

Ferguson Times

Established 1894 Oct. 1999

CITY OF FERGUSON, MO.

July, 2016

Serving Ferguson and Surrounding Communities

Ralph Rockamann Selected As the 2016 4th of July Citizen of the Year



He was just 22 years old when Ralph and a few friends started a screen printing, embroidery and sporting goods store they called Sportsprint. 43 years later, Sportsprint is still located right here in Ferguson.

See more about Ralph and his contributions to the City Ferguson on Page 16.



4th of July Schedule Ferguson Celebrates the Kentucky Derby

Our 42nd Annual Full Day of Fun on Independence Day!
January-Wabash Memorial Park

- 10 am Parade Starts (at Paul & So. Florissant Rd.) north to January-Wabash Memorial Park, (501 No. Florissant)
- Noon–Close Food, Beverage and Game Booths Open at Park
- Noon Opening Ceremony at Park
- BANDSHELL AREA**
- 2 to 5 pm Rocky and Michelle (Pop/Rock)
- 6 to 9 pm Edick's Way (Rock)
- CHILDREN'S AREA**
- Noon to 7 pm Braid's Petting Zoo and Pony Rides
- Noon to 7 pm Take the Fire Rescue Challenge! (Inflatables)
- Noon to 7 pm Crafts with the Ferguson Public Library
- 1 pm Show Me Safari Racing Pigs
- 1 pm Mazing Matthias! (Juggling, Magic, More!)
- 1 pm to 5 pm Facepainting with Be-Be and Charity
- 1:30pm to 2:30 pm Hula Hoop Playshop with Kate Summer
- 2 pm to 4 pm Bubble Bus
- 2 pm to 6 pm Sister Twister Balloon Artist
- 2:30 pm Mazing Matthias! (Juggling, Magic, More!)
- 3 pm Show Me Safari Racing Pigs
- 3 pm "It's a Gas" with Nitro Joe
- 4 pm Magic with Steve Corbett
- 4 pm to 7 pm Slime Making with Nitro Joe
- 4:30 pm to 5 pm Mazing Matthias! (Juggling, Magic, More!)
- 5 pm Show Me Safari Racing Pigs
- 6 pm More Magic with Steve Corbett
- 7 pm Show Me Safari Racing Pigs
- 7:30 pm Fire Performer (Hoop it, Twirl it, and More!)
- FIREWORKS**
- 9:15 pm Fireworks Spectacular at January-Wabash Park

Please...no dogs or pets, no bicycles or skateboards, no moving picnic tables, no BBQ's or tents, no fireworks.
For further details, please call Nancy at the Ferguson Recreation Office, 314.521.4661.



Ferguson Farmers' Market

CELEBRATING OUR 12TH YEAR!

Saturday, July 2: No Market.

Saturday, July 9: Stl. Regional Farmers Market Chef Cook-off, 9-11
Alpaca's of Troy presents a hands-on Alpaca experience
Northern Arts Council, crafts for kids, 9-11
Band: Plain Label Band, 9-11

Saturday, July 16: Painted Effects: Building a Window Sash with hand tools, a hands-on event.
Band: Boeing Jazz Band, 9-11

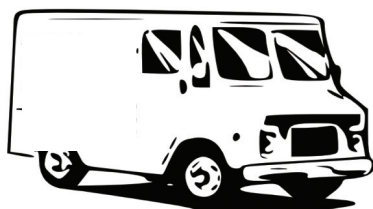
Saturday, July 23: Almost Picasso, 9-11
Northern Arts Council, crafts for kids, 9-11
Band: Benny Weber, 9-11

Saturday, July 30: Robin Wood, 9-11
Band: Jim Mayhew, with Native American Flute, 9-11

Come Visit Us Saturdays, Now thru October 8am - Noon
20 S. Florissant, at the Victorian Plaza (just south of the train trestle)
Check our our website, FergusonFarmersMarket.com
"LIKE" us on facebook

PRSRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ST. LOUIS, MO
PERMIT No. 05158

Food Truck Monday on the Walk



MONDAY, JULY 18
11am to 2 pm
Plaza @ 501
501 South Florissant Road

**For all participating
trucks go to:**
www.fergusoncitywalk.com

2016 CityWalk CONCERT SERIES

FREE 7PM-9PM

- August 12 Odds Lane | Rock
- August 26 Bedlam Brothers | Americana
- September 9 Taste of North County
- Jeske Park, Funk Session, Edicks Way

www.fergusoncitywalk.com

Upcoming Shows...

Diesel Island - Country
July 8



Power Play - Variety
July 22



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

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



Greetings from CityWalk

“One of the marvelous things about community is that it enables us to welcome and help people in a way we couldn't as individuals. When we pool our strength and share the work and responsibility, we can welcome many people, even those in deep distress, and perhaps help them find self-confidence and inner healing.”

— Jean Vanier, *Community And Growth*

I have been asked many times over the 20+ years of living in Ferguson, “why do I live in Ferguson?” I had a simple answer, “The people!”. If you take the time to look and listen, great things have been happening and will continue to happen in our town. It is the power of community that beats like a strong and vibrant heart, in every voice, every sound, and every activity of our town.

You can feel the energy of our community while our neighbors listened and grooved to the Retro Boogie Band and Miss Jubilee and the Humdingers at 501 Plaza in June. The conversations happening at the Ferguson Farmers Market at the Victoria Plaza every Saturday. The words of encouragement from the runners of the BKM Fitness Bootcamp as they run up and down Florissant Road with the bright orange shirts that boldly state “you will survive.” The laughter from patrons of our many outstanding restaurants and bars. This is the energy of a strong community!

This month our town will continue its annual 4th of July celebration. The committee consists of citizens who share a common goal of giving and celebrating our community. The festivities will kick off the morning of the 4th with a parade. Last year the parade had 80 participants. The celebration will continue at January-Wabash Park with food, drinks and entertainment for the entire family. The City of Ferguson has once again sponsored the fireworks celebration and year after year is a crowd pleaser. I would like to tell everybody on the committee that they are doing a great job and we really appreciate their hard work. Thank You!

Every third Thursday of the month is our downtown business district board meeting. We meet at 5:30 pm in the offices of Pearce Neikirk located at 427 S. Florissant Rd. 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. See you **July 26th**.

JOBS and MORE STL Continues Resume Builder Seminar

Do you need a resume? Or want to build a better resume? JOBS and MORE STL offers workshops and seminars. On Saturday, June 11, JOBS and MORE STL hosted a one-day Resume Builder Seminar at the Ferguson Municipal Public Library.

Here are some thoughts to share:

Success: It doesn't matter who you are, where you come from. The ability to triumph begins with you. Always. —*Oprah Winfrey*

Getting Ahead: The secret of getting ahead is getting started.

—*Mark Twain*

Skills: The two things I understand best are stand-up comedy and martial arts. And those things require an ultimate grasp of the truth. You have to be objective about your skills and abilities to compete in both. —*Joe Rogan*

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.

RISE ABOVE Workforce Training Workshops is offered on **July 18-29**, starting at 9:30am at the Ferguson Municipal Public Library. Training topics include Keys to Professional and Personal Success, Resumes, Practice Interviews, Interpersonal and Communication Skills, and more.

Interested in participating in this opportunity? Or have questions? Contact JOBS AND MORE STL at jobsandmorestl@outlook.com or 314.283.2215, or visit the web at jobsandmorestl.org

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

Skies lighting up at night, parades, flags flying, fireworks keeping us up at night, temperatures in the 90's, pools are full. It must be July and time for an explosive Plumber's Crack.



should put a moratorium on changing meters on a Friday afternoon so customers don't have to go all weekend without gas.

My advice to you is when the gas company calls and wants to change your meter tell them it needs to be done during the week.

When you get that appointment call your plumber and schedule a service call for the same day. If the gas company finds a leak you will already have a plumber ready to fix it. If they don't find a leak, cancel the plumber and everybody is happy.

Well my friends as we all know and as I mentioned fireworks keeping us up at night. Please leave it to the pros. I like going to see my friends and customers with all their fingers and toes. Our Police have enough on their plates without chasing down fireworks calls.

Please everybody be safe enjoy the parade and our beautiful park. Let's make Ferguson a model for the country, fun friends and family. As always look out for your neighbors check on the elderly and hug them babies.

See you at the park or the Farmers Market. God Bless you all .

Oh Baby

Happy Birthday America, as I said it's going to be an explosive Plumber's Crack this month. What? Oh Baby write something controversial? Well yes I guess I will. For 3 weeks in a row on Friday afternoon I received calls from good customers telling me that the gas company shut off their gas. They told me that the gas company changed their meters and when they turned the gas back on they found leaks and locked their meter. Then told them to call a plumber.

I know it's summer but people need to cook and warm water to bathe. Now ask yourself, how hard is it to find a plumber on a Friday afternoon to start tracking down leaks and repairing them. In most cases just disturbing a gas line is going to cause a leak. I would bet you at this very moment I can go into any older home and test fittings and find a leak. I'm not discounting the fact that any gas leak could be hazardous and should be fixed. I just think the gas company

P8563, D8563

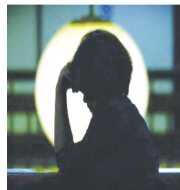
Premier Plumbing Solutions

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



Are You Experiencing
Emotional Hurts - Verbal Abuse - Physical Hurts
Discouragement - Hopelessness

We Have An Atmosphere That Offers
Understanding - Emotional Support - Encouragement
Renewed Self Confidence

Life Source Consultants
Crisis Help Line: 314-524-0686

Life Source Consultants Provides Free Support Services For victims and survivors of physical, emotional, mental, verbal, sexual abuse, rape and incest

Restoring Hope and Healing from Abuse

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

Ferguson City Council Places Business License Utility Tax Increase on August 2 Ballot

The Ferguson City Council has placed a (2%) business license utility tax increase on the August 2, 2016, ballot. If approved by Ferguson voters, Proposition U would authorize the City of Ferguson to generate additional municipal revenues by increasing the current business license utility tax from (6%) to (8%) on utilities, including companies supplying light, electricity, power, gas, telephone and water.

"If approved by Ferguson voters the City anticipates the two percent increase will allow an additional \$700,000 of collections," said Ferguson City Manager, De'Carlton Seewood.

"This will allow the City to hire five additional police officers not currently included in the City's Budget for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2017. This will also allow the City not to layoff firefighters and to keep Firehouse Number 2 from closing," added Seewood.

If PROPOSITION U PASSES – Ferguson Homeowners will see a 2% increase in the following Utility Bills: THIS IS AN EXAMPLE ONLY

Electricity Bill	\$75.00 per month	\$1.50 per month
Gas Bill	\$110.00 per month	\$2.20 per month
Telephone Bill	\$75.50 per month	\$1.50 per month
Water Bill	\$35.00 per month	.70 per month
Additional monthly cost		\$5.90 per month

Proposition U is not a property tax on homeowners.

A "No" vote will leave in place the City's existing six (6%) "We are asking Ferguson, voters, to approve Proposition U, which will allow the City to keep moving forward with needed services," added Seewood.

PROPOSITION U BALLOT LANGUAGE
OFFICIAL BALLOT
CITY OF FERGUSON
AUGUST 2, 2016
PROPOSITION U

Shall the City of Ferguson be authorized to increase the current business license tax on utilities, including companies supplying light, electricity, power, gas, telephone and water, by two percent (2%) which will result in a total business license tax on utilities in the amount of eight percent (8%)?

(VOTE FOR ONE)
FOR THE PROPOSITION YES
FOR THE PROPOSITION NO

For more information about the proposition, visit the city's website at www.fergusoncity.com or call 314-801-8540.

City Council Meeting

The Ferguson City Council will meet once in July.
The meeting will be held in the City Council Chambers at 110 Church Street.
The meeting date is:
Tuesday, July 28 at 7:00 p.m.

Ferguson Street Fest
Last Weekend In September
FergusonStreetFest.com

Seeking planning committee members!
Call 314-524-5197 or Email citywalk@fergusoncity.com

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.

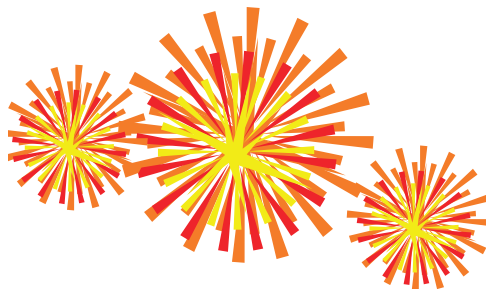
Call the I Love Ferguson store to sign up or donate 314.254.7400.



