old)
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Fee: \$34/Members; \$39/Residents; \$44/Non-Residents

Hip Hop / Jazz Dance

High energy class, starts with a warm-up and stretching exercises followed by dance skills in hip hop and jazz which will be incorporated into dance routines. Jazz shoes highly recommended but not required. Stretch pants should be worn. No jeans or baggy clothing, tennis shoes, or bare feet.

Age: 14-18 years old
Start Date: Wed, May 11 (8 week session)
Time: 7:45pm-8:40pm
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Fee: \$34/Members; \$39/Residents; \$44/Non-Residents

Adult Dance

Warm-up with easy Freestyle dance steps followed by basics in Waltz, Fox Trot, Tango, Cha-Cha, Rumba, Salsa, and Swing (learning these dance styles will enable participants to dance at any social event). Class is taught by Diane Brown who has 30 plus years dance and choreography experience in the St. Louis area. Wear comfortable clothing and hard-soled shoes. No tennis shoes.

Age: 16 & Up
Start Date: Mon, May 9 (8 week session)
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Time: 7:45-8:40
Fee: \$40/Members; \$45/Residents; \$50/Non-Residents

Slide Dance

Do you want to enjoy your workout while also having fun? Try out our slide dance class! It is a 1 hour dance class designed to teach basic and intermediate slide dance skills and routines. Participants are given a chance to grow more comfortable on the dance floor while having fun and socializing with others in the community. Wear comfortable clothing and adhere to these 3 rules: have fun, forgive, and keep moving!

Age: 18 & Up
Start Date: Mon, May 16th (8 week session)
Time: 6:30-7:30
Location: Community Center
Fee: \$25/ Member; \$30/ Resident; \$35/ Non-Resident

Private Dance Lessons

Are you going to a wedding, on a cruise, or will you be attending a social event that includes dancing? Are you an engaged couple that need to learn a routine for their first dance? Or do you just want to learn to dance for fun and fitness in a class designed to teach you the styles of dance you want to

learn? Private dance lessons are the answer. Classes are taught by Diane Brown, instructor and choreographer of 30 years. Diane can teach you most any style of dance including Ballroom, Latin, Swing, Salsa, Hip Hop, Tap and Ballet. For wedding dances, she can teach the bride and father-of-the-brid and the entire wedding party, as well as the bride and groom, a dance to the music they have selected for that special day.

Fee: \$45 for a one hour class for up to 4 students
\$5 more for each additional student
Beginner's discount: receive a discount for 6 classes if paid in full at the first class. \$38 per class.

Wayside Park Unleashed

This park is for the dogs, accompanied by responsible owners, to play without leashes. The facility offers a great opportunity for individuals to spend quality time with their dogs and friends while enjoying the park. The park features both small dog and large dog areas.

The park is open from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily. Registration is required and can be completed at the recreation office. Owners will need to bring up-to-date shot records: rabies, DHPP and Bordetella.

2016 Wayside Dog Park memberships now on sale.

Yearly Fee: \$30 Residents; \$60 Non-Residents
\$5 per additional dog (three dogs per family).

FITNESS

Aerobics

This fitness program is designed for all skill levels. High Impact will improve your heart rate, increase energy levels, as well as improve strength and flexibility.

Age: 18 years & up
Date: Mon May 2, Wed May 4, Fri May 6
(Ongoing 6 week sessions)
Time: Mon, Wed, & Friday 6pm-7pm
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Fee: \$25/Members; \$30/Residents; \$35/Non-Residents
Additional Days:
\$10/members add day;
\$15/residents add day
\$20/non-residents add day

ATHLETICS

Cricket Camp

Cricket is a growing sport in the St. Louis area. This is the perfect opportunity for your young ones to get introduced to the game. They will learn the basic fundamentals, have a lot of fun in the process, while learning from an experienced coach during this six week camp. Equipment is provided. All that is needed is the proper athletic attire, tennis shoes, water and a snack. Don't miss this perfect opportunity to learn more about this popular European sport!

Ages: 7-14
Date: Mon, May 9 (six weeks)
Times: 6:00-7:30pm
Location: Forestwood Park
Fee: \$10

Sand Volleyball

The Ferguson Recreation Department is proud to announce that Sand Volleyball Courts will be added to the Ferguson Community Center this spring. The outdoor complex will boast 3 lit volleyball courts filled with beautiful white sand. Information about the Sand Volleyball League will be announced upon completion of the courts!

SENIORS

Senior Center

The Ferguson Senior Center offers a variety of activities, classes and programs for residents. We offer a number of leisure and recreation opportunities to enhance the quality of life. Activities at the center include clubs, classes, social activities, entertainment, games, fitness, health, and education. Call the office to be placed on a list to receive our monthly event schedules.

Mystery Meal

If you love good food and enjoy fun-loving people, then this program is right for you! Every trip is an adventure, so register to enjoy the day with good times and good friends! Due to the popularity of this program, residents have registration priority. All residents can receive door-to-door pickup. Fee includes transportation via the Jolley Trolley and a meal.

Date: Thurs, May 12th
Time: 10am pick-up
Fee: \$32/ Members; \$37/ Residents; \$42/ Non-Residents

Lunch and Bingo

Date: Thursday, June 2nd
Time: 12-3pm
Fee: \$10/ Members; \$14/ Residents; \$18/ Non-Residents

Ferguson Parks and Recreation Continued from Page 5.
Call 521-4661 to register for any of these events.

TRIPS

Huntsville, AL/Chattanooga, TN

This spring head south! Stops include: the Johnny Cash Museum, the US Space and Rocket Center, The Unclaimed Baggage Center, a cruise on the Tennessee River, a visit to Lookout Mountain and a visit to the Tennessee Aquarium. Included in the package are: 3 breakfasts, 3 dinners, motor coach transportation, lodging, all admissions, taxes and tips.

Date: Tues, May 3-Fri, May 6

Time: 7:00am-10:00pm

* Parking on the North end of Community Center or behind the Community Center only

Fee: \$635/ Residents (Double occupancy); \$660/Non-Residents (Double Occupancy)

Biloxi, Mississippi... Beau Rivage Hotel

Two nights in Tunica, Mississippi staying at the Gold Strike hotel each way, three nights in Biloxi with a day trip to New Orleans, and a shrimp boat tour. Cost includes: motor coach transportation, all lodging, 2 special tours and some meals. The Beau Rivage Hotel is Gorgeous and right on the beach!

Dates: Sun, May 15th-Fri, May 20th

Time: 8:00am-8:00pm

Location: Ferguson Community Center

*Parking on north end of Community Center or behind the Community Center only.

Fee: \$385/Residents (Double Occupancy); \$410/Non-Residents (Double Occupancy)

Soothing Sunday Symphony

Jim Brinkman, the most charted male adult contemporary artist to date brings his piano music to the beautiful Powell Symphony Hall. Dinner at Miss Sheri's in Warson Woods brings this day to a harmonious finale! Cost includes: transportation, dinner, taxes, tips and symphony ticket.

Date: Sun, May 22nd

Time: 2:00pm-7:30pm

Location: Ferguson Community Center

*Parking on North end of Community Center or behind the Community Center only

A Progressive Dinner on Fine China

A progressive dinner is always a fun experience; we go to one place for salad, another for entrée, and yet another for dessert. You'll have a ton of fun on our adventure down Main Street, St. Charles. The night will begin with a guided tour of the Havilland China Museum and will be followed up with a visit to the Mother-In-Law House for an endless array of salads. Next, we will have our entrée at the Little Hills Winery and end the night at Braddens for coffee or tea and a delectable dessert. Cost includes: transportation, dinner, dessert and all admissions, taxes and tips.

Date: Wed, May 25th

Time: 3:30-9:00

Location: Ferguson Community Center

*Parking on North end on Community Center or behind Community Center only

Fee: \$60/Resident; \$65/Non-Resident

SPECIAL EVENTS

Rabies Clinic

The annual Rabies Clinic for dogs and cats will be held at the Ferguson Municipal Garage, 901 Ferguson Avenue. Your pet will receive a one-year rabies shot at a substantial savings.

Date: Sat., June 4

Time: Sat, 9am-11am

Location: Ferguson Municipal Garage

Fee: Rabies shot \$25 for altered dogs; \$30 for non-altered Resident dog license \$1

Food Truck Monday on the City Walk

A taste of St. Louis' delicious food truck cuisine will be available in the Downtown Ferguson CityWalk area beginning in April at Plaza at 501. Each month a variety of trucks will serve a wide range of cuisines. There will be picnic tables available for dining. Have your favorite truck call 314-524-5197 to participate in our event! Find information on the food trucks and dates at www.fergusoncitywalk.com

CityWalk Concert Series

Beginning in May, the Ferguson Special Business District will host a Friday night CityWalk Concert series at Plaza at 501 in Downtown Ferguson. Open to all ages, the live entertainment will feature a wide variety of music styles.

Guests are welcome to bring lawn chairs, blankets, and coolers to the outdoor event. Concession items will also be available for purchase on the site. The concert series is free to the public and offer the opportunity to enjoy music and socialize in the Ferguson CityWalk area. Check out the summer brochure for this season's lineup!

Ferguson Twilight 5K/10K & Fun Run

Join us on May 14 for the 7th annual Ferguson Twilight Run! Runners and walkers of all ages and fitness levels will take to the streets of the City of Ferguson on a USATF certified course. The races start and finish at Plaza at 501. The post-race festivities include a free concert, vendors, and specials at local restaurants. So gather the family, get your friends, and strap on your running shoes for a race just North of Ordinary. 5k, 10k, & one mile fun run. Register Online at www.fergtwilightrun.com

St. Stephens Episcopal Church

ANNUAL SPRING SALE

Friday, May 6, 5:00 to 7:30 pm and Sat., May 7, 8:30 am to 1:00 pm

Lots and lots of great items at below "goodwill" prices!
Clothes, books, collectibles, toys, shoes, small furniture, videos . . .
you name it, we probably have it!

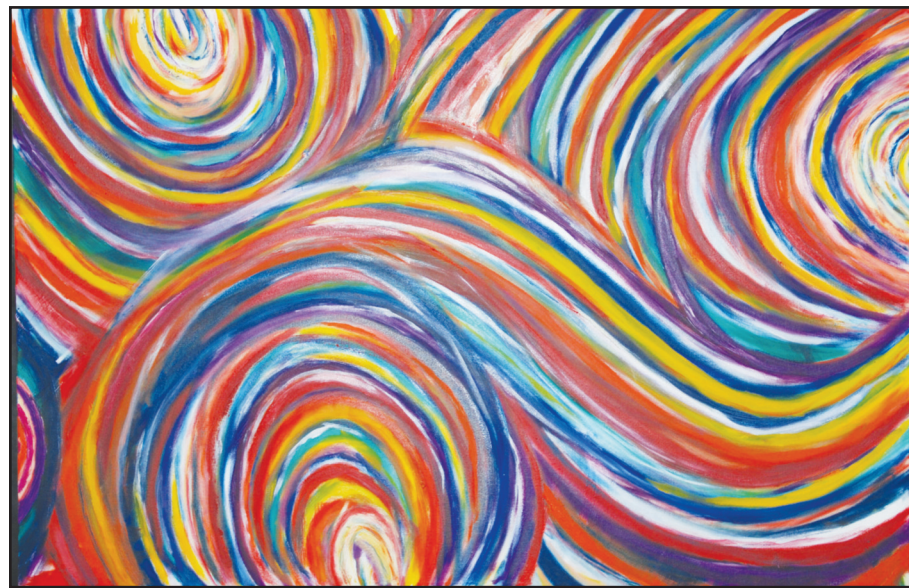
Don't miss this sale . . . line forms early each day. Come and enjoy a long-standing tradition of bargains

St. Stephens, 33 North Clay, Ferguson
(corner of Darst and Clay)

"LAUDATO SI" ART EXHIBIT

Seven St. Louis Catholic sisters and one diocesan priest will exhibit artwork at the Good Shepherd Gallery in honor of the one year anniversary of Pope Francis' Encyclical Laudato Si: On Care for Our Common Home. Works will cover spiritual and environmental themes and will include paintings in watercolor, acrylic and oil, fiber art, mixed media and sculpture.

