

Serving Ferguson and Surrounding Communities

**2018
FERGUSON CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES FORUM**

All Ferguson residents are invited to listen and ask questions of the candidates for Ferguson City Council



Thursday, March 22, 2018
6:30 pm to 8:00 pm
Ferguson Community Center
1050 Smith Ave.
Ferguson, MO 63135



Ward 1: Ella Jones (Incumbent), Pam Hartley
Ward 2: Laverne Mitchom (Incumbent), J. Toni Burrow
Ward 3: Wesley Bell (Unopposed/Incumbent)

Mark your calendars for an informative evening with the candidates
Your vote is important!!

****The election will be held on April 3, 2018****

Sponsored by the Neighborhood League Association



**March Events at the
Ferguson Public Library**

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

Coding for Kids Class – Tuesday, March 6 at 6 pm
Design and create your own digital story, complete with animations and more using Scratch! For kids ages 7-14. Registration required.
Class will meet Tuesdays until May 1; no class on April 3.

The History of the Suffragists – Thursday, March 8 at 6 pm
Celebrate National Women's History Month with us and the League of Women Voters as we learn about the history of the suffragists with a narrated pictorial history of the Suffrage movement and its impact and relevance today. All are welcome!

Wings for Tots – Saturday, March 24 at 2 pm
Join us and the World Bird Sanctuary and get up close and personal with some amazing birds of prey! Enjoy a hands-on experience about how and why birds differ from other animals and what makes a raptor unique among birds. A caregiver must be present for kids 9 and under.

Crazy for Crayons – Saturday, March 31 at 11 am
Let's celebrate National Crayon Day with crayon-based art projects and other fun activities! For kids ages 3-12. A caregiver must be present for children ages 9 and under.

GET LUCKY WITH ONE OF OUR ONGOING PROGRAMS!

- Readings on Race Book Club: *Policing Ferguson, Policing America* - Monday, March 12 at 6 pm
- Crafternoon - Friday, March 23 at 5 pm
- Tuesday Night Book Club: *Sing, Unburied, Sing* - Tuesday, March 27 at 5 pm

**Saturday, March 17th
Ferguson Indoor Farmers' Market**

Featuring Local Vendors:

- EarthDance Organic Farm • Wicked Soapworks • Hahn Farm • Bon Vivant Catering • El Chico Bakery • Just Omelets • Kay's Kreations • Izzy-Kay • Ferguson Youth Initiative • Ferguson Eco Team • Alpaca of Troy • Boomerang Bags • Alpaca of Troy
- LIVE MUSIC BY DAN DELION



the-vine.us/farmers-market/

**St. Stephen's Church
33 North Clay – 9:00 am to noon**

**Ferguson Easter Sunrise Service
at January Wabash Park**



The annual 2018 Ecumenical Easter Sunrise Service will be held Sunday, April 1 at 6:30 a.m. at January-Wabash Memorial Park. The service will be held on the west side of the lake. Bring your own chair if desired. A free-will offering will benefit the Ferguson Caring League. The community is invited, and there will be coffee and donuts afterward. More info in April paper.

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**Ferguson Twilight Run Couch to 5K
starts Monday, March 19**



This nine week session occurs every Monday, Wednesday & Friday at 6 P.M. starting at Forestwood Park in Ferguson.
For more information, email psupnrunning@aol.com

#RunWithFerguson
www.FergTwilightRun.com



The Ferguson City Council Meetings

Tuesday, March 13th and Tuesday, March 27th
All meetings will be held in the City Council Chambers at 110 Church Street at 7:00 p.m.

If You Have Items of Interest, Contact The Ferguson Times cider@att.net



CityWalk Business Updates

Welcome to Citizens Against Discrimination, located at 111 Church St., Suite 201. Kawana Waddell, owner of Style-Taneous Styles, plans to open a women's boutique at 426 S. Florissant Rd. She anticipates a soft opening around March 16th and a Grand Opening on March 31st.

Congratulations to Nehemiah Project's Epicenter: they recently opened a second-hand boutique, Couturier for a Cause, at 104 S. Florissant Road. Proceeds from sales support the Nehemiah Project, and affordable housing agency that serves Ferguson and surrounding cities.

REVITALIZING THE DOWNTOWN: A WORK IN PROGRESS

With the downtown TIF (Tax Increment Financing) ending in 2023, there is a need to bridge the gap to continue work begun in the downtown Ferguson Special Business District (FSBD). The good news is that FSBD has received a Downtown Revitalization Grant from Missouri Main Street Connection, Inc., which assists revitalization programs in Missouri's historic commercial districts. You'll be hearing a lot about this initiative in the future. For a moment, let's look at some of the recent history of the FSBD, with the assistance of Steve Wegert, former mayor and current president of Sportsprint, 6197 Bermuda Road.

The downtown area was marketed by the Ferguson Station Business Association (FSBA). In the early 2000s, the FSBA hired Shannon Howard and began to rebrand, moving away from the long-recognized train theme. The business owners wanted to develop a more up-to-date image. Thus, CityWalk emerged. During this time, the organization began expanding its trademark events, such as Northern Lights and Street Fest.

Prior to this, the FSBA survived on self-taxing revenue from the business licenses issued in the district. They raised approximately \$35,000 annually with which they could carry out special projects, sometimes with the help of loans from the city. An example is the Victorian street lights you see in downtown Ferguson.

In the late 1990's and early 2000's there was a big push in marketing Ferguson as "the place to be." This led to the establishment of a TIF district to fund projects which would enhance the downtown district. Steve Wegert named many, many business owners and entities who were instrumental in this phase of downtown Ferguson's development and feared leaving anyone out. However, most significant were Joe Lonero and Farzad Faramarzi.

Farzad relocated his popular Thyme Table restaurant on the strip renovating a vacant Hardees and opened the Savoy banquet center in the old Savoy theatre. When Joe Lonero was unable to persuade Starbucks or Panera to locate in the downtown area, he established the Corner Coffee House (sadly, now closed). Vincenzo's restaurant, the purchase and complete renovation of the old Sportsprint building to include lofts and retail space, the Brewhouse and Streetcar Lofts all followed. Many of those projects would not have been possible without funding from the TIF. CityWalk continued to add to projects to make downtown Ferguson a destination for persons outside of Ferguson. The Farmers Market developed into a CityWalk project. Later, concert nights were added. Much work remains, because revitalization is a work in progress. The world changes and business districts must evolve as well to attract customers. More next month on the Main Street Grant.

CityWalk business owners have a standing invitation to attend meetings of the Ferguson Special Business District Advisory Board, which meets the 2nd Thursday of the month from 5:30-7:30 p.m. The meeting's location has been changed to the office of Mobile Eyecare Solutions, 248 S. Florissant Rd. For more information, please contact Robin Shively at 314-495-7452 or cornersframing@gmail.com.

The Plumber's Crack

By Oh Baby bigohbaby@sbcglobal.net

Hot today cold tomorrow, Fish Fries ruling on Fridays, Spring Training going full bore, days get longer over one weekend, chocolate rabbits on candy counters, grocery stores loading up on eggs . . . it must be March and time for a springtime version of the Plumber's Crack.

Well my friends it's March and we are on the verge of storm season. I know we need rain but the way we have been getting it the last few years has been insane. I guess you know where this is going. This may bore some of you because a lot of this I've written about before.

Let's start with those outside drains. If you have an outside entrance to your basement chances are you have a drain located there. Clean out around it and flush it to make sure it drains. That drain ties directly into your sanitary sewer. As you know, if it's not open you have water in your basement. The other problem is all that mud and sludge in there could hang up in your main drain and cause the sewer to back up. So when you flush it, run lots of water and occasionally flush the toilet while your doing that to help it wash out.

If you have window wells and they are not covered or protected, enough water could break your window or at the minimum, rot the frame. If your gutters are clogged they can cause your foundation to leak. If you're at the bottom of a hill, make sure the earth is solid or built up around your foundation. If your gutters drain into the yard make sure they drain away



from foundation. If they have their own drain system flush and make sure the water comes out where it's supposed to. Run water into your sump pumps to make sure they are working properly. Look inside the pit and make sure no debris has fallen in that potentially could jam the pump. Most of all pray for a gentle rain season; just enough to keep our crops healthy our grass green and our basements dry.

I know this is a short read this month but it's just long enough from keeping to add another subject. So I guess it's time to bore you with my monthly plea.

It is the season of Lent; a time for reconciliation and reflection. Please think of the less fortunate. Share a meal. Offer a ride. Have that hard conversation with someone you don't think like and try to find that common ground. Easter is not all about bonnets, dresses, and chocolate, it's the time to remember HE DIED FOR US. Watch out for kids and hug them babies.

God Bless you all, Oh Baby



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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 for ads for the paper must be received by the 15th of the month for inclusion in the following month's paper.



WINDOW RESTORATION
BY:

Painted Effects CONTRACTING llc

314-524-1264



Maintaining Yesterday For Tomorrow



PROPL INFORMATION

[HTTP://FERGUSON.LIB.MO.US/LEVY-FACT-SHEET-APR-3/](http://ferguson.lib.mo.us/levy-fact-sheet-apr-3/)

VOTE



**APRIL 3
2018**

WHAT IS THE LIBRARY PROPOSING?

The Ferguson Municipal Public Library District Board of Trustees has placed a levy funding request on the April 3, 2018 ballot in Ferguson, MO to increase the library levy by \$0.18 per \$100 assessed valuation over the current rate of \$0.22, bringing it to \$0.40. For example, owners of a house with market price of \$50,000 will see their property taxes increase by about \$17.00.

WHY IS THE LIBRARY PROPOSING THIS LEVY INCREASE?

The Board of Trustees for the library has identified the need for sustainable, ongoing levy funding to replace one-time donation support from 2014. This will help avoid significant reductions in services and allow the library to better meet the its mission of lifelong learning, cultural literacy, and bringing the community together.

WHAT DOES MY VOTE MEAN?

A YES vote means...

MORE LIBRARY PROGRAMS

The library would continue and expand program offerings like computer classes for beginners; engaging after school programs for children and teens; or juvenile educational opportunities like programming from the Science Center and the library's Lego League Team which continue STEM curriculum beyond the classroom.

MORE RESPONSE TO PATRON NEEDS

The library would offer more large print titles for patrons with visual impairments, multiple copies of popular titles for adults, and more materials for children and teens.

IMPROVED COLLECTIONS

The library would maintain and grow a selection of classic, beloved movies and music to serve film and music-lovers of all ages.

MORE E-MATERIALS

The library would serve patrons who have difficulty accessing the library in-person, have vision impairments, or want to use the library from home.

MORE ACCESS TO INFORMATION

The library would support local businesses, students, and other groups with research and statistical databases.

MORE ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY

The library would continue updating patron technology offerings and offer fast internet speeds for children, adults, and seniors.

A NO vote means...

STARTING IN JULY 2020...

CUT PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS AND SENIORS
The library will be unable to offer programs like guest speakers or computer classes for adults and seniors.

CUT SERVICES FOR HOMEBOUND AND AILING PATRONS
The library will be unable to provide library services for patrons confined to their homes due to age or illness.

REDUCED ABILITY FOR STAFF TO SERVE PATRONS
The library's staff will be unable to provide in-depth, personal patron services and patron wait times for assistance will increase for all services.

REDUCED OPERATING HOURS
The library will be forced to reduce operating hours affecting all patrons' access to library services and reducing potential foot-traffic to local area businesses.

OUT-OF-DATE TECHNOLOGY AND SLOW INTERNET
The library will be unable to update patron computers as technology continues to evolve or afford faster internet and WiFi capabilities.

CUT FURTHER MAINTENANCE TO THE LIBRARY BUILDING
The library will be unable to perform necessary maintenance and other improvements to the library building itself.

HOW CAN I VOTE?

You must be registered at your current address to vote. The last day to register to vote or update your voter information for the April 3rd General Municipal Election Day is **Wednesday, March 7, 2018**. Visit <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/goVoteMissouri/register> for more information on voter registration options.

To find your **polling place**, visit <https://voteroutreach.sos.mo.gov/PRD/VoterOutreach/VOsearch.aspx> and provide your residential address.

Missouri law requires **photo identification** for voters. For more information on acceptable forms of identification, visit <https://www.sos.mo.gov/showit2vote>.

Ferguson Municipal Public Library
35 N Florissant Rd., Ferguson, MO 63135
(314) 521-4820 | www.ferguson.lib.mo.us

[f](#) [t](#) [@fergusonlibrary](#)

Nominate a Ferguson adult, young person, or group for the first Ferguson Human Rights Advocate of the Year award! Nominees should be individuals or groups who have made specific, significant contributions to improving civil rights, human relations or civility in our community. Nominations are due on **March 15, 2018**. Nomination forms can be found at <https://www.fergusoncity.com/533/Human-Rights-Commission> The award will be presented in Spring, 2018!



Ferguson Fire Department New Hires

We are excited to introduce to you our new firemen that have replace the retiring Fire Chief Steve Rosenthal and Firefighter Brett Roethemeyer.



David Lawton (32) grew up in University City. In 2004 David graduated from CBC High School. Afterwards he obtained a Fire Science degree from the University of Montana in 2010. In 2012 he obtained both his St. Louis County Fire Academy and his Missouri State Paramedics License. David began working at the City of Berkeley Fire Department in 2015 where he served as a Firefighter/Medic until February of this year when he was hired by the City of Ferguson Fire Department. While working for the City of Berkeley he became both a Rope Rescue and Swift Water Technician. He recently married his wife Shannon who is also a Paramedic and now is in Nursing School. They currently reside in the City of Bel Nor. In his off-time he enjoys camping and fishing with his wife.

Joshua Wright (28) grew up in South St. Louis. He graduated from Affton High School in 2008. In 2009 he joined the United States Navy where he served as a Damage Controlman. He finished his Active Duty in 2016 and rejoined the Naval Reserves. Joshua obtained both his EMT-B and St. Louis County Fire Academy in 2016. Joshua was hired by the City of Ferguson Fire Department in February of this year. Before being hired Joshua worked for Abbot EMS. He currently lives with his girlfriend Nicole in Wentzville and they are expecting their first child, a boy, who is due in late May. In his off-time he enjoys playing guitar and drums, and attending both Blues and Cardinals games.

Both David and Joshua are First Generation Firefighters and we are excited to welcome them into our Fire Family.

Maintenance Which Requires a Permit

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

- Mechanical: air conditioner/furnace installation, generator, etc.
- Electrical: upgrade of electrical panel size, alarm system, new circuits, any work that requires new electrical lines to be installed, etc.
- Plumbing: stack replacement, sewer lateral repair, water service repairs, etc.