Ferguson FD wants you to Have a Fun and Safe 4th of July

As Independence Day draws near, the Ferguson Fire Department would like to remind everyone of the inherent dangers of fireworks. Consider the following facts compiled by the National Fire Protection Assoc. concerning consumer fireworks:

- In 2010, fireworks caused an estimated 15,500 reported fires, including 1,100 total structure fires, 300 vehicle fires, and 14,100 outside and other fires. These fires resulted in an estimated eight reported civilian deaths, 60 civilian injuries and \$36 million in direct property damage.
- In 2010, U.S. hospital emergency rooms treated an estimated 8,600 people for fireworks related injuries; 57% of 2010 emergency room fireworks-related injuries were to the extremities and 37% were to the head.



- The risk of fireworks injury was highest for children ages 5-14, with more than twice the risk for the general population.

- On Independence Day in a typical year, far more U.S. fires are reported than on any other day. Fireworks account for two out of five of those fires, more than any other cause.

The U.S. Fire Administration states that "**The best way to protect your family is not to use fireworks at home - period. The U.S. Fire Administration recommends attending public fireworks displays and leaving the lighting to the professionals.**" Additionally, consumer fireworks are IL-LEGAL in St. Louis County. That being said, history proves that many of you will still choose to celebrate using fireworks. If so, please keep the following tips in mind:

- Never light fireworks indoors or near dry grass.
- Always have a bucket of water and/or a fire extinguisher nearby. Know how to properly operate the fire extinguisher.
- Do not wear loose clothing while using fireworks.
- Stand several feet away from lighted fireworks. If fireworks do not go off, do not stand over them to investigate; douse them with water and carefully dispose of them.
- Always read the directions and warning labels on fireworks. If the fireworks are not marked with the contents, directions, and warning labels, do not light them.
- Supervise children around fireworks at all times.
- If not handled properly, fireworks can cause burn and eye injuries in children and adults. The best way to enjoy fireworks is to visit public fireworks displays put on by professionals who know how to safely handle fireworks.

Grilling Safety

- Position the grill well away from siding, deck railings and out from under leaves and branches.
- Place the grill at a safe distance from lawn games, play areas and foot traffic.
- Keep children and pets away from the grill area: declare a three-foot "safe zone" around the grill.
- Use long-handled grilling tools to have plenty of clearance from heat and flames.
- Propane and charcoal grills must only be used outdoors. If used indoors, or in any enclosed spaces, such as tents, they pose both a fire hazard and the risk of exposing occupants to toxic gases and potential asphyxiation.

Charcoal

- Use the proper starter fluid and store it out of reach of children and away from heat sources.
- Never add charcoal starter fluid when coals or kindling have already been ignited.
- Never use any flammable or combustible liquid other than charcoal starter fluid.

Propane

- Use only equipment bearing the mark of an independent testing laboratory. Follow the manufacturers' instructions on how to set up the grill and maintain it.
- Never store propane cylinders in buildings or garages.
- If you smell gas while cooking, immediately get away from the grill and call the fire department. Do not attempt to move the grill.

“We” are the City, there is no “us” and “them”

By Mayor James W. Knowles III



“The City is what the City is, because the People are what the People are”

-Plato, Greek Author, Philosopher
424 BC – 328 BC

-Quote from book *The Republic*

I know it is hard for many people to accept this fact, but 100% of what the City government does on a daily basis is to serve YOU, the citizen. Every rule, every law, every process, goes to serve a public purpose that tries to serve the community as a whole. Sometimes when you are the one that an inspector visits, or that a police officer pulls over, it feels like it is “you” versus “them”, but really it is about serving and protecting our collective interests or safety. Every action the city takes is meant to serve a greater purpose in this community, one that each and every one of us individually benefit from.

After nearly two brutal months of work sessions and Council meetings, the city has been able to present a balanced budget that shows the world, and especially the credit rating agencies, that we can live within our means. However, living within our means does not come without consequences. Due to fallen revenues and the failure of the property tax increase in April, the city was forced to make some serious cuts that will have a significant impact on the services delivered in this community.

This budget deficit has put the City in a position that it must make up the deficit with cuts that include cuts to City Administration and Public Safety. Because Parks and Recreation, the Community Center, and the pool are funded by separate dedicated taxes, cuts in those areas can not be used to support general fund operations such as Public Safety.

Our general fund budget is approximately 75% in city employee salaries, and 75% of that comes from Public Safety (Police and Fire). In order to balance this budget, along with cuts at City Hall, the city will have to reduce the normal authorized compliment of Police Officers from 55 down to 45 Police officers. The city will also reduce our compliment of firefighters by 3, requiring us to close Fire House #2 at the North end of the community due to lack of staffing.

Next month the citizens of our community will have to make a choice. The choice is whether we will live with this new reduced level of public safety services provided by the city, or will we be willing to pay additional taxes to put officers back on the street and keep open the doors to Fire House #2.

While no one wants to pay additional taxes, the truth is that no one will want to accept the consequences of not paying the additional taxes. The consequence will be increased call time for both police, fire, and ambulance calls in our community. Our already overworked Police and Fire will struggle to provide adequate services in our community, much lower than the standard of service which people have come to expect. The result will no doubt affect the safety and security of our community.

These difficult decisions are new to Ferguson, but many communities in North County have been forced to make similar decisions recently because of issues with falling revenues. The Ferguson City Council has placed on the ballot another tax increase, this time a utility tax increase of 2%. In order to keep open Fire House #2 and in order to put back more officers on our streets, we must vote to pass this very important tax.

While paying additional taxes is difficult, it is important that we realize that the city is not some distant entity that is taking our money with no consideration. We are the city, and the money that we contribute to this cause pays for our services and our protection. Those services are important to the continued success of our businesses, our neighborhoods, and our households. The taxes paid aren't just an investment in the city, they are an investment in this community, in your property, and in your individual families.

Ferguson Neighborhood Organizations

Dates & times subject to change. Check www.fergusoncity.com
Unsure of your group? Call 314.524.5257

Group	Next Mtg.	Location	Contact
Forestwood Park Neighborhood Group	July 5 7 pm	Emmaus Bible Chapel 900 Highmont	Donald Stevens 314-561-0379 ddd-stees@att.net
Jeske Park Neighborhood Assc.	TBA	Ferguson Community Ctr. 1050 Smith Ave	Kate Mazzacavallo katemazza@yahoo.com
Nesbit-Newton	TBA	St Peters UCC 1425 Stein Rd	Paul Beins2016 314-869-5080 pbeins@yahoo.com
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	Aug 11 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	July 18 7 pm	Our Lady of Guadalupe 17 Hawkesbury	Atefa Young atefayoung@yahoo.com
Wabash Neighborhood Assn.	July 18 7 pm	First Baptist 333 N Florissant	Shonnette Morgan sdenisemor@hotmail.com
North Hudson Neighborhood	July 18 6:30 pm	Ferguson Community Ctr 1050 Smith	May Simmons hudsonhills63135@gmail.com
North Hills Neighborhood	July 18 7 pm	Our Lady of Guadalupe 17 Hawkesbury Dr.	Keith Kallstrom 314-524-1720
North Elizabeth Neighborhood	July 11 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

CURBSIDE PLACEMENT AND CART USE INSTRUCTIONS

Place cart one foot from the curb or edge of the street. Garbage should be bagged and tied, then deposited in your cart. This practice will keep your cart cleaner. Please place your cart at least three feet from any tree, pole, fire hydrant, etc. and at least five feet away from any cars parked in the street so the automated arm can reach your cart.



- Do not overload the cart. If the lid is not closed, garbage will be subject to wind and nuisance animals.
- Please do not lean anything against the cart.
- The arrows on the lid of the cart should face toward the street; the handle should face toward your house.
- Your cart should be placed at the curb or edge of the street prior to 7 a.m. the day of collection.
- The emptied cart should be removed from the street the same day.
- The emptying of your cart is guaranteed ONLY if placed for collection on the correct day and time. Republic cannot be everywhere at 7 a.m., but they can be anywhere, and that may be in front of your house.
- Yard waste may NOT be placed in trash carts. State law requires that yard waste, which is compostable, not be mixed with garbage.
- Do not put dirt, sod or rock in the cart.
- Do not put flammable material such as oil, gas, paint, hot ashes or coals in carts.
- Do not put muriatic acid or other pool chemicals and supplies in carts. These can cause chemical reactions in your cart and in the collection trucks leading to fires and dangerous toxic fumes.
- Do not put debris from construction, remodeling or demolition in the cart.

Please do not paint names or addresses on your cart. Each cart is the property of Republic Services and has been embossed with a serial number. If a resident moves from their current address, the cart remains at the residence that matches its serial number in Republic's system.

Your assistance in caring for the cart will help control operational costs and keep expenses to a minimum. We encourage you to rinse the container occasionally with a garden hose and mild detergent. Ammonia cleaners discourage animals. The practice of placing trash in garbage bags, then into your cart, will reduce the frequency of cleaning maintenance.

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; Heather Robinett, 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 450 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

Summer Day Camp

Campers will spend most of their time at Ferguson Community Center where they will enjoy games, crafts, activities, and loads of fun. They will swim twice each week at the Splash at Wabash facility. Campers will also visit several local parks and area attractions throughout the summer for field trips.

Age: 6-14 Years old
Start Date: Monday, June 6 (8 weeks)
Time: 9am- 3:30pm
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Fee: \$80 per week
After Care: 4pm-6pm \$10 per week
Before Care: \$10 per week
Both: \$10 per week



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 1/2-7 years old
Start Date: Mon., July 11 (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

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: 3-7 years old & 8-13 years old
Start Date: Wed., July 13 (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

Children's Tap, Ballet, Jazz & Hip-Hop

This is a wonderful opportunity for a child to learn creative movement along with simple dance steps and routines in tap, ballet, jazz & hip-hop. Tap and ballet shoes are highly recommended but not required. No jeans, baggy clothing, tennis shoes or bare feet.

Age: 3 1/2-7 years old
Start Date: July 13 (8 week session)
Time: 5:45- 6:40
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Fee: \$34/Members; \$29/ 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, July 13 (8 week session)
Time: 7:45pm-8:40pm
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Fee: \$34/Members; \$39/Residents; \$44/Non-Residents

Beginning 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, July 11 (8 week session)

Location: Ferguson Community Center
Time: 7:45-8:40
Fee: \$40/Members; \$45/Residents; \$50/Non-Residents

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-bride 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

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. Check with your health insurance provider to see if you apply! For more information call the Ferguson Community Center, 314-521-4661.

Silver Sneakers Classic

This class is designed for seniors or someone who is starting to work out for the first time. Have fun and get moving through a variety of exercises designed for a total body workout that will increase muscular strength, range of movement, and activity for daily living skills. A chair is made available for seated and/or standing support.

Days: Tuesday and Thursday
Dates: Ongoing
Time: 10am
Fee: Free/ Silver sneakers members
\$3/ Everyone Else

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 July 11, Wed July 13, Fri July 15 (8 week session)
Time: 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

classes, social activities, entertainment, games, fitness, health, and education. Call the office to be placed on a list to receive our monthly event schedules.

Zumba

Latin-inspired, dance-themed workout featuring aerobic & interval training with a combination of fast & slow rhythms that tone & sculpt the body. Ditch the workout and join the party!

Age: 18 & up
Start Date: Saturday, July 2 (8 week session)
Time: 9am-10am
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Fee: \$40/ Members; \$45/ Residents; \$50/ Non-Residents



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

Aquatics

SPLASH! Phone number: (314) 521- 1313

Hours of Operation:

Monday, Thursday, and Sunday (1:15-6pm)

Tuesday and Saturday (1:15-7pm)

Wednesday and Friday (1:15-8pm)

Adult Swim May 30-August 7 (12pm- 1pm)

*Close at 5pm on Tuesday for swim meet on: June 14, 21, 28, & July 12

Fee Schedule

Wabash Club Memberships:

Individual: \$50/ CC Members; \$65/ Residents; \$125/ Non-Residents

Family: \$99/ CC Members; \$135/ Residents; \$210/ Non-Residents

Non Club Membership:

Individual: \$25 Resident Mini- Member (10 Individual uses)

Daily Rates:

Open Swim: \$3.50/ Residents (\$2 Tues.) \$6.50/ Non-Residents (\$5 Tues.)

After 4pm: \$2.50/ Residents; \$5/ Non-Residents

Adult Swim: \$2.50/ Residents; \$4.50/ Non-Residents

Blast from the Past Days

Enjoy deeply discounted concession items with the price admission.