The exhibit will be on display from **Sunday, May 22 through Sunday, June 26, 2016.**



Participating artists are Sisters Corlita Bonnarens, RSM; Mary Beth Kemper, CPPS; Maria Liebeck, DC; Glynis Mary McManamon, RGS; Ann Francis Monedero, OSF; Josephine Niemann, SSND; Regina Shin, RSCJ; and Rev. Thomas W. Wyrsh.

Good Shepherd Gallery will host an opening reception with the artists on **Sunday, May 22 from 1-5 p.m.** The gallery is located in Shepherding Images Studio at 252 S. Florissant Road, Ferguson, Missouri. An introduction of the artists is scheduled at 3 p.m.

Shepherding Images Studio & Good Shepherd Gallery is a ministry of Sisters of the Good Shepherd Province of Mid-North America, which is operated in Normandy, MO. Sister Glynis McManamon founded the ministry to inspire viewers to reflect on a larger worldview through art.

For more information about the studio/gallery or Laudato Si art exhibit, contact Sr. Glynis at 314-522-1155 or rgsicons@yahoo.com

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Nu Beginnings Employment Organizers is a 501(c)(3) organization that supports every unemployed and underemployed individual in America. We are the only organization in Missouri where customers can walk-in to receive professional resume services, employment assistance, and career direction without scheduling an appointment, being a participant of a special program, or attending job readiness classes.

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Office Hours: 9:00 am- 5:00 pm Mon- Fri 9:00 am -1:00 pm Sat

Zion Lutheran Church is
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Fish Fry
Every Friday from
4:00 pm-7:00 pm!
Come on up for some great cod,
catfish, shrimp, or chicken and
great company from the
Ferguson Community!
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123 Carson Road
Ferguson MO, 63135

Come and Enjoy a
**Family Friendly
Concert**
by the
**“Confluence Chamber
Orchestra”**

Our Lady of Guadalupe
1115 S. Florissant Road
Parish Office with questions
314-522-9264

**Sunday, May 22, 2016
2:30pm**

Admission Free, Donation Accepted.
Punch and cookies served

Since 2005, the Confluence
Chamber Orchestra has presented
free concerts at area museums,
libraries, historic homes, churches,
schools, hospitals and residential
care facilities. By making entertain-
ment accessible for these audi-
ences, CCO raises public
awareness of the value of music at a
time when resources for the arts
are limited.

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Offers an 8-week program for leaders entering 5th - 8th
grades with activities and workshops that allow participants to
express their creativity, demonstrate motor skills, teamwork,
and develop character & leadership skills.

Breakfast, Lunch & Snack Provided

S.T.E.A.M. Multi-Cultural Performances, Swimming and Field
Trips

**MANDATORY PARENT ORIENTATION 5-27-17 @ 6:00 p.m.,
ALL REGISTRATIONS DUE: 5-30-16 BY 6:00 P.M.**

Camp Begins: 6-6-16
Hours of Operation

Camp ends: 7-29-16
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Sessions hosted daily at:

Central Elementary School
201 Wesley Avenue, Ferguson, MO 63135

Sponsored by



Community Resource Center

For more information contact Ms Keri Burrow,
Executive Program Director at 314-524-2710 ext 5

Barbecue

Saturday, May 21

Ribs, Chicken, Brats
and Pork Steaks

St. Stephen's Church
33 North Clay, Ferguson



St. Peter's United Church of Christ
Presents ...

**THE COMMUNITY GOSPEL CHOIR OF
ST. LOUIS**
Suzanne Palmer, Directory



Sunday, May 22, 2016 3:00 p.m.

THIS EVENT IS FREE!!
Childcare provided for ages 10 & under

St. Peter's United Church of Christ
1425 Stein Rd.
Ferguson, MO 63135
For more information call 314-521-5694

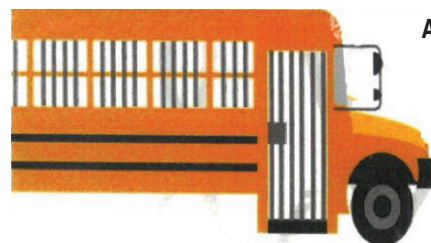
Casino Night at Marley's
Saturday, June 4th

See complete details in the
June Ferguson Times

Proceeds benefit the
2016 Ferguson 4th of July Festival



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REFORMS.

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ST. LOUIS, MO 63108

Campaign Launch May 13-14, 2016

Friday, May 13: Clayton High School at 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 14: Northwest Law Academy at 9:30 a.m.

More Information: 314-367-3484

Guadalupe Princess Tea

Saturday, May 14 – 10:00 a.m. to Noon
Guadalupe Cafeteria / Ballroom
1115 So. Florissant Road, Ferguson
Age 2 and under \$5
Ages 3 and up \$10

Every little girl (princess) must dress up like a
princess

Every princess must be in the care of an adult
staying for the event

Ballroom Activities:

- Storytelling • Queen's Wave
- Queen's Dance • Face Painting
- Queen's Tea

Bring your camera to take pictures
with Disney princess'

Limit 100 children
For more info:
Sr. Cathy 522-9264



Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

Your paper carries an advertisement for a Plaster Repair Specialist (last page). Recently I called the gentleman (Larry) and he gave me a bid on a wall and some ceiling work, and said when he was finished, that I "Would never know he was there."

He told the truth! Larry was fair, fast, honest and very professional. I would recommend him to anyone needing plaster / patch repair. I will be using him again by the end of the year.

Thank you for help in making the contact.

Dick Benach

Local Veterans Breakfast Group



Veteran Marines who are members of the St. Louis Detachment 1st Marine Division have been enjoying a monthly breakfast at the Corner Coffee House for over a year (pictured above). After 9 years of meeting at various locations, they decided Ferguson was the perfect fit. In addition to the 1st Division, numerous other military groups have joined them including the Arthur Williams Post 161 located in Ferguson. An invitation is extended to all active military and veterans who would like to join us at 9:00 a.m. the second Wednesday of every month.

Among the 1st Division members are the vets who are the Honor Guard for all military funerals regardless of the branch served (pictured below).

Commander Alan Kennedy of the 1st Marine Division welcomes new members. He may be contacted at 314.837.7370

Semper Fi



Ferguson Lions Hall Rental

49 North Clark
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Picture your Baby Shower, Wedding Shower, Wedding Reception, Christmas Party, Family Gathering, and Other Special Occasions, in this spacious hall and large parking area.

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Attention to detail can be seen throughout the interior. Stop by our Open House on Sunday, May 15th from 1-3 and Amy will let you see for yourself what a wonderful family home this is, or call today for a private showing.

We are happy to host local artist, Diane Carder, Saturday, May 14th at 7:00 p.m. at 427 Gallery (Pearce's office).

Carder, a Signature Member of the St. Louis Watercolor Society loves bright colors and a variety of subjects, including portraits, landscapes and animals.



pearce4homes.com

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Medical Equipment Donation Drive

Saturday, May 14 – 9:00 a.m. through 2:00 p.m.

2 Locations near Ferguson:

Walgreens

12345 St. Charles Rock Road
314.770.9228
(St. Charles Rock Rd. & 270)

Walgreens

460 No. Lindbergh/Hwy 67
314.831.6448
(Lindbergh & Washington)

We accept donations of manual and power wheelchairs, electric hospital beds, shower chairs, canes, crutches, walkers, grab bars, elevated toilet seats, portable commodes, lift chairs, seating cushions, back supports, and folding ramps . . . every type of item except oxygen and medications.

St Louis HELP loans the donated home medical items to anyone in need, at no cost or fee.

Make a tax-deductible donation of your medical equipment at one of the designated Walgreen's drop-off locations.

Northwest Chamber Of Commerce

is located at 8944 St Charles Rock Rd #300
St. Louis, MO 63114

Phone:(314) 291-2131

The Ferguson Computer Corner

by Doug Neely (always hungry for a FBB burger!)



MAY, 2016

there are several holidays this month, both great and small, major and not so well known. (<http://www.wincalendar.com/May-Calendar/May-2016-Calendar.html>) in addition to Mother's Day (8) & Memorial Day (30), we have Pentecost (15) & Trinity Sunday (22). all highly important. but i want to bring a few to the forefront: Holocaust Remembrance Day & National Prayer Day on the 5th, & Armed Forces Day on the 21st. i ask you to give these proper due; here's your chance to speak to our Father to thank Him for our Guardians in the Armed Forces, & ask Him to protect them.

Services, dept.

in today's "brave new world", many of you may not think often of services, as service to others is disappearing. some of you may recall a time when going to a gas station for gas was a time when you got much more than gas; you got service! then came the self-service gas for a couple pennies less. it became so popular that "full service" has been done away with; now we all pump, squeeze the windshield, check and/or add fluids, belts & hoses, and i don't think we any longer get that 3-cent discount for doing it ourselves. such a deal!

imagine an operating system (like Windows) being called a service instead of a product. what's the difference? it is HUGE!

How Much Is It Really Worth?, dept.

when you sell a product, you can only sell it once. when some smart feller decided to make more \$\$\$ selling his product, he came up with planned obsolescence to make you buy not just one, but several over time, for a regular influx of \$\$\$.

now let's say that this isn't enough, and you, as a seller, want (as opposed to need) more \$\$\$.

if you pronounce your product to now be a service, you can have that extra influx of \$\$\$ on a regular basis! Microsoft considers Windows to be a continually changing intellectual property that they have every

right to rent or lease (and not sell) to you, for as long as you are willing to pay for it. and when you stop paying, the "service" stops.

Sounds Fair, Doesn't It?, dept. certainly more fair for the seller than the buyer! and when you stop paying, what happens to all the data that you have stored on your puter? it is held for ransom! and it will be withheld from you until such time as you start paying again. fair? are you kidding?

i warned you that M\$ would be switching to a rent/lease operating system some time ago. i now believe that Windows 11, or whatever the next one is called, will likely be that. also, consider the "offers" you are continually getting to get Win 10 for free. how long before you will be forced to upgrade to the next operating system as a service, regularly paying as you go like your anti-virus? sound like fun? and now i have this bridge to sell to you...as a service, of course! (does M\$ now have a "kill switch" in 10, such that it will die, forcing you to "upgrade" to 11? makes one wonder, doesn't it?) see what a super-greedy world does for you?

ME GO NOW!

but before i do, please prayerfully consider ALL the holidays this month. and on National Burger Day (28), go on over to the Ferguson Burger Bar to celebrate. :) PRAY also for ALL our businesses in Ferguson; He will hear you! and remember that heaven will never be a "service"; it is a holy gift, available to ALL!

...it is now safe to turn on your puter!