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

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

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

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

JUMP START YOUR CAREER WITH THE SPRING HIRING EVENT

Sponsored By: City of Ferguson & Urban League

THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 2018

11:00AM – 2:00PM

**FERGUSON COMMUNITY CENTER
1050 SMITH AVE**

Soft Skills Workshop Is Also Offered

Ferguson Community Empowerment Center of the Urban League

9420 W. Florissant

Ferguson, MO 63136

Tuesday, March 27, 2018

Session 1 – 10:00AM – 11:00AM

Session 2 – 11:30AM – 12:30PM

Bring your resumes!!! (Flash Drive or Hard Copy)

For More Information Contact:

Joanna Spencer, City of Ferguson, 314-521-7721 or jspencer@fergusoncity.com

Octavia Pittman, City of Ferguson, 314-521-7721 or opittman@fergusoncity.com

Jamie Dennis, Save Our Sons, 314-528-5200 ext 1001 or jdennis@urbanleague-stl.org

Tydrrell Stevens, 314-528-5200 ext 1008 or tstevens@urbanleague-stl.org

Spring time in Ferguson!

It's time to start cleaning up those yards and homes after the winter chill.

The Code Enforcement Inspectors will start looking for tree and leaf debris. This will need to be cleaned up from all front and rear yards and flower beds.

This debris can be put in paper yard waste bags or your own 30-gallon trash cans marked as yard waste. Tree limbs may be cut into no longer than four (4) feet lengths and bundled with twine no larger than 18 inches in diameter. This yard waste can be put out for your regular trash pick-up with Republic Services. If you have any questions about your yard waste you can contact Republic Services at 636-947-5959.

The inspectors will also be looking for chipped or peeling paint, cracked driveways, fences in disrepair, dangling gutters and downspouts and any other items pertaining to the maintenance of your home.

Ferguson Community News Page

Making the tough decisions

By Mayor James W. Knowles III



"It ought to be the happiness and glory of a representative to live in the strictest union, the closest correspondence, and the most unreserved communication with his constituents. Their wishes ought to have great weight with him; their opinion, high respect; their business, unremitting attention. It is his duty to sacrifice his repose, his pleasures, his satisfactions, to theirs; and above all, ever, and in all cases, to prefer their interest to his own. But his unbiased opinion, his mature judgment, his enlightened conscience, he ought not to sacrifice to you, to any man, or to any set of men living. These he does not derive from your pleasure; no, nor from the law and the constitution. They are a trust from Providence, for the abuse of which he is deeply answerable. Your representative owes you, not his industry only, but his judgment; and he betrays, instead of serving you, if he sacrifices it to your opinion."

— Edmund Burke, Irish Statesman, Orator, Political Theorist 1729-1797

At last month's City Council meeting, we had a wonderful presentation by the Ferguson Special Business District (FSBD) about some new and exciting plans to move the Farmer's Market and the Northern Lights Festival to the Plaza at 501. During and after the presentation, I took the opportunity to ask a number of questions about the decision to move the Market, probing deeper into the issue and seeking answers to questions that a number of concerned residents had relayed to me in the days preceding the meeting. After the meeting, a colleague approached me and asked why, if I was supportive of the project, did I put them through the wringer asking tough questions? My answer was simple, it's my job.

There are certainly many aspects to the job of a City Councilmember. Every month we visit neighborhood meetings, answer calls and emails regarding citizen concerns, meet with residents and business owners, etc. Some Councilmembers are involved in several organizations in and around Ferguson, and some even help sponsor or plan some of the great events we have in the community. Many of these things are a part of the job of a being an active member of the City Council, but none of them are at the very heart of what core duty Councilmembers perform. That "duty", is one thing that only people elected by the people, can do, for the people. That is, to make informed decisions for the city.

Sure it is wonderful to have Councilmembers show up to our neighborhood meetings, and it's nice that we have Councilmembers that help sponsor or organize some of our great community events. But the only thing that a Councilmember does, that no other person in the community can do, is make decisions on behalf of the citizens. Those decisions have a far reaching impact on the present actions and the future direction of our community; and the consequences of those decisions will be seen in our community for many years to come.

Take for instance Councilwoman Lipka. She is the co-founder of the "Taste in Ferguson", one of the great events that make our community a destination for people throughout the area. It is an event she helped organize before she became a member of the City Council, and it's something I'm sure she will continue after she leaves. While the event certainly brings a great deal to the community, it's not what makes her a great Councilmember. What makes her effective in her role as a Councilmember, is that she asks the tough questions, scrutinizes proposals before the Council, and holds staff accountable to the people. The fact that she organizes one of the best events in our community is ultimately irrelevant to her role as a Councilmember.

Making decisions for the community isn't as easy as it sounds. We all make decisions in our daily lives, but the Council is tasked with making decisions for the benefit of nearly 22,000 people. It would seem that the role of a Councilmember is to simply gauge the temperature and sentiment of the community and then vote according to the will of the people, but making informed votes is much more involved than simply asking a few residents how they feel about an issue. These hard decisions only come after attending meetings, listening to presentations, reading Council Packets full of information, and even doing outside research. While it is true many issues that come before the council end up passing unanimously, it should only come after intense questioning and scrutiny by informed and inquisitive Councilmembers that ensure that the vote we are taking is absolutely in the best interest of the city.

While it is our job to make tough decisions, it is also your job as a resident, to ask tough questions of your representatives. Make sure they are doing their due diligence when making decisions. Ask questions to ensure every point of view is taken into account, and hold them accountable for the decisions they make. It is those checks and balances that make sure your elected representatives are not only making the tough decisions, but making the best decisions for our entire community.

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	Mar 6 7 pm	Emmaus Bible Chapel 900 Highmont	Donald Stevens 314-561-0379 ddd-steeess@att.net
Jeske Park Neighborhood Assc.	Mar 8 7 pm	Ferguson Community Ctr. 1050 Smith Ave	Stephani Von Drasek jeskepark neighborhood@gmail.com
Nesbit-Newton	TBA	Nesbit-Newton Park	Paul Beins 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 314-524-8115 glenda.rickard@mercy.net
Old Ferguson West Neighbors	TBA	Ferguson Community Ctr. 1050 Smith Ave	Larry Robinett ldrobinett@gmail.com
Robert-Superior Neighborhood Group	TBA	Ferguson Community Ctr. 1050 Smith Ave	TBA
Southwest Ferguson Neighborhood Group	Mar 5 7 pm	Fire Station #1 200 So. Florissant	Atefa Young atefayoung@yahoo.com
Wabash Neighborhood Assn.	TBA	First Baptist 333 N Florissant	Shonnette Morgan sdenisemor@hotmail.com
North Hudson Neighborhood	TBA	Ferguson Community Ctr. 1050 Smith	Mary Simmons hudsonhills63135@gmail.com
North Hills Neighborhood	Mar 5 7 pm	Fire Station #1 200 So. Florissant	Keith Kallstrom 314-524-1720
North Elizabeth Neighborhood	Mar 12	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

Ferguson City News?

- Follow us on Twitter @CityFerguson
- Like our Facebook Page: City of Ferguson, MO
- View Updates on Charter Channel 993

NOTIFY ME

You can sign up to receive notices of meetings, hearings and other postings by registering your email address using the Notify Me Icon.

You can Report a Concern regarding potholes, graffiti, sidewalk cracks, street light outages, code enforcement issues and more using the Submit a Request Icon. **DOWNLOAD THE FERGUSON CONNECT APP TODAY!!**

You can submit a request for records using the Record Request icon.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.fergusoncity.com

You can do all this and more on the city's website. For more information contact Octavia Pittman, City Clerk at 314-521-7721 or opittman@fergusoncity.com

EVER WONDERED HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED WITH YOUR CITY GOVERNMENT?

Consider volunteering on a Ferguson Board, Committee, or Commission. We have multiple vacancies available. The list includes committees like the Architectural Review Board, Plan Commission, Park Board, Personnel Board and others. For more information regarding vacancies, requirements, roles and responsibilities and/or how to apply, visit the City's website or contact your City Clerk at City Hall.

Career and Employment Services

March 21, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
St. Louis Community College-Florissant Valley
Student Center
 3400 Pershall Rd.

Contact: Career and Employment Services
fvces@stlcc.edu, 314-513-4218

Employers include United Healthcare, Missouri State Highway Patrol, Enterprise, Caleres (formerly Brown Shoe), Commerce Bank and others.

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 get up to the Recreation Office to register or call us at (314) 521-4661.

COMMUNITY CENTER

Don't forget to pick up the new Destination Recreation brochure with a complete list of programming offered throughout Ferguson at the Ferguson Community Center or online at www.fergusoncity.com

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.

Memberships

Resident Youth – Daily \$1/ Yearly \$50
Resident Adult – Daily \$3/ Yearly \$85
Resident Senior – Daily \$1/ Yearly \$50
Resident Family – Yearly \$165

Non Resident Youth – Daily \$3/ Yearly \$200
Non Resident Adult – Daily \$5/ Yearly \$200
Non Resident Senior – Daily \$3/ Yearly \$120
Non Resident Family – Yearly \$300

NOW OFFERING MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTIONS

Resident Youth – \$6 per month (12 month agreement)
Resident Adult – \$9 per month (12 month agreement)
Resident Senior – \$6.00 per month (12 month agreement)
Resident Family – \$16 per month (12 month agreement)

Non Resident Youth – \$18 per month (12 month agreement)
Non Resident Adult – \$18 per month (12 month agreement)
Non Resident Senior – \$12 per month (12 month agreement)
Non Resident Family – \$28 per month (12 month agreement)

Each patron is required to have an I.D. card which can be purchased at the front desk of the community center. Residents must present 2 forms of identification to receive a resident ID card. There is a \$5 fee for each card. If the card is lost/stolen, a new card can be issued for \$5.

PROGRAMMING

Beginning 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.

Age: 3 ½-6 years old & 8-12 years old
Start Date: Mondays Mar 19 to May 7 and May 14 to July 9
(No Class July 2)
Time: 5:45pm-6:40pm
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Fee: \$34/Members; \$39/Residents; \$44/Non-Residents

Junior Tumbling

After balance, control and coordination exercises, skills such as forward and backward rolls, cartwheels, round offs, and mat routines will be taught. Children will also learn balance beam routines. This class is a follow-up to the Beginning Class but no prior training is necessary. Gymnastic or ballet shoes, leotard and tights are highly recommended but not required. No jeans, baggy clothing, tennis shoes, or bare feet.

Age: 7 - 13 years old
Start Date: Mondays March 19 to May 7 and May 14 to July 9
(No Class July 2)
Time: 6:45-7:40
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Fee: \$34/Members; \$39/Residents; \$44/Non-Residents

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.

Age: 3 - 7 years old
Start Date: Wed., Mar 21 to May 9 and May 16 to July 11
(No Class July 4)
Time: 5:45pm-6:40pm
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Fee: \$34/Members; \$39/Residents; \$44/Non-Residents

Hip Hop/ Jazz Dance

High energy class starts with a warm-up and stretching exercises followed by dance skills in hip hop and jazz which will be incorporated into dance

routines. Jazz shoes highly recommended but not required. Stretch pants should be worn. No jeans or baggy clothing, tennis shoes, or bare feet.

Age: 8-13 years old
Start Date: Wednesday, Mar 21 to May 9 and May 16 to July 11
(No class July 4)
Time: 6:45pm-7:40pm
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Fee: \$34/Members; \$39/Residents; \$44/Non-Residents

Adult Social Dance

Are you planning to go on a cruise, attend a wedding reception or a reunion? If you are, then you'll need to take this class. You will learn to dance to any music, fast or slow. Simple basics in various dance styles will be taught and soon you'll have the confidence to join the fun on the dance floor. Partners or singles are welcome. Private dance classes are available. Wear comfortable clothes and hard soled shoes, no tennis shoes or sandals.

Age: 16 & Up
Start Date: Mondays Mar 19 to May 7 and May 14 to July
(No Class July 2)\
Time: 7:45-8:40pm
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Fee: \$40/Members; \$45/Residents; \$50/Non-Residents

Salsa & Swing Dance

Whether you're preparing for a special occasion or just want to dance for Fun and fitness, this class is for you. Salsa and Swing are two of the most popular dance styles in the St Louis area. You'll enjoy learning and moving to these fast paced dance rhythms. We'll start with basic steps and then various spins, rotations and other variations will be added on to give you a nice routine that you'll be proud of. Partners or singles are welcome. Private lessons are available. Partners or singles are welcome. Private dance classes are available. Wear comfortable clothes and hard soled shoes, no tennis shoes or sandals.

Age: 16 & Up
Start Date: Wednesdays Mar 21 to May 9 and May 16 to July 11
(No Class 7-4)
Time: 7:45-8:40pm
Location: Ferguson Community Center
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.

Open Play Basketball

Come to the Ferguson Community Center for pick-up basketball games (half court only)

Days: Tues., Wed., Sat. and Sun.
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Fee: FREE/Members; Daily Fee / Residents;
Daily Fee / Non-Residents

Open Play Volleyball

Come to the Ferguson Community Center for pick up volleyball games.

Days: Mondays
Time: 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Fee: FREE / Members; Daily Fee / Residents;
Daily Free /Non-Residents

Pickleball

A paddle sport created for all ages and skill levels. The rules are simple and the game is easy for beginners to learn, but can develop into a quick, fast paced, competitive game for experienced players.

All equipment will be provided.
Age: 18 and older
Days : Wednesdays and Fridays
Time: 9:00 am to 12:00 pm
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Fee: Daily rates apply

Parks and Recreation Activities Continue on Page 6

FITNESS

Aerobics

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

Age: 18 years & up
Start Date: Mon, Apr 9 to May 28
Wed, Apr 11 to May 30
Time: 6pm-7pm
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Fee: \$25/Members - 1 day per week
\$30/Residents - 1 day per week
\$35/Non-Residents - 1 day per week
Additional Days:
\$10/members add day
\$15/residents add day
\$20/non-residents add day

Intro to Fitness

Join the Ferguson Community Center staff and learn how to properly use the fitness equipment in our fitness center. This class is offered once a month and you must pre-register at the front desk.

Age: 15 years old and up
Start Date: March 7, April 4, May 2
Time: 7:00-7:45pm
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Fee: FREE/Members
\$2/Residents; \$3/ Non-Residents and Guests

Corefit Class

Join Will Fitness for this class that is an all-inclusive, dynamic course designed to improve your overall fitness level; including strength and flexibility. More than an ab workout, Core-Strong is about training the abs, back, hips and glutes; covering the 28 muscles of the core and then some. Utilizing ground based exercises that revolve around the medicine ball; anyone can improve their personal level of fitness, gain confidence, and still have fun!

Age: 15 & up
Start Date: Tuesdays Mar 6 to Apr 24, and May 1 to Jun 19
Time: 6:00-7:00
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Fee: \$25/Members; \$30/Residents; \$35/Non-Residents

PREREGISTRATION REQUIRED

Resistance Band Class

Join Will Fitness as he guides you through a 45 minute full body workout that utilizes resistance bands. This workout will get your heart rate up and strengthen you in new ways without picking up a single weight! Looped bands, cross cables, and bodyweight exercises incorporated for a complete workout!

