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July, 2019

Ferguson Times

Established 1894 — Oct. 1999

Serving Ferguson and Surrounding Communities

PLAZA at 501

Ferguson's Farmers Market

With over 45 vendors, we are a destination for all your fresh farm food needs. Our Saturday morning tradition brings you fresh fruits and veggies, picked within 24 hours of our market and brought directly to you by the friendly farmers who grow them.

Saturday, July 6th:
- All American Pie Contest! Judging 10:30am
  Bring your favorite homemade pie by 10:15am
  Market Bucks to the winners! First - $30, Second - $15, Third - $10
- Christian Hospital - Dieticians and Healthy Food Samples 8am - 12pm
- Live Music - Crossriver 9am-11am

Saturday, July 13th:
- Hawthorne Players from Florissant Civic Center
Theater with Sneak Preview of "Footloose" (Aug 2 - Aug 11)
- Live Music - Riff Raff Jazz Band 9am-11am

Saturday, July 20th:
- Corn Celebration featuring Thies Farm Corn Roast 8am-12pm
- Kids' Corny Joke Contest - 10am, Cornhusk Doll Demo and more!
- Ferguson Eco Team 8am-12pm
- Ferguson Library 8am-12pm
- Live Music - Salt of the Earth 9am-11am

Saturday, July 27th:
- Coffee Talk with New Owners of Coffee Shop in Ferguson 8am-12pm
- Live Music - Maple Jam Band 9am-11am

Check our website and facebook for more details!
www.fergusonfarmersmarket.com - www.facebook.com/fergusonfarmersmarket
Customer parking in market lots!

Vendor List
(updated regularly, not all vendors will be there every week)

EarthDance Organic Farm School, Kevin McConnell LLC
Sugar Plum Punk Bakery, Delicious Latinas, Cupcake Creations
St. Stephen's and The Vine, Bon Vivant, BeDazzle Wood
Missouri Honey, Larder & Cupboard, La Fuente
The Stained Tree, Gibbs Plants & More - app coming
Howie Farms, Alpacas of Troy, Brick River Cider
Christie's Jamaican Plates and Bakes, Bowyer Farms LLC
Sushi Sasuba, Vitl'z, Stone Botanicals
Mudda's Creations
Harmonee Rose Lemonade Stand

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4th of July Festival

Ferguson Marches Forward

Thursday, July 4th

10 am	Parade Starts (at Paul & So. Florissant Rd.) north to January-Wabash Memorial Park, (501 No. Florissant)
noon to 6 pm	Petting Zoo sponsored by the Ferguson Lions Club
noon to 7 pm	Family Fun Zone
noon to 9 pm	Entertainment 12:00 Brian Owens 2:00 pm Trixie Delight 5:00 pm That 80's Band 7:00 pm Breakdown Shakedown
2 to 6 pm	Balloon Artist
9:15 pm	Fireworks Display

For more information, visit www.fergusoncity.com



FRIDAY, JULY 19th – BITTER PILL

The band's extensive playlist boasts crowd-pleasing hits that span from 70's classic rock to current rock and alternative radio hits. The sets consist of carefully selected danceable rock-n -roll tunes crafted over many years of live performances..

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

Open to all ages, the live entertainment will feature a wide variety of music styes. Guests are encouraged to bring lawn chairs. Visitors are welcome to bring their own picnic baskets or coolers. No glass please. Concession items will be available for purchase on site.
The concerts are FREE to the public.

Ferguson Veterans Group

We are working to start a Military Veterans Group in Ferguson with monthly meetings. The first meetings are scheduled at the Ferguson Community Center located at 1050 Smith Ave (63135).

Join us Saturday, August 10th, 1300-1400hrs and Tuesday, August 20th, 1900-2000hrs. Your feedback is needed, let us know what days/times work best for you. Please call LaRae Jackson at 314-225-3556 if you have any questions or would like more information.

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

Ferguson CityWalk

By Carita Douglas

Greetings from CityWalk,

The Ferguson Special Business District has an opening for a board member position effective July 1, 2019.

This is a three-year position with a monthly commitment of 1.5 hours every second Thursday of the month. The board meets from 5:30pm-7:00pm at the Thomas Professional Building located at 910 S. Florissant Rd. 63135.

Our goal is to grow and maintain a strong business community that focuses on economic development, business professional development, and entrepreneurship. This position is open to current business owners within the Ferguson Special Business District.

Our next board meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, July 11, 2019.** Board members will be available to answer any questions you may have about joining. You may also contact any current board member for additional information.

Nominate a Ferguson Resident or Group for the second 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 **September 1, 2019.** Nomination forms can be found at https://www.fergusoncity.com/533/Human-Rights-Commission. The award will hopefully be presented near Human Rights Day in December!

FERGUSON est. 1894 COMMUNITY OF CHOICE

HUMAN RIGHTS

4th of July Parade Starts at 10:00 a.m. at Paul Avenue and Florissant Road – then proceeds North on Florissant Road to January-Wabash Memorial Park.
See you there!


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BOB ON JOB
Maintaining Yesterday For Tomorrow

The Ferguson Times may be reached . . .
by phone: 314-524-1958
or by mail: Dorothy Seiter, 16 Sandringham, Ferguson, MO, 63135
or by *e*mail: 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.

The Plumber's Crack

By Oh Baby *bigohbaby@sbcglobal.net*



Parades, fireworks, high humidity, politicians blowing smoke, cars overheating, farmers market in full swing, 501 swinging, it must be July and time for another edition of the Plumbers Crack

This month I want to talk a little about how it is to run a small business. I'm taking this from a post I happen to read last week and got a chuckle. It was titled HOW TO ENGAGE THE SERVICES OF A PLUMBER. - call the plumber after lunch on Friday or before a public holiday weekend. Hassle him to fit you in. Estimate the time and ease of the job (they like that) explain that it's only a five minute job that you could do your self "if you had the time".

Negotiate the smallest most inconvenient window of booking opportunity (I have to go to the gym or some other important engagement).

Ask for a fixed price. Even if it's a burst pipe. When the plumber refuses to be nailed down some jovial comment like "I should have been a plumber" will keep negotiations nice and light.

Tell him you will run it by your wife and call back five.

Call ten other plumbers – and then phone back – if he answers the phone again – and arrives be sure to be in the shower or on the way home.

Show him the job which does not vaguely resemble what you described.

Ask him to move his van. Someone needs to get their car out and clearly can't wait five minutes. Show him where the problem is. Explain how you can't find the key to the side gate and will have to lug his equipment around.

Now is probably not a good time to point out the problem appeared on Monday.

Share your half cocked theory on what is going on (air in the pipes perhaps).

Tell them one of your close relatives was a plumber. (He will be extremely interested and will create a sense of kinship with you.)

Explain that you would be quite capable of doing the job and that you have done heaps of plumbing in the past. (He will love to hear you have the skills and necessary equipment to be a glorified handyman.)

Tell the plumber that you normally use another plumber but he wouldn't answer the phone.

Wait until he is nearly finished and ask him if he has the time to embark on the dreaded "Friday tap marathon". There are no sweeter words on a Friday afternoon than "while your here".

Watch the plumber closely. The plumbing skills gleaned from your family member will place well to critique his every action.

Pull out some parts you acquired at a BBQ 10 years ago (no sense in wasting huh).

Keep locking the door it may be a minor inconvenience for the plumber to ask you to unlock it whenever he goes to his truck, but home invasions are on the rise.

Grill the plumber on why he has to leave to pick up a part for your Chinese imports toilet suite that you got a deal on.

Complain about the invoice to all your friends and the unpleasant demeanor of the plumber.

Call a week later and say "Ever since your guy was here the refrigerator light isn't coming on.

I hope you enjoyed this little piece of humor but surprisingly it really happens a lot.

Well my friends enjoy America's Birthday, support your city; it's their first year of running the festivities. Watch out for one another. The streets are full of our children; please drive safely. Check on the elderly in this heat and most of all give them babies a lot of love and hugs.

See you at the parade.

God Bless You All, Oh Baby

Premier Plumbing Solutions
P8563, D8563
Say "I Love Ferguson"
When presented your bill and receive..... $10 OFF
Dave Walters (Oh Baby)
Master Plumber / Drain Layer / Licensed / Bonded
• No Service Charge • Free Estimates
• 10% Senior Discount (Maximum of $50)
• Compare our Price on Water Heaters
524-0222

JULY 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

STILL TIME TO GET OUT OF THIS WORLD! JOIN THE SUMMER READING PROGRAM TODAY!

A UNIVERSE OF STORIES

- **Tuesday, July 9 at 6 pm - Rockets, Rockets, Rockets:** Design, build, and test your very own rocket! For kids ages 9-14. **Registration required.**
- **Saturday, July 13 at 2 pm - Planetary Bath Bombs:** Make your own galaxy of fizzy bath bombs! **Registration required.**
- **Friday, July 19 at 4 pm - Hotel Transylvania 3:** Grab your family and friends and enjoy a showing of Hotel Transylvania 3!
- **Wednesday, July 24 at 6 pm - Galaxy Paint Pouring:** Create a galactic painting of your own simply by pouring paint! Be prepared to get messy. **Registration required.**
- **Tuesday, July 30 at 6:30 pm - Back to School Storytime:** Get your little ones excited and ready to start school with us! For kids 3-6.

LAST DAY TO TURN IN YOUR GAME SHEET IS JULY 27!

FIND A NEW GALAXY – TRY AN ONGOING PROGRAM!

- Monday, July 1 at 6:30 pm: Learn to Sew!
- Monday, July 8 at 6 pm: Readings on Race Book Club
- Wednesday, July 10 at 1 pm: Ferguson Card and Paper Club
- Tuesday, July 16 at 10 am: Ferguson Needles Club
- Tuesday, July 23 at 5 pm: Tuesday Night Book Club
- Every Monday at 10 am: Ferguson Sewing Club
- Every Saturday at 2 pm: Origami STEM Playdate
- Every other Friday at 3 pm: Genealogy Drop-In

We Are One Big Family
Ferguson Gospel Choral Workshop
July 19-20, 2019



Featuring guest musical clinician

Van Gilmer



Renowned international soloist, composer and director, Van is currently the Music Director at the Bahá'í House of Worship for the North American Continent located in Wilmette, Illinois.

Come and join us as we celebrate the oneness of humanity through the harmonizing experience of Gospel music!!

When: Friday, July 19th at 7:00 pm - Saturday, July 20 at 6:00 pm.
The Gospel Workshop will culminate in a public evening performance highlighting the workshop choir on Saturday, July 20th, 7:30 pm.

Place: St. Stephens' Episcopal Church
33 North Clay Ave.
Ferguson MO, 3515

Singers high school age and above are welcome! Church, school or community choir members who register are invited to submit one song on the theme of the oneness of humanity to perform at the concert on Saturday night.

For more information and to register please follow this link:

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/we-are-one-big-family-ferguson-gospel-choral-workshop-tickets-61459031618

Registration closes June 30, 2019!

Find us on Facebook: Ferguson Gospel Choral Workshop!