Age: Included with open swim admission

Date: Thursday, July 7, and July 21

Location: Splash at Wabash Aquatic Facility

ATHLETICS

Adult Softball

Age: 21 & up

Days: Sun Men, Thurs Seniors, and Fri Coed

Times: 6:30pm-9:30pm

Location: Forestwood Park

Sunday Fee: \$395/ Residents; \$440/ Non-Residents

Thursday Fee: \$375/ Residents; \$420/ Non-Residents

Friday Fee: \$220/ Residents; \$260/ Non-Residents

Open Play Basketball

Days: Tue, Fri, Sat, Sun

Time: 1pm-close

Location: Ferguson Community Center

Fee: Free/ Members; Daily fee- Residents; Daily fee/ Non-Residents

Open Play Volleyball

Days: Thursdays

Time: 6- close

Location: Ferguson Community Center

Fee: Free/ Member; Daily fee/ Residents; Daily fee/ Non- Residents

Adult Sand Volleyball League

Age: 18 & up

Days: Mon Women's Recreation; Thurs Womens Power; Fri Coed

Time: 6:30-9:30

Fee: \$180/ Residents; \$195/ Non-Residents; Adult Volleyball

Age: 18 & up

Days: Mon, Thursday

Time: 6:30-9:30pm

Fee: \$180/ Residents; \$195/ Non-Residents

Adult Volleyball

Age: 18 & up

Days: Mon, Thursday

Time: 6:30-9:30pm

Location: Ferguson Middle School

Fee: \$180/ Residents

\$195/ Non-Residents

SENIORS

Yahtzee

No need to know the rules; just come and expect a good time at our next Yahtzee. Great prizes, good food, and lots of laughter are in store. We'll start the afternoon enjoying a great tasting lunch. After lunch, the excitement begins with 3 thrilling games of Yahtzee. Door to door transportation via the Jolly Trolley is available for Ferguson residents. Advance registration is required.

Ages: 18 and up

Date: Thurs, July 14

Time: 11:30 pm – 2:30 pm

Location: Community Center

Fee: \$8/Members; \$12/Residents; \$15/Non-Residents

Mystery Meal

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

Ages: 50 and up

Date: Thurs, July 7

Time: 10 am pickup

Fee: \$32/Members; \$37/Residents; \$42/Non-Residents

Gambling in Booneville

Ready for a vacation – Island fun and great food! Let's get away from the heat and head over to Booneville to get the full-tilt thrills of hot casino action, "Caribbean-style", at the Isle of Capri Casino. Lunch is included in our package today. Let's all wear our Hawaiian shirts or something "Festive"... maybe it will bring us some lunch! Don't miss out on the fun!! Also, \$5 will be given on your card to start out your day. A stop at Russell Stover's will also be included. Lunch and all admissions, motorcoach transportation included.

Date: Thurs, Aug. 11

Time: 9am – 7:30pm

Fee: \$35 Residents; \$40 Non-Residents

North County Gala

The sixteenth annual North County Gala Dance is sponsored by the City of Ferguson, as well as the Cities of Florissant, St. Ann, Bridgeton, Maryland Heights and Hazelwood. This year's event will again be held at the City of Florissant's James J. Eagan Center, #1 James J. Eagan Drive. Snacks provided. Music provided by the Sentimental Journey Band. Tickets must be purchased in advance through any of the sponsoring cities.

Ages: 50 and up

Date: Fri, July 15

Time: 7 pm – 10 pm

Location: James. J. Eagan Center

Fee: \$15

SPECIAL EVENTS

Summer Movies

The Ferguson summer movie series will again take place in 3 neighborhood parks as well as two nights at our NEW Community Center. Bring your lawn chairs and/or blankets and take this opportunity to enjoy a beautiful night under the stars. Movies start at 8:45 pm and are always FREE!

LOCATION	DATE	MOVIE
Central School	Fri. July 1	Max
Community Center	Fri. July 29	Inside Out
Community Center	Fri. Aug. 19	Zootopia

In case of inclement weather all movies will be moved to the Event Space at the Community Center, 1050 Smith Avenue Ferguson, MO 63135.

Elder Voices on Ferguson-Ferguson Youth Initiative Intergenerational Forum

Between September 2015 and February 2016, ten focus groups were conducted with 71 older adults from Ferguson, Dellwood and adjacent communities. The aim of Elder Voices on Ferguson project was to hear how older adults experienced the social unrest in the Ferguson, Cool Valley and Dellwood areas, how they are currently engaged in their communities, and how they might become more involved. The project also aimed to gather ideas about how the community could better support people as they age. Flyers, newsletters, and announcements were used to recruit participants. Dr. Nancy Morrow-Howell, Clarissa Jackson, Briana Bostic, Richelle Clark, Myrtis Spencer, from Washington University and Drs. Sheila Clarke Ekong and Jacquelyn Lewis-Harris from University of Missouri-St. Louis carried out the focus groups which were held at 3 churches, 2 community centers, and one organizational office.

One of the foremost actionable ideas that emerged from the focus groups was to hold an intergenerational forum in which elders might have un-depth conversations with regional teens.

Dr. Lewis-Harris discussed this possibility with the youth board members of the Ferguson Youth Initiative. 6 youth (ages 11 to 20) and 14 elders from the focus groups volunteered to participate in this initial forum. Councilwoman Ella Jones was asked to moderate the conversation due to her great work with both seniors and youth in Ferguson. The forum was organized around three discussion points: relationships between generations, recent experiences in Ferguson and younger and older people working together to improve the community. Time was allotted towards the end to report out and discuss future possibilities. Drs. Morrow-Howell, Clarke Ekong and Lewis-Harris as well as Briana Bostic facilitated and participated in the rich conversations.

The intergenerational conversation was rich and lively with both groups being exposed to new concepts and ideas about the region. Many of the seniors were pleasantly surprised at the youth's comments and in-depth analysis of the current situation while the youth were exposed to the elder's stories, community history and opinions. The summary reports stressed the following :

- Participants felt there was a breakdown in intergenerational communications and a desire for more exchange. One participant highlighted the fact that in Ferguson, the older population is disproportionately white and the younger population is disproportionately African American; and the intersection of race and age is an important dynamic.
- There were expressions of concern and understanding toward the situations faced by today's youth – the lack of opportunity in education and employment, the lack of strong parental and community support.
- There was recognition of on-going racism and discrimination. It was pointed out that the death of Michael Brown brought to light long-standing problems in the community and what happened in Ferguson was just a flashpoint for what is going on in many communities.
- More forums of this nature needed to be held to help residents have a better understanding of each other's situations.

It was decided that a larger more in-depth discussion lunch should be held in the late summer or early Fall, possibly at the Ferguson Youth Initiative headquarters.

Wellspring Church and The Center
for Social Empowerment and Justice
invite your family to join our
SURGE Summer Camp!
Mondays-Fridays
June 13-July 1
July 11-July 29
9:00-3:00

Students will get to participate in science experiments, small scale drama productions, sports, crafts, the arts and much, much more!! Nutritious breakfast, lunch, and snack will be provided. Certified counselors.

Registration for SURGE Summer Camp is on a sliding scale with a max fee of \$20 per week per child. **NO ONE WILL BE TURNED AWAY BECAUSE OF INABILITY TO PAY.**

SURGE Summer Camp
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Volleyball**

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(Gym)
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Ferguson

When?
Tuesdays
5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Who?
6th - 8th Grade Girls

QUESTIONS?
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THE PEANUTS
MOVIE

Snacks Served @ 6:30

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Saturday July 16, 2016 Movie starts @ 7pm



Laugh

Smile

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Ferguson, MO 63135
For more informaion call 314-521-5694

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Food, Drinks, Entertainment

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Presents

Kay Love



July 15, 2016

7pm

With David Horstman
at piano

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An evening of music, smiles, and laughter!*

*THIS EVENT IS FREE!
(Childcare provided for ages 10 and under)*

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

**Area Leaders to Celebrate North
County Inc.'s Anniversary**

To commemorate North County Incorporated's (NCI) 39 years of service to the community, NCI is holding its annual Anniversary Fundraiser at Hendl's Market Café & Piano Bar on **Sunday, July 17, 2016** beginning at 6 pm. Space is limited for this event to the first 80 paid registrants who will enjoy an elegant dinner and wine pairing along with a silent auction.

To be one of the first 80 to register for this event or for more information on how to donate an item for the auction, call NCI's office at 314-895-6241 or visit our website at NorthStLouisCounty.com.

North County Incorporated is a regional development organization, which acts as a catalyst to define and advocate economic and community development for North St. Louis County. NCI was established in 1977. The Board is composed of community leaders and business owners. Sean Hogan, President of SSM Health DePaul Hospital, is the current Chairman of the Board of Directors.

Johnny Londoff Chevrolet Scholarship Program

Awards twelve local high school students with scholarships.

Johnny Londoff Chevrolet awarded 12 deserving North County students with scholarships on June 4, 2016. This is the fifty-fourth year that Johnny Londoff Chevrolet has given the scholarships. The scholarship recipients are chosen by the high school administrators based on academic excellence and good citizenship.

"My father, John Londoff, Sr., started the scholarship program fifty four years ago because he believed the strength of our country came from the education of our youth," said John Londoff, Jr., president of Johnny Londoff Chevrolet. "We continue the program because we can think of nothing more important than investing in the future of the young people in North County."

The keynote speaker was Florissant Mayor Thomas Schneider. "It's humbling to think that this program has reached its fifty-fourth year and through the program we have helped so many young people attain a college education," Londoff added.

The 2016 Johnny Londoff Chevrolet scholarship recipients are:

Kalie Strain – McCluer High School
 Charles Hayner – McCluer North High School
 Mika Goins – McCluer South High School
 Tyrese Goldsby – Hazelwood Central High School
 Kenisha Hopson – Hazelwood East High School
 Kayley Cunningham – Hazelwood West High School
 Judy Milliano – Incarnate Word Academy
 Alexis Hudspeth – Lutheran High School North
 Jari Harmon – Trinity Catholic High School
 Patrick Sanders – Mathews Dickey Boys & Girls Club
 Darius Jones - Boys & Girls Club of Greater St. Louis
 Joshua Bellinger – North County Christian School

"The real heroes here are these young students who have worked so hard in high school and made the decision to continue on to college," Londoff said. "We want to recognize and congratulate each of them for their efforts and wish them the best in their college career."

About Johnny Londoff Chevrolet

For 75 years, Johnny Londoff Chevrolet has been providing the St. Louis community with great American cars at the best prices in town. Whether it's a fuel sipping Chevy Cruze, a stylish new Malibu or the people hauling capacity of the Chevy Tahoe, Johnny Londoff Chevrolet has the best selection and prices in town. More information on Johnny Londoff Chevrolet can be found at www.londoff.com.

Membership Meeting
 Thursday, July 14th
 Hollywood Casino & Hotel
 Go For The Gold!
 It's an Olympic year! Who will win the Gold?
 Sponsors: office essentials, USI Insurance, Morgan Stanley

Catholic Lipstick

According to a news report, a certain private Catholic school was recently faced with a unique problem. A number of 12-year-old girls were beginning to use lipstick and would put it on in the bathroom. That was fine provided it was of a natural or neutral skin tone, but after they put on their lipstick, they would press their lips to the mirror leaving dozens of little lip prints.

Every night the maintenance man would remove them; and the next day the girls would put them back. Finally, the principal, Sister Mary, decided that something had to be done. She called all the girls to the bathroom and met them there with the maintenance man. She ex-

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- ★ **Compassionate Public Servant** - Cora Faith Walker is a community advocate fighting for equal access to healthcare and opportunity for all Missourians.
- ★ **Committed to the Community** - Daughter of a public school teacher and a disabled veteran, Cora Faith Walker has always made giving back to the community a priority.

PLEASE VOTE **AUGUST 2**

Faith in our future
Paid for by Friends of Cora Faith Walker/Tim Walker Treasurer

plained that all these lip prints were causing a major problem for the custodian, who had to clean the mirrors every night (you can just imagine the yawns from the little princesses).

To demonstrate how difficult it had been to clean the mirrors, Sister Mary asked the maintenance man to show the girls how much effort was required. He took out a long-handled squeegee, dipped it in the toilet, and cleaned the mirror with it.

Since then, there have been no lip prints on the mirror.

*There are teachers..... And then there are educators!
 If Sister Mary ran for office I would vote for her!*

The Ferguson Computer Corner

by Doug Neely Please pass me some more BBQ sausages.



JULY IS FINALLY HERE!

but we have to be honest here, and admit that the chief reason we love July so much is because we get to celebrate the 4th of July! yes, BBQed beef, pork, & chicken, chips, beer (for many), soda (for the rest) and great desserts like cookies, pies, and cakes! it just doesn't get much better than this, because we are celebrating our independence, and the men & women who made & make it possible. VERY WORTHY! not only that, but we should also celebrate National Hot Dog Day on the 23rd. i mean, who doesn't like hot dogs? if i can arrange it, i plan to have hot dogs for my neighbors (EVERYBODY is my neighbor) on that day. stop by and let's have a dog! just call me at the # below for details. and i want to see our police & firefighters show up, too! (probably they will be the first to arrive! LOL!) the more the merrier! now all i have to do is figure out how many hot dogs will be needed! SHEESH!