Age: 15 & up
Start Date: Thursdays Mar 5 to May 10, and May 17 to June 21
Time: 6:00pm-7:00pm
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Fee: \$25/Members; \$30/Residents; \$35/Non-Residents

PREREGISTRATION REQUIRED

Fat Burn Cardio Class

Blast your cardio fitness level through the roof with the best of any type of cardio training the instructor feels like throwing at you! You will challenge your aerobic and anaerobic threshold every time so come prepared to get your cardio on!

Age: 15 & up
Start Date: Fridays Feb 23 to Mar 30, and Apr 6 to May 11, and May 18 to Aug 6
Time: 5:00 pm-6:00 pm
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Fee: \$20/Members; \$25/Residents; \$30/Non-Residents

PREREGISTRATION REQUIRED

Will Fitness Kettlebell Class

Open to All FITNESS LEVELS and is a kettlebell conditioning based workout. All workouts will be tailored from beginner level to advanced kettlebell movements. Workouts will also include body-weight, dumbbell, and circuit training skills. We strongly emphasize proper technique and skill.

Age: 15 & Up
Start Date: Thurs, Apr 5 to May 10 and Thurs, May 17 to June 21
Time: 7:30-8:15pm
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Fee: \$25/Members; \$30/Residents; \$35/Non-Residents

PREREGISTRATION REQUIRED

Will Fit Bootcamp

Boot camp with Will Fitness! A group exercise class that mixes traditional callisthenic and body weight exercises with interval training and strength training designed in a way that pushes the participants harder than they'd push themselves and, in that way, resemble a military boot camp. Participants will be indoors and outdoors. We will run sprints; perform lots of pushups and various forms of plyometric and interval training with little

rest between exercises and challenging workout.

Start Date: Sat, Mar 24 - May 12 and Sat, May 19 - July 14
No Class July 7
Time: 10:00am-11:00am
Location: Community Center
Fee: \$30/Members; \$35/Residents; \$40/Non-Residents
All Ability Levels Welcome, Preregistration Required

Silver Sneakers Program

Silver Sneakers is a fun, energizing program that helps older adults take greater control of their health by encouraging physical activity. Unlock the door to greater independence and a healthier life with Silver Sneakers. With certain Medicare plans you can be eligible to join this program. Silver Sneakers provides a free fitness center membership and free select classes at the Ferguson Community Center. Call the Ferguson Community Center to find out if you qualify for this fabulous program, 314-521-4661.

Silver Sneakers Classic

This class is designed for seniors or someone who is starting to workout 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 utilizing hand held weights, tubes and a Silver Sneakers ball. A chair is made available for seated and/or standing support.

Days: Tuesdays and Thursdays
Dates: Ongoing
Times: 9:55-10:50 am
Fee: FREE/Silver Sneakers Members
\$3/ Everyone Else

Silver Sneakers Cardio Circuit

Silver Sneakers Cardio Circuit combines fun with fitness to increase your cardiovascular and muscular endurance power with a standing circuit workout. Upper body strength work with hand-held weights, elastic tubing with handles, and a Silver Sneakers ball is alternated with low-impact aerobic choreography. A chair can be used for standing support.

Days: Tuesdays and Thursdays
Dates: Ongoing
Times: 8:50-9:45 am
Fee: FREE/Silver Sneakers Members
\$3/Everyone Else

Personal Training

Get into shape with the Ferguson Community Center's personal trainers. We now offer personalized training for all of your fitness goals! Group training, one on one, meal plans and fitness assessments.

Individual Packages

Beginner Bundle
Includes Fitness Assessment*
and 1 personal training sessions.
Fee: \$70/ Members
\$80/ Non-Member
Beginner Bundle +
Includes Fitness Assessment*
and 2 personal training sessions.
Fee: \$95/ Members
\$105/ Non-Member
1 Session
Fee: \$35/ Members
\$40/ Non-Member
3 Session
Fee: \$90/ Members
\$105/ Non-Member
5 Session
Fee: \$170/ Members
\$195/ Non-Member

Training for Two

All prices are per person
1 Session
Fee: \$30/ Members
\$35/ Non-Member
3 Session
Fee: \$80/ Member
\$95/ Non-Member
5 Session
Fee: \$145/ Member
\$175/ Non Member

SPECIAL PROGRAMMING

Spring Break Camp

Come join the staff at the Ferguson Community Center over winter break for fun and activities. The camp will be similar to our Summer camp program.

Ages: 6-12 years old
Dates: Tuesday 3/19/2018-3/23/2018
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Times: 7:30am-5:30pm
Fee: \$30 per day

Spots Are Limited So Sign Up Early!

Parents Night Out

Come join the staff at the Ferguson Community Center for a night of fun and activities. Parents take the opportunity for a date night or a night out with friends. We will feed your child pizza, play games, and watch a movie.

Ages: 6-12 years old
Dates: Friday, Mar 9 and Friday, Apr 13
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Times: 5:30pm-10:00pm
Fee: \$15 per child

Spots Are Limited So Sign Up Early!

Adult Easter Egg Hunt

The Easter Bunny has dropped his eggs all over the fields of the Ferguson Community Center. Rumor is 30 of those eggs are filled with prize tickets. This “egg-cellent” event is open to adults 21 and older. So grab your basket and flashlight for an evening down memory lane. Pre-registration is recommended for this event. Maximum event size: 100.

Date: Friday, March 30
Time: 7:30pm
Location: Community Center
Fee: \$8 Residents; \$10 Non-Residents

Children’s Easter Egg Hunt

Hop over to the Ferguson Community Center for our annual Egg Hunt. The back field will be filled with brightly colored filled eggs for children (8 and under) to enjoy. The children will be divided into separate hunts by the following ages: 3 – 4, 5 – 6, 7 – 8. The Easter Bunny will be on hand for photo opportunities. Children should meet at the Ferguson Community Center with their own basket.

Date: Saturday, March 31
Time: 10am SHARP!!
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Fee: FREE Children 3 – 8 years old

Wayside Park Unleashed (Dog Park)

Ferguson’s Dog Park features a large and small dog area and is open from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily. Dog Park ID required. Owners will need to bring up-to-date shot records: rabies, DHPP, and Bordetella to the Ferguson Community Center to obtain ID.

Yearly Memberships are free for residents or non residents in possession of a valid 2018 ID.

ID Costs: \$5 processing fee per dog (max three dogs per household)

Park Dedication Program

The City of Ferguson offers a great way to honor or remember a loved one, celebrate a milestone, or simply to have a lasting part in one of our parks. Our Tree Dedication program started in 1989 and has seen over 350 dedicated trees to our City. A Spring and Fall dedication ceremony are held. The Spring ceremony generally is on Arbor Day (first Saturday in April) and the Fall date is generally the fourth Saturday in October, dates are subject to change.

Tree Dedication \$200

In addition to our tree program we are pleased to offer our new park bench dedication program. Park Bench Dedication \$1,000

Call or visit our website for more information

TEEN PROGRAMMING

City Museum

(Registration deadline April 11th)

Spaces are limited, sign up today!

Date: Saturday, April 14
Time: 11:30am—4:30pm
Fee: **By April 6**, \$5 Resident; \$8 Non Resident After 4/6
\$8 Resident; \$11 Non Resident
After April 6, \$8 Resident; \$11 Non-Resident

Escape Challenge St. Louis

(Registration Deadline March 12th)

Spaces are limited, sign up today!

Date: Tuesday, March 20
Time: 4:00pm-9:00pm
Location: Community Center
Fee: \$15 Residents; \$18 Non Resident

Six Flags St. Louis

(Registration Deadline May 21st)

Date: Saturday May, 26
Time: 10:00am-11:00pm
Location: Community Center
Fee: **By May 4**, \$20 Resident; \$25 Non Resident;
After May 4, \$25 Resident; \$30 Non Resident

ADULT PROGRAMMING

Lunch and Bingo

Come and treat yourself to an afternoon at one of Ferguson’s fantastic lunch and bingos. Our March bingo celebrates St. Patrick’s Day with corned beef and cabbage. Our May bingo event celebrates the coming of summer with a lunch and bingo featuring your choice of chicken or beef. Cost includes lunch as well as bingo. Maximum size: 125.

Date: Thursdays, March 22, and May 17
Time: 12pm-3pm
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Fee: \$10 Members; \$14 Residents; \$18 Non-Residents

Mystery Meal

If you love good time 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. Due to the popularity of this program, residents have registration priority. All residents can receive door to door pickup. Fee includes transportation via the Jolly Trolley and meal.

Dates: Thurs., April 12
Time: 10 am pickup
Fee: \$32/Members; \$37/Residents; \$42/Non-Residents

Dinner & a Show

Enjoy lunch and a matinee showing of the Broadway classic The Phantom of the Opera.

Registration: March 7th

Ages: All
Date: May 10th
Time: 10:30am Departure
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Fees: \$90 Members; \$95 Residents; \$100/ Non-Residents

Cruise 4 Brews

Every other month starting in March the Jolly Trolley will take us from the Ferguson Community Center for a day of indulgence at 4 local breweries. What better way is there to soak up the suds with your buds.

Cost covers transportation only.

Ages: 21 and up
Dates: April 21 and June 9
Time: 10:30am—6pm
Fee: \$10/Residents; \$15/Non-Residents

Tropicana Casino– Evansville, Indiana

Bring along your good luck charm to the brand new Tropicana Casino in Evansville, IN. The casino is now all one level and very accessible for all. You will receive \$8 in free play and a free lunch buffet. Remember that you must have valid state id with you. Cost Includes: motor coach transportation, lunch, and all gratuities.

Registration Deadline April 9th

Ages: 21 and up
Dates: Thursday April 12
Time: 8:00 am – 8:00 pm
Fee: \$35/Residents; \$40/Non-Residents

Memphis Tennessee

This action packed trip to Memphis, Tennessee will include a tour of the Gibson Guitar Factory, a tour of the iconic Rock & Soul Museum, a tour of Sun Studio’s, a Memphis Grizzlies game vs. The Chicago Bulls, the National Civil Rights Museum, and a tour of the Underground Railroad Museum. We will be staying at the iconic Westin on Beale Street and 3 classic Memphis BBQ meals are also included.

Ages: 18 and up
Deadline: **March 1**
Dates: Wed, March 14 - 16
Time: 7:00 am – 9:00 pm
Fee: \$550/Residents; \$600/Non-Residents; (double occupancy)
\$200 additional for single

Blues Game Night

Enjoy pre-game appetizer and drinks buffet at Scottrade Center prior to the Blues taking on the Washington Capitols. Indulge in the fact that you don’t have to worry about driving or parking.

Registration Deadline March 2

Ages: All Ages
Date: Monday April 2
Time: 4:30 departure
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Fee: \$91/Residents; \$96/Non- Residents

Baseball & Bourbon Trail

First travel by motorcoach to catch the Cardinals in action at Great American Ballpark in Cincinnati, where we’ll stay for two nights downtown. We’ll then travel through bourbon country, otherwise known as Kentucky. We’ll hit several Bourbon Distilleries and wind up in Louisville, KY. We’ll enjoy three nights stay in a Downtown Louisville hotel not too far from “Whiskey Row” and 4th Street Live! We’ll enjoy several museums and even more distilleries that exemplify what truly makes America great.

Registration Deadline June 25

Date: Tues. July 24—Sun. July 29
Fee: \$780/Residents; \$795/Non-Residents (Double Occupancy)
\$1090/Resident; \$1105/Non-Resident (Single Occupant)

Day Winery Tour

Come join us every other month to indulge in fine wine. Must have a minimum of 10 patrons preregistered for these trips to be made. Cost covers transportation only.

Ages: 21 and up
Date: Saturday May 12, Sunday July 15, Saturday September 15
Time: 10am-6pm
Fee: \$10/Residents, \$15/Non- Residents

Area Casino Day Trips

Need a day out and about? Come test your luck at an area casino each month! The trip only includes transportation to the casino. Must have a minimum of 10 patrons preregistered for the trip to be made.

Fee: \$5/Residents, \$8 Non-Resident
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Time: 10:00am-4:00pm
Wednesday March 21 Hollywood Casino
Wednesday April 18 River City Casino
Wednesday May 16 Ameristar Casino

See Page 8 for Additional Parks & Rec Info

Tunica, MS

Join us for our annual trip for gambling fun in Tunica! Trip will include buffet meals and promo cash (Note: cash back subject to change due to casino promotions.) Cost includes: motor coach transportation, two nights lodging, five buffet meals, luggage service, plus driver gratuities.

Date: Tues, Mar. 27 – Thurs, Mar. 29
 Time: 7:00 am – 8:30pm
 Location: Ferguson Community Center
 Fee: \$160/Residents; \$170/Non-Residents (double occupancy)
 \$30 additional for single occupancy

Branson Getaway

Join us for a trip to Branson, MO, the Live Show Capital of the World. Have your catching arm ready on the way down as we enjoy a great lunch at Lambert's Café "Home of the Throwned Rolls". While in Branson we will enjoy two great shows of the Haygoods and Dolly Parton's Dixie Stamped. Before we leave town we will board the Titanic museum to marvel at the wonder of this historic boat. On the way home we will stop by St. James Winery and Public House Brewing Company. Cost includes: motor coach transportation, two nights lodging, meals—2 breakfast, 1 lunch, 2 dinner, luggage service, plus driver gratuities.

Date: Tues. May 15—Thurs. May 17
 Time: 8:00am—7:00pm
 Location: Ferguson Community Center
 Fee: \$450/Residents; \$475/Non-Residents

ATHLETICS

Open Sand Volleyball Tournament

Gather your friends for a fun day in the sun as we kick off the start of warmer weather with a free Sand Volleyball Tournament. Format determined based on the number of teams that register. Trophy awarded to Champions.

Ages: 18 and up (under 18 require parental consent)
Registration: April 4th
 Tournament: Sunday, April 8th
 Time: 11:00 am
 Location: Community Center Outdoor Complex
 Fee: Free

Youth Volleyball

Ages: U18, U16, U14, & U12 leagues
Registration: April 16th
 Season: May 14th – July 16th
 Location: Ferguson Community Center
 Fees: \$35/individual; \$210/team

Coed Youth Basketball

Ages: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6 grade leagues
 Season: February 24th – April 28th
 Location: Ferguson Community Center
 Fees: \$45/individual; \$360/team

Sunday Funday Volleyball

Join us for sand volleyball league at the Community Center Outdoor Complex. This league is purely for recreation; games will be self-officiate and report. Come out and have a great time with your friends, family, or coworkers. Teams consist of 4 or more players, up to 6 in rotation on the court during play. Our concession stand will be open during the game for all your concession favorites. Playoff champion team will receive a trophy!