If you would like to ask Doug for his FREE PUTER ADVICE SERVICE*, please call him at *314*521*1789* in the PM hours. Email him at fergusoncomputercorner@aol.com, putting the phrase "i need puter advice" into the subject line, or it will not be received. Also include your local phone # into the body of your missive, or he won't be able to call you.

*---SOME services ARE STILL, AND ALWAYS WILL BE, FREE! :) God's blessings to you and to yours!

Ferguson Forester

I received a call from an acquaintance worried about his tree. He had NOT been worried about his tree until he walked across his street to ask some 'tree guy' about his tree. "It's DYING" the self-proclaimed Arborist (he was far from it) told my friend. The BUDS were not even OUT yet. And then on further inspection he added ... "It's HOLLOW"... and then, as they had their faces pressed against a tree, some friendly neighborhood ants went scurrying up the bark and past their noses.. "AND YOU HAVE ANTS!!!!"

Suffice to say he had the tree's owner convinced his beautiful Sugar Maple had to come down. The ONLY thing the tree had going against it was that once several years back, my friend had flagged down some OTHER tree guy about a large low limb over the freaked out neighbor's drive and instead of selectively removing smaller dropping branches he severed the limb, flush cutting it back to the trunk, and decay has begun. So Because of that hack job, eventually the still beautiful hard (sugar) maple will have to be dismantled.

The moral of this un-philosophical tree tale is this. Some tree people with scruples see life, longevity, and beauty in the largest of woody perennials we call trees. Other UNSRUPULOUS tree people see \$\$\$.

(In my last article I spoke of the U.S. having a tree deficit of over 6 million trees.) And if a tree guy does not know the benefit of ANTS he will NOT know the benefit of TREES.

Wendell Phillips Berwick

"Trust in the LORD and do good; Dwell in the land and cultivate faithfulness"
Psalm 37:3

Gang Symbol Tweaked

Here is a GANG symbol I tweaked. It is at the corner of Morganford and Gravois. I call it the Morganford Merferd

This is what was up there before. My daughter and her husband live a block from the gang symbol. Crime is proliferating in the area and this huge tag was assaulting the surrounding area for months. Phil



Here is "Morganford Merferd." Neighbors came up to thank me.

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Financial Focus

By Joan Cleaveland (consultjoan@att.net)
Business Manager for St. Joseph's Parish in Cottleville
Lindenwood University BA – Business Administration.

This year political campaigns are spending more than ever on elections. And we all wonder just what we get for all this money. So far much of the campaigning has seemed more like a school yard brawl. While this may keep us entertained, it also presents a frightening picture of just how we can get past this and actually start working on making America better.

Among the people I've talked to there seems to be three areas of concern – the economy, health care and terrorism. The fact that our government doesn't seem to be working effectively is also brought up because many believe nothing can really be accomplished until we can resolve that. And along with that comes the feeling that "we the people" don't really have much control because big money seems to control everything. So what is the average person supposed to do in such an uncertain environment?

On a personal level the basic guidelines for managing your finances is the secret to at least being prepared. Pay down your debts and don't borrow unless you must. And most important, pay yourself first by saving as much as you can consistently. Just following those rules can help anyone weather a storm for a little while. And no matter what happens in the economy you will be better prepared just controlling your interests.

So for the bigger picture, we all wonder just what influence we can have when it seems big money controls our election. While some candidates accuse the system as being rigged and others suggesting they just don't understand the rules, it's hard to know what is better. Ever since I started to vote, it seems like campaign financing has been an issue. We've often heard that passionate young politicians start out that way and once in the system they all succumb to the political process of paybacks for financial contributions. So I always like to look to the past for a history of campaign financing.

As early as 1828, campaigns recognized the influence corporations could have on politicians. Andrew Jackson ran on a platform which was considered anti-bank. The Bank of the United States was rumored to have spent about \$40,000 to stop his re-election. By the 1850's the "Pennsylvania Idea" began to develop. This involved wealthy corporations in some cases buying votes to defeat measures that might not be in their favor. At that time U.S. Senators were elected by state legislatures and as you might expect cases of bribery surfaced. So the problem isn't new.

In 1867 the first federal campaign finance law was passed. It prohibited soliciting contributions from Navy yard workers by officers and government employees. Six years later it was expanded to include all federal civil service workers. Prior to this, political parties relied on wealthy individuals and the assessments on government employees pay. Imagine how we'd feel today if our pay had a deduction for campaign financing. This law paved the way for parties to go after corporate and wealthy individuals to replace their funding sources.

By 1907 during the McKinley campaign, people were upset by the big money coming from corporations donating to federal campaigns and it was banned for future elections. With the Tillman Act of 1907, corporations and nationally chartered banks could not make direct contributions to federal candidates. Over the next forty years more legislation followed, eventually prohibiting unions and corporations from making independent expenditures in federal elections with the Taft-Hartley Act in 1947.

For those who remember the seventies, the issues came up again because even with all of the previous legislation, the efforts were not that effective or well enforced. The Federal Election Campaign Act was passed by Congress in 1971. When the Watergate scandal surfaced in 1974 amendments were added to it creating a system of regulation and enforcement with a new agency, the Federal Election Commission (FEC).

In 2002, President Bush signed into law the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act. While it wasn't considered perfect it did put some restrictions in place to eliminate soft money donations, but doubled the hard money donation amounts. In case you are wondering, hard money is the money that must be disclosed and soft money was not always disclosed. Since then many suggestions and proposals for limiting campaign financing have come up and often they are challenged preventing any real change from taking place.

In 2010 the Supreme Court's decision in Citizens United vs. Federal Election Commission changed things. Now corporations and unions could spend unlimited amounts on politics providing they did it independently of campaigns and parties. And that is how the super PACs came about. These political action committees are groups that are formed to raise and spend unlimited amounts of money. It is important to understand that PACs have existed for quite some time. Franklin D. Roosevelt was helped in his 1944 re-election by the Congress of Industrial Organizations. The CIO was the first political action committee formed and its funding came from union members voluntarily donating rather than from the union itself. This meant it was not in violation of the laws at that time forbidding union contributions to federal candidates. Federal election law refers to the PACs as "separate segregated funds" because they must be kept in a separate bank account from the corporation or union.

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With the new Super PAC, no direct contributions are made to candidates or parties. Their expenses include running ads, mailings and other forms of communications that can support or defeat a specific candidate. With no restrictions on where the funds come from some see this as a problem. The Super PACs must file regular financial reports with the FEC which names their donors and their expenses, so the information is available. This is only the second Presidential election to experience the effects of the Super PAC. Another type of committee has also come into the mix, if a large donor prefers not to be named as a donor they may find that contributing to a social welfare group. These groups are organized as a 501(c)(4) under IRS non-profit guidelines. A social welfare group is allowed to raise and spend money on campaigning without naming their donors.

Learning about just this small segment of campaign financing is enlightening and also a bit disturbing. So much information exists that it is difficult to sift through everything. While we continue to worry about the future, I wonder if these organizations that seem to be gaining more power over political decisions might be able to work on getting our budget balanced and reducing the deficit. As things continue to unfold, it will be interesting to recognize which communications are being funded by what type of organizations. If you have comments or suggestions please e-mail me at consultjoan@att.net

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And Now a Word from Our Planet . . .



Did you know that the Ferguson Brewing Company has been certified by the Green Dining Alliance as an environmentally friendly restaurant? Check out what that means at www.greendiningalliance.org.

(This message is provided by the Ferguson Eco Team.)

NOTE: If enough restaurants in Ferguson get certified, we could promote our town as a Green Dining District. So far, possibly Maplewood is the only town with that designation, and it's an excellent way to market an area.

THIES FARM (AND GREENHOUSES)

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Choose from a wide variety of:

- hanging baskets • bedding plants • vegetable plants
- perennials • combination pots
- Don't forget Mom. Join us for Mother's Day specials!

Recycle used plastic pots and more at the MOBOT recycling trailer now located on our parking lot.

Homegrown STRAWBERRIES available by mid May. Update our current crop by going to thiesfarm.com or Facebook.

See you at the Ferguson Farmers' Market beginning Saturday, May 21st!

"THE FARM IN THE CITY"
Open 9-6 Mon-Sat & 10-4 Sun

NORTH COUNTY 4215 North Hanley Rd. (1 block south of I-70) w.w.w.Thiesfarm.com	ST. CHARLES 3200 Greens Bottom Rd. "Thies on the Trail" Located on the Katy Trail 314-428-9878 Follow us on Facebook for new Happenings	WEST COUNTY 3120 Maryland Heights Expressway (2 miles north of Page)
--	--	--

Vincenzo's ITALIAN RISTORANTE

242 So. Florissant Rd. 314-524-7888



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Wed., May 4.....heath	Fri., May 20.....cherry cheesecake
Thurs., May 5.....chocolate coffee	Sat., May 21.....banana pudding
Fri., May 6.....butterfinger	Sun., May 22.....closed
Sat., May 7.....mud pie	Mon., May 23.....closed
Sun., May 8.....closed	Tues., May 24.....cookies dough
Mon., May 9.....closed	Wed., May 25.....french toast
Tues., May 10.....m&m	Thurs., May 26.....black forest
Wed. May 11.....snicker	Fri., May 27.....cherry bon bon
Thurs., May 12.....mint oreo	Sat., May 28.....german chocolate
Fri., May 13.....strawberry	Sun., May 29.....closed
Sat., May 14.....rocky road	Mon., May 30.....closed
Sun., May 15.....closed	Tues., May 31....chocolate brownie
Mon., May 16.....closed	

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Ferguson by Foot

By: Margaret Wolfinbarger



Courage is not as easy as it appears in the movies. Courage grows out of the fearful soil of doubt and misgiving. Still, some people never bother to plant the seed from which it sprouts; hope. Now maybe you are reading this and thinking "That Margaret is crazy." Well, I won't argue that point as I'll lose every time. What I do know is that I'm not always very brave, and learning to demonstrate courage has been a long and painful process for me.

This point hit home recently as I sat in church and realized I didn't know most of the people around me. I have been attending the same church for eight years but there has been a recent influx of new people. The problem is, new people scare me. They don't know my story, they aren't particularly friendly to me, and they smell weird. Also, they don't smile when they see me. In fact, their eyes kind of glaze over as they look past me; and that makes me feel invisible. Now one would think I'd have the courage to walk up to a stranger and talk to them, but I the truth is, I'm a big scaredy cat.

Now maybe you are thinking, "Why is Margaret afraid? They're just people! What's the worst thing they can do?" Well, I've thought that myself, but the truth is I'm terrified they will hurt me. They might reject me or dismiss me as a kook. Even worse, they might say something friendly—maybe even tell me their name—and then forget they ever met me when I see them next week. This has happened a few times now. I shake a hand, share my name, and then the next time I see that person they just look right over my shoulder as if I don't exist. It's so awkward and uncomfortable. It makes me want to just stay home. Let me be candid, I am actually guilty of doing this. That's right. I'm a hide-in-my-house coward.

Fear is a potent emotion. It has the power to stick sharp claws into our flesh and squeeze. Sometimes it hits at just the right tender spot and we find that we are running as fast as we can in the opposite direction of which we are afraid. I know and understand why I am afraid of people—I was bullied as a child—but knowing that doesn't help when strange smelling people come into close proximity with me.