Email us at fergusongospelworkshop@yahoo.com

Sponsored by The Bahá'í Faith of the Greater St. Louis Metropolitan Area

Free App Saves Lives

St. Louis, Franklin, & Jefferson County's – "It just became even easier to help save a life" is the message from Fire & EMS officials that are dispatched by Central County Emergency 911. Over the past few weeks, a new smartphone app has been launched in 33 more jurisdictions, now covering a majority of St. Louis County and portions of Franklin and Jefferson County. PulsePoint Respond is a free-to-download, mobile app that alerts CPR-trained citizens to someone nearby having a sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) and directs them to the closest automated external defibrillator (AED). The app is activated by Central County Emergency 911 simultaneously with the dispatch of professional fire and EMS services. The app aims to increase SCA survival by increasing the rate of bystander CPR and AED use. SCA is a leading cause of death in the United States, accounting for an estimated 325,000 deaths each year. SCA survival is less than 8 percent nationally.

Last year, agencies dispatched by the East Central Dispatch Center that covers the communities of Clayton, Richmond Heights, Maplewood, Olivette, Shrewsbury, Webster Groves, Rock Hill, and Brentwood implemented PulsePoint in their community. Since their launch, there have already been several activations of the system where responders were notified.

Fact sheet - https://www.pulsepoint.org/wp-content/uploads/Fact_Sheet.pdf
Resources - https://www.pulsepoint.org/resources/



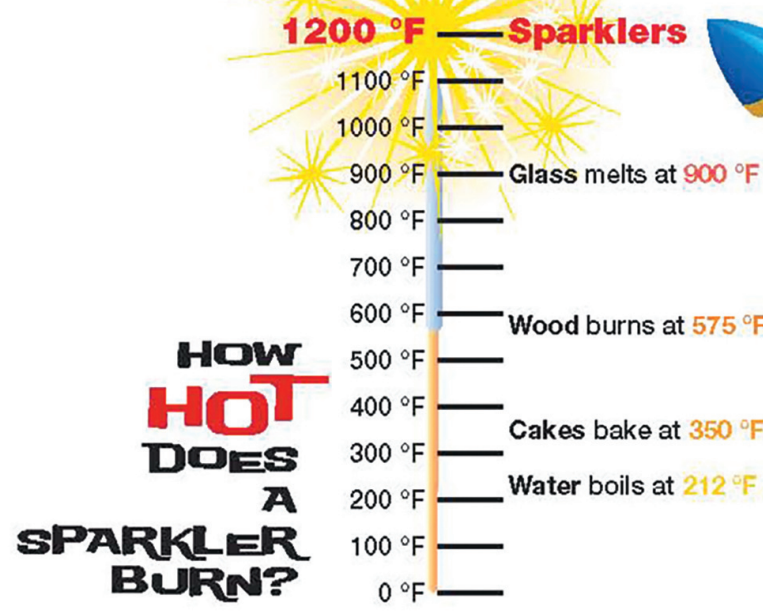
Fireworks are often used to mark special events and holidays. However, they are not safe in the hands of consumers. Fireworks cause thousand of injuries each year. People can enjoy fireworks safely if they follow a few simple safety tips.

BE CAREFUL!

- Be safe. If you want to see fireworks, go to a public show put on by experts.
- Do not use consumer fireworks.
- Keep a close eye on children at events where fireworks are used.

CONSUMER FIREWORKS

NFPA is opposed to consumer use of fireworks. This includes sparklers and firecrackers. Even sparklers burn hot enough to cause third-degree burns.



FACTS

- More than 16,000 reported fires are started by fireworks annually.
- Sparklers account for roughly one-quarter of emergency room fireworks injuries.

Ferguson Community News Page

Leading people vs. following polls



By Mayor James W. Knowles III

"When the leaders choose to make themselves bidders at an auction of popularity, their talents, in the construction of the state, will be of no service. They will become flatterers instead of legislators; the instruments, not the guides, of the people."
— Edmund Burke, 1729-1797 Irish Statesman, Orator, Philosopher

This month we celebrate over 240 years since our Declaration of Independence from the British Empire. We generally consider July 4th as the day that our nation was born. It is the day we all come together from difference states and many different backgrounds, to unite under one flag and celebrate the common cause of unity and liberty. For all the fanfare and unity of July 4th, the truth is on July 4th 1776, the citizens of the 13 colonies were not completely united.

Sure, the Declaration of Independence proclaims that the document was in fact "The Unanimous Declaration of the thirteen United States of America." That sounds pretty clear that everyone was on board with severing ties with Great Britain. But the truth is that a number of delegates to the Continental Congress were not supportive of a declaration of complete independence. In fact, government assemblies in several colonies fought back and forth regarding how they instructed their representatives to vote on such a declaration, causing it to be delayed until July. This was of course because many of their constituents were either still loyal to the British or at least uneasy about separation from Great Britain. Their concerns and voices were being heard and represented in the Continental Congress, and it made the conversation in Philadelphia contentious.

Historians today estimate that the number of Americans that took up arms against the British as only 3% of the population of the colonies. This means that only 3 out of every 100 citizens at that time actively fought for independence and to expel the British occupiers. While many were angry with the treatment of the colonies by the British, there were some that prospered by it, and others that just assumed that they better leave it be and not get involved. Elected representatives within the colonial governments found themselves in a difficult situation. Listen to your constituents loyal to the British? Or what about those who prefer to avoid war and simply plea to the British for better treatment? Or should those representatives use their experience, education, and knowledge of the issues to press for better terms or even Independence at the expense of war?

Eventually, brave leaders with vision and great foresight convinced all the delegates that the cause of liberty was the right path, or at least that unity in that decision was important. Unity was important, even if not all the citizens agreed or if all the delegates were not as fervent in the decision as Thomas Jefferson or John Adams. Still, after the Declaration was signed, some historians estimate as many as 20% of the men, women and children living in the colonies at the time remained loyal to the British Crown. Many of these colonists actively opposed the colonial governments and the move toward independence; some even supplied British troops and fought alongside the British forces during the Revolutionary War.

Over 240 years later, popular opinion in this country is more evenly divided than ever before, with 40% or more of the people being on either side of any major policy decision in our nation. For elected officials and public servants, that creates an increasingly difficult task of supporting the interests of their constituents. By sheer polling numbers, any decision you make is likely to go against at least 40% of the people you represent. As a representative of ALL the people, what is an elected official to do?

Today, any policy discussion or decision by a legislative body is likely to be as divisive as ever. This puts a greater onerous on the legislator or decision maker to be engaged with his or her constituents. To not only get educated on this issues, but to educate those we serve on the knowledge and information that may only be privy to those of us that focus on these issues on a daily basis. At times, because of privacy laws, some information will be privileged and confidential, which means that elected officials will be able to weigh certain information while the general public will not. But ultimately, it is the job of the elected official to devote the whole of their focus to bringing all points of information, all concerns, and all hopes into the decision-making process, and weigh them to make the best decision for everyone we serve. Those decisions will never be universally loved, but hopefully, the outcome is that everyone is universally served.

This month we celebrate the brave and bold foresight of our founding fathers who did not simply cave to what was sometimes perceived as popular opinion. Instead they exercised their discretion, forethought, and leadership. These are the virtues that eventually led those 13 colonies into the formation of a free and independent nation.

This is a lesson our elected leaders need to remember when making their deliberations and decision on our behalf, but it is our duty to also remind them!

Ferguson Neighborhood Organizations

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

Group	Next Mtg.	Location	Contact
Forestwood Park Neighborhood Group	July 2 7 pm	Emmaus Bible Chapel 900 Highmont	Donald Stevens 314-561-0379
Jeske Park Neighborhood Assn.	TBA	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	Ferguson Library Large Conf. Room	Glenda Rickard 314-524-8115 glenda.rickard@mercy.net
Old Ferguson West Neighbors	Aug 8 7 pm	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	TBA	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	TBA	Fire Station #1 200 So. Florissant	Keith Kallstrom 314-524-1720
North Elizabeth Neighborhood	Aug 5 7 pm	Ferguson Community Ctr. 1050 Smith Ave	Renee Benage 314-705-0993 rbenage@sbcglobal.net
Ferguson Woods	TBA	North Hills Methodist 10771 Trask Dr	Donald Moore 314-226-3109
South Ferguson	TBA	Fire Station #1 200 So. Florissant	
Southeast Ferguson	July 10 5 pm	Empowerment Ctr. 9420 W. Florissant	Latasha Brown 314-465-9757 brownlatsham@go.wustl.edu

Ferguson City News?

How do you get your Ferguson News?
- Like our Facebook Page: City of Ferguson, MO
- View Updates on Charter Channel 993

Did You Know?

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 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 http://www.fergusoncity.com/57/Boards-Commissions or contact your City Clerk at City Hall.

COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, July 23rd at 7 pm in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

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; Toni Burrow, Ward 2; Fran Griffin, Ward 3; Byron Fry, Interim Ward 3; Jeff Blume, Interim City Mgr.; 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

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

COMMUNITY CENTER

Don't forget to pick up the new Parks & Receation 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.

AQUATICS

HOURS OF OPERATION
SPLASH Phone (314) 521-1313
Open Daily May 25 through August 11*

Open Swim:
Mon, Thurs, & Sun (1:15 pm - 6 pm)
Tues** & Sat (1:15 pm - 7 pm)
Wed & Fri (1:15 pm - 8 pm)
Adult Swim daily (12 pm - 1 pm)

*Date subject to change
**Close at 5:00 p.m. on Tues for swim meet—
June 11, 18, 25 & July 2

The Splash will be closed for Municipal Swim League North Conference Prelims and Finals
Saturday, July 20—Sunday, July 21

DAILY RATES

Open Swim: $3.50 Residents
$6.50 Non-Residents
(children under 3 FREE)

After 4pm: $2.50 Residents
$5.00 Non-Residents
(children under 3 FREE)

Adult Swim: $2.50 Residents
$4.50 Non-Residents
(children under 3 FREE)

Tues. Rates: $2.00 Residents
$5.00 Non-Residents
(children under 3 FREE)

MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS

Wabash Club Memberships:
Individual: $50 CC Members; $65 Residents; $125 Non-Residents
Family: $99 CC Members; $135 Residents; $210 Non-Residents
50 % discount - beginning July 5. (only on above memberships)
Mini Member: $25
(Resident's ONLY) *10 individual entries (for a single person)
Multi Use Card: $35
(Anyone) *10 entries into the pool (can be used for guests)

Swim Lessons

Group Lessons—Ages 6 & up

DATES	DAYS	TIMES	#WEEKS
July 8 - July 19	Mon through Fri	11:00am-11:45am	2
July 22 - August 2	Mon through Fri	11:00am-11:45am	2
June 3 - June 27	Mon & Thurs	7:00pm-7:45pm	5
July 8 - August 8	Mon & Thurs	7:00pm-7:45pm	5