COMPUTERS IN JULY?, dept.

i imagine that a good many will celebrate holidays inside this summer, as it will be too wet, too humid, too hot or too busy. that's OK. some of those will use their puter, as i think it can be truly admitted that the puter is now just as much of an entertainment device as the radio, stereo, or TV used-to-was/is. remember, do not sweat over your puter, wetness is bad for puters. not only that, it will make them smell!

but what if your puter is running slow? well,

if it is abnormally slow, you may need more ram, like i pointed out last month. maybe it is infected. or perhaps you have too many programs running in the startup group. if it's infected, that means that whatever AV you use to protect it, didn't. or maybe YOU opened that email or went to that questionable website that you shouldn't have. if so, take it to someone who can disinfect it for you. if you have too

many programs running in startup, uninstall the programs that you no longer need from the control panel's add/remove programs utility. if you can't do that, or would rather not, then take it to someone who can. if you want more detailed info on any of these, call me.

Interesting Little Tid-Bit, dept.

didja know that the free upgrade to win 10 expires at the end of this month (29th)? for those of you who WANT or NEED 10, you have been properly advised! for the rest of you, continue to CAREFULLY READ all those little pop-ups you get that try to get you to upgrade to 10. to close those pop-ups, thereby saying NO to the "upgrade", click the "X" in the upper right-hand corner. if you see the window appear again, just shampoo, rinse, repeat. altho i, myself, have been favoring either 8.1 or 10 over the other, i am trying to choose 8.1 as the least of all the evils. i have 2 puters that are made for those operating systems, and it is just not possible to use SEVEN on them. so 8.1 is on them, and i doubt that i will allow M\$ to upgrade me to 10 on them. at least, that's the plan. :) (the main reason for this is that 10 is far more uncooperative at installing & running some of my older programs. and i LIKE my older pro-

grams, because they WORK!) **ME GO NOW!**

i gotta go get some hot dogs, buns, & chips, etc., etc., etc. (NO BEER, but there will be some soft drinks!) now, if you REALLY wanna get UP-GRADED REALLY GOOD, just listen to this: a FREE upgrade to heaven is being offered to all those who ask for it. all you have to do is contact the Big Guy at 1-God-only. the call is free. or go to [www. only-JESUSSaves.com](http://www.only-JESUSSaves.com) to get upgraded for free. either call or click, you'll be eternally glad you did! heavenly satisfaction is guaranteed. call or click NOW, before it's too late for you. hey, it's His house, you know!

...it is now safe to turn on your puter, even if it is running win 10!

IF YOU would like to getchasome of Doug's FREE puter advice, find out where the hot dogs are, find out where church is, or just jaw a bit, call him in the PM HOURS of most any day at *314*521*1789*. When emailing, use fergusoncomputer-corner@aol.com. You MUST also put the phrase "i need puter advice" into the subject field, or it will not get to him. Remember: If it weren't for God, guns, & guts, we would not have a 4th of July. Give your heart-felt thanks accordingly!

SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM FEEDS KIDS FOR FREE

Summer is here and it's time to think about keeping children healthy while school is out. Operation Food Search provides free meals to kids during the summer. Meals are served weekdays through mid-August at various locations throughout St. Louis. Any child under age 18 may come to eat. A listing of locations may be found by texting FOOD to 877-877. Meal sites will be updated throughout the summer. For more information, visit <http://www.operationfoodsearch.org/summer-meals/>.

Each year, the U.S. Department of Agriculture partners with local organizations such as Operation Food Search to provide free meals to children when school is out for the summer. For more information about the national Summer Food Service Program, please visit <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/summer>, or www.OperationFoodSearch.org.

About Operation Food Search

Founded in 1981, Operation Food Search (OFS) is a leader in hunger relief, nutrition education and advocacy serving the Greater St. Louis region and feeding more than 200,000 people each month through a network of 330 community partners. OFS rescues unsaleable yet safe and nutritious food, reducing the amount going to landfills, to feed local people at no charge who struggle with hunger and food insecurity. One-third of these individuals are children. With a goal to end childhood hunger, OFS partners with Share Our Strength® and No Kid Hungry® for programs including Cooking Matters®, Cooking Matters® at the Store, Operation Backpack, SNAP Outreach and Summer/After School Meals that empower families and help children access the food they need.

For every dollar donated, Operation Food Search provides \$21 worth of food and nutrition services to support the area hungry. Visit www.OperationFoodSearch.org. Together, we heal the hurt of hunger.

Arthur Williams Post 161 Joins Owen-McGuire Post



Our original Arthur William Post 161 has been located in Ferguson since 1921. We will continue in our many charitable efforts for Ferguson and the surrounding area. The most recent contribution to Ferguson is the purchase and installment of three flag poles at the Community Center located on 1050 Smith Ave. Installation of the flags will be coming shortly and all are invited to attend.

Our Post is an active one with 150 members. Commander George Ridley will gladly answer any questions at 314.524.1942.

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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.

Last month, I reported some frustrations with today's foster care program and the sad statistics that point to a lifetime of problems for some who've been brought up in the foster care system.

While the original intentions of the early foster care system are quite admirable, the results we are seeing today indicate we should have some alternatives for situations that require more help for these children. Especially as they attempt to reunite families when a crisis is over, during this period the children are not necessarily needing another family, but they do need counseling and professional help dealing with their family situation. Could the answer be something more like an orphanage?

In the nineties a couple of different books came out discussing the comparison between orphanages and foster care. The evidence they were able to find supported the idea that the more structured the program as in an orphanage the better the outcome for the child. In the 1996 book *The Home: A Memoir of Growing Up in an Orphanage*, Dr. Robert McKenzie reported on the results of 1,000 alumni surveyed about growing up in the North Carolina orphanage referred to as "The Home." Less than 1% would have rather grown up in foster care. They also described themselves as "very happy" more than twice that of the general population. In other areas such as education, income and employment they seemed to fare better than national norms. And with emotional problems, incarceration and reliance on public assistance those in the survey reported lower rates than the general population.

Dr. Stan Friedland, co-author of the 1998 book *An Orphan has Many Parents* also showed findings to support the advantages of a good orphanage. He explained that many who had both foster care experience and orphanage residency felt the orphanage provided a "far superior" period in their life. It is interesting how many doctors who have studied this debate are also alumni of orphanages. In her book *Growing Up in the Care of Strangers*, Dr. Rosalind Folman notes:

"Finally, one major theme came to the fore, both in my life and in the lives of the hundreds of children whom I have interviewed: It is how children live that matters, not where children live. The best example of this is an overlooked and underestimated group of foster children who thrive because of their placement experience, children who grew up in institutions, such as children's homes and orphanages. Because of the misguided emphasis on 'where' children live, as opposed to 'how' they live, policymakers and politicians largely eliminated these institutions in favor of foster care. They mistakenly believed that foster care would provide children the next best thing to the nuclear family ... this approach failed decades ago."

So what is the best approach? Like many things it probably comes down to costs. While it appears that foster homes are less expensive in the short run, there doesn't seem to be much measurement of the costs in the long run. If we are truly aging children out of foster care into a world unprepared, we are paying a price. As I mentioned last month the results for these children doesn't look good with up to 20 % being homeless as adults. Back in the mid 1990's it was estimated that raising a child in Boys Town costs about \$36,500 to \$48,000 per year. At that time the cost of raising a child in a foster home was about \$4,500 to \$4,700. So it's no surprise that when Newt Gingrich suggested the attributes of bringing back orphanages, the powers that be didn't see it as a positive change.

Today in Missouri the cost for a child in the foster care system comes out to around \$7,000 per year with an increase for children with elevated needs. And looking at the Department of Agriculture's table for the cost of raising a child for a regular two parent household it shows costs are between \$8,000 and \$10,000 depending on the income of the household. For comparison sake I was using a child age ten for older children the costs may increase. What wasn't quite clear in the state's estimated costs were all of the administrative expenses of managing the foster care system. I would imagine it could double the estimated costs.

So the experts tend to agree with the preservation of the family as the main goal. And many of the issues in the foster care system aimed at doing this can actually cause more instability in the short run for children and their families. The concern that not all foster families are good is on track, but again not all traditional families are perfect either. It takes a special person or couple to provide a home for a child who is being displaced. Making sure the resources and help are there for the transition is vital. Children continue growing up no matter where they are and especially during the teenage years stability is most important. When a child is moved often because of acting out, it can continue to be a vicious circle for them. "A child will flower in poverty if only she is loved; yet wither in the wealth of a heartless millionaire." I'm not sure what site I saw that on, but it certainly speaks volumes. As I noted earlier, how a child is raised has more to do with the outcome than where they live.

So exploring other options for some children such as a group home might work better and improve the structure in the household. Better trained foster parents or leaders for a group home may be able to make more of a difference for teenagers who have been moved around much of their early years. Burnout among social workers and foster parents can be a problem,

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so we need to be open to changes that will cost more. Whether those taking in children are relatives, foster parents or group home leaders it is extremely important to provide a group of professionals (a therapist, a pediatrician, a social worker, a tutor) to help the children and the adults who will care for them. This is called "wraparound services" and has been working well in pilot programs around the world. This helps a child from falling through the cracks, which can happen when one over-burdened social worker is the only one looking out for the safety of a child.

Making child welfare a priority can make a real difference to the children who will be costing us billions of dollars more down the line. We always say children are the future; it needs to become a new priority. And we need to realize these aren't just someone else's children, and someone else's problem. As I've read from orphanage alumni and children in foster care, it seems that being open to the best of both worlds is the way to provide the best homes for children. And offering services, ideas, hope and resources will give these families a chance to provide the best and most consistent environment for a child.

We need to look at spending more money in the foster care system to reduce social workers' caseloads, compensate foster parents more fairly and require them to keep children, even when they act out. We need to also ensure that services are offered to children aging out of the system. And for families in need providing help to teach young parents skills they need to care for their children and keep families together can possibly prevent the need for foster care for some. And don't forget we can spend it now to change the outcome of a young life or we can spend it later to care for an unprepared adult alone in the world.

If you have any comments please e-mail me at consultjoan@att.net.

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Ferguson by Foot

By: Margaret Wolfinbarger



We have reached the apex of summer, that time of the year when the sun beats down on the pavement and creates the perfect environment for fried toes. I remember walking the streets as a child with my friend, Shelly. We would poke our naked toes into the tar bubbles that formed between the slabs of concrete and count down the minutes until we could hop in the pool in her back yard. I remember my parents telling me to "Stay out of the street" as they scrubbed the sticky goo of my feet, but I was never one for following their directions. I was far more interested in exploring and experiencing the world in all its glorious gooiness.

Summer was my favorite time of the year because it meant that I had absolute freedom to explore my neighborhood with my friends and get into an endless amount of mischief.

As an adult I find that I long for those innocent hot summer days. I remember the hours of boredom and the restrictions my parents tried to impose on me. I remember shimmying up pine trees to hide from my mother who was intent on forcing me to clean my room. Chores were a definite detractor from collecting roly-poly bugs in jars and chasing lightening bugs. I used to get so frustrated when she called me in for dinner while I was in the midst of a full-on game of hide and seek with my friends. My mother was nothing if not annoying.

In present days I find myself sitting in a cubicle as I navigate the stress of adult life. Gone are the carefree days of childhood. I am now the annoying mother, though for different reasons. As I pry the electronic devices from the iron grip of my little ones and shoo them outside to play, I encounter resistant attitudes from my beloved who sometimes simply refuse to see the beauty in their own back yard. After all, why explore nature when you can watch a nature program on TV? Why be athletic when you can watch American Ninja Warrior's do it for you? Why run and play with your friends when you can drink a can of soda, eat some chips and experience the cheap thrill of a sugar rush? Television purports to bring the world to us by way of moving pictures but it can never simulate the feel of wet grass on hot feet, a cold drink of water after the sun has parched our tongue, or the sweet smell of honeysuckle tickling our nose.

Believe it or not, exercise is not a four letter word. In fact, I believe we frequently misappropriate its usage. Physical activity can be pulling weeds, walking up stairs or swimming. It doesn't have to be spandex, Nike shoes and flat abs running through the park. Our culture has created this image of exercise that is so out of touch with reality and we bite it, hook line and sinker. I would even go so far as to propose that we are choking on it. Because good health isn't always a size 4 (if you're a woman) or six pack abs (if you're a man). Good health can be a belly that jiggles when you waddle, followed by a plate of barbecued brisket with a baked potato and greens beans. When accompanied with a healthy portion of positive-attitude-in-the-face-of-adversity on the side, you are well on your way to living your life more fully and completely. And who doesn't want that?