So I have been asking myself, am I just misunderstood or am I a misunderstood-er? I realize misunderstanding feeds fear and can even breed contempt. So I wonder, have you ever looked out of your window and noticed that someone new is moving into the house across the street? At first you are curious. Maybe you even step outside and fiddle with your hose and pretend to water your lawn in the hopes that you'll catch a better glimpse of the person. You smile and wave but they aren't interested in deep conversation. And then one day you wake up to a foot of snow and notice the snowplow man fell asleep on the job, and coincidentally, your new neighbor has parked their car in such a way that makes it nearly impossible for you to pull out of the driveway. And now you are forced to talk to that person because you have to get to work.

That happened to me once. I remember how furious I was as I pounded on my neighbor's door. It was early in the morning so you can imagine how he responded to the crabby woman with furrowed eyebrows. He wore his exasperation like a crown, "I had no idea I blocked you in! Calm down already!" That is one sure fire way to alienate your neighbor and destroy community. It takes courage to set aside preconceived notions and reach out to strangers, but I am learning to force myself to smile, hold out my hand, and say hello anyway. I wish I could say it came naturally, but it doesn't. Sometimes I even have to give myself a pep talk. I try to do this privately though because otherwise people think I'm weird (not that I'm going to argue that point). The interesting thing I am learning is that some people are just as scared of me as I am of them. They forget my name just like I forget theirs, and they look over my shoulder because they don't recognize me. And this is where I have to learn to extend grace because life is busy. We are all busy. We have our established patterns and comfort zones. We have our cozy niche where we sit with a buddy like we've always done. And we don't realize that other people start to perceive us as being part of a click. And since I've never liked being on the outside of a click, I have to remember that other people don't like it either.

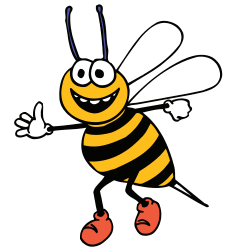
So today, there is no time like the present to pick up the seed of hope, plant it in the dirt with your fear, and see if a little courage will grow. It may be a weak little plant in the beginning, but if you are faithful to water it, I promise it will reward you with the sweetest most beautiful fruit you have ever tasted in your life. For more inspiration, follow me on my blog: www.destinationdiscipline.com.

Gardening For Pollinators

2016 will be the "Year of the Pollinator." St. Louis County launched its Pollinator Project on March 15th to encourage area residents to plant plants with nectar and pollen that attract pollinators. In recent years you have likely heard of the collapse of many honeybee colonies, as well as diminished numbers of monarch butterflies. As the bee and monarch go, so go other pollinators as well.

What is pollination and who are the pollinators?

Pollination occurs when pollen is moved within flowers or carried from flower to flower by pollinating animals such as birds, bees, bats, butterflies, moths, beetles, or other animals, or by the wind.



Why do pollinators matter?

This from the Center for Native Pollinator Conservation at the St. Louis Zoo: Pollination is the cornerstone of most ecosystems. Eighty percent of flowering plants need the help of animals to move pollen for reproduction. In addition, around 25% of birds and many mammals from bears to squirrels feed on the fruits and seeds produced through pollination. 75% of crop plants grown worldwide for food, beverages, fibers, condiments, spices, and medicines are pollinated by animals. Many people take ecosystem services, like pollination, for granted believing that they are invulnerable and infinitely available. However, our actions through conversion of natural habitats, pollution, misuse of pesticides, and the introduction of alien species and diseases have impacted many species and the service they provide.

What can you do to help?

- 1) Minimize or refrain from the use of pesticides.
- 2) Plant native flowers, shrubs and trees. There are many resources for the best plants to grow for use by pollinators.

There are many good resources on the web for plant suggestions, garden design, and garden centers that carry natives, etc. The following are two good local resources.

<http://www.stlzoo.org/conservation/wildcare-institute/center-for-native-pollinator-conservation/>

<http://grownative.org/>

Birds, bees, and butterflies thank you!

Erwin Frederick Sonderegger 1914-2016

On Wednesday, March 30th, Ferguson lost one of the jewels of our community.

Erwin, his late wife, Mary (2010) of 75 years (that's just, WOW), and their 6 children (Margaret, John, Thomas, Penelope, Frederick & the late Ronald) ran Ferguson Bake Shop from 1947-1972 – for 25 years – keeping alive the tradition of the 'Mom & Pop' bakery here in Ferguson.

They lived above the bakery to start, but as their family grew, they moved over on 34 N. Maple in the '50's.

Besides running the bakery, they were also involved in the community. One effort that stands out was sponsoring a local Corey-League baseball team that one of their sons played on.

In 1972 they sold the bakery to Carl & Gladys Hensler. The Hensler's ran it for 2 years before selling it to this other family whose name escapes me at the moment (Speener? Spiner? Splicer? something like that). We re-opened as 'Spencer Bakery' in 1985 and Erwin, Mary, and members of their family stopped by several times over our first 10+ years – all saying they really liked what we, did with the place. It was their way of giving us their 'seal of approval'.



Spencer's Bakery, on the left, still looks much as it did in this 1920 photo.
Courtesy Ferguson Historical Society

But the best thing you could say about them was that they were extremely nice people (that's the best any of us can hope for). We at Spencer's hope that, with the continued support of this absolutely fabulous community, we can keep their tradition alive.

Erwin Frederick Sonderegger 1914-2016

Probably 'up there' right now baking up a storm. (Can you imagine Erwin, Mary, and Mom and Dad right now? Boy, what they could create.)

God Bless You All, Hug Your Loved Ones Everyday.

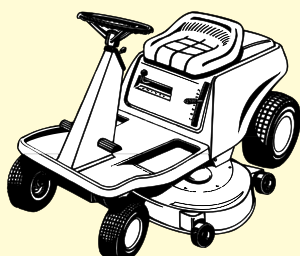
Louis Dale Spencer II
Charles Wade Spencer
Marilyn Spencer :)

(A special thanks to the 'Lovely' Jane, and 'Mad Dog' for their help With this story)

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Under The Hood With Robinwood
By Bob McGartland

Remember when your Car Air Conditioner was the Windows Cranked Open?

With summer temps fast approaching, you may reach to turn on the air conditioner. While we now take our car's air conditioner for granted, it was not always the case.

In 1933, a company in New York City first offered installation of air conditioning for cars. These air conditioners were manufactured by Bishop and Babcock Co, of Cleveland Ohio. The "Bishop and Babcock Weather Conditioner" also incorporated a heater. Cars ordered with the new "Weather Conditioner" were shipped from Packard's East Grand Boulevard facility to the B&B factory where the conversion was performed. Once complete, the car was shipped to a local dealer where the customer would take delivery. Packard fully warranted and supported this conversion, and marketed it well. However, it was not successful for a number of issues:

- It had no temperature thermostat or shut-off switch other than switching the blower off.
- The main evaporator and blower system took up half of the trunk space.
- The price was over \$200, which made it unaffordable for many in the post-depression/pre-war America.

This resulted in the Bishop and Babcock air conditioner being discontinued after 1941, but the automobile builders took notice. Air conditioning was adopted quickly, and by 1960 about 20%

of all cars in the U.S. had the option, with the percentage increasing to 80% in the warm areas of the Southwest. American Motors made air conditioning standard equipment on all vehicles starting with the 1968 model year, a first in the mass market, with a base price starting at \$2,671. By 1969, 54% of the domestic automobiles were equipped with air conditioning, with the feature needed not only for passenger comfort, but also to increase the car's resale value.

Today, more than 99% of all new cars are air conditioned. As newer vehicles have become smaller and lighter. The air conditioner system continues to be re-design as well. Today's compressors are made of light weight aluminum weighing 5 lbs vs. its predecessor weighing 50 lbs. They operate on less freon, some vehicles using only one pound of freon. Our modern service equipment is now able to recharge a system to capacity within .025 oz. Adding just 1 or 2 more ozs of freon will affect how cold the a/c system air gets and can damage the compressor. The days of picking up a recharge kit at the parts store and adding your own freon, may be a costly proposition in the end.

The car's air conditioner is a great benefit to allow you and your passengers to be cool and comfortable during the hot summer weather. There is another benefit most people aren't aware of. The a/c system works year round in the defroster position, quickly defogging the windshield on cold, damp and raining days.

Enjoy your warm weather driving with the windows up. Along with some people who still enjoy driving with the windows cranked down.

Visit us at robinwoodauto.com



Register Today for the FREE Sisterhood Club Summer Reading Program

This program started April 4th and continues until July 8th. It is filled with fun and learning. You have to read books and submit a report to receive a special prize in the mail from us. In August, at our Annual Back 2 School Fair, the person who reads the most books will receive a special prize in front of everyone and a picture on our website.

It's simple to register:

1. Go to www.sisterhoodclub.com
2. Click Summer Reading Program Tab
3. Have parent/guardian fill out the registration form
4. Receive confirmation email

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Thank You!



... to all the citizens of Ward 1 who came out to vote in the April 5th elections. An extra shout out to all who supported my campaign and elected me to represent you as Ferguson moves forward.

Thank you, Linda Lipka

Captain Dennis McBride opened the April 13th, 2016 meeting of the Ferguson On Watch, welcoming everyone. He passed out the March Ferguson Crime Review, which contained the monthly crimes sorted by FBI types (Assaults, Burglaries, etc.)



He then passed out a new report that was compiled for a specific category, Shots Fired, titled Event/Category Report. This report is broken down by the time period starting on March 1 through March 31. Last month there were several questions on "shots fired" events, so this report shows all the calls made in reporting "Shots fired" under a different category. Each of the 43 incidents had a disposition of "NRN" No Report Needed, or "RPT" Report made.

Sometimes, an incident reclassifies its category based on additional information gathered. Category Weapon / In Progress had 7 incidents during the same time period. If more people would call these in, the police would be able to triangulate and narrow down where the shots are coming from.

Guest Speakers: Code Enforcement Employees Brian Harper & Wayne Grenard

Brian Harper reported that in the last month, 3 inspectors accomplished over 1,000 inspections, including 72 new ones. This did not include interior inspections for rental units. Brian also reported that they also communicate with the owners by leaving door hangers, and sending letter correspondence by mail. Harper then took questions from those attending, which ranged from MSD storm water drainage on Ruggles, issues on specific addresses, vacant homes, trash cans and included identifying which items were police issues, like derelict vehicles & homeless persons.

Someone had asked about Meth issues, and Lt. Bill Ballard discussed the current state of affairs on detecting the portable methamphetamine (meth) production efforts. Some people are using cheap motels to do their meth production in, and the odor seeps into the walls, furniture, carpeting, etc. Even a good cleaning can't totally eliminate the odor, which was described as cat urine. We also heard about people using 2 liter bottles and backpacks to make their meth production portable. If you see an empty 2 liter bottle on the side of the road, it may not have contained soda as it's last use. So be careful. The chemicals that are disposed of in the bottle are still dangerous, and can cause chemical burns.

Next meeting:

The next Ferguson Neighborhood Watch meeting scheduled for City Hall will be at 7:00 pm on Wednesday May 11th, 2016. Officers from the Ferguson Detective Bureau will be talking to us about Homicides & Assaults.

CERT training

On April 19th, a CERT training was held at the Fire House#1 training room. We received refresher training on ICS 100 Incident Command System. We learned about the differences between the Unified Command System, used during the unrest in Ferguson in 2014, and the Incident Command System which is used to handle Emergency situations, like tornado & earthquake response.

Our next event will be to assist the police with road blockages during the May 14th Ferguson Twilight run. To participate in this CERT event, contact Captain Dennis McBride, dmcbride@fergusoncity.com.

June 11 will be our chance to participate in educating the public about CERT at the Farmer's Market, Saturday morning.