$30 Member; $35 Resident; $40 Non-Resident

June 1 - August 3	Sat	11:00am-11:45am	9

$25 Member; $30 Resident; $35 Non-Resident

Preschool Lessons—Ages 3-5

DATES	DAYS	TIMES	#WEEKS
July 8 - July 19	Mon, Wed, & Fri	10:30am-11:00am	2
July 22 - August 2	Mon, Wed, & Fri	10:30am-11:00am	2
June 1 - July 13	Sat	10:30am-11:00am	6

$30 Member; $35 Resident; $40 Non-Resident

Parent & Tot—Ages 2 & up with parent

DATES	DAYS	TIMES	#WEEKS
July 8 - July 19	Mon, Wed, & Fri	10:30am-11:00am	2
July 22 - August 2	Mon, Wed, & Fri	10:30am-11:00am	2
June 1 - July 13	Sat	10:30am-11:00am	6

$25 Member; $30 Resident; $35 Non-Resident

Adult Lessons—Ages 15 & up

DATES	DAYS	TIMES	#WEEKS
July 8 - August 8	Mon & Thurs	7:00pm-7:45pm	4

$30 Member; $35 Resident; $40 Non-Resident

Aqua Fitness—Water Aerobics (Part of our Silver Sneakers program)

DATES	DAYS	TIMES	#WEEKS
July 8 - August 8	Mon & Thurs	6:00pm-7:00pm	5
May 28 - June 27	Tues & Thurs	10:00am-11:00am	5
July 9 - August 8	Tues & Thurs	10:00am-11:00am	5

Silver Sneakers Free; Drop in $5/visit; Or register for the session and save:
$35 Member; $40 Resident; $45 Non-Resident

Dive In Movie Night

Join us for our Dive In Movie Family Night at the Splash. The concession stand will be open with meal specials for dinner and snacks for the whole family.

Age: Open to All Ages – (must be with an adult)
Dates: Saturday, June 29th
Time: 7pm-10pm
Location: Splash at Wabash Aquatic Complex
Fee: $5/Residents; $8/Non-Residents; $20/Family Resident Max; $25/Family Non-Resident Max

Blast From The Past Days

Enjoy deeply discounted concession items with the price admission.

Age: Included with open swim admission
Day: Thursdays
Dates: July 11th, July 25th & August 8th
Location: Splash at Wabash Aquatic Complex
Hotdogs $1.00
Popcorn $1.00
Small Soda $1.00
Snow cones $1.00

Dog Splash

Bring your dog out for an evening of swimming and socializing.

Age: Open to All Ages – (must be with an adult)
Date: Sunday, August 11th
Time: 6pm-8pm
Location: Splash at Wabash Aquatic Complex
Fee: $10/Dog and 1 Human; $3/Additional Human

Back to School Splash

Back to school blues have you down? Come cool off at the Splash on more time before the pool season ends. Event will include fun games, discounted food items and attendance prizes.

Age: Open to All Ages – (under 13 must be with an adult)
Date: Saturday, August 10th
Time: 7pm-9pm
Location: Splash at Wabash Aquatic Complex
Fee: Free to Members
$5 Resident
$8 Non Residents

PROGRAMMING

BLearn to defend yourself with Krav Maga

Krav Maga is used to rapidly train combat troops in hand-to-hand combat in the shortest amount of time and from a position of disadvantage. Since most attacks occur when the victim is at a disadvantage, training will include performing techniques while at a disadvantage, encountering multiple opponents, and employing empty-handed defenses against weapons. This class covers the Krav Maga curriculum as taught by Townsend Defense. Private lessons are also available. Wear comfortable workout clothing and athletic shoes.

Age: 16 and up
Days: Tuesdays and Thursdays
Date: Tues., May 14 – Tues., July 2
Time: 6:00 to 7:30 pm
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Fee: $60/Members; $65/Residents; $70/Non-residents

Beginning Tumbling

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

Age: 3 ½-6 years old
Days: Monday or Saturday
Start Date: Mon, July 29 to Sept. 23 *(no class Sept. 2)*
Mon., Sept 30 to Nov 18
Sat, June 8 to July 27
Time: Mon 5:45pm-6:40pm; Sat 10:00am-10:55am
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
Days: Mondays or Saturdays
Start Date: Mon, July 29 to Sept. 23 *(No class Sept. 2)*
Sat, June 8 to July 27 &
Time: Mon 6:45pm-7:40pm; Sat 11:00am-11:55am
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: Mon, July 29 to Sept. 23 *(No class Sept. 2)* and
Mon. Sept. 30 to Nov. 18
Time: 7:45-8:40pm
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Fee: $40/Members; $45/Residents; $50/Non-Residents

Tap & Ballet Dance

A wonderful opportunity to learn creativemovement 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. Children must be potty trained.

Age: 3 1/2 - 7 years old
Days: Wednesdays
Start Date: Wed, July 31 to Sept 18 and Wed. Sept 25 to Nov. 13
Time: 5:45 pm-6:40 pm
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: Wed, July 31 to Sept, 18 & Wed, Sept 25 to Nov 13
Time: 6:45-7:40pm
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Fee: $34/Members; $39/Residents; $44/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: Wed, July 31 to Sept, 18 & Wed, Sept 25 to Nov. 13
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 are subject to change.

Days: Tues, Wed, Fri, Sat, & Sun
Location: Community Center
Fee: FREE/Member; Daily Fee/Resident; Daily Fee/Non-Res.

Open Play Volleyball

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

Days: Mondays
Times: 3:00pm– 6:00pm
Location: Community Center
Fee: FREE/Member; Daily Fee/Resident; Daily Fee/Non-Res.

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

Evening Pickleball– NEW!

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

Ages: 18 and older
Days: Thurs., May 2nd—Sept.5th
Location: Community Center
Time: 3:00pm—9:00pm
Fees: Daily Rates Apply

FITNESS

Beginners Yoga Class– NEW!

This yoga class is designed to meet the needs of those who are new to yoga and are perfect for any fitness and activity level! This class will introduce the principles of alignment and breathing techniques in a flow of postures. Students will be introduced to yoga through step by step verbal instructions.

Age: 16 & up
Date: Tues, July 9th to Aug. 13th & Tues, Aug. 20th-Sept. 24th
Time: 6:30pm-7:30pm
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Fee: $60/Member; $65/Resident; $70/Non Residents
Drop in: $10/Members; $12/Residents; $15/Non-Residents

Chair Yoga—NEW!

You don't have to sit in a chair to do yoga! This form of yoga is increasing in popularity and is accessible to everyone, especially adults 55+. Chair yoga is a gentle form of yoga that is done in a chair using the chair as support. This class is also ideal for those who are less mobile or have suffered from some types of injury.

Age: 16 & up
Date: Thurs, July 11th to Aug, 15th & Thurs, Aug. 22nd-Spet 26th
Time: 6:30pm-7:30pm
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Fee: $60/Member; $65/Resident; $70/Non Residents
Drop in: $10/Member; $12/Resident; $15/Non Resident

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: 16 years & up
Days: Mondays or Wednesdays
Start Date: Mon, July 15 to Sept. 9 *(No class Sept. 2)* and
Mon. Sept 16 to Nov 4
Wed., June 26 to Aug, 1 & Wed, Aug 21 to Oct 9
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

Will Fit Core Class
A class for anyone who wants to tighten up their midsection, carves a stronger core, and sculpts total-body definition through intense core work. Set to upbeat music, you'll work your entire core and learn new exercises to help sculpt the body. This class is for all fitness levels and is a great way to fit a quick but challenging workout into your busy day.

Age: 16 & up
Days: Tuesdays
Start Date: Tues, July 16 to Aug, 20 & Tues, Aug 27 to Oct 8
Time: 6:00-7:00pm
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Fee: $25/Members; $30/Residents; $35/Non-Residents

PREREGISTRATION REQUIRE

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: 16 & up
Days: Thursdays
Start Date: Thurs, July 18 to Aug, 22 & Thurs, Aug 29 to Oct. 10
Time: 6:00pm-7:00pm
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.

Days: Saturdays
Start Date: Sat, Aug 17 to Sept 21
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/Chair Yoga
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. In addition, the yoga activities will increase flexibility, balance and mental clarity.

Days: Tuesdays and Thursdays
Dates: Ongoing
Times: 8:55 to 9:55 am
Fee: FREE/Silver Sneakers Members–$3/ Everyone Else

Silver Sneakers Cardio Circuit/ Yoga
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. Please bring your own mat.

Days: Tues & Thurs
Dates: Ongoing
Times: 8:35am-9:40am
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

Ferguson Summer Movie Series
Come join us for the Ferguson Summer Movie Series. Movies at the Community Center and parks will be free and include complementary popcorn, be sure to bring your lawn chairs and/or blankets and take this opportunity to enjoy a beautiful night under the stars. Movies start around 8:30 pm!

LOCATION	DATE	MOVIE
*Splash @ Wabash	Saturday, July 27	**Aquaman (PG-13)
Plaza 501	Saturday, August 31	Dumbo (PG)

In case of inclement weather movies will be cancelled.
*Admission fees apply for these movies.
**Movie is rated PG-13 and parental discretion is advised.

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

Nerf War Birthday Packages– NEW!
Join us for our Nerf War theme birthday party packages! We will host your child's Nerf War birthday party for up to 25 participants. You will receive a 3 hour party block, 1.5 hours in the gym with one of our staff supervising the Nerf War. Then the last 1.5 hours you have a room dedicated for you to have food/drinks, cake, and open presents. The cost includes all nerf bullets, safety glasses, bunkers and the party room. Must reserve 2 weeks prior. A $100 security deposit is required at time of birthday party rental.

Days: Saturdays and Sundays
Times: Sat, 2:00pm—5:00pm
Sun, 1:00pm-4:00pm
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Fee: $200 Residents; $240 Non-Residents

ADULT PROGRAMMING

Lunch and Bingo
Come and treat yourself to an afternoon at one of Ferguson's fantastic lunch and bingos. Our July bingo will begin with entertainment followed by an appetizing meal choice of 2 meats, (bratwurst and chicken) sauerkraut, baked beans, chips, dessert and drink. After lunch we will play bingo for practical and fun prizes as well as attendance prizes. Fee includes entertainment, lunch, and bingo. Maximum size: 125.

Date: Thurs, July 18th
Time: 12pm-3pm
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Fee: $10 Members; $14 Residents; $18 Non-Residents

Weekend Winery Tour
Come join us every other month to indulge in fine wine. Must have a minimum of 10 patroons pre-registered for these trips to make. Cost covers transportation.

Ages: 21 and up
Date: Saturday, September 21st
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 patroons pre registered for the trip to make.

Fee: $5 Residents
$8 Non-Resident
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Time: 10:00am-4:00pm
Wednesday, July 24th—Hollywood Casino
Wednesday, August 28th—River City Casino
Wednesday, September 25th—Lumiere Place

Cruise 4 Brews
Discover your new favorite craft brewery with Ferguson Recreation. We'll be shuttled around to four random microbreweries. Fee includes transportation. A minimum of 10 patrons
required for trip.