Ages: 18 & up
 Days: Sunday Nights
 Dates: May 20th—July 1st (6 weeks plus playoffs)
 Time: Games starting at 6:00pm
 Fee: \$40/ team Resident; \$50/ team Non-Resident

Start Smart

Each program is designed to give participants an opportunity to develop their sports skills in a fun and safe environment while working and spending quality one-on-one time with their parent. All Start Smart programs feature age appropriate equipment and developmentally appropriate exercises. Each program is 6 weeks long and we will meet at the Ferguson Community Center.



Sport	Ages	Reg. Deadline	Session Schedule
Soccer	3–5	March 9th	March 27–May 1
Baseball	3–5	April 27th	May 29–July 10 (no class 6/3)
Football	5–7	Coming Fall	
Day:	Tuesdays		
Time:	6:00pm-7:00pm		
Fee:	\$35/child for each session		

Coed Youth Soccer

Ages: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6 grade leagues
Registration: Deadline—March 16th, 2018
 Season: April 14th—June 16th
 Location: Community Center Outdoor Complex
 Fee: \$35/individual; \$360/team

Youth Baseball

Ages: 1st Grade—8th grade leagues
Registration: Deadline—March 30th, 2018
 Season: April 23rd—June 29th, 2018
 Location: Forestwood Park
 Fee: \$45/per youth; \$450/per team
 1st grade T-Ball, 2nd & 3rd grade Coach Pitch, 4th grade and older is kids pitch.

Adult Softball

Leagues are filling up fast! Register your team with Ferguson Recreation for COED and Men's league this summer. 10 week season + playoffs
 Ages: 18 and up
 Days: Mens—Thursday, Coed—Sunday
Registration: Deadline—March 30th
 Fee: \$550/team
 Call (314) 521-4661 for more information.

Field Rentals

Field rental space is available at the Ferguson Sports Complex at Forestwood Park. Payment is due in full before a field permit will be issued (Requests within 48 hours of use may not be accepted). A refundable \$100 deposit is due at the time of payment on all reservations.

Rental Prices	Field #1	Fields 2-5
Daytime	\$10/hour	\$10/hour
Lighted	\$20/hour	\$15/hour
Grooming Fee	\$15	\$10

Help us keep the fields playable: do not use when wet and report any unsafe field conditions immediately.
 Please call the Ferguson Sports Hotline for rain out information:
 (314) 286-9102



AQUATICS

Aqua Fitness

Stay fit this winter, join us for this low impact water exercise class at McCluer South Berkeley High School indoor pool. This class is great for all exercise abilities as you can make the workout as challenging or laid back as you want. The ability to swim is not required.

Ages: 18 & Up
 Days: Mon & Wed
 Dates: Mar 5 to Apr 12
 Time: 5:30-6:30pm
 Location: McCluer South Berkeley
 Fee: \$5 drop in Or \$35 Residents; \$40 Non Residents

Class is offered free as part of our Silver Sneakers Membership, sign up at the Ferguson Community Center

Swim Lessons

The ability to swim is an invaluable life skill, let us help you learn or refine your skills. Join us this fall as we offer swim lessons for ages 4 and up at McCluer South Berkeley High School indoor pool.

Preschool Lessons

Ages: 4 & 5 year olds
 Days: Mon & Wed
 Dates: Mar 5–Apr 11
 Time: 5:45 pm-6:30 pm
 Fee: \$35 Residents
 \$40 Non Residents

Group Lessons

Ages: 6 & up
 Days: Mon & Wed
 Mar 5–Apr 11
 Time: 6:30 pm-7:15 pm
 Fee: \$30 Residents
 \$35 Non Residents

Adult Lessons

Ages: 16 & up
 Days: Mon & Wed
 Dates: Mar 5–Apr 11
 Time: 7:15 pm-8:00 pm
 Fee: \$35 Residents; \$40 Non Residents

Private Lessons

Private lessons are available by special request. Space is limited, contact the Community Center for more information and availability.
 Fee: 4 Sessions \$40; 8 Sessions \$75; 10 Sessions \$90



School District News

Airport Elementary Hosts A Fun-Filled Literacy Night

Parents and students filled the gym for Literacy Night at Airport Elementary in the Ferguson-Florissant School District. Superintendent Dr. Joseph Davis issued a two-billion word challenge for the district at the beginning of the school year

and many schools in the district have found creative ways to introduce reading to not only students but families as well.

The Literacy Night at Airport was designed to help parents learn how to engage their children with reading. Students were able to show their parents how to take the district's Accelerated Reader quiz, the educational tool that helps gauge reading comprehension, while using the schools Chromebooks. Families finished the night with a pancake and sausage supper by Chris's Pancakes and a free book for each student to take home.

Middle School Students Place in Winning Alliance in Robotics Competition Sponsored

Three students, Drake Peters (seventh grade), Austin Rakers (eighth grade), and Ethan Calvert (seventh grade), from Cross Keys Middle School (CKMS) in the Ferguson-Florissant School District placed in the winning alliance at the VEX Robotics Competition on Saturday, Feb. 3, 2018. The winning alliance consisted of the top three teams of the entire competition. The competition consisted of schools across Missouri and the St. Louis area, and Illinois. CKMS also partnered with the artificial intelligence and gaming technology company, NVIDIA Corporation, and received \$1,729.90 in funding and judges for the competition. During the competition, NVIDIA also received CKMS' "Volunteer of the Year" award.

"Our students worked extremely hard for this competition," said industrial technology teacher Eric Brown. "We'd simply love to see this grow within the coming years. I'd love to see more students getting involved and growing our teams, as well as having a second competition field."

One of Brown's goals is to not only get more students involved in robotics and STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics), but also more boys and girls of color in the field. With the formation of the first all-girls robotics team at CKMS, Brown is confident that he will begin to see those changes soon.

National Motivational Speaker at Ferguson Middle School

"The biggest mistake you will ever make is taking your eyes off your gift," said Ferguson Middle School guest Koran Bolden. Bolden, a national youth motivational speaker, millennial life coach and entrepreneur recently visited Ferguson Middle to offer some very inspiring words to the students as part of his Rock, Paper, Scissors Tour. Bolden advocates for students to graduate from school by using the arts, entrepreneurship and technology as outlets to make healthy life choices.

"You are a champion!" Bolden affirmed to the students.

Bolden, a St. Louis native, wasn't always the inspiring lecturer that he is now. He admits to "acting out" as a teen and dropped out of school. He landed a lucrative recording contract as a member of the hip-hop group First Draft, however, due to circumstances beyond their control, the group lost the contract. Bolden had no choice but to get a "regular" job and this is when he began formulating his plan for success. He eventually opened a music studio and began speaking at schools promoting the message of hard work and positive thinking.

"You are not your past," Bolden told the Ferguson Middle students. "You do not have to settle for mediocrity...it's never too late to change your path."

During Bolden's presentation, he challenged a few students to play the game, "Rock, Paper, Scissors," stating that whoever could beat him would receive \$20. Unfortunately, none of the students beat him at the game of chance.

McCluer Theater Students Impressive

Theater students from McCluer High School recently participated in the Missouri State Thespians Individual Event competition and received impressive ratings for their performances. The students received one of the top three ratings of Superior, Excellent or Good for each category in which they participated.

The students and their results are as follows:

- Group Musical -- Diamond Bradford, Gabby Watson, Tammy Williams, Maureia Lawrence -- Excellent Rating (top 30%) -- Dreamgirls
- Duet Acting -- Liyah Starwood, Jasmine Reed -- Excellent Rating -- Ruined
- Duet Musical -- Tony Merritt and Ebony Nash -- Excellent Rating -- Ragtime
- Group Acting -- Ty'Ree Gary, Alasia Wilkes -- Good Rating (top 50%) -- A Streetcar Named Desire
- Tech Challenge -- Demarcion Little, Shavonte Brogley, Nakira Hatchett, Nia Merriwether, Maureia Lawrence -- Good Rating

The Improv Olympix team of Kiontae Dean, Paris Stone, KeShonti Rimmer, Kyra Sanders and Demarcion Little, performed in two rounds of the competition to receive feedback only and received Excellent and Superior ratings. Additionally, seniors Tony Merritt and Ty'Ree Gary participated in several university scholarship auditions.

Cool Valley Among Schools to Receive Backpacks From Emerson and KidSmart

The students at Cool Valley Elementary in the Ferguson-Florissant School District had a huge surprise when they arrived at school one day in January. Emerson and KidSmart had donated backpacks to each student. There were plenty of smiles as students arrived at the school gym to see the rows of backpacks assembled. KidSmart's is a local non-profit organization whose mission is to ensure that children and their classrooms have the basic tools for learning by providing free school supplies to students in need. Emerson, with a campus in the suburb of Ferguson in north St. Louis County, has a strong commitment supporting educational initiatives in neighboring schools in the surrounding community.

The morning started with an assembly where students made a pledge to stay in school and continue to work and study hard. Teachers also had a surprise as well with a supply-filled tote for each homeroom teacher and donuts for each classroom. Thanks to the generous donations from Emerson, KidSmart, and their partnership with the Ferguson-Florissant School District.

It's Time to Enroll in Free Preschool!

The Ferguson-Florissant School District's Early Education begins preschool enrollment on March 5th. A free quality preschool experience with degreed, certified teachers is available to district children who are 3-years-old before August 1st. Registration will be held at the Early Childhood Center office located, on the McCluer High School campus, at 1896 S. New Florissant Road from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Three-year-olds attend class two mornings per week; 4-year-olds attend three or four half-days. A limited number of full-day openings are available. Classes are held in several different Elementary Schools. Families with children enrolled in preschool receive free Parents as Teachers personal visits.

The following documents are required for registration:

Updated occupancy permit within 30 days including the child's and parent's name; lease or mortgage payment bill; student's original state-issued birth certificate; student's social security number; up-to-date immunization record; and photo ID of parent. If living in someone else's home the parent must provide a lease or mortgage bill of homeowner, current business mail in the name of the person registering the student, and updated occupancy permit with the name of the parent or guardian registering the student on the occupancy permit. If parents are divorced or are not together, existing court order showing parenting plan must be provided.

Enrollment forms will be available at www.fergflor.org. For additional information call 314-506-9066

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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.

Do We Need Protection From Everything?

Every time I hear that commercial about home warranty protection it makes me cringe. A customer calls his homeowners insurance and asks about the coverage for his furnace. To his dismay he finds out the insurance doesn't cover a new furnace. The insurance representative assures him that the home owners insurance does provide coverage for a "Zombie Apocalypse," but sadly not his furnace. As the jingle continues we hear how they cover "what will happen, not just what might happen." So I do wonder if this is a good idea.

Every day is full of risks and it seems like the largest beneficiaries of our fears are insurance and warranty companies. People today seem to be averse to any risk and want to be protected at any cost.

And it seems we can cover just about anything with a warranty or some type of insurance. Here are a few examples and some things to think about. Travel insurance may be a good investment if you are preparing for a long awaited cruise or trip that costs more than you would typically spend. Often you are planning the trip months ahead of time and who knows what could happen by the time the big date rolls around. If you became seriously ill and could not take the trip it may not be transferable and you could stand to lose the entire cost of the trip. This might be a reason to look into some insurance, but first take a look at insurance you already have. If you used a credit card to pay for tickets, you may already be covered and could avoid the additional expense. If you feel it is necessary to purchase flight insurance in case the plane goes down, look at what you already have in life insurance, you may not need additional coverage. The worry of losing your luggage may already be covered with your homeowners or renters insurance. Checking these things out can save you money.

Home warranties like I mentioned earlier seem to be more common than ever. These plans may cost \$300 to \$500 per year or perhaps more depending on which state you live in. Most of the items covered are appliances and also furnaces, air conditioning, plumbing and electrical systems. Other things like a ceiling fan and doorbell were a bit of a surprise. Perhaps it's the generation I grew up in, but I found out early in my adult life that these things happen and my best way to be prepared was to set up a savings account for these emergencies and contribute a small amount each month regularly. This method has served me well and I have never had to take out a loan to purchase an appliance. Although I have used a credit card and then paid it off the next month. With the home warranty you will be calling them if something breaks and sometimes they may seem to be looking for a way to avoid paying. Was there excess wear and tear or did you not maintain your appliance according to manufacturer's instructions? These are just a couple of things that annoy those who have dealt with a home warranty claim. I also wonder if in the long run I could actually save more by finding a sale on a new appliance rather than complying with the stipulations in the home warranty plan. Just think about it before you choose.

The iPhone is so much a necessity today being without it for even a short period can leave a person feeling alone in the world. Being this dependent on something has created a world of guarantees against loss. Every phone plan has coverage for just about anything that could happen. And with some electronics it seems to be a question of having the very latest product and keeping up-to-date. If you are someone who really wants to keep up on the newest gadgets there may be a plan for you. For those in my generation being happy with something that works and can work for a long time seems to be more popular. We grew up in an era of sitting on the same furniture for years and having a refrigerator that outlasted our childhood. When our parents purchased something new it was meant to last. So for us purchasing a plan to upgrade every year seems to be a little much. However, if you rely on technology in your business and can afford a warranty plan that includes upgrades you might find this could save some money in the long run. For those of us who need these devices to stay in touch and utilize some features we may find that a basic plan covering damage due to dropping it, losing it or having technical difficulties may cost less. And just like I mentioned earlier, setting up a small savings plan to prepare for the day your phone becomes obsolete may even work better.

Long term care insurance started coming out in the 1980's. This protection was to help pay for the long term care needs as we aged. Preparing for future needs seemed like a good idea probably because families were getting smaller and it didn't always seem possible for the younger generation to have the means to take care of the elderly. It also seemed somewhat sensible to be thinking ahead. As healthcare costs skyrocketed and people seemed to be living longer this need was real. Unfortunately, these factors also caused some disappointments for those early customers. Some policies didn't really seem to cover what was expected and the insurers began to add more stipulations on the potential customer. Taking a test to determine insurability often eliminated those with the most need for this product. So if you are looking for this type of coverage you really need to shop around. Being in a situation now where I have elderly parents without this type of coverage, I am rethinking my opinion which in the past was not good.

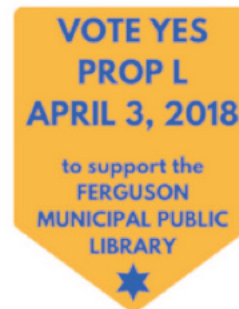
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As I looked at both warranties and insurances, while they are both necessary in some circumstances, everyone needs to really understand what they already have. If you are buying a house for the first time you will be given an option to purchase mortgage life insurance. For a young family this should be a concern – what if a parent dies? Would the surviving spouse be able to keep the home and raise the children? Good questions to ask. Another one would be, is there a better way for this coverage? Look into buying life insurance directly rather than from the mortgage company; it can save you money. And if you already have life insurance see about increasing it or adding a term policy just for this purpose. These policies will continue to be in force for the face value because they won't decrease as your mortgage does which could be more beneficial in the future should the unlikely event occur.