July 7th from 9am to 11 am will be the next training event, leading up to the Disaster Training event being held in Ferguson at the Florissant Valley Community College from July 19th to 21st.

Ferguson Volunteer Flower Department



The Ferguson Volunteer Flower Department met in March at Ferguson Brewing to discuss the coming year of gardening. We will start the season on May 5th, 6pm at the Ferguson Library. Please join us as we care for the library and Victorian Plaza gardens. No experience necessary! We'll plan on going to the Whistle Stop afterwards.



7th Annual Ferguson Twilight Run Brings Thousands of People Running, Walking and Cheering to the Streets of Ferguson

Register online at www.FergTwilightRun.com

Can you feel the excitement? The 7th Annual Ferguson Twilight Run is almost here!

The race is Saturday, May 14, 2016 with three race distances – one mile, 5K and 10K. All races start and finish in Downtown Ferguson.

Race Day Schedule:

- 8am-6pm: Race Day Registration & Packet Pickup at the Ferguson Bicycle Shop
- 4:30pm: Pre-Race Entertainment
- 5:00pm: Start of 1 Mile Fun Run
- 5:45pm: Start of 5K Run/Walk
- 6:15pm: Start of 10K Run
- 6:45pm: Post-Race Concert by Funky Butt Brass Band
- 8:05pm: Awards Ceremony
- 10:00pm: Post-Race Festivities End

The Ferguson Twilight Run is the only evening race in North St. Louis County, and there's a lot more to the race than running and walking. Local music and cheer groups line the race course, and everyone is invited to enjoy a free live concert at the finish line with the Funky Butt Brass Band along with beer samples from Ferguson Brewing Company, food and health vendors and specials at local restaurants. The race course is certified by USA Track and Field. Races start and finish at the Plaza at 501, an outdoor entertainment area at the intersection of Florissant Road and Suburban Avenue.

You've heard about the fun and excitement of the Ferguson Twilight Run, so what are you waiting for? Race fees for the 5K and 10K are \$28; on race day, the fee increases to \$35. The One Mile Fun Run is \$14 (\$15 on race day). Registration includes a performance shirt. 5K and 10K finishers receive a commemorative medal. Join your friends for the race and register online at www.FergTwilightRun.com.

Since the first race in 2010, the Ferguson Twilight Run has donated \$64,000 to community organizations that offer healthy and sustainable fitness activities to the residents of North St. Louis County through the Donnie White, Sr. Memorial Ferguson Twilight Run Awards. The 2016 award recipients who will receive this



year's race proceeds are Strength and Honor Mentoring and Tutoring, Marygrove recreational therapy program, Ferguson Youth Initiative Earn-A-Bike program, Ferguson Middle School Girls on the Run, and Emerson Family YMCA summer camp for North County. Participants may pick up race bibs and shirts May 11-14. Details for pickup locations and times are available online at www.FergTwilightRun.com.

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 Facebook: Ferguson Youth Tutors
 Email: Fergusonyouthtutors@gmail.com



Volunteer Today!

Help kids be healthy



Volunteer this summer to help reduce the childhood obesity rate and improve childhood literacy. During the summer months it is important for children to stay active and continue reading. This summer OASIS will offer Let's Read, Let's Move to help youth stay active both physically and mentally. As a volunteer you will join a team of volunteers for one hour per week for 8 weeks.


Programs on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at EarthDance Farms in Ferguson.

Join the summer fun today!
 Shelby Schroeder
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sschroeder@oasisnet.org

Training in May/June 2016
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Challenger Learning Center, Summer Space Missions



Summer is right around the corner and families may be looking for fun activities to do with the kiddos.

Here is the list of upcoming missions:

- May 14 - Voyage to Mars
- June 11 - Jr. Astronauts Mission
- June 25 - Return to the Moon
- July 16 - Voyage to Mars
- July 30 - Rendezvous with a Comet
- August 20 - Jr. Astronauts

Our missions are scheduled for certain times on those days and spaces need to be reserved in advance by calling (314)521-6205. Tickets are \$15 a person.

The Challenger Learning Center-St. Louis is a partnership of the Ferguson-Florissant School District, the Saint Louis Science Center and EducationPlus and is part of the Challenger Center for Space Science Education, an international not-for-profit education organization founded in April 1986 by the families of the astronauts tragically lost during the Challenger space shuttle mission. The Learning Center is located in Ferguson, on Brotherton Lane, in back of McCluer South Berkeley.

For more information, visit www.clcstlouis.org.

Sculpture Gallery Right Here in Ferguson

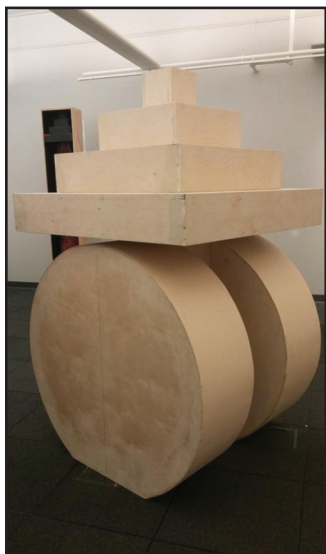
Michael Omichi Quintero, was born in Okinawa, Japan, but came to South Texas when he was 6 years old. After obtaining his masters degree in Sculpture, he taught at various universities. At present time Quintero is Associate Professor of Art at Forest Park Community College.

Last month, Quintero opened an art gallery at xxx So. Florissant Road (in the former Four Seasons Color Lab). The gallery is dominated by huge sculptures that are meant for display indoors.

"The sculptures are meant as a means of meditation" says Quintero.

The gallery has no regular hours. Call or email for an appointment: 314-513-404, mquintero@stlcc.edu

The sculptures are for sale and you may contact Quintero for price.



At left:
Vehicle
7' tall
made of wood

At right:
Primordial
Tadpole
7' tall
made of
fiberglass and
wood



May Observances

- May 1: May Day – Celebrate with flowers
- May 3: National Teachers Day – Send a greeting card to a teacher
- May 5: Cinco de Mayo – Celebrate with margaritas
- May 6: National Nurses Day – Send a card to a nurse
- May 8: Mothers Day – Flowers? a Card? Better yet a visit
- May 13: Friday 13th (only one in 2016)
- May 14: National Train Day – Visit the WhistleStop for lunch or custard
- May 21: Armed Forces Day – Thank a Veteran
- May 25: National Wine Day – A visit to the Cork Wine Bar
- May 30: Memorial Day – Traditional BBQ kickoff day

Civilian Oversight of Police Soon to be a Reality in Ferguson

In early November, 2014, in response to the shooting death of Michael Brown, the City Council of Ferguson appointed a task force comprised of ordinary Ferguson residents to study civilian oversight of police. The task force was asked to come up with recommendations for a city ordinance that would establish a civilian review board in Ferguson.

Over the course of the last 18 months the task force has met diligently. It has consulted with NACOLE (National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement), communicated with other cities around the country who have instituted civilian oversight, and met with the Department of Justice and the City Council during their negotiations on the consent decree.

From what it learned the task force worked to craft an ordinance that would best serve Ferguson. As a result of this work, the task force presented a draft ordinance, along with a series of recommendations, to the City Council. The ordinance was put into its final form and approved by the City Council on April 19.

The task force will be working with the City to hold a series of sessions to educate the public on the powers, duties, and responsibilities of the Ferguson Civilian Review Board.

If you are interested in being a member of the civilian review board, it is a requirement that you attend one of these sessions.

To learn the dates and locations of these sessions, please sign up for notifications through the City website, or send a note expressing your interest in attending to: FergCRBTaskForce@gmail.com

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I never liked anyway,
the good fortune to run into
the ones I do, and
the eyesight to tell the
difference.



By
Bob
McCarty

Some months, I try to determine what would be a great subject for this article. For example; this month I planned to talk about the differences between renovation, preservation, and remodeling. Then I thought about talking about how the millennial generation is moving into more sustainable housing such as our older home stock here in Ferguson. And then I decided that instead of telling you what this generation wanted, I decided to help millennial's through the process of saving our older homes.

Even if you are not part of the millennial generation and are embarking into new older home ownership, read on and enjoy the journey of making your house your grand palace.

There is no easy solution to getting an older home that has been neglected back to its original glory. Depending on how long the building has been neglected will determine what needs to be done first. For instance, if the house has sitted idle for many years, a new roof and maybe some foundation repairs will be in order. Just remember that the first thing that needs to be done is button up the envelope so that you can take your time on the living quarters of your home.

The first rule is to 'Take your time'. Of course, if there is a roof or foundation leak, you need to address these problems pretty quickly, but other than that your restoration shouldn't be rushed. When you get in a hurry, you tend to do things halfway and settle for that cheap quick fix. There is no quick solution so stop searching for one and get to work with a slow and steady mentality.

'Make a list' is the second rule to follow. Just like your daily 'To Do' list, list everything in order of importance. Does the roof need to be repaired or replaced? Does the foundation leak? Do you need to repair the buildings envelope, (gutters, siding, windows, and doors), to keep the weather from infiltrating into your living area? If the answer to any of these questions is yes, then that should be your top priority. You don't want the damage to keep getting worse.

After you have taken care of those

I'd like to add one little note to Bob's column. It's about LISTS. I've always made lists. I try to run all my errands on one day of the week. I start my list and post it in the kitchen. When I think of another errand, I jot it down on the master list. On errand day I number my travel route so that I'm not driving over the same street all day.

I remember one day sitting down with my husband, Bud, and starting to make a list of maintenance issues. "We can't get all that done in one day," he said. "No, no. this is for all summer," (we lived in an older home.)

That list sat on the kitchen table all summer. Bud, ever sceptical, had to admit that he really enjoyed crossing off each item.

top three items that might be on your list, there will be no hurry or particular order. Just list the projects that are most important to you in order. When one project is finished, you can move on to the next and before you know it, you have the home you dreamed of.

Rule number three is 'Friends Make Everything Better'. One friend is good, but 20 are better. If you've got a big project call in reinforcements and that will really help get things moving along. A group of friends fueled by BBQ, pizza, and ice cream can make quite a difference. Just remember to repay the favor when they need help too, or else you'll notice your friends will have more important things to do the next time you have a big project. (A special note seems appropriate here, if you plan on offering beer as an incentive, it's best to offer it later in the project, if you know what I mean.)

'Setting realistic goals' is rule number four. Face it; everything takes twice as long as you think it will when you are working on an older house. Yes, something is always hidden under that first layer that will need to be repaired too. To help you determine how long a project will take, I will share a formula that I have worked out over the years of older home ownership and contracting work; Time (you think it will take to complete a project) x 3 equals Actual Time (it will take to complete the project). I hope this helps you to set realistic goals.

To finish, the last rule is to 'Finish one little thing' at a time. There is something incredibly satisfying about finishing a project. (Even completing one part of a larger project is satisfying.) Upon completion of a project, don't forget to celebrate. Buy some cute curtains for your bathroom window. (Yes, I'm all about Cute!) Have a romantic dinner in your completed Dining Room. You know what I mean. Just do something nice for yourself and your significant other. Then you're ready to get started on that next project.

In a nutshell, take your time, make a list, enlist your friends when you need them, set realistic goals, and finish one project before you go on to the next. Before you know it, you will be able to sit back and enjoy all of your hard work.

If you have any questions about saving old houses, give Bob a call at 314-524-1264, and we can help you 'Maintain Yesterday for Tomorrow.' Until then, Bob is on the Job.