This summer I have to work for a living. But each morning before I head to the office, I race outside to experience the fresh air on my face and the sunshine on my arms. I do this on my bicycle and by foot. I dig in my garden on the weekends, and I take time to rest my body on Sunday. Because life is too short to sit in my house and stare at electronic devices. Now if you'll excuse me, I need to go annoy my children by way of our local park. You see, we need to meet our neighbors there to celebrate the great freedoms we have won by way of the blood of our fathers. I suspect there will be barbecue and ice cream and Frisbee.

Happy Independence Day, Neighbors! For more inspiration, visit me on my blog: www.destinationdiscipline.com.

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History House Draws Raves



The Open House at the brand new History House was well attended and many old time Ferguson residents recalled events related to the photos and memorabilia. Thanks Historical Society for your hard work.

Provident's Rooster Run Slated for July 9th, Forest Park

Rooster Run Raises Funds for Mental Health Services and Crisis Hotline

If you want to rise with the roosters and offer a brighter future to individuals and families in need, then register for Provident's 5K Rooster Run and One Mile Fun Walk on July 9th, 7 am, at Forest Park, Upper Muny Lot. Dedicate your race to the memory of a loved one to honor and celebrate his/her life. To register, go to www.roosterrun.org or <http://www.roosterrun.org>. Put together a team, run solo or with your dog. It's all for a tremendous cause ... mental health.

Top male and female runners from each age category will receive medals and Rooster South Grand Café is donating several dining gift cards for racers who catch our Rudy the Rooster mascot. Cardinals' Fredbird will be in attendance to cheer on participants. And, immediately following the race, enjoy protein-filled Start Right(tm) waffles, a delicious treat to refuel your body and mind.

Generous sponsors include: Golden Egg sponsors - Edward Jones and St. Louis Cardinals; New Day sponsor - Barbara Abbett; Wellness sponsor - SSM Health; Sunrise sponsors- Ascension Health, St. Anthony's Medical Center, BKD LLP, John and Kathleen Butler, Ellwood Associates, Stuart and Elaine Greenbaum, Jack and Debora Lay, and Ted and Julie Williamson; Friends of Rudy Rooster sponsors - Mike and Barbara Ferman, Dr. Ujjwal Ramtekkar, Sports Authority, and State Farm Lacey Mitchell Agency; Food and Beverage sponsors - Hollywood Casino, Dr Pepper Snapple Group, Start Right(tm), and Trader Joe's; Printing sponsor - INDOX Services.

The Rooster Run raises much-needed funds for Provident's core services ... counseling, suicide prevention and intervention, and community support programs. The 24/7 suicide hotline provides on-the-spot telephonic counseling to individuals in crisis due to severe depression, anxiety and other mental health challenges.

Provident's diverse, professional and licensed therapists offer individual and family counseling in five convenient locations in the metropolitan St. Louis area. In addition, therapeutic group treatment is offered to: ex-offenders of sex crimes and domestic violence; adults and teens who have lost a loved one to suicide; and teens who self-injure. To learn more, go to www.providentstl.org or call 314.533.8200.

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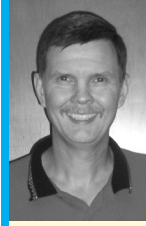
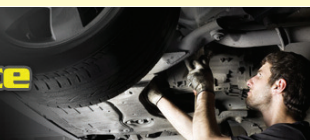
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Under The Hood With Robinwood

By Bob McGartland

The History of Parades

The traditional pastime of parades fills us with excitement. Who can pass up a 4th of July celebration parade? People stand curbside and cheer as the procession of high school bands, enormous floats, and politicians pass by the crowd. No matter what kind of parade you enjoy, the parades seem to outdo themselves in fun, excitement, and visual spectacles every year.

Parades, date back to ancient history when kings and royalty would march through their town or territory displaying their power and rule over people.

Many parades became associated with fairs and festivals. People came together to socialize and learn about recent news. The public anticipated such events, and the parades developed a flashy and exotic mood. The fleeting moments provided great pleasure and an escape from everyday life. Modern parades expanded the exotic and flashy parade and added a sense of excess to them.

One of the largest parades today is the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade that started in 1924 by Macy's employees. The parade

featured animals from the Central Park Zoo built around the theme to advertise products Macy's sold. Their first parade, considered a huge success by its organizers, became a yearly tradition. Companies pay thousands of dollars to display their brand on rolling floats and cartoon character balloons in the Macy's Day Parade. Three million spectators watch the annual parade as it winds its way through Manhattan, and four million viewers watch it on TV.

When the motorize car started rolling out of plants in the early 20th century, they quickly found themselves in parades. Through the years along with the love American's have for their cars, a parade has become the place where you can enjoy seeing the old classics, the modified street rods and even those expensive exotic cars. The Corvette is one of the most popular choices to be driven in a parade, especially if it is a classic. You will see a convertible, usually with any event royalty, local celebrities, or event personal riding in them. Our cars have earned their place of importance in our parades today.

Enjoy your summer days and take some time to soak in a good parade!

Hope to see all of you at our own Ferguson 4th of July parade starting at 10am on the 4th. A great tradition Ferguson continues year after year.

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The Ferguson Forester

In a follow up regarding the 'Merferd movement' which some have called it, most of the painted Merferds in south city, mid and north city have been 'buffed', as in wiped out. Love has a way of stirring up jealousy and a handful of haters. The only Merferds left are in an inaccessible area. I must confess that the motivation and 'want to' right now are not in me. But the 'spirit' of what we did IS here for good, and Merferd has made a lasting impact. A legacy, if it can be called that, has been made in St Louis, the impression being what I longed for; (Brotherly Love). And now this creator is asking our Creator; 'what next'?

I have been spending Thursday evenings at a homeless compound smack dab in the middle of the city. They all want a Merferd, and being a chain link fence area, I'm going to take a chance, and a few will be hanging out there soon.



Trust in the Lord and do good; Dwell in the land and cultivate faithfulness.
Psalm 37:3

Wendell Phillips (Phil) Berwick
Creator of Merferd & the Treetoons
Founder/Arborist Living Tree Care

Captain Dennis McBride opened the June 8th, 2016 meeting of the Ferguson On Watch, welcoming everyone. He passed out the May Ferguson Crime Review, which contained the monthly crimes sorted by FBI types (Assaults, Burglaries, etc.)



He then passed out the May report that was compiled for a specific category, Shots Fired, titled Event/Category Report. This report is broken down by the time period for the month of May 2016. In a previous month there were several questions on "shots fired" events, so this report shows all the calls made in reporting "Shots fired". Each of the incidents had a disposition of "NRN" No Report Needed, or "RPT" Report made. More people did call in for shots fired last month, for a total of 64 vs 48 calls for April.

Sometimes, an incident reclassifies its category based on additional information gathered. One category, Shooting, had 4 incidents during the same time period. As more people call these in, the police may be able to triangulate and narrow down where the shots are coming from. The time period with the highest activities was 9:30 pm to 1:30 am. A Supervisor's meeting is held every other week and this updated information is then given to the officers.

Police Chief Delrish Moss

Chief Delrish Moss spoke with the Neighborhood Watch group. Chief Moss arrived 3 weeks ago, and has found that Ferguson is a much better community than what was depicted on TV, and he suspected as much.

Chief Moss, now 51 years old, has worked 32 years in the Miami Police Department. He worked as an undercover street narcotics officer, road patrol, homicide investigator, and most recently as Major in Public Information and Community Relations. He also ran two 501c3's while there serving youth and a youth reward program. He had planned on retiring in September when the opportunity to work in Ferguson became available. He now plans to be here for many years and do lots of good work together with the community.

The Chief confirmed we are down 11 officers, and reported that we have a good chance to get some grant funding to affect that shortage. He is also interested in creating a public service aid program that immerses high school students in police culture at an early age, and retains them to the entry age of 21 for police officer work.

The Chief took several questions from the audience, and relayed his experiences regarding nuisance abatement, unruly teens, tenant responsibilities, etc. When the questions about Code Enforcement came up, Captain McBride stepped up to speak to our procedures in Ferguson.

One of the residents asked Chief Moss if he was familiar with the "Pork & Beans" section of Miami. The Chief affirmed that he was, and he explained to the rest of the audience that the Liberty Square Housing Project City area was the area where a high frequency of crimes occurred. He reported that a single drug takedown was responsible for a 45% drop in homicides in the city.

The Chief gave us his definition of "Community Policing", which is working with the community at finding solutions early instead of waiting until the problems grow up to be big trees.

Ferguson Court reform changes

Guest speaker Christine Lanfersieck, Ferguson's head Court Clerk, was our other speaker. Christine started in Ferguson in 2001 as a dispatcher. After 8 years she then moved into the courts, and was appointed Head Court Administrator in March of 2015.

In September 2014 The Ferguson City Council passed several ordinances.

- 1) They repealed the \$15 letter fee that was charged every time that court was missed and they had to mail out a letter
- 2) The Warrant Recall fee of \$50 was repealed
- 3) Failure to Appear charge was eliminated. The "Failure to Appear" created a whole new case each time a warrant was issued. As far as we know, Ferguson is the only city to have eliminated the Failure to Appear charge. The prosecutor then dismissed all of the "open" failure to appears, and Judge McCullin waived all the fines on the ones that were outstanding.
- 4) A limit of 15% of budget limit was passed for fines, even though Ferguson was already well under what Missouri State law allowed.

In March 2015 Judge Richter was appointed by the Supreme Court of Missouri, to serve over Ferguson Courts for 3 months. Judge Richter adopted a uniform fine schedule that all but 1 other St. Louis County Municipalities are using.

We've done a couple of different Warrant recall programs. In September 2014, Judge Brockmeyer initiated an amnesty program that lasted for 8 months. If you missed your court date, you could come up to the window and get 1 extension.

In August 2015 Judge McCullin did another recall program. All warrants that were active back to January 2015 were automatically recalled. This resulted in over 9000 warrants being recalled. In addition to that, the MO Dept of Revenue was notified to release the suspensions on driver licenses, giving people a clean slate.

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A Saturday docket twice per month was added from October 2015 to February 2016, giving people additional options for attending court. We also received a grant of \$18,000 from the National Center of State Courts to hire 2 retired clerks to work on all of these warrant review cases.

Judge Brockmeyer also added another docket scheduled after the 1st Friday of each month, which was the court payment date, for those on payment plans which had already been reduced from a \$100 minimum to a \$25 minimum per month payment. This docket allowed those with financial hardships to have an opportunity to do community service in lieu of payment plans.

Another change that helped was the transfer of the court from city hall over to the new courtroom next to the police station. This eliminated outside lines for the most part, as now more space was available on the inside of the court building.

Now that Judge McCullin retired, we now are going to get a new judge, and a dedicated prosecutor, that does not have to also do double duty as a city attorney.

Chief Moss gave us some consent decree facts regarding Miami with a much larger police force and budget, and a much more robust legal department, was able to get their consent decree down to 22 pages. Ferguson with a much smaller police force and much smaller budget and legal force received a 137 page consent decree. In this writer's opinion, it certainly appears that the DOJ took full advantage to push their national agenda on us. Hopefully, they will help us attain national best practices model status for other communities to aspire to.

Next meeting:

The next Ferguson Neighborhood Watch meeting scheduled for City Hall will be at 7:00 pm on **July 13th, 2016**. A speaker from the Fire Department will talk to us about the Mutual Aid Agreement. In August we'll have someone from Dispatching to speak with us.

CERT

June 11 we participated in educating the public about CERT at the Farmer's Market. Brochures about family emergency safety, emergency kit checklist, and an opportunity to sign up for CERT were made available. We also found out that our Public Safety liaison officer, Ray Nabzdyk, would be retiring after over a quarter century of service to Ferguson. Our congratulations and thanks go to Ray for his efforts in educating Ferguson citizens in public safety and emergency preparedness operations. July 7th from 9am to 11 am will be the next training event at Fire House 1, leading up to the Disaster Training event being held in Ferguson at the Florissant Valley Community College from **July 19th to 21st**.

Neighborhood Policing Steering Committee

The Neighborhood Policing Steering Committee held a NPSC event at the Family of Faith Church, 9105 West Florissant, behind the Ferguson Market at Ferguson Avenue & West Florissant on May 19th. This NPSC event was held to welcome the new Ward 3 residents that accepted our invitation from the April 30th barbeque event at the Nesbitt Newton neighborhood park. Thanks for becoming more involved in helping set the change for Neighborhood Policing in Ferguson.

At this meeting, the Steering Committee reviewed and finalized changes on the operating guidelines, and created a Facilitator Team to operate as the Leadership for the group.