It seems we can buy insurance to protect us from anything (ex. identity theft, gadget obsolescence, having twins, kidnapping, weddings and divorce.) Deciding if it is necessary or if there is a more cost effective way to protect ourselves is the key. And, if you do try to claim a "Zombie Apocalypse" on your home owner's policy it will probably be denied. Not to worry, for \$15 per year the Zombie Apocalypse Insurance Co. can provide peace of mind. I saw that on the internet, so it might not be true.

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

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MCCLUER HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR AWARDED ST. LOUIS UNIVERSITY VICE PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARSHIP OF \$88,000

McCluer High School Senior Jacob Tiemann has been awarded the St. Louis University Vice Presidential Scholarship of \$88,000 (\$22,000 annually). This would cover approximately 1/2 of his tuition. Jacob has applied for other available scholarships to help cover the remainder of his tuition costs.



Ferguson by Foot

By: Margaret Wolfinbarger



I rolled over and turned off my alarm. The incessant beeping had woken me from a pleasant dream and into the harsh realities of life. It was dark and cold. I was tired. So I laid there for some time contemplating the myriad of ways I could get out of my responsibilities. But then I got up because that's what adults do and because I had skipped my exercise routine the day before and promised myself to make up for it.

I stared at my elliptical machine. It was covered with beanie babies and pipe-cleaner men which were shaped like various characters from the Star Wars movies—complete with little felt capes. Obviously it hadn't been used in a week (or more) and my young son had turned it into a battleground. I resisted the temptation to walk back upstairs and climb into bed, and instead cleared away the clutter and began to move—albeit not without a steady stream of grumbles.

I recently came across the story of Mary Rowlandson, of Lancaster, Massachusetts. She describes in detail how (Native American) Indians ruthlessly attacked her home in the early morning hours of February 10th, 1675, burned it to the ground, and killed many of her loved ones. She was shot, as was her six year old little girl, and while she fully expected to die, she did not, and instead spent 11 brutal weeks as a prisoner of the "bloody heathens". Her daughter died in her arms 10 days post abduction, and Mary endured other hardships in the form of hunger, cold, and the abject horror of watching other captives brutally murdered before her eyes when they refused to cooperate. The only comfort she knew was the bible she kept hidden in her skirt pocket and the hope that her husband, who had not been home at the time of the attack, would be able to ransom her.

At one point in the story, Mary was crippled by hunger (her captors would not feed her and often stole the food she foraged) and exhaustion, but she persevered by sheer force of will. The Indians were fleeing "the English" who pursued in the hopes of reclaiming their families. The group she was with escaped only because they crossed a river in the dead of winter and "the English" chose not to follow. Mary writes, "I took my load at my back, and quickly we came to wade over the river; and passed over tiresome and wearisome hills. One hill was so steep that I was fain to creep up upon my knees, and to hold by the twigs and bushes to keep myself from falling backward. My head was so light that I usually reeled as I went; but I hope all these wearisome steps that I have taken, are but a forewarning to me of the heavenly rest."

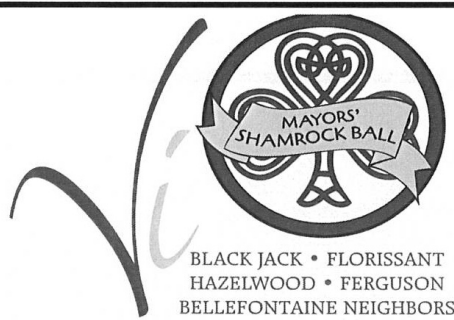
I have never been so hungry as to be faint but I have known the struggle of taking weary steps, and thus I thought of Mary as I trudged through a brutal 60 minute workout on my elliptical machine. I focused on the idea that if Mary could carry her heavy load, certainly I could carry mine. I feel hypocritical to write this because my burden is the product of undisciplined lips and not forced labor upon threat of death, but nonetheless my journey requires courage. I used to believe that people who lost weight and kept it off were the lucky few but now I know better. I know that living a healthy lifestyle requires grit and determination. My choices matter because each one has a consequence.

Newton's Third Law makes clear that for every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction. This is important for one to understand as it applies to physics in the human body. If one consumes copious amounts of cookies, the body is forced to absorb them. Like it or not, there is a chain reaction. Some human bodies are genetically predisposed to process certain foods in a more efficient manner and don't pack on extra layers of fat in response to sugar like mine does. But that doesn't mean they are "lucky". Their reaction may be lethargy, depression, anxiety, or even type 2 Diabetes. In other words, the reaction is still there. I'm going to put this in simple terms; one simply cannot exercise away the effects of a bad diet. This is why I avoid processed foods as much as possible and eat holistically. Yes, exercise is important, but what we consume is even more important.

I believe this is where many people fail. They struggle to maintain the exercise regimen because they regress into their former bad eating habits. This makes the workout torturous because the body is already bogged down with trying to process the "bad" foods it is trying to eliminate. When I overdose on cookies and ice cream, it usually takes 2 days to detox the sugar out of my system. During that time my workouts are less efficient and also less enjoyable. I have learned how to persevere through the horrible aftermath of diet gone awry (cookies, how I love to hate you!) but I am nevertheless trying to stop the bloody heathens from taking me captive in the first place.

Today you may consider that cookies are worth the consequence. You may not be ready to beat your mind and body into submission. You may be like Mary Rowlandson's sister who—upon despairing of life—took the bullet and died. But today, if you have the courage to rise up and put on an indomitable spirit, you may find yourself filled with joy, like Mary who—after enduring 11 weeks of brutal captivity—was returned to the loving arms of her husband.

For more inspiration, follow me on my blog: www.destinationdiscipline.com.



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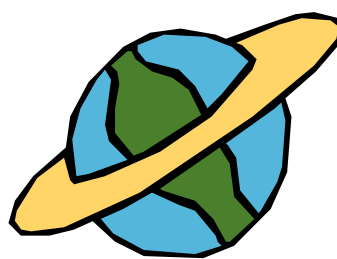
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**Under The
Hood With
Robinwood**
By Bob McGartland

**A Road Trip Down Memory
Lane**

Happy March Everyone.
We can hope the deep-freezing
weather is behind us and signs of
warmer spring weather will start to
show up soon.

I want to use this month's article to
drive along the history road of
Robinwood Automotive and Tire
Service. March 15th will mark the
35th anniversary of being in
business.

Robinwood Service goes way
back to 1958 when two Schuette
brothers opened a Sinclair Gas
Station on the corner of Dunn
Road and Washington. They oper-
ated the service station for the
next 28 years repairing cars,
pumping gas, cleaning wind-
shields and checking the oil.

Then along came this adventuri-
ous young automotive technician
who cashed in all his savings, took
out a loan and bought their busi-
ness in March of 1983. What was I
doing buying my own business at
age 22? I was and still do what I
like to do, taking care of cus-
tomers and repairing cars. All
these years later, there are still a
few loyal customers who have
been with me for 35 years.

For the first 6 months, with the
dedication of my brother Joe and
myself, we worked on all the cars
and I managed all the paper work.
Joe left for college in August of
that year and the business was
growing enough to add two more
technicians. Things were rolling
along pretty good those first 4
years in that three- bay service
station.

I was faced with a year of big
challenges and blessings in 1987.
On April 1st, Sinclair Oil Company
sent me a letter cancelling my
lease which would become effec-
tive on June 1st, just two months
away. It wasn't an April Fools joke.
I immediately went looking for a
new location. After much worrying
and some prayer, I found my cur-
rent location which was the old
Northwest Tire building. Some of
you may remember the sign out in
front of the building with a picture
of a bald man and the words "Are
your tires bald." In September of
1987, I purchased the building (no
more renting for me) and we
moved into a much bigger building
with room to grow the business. It
didn't take long for me to discover
the small town feeling and the di-
versity of the Ferguson commu-
nity. This was where the good

Lord wanted me to be. This was
confirmed when in November of
that year, I first met Peggy at
(where else) the shop. Two years
later the priest who married us
ended his homily with these
words; "She walked in looking for
tires and walked out with a
beloved". Two years later we
bought our house in Lake Pem-
broke and raised our 3 children
Robbie, Maggie and Kelly here
in our hometown of Ferguson. A
Community we call home.

After the move to Ferguson,
Robinwood Automotive became
Robinwood Automotive and Tire
Service. We began selling tires
and purchased a wheel align-
ment machine. Speaking of
alignment equipment, technology
has evolved from a simple metal
toe bar I used in trade school to
a laser camera system sitting in
front of my alignment rack. Sort
of like laparoscopic alignments.
Back in the mid 80's computers
had just begun showing up in
cars. Now days some cars have
more than 20 computers all com-
municating with each other. We
continue to keep up with ongoing
technical training and updating
repair equipment to service the
vehicles you drive today. Auto-
motive technology is challenging,
yet that's what drew me into the
industry. The new and every
changing vehicles.

Over these 35 years of business,
it has been a joy and pleasure to
meet so many great customers. I
have gotten to know many of you
personally and now I'm getting to
know some 3rd generation cus-
tomers. Being a small business
owner allows us to build relation-
ships with our customers. That
brings a lot of satisfaction to me
as owner and chief bottle
washer.

Robinwood has grown and has
been an anchor in Ferguson be-
cause of some great employees
over the years. My current staff
of Clinton & Josh our techni-
cians, Betty and Charlie our of-
fice support, Christopher our
maintenance person and myself
will continue to take care of you
and your vehicles well into the
future.

Reflecting over the years there is
much more to share but this col-
umn would fill pages of the
newspaper. I do want to express
my sincere gratitude to all the
customers, employees, the City
of Ferguson, our local communi-
ties, fellow business owners,
friends and family who have sup-
ported Robinwood and me over
the past 35 years. I am truly
blessed.

Sincerely,
Bob McGartland

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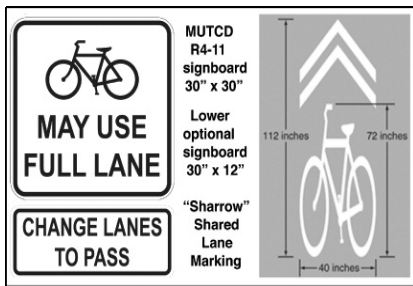
Ferguson Is Only City in Missouri That Treats Cyclists the Same as Motorists on Multi-lane Roads

Long time Ferguson resident and life long cyclist, Martin Pion, had a peer-reviewed article published in the January 2018 International Journal of the Institute of Transportation Engineers. The Journal is a very influential source for engineers and planners who design and oversee road construction.

The paper notes how the Ferguson City Council in 2012 repealed the Missouri State Law requiring cyclists to stay far right in the travel lane. The new law permits cyclists to control the entire lane on a four-lane roadway, such as Florissant Rd. This is illustrated in a screen capture from video showing Nick Kasoff of Ferguson controlling the curb lane while a motorist merges into the inside lane to pass.



Many motorists are unaware of Ferguson's 2012 ordinance and additional signage, as illustrated below, is needed to alert them. Below, left is an approved Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) signboard while on the right is a Shared Lane Marking, or "Sharrow," applied to the road surface.



"Not all bike riders want nor should ride in the street and want separate bike facilities," says Pion, "But competent on-road cyclists should be treated the same as motorists whenever possible, such as on multilane roads."

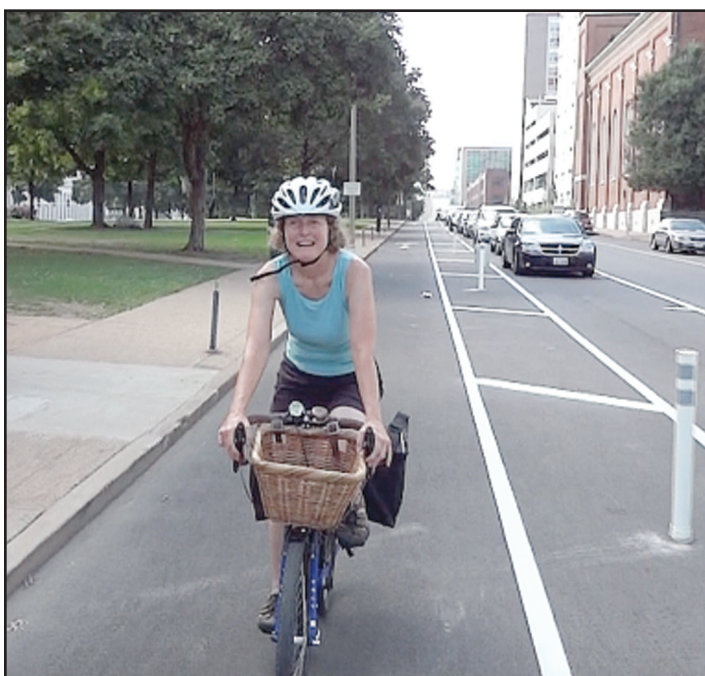
An option for bike riders wanting a degree of separation who wish to ride in

the street is the Parking-Separated Bikeway. Metro St. Louis has an example on one-way Chestnut Street, heading east-west towards the Gateway Arch. Along some sections, a one-way bike lane adjoins a curbed sidewalk and is separated from a same direction travel lane by a buffer lane, marked by diagonal white stripes and posts, as illustrated below.

The photo shows cyclist Karen Karabell braking for a stop sign at one-way 15th St.

Karen pointed out that a cyclist using this facility must check and yield to a right turning motorist at any intersection where they are permitted to turn right across her path to avoid a possible car-bike collision.

Janette Sadik-Kahn, former commissioner of the New York City Department of Transportation, says, "You have to design your streets for everyone. The cities that have safe streets, that are easy to get around, are the ones that will grow and thrive in the 21st century. By continuing to focus on automobile systems, we will systematically contribute to the inequity in these communities." She wishes to achieve a systems that connects people, and not just cars.



The Institute of Transportation Engineers paper by Martin Pion may be downloaded by pasting the following into your browser: tinyurl.com/ydd8emgh

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March 30th – 7:00 p.m.

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"I have been to 4 other chiropractors before coming to Dr. Robyn. The other chiropractors were good, but I like the way Dr. Robyn adjusts me. Another procedure Dr. Robyn does is a periodic re-check which I have never had done with the other chiropractors. This is very good because it rates or scores your progress. It gives Dr. Robyn an idea on how to continue your care. Every time I come into see Dr. Robyn I get a tune-up, just like your car. When I leave I feel much better. In addition I like Dr. Robyn's personality! So, all you people with back, neck, hip, leg, shoulder, allergies, stomach problems come in and see Dr. Robyn...you will be glad you did."