Ages: 21 and up
Dates: Sat, July 27th
Time: 11:0am—7pm
Fee: $10/Residents; $15/Non-Residents

Mystery Meal
If you love good food and enjoy fun-loving people, then this program is for you! Every trip is an adventure, so register to enjoy the day with good food 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. A minimum of 10 patrons required for trip.

Dates: Fri, Aug. 9th (10 am pickup)
Fee: $32/Members; $37/Residents $42/Non-Residents

Monthly Day Trips
Join us for a trip to a St. Louis Area Museum.
Fee includes transportation only. A minimum of 10 patrons pre-registered is required for the trip.

Location: Ferguson Community Center
Time:` 12:00pm-4:00pm
Fee: $5 Residents **; $8 Non-Residents**
Friday, July 12 St. Louis Art Museum
Friday, Aug 30 St. Louis Arch Grounds

** Entry fee for all these museums is free any extra cost is on your own. All of these are self-guided tours.

Fairmount Horse Races
Grab a friend or two and join us for a fun-filled day of horseracing at Fairmount Park. Cost includes a racing program, a deluxe buffet lunch, transportation, admissions, taxes and tips.

Age: 21 and up
Date: Tues. August 13th
Time: 5:30pm-11:00pm
Fee: $38 Residents; $42 Non-Residents

ADULT OVERNIGHT TRIPS

Biloxi, MS
Two nights in Tunica, Mississippi staying at the Gold Strike hotel each way. Three nights in Biloxi with a day trip to New Orleans and a shrimp boat tour. Comps while in Biloxi, MS include: $25 Free Play (1st Night), each additional day receive a $15 food credit. Comps while in Tunica include: $15 Free Play each night & 1 breakfast or lunch buffet per night of stay. Fee includes: motor coach transportation, all lodging, 2 special tours and some meals. The Beau Rivage Hotel and Casino is gorgeous!
Registration deadline is August 22nd

Date: Sun, Sept. 22nd to Fri. Sept. 27th
Time: 7:00 am – 9:00pm
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Fee: $650/Residents; $680/Non-Residents
(double occupancy) $260 additional for single

FAMILY PROGRAMS

Family Nerf War-SUMMER EDITION!
Grab your friends and family and head to the Community Center for this exciting event! Each participant needs to bring a Nerf gun. Soft tip darts will be provided along with safety glasses. Pizza and drinks will be served during the event.
Pre-registration is required

Ages: All Ages
Date: Friday, August 16th
Time: 6:30pm-8:30pm
Location: Ferguson Community Center
Fee: $8/Child, $10/Adult

ATHLETICS

Cup In Hand Kickball (Coed)– NEW!
Calling all teams for a unique and new way to play Kickball! We will be hosting our first Cup in Hand Kickball league at Forestwood Park. The rules are simple, basic kickball with a twist. All players must have a cup with ANY liquid in their hand while playing. This is a coed league, therefore there must be a total of 3 women and 3 men with a maximum of 12 players on the field at a time. This is a 6 week season + playoffs.
For more information on the league please call 314-521-4661.

Ages: 21 and up
Days: Wednesday, Sept. 11th to Oct. 16th
+ 2 Weeks of Playoffs
Times: 6:00pm-9:30pm
Location: Forestwood Park
Fee: $250 Residents; $300 Non-Residents

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.



Zion Lutheran Church of Ferguson

Carnival!!

Thursday July, 25th 2019
4:30pm -6:30pm
123 Carson Road

Free Games! Free Hot Dogs! Come join us!!

PROUD
People Reaching Out for Unity and Diversity

Evening in the Garden
Community Dinner and Fund Raiser

Saturday, 27 July 2019, 5 - 8 p.m.
Dirk McBride Community Pavilion
EarthDance (Mueller Farm)
233 South Dade, Ferguson
Tickets: $35.00 per person
Catered by Tony Lonero
Open bar for beer and wine

For tickets, call 314.521.0393 or see
Facebook: PROUD - People Reaching Out for Unity and Diversity

Tickets also available at Ferguson Farmers' Market
Good Shepherd Arts Center, 252 S. Florissant Rd.
Style-Taneous, 427 S. Florissant Rd.
Baked Wood-Fire Pizza, 235 S. Florissant Rd.



Students and teachers at Vogt Elementary say they are losing their family, their home and their refuge with the closing of the 90-year-old school.

The word was “bittersweet,” as the Vogt community said farewell in a school assembly. The Ferguson-Florissant School Board voted last fall on a major restructuring plan that includes the closure of three district schools — Vogt, Airport Elementary in Berkeley and Mark Twain Alternative School in Florissant.

“Even though it’s sad, I want you to remember the great times,” said Principal Leslie Thomas-Washington, who has led Vogt since 2009. Thomas-Washington will move to principal at Combs Elementary in Florissant next fall.

Vogt opened in 1930 as a high school with 220 students. The two-story brick building at 200 Church Street near City Hall was named for Ferguson businessman John M. Vogt, a long-serving school board member.

Last year, the sixth grade class of 1961 donated seven computers to Vogt after visiting the school during their McCluer High School 50th reunion.

“This is the only school I’ve been to and I think it’s the best school. I really will miss it,” said Breanna Buggs, 9, who will start fifth grade at Berkeley Elementary in the fall.

Superintendent Joseph Davis acknowledged the sacrifices of parents, teachers and students at a community meeting Tuesday at McCluer High School but said every change was calculated to improve the students’ education. The future of north St. Louis County depends on it, he said.

“Without a good quality school district, there is no economic development,” Davis said. “We bought a house in Ferguson. We believe strongly in it.”

Declining population in the nine North County municipalities the district serves left its 25 schools with about 4,000 empty desks, forcing the School Board to come up with a consolidation plan. Vogt dropped from 340 students in 2000 to fewer than 250 this year. Airport Elementary’s enrollment also fell below 250. The city of Berkeley sued the school district in February in an attempt to block the closures, claiming violation of federal civil rights laws.

Most elementary schools will convert to host prekindergarten through second grade or third through fifth grade classrooms. Sixth grade centers will open on adjoining middle school campuses. McCluer South-Berkeley High School in Ferguson will become a magnet academy for science and the arts, meaning some students will have to transfer to McCluer or McCluer North high schools.

The Vogt school building will house district offices for student services, early education and the Parents as Teachers program. School officials have not decided what to do with the shuttered Airport building, a district spokesman said.

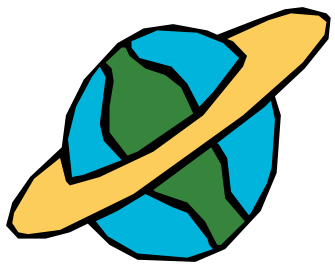
At Vogt’s final assembly, a slideshow played images of students learning and laughing together. There were pictures of visits from Ferguson police officers and firefighters, plus Fredbird and Louie, the Cardinals’ and Blues’ team mascots.

Beth Wright, who completed her student teaching at Vogt and stayed for the next 22 years, cried as she reminded the children that they have been taught “love, kindness and compassion” in addition to their academic subjects. She told them they might struggle to make connections with their new teachers and classmates, but that it will happen. Wright will teach second grade at Duchesne Elementary in Florissant in the fall.

If it gets hard at their new schools, Wright told the students, “I want you to think, “What would my teachers at Vogt say?’ and know that we love you forever.”



Word from Our Planet...



In our every deliberation, we must consider the impact of our decisions on the next seven generations.
-From the Great Law of the Iroquois Confederacy

The Ferguson Eco Team

Today In History **– Star Spangled Banner**

The "Star Spangled Banner" wasn't written until Francis Scott Key wrote a poem stemming from observations in 1814, when the British relentlessly attacked Baltimore's Fort McHenry during the War of 1812. It was later put to music, though not decreed the official national anthem of the United States until 1931.

Financial Focus

By Joan Cleaveland (cleav73@sbcglobal.net)
Business Manager for St. Joseph Parish in Cottleville
Lindenwood University – BA Business Administration

How is the Economy?

With election season fast approaching, we'll be hearing a lot of discussion on the economy. Boasting about this being the best economy ever has been talked about by our leader at every opportunity. And stories of economic hardships will continue to be told by those on the left along with many solutions promising to reach those who are still struggling. Most people already know that whether it is good or bad depends on what you look at and who you talk to. The main indicators involve looking at employment, growth and inflation and at this time, they are looking good.

The government reports on the number of jobs added each month. In May 75,000 new jobs were added and that sounded pretty good until I read that a healthy economy would have added twice that many new jobs. Yet, with the unemployment rate of 3.6% maybe adding more jobs isn't really necessary. While this isn't the lowest rate ever it is the lowest over the past 18 years. So any sitting president would definitely have something to brag about. But wait there's more, didn't the recovery really start while President Obama was still in office. In his first 18 months, Trump added an average of 190,000 jobs a month. However, during Obama's last year he averaged 195,000 new jobs per month. So it is good to recognize the good things both have accomplished. Some economists also point out that the unemployment rate isn't the best indicator because it moves slower. The job market will start slowing and unemployment usually rises after we've already been in a recession. Once job growth begins it still takes a while to really change the numbers and reduce unemployment. So the previous administration also has the opportunity to point out that they started the recovery. Another point to be made regarding employment has to do with the jobs that aren't being filled. We'll come back to that later.

GDP (Gross Domestic Product) is the dollar value of everything produced in the last year and is considered a good indicator of economic health. It usually rises and we would expect it to in normal conditions because with each year technology and improvements in equipment help workers become more productive. Seeing growth of 2–3% is considered a healthy economy. Throughout history this number has been all over and in most cases specific events can be attributed to the change. It's been tracked since 1947 and in the past 72 years more than 60 percent of the time it has showed good economic performance. During the 2009 recession GDP was -2.5% and over the next few years it rose to 2.9%. With the 2016 Presidential race it dropped to 1.6% and has been moving upward since. In the first quarter of 2019 it was 3.1%. The Trump Tax Act and deficit spending are considered to be the events that helped produce this growth. And since we are considered to be out of a recession, it is time to rein in the deficit spending.

The rate of inflation is another indicator of how the economy is doing and right now it is holding steady. The Federal Reserve tries to control inflation by setting interest rates which affect the money supply. The target rate is about 2% and we are right on target with 2.1% being the current rate. This level helps the economy by making consumers more likely to buy things now believing prices will increase later. And of course, the economy continues to grow which is what we hope for. When inflation goes up prices go up, interest rates go up and employment goes down as businesses respond by laying people off or shutting down completely. All of this hurts the economy. Higher inflation also encourages spending and discourages savings. While in the short term it may stimulate things, in the long run it results in a poor economy. The debt load for most consumers will increase as they try maintain the value of their money by spending before prices go up. With little incentive to save, individuals are ill prepared for any setbacks. On the other side, inflation rates that are very low can also produce trouble for the economy. Interest rates will go down, giving an incentive to pay off debts or refinance them to take advantage of lower rates. Other problems involve banks making fewer loans and more incentive to save than spend. Those with high debt loads may be impacted the most during deflation and that includes the government. So the preference is about where we are now and it can be a tricky balance to keep things at this level. If you've been around as long as I have you've experienced both of these situations with inflation being very high or too low.