The next meeting of the Neighborhood Policing Steering Committee is Thursday, **July 21th**, at the Family of Faith Church location.



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The funds are intended for students who have an interest and financial need. The scholarship covers a substantial amount of the cost.

Eligible applicants will be awarded scholarships on a first-come, first-served basis are intended for students in the Ferguson/North County area.

To apply for a scholarship, please complete the brief online form located on our website.

We currently have openings in the following camps:

Inventor's Workshop June 27-July 1	Advanced Astronaut Training ages 10-13 Session 1: July 11-15	Aquatic Robotics ages 12 and up July 18-22
---------------------------------------	--	--

Please share this with those who might have an interest and financial need to participate in a Challenger Learning Center camp.

More information on our camps can be found on our summer camp website Challenger Learning Center partnership

Challenger Learning Center is located in Ferguson at 205 Brotherton Ln, Ferguson, MO 63135 and is part of the Ferguson-Florissant School District.

Get Out and Play Disc Golf

Hudson Park's 18 holes of disc golf are fully open and operational. We opened on Memorial Day with friends and family coming to check out and play the course. We were excited to see so many disc golfers, neighbors and sponsors show up to check out what we've accomplished.

We still have work to do but the list is getting shorter as the weeks go on. If you want to help, get in touch with us through Facebook or email.

We are also still looking for a few more sponsors so if you know of a local Ferguson business who would be interested in being a sponsor, let us know and we will reach out to them.

Don't Forget, if you don't have a disc, you can check out discs at the Ferguson Community Center or purchase at the Ferguson Bicycle Shop.

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Shelby Warden Ferguson Student of Achievement

Shelby, daughter of Scott and Deanna Warden, is a graduate of Trinity High School and plans to continue her education at Missouri Baptist University to pursue a career in Secondary Education.



Shelby, an outstanding student, has been a member of the National Honor Society her last two years in High School. In her senior year, she took three honors classes, College Physics, Language & Composition and Pre-calculus. She also has been a member of the Renaissance Committee, Choir and Student Ambassadors.

She Excelled in athletics, participating in softball, track and soccer. She has won a \$14,000 yearly softball scholarship and was track MVP in 9th and 11th grade.

Miss Warden has volunteered during the tornado cleanup in her sophomore year and was a member of the Ferguson Garden Club in both her freshman and sophomore years.

Born and raised in Ferguson, Shelby's parents live in a Ferguson historic home on Adams Street. From the very beginning of her life, she felt that she was a part of the large Ferguson family. She attended Blessed Teresa of Calcutta School before entering Trinity High School.

Shelby loves seeing and greeting her friends and neighbors at the Ferguson Farmers Market and has been impressed with the manner in which the Ferguson community has kept its faith the past couple of years. "Even though the events of August 9th, 2014 were horrible and traumatizing, we came out as a stronger community because of the people," quotes Shelby.

Brandon Pappert Ferguson Student of Achievement



Brandon, having just completed his junior year at McCluer High School, is the son of John and Judy Pappert.

Brandon became friends with Ferguson Officer Greg Casem's son, and was inspired by Officer Casem to choose a career path where he can be of service to his community.

In May, having completed 1,000 hours of community service in Ferguson, Brandon traveled to Jefferson City to receive a scholarship from the Missouri Community Service Commission.

It all started three years ago when Brandon asked the Chief of Police what he could do to make a difference in his community. The Chief suggested that he volunteer with the Ferguson youth. So, he became very active with the Ferguson Youth Initiative. After the Michael Brown incident, Brandon spent most of his time at the Ferguson Fire House feeding all the men and women officers who came from across Missouri to assist with the riots. In addition, Brandon volunteers every year with assisting with traffic at the 5K/10K run and helps everywhere else his assistance is needed.

Brandon plans to enroll in Lindenwood or Maryville University upon his McCluer graduation. When asked what he loves about Ferguson, Brandon replied, "I love Ferguson's diversity where youth's opinions can be voiced and heard."

Ralph Rockamann Ferguson 4th of July 2016 Citizen of the Year

Ralph was born and raised here in Ferguson, attended Central Elementary and Sts. John & James School and graduated from McCluer High School. Growing up in Ferguson, some of his fondest memories are playing baseball at Jeske Park, fishing with his grandpa at Wabash Lake, or having fun at a family reunion at January Wabash Park. The son of Ralph and Ruth, and eldest brother of Randy, Roseanne, and Rita, the Rockamanns were active members of Sts. John & James Church; family and faith have always been at his forefront.



With his first job delivering the Spirit of Ferguson newspaper, and many years later cofounding the Ferguson Focus newspaper, it's no surprise that he's always believed in telling people how great his hometown is.

As a 22 year old, Ralph and a few friends started a screen printing, embroidery and sporting goods store they called Sportsprint. This business, 43 years later, still lives on at 6197 Bermuda Rd at the intersection of Paul Ave. Sportsprint is truly a family business not only in regard to each of his siblings and their spouses (Tim Simmons and Al Haines) working there but also in that he's developed a family relationship with all of his employees, most of whom have been with the company for many years. The business has also been a vehicle for his generosity over the years; last year he donated 3,000 tshirts to Central School in conjunction with their 135 Anniversary Celebration. This May, Ralph and his wife Kathy sold the business to other local residents (Steve & Lisa Wegert) with the stipulation that all employees be retained and that the business remain in Ferguson.

Over the years, Ralph has contributed to many endeavors to improve Ferguson. He was instrumental in the purchase of the cabooses and helped spearhead the building of the original Caboose Park as well as the Victorian lighting program along Florissant Road. He has helped fund the Victorian Plaza, is a major donor to Streetfest and Northern Lights, as well as the FSBD Concert Series held at Plaza @ 501, the 4th of July Festival and many other annual events that make Ferguson the "Community of Choice."

Ralph and Kathy also founded the Ferguson Foundation several years ago, to ensure that in Ferguson the education and wellbeing of children and the needs of the most vulnerable are attended to in the most positive way possible. Many of their donations remain anonymous. His contributions to the community have been recognized with previous honors of "Distinguished Alum" of Sts. John & James, McCluer Wall of Fame, and Distinguished Contributor to the FergusonFlorissant School District.

Ralph is also proud that his children carry on his legacy and passions in a variety of ways: his eldest, and only son Matt (39), carries on his love of sports and building teams as CEO of St. Louis Family Rockets Basketball Club; his daughter Allison (36), "talks tshirts" all around town as Sales Rep for Sportsprint, often with his favorite granddaughter Marie and/or husband Tim Dudash in tow; daughter Molly (34) resides in Ferguson and is the Founding Director of EarthDance Organic Farm School on the historic Mueller Farm on South Dade; and youngest Courtney (28) connects young people to their Catholic faith as Youth Minister at St. Anselm's Parish. Ralph's wife Kathy, of 41 years, is considered the 'saint' in the family, as she has been by his side through it all.

Some of Ralph's favorite Ferguson memories are running into "everybody" at Thyme Table Cafe, competing in the Manly Man High Heel race, and covering a parking lot with sand to create the oneofakind Ferguson Beach Party. In the last few years, you may have noticed Ralph and Kathy shopping and socializing at the Ferguson Farmers Market, dining at Marley's, Drake's Place, the Corner Coffeehouse, or Ferguson Brewing Company, or at many other Ferguson venues whenever his health permits him to support various fundraisers (including the 4th of July committee).

When asked what this honor means to him, he choked up a bit and replied, "To me, Ferguson is my hometown and always will be."

Ralph Rockamann, a long overdue "Citizen of the Year."



Meet Sonya

Sonya is a lifelong resident of Ferguson with 12 years of experience cleaning and organizing. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts and is able to transform your home or office into a functional area that is also attractive. Sonya is up for any challenge, large or small.

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BOB ON JOB

By
Bob
McCarty

Here we are in the middle of the year. It's July; and I am taking a detour from my usual July fare –writing about historical houses in America. Kind of.

Over the past few weeks, we have been dealing with some pretty hot days. The other day, as I turned on the oven to put some beans in for baking, I walked to the thermostat and turned down the A/C so that I wouldn't heat up the house. I thought about this technological breakthrough and about how people did it back in the day before air conditioning when it came to preparing their meals during the hot months.

Usually found in upstate New York, the Midwest, and most plantation homes of the south, you would find just a few steps from the indoor kitchen, the Summer Kitchen. Separate from the main kitchen, this small cottage was used during the summer months to prepare the meals so that the rest of the house would not get heated up while the meal was prepared.

Used mostly through the late 18th century into the 19th century, these small cottages were set just off the main house and were built to compliment it. Usually, the Summer Kitchen was painted the same as the house using the same style of exterior décor. If the Summer Kitchen was set upon a rock foundation, this cellar would be used to store root vegetables, hence the name, Root Cellar.

Every spring, the wood cook stove would be moved from the main house and placed in the Summer Kitchen. A work table usually sat in the middle of the room while the cast iron pots and pans hung from hooks on the wall. Herbs and veggies hung from the rafters drying as the summer bounty was prepared for the family to enjoy.

Life in those days was a lot different. The stove wasn't lit with the electronic igniter that we use to light our gas stoves. It took some times up to an hour and a half to stoke the stove to start preparing the meal. And it wasn't as easy as it is today to turn off the stove either. If our ancestors saw us today and what we have, they'd be wondering why we have it so easy. So after the breakfast is done

cooking, why not just stoke the stove and put on a big pot of water to boil so that we could do some laundry. I mean, how else are we to keep our whites white without boiling them in some good ol' lye water? Boy, are we spoiled! All we have to do is to run down to laundromat or the basement if we're lucky enough to have our own washer and dryer. Dryer!? We would hang our clothes to dry around the perimeter of the room to make sure that cook stove would help speed up the drying process. Or outside if we didn't need our socks darned before tomorrow.

All types of activities took place in the summer kitchen, churn some butter, clean the freshly laid eggs, and make soap, even the Saturday night bath. That's right, the pot would be put back on the stove after the dinner meal was prepared and the water was heated for the family baths. After dinner, Papa would get the first bath followed by Mama then the oldest to the baby. When you were part of a big family, the baby was often thrown out with the bath water because after a weeks' worth of grime was cleaned off the entire family, who even knew that the baby was in the water! Ha Ha!

So where did all of the water come from to fill up that big pot for laundry and baths?

If you lived by a stream you would just walk down and fill up some buckets, but most houses back in the day usually had a well or at least a cistern to store their water. Some Summer Kitchens had a 3x3x6 foot tank placed between the roof and the rafters where the rain water was diverted from the roof of the main house. Later in the summer when this tank would run dry, a pump would bring the water from the well or cistern into the Summer Kitchen.

If you had a Summer Kitchen a few steps from your house, would you use it for the purpose it was built? Probably not because of the conveniences we have become accustomed to. But what a great way to avoid heating up your house when we didn't have the convenience of air conditioning. Our ancestors made do without the tools that we have and they made the best life that they could with what they had. With that being said, we do have it pretty easy today and I often wonder what our future generations will think about the archaic way that we live our lives today, tomorrow!

Until next month, Bob is on the Job.

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Tues. & Thurs.
11am-11pm
Fri.-Sat
11am-12am



Stop by to try some of our newest menu items like our bacon, egg, and cheeseburger made with a farm fresh egg from EarthDance Organic Farm School or our Brat burger made from fresh ground bratwurst from Johns Butcher Shoppee on a Companion Bakery pretzel bun!

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Why Texting Works!

By LaTease Rikard

It sounds simple doesn't it? Send a text message, get a response. Who would think that this simple process could engage your customers, create more customers and make your simple offers go viral? But it does! Today I am going to share a secret with you on how you can use SMS/Text Messaging to move the needle on your company's revenues and bottom line.

For all you numbers and statistics folks let me throw some data your way.