Pete K / St. Louis, MO

Dr. Robyn's Office Hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:30 am to 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm-6:00 pm
 Tuesday, 3:00 pm to 6:30 pm

**The Return of
 Parents'
 Night Out**

A Night sponsored by St. Peter's United Church of Christ

Have a worry free night out as your children ages 2-15 participate in fun activities. Free dinner will be provided for the children. Please RSVP by calling our office at 314-521-5694.

Friday March 23, 2018 @ 6pm -9pm

Free to the Community

All volunteers are trained and passed a background check



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



St. Peter's United Church
 Of Christ Ferguson, MO



@StPetersUCCFerguson



www.stpeterschurch.org



info@stpeterschurch.org



Relaxin' into
 Summer

Zion Child Development Center
Trivia Night

Come out and help the CDC raise money for Summer Camp!

Saturday, March 17th at the Savoy Banquet Center
 119 So. Florissant Road

Dinner starts at 5:30 p.m.
 Trivia begins at 7:00 p.m.

Tickets \$30 per person

Look forward to a night of trivia, door prizes, attendance prizes, raffle, silent auction, great food and lots of fun.

Call Now to Reserve a Table
 314-524-7677

EVENINGS &
 WEEKENDS

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EVENINGS &
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FLIERS
 (Friends of the Ferguson Library)
SPRING BOOK SALE

Thursday, April 19 – 4:00 to 7:30 pm
 Friday, April 20 – 9:00 am to 5:30 pm
 Sat., April 21 – 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Ferguson Municipal Public Library
 35 No. Florissant Rd., Ferguson

Special categories for this sale include LOTS of children's books (many are science-related), history books and magazines and books about model railroads. No scanners allowed. For more info call Janie Noberg 314-521-4663.

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 'Self Healing Thru Movement'

Thursdays, 1:30 to 2:30 pm
 St. Stephen's Church, 33 No. Clay
 \$10 per class suggested donation

Call 314.645.6112



easter
 egg
 hunt

Thursday, March 29th
 Time: 6:00 p.m.
 Place: North Hills United
 Methodist Church
 10771 Trask Dr.
 Ferguson, MO 63136
 314-524-1686

Followed by ...

6:30 p.m.
 Soup and Sandwich
 Dinner
 and
 Maundy Thursday
 Worship

Walk-in Clinic • Pain Clinic • Treats Headaches,
 Injuries and Chronic Pain

Pain Clinic
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 Most Insurances are Accepted

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 (Just west of New Florissant)

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Self Pay Visit
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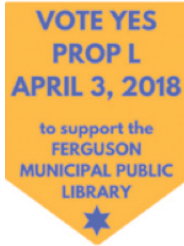
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**Adult Wellness
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 Reg. \$250
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**Now offering Primary Physician
 Service.**

Pass Prop L For The Ferguson Municipal Public Library



Dear Editor,

We are writing on behalf of the Vote YES for the Ferguson Municipal Public Library Committee to ask for your support for Proposition L, which will come before Ferguson voters April 3. This is a ballot initiative to approve a much-needed tax increase for the Ferguson Library, the first in 23 years. The levy would increase from \$.22 to \$.40 per \$100 assessed valuation. The annual property tax for a home with a market value of \$50,000 would increase by about \$17.

Ferguson residents are very proud of their library, especially for its response to the unrest which began in 2014. When other area libraries closed, ours opened its doors to teachers, schools, and volunteers to create a peaceful oasis in the midst of confusion. Activities such as training for jobs were created to support the community. This great work earned the Ferguson Municipal Public Library designation as the National Library of the Year. Complete coverage of this amazing story can be found in the Library Journal at <http://lj.libraryjournal.com/awards/2015>. See also <http://ferguson.lib.mo.us/PropL> or the Vote Yes for the Ferguson Municipal Library Facebook Page.

The media noticed, the rest of the world responded, and donations poured in. Knowing these were one-time contributions, the Board of Directors wisely used most of these funds for one-time capital expenses, such as creating an accessible entry, upgrading restrooms, and attending to maintenance that had been deferred due to budget constraints. The number of computers was doubled and all were immediately put to use. Some part-time staff was eliminated and replaced with fewer but full-time staff, including a children's and programming librarian.

The quality of the library continues at a high level with special programming and partnerships. Staff provides highly professional, personal assistance upon request. The library serves as a gathering place for the entire community. However, the current level of services cannot be maintained at the present level without an ongoing, stable source of income.

Your support at this critical time would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Randazzo and Carla Fletcher, Co-Chairs

Vote Yes For the Ferguson Municipal Public Library Committee

Paid for by Vote Yes For the Ferguson Municipal Public Library Committee
Margaret Foege, Treasurer, 660 Hunters Ridge Dr., Ferguson, MO 63135
Donations are not tax-deductible.

<h3>Programs</h3> <p>The library offers something for everyone! Each month the library hosts a mixture of ongoing programs and special events. From book signings to book clubs, storytime to Zoo visits, creating a craft to learning to talk like a pirate, we uphold our mission of lifelong learning and cultural literacy with the programs we bring to the community.</p>	<h3>Focus on STEM</h3> <p>With the help of our partners, Boeing and the Gateway Region YMCA, we bring dynamic STEM programs to the library, like coding, robotics, science nights, and more. We also bring the St. Louis Zoo, Science Center, and Magic House to Ferguson, making it easier for families to enjoy these cultural resources without having to travel or pay.</p>
<div style="text-align: center;"> <p>What can you do with \$450,000? A LOT!</p> <p>Beyond building improvements, we increased our efforts in programming, starting with hiring a children's librarian. We also formed partnerships to expand our offerings and bring new opportunities to our community.</p> </div>	
<h3>Focus on Community</h3> <p>After the unrest in 2014, we looked for ways to support our community. We invited organizations like the Small Business Administration to help business owners, started The Readings on Race Book Club to discuss the issues, and partnered with StoryCorps to record and preserve people's stories. We continue to plan programs today that support the needs of Ferguson.</p>	<h3>Community Partnerships</h3> <p>All of this would not be possible without partners. We work with the Ferguson-Florissant School District's Parents as Teachers to support our youngest learners. The Gateway Region YMCA teaches coding and robotics to inspire kids to think about the future. With Boeing's help, we are sponsoring a FIRST Lego League team, teaching kids to problem-solve and work together.</p>

2017

- updated library furniture throughout the library space










2015

- installed new carpet
- installed new fleet of computers, printers, and copier
- installed handicapped-accessible front doors
- installed SMART board in auditorium



2016

- completed bathroom renovations






2014












You are cordially invited to attend the

2018 ANNUAL DINNER AND FUNDRAISER

WE ARE PROUD TO HAVE ST. LOUIS COUNTY COUNCIL CHAIR, DR. SAM PAGE, OF THE 2ND DISTRICT, AS OUR KEYNOTE SPEAKER.

FRIDAY, MARCH 30, 2018

6:00 PM - RECEPTION | 6:45 PM - PROGRAM / DINNER
ORLANDO GARDENS IN MARYLAND HEIGHTS
2050 DORSETT VILLAGE, MARYLAND HEIGHTS, MO 63043

Dinner Ticket: \$35/person (\$275/table of eight) | Reservations Required by March 21, 2018
Sponsorships available & Donations accepted.

Inquiries to: 132 E. Monroe Ave, St. Louis, MO 63122 | 314-400-2115 | <http://extension.missouri.edu/stlouis/>

Zion FISH FRY

Every Friday Until Fall
4:00-7:00 p.m.



Dinner include Cod, Catfish, Shrimp or Chicken Strips.

Sides:

Spaghetti	All items available in bulk as well as dinners.
Mac 'n Cheese	Eat in or Carry Out
Fries,	Weather permitting there will be seating outside
Green Beans	
Cole Slaw	
Plain and Jalapeno Hush Puppies	

Zion Lutheran Church – 123 Carson Road – Ferguson



By Bob McCarty

Broken Window Theory, 202

A few months back, we talked about the 'Broken Window Theory'. This theory says that in urban areas, buildings with broken windows and trash on the ground signal that no one really cares about the neighborhood and that it isn't safe like other areas. This theory goes on to explain that if police concentrated on lesser

crimes, that the deterioration of our neighborhoods would be less prone to more serious criminal activity.

However today, I would like to expand the Broken Window Theory to our neighbors in our own communities. Upon talking with one of my neighbors, he was concerned about a bicycle that was stolen from his yard and some minor vandalism. He also asked me about a house in the neighborhood with the majority of it's windows broken out. I cited "It's the Broken Window Theory! Once we let this deterioration of the neighborhood go too long, we invite the rif-raf into our lives".

Below, you will see a couple of photos concerning this house in our neighborhood. You tell me which one you would rather live next too.



I can tell you this, I would rather live next to the one that looks like a nice home rather than the derelict that it was before covering those Broken Windows. With this neighborhood eyesore, I ended up taking matters into my own hands. I picked up some plywood, cut it to size, and painted a resemblance to the windows that were there. But before I took on the task at hand, I, as well as others had called and reported this house to the city. (Granted, I didn't call everyday but we did call a few times throughout the year. And I wasn't the only caller.) But the city has bigger fish to fry, and I understand that. They can only do so much. Why would the inspector continually cite a property knowing that nothing can be done because the out of town bank is nowhere near Ferguson and has an "Out of Sight, Out of Mind" mentality.

There are so many ordinances and regulations that tie the hands of our cities that if something can be done, it takes years of time at our expense. So what can we do?

First things first. Let's take all the lawyers and the people that come up with these ordinances and regulations and throw them in the river. Maybe they'll wash down stream and out to sea. (Just kidding around here -or am I?) If the house is occupied, talk with your neighbor or try to report it to the landlord if it is a rental. Call the city or report it on the 'Report a Concern' app on the city website. Even have your neighbors report the house if they think it's an eyesore. If nothing is done using those actions, get together with your neighbors and take matters into your own hands. This could be a potential problem if the landlords has a problem with you coming onto their property, but if that is the case, you will know who the property owner is. You will be able to bring up complaints about them to the city and them. Something will eventually get done.

Just be careful if you are on someone's property that has been abandoned. With today's Opioid Epidemic, there may be unsavory people hanging out at these abandoned properties or their paraphernalia. There is the possibility of you getting hurt and there could be no way that this property is insured, in other words, you're on your own. If you can live with that, go for it. So what I'm trying to say is, don't trespass unless it is in regards to the safety of you and your neighbors.

Trash. This is another problem in our area that leads to people thinking that we don't care about our neighborhoods. Can the city do something about the trash problem without the police spending most of their days writing tickets to litter-bugs? Can the city contact the residents or even the property owners if the property is a rental?

When driving down Clark, across the street from the Lion's Den, on Rail Road property, someone dumped a garage door. It's been there for over a year and I cannot go onto Rail Road property to dispose of this trash because there is a 'NO TRESPASSING' sign close to it. Could the city contact the Rail Road and ask them to pick up this trash? They could, but would the Rail Road do

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2018 FCU EVENTS SERIES

MARCH
SOBER PAINT PARTY WITH GOOD SHEPHERD GALLERY
DONATION REQUESTED BUT NOT REQUIRED

APRIL
TRIP TO THE ST. LOUIS ZOO
GOVERNMENT DR, ST. LOUIS, MO 63110

MAY
END OF SCHOOL LOCK-IN AT ST. PETER'S UCC
1425 STEIN RD., FERGUSON, MO 63135

JUNE
REGIONAL YOUTH EVENT
JUNE 19-22 - GRINNELL COLLEGE, IA
\$325 PER PERSON BUT FUNDRAISING WILL HELP OFFSET THE COST
REGISTER BY MAY 15
WWW.RYE2018.ORG

JULY
MOVIE ON ART HILL - ST. LOUIS ART MUSEUM
ONE FINE ARTS DR., ST. LOUIS MO, 63110
GATHERING ON THE HILL AT 6PM
MOVIE STARTS AT 9PM
HTTP://WWW.SLAM.ORG/FILMSERIES/

AUGUST
ST. LOUIS CARDINALS GAME
AROUND \$10 PER PERSON
700 CLARK AVE, ST. LOUIS, MO 63102

SEPTEMBER
JAPANESE FESTIVAL AT THE MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDENS
\$15 PER PERSON
4344 SHAW BLVD, ST. LOUIS, MO 63110

OCTOBER
VISITING A HAUNTED HOUSE
LOCATION AND PRICE TBD

NOVEMBER
HUMAN FOOSBALL
\$12 PER PERSON
3227 MORGANFORD RD, ST. LOUIS, MO 63116
WWW.GREATAMERICANHUMANFOOSBALL.COM

DECEMBER
ICE SKATING
LOCATION AND PRICE TBD

All Among Us Inc.

The Board of Directors of All Among Us Inc. has unanimously appointed Cathryn Shaw as the organization's Executive Director. In this role, Shaw is responsible for strategic visioning, program planning and management, facilitative leadership, financial management, and fundraising.

After spending the last decade serving and advocating for the chronically homeless, Shaw formed All Among Us Inc. in 2016. It is 501c3 non-profit established to help individuals move beyond generational poverty towards self-sufficiency.

All Among Us looks forwarding to partnering with non-profits, churches, and organizations in the Ferguson community. Our facility is currently undergoing remodeling at the site of the former Zion Lutheran Church at 107 Carson Road in Ferguson

"All Among Us is focusing on long-term transitional housing, starting with the 24-bed Women's Care Center in Ferguson. The Women's Care Center will be a safe place for women, providing trauma informed care, life-skill and 12-step programs, educational opportunities, and introductions to jobs in the Ferguson community." said Shaw.

For more information about All Among Us, Inc., visit our website at www.allamong.us

anything about it? (I've seen abandoned television sets sitting out there next to the rails. Maybe if the city played a little hardball here, the trash would be picked up with consequences, such as we wouldn't be able to hang banners on the trestle. (I don't know about you but I could live with that.)

Abandoned businesses are always having trashed dumped behind their buildings. Trash is constantly being dumped out of car windows. As I mentioned in the last Broken Window Theory article, I try to pick up the trash on the island across from the Animal Hospital and Painted Effects. After one of my excursions across the boulevard, before I was able to get in my car and admire my hour of litter control, there were ten, count 'em, 10, pieces of trash redistributed in and around the area of my immediate past expenditure of energy. Sometimes, you gotta' ask, why!

Until next month, Bob is on the Job trying. Trying to make Ferguson the Community of Choice for all of us.



MISSOURI MAIN STREET CONNECTION

Ferguson Receives Downtown Revitalization Grant

The Ferguson Special Business District has been selected in a competitive application process to participate in a cost-sharing Affiliate Grant that provides training, mentoring, and technical services to revitalization programs in Missouri's historic commercial districts. The grant is provided by Missouri Main Street Connection, Inc. (MMS C)

The goal of the grant is the development of a sustainable, volunteer-based organization that will carry out an economic development program based on the preservation of historic assets in the downtown.

- Maximizing on the community's strong and established volunteer base to revitalize the downtown district.
- Showcasing the many assets and benefits found in the historic district for Ferguson and the surrounding communities.
- Supporting entrepreneurship and private investment in the historic district.