Bob On Job's editor-in-law

Sun-Mon.
11am-9pm
Tues. & Thurs.
11am-11pm
Fri.-Sat
11am-12am



FERGUSON BREWING HOT WINGS

Life Sherpa (Joe Holleman) says:

These wings put some heat on my lips and a drop of sweat on my forehead. Using the time-tested blend of hot sauce and butter, the thin, red-orange sauce was among the best of the lot. Because the wings were smoked (to perfection) and not fried, they were not as crispy as your standard wings, as I normally prefer. But after the wings are smoked, they're grilled over an open flame, which adds a welcome additional flavor.

418 So. Florissant Road, Ferguson • 314.521.2220
fergusonbrewing.com



Reading on Race Book Club

The book club meets at the library from 6 to 7:30 p.m. the second Monday of every month.

For more information, email Amy Randazzo at
arandazzo@fergusonlibrary.net
or

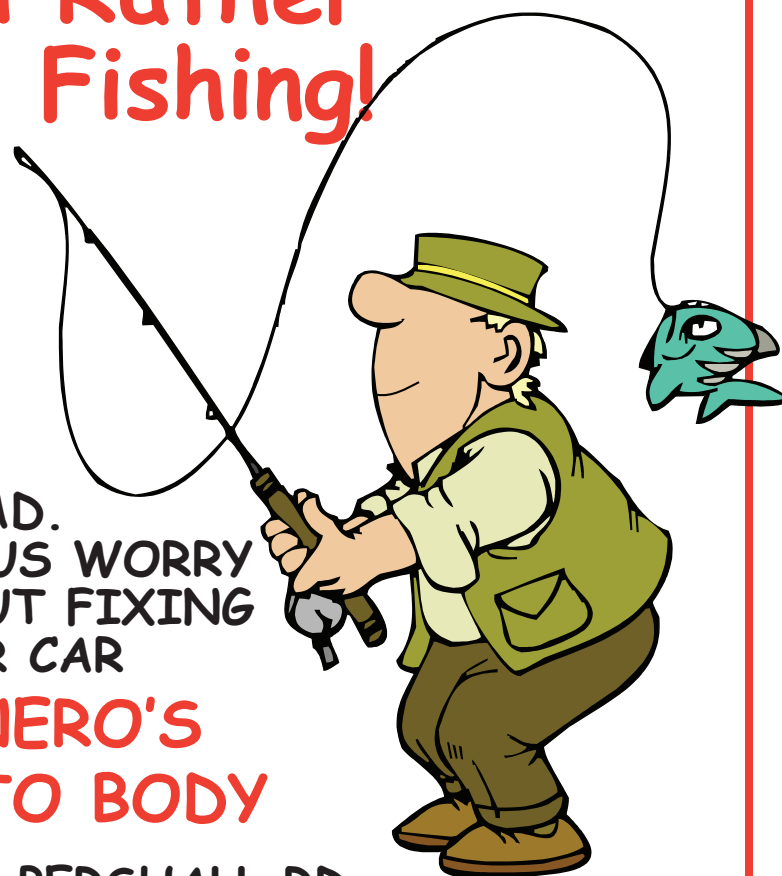
Carla Fletcher at carlajeanfletcher@yahoo.com

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Volunteer to Help Kids Catch Healthy Habits!

This summer EarthDance will again partner with OASIS, The Ferguson Library, and two great Ferguson-based summer camps to host Catch Healthy Habits and Lets Read / Lets Move on the farm. Catch Healthy Habits is an 8-week series of classes that help youth (ages 5-12) stay active both physically and mentally. As a volunteer, you will join a team of volunteers for 1.5 hours per week for 8 weeks to read a book with a small group of kids, and then facilitate active games and healthy snack time. Volunteers are also welcome to stay after to accompany the campers to one of the farm's attractions, from feeding chickens to sampling cherry tomatoes. Program starts June 2016 on Tuesday and Wednesdays. Training will be in May/June 2016. Join the summer fun today!

To register or find out more, contact Shelby Schroeder of OASIS: sschroeder@oasisnet.org, 314-653-4092

Greening Our Greenhouse with Bench-Top Heating

Our commitment to increase environmental sustainability (and our hope of cutting our heating costs over time) lead us to adopt a bench-top heating system. A bench-top system consists of a series of rubber tubes that circulate hot water under seedling trays. This saves energy because it is more efficient to heat the soil than to keep the entire structure cozy. The new system was fully functional by February this year. So how is it working out? Farm Manager Monica Pless reports that she has been pleased with the results. According to Monica, "We've seen faster-than-usual germination among some of the seedlings that are typically slow to sprout, such as parsley, spinach, and beets." The system may also result in hardier plants with more resistance to transplant shock. Because the ambient temperatures are cooler, the seedlings could potentially "toughen-up" even before heading outdoors.



We were supported in our goal of greening our greenhouse by a grant from NCR-SARE. SARE (Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education) is a program of the US Department of Agriculture.

The SARE Farmer/Rancher grant provided funds to purchase the bench-top system, as well as program support for EarthDance to

educate our apprentices and tour attendees about advantages and best practices for use of this type of system.

Thank you NCR-SARE for your support of this project!

Central School Celebrates 136th Anniversary

Photojournalist, Ferguson Resident & Central's 135th Anniversary Chair Parent-Volunteer, Erica M. Brooks Wishes Central Elementary "Happy 136th Anniversary"

Story by Erica M. Brooks and Photos by Carlston Edwards

On **Tuesday, May 26, 2016** as Central Elementary School's 135th Anniversary General Chairperson Parent-Volunteer, a Ferguson resident and a Professional Freelance Media Photojournalist, it was my mission to create the ultimate utopia of peace and unity within the Metro Area during the civil unrest in Ferguson, MO.

When I was notified the night August 10, 2014 of some closures of streets due to the shooting of Michael Brown by Former Ferguson Police Officer Darren Wilson, I shifted into alarm mode as a resident, a parent and as a photojournalist. From Monday, August 11, 2014 to Tuesday, May 26, 2015, I was constantly perplexed about how I could bring everyone (Pres. Barack Obama, Missouri State officials, St. Louis County and St. Louis/ East St. Louis City officials, community agencies, local businesses and churches) together in one place at one time to be able to fellowship and talk about how everyone can heal the World one relationship at a time.

When I rose each morning, the mother in me made it a priority to volunteer in any way that I could to keep a stable environment for Central School. As a professional freelance media photojournalist, I continually informed Principal Crystal Isom and Former Ferguson-Florissant Superintendent Larry Larrew and the present Superintendent Dr. Joseph Davis of the harmful situations within the community since Central is two blocks away from the Ferguson Police Department. In addition, Principal Isom and the staff were threatened, bee bee pellets and bricks were thrown through some windows, and trash cans were burned.

In October 2014, Principal Isom showed her gratitude to me for being a good Samaritan to Central and to the community by asking me to be Central's 135th General Chair Parent-Volunteer. At that moment, my prayers were answered. I was given the authority to be a servant of God to use this event as a vehicle that could form peace with the possibility of people igniting some understanding of a path to a better tomorrow. As a result, I invited and received proclamations and resolutions from the elected and appointed officials and community agencies.



Erica M. Brooks and Central Elementary School Principal Crystal Isom amongst the proclamations, resolutions and letters of recognition requested to celebrate Central's 135th Anniversary and its legacy.



St. Louis County Executive Director Steve Stenger's Council Members and The Empowerment Department presented a proclamation that Erica M. Brooks (Central Elementary School's 135th Anniversary Community Celebration General Chairperson in the orange dress) requested for Central to Principal Crystal Isom, some of her staff and some representative of the Ferguson-Florissant School District. Exec. Dir. Stenger proclaimed May 26 as Central Elementary School Day on Tuesday, June 2, 2015 in their council meeting.

Photo Credit:
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Battle of the Neighborhood Groups

Here is a fun project for the Neighborhood Groups to show their support for the City and the Ferguson 4th of July Festival. Submit an entry for the 4th of July Parade! There will be a special recognition of the Best Neighborhood Group entry.

The theme is "Ferguson Celebrates the Kentucky Derby," but please do not limit yourselves to the current theme. Your entry may be on any subject. And, it may be a float, a decorated car, walkers, dancers, equestrian, musical, etc.

There are now officially 13 Neighborhood Groups . . . so the competition should be terrific. Let the battle begin!

And . . . How About the Other Organizations?

Half the fun of putting together an entry for the parade is the planning and the execution! So church groups, fraternal organizations, city blocks, sports teams, and even families are welcome to put together an entry.

Entering the Parade? It's Free

All you have to do is go online at <fergusoncity.com> and print out a Parade Entry Form. Or you can drop by the Ferguson Community Center and pick up a form. Fill it out, mail it or bring it in. It's easy and it's FREE!

Call for Nominations

Fourth of July Committee Accepting Nominations for 2016 Ferguson Citizen of the Year

Nominations for the 2016 Ferguson Citizen of the Year are now being requested by the Fourth of July Festival Committee. A Citizen of the Year nominee should have made some real contribution to quality of life in the City of Ferguson. The Citizen of the Year need not be a resident. Nominations will also be accepted for Ferguson business owners and volunteers.

Nominations should be submitted with an informal resume that includes the nominee's name, address, kinds and periods of service, and the name and phone number of the sender. All nominations should be addressed to:

Ferguson Fourth of July Festival
Ferguson Parks and Recreation Department
1050 Smith Avenue
Ferguson, Missouri 63135.

The deadline for nominations is Tuesday, May 31.
For more information, call 521-4661.

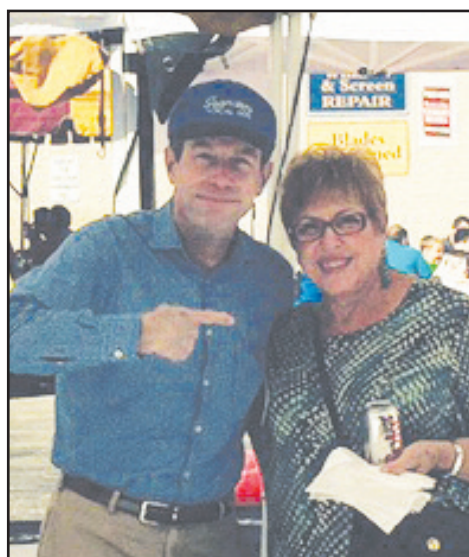


Radio and TV Personality, Charlie Brennan Is Ferguson's 4th of July Parade Marshall

Charlie Brennan, KMOX radio personality, and moderator on PBS "Donnybrook," has graciously agreed to be Ferguson's Parade Marshall.

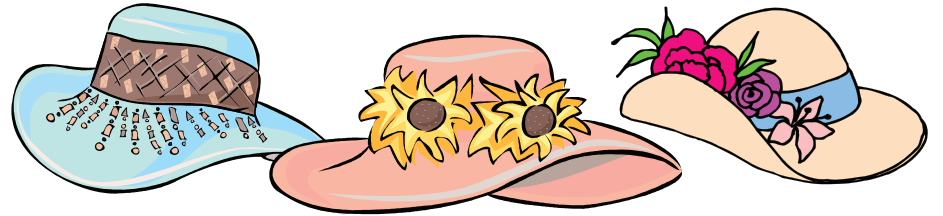
Charlie is a huge supporter of local St. Louis causes and he has done much on his radio program to present Ferguson in a positive light. Charlie has originated a number of radio spots in Ferguson businesses and never fails to accommodate local requests for help.