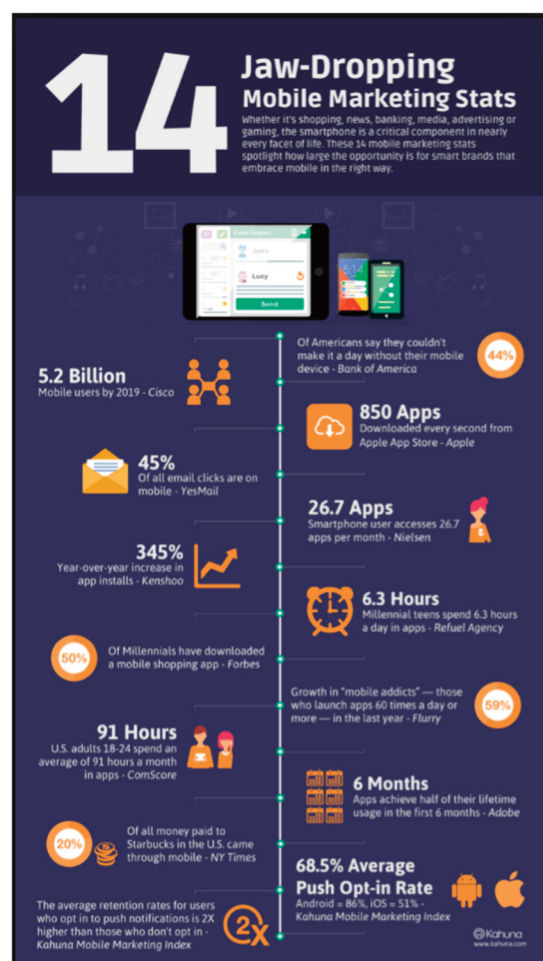
- Texting is the most widely used and frequently used app on a smartphone, with 97% of Americans using it at least once a day. (Pew Internet)
- Text messages have a 98% open rate, while email has only a 20% open rate. (Mobile Marketing Watch)
- 90% of all text messages are read in under 3 minutes. (Connect Mogul)
- 75% of phones worldwide (4.5 billion) are text-enabled (Duo Call Communications)



Those are just the basics when it comes to text messages, and it gives you a high level overview of the potential audience your messages will hit when

you use this form of local social marketing. Yes, texting is a form of social media marketing! First of all it's definitely social, just think about the last time you were waiting in line anywhere. Were people fully engaged with their smartphones in some manner? You bet they were! Those people were 'socially' engaging with someone, somewhere! I bet at least one or most of them were responding to a text message they had just received.

For business owners to be able to take advantage of Text Message/SMS mobile marketing, you need to have a method in which to send messages to your customers. The best way to do this is to offer simple opt-in signs at your cash register, or on posters throughout your establishment. My church flashes a video before service sharing the short code to text to in order to receive church announcements, and to receive notifications when the most current sermon is available for download. It's effective, efficient and low in cost. I am



(graphic courtesy Digital Agency Network)
<http://digitalagencynetwork.com/mind-blowing-mobile-marketing-statistics-revealed/>

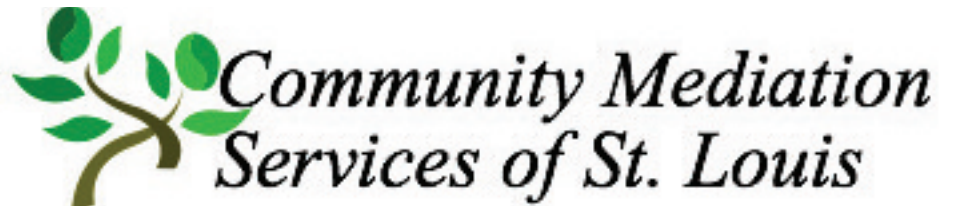
one of those folks that enjoys listening to the sermons on my phone. I just click on the link that is in the text message I just received from the church and the sermon plays through my phone! It's that simple!

I'm excited about this type of marketing that levels the marketing playing field for business owners. As a business owner you don't need a huge budget to do this. And if you already have a database of your customers (their names, email addresses and/or cell phone numbers) you are ready to get started growing your business.

Take a look at these business statistics regarding the use of Text/SMS mobile marketing:

- 70% of U.S. consumers appreciate getting texts or emails from health-care providers. (Loyalty 360)
- 80% of people are currently using texting for business. (eWeek)
- The activities people with text capabilities would most prefer to do via text are: check order status (38%) schedule or change appointments (32%) and make or confirm reservations (31%). (Harris Poll)
- 75% of people would like to have offers sent to them via SMS. (Digital Marketing Magazine)

Another astounding fact is 98 per cent of all SMS messages are opened, but only 20 per cent of emails are looked at. What an amazing statistic! How would you like to get 98% of your customer's eyeballs on your latest sale, coupon, contest, or just upcoming event? For the amount of money it costs to get started with a Text/SMS mobile marketing campaign, the ROI is astounding. If you're not using Text/SMS marketing for customer loyalty and retention then you're missing out on an important totally automated



Who is Community Mediation Services of St. Louis?

- CMS provides conflict resolution services throughout greater St. Louis.
- CMS has provided volunteer community mediation under several names since 1989.
- CMS is affiliated with the National Association For Community Mediation, a nationwide agency providing support and training for community mediation.
- CMS mediators are professionally trained volunteers from the community.
- CMS mediates disputes involving neighbors, between residents and landlords, in the workplace, and internal within families.
- CMC assists residents, neighborhoods and communities throughout greater St Louis.

Police Mediation Services

How Does Mediation Benefit Citizens?

- Citizens can speak directly to officers and see first hand that the Police Department takes their concerns seriously.
- Citizens have an opportunity to be heard and understood.
- Citizens can hear the officers' perspective about the incident.
- Citizens can provide feedback that can help prevent similar incidents in the future.
- Through direct involvement, Citizens gain personal closure, rather than an unknown outcome.

How are Mediations Scheduled?

- We contact the citizen and police officer by phone to answer questions and secure available dates and times for mediation.
- We schedule two hours for mediation at a neutral location and assign two mediators. Most conversations do not take more than an hour.

What Happens at Mediation?

- Mediators explain the process for mediation.
- Everyone signs an Agreement to Mediate, which outlines rules of conduct and confidentiality.
- Each party speaks and listens in turn. Mediators manage the process and facilitate a productive conversation.
- We provide the referring department with the signed Agreement to Mediate and document containing the date, time, and location of the mediation, and a statement that the officers participated in good faith. All other notes are destroyed.

Two Ferguson-Florissant Sophomores Selected to Attend Missouri Scholars Academy

Two Ferguson-Florissant School District sophomores are among 300 students across the state selected to attend the 2016 Missouri Scholars Academy (MSA).

Jacob Tiemann, who attends McCluer High School and Gabe Mitchell, who attends McCluer North High School, are attending the three-week residential program that began June 12 and ends July 2 on the campus of the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Every public and private high school in the state is allowed to nominate at least one student for the academy. Academically, students represent the top one-half of one percent of the state's sophomore class. Students are selected based on their PSAT scores, grade point average, IQ test and a series of written essays. MSA provides a wide range of activities as well as intensive instruction in specialized areas.

Guest speakers, performers, discussions and career education are combined with extracurricular and social activities to round out the curriculum.

form of marketing.

Next month: How to Set Up an SMS Customer Loyalty Campaign

Want more information on setting up a Text/SMS Mobile Campaign? Give me a call 314-495-2497 and I'll drop by your business and share what I know with you!



JUBILEE OF MERCY

A Pilgrimage August 13 Blessed Teresa of Calcutta

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 2016, 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

SUBJECT: Sr. Thea Bowman F.S.P.A.
PRESENTER: Sr. Eva Marie Lumas, SSS.DMin

This Pilgrimage is held at Blessed Teresa of Calcutta, 150 N. Elizabeth. Lunch will be provided (Free Will offering accepted).

Come listen to Sr. Eva Marie Lumas, speak about Sr. Thea Bowman, a Sister of Social Service in Los Angeles who was a close friend of Sr. Thea Bowman. Sr. Eva Marie Lumas has a Doctorate of Ministry degree from Howard University in Washington, D.C. She is the Cultural Competency Trainer at St. Mary's Center in Oakland, California and served as both Assistant Professor of Faith and Culture and Director of Field Education at the Franciscan School of Theology in Berkeley, California from 1994 until June of this year. Sr. Eva Marie is also an Adjunct Professor of Catechesis and Pastoral Studies at the Institute for Black Catholic Studies at Xavier University of Louisiana and author of "Let it Shine: The emergence of African American Catholic Worship".

Her subject, Sr. Thea Bowman F.S.P.A, was born Bertha Bowman in Yazoo City, Mississippi in 1937. Her grandfather had been born a slave, but her father was a physician and her mother a teacher. She was raised in a Methodist home but, with her parents' permission, converted to the Roman Catholic faith at the age of nine, and later joined the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration at La Crosse, Wisconsin. There she attended Viterbo University, run by her congregation. Sr. Thea Bowman later attended The Catholic University of America for advanced studies, where she wrote her doctoral thesis on the American writer, William Faulkner. She was a Roman Catholic Religious Sister and Servant of God, teacher, and scholar, who made a major contribution to the ministry of the Catholic Church to her fellow African Americans. She became an evangelist among her people and was a popular speaker on faith and spirituality in her final years. She helped found the National Black Sisters Conference to provide support for African-American women in Catholic religious institutes.



RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED by contacting 314.524.0500.

A Community Effort, A Community Reward

The Northwest Ferguson Neighborhood Association (NWFNA) recently conducted their inaugural Curb Appeal Day on June 18 to assist elderly and low-income families with needed exterior home repairs. Organized by the neighborhood association steering committee, and managed by committee member Anetra Johnson, the curb appeal day used volunteer laborers from across Ferguson, ranging in age from small children to older adults, with every age in between represented. The materials necessary to repaint trim, replace shutters, freshen overgrown gardens, and clad worn out trim boards, were supplied by the neighborhood association, as well as lunch for the volunteers.



Hungry volunteers break for lunch. Photo by Tim Larson.

"It was a community effort with a community reward," said Anetra Johnson about the day's accomplishments. "I can't stress how grateful I am for all of the Ferguson neighbors that worked together to give the Vaz-Fisher and Davis families a helping hand to boost their curb appeal," she added. Ward 2 Councilwoman Laverne Mitchum, who volunteered at the event, agreed. "I often refer to community and how important it is for all of us to work together. I saw that in action at the curb appeal event. This is what community is all about," Mitchum stressed. Both families assisted expressed gratitude to the 20 volunteers who donated their time so generously. "What a blessing. Thank you to everyone who volunteered to give my house curb appeal. It looks like a different house!" expressed Angela Vaz-Fisher.



The Davis home, before (top), and after (bottom) the curb appeal day.



The Vaz-Fisher home, before (top), and after (bottom) the curb appeal day.



The Davis family



The Vaz-Fisher family

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The NWFNA mission statement is "working together to make our neighborhood and community a safe, friendly and attractive place to live." The curb appeal day represented a realization of that mission – neighbors helping neighbors to beautify their surroundings. The NWFNA hopes to build on this success by implementing future curb appeal days in their neighborhood.

Want to see similar results in your neighborhood? Would your neighborhood association like to collaborate on future projects? Contact us through our Facebook Group (NW Ferguson Neighborhood) for more information. Let's see how much we can accomplish, when we all work together.

4th Annual
THE TASTE
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www.TheTasteInFerguson.com

SAVE THE DATE & BRING A DATE!
Sunday, September 11, 2016 | 3-6 p.m.



The 4th annual The Taste in Ferguson fundraiser event for the Robbie McGartland and Samantha Lipka Memorial Scholarship Fund will take place this year on Sunday September 11th, 2016. The event will again be held at the Savoy Banquet Center located at 119 S. Florissant Rd. from 3-6pm. Each year the event has grown. Last year being our most successful event, there were over 900 people in attendance. Over the last 3 years through the generosity of many people we have raised \$70,000 in scholarship money that has benefited our local youth. Proceeds have funded scholarships to high school students in the Ferguson Florissant School District, grade school students at Blessed Teresa of Calcutta, Ferguson Youth Initiative, Ferguson's 4th of July Youth Achiever Scholarships, Ferguson D.A.R.E Program and several youth camps. We are very grateful for the support from our sponsors, food vendors, The City of Ferguson, everyone who has attended and our volunteers. So many people have helped make all this possible. Thank you!

Many of your food vendors are returning again this year, along with new restaurants who will be serving up delicious food samples to satisfy your appetite. This year's event will include beer and wine tasting, music entertainment, children's activities and a silent auction. Back by popular demand is the celebrity chef's cooking demonstrations. They will be showing off their talents under the big tent. Since the event will be taking place on 9/11, we have added a special section where we will be honoring and thanking our local First Responders.

This year's event emcee is a familiar voice that has been heard on the radio for years. Asher Benrubi, better known as "Smash" will be joining us. Perhaps you've enjoyed hearing the Smash Band; they've played at several 501 Plaza summer concerts.

Tickets go on sale August 1st, 2016. You can purchase them at the Whistle Stop, Robinwood Automotive, and Ferguson Farmers Market on Saturdays or on-line at www.thetastein Ferguson.com.

For anyone who would like to get involved with our fundraiser event, we have volunteer opportunities available. We have room for a few more food vendors. Businesses or individual sponsorships are also available. Our email address is info@thetastein Ferguson.com or visit the website at www.thetastein Ferguson.com.