During the next two years MMS C will provide Ferguson with training and mentoring to establish a revitalization organization that will engage the entire community as a participant and beneficiary.

The Affiliate Grant is a 40/60 match, requiring the community to contribute 40% of the cash value of the services. The total value of the grant in training and mentoring services is \$24,000.

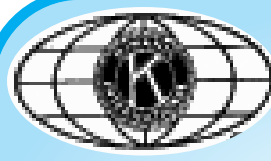


Get Off the Couch

This nine week training program for beginning runners and runners looking to get back in to shape trains specifically for the Ferguson Twilight Run. The Couch to 5K (C25K) program begins **Monday, March 19** and is three evenings each

week (Mon/Wed/Fri) at 6pm at Forestwood Park (806 Ferguson Ave). The C25K program starts out with run/walks and adds additional running distances each week. Each workout lasts less than one hour, including warm ups, cool downs and stretching.

Email Coach Shelton at patshelton60@yahoo.com to register and receive additional information. The C25K program is free, and you do not need to be a Ferguson resident to participate. All you need are a good pair of running shoes and the determination to get off the couch!



The Ferguson Kiwanis Club presents its 35th Annual Prayer Break-

Wednesday, March 28th – 7:00 am sharp

Savoy Banquet Center, 119 So. Florissant Rd.
Admission by
Advanced Donation Only – \$13.00

For tickets contact any member of the
Ferguson Kiwanis Club

Speaker: Ferguson Councilperson, Wesley Bell



This issue and past
issues of the
Ferguson Times
may be read at
FergusonCitywalk.com

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Book Club Is Charmed by a Veteran Activist

The February meeting of the Ferguson Readings on Race Book Club featured a presentation and discussion with Billie Teneau, who was a civil rights activist in the late 1940s and early 1950s. This was a project of the St. Louis C.O.R.E., described in the book, *Victory Without Violence*. The story is one of a group of people who successfully integrated lunch counters with a peaceful approach. Now 92, Ms. Teneau's concern for fairness is still fresh.

On **March 12** the book club will discuss a very different reading, *Policing Ferguson, Policing America* by Tom Jackson, who was Chief of Police in Ferguson when the unrest began in 2014. People who would like to borrow the book from the Ferguson Library should let Program Librarian, Amy Randazzo, know as soon as possible so the library can make sure there are enough copies available. The book may also be purchased at Left Bank Books, which gives a 20 per cent discount to book club members.

Club meetings begin at the Ferguson Municipal Public Library at 6 p.m. and end at 7:30. The public is always welcome. For more information contact Ms. Randazzo. At arandazzo@fergusonlibrary.net

33 N. Clay Ave
Ferguson, MO
63135

LUNCH at Clay Cafe

Friday March 16th, 2018
11:00 am - 12:30 pm

A monthly + FREE
community meal for Ferguson
seniors
at St. Stephen's Episcopal
Church

For more info contact Cornita
Robinson at cornita@the-vine.us
or by phone at, 314.441.5837

Facebook.com/thevineferguson

Ferguson Twilight Run is May 19

Registration is officially open for the 9th Annual Ferguson Twilight Run, which will take place Saturday, May 19, 2018. The courses wind through Ferguson's beautiful historic neighborhoods. The 1-Mile Fun Run, 5K and 10K routes are USA Track and Field (USATF) certified.

Registration is \$24 per entrant for the 5K and 10K, and \$14 for the 1-Mile Fun Run. Teams of 10 or more running the 5K or 10K receive a \$2 discount. Fees include an event shirt. All finishers receive a medal commemorating their accomplishment. The top three male and female finishers in age categories receive an award. The race benefits non-profit organizations providing healthy and active programs in North County.

- 4:30 p.m. Pre-race entertainment: Earth Rhythms Healing Drum Circle
 - 5:00 p.m. 1-Mile Fun Run start
 - 5:45 p.m. 5K start
 - 6:15 p.m. 10K start
 - 6:45 p.m. Post-Race Concert
 - 10:00 p.m. Post-Race End
- WHERE: Plaza at 501 (intersection of

St. Stephen's & The Vine
33 N. Clay Ave
Ferguson, MO 63135

DINNER AT CLAY CAFE

AN OPEN MIC EVENT!

SUNDAY MARCH 18TH, 2018
4:30 PM - 6:30 PM

EATS SPONSORED BY
THE VINE

Facebook.com/thevineferguson

Wabash Neighborhood Community Garden

Located at the corner of N. Dade and Abston. Garden plots are currently available. Volunteers are needed. If interested, please email Shonnette Morgan at sdenisemor@hotmail.com.

For One Ferguson

by Laverne Mitchom
Candidate for Ferguson City Council – Ward 2



On August 9, 2014, while traveling to Atlanta to visit my daughter and family, I received a call about the killing of teenager, Michael Brown. As a recent retiree, I had just left my position as a counselor in the St. Louis Desegregation Program, where I served for almost thirty years. I was looking forward to spending more time with my family and enjoying my retirement; but at that moment, I felt a call to action and a desire to serve the people of Ferguson.

I returned to try to help our community move forward, unaware that in the coming days Ferguson would be under a microscope, and eventually on the world stage.

There were protests and civil unrest in the days following Michael Brown's death and I was saddened, concerned, and determined to help in any way I could. That is why I was willing to be appointed to the Ferguson City Council in February of 2016, and I have never forgotten that I represent you, the people of Ferguson. I am and will always be committed to our community.

I believe Ferguson needs every single one of us to heal, unite, and build bridges of understanding in our community. I am determined to help heal the wounds that divide us rather than unite us. Since beginning my service on the city council two years ago, I have become familiar with the daily functions and operations of city government. I understand how important it is that we all work together and demand sound city government that works for every person in Ferguson.

As Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said, "True peace is not merely the absence of tension: it is the presence of justice." We all want a peaceful community that ensures justice, equality, and opportunity for all people. I am committed to leading with a service heart and I hope that on April 3rd, 2018, you will vote for me

FOR ONE FERGUSON
Laverne Mitchom

Paid for by Friends of Laverne Mitchom, Helen Douglas Taylor, Treasurer

Re-Elect ELLA JONES
Ward 1 Ferguson City Council

Keep Good Things Happening

"We appreciate Ella Jones and her determination to make a difference in our community."
-LaToya & Her Children

(314) 795-7295
friendsofemj@gmail.com
www.voteellamjones.com

Paid for by Friends of Ella M. Jones, Shirley Emerson, Treasurer

Put UNITY back in our CommUNITY!

For City Council Ward 1



Vote April 3rd

Pam Hartley

Paid for by Citizens to Elect Pam Hartley, Mark Byrne, Treasurer

Toni Burrow Ward 2 Council

Working Together to Serve Together

Paid for by the Citizens for J. Toni Burrow Committee, Rob Chabot, Treasurer

McCluer North High School Teacher Receives Certified Journalism Educator Status



Krystle Hoisington, a language arts teacher at McCluer North High School (MNHS) in the Ferguson-Florissant School District, received Certified Journalism Educator status from the Journalism Education Association (JEA). Hoisington will be honored April 14, at the JEA/NSPA Spring National High School Journalism Convention in San Francisco, California.

"Ms. Hoisington dedicates her heart and soul to the program at MNHS," said Dr. Andrew Croley, principal of MNHS. "Her ability to earn the title of Certified Journalism Educator by her professional organization is proof that she is determined to make the journalism program at MNHS one of the top programs in the state of Missouri. Her students will be the ultimate winners of this recognition."

Hoisington joins a growing number of teachers who realize journalism is an academic subject requiring a qualified instructor. This honor recognizes Hoisington as such an educator. Educators who gain this certification status show evidence of continuing education and professional growth, knowledge of teaching, and advising methods in scholastic journalism and leadership at local, state, regional, or national levels.

"Receiving this award is a very exciting accomplishment as an educator," said Hoisington. "I think this will immensely help the students because it proves to them that hard work does pay off in the end."

Brian Scott Ebert

Experienced

Passion for doing what is right for kids!

I have served on these committees:

- St. Louis County Special School District Governing Council
- Ferguson-Florissant School District Committee for Special Education
- Financial Task Force Committee
- Security Advisory Committee
- Student Expectations Committee
- Technology Committee

I accomplished the following Changes since being on the Board:

- Helped pass Props S and I to bring financial stability to the District
- Brought Scholar Bowl back from budget cuts
- Created a rigorous bidding process to create transparency
- Extended Learning Program on Saturday mornings
- We have replaced the CFO, Law Firm and Audit firm
- Put into place the District's Strategic Plan.



Ferguson-Florissant School Board

Paid for by Ebert for School Board ~ Paul T. Morris, Treasurer

About the Ferguson-Florissant School District

Located in suburban St. Louis, FFSD serves more than 11,000 students from preschool through 12th grade with an excellent comprehensive educational program. Fully accredited by the state of Missouri, the Ferguson-Florissant School District operates 17 elementary schools, three middle schools, three A+ and NCA-CASI-accredited high schools, a cutting edge STEAM Academy, and an alternative school.

Samaritan's Feet Provides Shoes to Ferguson Youth

Samaritan's Feet International joined a host of community partners including the City of Ferguson, the Ferguson Police Department, Emerson Family YMCA, Community Forward, Inc., the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis, and residents, to again serve the children of Ferguson through a free shoe distribution. The organization generously donated new stylish athletic shoes/socks to over 500 children, in grades K-6, who live in Ferguson and attend Griffith, Bermuda, Vogt, Lee Hamilton, Central, and Cool Valley. Volunteers from Samaritan's Feet and the community greeted families and shared words of hope and encouragement, while fitting the children with new pairs of shoes/socks.

In addition to the children of Ferguson receiving free shoes, workers represented by SEIU Healthcare on strike from the Christian Care Home, located in Ferguson, were also invited to bring their children to the event to receive the free shoes. Children were served by members of the Ferguson Police Department. The children were quite surprised and excited to be receiving a foot washing and to be fitted for new shoes by the hands of Police Chief Delrish Moss and his officers. Many children shared similar sentiments, e.g. they couldn't wait to tell their friends that they had their feet washed by the police, including the Chief, and that it was something they would never forget.

Samaritan's Feet International serves and inspires hope in children throughout the world by providing free shoes as the foundation to a spiritual and healthy life, resulting in the advancement of educational and economic opportunities. Their shoe give-a-ways always include foot washing and inspirational dialogue with the recipients. As a part of their 2018 National Day of Service Campaign in honor of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday, Samaritan's Feet served over 11,000 individuals in 22 cities across the United States in January.

Beginning April 12, Pastor Larry Lemke, at Zion Lutheran Church, 123 Carson Road, will begin a 4 to 6 week bible study 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. This will be a study available to all denominations, all are welcome. For more information call the church office 314-522-0100

Warm Hearts Offer Comfort on Cold Nights

New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church in Ferguson is reaching out to people who need a place to keep warm on cold nights. The new ministry is opening at the church at 1 North Dade to serve as a warming center on nights when the temperature is expected to drop below 30 degrees. Guests will be served a meal. They may arrive any time after 9 p.m. and will leave at 7 a.m. the following morning.

For further information, please contact Police Chaplain Pastor Jose Agyuayo at 314-574-8338.

Sherlock's Pal



Like most people I assume that my political, social, and religious views are totally unbiased, informed, and rational. I assume that my views are therefore correct. If I assumed otherwise, wouldn't I change them? Of course, you know what happens when we assume too much. I don't need to sound it out for you. Actually, my political, social, and religious views are not totally unbiased, informed, and rational. My views are just how I have come to perceive things. And as I have heard many times in my life, "My perception is my reality." To be consistent, even that comment is just a perception. But I digress.

Despite the fact that we will never be omniscient, we should spend less time in frivolity and more time seeking to understand ourselves and others. (I have nothing against frivolity, by the way. Some of my best friends are nothing if not frivolous.) I try to read as much non-fiction as I possibly can, understanding that the designation "non-fiction" can be monumentally misleading. In our post-modern world perhaps nothing is authentically non-fiction. But once again I digress.

Currently I am reading the non-fiction book "The Righteous Mind: Why Good People are Divided by Politics and Religion," by Jonathan Haidt (2012). Before I dove into this book I assumed (there's that word again) that I knew why people are divided by politics and religion. I assumed (ahem) people are divided by politics and religion because some people are unbiased, informed, and rational while others are, well, ignorant stupid morons. Actually, I didn't really think that way . . . on Tuesdays. I call Tuesdays my "Sabbath from Haughtiness." Also, some of my best friends are morons. There's nothing like a moronic BFF for kicks and giggles.

Haidt has taught me that in truth none of us are completely unbiased, informed, and rational. And even if we have mastered a high degree of these characteristics it wouldn't matter. We don't use our big rational brains to make moral decisions anyway. According to Haidt our First Responder (a.k.a. our mental police officer, firefighter, and EMT) is not the illusive facts that we can pluck from the intellectual atmosphere like picking a cherry from a low-hanging branch. Our First Responder is our intuition that is rooted and formed within our social environment.

Haidt uses the analogy of "the rider and the elephant" to explain what he means. The rider is a controlled process that consists primarily of our reasoning abilities. The elephant is our automatic processes, including emotion and intuition. He says we come to moral (including political and religious) conclusions first through our intuition, our elephant. The rider, our rational mind, is just trying not to get thrown off! (The analogy of "the rider and the elephant" is very appropriate for Republicans; therefore I suggest that any Democratic readers should change their image to that of "the rider and the donkey." Libertarians, obviously, can use any animal they darn well please because it is their right to do so as long as it is not a porcupine or a skunk.)

What does all this mean? Well, it means, as Haidt says, "You can't change people's minds by utterly refuting their arguments. If you want to change someone's mind about a moral or political issue, talk to the elephant (or donkey, or the Libertarian mascot) first." Find out what makes a person tick. What is their moral foundation? At the end of the day we aren't trying to win arguments; instead we are trying to win friends and influence people. (Thanks Dale Carnegie!) The next step, I assume, is world peace. But I digress.

Dr. Jimmy Watson
Pastor, Immanuel United Church of Christ
Ferguson, Missouri
sherlockspal@yahoo.com

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Artful Considerations

by Robin Shively



The ability to make somebody feel something: that's art. However you look at it, whether you're an author, a painter, a singer, a rapper, a spoken-word artist - art. -Wale

Last month in this column, the announcement was made about the effort to organize a special art exhibit entitled "#ThisIsMyFerguson". As a kick-off to the planned exhibit, Good Shepherd Arts Center is holding an "Artstorming" which is brainstorming with art materials and ideas. The event, to be held on Friday, March 2, from 7:00 till 9:00 p.m., will include hands-on art activities to help generate ideas for participating in the show. More detailed information about the #ThisIsMyFerguson exhibit, including entering artwork, the receptions, etc. will be shared and you will be welcome to offer your own suggestions. The planning committee includes Dana Sebastian-Duncan and Katherine Moore-Freeman of the Northern Arts Council, Stefannie Wheat and Stephanie Von Drasek. You will find information on the Facebook page "This Is My Ferguson" and also on the Good Shepherd Arts Center webpage: www.goodshepherdarts.org. GSAC will be looking for volunteers to help with installations in 3-4 locations, assistance with receptions scheduled on Saturday, August 4, and other tasks associated with setting up, maintaining and taking down the exhibit.