He has appeared as speaker at community organizations and was the Master of Ceremony at Ferguson's 2015 *Taste in Ferguson*.



Charlie was the M/C at the Taste In Ferguson event last year. He is pictured here with Jackie Dehmer.

Ferguson 4th of July Festival Chooses the 2016 Theme



This year's parade theme is "Ferguson Celebrates the Kentucky Derby!" The Derby, which is the first segment of the Triple Crown of the racing world is known for the beautiful hats that the ladies don on this festive occasion. So ladies, start planning on the hats you will sport on Independence Day as we celebrate the "Run for the Roses."

Men, let's see you put cut-out horses on your lawnmowers as you race your neighbor down the street! Or, you can always wear your top hat (not to outdo the ladies).

FERGUSON CELEBRATES THE 2016



About the 4th of July Ferguson Tradition

Every year the Ferguson 4th of July Celebration begins with a parade, starting at noon at Paul Avenue and South Florissant Road. The parade travels north to January-Wabash Memorial Park where the parade disbands and the Festival in the Park begins.

At 1:00 p.m., the awards ceremony begins with an invocation, introduction of the City Officials and the Ferguson 4th of July Committee. Youth Achievers are awarded cash prizes and then the parade awards are bestowed.

The January-Wabash Park is filled with fun things to do for children and adults, such as pig races, a petting zoo, magician, face painting, balloon artist, Science Guy and much more. All this is FREE. The only charge for the day is food and drink.

Then, at 9:15 p.m. the fireworks display begins across the lake.

It is a full, fun, economical day that the whole family can enjoy. So plan on viewing the parade along the parade route, and spending time at January-Wabash Park, the Festival grounds.

Festival Ad Book

The Ferguson 4th of July Festival is now soliciting ads for the Ad Book that lists the times of all the activities, plus a map of the locations. It also lists the names and telephone numbers of City Departments and Facilities, as well as the Mayor and Councilpersons contact information.

Your company name, information, and telephone number can be an important part of the Ad Book. If you wish to be included, please call 314-524-3180, or write to: Ad Book, 16 Sandringham Lane, Ferguson, MO 63135.

If you don't want to take out an ad, but would like to support the Festival effort, you may have a listing for just \$10.00. Just put the wording of your listing, plus a check for \$10, and mail to the address above.



Ferguson-Florissant School District News

School Board Election Results

Results of the April 5 election for the Ferguson-Florissant School District Board of Education indicate newcomer Connie Harge will join incumbent Leslie Hogshead on the Board for a three-year term.

Harge received 36.48 percent of the vote, and Hogshead received 28.81 percent of the vote. Other candidates who sought election to the Board were Roger Hines, who received 23.26 percent of the vote, and Donna Dameron with 10.73 percent. Write-in votes accounted for 1.35 percent.

Ferguson Youth Initiative Donates Kindles to Ferguson Middle School Students

Twelve Ferguson Middle School students are the recipients of brand-new Amazon Kindle readers. The Kindles were gifted to the students by the Ferguson Youth Initiative in collaboration with Project Hart, a non-profit student group from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

The Kindles were given to students who have read the most pages this year as part of the school's Read 4000 Initiative and to those who have made the most gains as readers – they have embraced reading by moving from reading very few pages to many. The Wi-Fi equipped devices are loaded with age-appropriate free e-books and students will be able to load additional reading material that they purchase from Amazon.

The Kindles were presented to students during a reception at the Ferguson Youth Initiative office.



Students Qualify for FBLA State Competition



Iceis Fort, a sophomore at McCluer North High School, along with sophomore Diamond Smith and freshman Yahcyria Tinnon from McCluer South-Berkeley High School, have qualified to compete at the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) State Leadership Conference. The conference was held April 24-26 in Springfield, MO.

Fort qualified by placing first at the Missouri District 9 Leadership Conference in the area of Client Services. The Client Services competition is a role-play event that requires competitors to provide customer service to a client, and it is based on real-life scenarios. Tinnon placed first in the Word Processing category. She was required to produce a packet of business documents, based on the guidelines provided, using Microsoft Word. Smith competed in the Intro to Business category, where her score was

among the top 25 scores in the state. She was required to complete a timed test of 100 questions.

This is the first year the students have participated in FBLA and the competition. This is the first time in over 16 years McCluer South-Berkeley has had students qualify to compete at the state level. In the district-level competition, the students competed against students who represented over 20 St. Louis area high schools.

McCluer South-Berkeley Educator Chosen As UMSL EDpreneur in Residence

Raghib Muhammad, a marketing instructor at McCluer South-Berkeley High School, is one of two educators who has been chosen to become a University of Missouri-St. Louis EDpreneur in Residence. The EDpreneur in Residence program seeks educators who have ideas to innovate education. Muhammad will use his residency to further develop his Systems Teaching™ Framework, of which he received a trademark in September 2015.

The Systems Teaching™ Framework revolves around five key principles or laws with the goal of helping teachers become better educators. "We accomplish this goal by introducing teachers to the 8 Systems Teaching™ archetypes, which is a way for them to identify their teaching styles," said Muhammad.

The EDpreneur in Residence Program is a joint effort by MasterCard and UMSL's College of Education. Muhammad will join a cohort and interact with MasterCard mentors and UMSL College of Education researchers who will support him, as his idea becomes a testable prototype.

McCluer High Students Win District's Golden Chef Competition

The McCluer High School culinary team is the winner of the Ferguson-Florissant School District's second annual Golden Chef Competition. The team, comprised of seniors Ciere Hunter, Chakira Tompkins, Khalil Joiner and Jordan Freeman, won the competition with their stuffed spinach biscuits.



McCluer High culinary students, seniors (l to r) Ciere Hunter, Chakira Tompkins, (Gwendolyn Harres-instructor), Khalil Joiner and Jordan Freeman beat culinary students from McCluer North and McCluer South-Berkeley High Schools to win the district's Golden Chef competition.

The Golden Chef competition is sponsored by Aramark and brings together culinary teams from the district's three high schools -- McCluer, McCluer North and McCluer South-Berkeley. Teams are given 40 minutes to complete a dish using a mandatory ingredient, which for this year's competition was spinach grown by Earth Dance Farms in Ferguson, MO. They were judged on taste, originality and plating. Students were also challenged to make a smoothie while riding a smoothie bike. The smoothie bike uses physical energy (bike riding) to blend together ingredients to make a smoothie.

Superintendent Reaches Out to Celebrities to Support Reading Initiative

Dr. Joseph Davis watched news coverage of Ferguson, Missouri, following the 2014 shooting death of Michael Brown, and decided to be part of the solution. Dr. Davis, then Superintendent of a small school district in North Carolina, applied to be Superintendent of the Ferguson-Florissant Schools outside St. Louis, because he believed improving schools is the most powerful way to strengthen a community in crisis. Last year, he accepted the job and moved to Ferguson with his wife and son.

Today, Dr. Davis is reaching out to celebrities across the country – including some who were outspoken about the events in Ferguson – asking for their help.

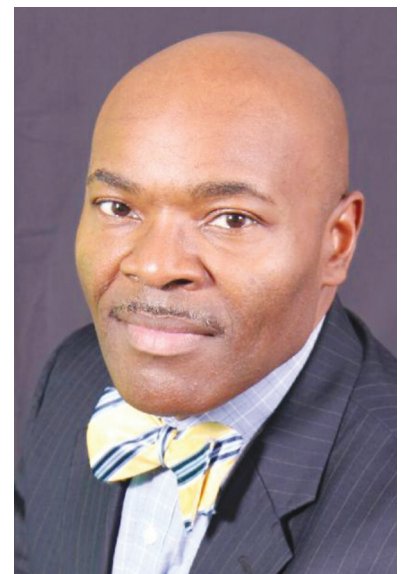
Superintendent Davis has launched a \$2 million campaign to promote reading among the more than 11,000 students in Ferguson-Florissant, where 80% of students are African-American, and about 76% live in poverty. Dr. Davis has sent letters to 170 of the biggest names in movies, television, music, and sports, requesting their personal and financial support.

"I believe that providing all children with a first-rate education is the single most powerful tool in eradicating bias and building community," Dr. Davis wrote in his letter. "I also believe that to be successful in school and in life, every student must develop a deep love of reading. My own experiences growing up as a Black child in the South – and today as a parent and an educator – have taught me unequivocally that reading is the key to a bright future."

The reading initiative will infuse Ferguson-Florissant's 24 schools with four important resources: classroom libraries of new books; e-readers and interactive software; intensive literacy training for teachers; and materials to engage parents and the community in reading with kids.

The celebrities include Missouri natives such as Don Cheadle, Jon Hamm, Sheryl Crow, Matt Bomer, John Goodman, Akon and Misty Copeland, as well as notable figures who spoke out on social media about events in Ferguson, including Katy Perry, Magic Johnson, Lena Dunham, Pharrell Williams, Rihanna, Kerry Washington, and Chris Rock.

"We believe this campaign can be a game-changer in our community," Dr. Davis wrote. "For all those who watched the events in Ferguson and said, 'I wish there were something I could do to help,' this is your chance."



Two McCluer High School Students Recipients of Youth Appreciation Awards

McCluer High School students Jacob Tiemann and Khalil Joiner are recipients of Youth Appreciation Awards from North County Churches Uniting (NCCU) for Racial Harmony. The awards were presented during NCCU's recently held Youth Appreciation Dinner.

Tiemann, a sophomore, received an academic achievement award; and Joiner, a senior, received an award for community service/exemplary citizenship. Tiemann and Joiner were nominated for the awards by McCluer staff. McCluer High School teacher, Tim Lakey was also recognized as Jacob Tiemann's mentor.



Texting and Driving

With some state laws focusing on handheld bans and carmakers putting hands-free technology in vehicles, it's no wonder people are confused. However, while many drivers honestly believe they are making the safe choice by using a hands-free device, it's far from the truth. Your brain remains distracted by the conversation rather than focused on the road ahead. Operating a motor vehicle requires you complete attention at all times.

Forms of Distraction

- Visual: taking our eyes off the road
- Manual: taking your hands off the wheel
- Cognitive: taking your mind off of driving

Texting while driving is six times more dangerous than driving while intoxicated.

Info by NHTSA.gov and [Distraction .gov](http://Distraction.gov)

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- Railroad Ties
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- Diamond Blocks
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- Yardwork:
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Mr. White (24/7)
314-522-1944



Ferguson's Got Talent!

We are looking for youth 9-16 years old who want to learn to act, dance and be youth leaders!

The Global Education through the Arts Program has been around since 2007 working with hundreds of youth. You can be one of the youth that travel with us carrying a message of Love, Acceptance and Nonviolence.

Here's the deal:

- Classes will be at Ferguson Library! (Sign up at Front Desk)
- Students will be taught dance and acting by professional artists!
- You will receive leadership training!
- Enrollment from May 7 - June 7, 2016

CLASSES START SATURDAY, MAY 28, 2016

Wednesdays (4:30 PM-7:30 PM) & Saturdays (9:00 AM to 1:30 PM)



To Register:

Call Gitana Productions at 314-721-6556 or email us with your questions at info@gitana-inc.org

This project is in collaboration with Ferguson Library and supported by the Missouri Arts Council, Regional Arts Commission and Monsanto.

Join us at

MARYGROVE

Sip & Learn

May 19, 2016 • 5:30 pm

5:30 tour of campus

wine and beer

light appetizers

RSVP to Courtney Keough
ckeough@mgstl.org | 314.830.6209

2705 Mullanphy Lane
Florissant, MO 63031

Yard Sale

Immanuel United Church of Christ
Fellowship Hall
221 Church Street, Ferguson

Saturday, May 28, 9:00 a.m.