So while the U.S. economy is looking pretty good, a recent Federal Reserve Survey showed that nearly 40 percent of Americans would find it difficult or impossible to deal with a $400 emergency expense. Many of those reporting on this survey point to this as evidence that the economy has problems. Yet it is important to compare previous surveys done each year since 2013. It shows a steady increase in those who could handle a $400 emergency go from 50% to 61% with this last survey. And what is more impressive is that many of those respondents indicated they would cover the expense from savings. If you happen to be in the 40 percent our economic successes aren't working for you yet.

There weren't many surprises with the results of the survey. If you are interested in looking at it you can follow this link: https://www.federalreserve.gov/publications/2019-economic-well-being-of-us-households-in-2018-economic-well-being.htm. You will notice there are several categories and looking at the geography and demographics of various groups shows some slight improvements over time. Yet really helping those in the lower income brackets continues to be challenging. And that 40 percent mentioned above is sure to be a topic during the election process. It is well known that lower income groups have a much more difficult time saving and this is fundamental to achieving financial stability. Those not prepared for some unexpected expenses find it very difficult to recover from such an event and it often begins a downward spiral for them financially.

Meanwhile with unemployment so low, it seems hard to believe we have so many jobs available that aren't being filled. In the past year the number of openings has been over 7 million each month. We need skilled workers and this may support some ideas for correcting this problem that may involve helping those who want to get into a job that can support the family. It may also be a key to those survey respondents on the lower pay scales that tend to have more variance in their earnings because they are filling part-time positions without steady hours. Getting those people into the skilled labor market might be the key to a better future for them.
Hopefully some of those running for office make note of this possibility. Many jobs that are easily available were never intended to support a family, so rather than just raising wages perhaps we can lift some from poverty with better training programs for the skilled job market.

If you have any comments or questions, please e-mail me at cleav73@sbcglobal.net.

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EarthDance

Growing Strong

Thanks to our generous 'farmily,' over $9,000 was raised on Give STL Day! Now, staff members will be able to plug their laptops in, designated desks to sit at, and lively paint to spruce up this well-loved farmhouse we call our office! These Give STL Day donations make an incredible impact and we are so grateful for the support!

Sprouting Success

Tiana Glass, EarthDance's new Youth Educator, has always been passionate about food justice in her community. After graduating from high school in Ferguson, Tiana went on to pursue a degree in Women's and Gender Studies with a certificate in Public Health at the University of Missouri-Columbia.



Tiana is excited to be back in her community and can't wait to create "programs that inspire youth primarily in the Ferguson-Florissant area to grow their own food and become agents of social change" while at EarthDance.

We're so excited to have Tiana on the team and can't wait to see the impact she makes!

Eggcited

We're incredibly eggcited to welcome four new chicken friends to the farm! In addition to being beautiful animals, these chickens eat insects, cut down on food waste (they love watermelon rinds), and help kids understand life cycles during field trips at Earth-Dance!



Eat with EarthDance

Visit the Ferguson Farmers Market
Every Saturday from May to October 8am to 12pm
at the Plaza at 501. Head to the Ferguson Farmers Market for delicious produce and toe-tapping tunes. This month, cucumbers, tomatoes, summer squash, corn, green beans, lettuce, blueberries.



Edward Jones Perspective

by Joe Meyer

Work Toward Your Own Financial Independence Day

Once again, it's time for fireworks, picnics and parades as the nation celebrates Independence Day. Collectively, we enjoy many liberties, but some freedoms can be elusive – and financial freedom is one of them. What actions can you take to help yourself eventually declare your own financial independence?



For starters, you'll want to determine what financial independence means to you. Is it the liberty to meet all your cash flow needs? The freedom to retire comfortably, at the age you choose? The ability to set up the kind of legacy you'd like to leave? If any or all of these things are important to you, consider the following suggestions:

Liberate yourself from oppressive debts. The cost of living is certainly not cheap, so it's hardly surprising that so many people incur significant debt. Yet, the higher your debt load, the less you'll have available to invest for the future. Debt might be one of the biggest barriers you face on the road to your financial independence. To avoid piling on too much debt, live within your means. Take steps such as saving for a vacation, rather than putting it all on your credit card, and getting just one more year out of that old car. Look for bargains everywhere – and find out what you can live without. And if you have sizable debts, see if you can consolidate them and lower your interest payments.

Free yourself from chaotic investing. The financial markets can be unpredictable – but that doesn't mean your investment moves have to be chaotic. So, for example, instead of responding to a sudden plunge in stock prices by selling stocks that still may be fundamentally sound with strong growth potential, you might be much better off by holding your ground. And you'll be in a better position to do nothing during periods of market volatility when you've already done something – namely, built an investment portfolio that reflects your goals, time horizon and risk tolerance. With this type of portfolio in place, you'll be in a good position to overlook the day-to-day fluctuations in the market and keep your focus on your long-term goals.

Unleash the potential in your retirement plan. Your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored plan is a great way to save for retirement. You can contribute pre-tax dollars, so the more you put in, the lower your taxable income, and your earnings can grow tax deferred. (With a Roth 401(k), you put in after-tax dollars, but your withdrawals are tax-free, provided you meet certain conditions.) But despite these tax advantages, your 401(k)'s full potential won't be realized unless you fund it adequately. Try to contribute as much as you can afford each year and increase your contributions as your salary goes up. Another way to uncap your 401(k)'s potential is by choosing appropriate investments. Your 401(k) likely contains a dozen or more investment options, so you'll want a mix that offers the greatest possibilities for growth within the context of your personal risk tolerance.

Gaining your financial independence requires time and commitment. But once you've achieved this freedom, you'll know it was worth the effort. And who knows? You might even want to wave a sparkler or two to celebrate.

Joseph Meyer, CFP®
Financial Advisor
Edward Jones
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Ferguson, MO 63135
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Today In History – Day of Death

Three U.S. presidents actually died on July 4. Two of them passed away within hours of each other on July 4, 1826: John Adams and Thomas Jefferson. The two had been political rivals and then friends later in life. The other to share the distinction was James Monroe, who died July 4, 1831.

Trivia

All answer begin with the LETTER "O"

O

1. Protective layer in the sky.
2. Florida city with mouse ears.
3. Shakespearean hero.
4. Nickname for an American flag.
5. Song about the Tallahatchie Bridge.
6. International games.
7. Eggs, fanciful and folded.
8. Remove the pit, insert pimento.
9. Number of Disney Dalmations.
10. Wise barn denizen.
11. A colored citrus fruit.
12. Dramatic Italian singing.
13. Cromwell's first name.

See answers at bottom of page 23.

4-H Youth Development
Opportunities for Youth and Adults
University of Missouri Extension St. Louis County

LET'S COOK

DATE:
July 15th-19th
OR
August 5th-8th

TIME:
1-3 PM

AGES:
entering 4th-6th grade

LOCATION:
Eliot Unitarian Chapel
100 South Taylor Ave.
Kirkwood, MO 63122

COST: $50.00
Per participant per session

DEADLINE:
Friday before session



4-H Culinary Class

- Interested in learning how to cook or kicking your culinary skills up a level?
- Attend 4-H Culinary Camp to gain some basic cooking skills or to learn more advanced techniques, like cutting with a chef's knife.
- All children will have the opportunity to make one of the 2-3 recipes prepared each day and of course will have a chance to enjoy the "fruit" of the labor with a meal at the end of each day.

All classes are taught by:
MU Extension Nutrition and Health Education Specialist, Leslie Bertsch.



Pre-registration Required

Register at:
extension.missouri.edu/stlouis/classes.aspx

See notes about July class in registration page

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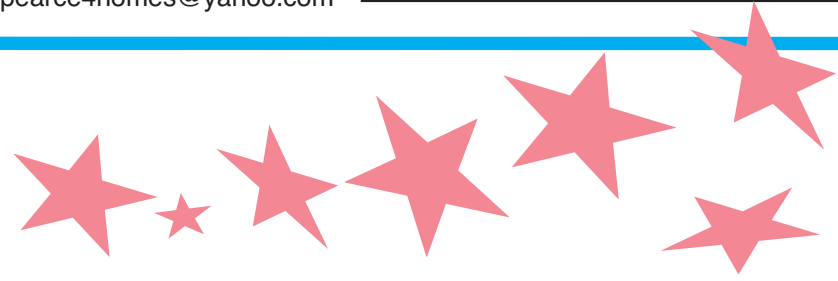
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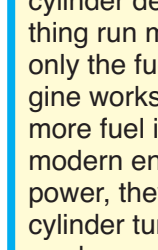
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Under The Hood With Robinwood

By Bob McGartland

The Benefits of Engines Made Today

The engines in modern vehicles are quite different than what they used to be. Newer engines have technology that will help use less fuel while also having more power. Older engines had four or five speed transmissions, but engines today have seven or eight speed transmissions. The more speed the transmission has, the better it can work with the engine power to make the vehicle run efficiently. The engines used today can be partnered with CVT's, or Continuously Variable Transmissions, which allows an infinite number of gear ratios. Hybrid cars are powered by battery packs. This allows the engine to generate extra power when it is needed, such as accelerating hard.

The engines today have technology that helps them work smarter and more efficient. There is a system that allows some cylinders to shut down when they are not needed, which is called cylinder deactivation. The cylinder deactivation helps everything run more efficiently and uses only the fuel it needs. When the engine works harder, it ends up wasting more fuel in the long run. Although modern engines produce more power, they are smaller. Some 4-cylinder turbo charged engines will produce more horsepower than older V 8 engines.

The engines used today are much more complex than in the past. They have several safety features and accessories that need to be powered when the vehicle is operating. An example is Stop-Start engines that turn off when sitting at a stop sign. The modern engines also have technology in place to make them more efficient. They have direct injection technology that mixes the fuel and air before it is put into the cylinder. This can improve efficiency of the engine by up to 12%.

Some engines are turbo chargers. When these operate, they use compressed air from the exhaust system. They will compress the air that is used in a combustion cycle. Doing so will lead to a more efficient combustion as well. Cylinder deactivation and variable-valve timing are also technologies that allow the engine to use only the fuel that it needs. When a car uses fuel only when its needed, not idling, it will increase the efficiency as you drive.

New engine designs require different maintenance. Most engines run full synthetic oil and are using thin viscosity oil, like 0W20. While you can go longer between oil changes with synthetic oil, too often people are going way past time when their engine oil should be changed. We are seeing a lot of problems in engines with less than 100,000 miles burning oil, sludge and carbon build up.

At Robinwood, we have developed custom maintenance services for today's newer engines. Problems can be avoided down the road when you choose to put a custom maintenance plan in place early on. Many new car dealers offer Free Maintenance packages on new cars for the first 30,000 miles. A lot of these package are the bare minimum of service which can lead to problems once the engine warranty expires. Sometimes "Free" is not always better. Bottom line "Preventive Maintenance saves you money. "

To help keep your vehicle and engine in the best condition, make sure to schedule an appointment with us at Robinwood Automotive!