The opening reception for "Iconic Women: Women You Should Know by Women Artists", featuring works by: Lisa Carswell, Laura Kaiser, Glynis Mary McManamon, Katherine Moore-Freeman, and Mary Nichols, will be held on **Saturday, March 3**, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. at Good Shepherd Arts Center, 252 S. Florissant Rd. The show will run through March 24.

The following events held at Good Shepherd Arts Center are free. Accompanied children are welcome and donations are always appreciated.

- Music for a Lenten Evening, Gary Lang and St. Peter's (Kirkwood) Acts Musicians: Friday, March 9, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
- Grown-up Coloring: Friday, March 16, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. –
- Visio Divina: Friday, March 23, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Visio Divina is a process of meditating with imagery. The images can be fine art, photography, or any other kind of visual image. These images need not be religious in theme.

The Citywalk column in the front of this newspaper mentions the exciting news about Ferguson Special Business District collaborating with Missouri Main Street Connection, which has resources to assist with our downtown revitalization efforts. Many successful Main Street commercial districts have included an emphasis on promoting and supporting art and cultural programs. Since there are already sculptures and examples of outdoor art in Citywalk, it was suggested that transforming the area into a "Sculpture-walk" may be an asset. A recent meeting was held to explore that idea. In attendance were Dana Duncan of Northern Arts Council, Glynis McManamon of Good Shepherd Arts Center, Robin Shively of Corners Frameshop & Gallery and F.S.B.D., and F.S.B.D. Events Coordinator Marveena Miller. This is in the very early stages of planning. If you are interested in becoming involved and have some expertise in the area of sculpture, outdoor art, or writing art grant proposals, my contact information is at the end of this article.



Two of the sculptures already in place were installed by developer and business owner Mike Palmer in front of two of his buildings on Citywalk. "Primary Lines" by Ferguson native Bryce Robinson is installed outside of Montrey's Cigar Lounge at 401 S. Florissant Rd. Just a short stroll south is "Emergent Behavior", also sculpted by Robinson, sits in front of the loft building with Papa John's and Om Turtle Yoga at 419 S. Florissant Rd. Ferguson area artists and art venues are encouraged to send information about their events to cornersframing@gmail.com for inclusion in future Artful Considerations columns.

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Announces Plans for a New Exhibit:

#ThisIsMyFerguson

A public art exhibit at multiple venues throughout Ferguson
August 4 - 25, 2018

Ferguson, Dellwood and Jennings residents and business owners are invited to create and submit art that speaks to this question:

What do we treasure from our past, value in our present, or passionately desire for the future of our community?

Want to participate in the #ThisIsMyFerguson Exhibit but don't know what to do? Come to an "Artstorming"!

"Artstorming" Friday, March 2, 7 - 9 p.m.
Good Shepherd Arts Center
252 S. Florissant Rd. (next to Cathy's Kitchen)
Call 314-522-1155 for more information.
Accompanied children are welcome.

The #ThisIsMyFerguson Exhibit is supported in part by the Ferguson fund.
and by the Northern Arts Council



ART CONTEST

Sponsored by the
First Presbyterian Church of Ferguson
401 Darst Road, 63135

Are you an artist that wants to express your faith in your work? The First Presbyterian Church of Ferguson is sponsoring an art contest for Easter. The deadline for submission is **Friday March 16** and all entries will be on display at church on Sunday mornings, March 25 and April 1. The guidelines for entries are:

- Artwork should depict or represent either Palm Sunday or Easter.
- Any 2-D medium is accepted - ink, watercolor, paint, etc.
- Finished size should be 8.5" tall x 7" wide (portrait).
- Two categories - youth (up to 18) and adult (19 and up).

Two winners will be chosen - one youth and one adult.

Winners will receive a gift certificate to the Whistle Stop. Images will be reproduced and printed for public distribution as bulletin covers for Palm Sunday and Easter services.

Please mail or deliver your artwork to the church by March 16 at 5pm. Include your name, phone, email, and age. If requested, artwork may be returned to the owner after April 2.

Questions may be directed to fergpres@gmail.com.



The Best of Ferguson

– by Ruffina Farrokh Anklesaria, M.A.



Tom Claffy



“If it needs to be done, I’m on it!” This is my friend Tom Claffy’s motto. It sums up the man about town who is always volunteering his skills and time to improve Ferguson. I met Tom years ago when we were both working as volunteers on the campaign to increase property taxes for the betterment of

our community. I remember when he was fund-raising for first aid and respiratory kits for the police K-9 team, when we both came out with residents during the Michael Brown crisis to peacefully counter agitated protests and to show support for our Mayor. I remember on that occasion doing a double take when I was talking to his twin, and thought it was him!

Tom is one of the pillars in the broad landscape of interesting people that make up our community. On social media, he lightens things up for all of us reading.

He always has a funny quip to make your smile. For this column his word of wisdom is: if a man says he will fix it, he will. There is no need to remind him every six months! This is typical Tom in full humor mode!

Tom quietly works behind the scenes to accomplish much for our common good. He is the guy local charitable organizations come to for website management. He has worked on projects for the ‘I Love Ferguson’ Committee, The Taste, various political campaigns and multiple fund raisers for first responders. In 2016, he launched MyFergusonCalendar.com to provide a free community calendar, where everyone can benefit from the many community activities offered here. You can contribute your event to this calendar. It especially showcases opportunities for the underserved population. Feel free to check out the happenings in Ferguson and to tell Tom what you have to offer.

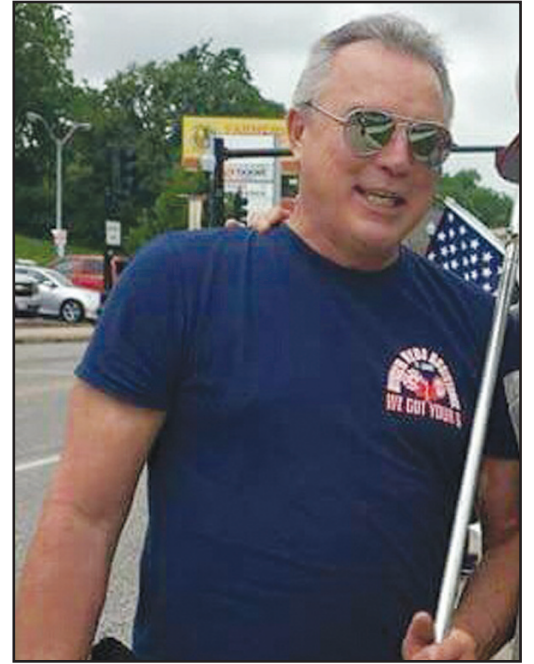
Tom is married to Victoria and has a daughter, Tamra, and granddaughter, Mila, living in Alton and a son, Jacob, who is a wizard of websites, computers and games. Tom’s father, John K. Claffy, was a marine who fought in the bloodiest battles of WWII and received two Purple Hearts for his heroism.

Tom says his father was a leader by example to his family, his boy scout troop 512, and to his church, serving as janitor after a crucial role at McDonnell Douglas during the race to the moon. He



Tom and his wife, Victoria.

loved his family and taught his boys to be men. He moved into Ferguson around 1950 and dove right in. He was a volunteer at the volunteer fire department for the neighborhood before Ferguson annexed that part of ward 3 and was active in Ferguson in many areas seemingly knowing everyone in town at the 4th of July celebrations. His progressive thinking resulted in him being a big advocate in bringing sewers to the neighborhood and he was always willing to offer anyone a hand up. He and his Mom served for years at Christ Memorial Church and his Dad would often go to Sunshine Mission helping the less fortunate with food and clothing.



Hats off to the late John K. Claffy and to Tom’s Mom, Mary, who raised five children together. Mary was a Sunday school teacher. The deep love shared by Tom’s parents impacted him greatly. He speaks fondly of both of them.

Tom is a Jack of all trades and master of none! So he says! He is an accomplished DIY builder and maintenance guy. He bought his home right out of foreclosure and totally rehabbed it. He spends a



good deal of time during the summer months with his wife, fishing and canoeing and just enjoying the peace and tranquility of a small cabin in the woods.

Tom is a computer programmer and some of the software he has written is used in the manufacturing process of many well known products in the paint, coatings and chemicals industry, food and beverages, personal care and many consumer products. He was born and raised in Ferguson and attended Bermuda Ele-

mentary, Ferguson Junior High and Mc Cluer High School. He studied music at the Conservatory of Music in Kansas City and enjoyed many years of semi-professional singing with the Bach Society. Tom was part of an opera recording of a world debut during his time at the Conservatory. He had many tuxedoed performances at Powell Hall, and sang and directed in various churches throughout St Louis.

Tom always brings a smile to us readers on social media. He’s one of the remarkable personalities living in Ferguson, enriching it with his many contributions. We are all proud of Tom because he represents the Best of Ferguson!

Contact the author with your suggestions for persons or projects to be profiled here. Email: rfanklesaria@gmail.com
Ph: (314) 766-4391.

The author is a meditation instructor and motivational speaker and conducts retreats at home and abroad. www.tsmo.org



Ash Pits

In the 1800s, homes were mostly heated by coal. About the middle of the 19th century, Laclede Gas then introduced "coal gas" that I guess was what we called "oil". It wasn't until the late 40s that "natural gas" was brought into the area.

In two of the three homes in Ferguson that I have lived, there was a "coal chute" built into the foundation of two of them. The coal supplier would come to your home and attach a chute from his truck to the small door, usually located near the front of the house for easy access. He would pour coal through the chute into the room that was normally closed off from the rest of the basement.

In the house that I lived in on Forest Avenue (built in the 1940s), the furnace had been converted to oil, and a huge tank was placed near the coal chute. The truck that supplied the oil would use the same method of delivery as the coal man, but he used a hose instead of a chute. Later on the furnace was converted to natural gas and the oil tank was not used, but because of its size, it remained in the basement.

In the house I lived in on Tiffin (built in 1917), the furnace had already been converted to natural gas, but the walls under the former coal chute were so black I had to paint them 4 or 5 times to cover them. The house I live in now was built during the 1950s and has always had a gas furnace.

When most homes in the St. Louis area were heated by coal, it was necessary to have a place to dispose of the ashes. If you have a wood burning fireplace you probably know the necessity of scooping out the ashes before building a new fire. In the city an alley ran (and still does) behind most homes and next to the ally was built an enclosure (usually concrete) in which the homeowners could dump their ashes. These pits had an opening toward the alley, usually covered by removable wooden boards, that could be used to periodically clean out the accumulation of ashes.



I remember my grandparents, who owned a flat (apartment building) on Page Avenue in the City, had an ash pit in their back yard. However, as I recall, it held more than ashes. It became the receptacle of trash and garbage, and was often burned to get rid of the trash and the rats that lived there. Burning was allowed back then and the smoke added to the already smog filled atmosphere.

Many kids, and adult too, would go "ash pit diving" in hopes of finding treasures that other people had discarded. My grandfather found a pair of large ladies shoes in someone's ash pit. He took them home, painted them aluminum and grandma wore them for years. She was very proud of them.

My father had a home built in 1935, and we had a gas furnace, but I guess it was oil before I remember. In the back yard we had a stone "BBQ pit". However, I remember very few times it was used to cook food. Most of the time it was to burn trash. We had garbage collection, but that was only for food scraps, everything else was burned. I guess dad had fond memories of the "ash pits" of his youth.

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Calendar of Events In and Around Ferguson

Complete Details of These Events Throughout the Paper

Artstorming – Good Shepherd Gallery	Fri., Mar. 2
Mayors' Shamrock Ball – Garden Villas	Sat., Mar. 3
Pre-School Enrollment Begins	Mon., Mar. 5
Coding for Kids – Library	Tues., Mar. 6
History of Suffragists – Library	Thurs., Mar. 8
N/W Chamber Membership Meeting – Renaissance Hotel	Thurs., Mar. 8
Reading On Race Book Club – Library	Mon., Mar. 12
Ferguson City Council Meeting – City Hall	Tues., Mar. 13
Trip to Memphis	Wed., Mar. 14 - Fri., Mar. 16
Last Day to Submit Civil Rights Award Candidates	Thurs., Mar. 15
Clay Cafe Community Meal – St. Stephens	Fri., Mar. 16
Deadline for Art Contest Submission - Good Shep. Gallery	Fri., Mar. 16
Indoor Farmers Market – St. Stephens	Sat., Mar. 17
Zion Trivia Night – Savoy	Sat., Mar. 17
Clay Cafe Open Mic Event – St. Stephens	Sun., Mar. 18
Couch to 5K Training Begins – Forestwood Park	Mon., Mar. 19
Career and Employment Service - Flo Valley Comm. College	Wed., Mar. 21
Hollywood Casino Trip	Wed., Mar. 21
Lunch and Bingo Community Center	Thurs., Mar. 22
Candidates Forum – Community Center	Thurs., Mar. 22
Craftnoon – Library	Fri., Mar. 23
Parents Night Out – St. Peters UCC	Fri., Mar. 23
Wings for Tots – Bird Sanctuary	Sat., Mar. 24
Lipka Trivia Night – Community Center	Sat., Mar. 24
Two Times Two Concert – St. Peters UCC	Sun., Mar. 25
Trip to Tunica, Mississippi	Tues., Mar. 27 - Thurs., Mar. 29
Tuesday Night Book Club – Library	Tues., Mar. 27
Ferguson City Council Meeting – City Hall	Tues., Mar. 27
Spring Hiring Event – Community Center	Thurs., Mar. 29
Easter Egg Hunt – North Hills Methodist	Thurs., Mar. 29
Adult Easter Egg Hunt – Community Center	Fri., Mar. 30
UMSL Extension Dinner – Orlando's	Fri., Mar. 30
Children's Easter Egg Hunt – Community Center	Sat., Mar. 31
Crazy for Crayons – Library	Sat., Mar. 31
Easter Sunday Service – January-Wabash	Sun., Apr. 1
Blues Hockey Game Trip	Mon., Apr. 2
VOTE	Tues., Apr. 3
Mystery Meal	Thurs., Apr. 12
Teen Trip to City Museum	Sat., Apr. 14

11th Annual

Lipka Trivia Night THE GRAND FINALE

Saturday, March 24

Doors open at 6:00 p.m. – Festivities begin at 6:45 p.m.

Ferguson Community Center

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