The Best of Ferguson

This column is devoted to the people of Ferguson whose efforts and dedication make Ferguson the "Community of Choice"

– by Ruffina Farrokh Anklesaria, M.A.



St Vincent de Paul Society at BTC Parish

When I walked into the pantry in the old firehouse on Church Street, I did not expect such a beehive of activity! I walked through a fairly packed room of clients and went to the back to meet Paul Jansen, the pantry manager, with a view to giving a couple hours of service with my friend Nick Womack. It was our first time going over. As I talked to Paul and his wife Doris, who had been volunteers for 20 years, 10 at the Blessed Teresa of Calcutta (BTC) parish and 10 at St. Sebastian church, a group of volunteers were milling about, packing carts, shouting orders and serving clients' various needs.

There was such a friendliness and camaraderie within the group, it was clear that these good people who volunteered on Friday mornings loved what they were doing! Paul's job included ordering food from the St Louis Area Food Bank, whose motto is Fighting Hunger, Feeding Hope.

The pantry had volunteers mainly from BTC parish but there were a few who had lived in Ferguson previously and decided to continue to volunteer here years after they had moved out. Everyone I talked to was happy to be working there. There are 35-40 people giving of their time and treasure to run two pantries. The one in the FYI building of the old fire station is open for clients from BTC Parish on Fridays from 9.30 a.m. for two hours. The other pantry, located at BTC Parish Center, 120 N Elizabeth St, is open to anyone in the county. It is open on Tuesdays from 9.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. Clients come to collect food items, and to receive various types of assistance including with utility bills.

All volunteers are required to do the "Protecting God's Children" training offered by the parish. Seventh and eighth graders from Blessed Teresa of Calcutta school do service hours at the pantry as well. Donations of food or money are accepted at the BTC parish office, and items of furniture or clothing are accepted at the St Vincent de Paul (SVDP) gift store on West Florissant and Chambers.

If you call in on 314 289 6101, Ext 2503, you will get a return call from Fran Ventimiglia, Chairperson of the SVDP society at BTC parish. Fran worked with the Division of Family Services and was County Director of St Charles County for 32 years before retiring and joining the pantry as a volunteer.

Some volunteers pick up supplies at food banks during the week, some stock shelves, and many help on "pantry day" to serve clients. About 400 families are served every month. As Fran said: "It's a need being filled. Having no options when you don't have food is scary. We don't verify income and we serve people of any religious background."

I realized that volunteers come from all walks of life. I met with Senior twins Rosanne and Marianne Petru, who are Ministers and Lectors at BTC. They have been serving at the pantry for six years. Rosanne was a cartographer with the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency and Marianne a teacher with St Joseph's Academy Catholic all girls high school.

I became friends with Kathy Magrecki who had been a nurse at St Louis University hospital for 35 years. She is Secretary of the SVDP Conference at BTC and a volunteer for the past three years. She says her activities at the pantry are "addictive!" She loves interfacing with clients and enjoys getting to know each person who comes through the door. Kathy says: "I see the face of Christ in everyone."

Kathy and Sister Marylene of the School Sisters of Notre Dame were the intake volunteers, checking in clients as they came in. Sister was a nurse for 25 years and a teacher/school principal. She shares residence with another sister who is President of Trinity Catholic High School. Sister Marylene says: "Volunteering here is a very rewarding experience because the people are so appreciative. It makes it all worthwhile."



Volunteers: front row, from L: Kathy Magrecki, Ron and Joan Unterreiner. Second row, from L: Rosanne Petru, Regina, Sheila (dark blue), Marianne Petru, Sister Marylene next to Lauren in peach and husband Dennis Miller, Pete (far right). Back row, from L: Rudy Batiste, Dan, Nick Womack, Paul and Doris Jansen (in red), and Fran Ventimiglia, Chairperson, in the middle (in blue). Missing are: Charlotte, Peggy, Daniel, Mary A. and Mary F.

There's a feeling of warmth and friendship, a real community, among the volunteers. I also met Lauren Miller, Editor of The Scribe of the St Louis Writers' Guild, and her husband Dennis, volunteers for the past three years; Ron and Joan Unterreiner and Rudy Batiste, all volunteers for 15 years who started serving at the St. Sebastian pantry before moving over to BTC 10 years ago.

The pantry is grateful to Ferguson residents and BTC parishioners for their support all through the years, especially those who give on a monthly basis. Right now the pantry needs diapers and incontinent briefs for ladies and men. If you can donate any of these items, they would be greatly appreciated.

In closing, I say hats off to the dedicated men and women who do all that it takes to run these two pantries! They represent what is the Best of Ferguson! Congrats to Fran for a job well done and to the volunteers who serve with joy!

The author teaches Transcendental Stress Management meditation to members of the public; and provides these services to the family courts in St Louis. She conducts Retreats here in Ferguson, across the U.S. and abroad. She is also a Motivational Speaker and her lectures include corporate presentations on Wellness. www.BestAgainstStress.com 314.521.4390

U. City Ferguson Lunch Bunch



Pictured above: A group from University Hills, University City, and their friends, launched the "Ferguson Lunch Bunch" in January, 2015 with the primary purpose of supporting Ferguson businesses/restaurants. For the last year and half the group has enjoyed monthly lunches in various restaurants in Ferguson. In March, 2016 the lunch group gathered at Cathy's Kitchen, pictured above with Chef/Owner in the center of the picture.

Public Policy Housing in North County

"How Public Policy Defined the Housing Demographic of North County" will be the program for the **Saturday, May 21** luncheon meeting of the American Association of University Women.

The recent situations in many North County municipalities has generated a new look at the background of housing in the area. This presentation will delve into the history of housing policies and how these affected the whole St. Louis area.

This program is presented by the Ferguson-Florissant (North County) branch of the American Association of University Women. The program for the luncheon will also include other short presentations and awards.

The public is invited to attend. The luncheon will be held at Rizzo's Restaurant, 1839 Dunn Road in Florissant, beginning at 11:30 am. Selections will be made from the luncheon menu. Reservations are required.

For information or reservations, call 314-831-5359, 314-831-6884 or e-mail gwestbrooks@hotmail.com.



Ask Grandma

Last month I wrote about the dogs that have been part of my family. I also had other pets, most of them unmemorable.

Once, my husband was working at a customer's house and she had a canary she no longer wanted. So that evening we had a beautiful, singing bird in the house, complete with cage and birdfood.

The children were quite small at the time and they were fascinated by this strange animal. Three times before bedtime the whole cage was knocked onto the floor as they crowded around trying to get closer to the new pet. The next morning, I awoke to a strangely quiet house, only to find that the bird had perished during the night. Poor bird . . . I guess he died of an heart attack.

Another pet(s) that did not fare well in our household were fish. A friend of a friend had an extra fish tank and all the necessary paraphernalia that you need for healthy fish. Not only did she give me the tank but a couple of guppies. After a few weeks one of the guppies died, but the other thrived. Several months later, there were a number of baby guppies. Well . . . try explaining to the older children about the birds and bees (and fish) when there was only one fish in the tank.

It wasn't long after the new arrivals that I decided to clean the fish tank. I brought the tank into the kitchen and carefully scooped the mother and tiny fish into a cup. In short order the tank was sparkling, but it was time to put lunch on the table. My children attended Sts. John & James school and came home for lunch. Afterwards I cleaned up the kitchen and was ready to put the fish tank together again when I discovered the fish cup was washed and put away. You're probably wondering why the ASPCA didn't ban me from being a pet owner.

One pet story that had a happy ending was Sam the Turtle. Years ago, they sold small turtles everywhere, even dime stores. I think I bought that turtle at the old Ben Franklin store that is now Ferguson Hardware. Sam was a birthday gift for my son, Eddie. Eddie loved that turtle. He kept him in a bowl and gave him clean water and fresh grass. Although we had turtle food, Eddie would catch very small insects and feed them to Sam.

One day he decided to take Sam for a walk. He took him out into the backyard and watched him explore the grass. He went inside for a moment and asked me to keep an eye on Sam. Well, I was reading a book and every now and then would look down to see if Sam was keeping out of mischief. After all, how fast can a turtle disappear? Except, he did. Eddie came out of the house and asked what I did with Sam.

The whole family looked for Sam. Then all the kids in the neighborhood looked everywhere. Eddie was heartbroken. The next day I was weeding the flower garden when who walks right up to me . . . Sam. I was back in Eddie's good graces (or should I say "out of the doghouse?").

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Calendar of Events In and Around Ferguson

Complete Details of These Events Throughout the Paper

Aerobic's Classes Start – Comm. Ctr.	Mon., May 2
Forest Park Owls Program	Tues., May 3
Huntsville / Chattanooga Trip	Tue.- Fri., May 3-6
Spring Sale – St. Stephens	Fri.-Sat., May 6-7
Ferguson Farmers Market Opens for the Season	Sat., May 7
4th of July Cocktail Reception	Sat., May 7
Children's Tumbling Begins – Comm. Ctr.	Mon., May 9
Children's Tap and Ballet Begins – Comm. Ctr.	Mon., May 9
Adult Dance Begins – Comm. Ctr.	Mon., May 9
Cricket Camp for Kids Begins – Forestwood Park	Mon., May 9
Meeting on Race Book Club – Library	Mon., May 9
Hip Hop / Jazz Dance Begins – Comm. Ctr.	Wed., May 11
Mystery Meal	Thurs., May 12
Northwest Chamber Membership Meeting – Crowne Plaza	Thurs., May 12
Northwest Chamber Anniversary Breakfast – Marriot Airport	Fri., May 13
Marquis Knox Concert – Plaza 501	Fri., May 13
Medical Equipment Donation – Select Walgreen's stores	Sat., May 14
5K / 10K Twilight Run	Sat., May 14
Lettercarriers Stamp Out Hunger	Sat., May 14
Princess Tea – Our Lady Guadalupe	Sat., May 14
Biloxi, Mississippi Trip	Sun.-Fri., May 15-20
Slide Dance Begins – Comm. Ctr.	Mon., May 16
Barbecue – St. Stephens	Sat., May 21
"Public Housing" Program – Rizzo's	Sat., May 21
Food Truck Monday – Plaza 501	Sun., May 22
Sunday Symphony – Com. Ctr.	Sun., May 22
Confluence Chamber Orchestra – Our Lady Guadalupe	Sun., May 22
Community Gospel Choir – St. Peters	Sun., May 22
Summer Reading Program at the Library Begins	Mon., May 23
Month Long Art Exhibit – Good Shepherd Gallery Starts	Thur., May 12
Progressive Dinner	Wed., May 25
Bob Kuban Concert – Plaza 501	Fri., May 27
Ferguson's Got Talent Begins – Library	Sat., May 28
City Wide Yard Sale	Sat., May 28
Yard Sale at Immanuel Church	Sat., May 28
Lunch and Bingo – Comm. Ctr.	Thurs., June 2
Rabies Clinic – City Garage	Sat., June 3
4th of July Casino Night – Marley's	Sat., June 4
Ferguson Historical Society Open House – Comm. Ctr. Grounds	Sun., June 5
Pakt Summer Camp Begins – Central School	Mon., June 6



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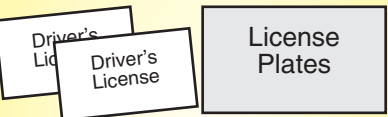
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