Happy 4th of July! May God continue to Bless America.

Today In History – Population

Back in 1776, when the Declaration of Independence was signed, 2.5 million new people lived in the U.S. Now 240 years later, 311 million people live here.



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Traveling With Marveena



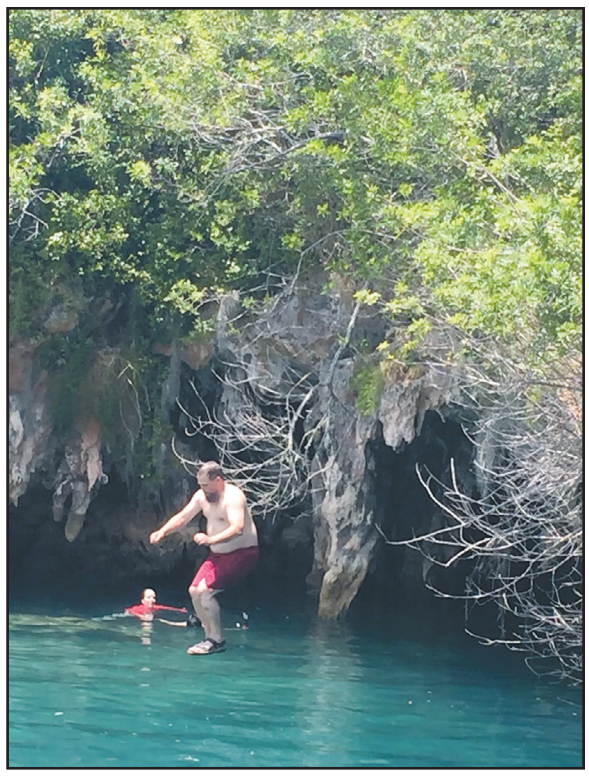
by Marveena Miller Shanahan

Memorial Day weekend 2019 we headed out on our sixth cruise, leaving out of New York City for Bermuda.

After a long day of a flight to Chicago, a short layover and a terrible flight to New York, and a very late cab driver, we finally arrived at our hotel Citizen M. The hotel is a European boutique style hotel in the heart of Times Square, perfectly located next to restaurant row, Rockefeller Center and a short drive to the pier. After dinner and a new dessert concoction, "rolled ice cream" which you eat with a fork, we visited a packed Times Square, Rockefeller Center (which I am definitely returning at Christmas to see), ending the night at the hotel's roof top bar for a breathtaking view of the city.

Our ship would dock for three days in the Royal Navy Dockyard and guests are free to come and go as much or as little as you want. The Escape is the newest Norwegian boat, holding over 4,000 people. The boat features numerous restaurants, three waterslides, a ropes course, mini golf and more bars than you can visit.

Bermuda is a British Overseas Territory in the North Atlantic Ocean. Bermuda's two largest economic sectors are offshore insurance and reinsurance. Bermuda has the highest GDP per capita in the world with the average cost of a "starter house" around $900,000. The Bermuda government severely limits immigration several ways, two of the most influential being the limit of non-Bermuda born residents not being allowed drivers license and increasing the cost of housing. Our cab driver told us if a Bermudan could purchase a home for $900,000 it would cost a non-Bermudan $1.5 million. Bermuda chooses to put its residents before any others and make no exceptions. Now before you ask, they do not have a minimum wage, they do not have state sponsored insurance or free education.



The first day was very busy with three excursions planned, the first adventure was hiking through the Bermudan jungle, cave diving, cliff jumping and snorkeling. Bermuda does not have snakes, spiders, ticks, mosquitos and other bugs and although it was a bit humid, the weather was a perfect 80 degrees. About 90 minutes into the hike we entered the caves and the cave diving area. It was illuminated with the guides' flashlights and the water was a brisk 75 degrees, but it was an experience not to be missed. After the caves we headed to the cliff jumping, where you could jump off the 10, 20- and 35-feet cliffs.

I have included a picture of just how clear the water was, you could see 10 feet or further. After a brief stop for lunch we headed out to snorkel. I included a picture of where we visited, a private area with another breathtaking view. After stopping for homemade Bermudan ice cream, we headed back to the boat for our next excursion.

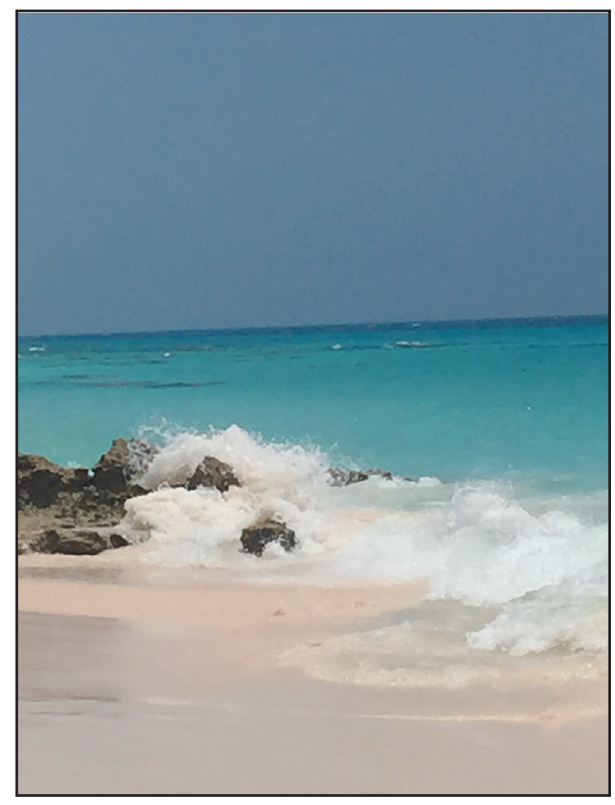


The next excursion was Wednesday night's Harbor Night Festival in Hamilton. After a 30-minute ferry ride we arrived at Hamilton, the capital of Bermuda. The longest running street festival in Bermuda is held there and it is not to be missed. The street is closed to all vehicles and features food for sale, art, retail vendors, entertainment, and a parade. If I return to Bermuda it will have to include a Wednesday night. The festival was entertaining and a great way to spend an evening.

Bermuda is the northernmost point of the Bermuda Triangle, a region of sea in which, according to legend, several aircraft and boats have disappeared under supposedly unexplained or mysterious circumstances. After Harbor nights ended, we took a late-night cruise around the triangle where our captain explained about the coral reefs around the island and how they were responsible for most of the shipwrecks. The coral system in Bermuda is the 2nd healthiest in the world and the crystal-clear water makes it a diver's paradise. Although there wasn't much to say about the triangle, the myths have well been discredited, viewing the reefs through the glass bottom boat was interesting and anytime you are out under the stars on a beautiful night is a great way to end the day.



The second day we packed into an over-crowded minibus and headed to Horseshoe Bay, Bermuda's most famous beach. The water was crystal clear and the pink sand sparkled in the water. The sky reflecting off the pink sand created a purple hued sky and without a cloud in sight, it was mesmerizing. Horseshoe Bay is one of the most beautiful views I have ever seen. The pink sand beaches in Bermuda form naturally through foraminifera, a microscopic organism that has a reddish-pink shell. When foraminifera die, their shells wash ashore, mixing their hues with the sand to form the pink tint. The beach can become crowded but walking a short five-minute takes you to coves that are empty. Tourism is less than 10% of Bermuda's GDP and it is very possible to find hidden coves with nobody around. I would like to say we did more but after the beach, we had a fun lunch and walked around the port and headed back for the Blues game, who else can say they watched it sitting in Bermuda? (I am sure a few but it was still great.)



In addition to its beaches, there are several sightseeing attractions. St George is a designated World Heritage Site. We explored St. George on horseback for a sunrise ride. After the ride, we walked the street and waited for the free ferry to pick us up and take us back to the boat. Scuba divers can explore numerous wrecks and coral reefs in relatively shallow water (typically 30–40 ft in depth), with virtually unlimited visibility at St. George. Many nearby reefs are readily accessible from shore by snorkelers, especially at Church Bay.



Bermuda has no fresh water on the Island, and they are very creative in how they collect and store rainwater. Most houses are built with limestone roofs and painted every two year with a special paint that helps purify the water. The water is then collected in storage tanks under the home and is the only available water. Bermuda law requires every house to collect 80% of it's rainwater. A bonus of the roof is that it is almost like concrete which helps protect the home during hurricanes; it is also another reason why homes in Bermuda are so expensive.

For more pictures, please follow me on Instagram at: travelingwithmarveena

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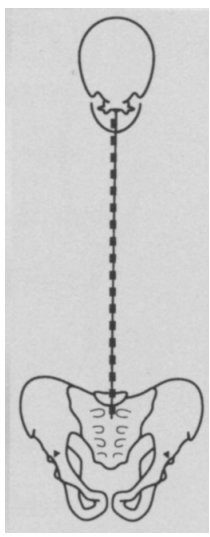
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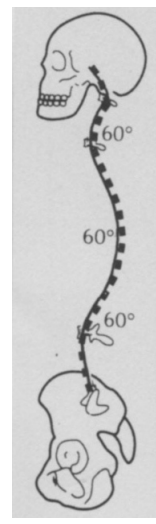
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Today in History – All-Out War

The Declaration of Independence was signed by 56 men representing the 13 colonies. The moment marked the beginning of all-out war against the British. The American Revolutionary War is said to have started in 1775, however. The Declaration was signed more than two years after Boston officials refused to return three shiploads of taxed tea to Britain, fueling colonists to dump the tea into the harbor in what became the infamous Boston Tea Party.

There was no June meeting of the Ferguson On Watch group.
July meeting minutes will return next month.

onwatch

Soroptimist International SECOND ANNUAL ROAD RALLY

Soroptimist International of Greater St. Louis, a volunteer organization for business and professional women, is pleased to announce its second annual Road Rally fundraiser and is looking for participants and sponsors.

Participants in the Road Rally will leave from Atonement Lutheran Church beginning at 10am Saturday, August 10, 2019 and embark on a journey through Florissant and Hazelwood. The Road Rally will end at an undisclosed location where the fun will continue with lunch, live music provided by Dennis Schilligo and activities for the young and young at heart.

The entry fee is $50 per car up to four adults and $10 for each additional adult (kids under 12 free). Each team must have a least two people, a driver and a navigator. This is a family friendly event, no pets or alcohol allowed. Prizes will be awarded to the top three teams. This is not a race. Turn by turn instructions are clear and concise with fun riddles and witty route specific questions between turns. The emphasis is on safety, accuracy, observation and FUN.

Sponsors are also needed to make this a successful event. Sponsorship levels are Compact $100, Sedan $250, Truck $500 and Luxury $1,000. Complete rules, registration and additional information including sponsorship benefits are available on Soroptimist's website, Facebook and LinkedIn pages.

SI of Greater St. Louis is part of Soroptimist International of the Americas. The mission of Soroptimist is to improve the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment. Soroptimist is a 501(c)3 organization and relies on charitable donations to support its programs.