So clear your schedules, save the date, mark your calendars, program your smart phones, bring the family, grab a group of friends for the 4th Annual The Taste in Ferguson event on Sunday September 11, 2016 3-6 pm at the Savoy Banquet Center. We are expecting another great event this year. See you at The Taste!

Library Events You May Not Know About!

*See the stars
with our telescope*

The Ferguson Public Library has a TELESCOPE available for you to check out!

Visit the library or call 521-4820 to place a request today.



Yoga For Adults

Increase your flexibility and de-stress with our yoga for adults class. No experience necessary! You must bring your own yoga mat.

Class meets every other Saturday from 2-3 pm.

Upcoming Dates

Saturday, July 9 at the Library



Kids today don't know how easy they have it.

When I was young, I had to walk 9 feet through shag carpet to change the TV channel.

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Good Poetry Journal

"The GoodPoetry Journal is an online publication which celebrates poetry from the past and the present! Beginning June 1st, 2016 until August 31st, 2016, the GoodPoetry Journal will accept previously unpublished poetry submissions for three categories: Children, Teens, and Adults. Each poet may submit up to 5 poems per reading cycle. (See the website for Reading Cycle dates.) Include a letter introducing yourself, and why you write poetry; also, share what inspired you to write the poems you are submitting. A photograph of yourself is optional.

Accepted poems will be published in the GoodPoetry Journal (print and electronic versions). The first issue of the Journal will be published in September 2016. New issues of the Journal will be published on a quarterly basis, thereafter.

If you are interested in having your work considered for publication in the GoodPoetry Journal, then please visit our website at www.GoodPoetry.org/submissions for complete details. At this time, we can only accept submissions mailed to:

ATTN: Poetry Editor
 The GoodPoetry Journal
 P.O. Box 536
 Florissant, MO 63032

Please include a SASE if you desire a response for rejected manuscripts. Send questions to submitgoodpoetry@gmail.com, or through Facebook, or Twitter."

Over \$50,000 Raised for Scouts

Supporters attended the second annual North St. Louis County Community For Scouting Dinner to recognize Honoree Robert M. Cox and to celebrate Scouting accomplishments. The dinner took place at the Ferguson Brewing Company located at 418 South Florissant Road. The charity dinner helped raise \$51,166 for local Scouting.

Former Vice President of Emerson Electric Co., Robert Cox was recognized for his noteworthy service to the community. Cox serves on the Executive Board of the Greater St. Louis Area Council and Boy Scouts of America as Strategic Plan Chairman.

Ferguson Firefighter Participates in National Annual Fight for Air Climb



Firefighter Henry Ballard, Jr. entered the American Lung Association's Fight For Air Climb: Master The Met event in March, 2016 at the Metropolitan Square Building in Downtown St. Louis.

Firefighters must race up 40 flights of steps in their full uniform to complete the event.

Over the past four years, Ballard has raised more than \$1,400 for the event, which goes toward funding for those affected by lung disease.

"This is my fourth year in a row participating in the event," shared Ballard. "It is a badge of honor to complete this challenge, but it can be a badge of disgrace if you do not complete it because once you start anything, you have to see it through until the end."

Area Leaders to Celebrate North County Inc.'s Anniversary

To commemorate North County Incorporated's (NCI) 39 years of service to the community, NCI is holding its annual Anniversary Fundraiser at Hendl's Market Café & Piano Bar on Sunday, July 17, 2016 beginning at 6 pm. Space is limited for this event to the first 80 paid registrants who will enjoy an elegant dinner and wine pairing along with a silent auction.

To be one of the first 80 to register for this event or for more information on how to donate an item for the auction, call NCI's office at 314-895-6241 or visit our website at NorthStLouisCounty.com.

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Seen Around Town

Have you noticed the utility boxes along Florissant Road recently? They are covered with replicas of some of the "Board Ups" that graced our downtown after the disruption in Ferguson in 2014.

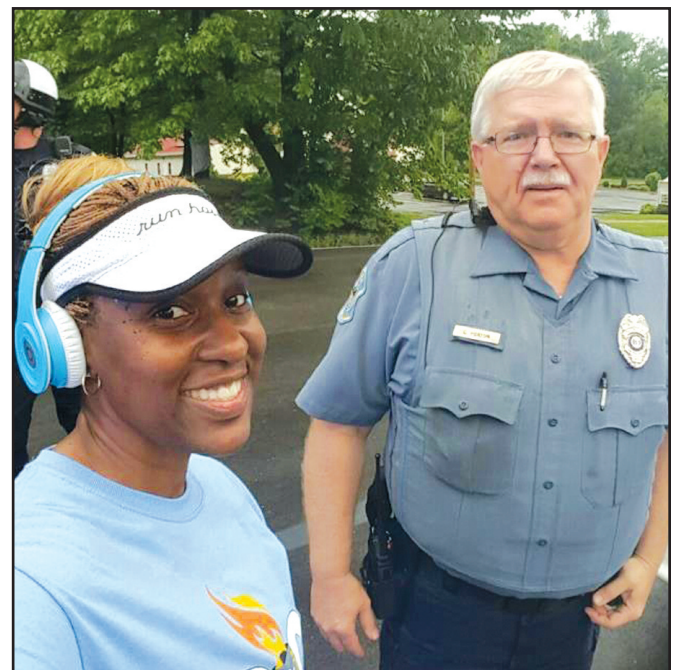


Ferguson Police Sergeant Carried Torch in Special Olympics

Sergeant Dominica Fuller of the Ferguson Police Department participated in the Ferguson leg of the Special Olympics Run on May 12, 2016. She ran a total of 3.6 miles while carrying the torch through Ferguson.

"Every year, law enforcement officers are asked to run a leg of the torch," Sgt. Fuller said, "I mentor young ladies who want to become police officers because they need positive role models. This is an event that I am proud to be a part of."

Fuller went on to say that her concern for the youth of Ferguson motivates her to remain committed and active in the community.



Sgt. Fuller is shown on the left with fellow police officer, Craig Horton.

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.



Molly Rockamann



If a picture paints a thousand words, then these pictures are sufficient to let you know how Ferguson's own Molly Rockamann stays involved in our community.

Top left is Molly and Ruffina, "Harmony Walkers" in Jeske Park.

To the left and top right is the sign at the EarthDance farm welcoming visitors to the farm and school.

Directly above is Molly selling produce to a CSA shareholder.



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Aug. 2, 2016 election day

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When a soldier comes home he finds it hard

- ... to listen to his son whine about being bored.
- ... to keep a straight face when people complain about potholes.
- ... to be tolerant of people who complain about the hassle of getting ready for work.
- ... to be understanding when a co-worker complains about a bad night's sleep.
- ... to be silent when people pray to God for a new car.
- ... to control his panic when his wife tells him he needs to drive slower.
- ... to be compassionate when a businessman expresses a fear of flying.
- ... to keep from laughing when anxious parents say they're afraid to send their kids off to summer camp.
- ... to keep from ridiculing someone who complains about hot weather.
- ... to control his frustration when a colleague gripes about his coffee being cold.
- ... to remain calm when his daughter complains about having to walk the dog.
- ... to be civil to people who complain about their jobs.
- ... to just walk away when someone says they only get two weeks of vacation a year.
- ... to be forgiving when someone says how hard it is to have a new baby in the house.

The only thing harder than being a Soldier . . . is loving one.



Ask Grandma

I wanted to help Mom with the paper this month because she is recuperating from knee replacement surgery, and on pain-killing drugs. Even though I am not a Grandma, I offered to write the Ask Grandma column. I thought it would be better to have an article written by a non-Grandma than a drug induced Grandma. So I am going to write about a childhood memory about concrete.

I was a child in the late 60s/early70s (I am old enough to be a Grandma). My family lived on Forest Avenue, right behind Sts. John and James church (now BTC). Every now and then, someone in the neighborhood was in need of a new concrete driveway or patio. Our neighborhood had a great deal with Kienstra Concrete. They were located where the Shop n' Save is now. A phone call was placed to Kienstra, and arrangements were made to deliver any leftover concrete when and if there was any. By leftover, I mean already mixed concrete that wasn't all used on a Kienstra job by the end of the day. It was a great deal for the families in our neighborhood! The problem was that we never knew when the concrete would arrive, so we needed to be prepared. A group of dads, including my own, would spend a few evening and weekends planning and digging. I remember the house next door had a driveway that sloped to the basement. The new one was going to be level with the yard, so there was a big hole to fill. Everyone was cleaning out their garages and throwing the junk in the hole. My old wrecked bike is under that driveway! After all the prep work was done, it was time to wait.

My family, all eight of us, ate dinner together every night. The concrete truck would always arrive while we were having dinner. There was no need to make any phone calls to gather the men to help pour concrete because when the truck arrived, you could hear and feel the rumble as it drove up the street. Dad would gulp down his last bite of dinner, grab his shovels and a wheelbarrow and meet the rest of the dads by the truck. All the kids would, of course, follow and try to be helpful without getting in the way too much. Mom would bring coffee (and beer?) and the desserts we didn't have time to eat before the truck arrived. The men would work until dark finishing the concrete. Sometimes it would take more than one truck to finish the job, so the same thing would happen a few days later. It was always exciting and fun when the concrete truck was in the neighborhood! Our neighborhood had really nice driveways!

We had a good neighborhood and I have a lot of good memories about it!

The article above was written by my daughter, Jean McCarty. She, and her three sisters have been coming to my house everyday while I recuperated. She mentioned that she would write "Ask Grandma" to relieve my mind.

My memory of the concrete incident is a little different than Jean's. First of all, what do the concrete trucks do with leftover concrete at the end of the day? They can't keep it in the truck because it would setup, so they have to dump it somewhere. The arrangement of dumping leftovers somewhere nearby with a whole group of neighbors helping spread and finish was of great benefit to both Kienstra and the neighborhood.

As I recall the neighborhood men had no inkling as to how to work concrete so there was a lot of misdirection and they worked well into the night because once concrete is set, it's set. In spite of all this, the end results were somewhat professional, even though there was certainly no time for dessert, coffee or beer.

Readings on Race Club Members Grow

While the Ferguson Readings on Race Club grows in numbers, members grow in their understanding of the history and implications of relationships between white people and people of color.

For July the group will read *Olivia's Story* by Jeffrey Copeland, based on the U. S. Supreme Court case, Shelley vs. Kraemer, the St. Louis case that did away with housing discrimination.

The book club will meet on **July 11** at 6 p.m. at the Ferguson Municipal Library. (The August 8 meeting will be at the Ferguson Brewing Company.)

For more information, contact Amy Randazzo at arandazzo@fergusonlibrary.net or Carla Fletcher at carlajeanfletcher@yahoo.com.



Stay In the Neighborhood Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation Centers



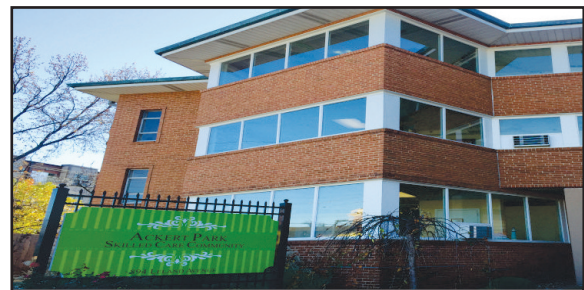
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Calendar of Events In and Around Ferguson

Complete Details of These Events Throughout the Paper

Movie "Max" at Central School	Fri., July 1
4th of July Festival and Parade	Mon., July 4
Mystery Meal	Thurs., July 7
City Walk Concert Series "Diesel Island" – Plaza @ 501	Fri., July 8
Painting for Puppies at Almost Picasso	Sat., July 9
Reading on Race Meeting	Mon., July 11
Wellspring Summer Camp	July 11-29
Neighborhood Watch Meeting – City Hall	Wed., July 13
Yahtzee – Comm. Ctr.	Thurs., July 14
NorthWest Chamber Membership Meeting	Thurs., July 14
North County Gala – James Eagan Ctr., Florissant	Fri., July 15
Kay Love Concert – St. Peters UCC	Fri., July 15
"The Peanuts Movie" at St. Peters UCC	Sat., July 16
Monday Food Trucks – 501 Plaza	Mon., July 18
Resume Writing – Library	July 18-29
Provident 5K / 10K Run – Forest Park	Tues., July 19
CERT Disaster Training – FloValley	July 19-21
N/H Policing Steering Committee – Family of Faith Church	Thurs., July 21
City Walk Concert Series "Power Play" – Plaza 501	Fri., July 22
Christian Hip Hop Festival	Sat., July 23
City Council Meeting – City Hall	Tues., July 28
Movie "Inside Out" at Comm. Ctr.	Fri., July 29
Brian Fletcher Memorial Golf Tournament	Mon., July 30
Gambling in Boonville	Thurs., Aug. 11


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