More information is available via email at info@soroptimiststlouis.com or on their website www.soroptimiststlouis.com.

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Sherlock's Pal



I apologize in advance for beginning a sentence with the word "it," however . . . it should be apparent to most of my readers that I'm not exactly someone who believes that human beings have an absolute corner on the market of fact and truth. Although those two words—fact and truth—can mean two different things, they are allegedly playing for the same team (although in today's political climate, I'm not always sure either player is suiting up for the game). Perhaps we should join them together like a celebrity couple and call them "factruth." No, that doesn't even sound like a word.

On occasion I encounter a person who believes God or evolution has endowed him or her with seemingly all the factruth one can have. (Okay, I know I used the word, but only because by the time I got to the part of that last sentence where I had to determine whether or not to reject "factruth" as a word, I concluded that I had nothing better to say, so I'll go with it for the moment . . . okay, that moment has passed.) Let me say what I want to say in a way that sounds like I'm saying it from the back of an old pickup with a wad of chaw tobacco in my mouth: We don't know jack.

Actually, I have known a few Jacks, and I've seen a few on television, like Nicholson, Benny, Gleason, and Cooper. I watched Nicklaus hit a few one-irons back in the day and watched Robinson on old footage run the bases like he meant it, munched on Jack-in-the-Box hamburgers, played blackjacks and Jacks-or-Better at the casino, picked up those little metal jacks with my grandchildren, and traded risqué jokes with a Jack-of-all-Trades. I have wondered what motivated Jack the Ripper, why Democrats are comfortable with their mascot, and why Jack and Jill keep going up a hill . . . because surely there is plenty of water at the bottom of the hill. Furthermore, I have marveled at the agility of a jackrabbit, the persistence of a lumberjack, the spookiness of a jack-o-lantern, and the grace of a jackknife dive into the pool.

Obviously, I know a little bit about jack. As a verb, the word "jack" means "to move or lift by." Concerning airplanes and automobiles, one can either "jack" them up for such purposes as changing a flat tire, or one can "hijack" or "carjack" in the sense of stealing them. This is probably why the word "lift" is colloquially used to characterize the theft of some object that has value. Personally, I don't know jack in terms of jacking an airplane or automobile . . . although when I was fourteen I "borrowed" my dad's '65 Ford Falcon for a joyride. That didn't end well for my, ahem, rear end.

In recent days I have had to define another word that utilizes the word "jack" in the same way the words "hijack" and "carjack" do. That word is "steeplejack." As the name suggests, this refers to jacking or stealing a church, which might include the membership, their resources, and/or their buildings. As a pastor, I have witnessed and heard about this activity through the years. Depending on a church's form of governance, some forms being more vulnerable than others, the steeplejacker can accomplish his or her task in a variety of ways. Typically, they seek clergypersons or lay persons who are disgruntled with their denomination and therefore vulnerable to hearing outside voices that will seek to woo them away from their historic denominational home. I won't get into all the reasons these steeplejackers are doing their thing, but let me just say that I don't cotton to that.

There is always the possibility that someone with less than perfect motives will try to "jack" something precious from us. After all, Jack can be kind of nimble and quick. That's my "factruth" for the day. If I were the St. Louis Blues, I would watch Lord Stanley's Cup like a hawk!

Dr. Jimmy Watson, Pastor, Immanuel United Church of Christ
Ferguson, Missouri

CHEF BANANAS

Celebrate the end of summer with a wacky, wild, banana-filled magical comedy show! All ages welcome.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 1
6 PM



Ferguson Municipal Public Library
35 N. Florissant Rd.
(314) 521-4820 - ferguson.lib.mo.us

Go bananas.

BOB ON JOB

July, 2019 By Bob McCarty

Thinking Like a Drop, or many Drops, of Water

As we begin our feature this month, a steady shower is moistening our streets. And by the depths of the rivers in our area, we've been getting quite a bit of that moisture in the form of rain this year. Have you witnessed any of this moisture creeping into your house? If you answered yes to that question, you need to find out where the source of this problem is. If you answered no, then you are way ahead of your neighbor.

Water is truly the source of most problems in an older home, and newer ones too. Water affects your home in different ways and they all can be equally damaging. When your home was built, it incorporated functions that would shed the water away from the structure. If any of these functions are compromised, there will be a problem.

Bulk Water
Bulk water hits your home in the form of rain or with an occasional wayward sprinkler. All parts of your home were designed to shed this water away from the structure. Your gutters catch the rain drops from the roof and move them to the downspout and out away from the house. If this water doesn't drain away from your house and the standing water remains next to the foundation, it will eventually work its way into your basement.
In order to keep any standing water away from your house, berth some clay soil up onto the foundation which will help flow any water away from the structure. If you find standing water is pooling on your porch, in your window or door sills, dry them immediately and look for the reason why it's standing there and not flowing off or away. One reason could be that there is an unforeseen or damaged element in the design. Whatever it is, it needs to be repaired.

If water doesn't have a place to go it will pool and cause rot and that is not what we want.

Water Vapor
Water Vapor is a bit trickier. You can't see it.
Water Vapor and its effects are pretty complicated and we won't have the time or space here to discuss it in detail, but I'll give you the basics of this water issue.

Warm air holds more moisture (humidity) than cold air. In the winter, our homes are warmer than the outside temperature. The inside warmer air holds more moisture and is drawn to the colder air and as it cools down, the water, in vapor state, condenses at the dew point. This water settles on whatever part of your house is closest to the cooler area. This is the reason your windows fog up or has condensation on them in the winter.

If you have any areas of your house that does not have a vapor barrier, the vapor drive, as it is called, during the winter the dew point exists somewhere within or next to the outside wall. When the vapor drive hits the dew point, it will condense and that condensation can cause rot issues over the years.

The best solution for an old house is to manage the moisture levels inside your home. Vent fans in the bath and kitchen will help keep these levels down in these high humidity rooms. At my house, with the help of the vented fans we have a humidifier on our furnace. We keep the humidity in the house at around 35% to 50%. This keeps the humidity levels pretty low and we have never had any issues with our windows fogging up or a problem with condensation. If you are still having issues with fogging or condensation, a dehumidifier will pull the moisture out of the air.

Until next month, Bob is On the Job.

McCluer Army JROTC Cadets Complete Leadership Challenge

Twelve McCluer Army JROTC cadets, along with their instructors, kicked-off their summer break honing their leadership skills at the Army JROTC Cadet Leadership Challenge (JCLC) 2019 at the Missouri Military Academy in Mexico, MO. The six-day challenge was held June 1-6. McCluer cadets attending were Erin Stroud, Kyra Sanders, Simone Madison, Carrie Baker, Ja'Myia Drake, Danita Sanders, Craig Anthony Moore, Justin Robinson, Antwoin Johnson, Devon Lawrence, Tyrell Watson, and Jeremiah Stanley.

"All McCluer cadets successfully completed the camp, improving their confidence and leadership skills," said LTC (R) Darrell Gray, McCluer's Army ROTC senior instructor. Gray, along with Sergeant Major (Retired) Emas Griffin, serve as the cadets' instructors and accompanied the students on the Leadership Challenge.

JCLC is a challenging, safe and fun opportunity for Army JROTC cadets to experience high-adventure, sports, confidence building and more importantly leadership and teamwork activities in a controlled environment while meeting and interacting with other high school Army JROTC cadets. Units from nearly 30 high schools in Missouri and Illinois participated in the camp. Throughout the week, the cadets participated in events such as land navigation, obstacle course, rappelling, leadership reaction course, physical training, waterborne operations, drown-proofing and marching. The cadets were supervised and guided by a cadre of high school Army JROTC instructors and volunteer college cadets from area colleges/universities.



Members of the McCluer Army JROTC spent six days of their summer break participating in the prestigious JROTC Cadet Leadership Challenge 2019.

About the Ferguson-Florissant School District
The Ferguson-Florissant School District, located in suburban St. Louis, 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. In addition, the District includes a nationally-recognized early education program, the award-winning Challenger Learning Center space education facility and the Little Creek Nature Area, a 97-acre nature preserve which offers experiential learning opportunities for students in science, biology, ecology and related areas of study.

Ferguson 4th of July Parade and Fireworks in Prior Years.





Ferguson by Foot

By: Margaret Wolfinbarger



When I was a child, summer was for swimming, playing with friends and riding my bike up and down Blackwood Drive in Florissant, Missouri. From the moment school let out in May, we looked forward to the Fourth of July with anticipation. The city always had a plethora of small carnival-like attractions that day. They sold games, rides, and food that was tantalizing to the taste buds. But the best memories of my childhood did not take place in suburbia.

I remember the dark green, wool army blankets my mother would spread on the ground, so we could lay down and watch the explosions overhead. They were relics from my dad's stint in the service after he was drafted near the end of the Viet Nam conflict. They were super durable, but scratchy. And they smelled like the vinyl bed of our yellow, Ford Pinto Station Wagon. I sure loved that old car. We would always fight over who got to ride in the back. I usually won, much to the chagrin of my younger sister and brother. We spent a lot of time in that car and on those army blankets while we burned up the miles between Florissant and Leslie, Missouri.

My Grandpa, Everette Swan, had 40 acres in Leslie. Our annual tradition was to meet up with my aunts, uncles, and cousins for Independence Day done country-style. My mother would always bake a strawberry rhubarb pie with fresh pickings from my grandpa's garden. While we waited for our pork chops and corn-on-the-cob to finish roasting, my aunt—who was only 3 years older than I—would teach me how to pull the "light" off the lightening bugs and stick them on my arms. When we weren't mutilating insects we would try to catch bullfrogs while trying not to fall into the pond. If we were lucky, we would find a black and yellow spotted salamander to play with until my father insisted we redeposit it back under the leaf litter lest we damage it. This was back in the days when running wasn't exercise, it was just how one got around. We ate homemade peachy banana ice cream without guilt, splashed in the creek without worrying about toxins, and took every annoying moment with our family for granted—thinking those long summer days would never end.

Wendell Berry once wrote, "The past is our definition. We may strive with good reason to escape it or to escape what is bad in it but we will escape it only by adding something better to it." For all my enjoyment of those country moments, many members of my family look back on those days with tears. You see, we didn't only spend holidays in the country. We spent most weekends there. The reason for this was because my Grandma Swan had been killed in an automobile accident when I was 2 years old. My Grandpa only just survived the accident and spent 3 months in the hospital. My aunt was only 5 and my uncle only 9 at the time. And so, for many years my mother poured blood, sweat and tears into cleaning and making meals that would nourish the stomachs and hearts of her family while my father worked on the old log house to make it habitable.

Therefore, the idyllic memories I cherish are the bitter-sweet fruit of my parents who fought so hard to diminish the specter of pain and death by instead focusing on the wonder and delight of the natural world. Because of their generosity of spirit, I know what the inside of a bird house with freshly laid eggs in it smells like. I know how it feels to crawl into a cold bed in January and shiver under a quilt that was hand stitched by a grandmother I never knew. I know the joys of removing hundreds of seed ticks after a full day of wandering through the woods trying to catch a field mouse or lizard. We quite clearly did not escape the shadow of death, but we found joy right smack dab in the middle of it.

Today, if you are living in the midst of trying circumstances, or if the memories of your childhood invite only sadness and regret, take heart! Every day we wake up we are given the option to add something better to our lives and the lives of those around us. We do this by entering a room with a smile when our hearts are full of tears. We do this by choosing to laugh instead of responding to hatred with cruel or cutting words. If it is true that we can only ever overcome evil with good, we must continue to do good by every means readily available to us. This is the very definition of grace! For more inspiration, follow me on my blog: www.destinationdiscipline.com.

School Supplies & Book Bags!

Free For The Entire Family!

5th Annual Ferguson Unity Weekend

Theme: Unity In Diversity

August 2nd and 4th, 2019

Youth Activities & Workshops!

Hot Dogs, Chips & Cotton Candy!

Morning Event: Friday, August 2, 2019
Opportunity Fair
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Ferguson Community Center
1050 Smith Avenue
Ferguson, MO 63135 Host: MODOT

Event: Sunday, August 4,2019
Backpack Giveaway Volunteer Assembly
Time: 12:00 PM
Event Time: 2:00 - 5:00 PM Emerson Family YMCA 3390 Pershall Rd.
Ferguson, MO 63135

Evening Event: Friday, August 2, 2019
Souls Never Forgotten
Remembering missing loved ones and loved ones loss due to violence
Assembly Time • 6:00 PM Event Time • 7:00 PM January Wabash Park
Ferguson, MO 63135
Host: Ferguson Human Rights Commission

For more information call Octavia Pittman at 314.524.5152, Phedra Nelson at 314.521.1822 or Gina Montgomery at 314.453.1877.

Nutrition & Wellness Opportunities for all ages

University of Missouri Extension St. Louis County

Food Preservation Class

DATE:
Saturday, June 29th
or
Saturday, July 13th

TIME:
9:30 AM - 1pm

LOCATION:
Eliot Unitarian Chapel
100 S. Taylor St.
Kirkwood, MO 63122

COST: $30.00 for on-line course and $30.00 for the Saturday class.

You must complete the on-line course prior to attending one of the Saturday sessions.

Register at:
extension.missouri.edu/stlouis/classes.aspx



"Make & Take"

- Did you plant a big garden this year and want to reap the benefits all year long?

- Have you always wanted to try "canning" but not sure where to begin?

Learn the answers to these and many more questions at one of our "Make & Take" Food Preservation Classes.

This is a two-part course. Part one is an on-line course where participants learn all the basic information about safe home food preservation.

Part two is an experiential class allowing participants to practice what they learned in the on-line course under the supervision of a trained Extension professional. All participants attending the hands-on class will take home the food they prepare.



Pressure canner testing available with appointment.

Phone/Fax: 314-400-2115
Email: stlouisco@missouri.edu
Office Hours: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM (Mon-Fri)
Register at: extension.missouri.edu/stlouis/classes.aspx
MU Extension is an equal opportunity/ADA institution

7th Annual THE TASTE IN FERGUSON

A FUNDRAISER FOR THE ROBBIE MCGARTLAND / SAMANTHA LIPKA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

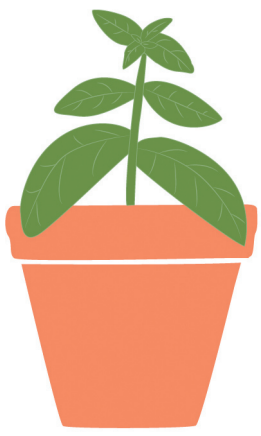
The Date to Remember, 8th of September

Sunday, September 8, 2019

FOOD COMPETITION CONTINUES

"GOURMET GAUNTLET"

Missouri Botanical Garden



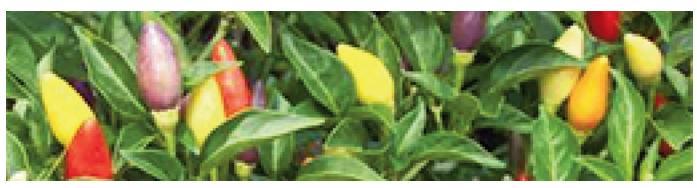
HERB AND HEIRLOOM TUESDAYS

Tuesdays, 10 a.m. to noon
(June 4–August 27, 2019)
in the St. Louis Herb Society Garden (located in the Victorian District directly behind Tower Grove House), weather permitting
Connect with some of the oldest friends of cultivated gardens: herbs. Explore the culinary, sensory and beauty uses for the herb featured each week. The first 200 participants will pot an herb to take home and receive a plant profile sheet with care tips and ways to use their new plant. Included in Garden admission.



JULY 2

Pineapple sage *Salvia elegans*



JULY 9

Harlequin ornamental pepper *Capsicum annuum*



JULY 16

Lovage *Levisticum officinale*



JULY 23

Lemon balm *Melissa officinalis*



JULY 30

Chocolate mint Mentha × piperita f. citrata 'Chocolate'

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The Salvation Army PATHWAY TO HEALTH Christian hospital BJC HealthCare

HEALTH FAIR 2019

Ferguson Community Empowerment Center
9420 West Florissant
Saturday, July 20
11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Pre-register by calling 314-747-9355.
For more information, call 314-439-8306.

The Salvation Army and Christian Hospital, partners in the Pathway to Health program at the Ferguson Community Empowerment Center, are hosting HEALTH FAIR 2019 in partnership with Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield and Alpha Kapa Alpha Sorority Incorporated – Omicron Theta Omega Chapter in Memory of Deborah Ratliff. The Ferguson Community Empowerment Center is co-owned by The Salvation Army and the Urban League.

HEALTH FAIR 2019 includes:

- FREE Blood Pressure, Cholesterol and Glucose Screenings
- Siteman Mammogram Bus (by appointment only); Call 314-747-7222 or 800-600-3606
- Multiple Educational Booths
- Kids Fun Area
- FREE Healthy Snacks
- Much More!

Funding for this project was provided in part by Missouri Foundation for Health. The Foundation is a resource for the region, working with communities and nonprofits to generate and accelerate positive changes in health. As a catalyst for change, the Foundation improves the health of Missourians through a combination of partnership, experience, knowledge, and funding.

About The Salvation Army Midland Division:
The Salvation Army has been working to better combat poverty and assist those imprisoned by it. From developing a deeper understanding of the epidemic to identifying locations and population segments with the greatest need, The Salvation Army is pushing forward on all fronts and meets human needs without discrimination.

About Christian Hospital:
Christian Hospital is a 220-staffed-bed community hospital located in north St. Louis County and a founding member of BJC HealthCare, one of the largest nonprofit health care organizations in the United States. Located six miles west of Christian Hospital is Northwest HealthCare, which offers the community 24-hour emergency care and a variety of outpatient services to complement hospital services. With both locations, Christian Hospital operates the busiest emergency department in Missouri and one of the busiest hospital-based ambulance service in the state. Christian Hospital received the St. Louis Regional Chamber's 2018 Arcus Award for Achievement in Health for its commitment to ongoing growth, improvement, community outreach and economic opportunity. To find out more, visit christianhospital.org and facebook.



The Ferguson Computer Corner

by Doug Neely!

July, 2019
holidays this month are mostly somewhat minor in observance for most of us. the one huge holiday, that defines us as a nation, occurs on the 4th; it is Independence Day. (this year, the 4th falls on a Thursday) generally speaking, if you are alive, you will be heartily observing our Independence Day.

still, some of us do not know all we should about this holiday. so that all may be properly informed as to motivation of this observation, i offer the following points. (these have been taken from the WinCalendar website, just as i have done previously.)

Independence Day Facts & Quotes
• Independence was actually declared on July 2. The Declaration of Independence document was dated July 4 and it was signed August 2.
• In July 1776, there were approximately 2.5 million people living in the new nation.
• The first public reading of the Declaration of Independence didn't occur until July 8, 1776. It was sent to the printers on July 4th.
• The original Declaration of Independence can be viewed by visiting the National Archives, Washington D.C. The original copy is severely faded and sits under special glass in the Rotunda for the Chambers of Freedom.
• The Statue of Liberty is a great symbol of American Freedom. It was given to the US by France in 1886. It was delivered in 214 crates and assembled on what is known as Liberty Island, in New York Harbor.
• Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe, to assure the survival and success of liberty. - John F. Kennedy

So?, dept.
well, to put it simply, if you value your life, your liberty, and your legal right to pursue happiness, then the Fourth of July is a pretty big deal. if you don't, it isn't, and it shows. but if you do, it does, and it shows. i think it obvious that the great majority of us fit into that last mentioned group, and we are mighty proud of that!

Other Stuff!, dept.
i want to thank the internet for making it possible for me to research the above information. also, thanks are deserved for our puters and all the other things that come together in the "information age" to make it possible to know and to do all that we do today. mostly, i want to give thanks and praise to God; without Him, none of this would be possible. for that matter, we wouldn't even be here without Him, would we?

Yet More Stuff!, dept.
here, I want to address those of you who are not using Windows 10, but an earlier version of Windows. by now, i think that most of you have already figured out that your older version of Windows seems to be experiencing problems. if you have a car that is, say, 15 years old, you know that it is difficult & expensive to get parts for it. your car NEEDS parts that were made expressly for it, so that everything works together properly. So too, with your older puter & older Windows. nobody (especially our friends at Micro$oft) is interested in providing us with an older version of their product that will work properly on our older puter with an older version of Windows.

why not? well, there are lots of reasons. but the one reason i want to stress is planned obsolescence. simply put, it forces you to buy a new puter, that requires new software, which will properly interact with the servers your puter connects to on the internet. if not, you will see things going wrong on your end. you will think that you need a new puter, and that's just what "they" want you to think.

there is only so much your old puter can be upgraded to; after that, no more upgrading, and things get worse. finally, things will be so bad that you will have no other choice, and you will have to get a new puter.

is your old puter (with its old Windows Operating System) unuseable now? yes...no….maybe...well, it depends. IF you are willing to replace Windows with a different operating system that will be happy to work with your older puter, then no worries. Ubuntu Linux is FREE, it will update itself, you can easily upgrade it when you want, and there are lots of other very good things about it. Ubuntu is going to become my primary operating system in the near future. as a matter of fact, i am using Ubuntu right now on a puter that is nearing 10 years of age.

one more point i'd like to make: Yvonne's cell phone had an app on it which came from Google, if i recall. it gave you directions, turn by turn, along with a simple map that fit on your cellphone screen. all of a sudden one day, it refused to work. she went to her phone store to get it fixed. she found out that LOTS of people had the same problem. turns out that Google and all the cell phone manufacturers have colluded to prevent the newer versions of their app from working if you are using an older cell phone. to regain this functionality, she has to buy a new phone. this is now one of, if not THE top ways for them to make $$$$ off of us. planned obsolescence?
yes, of couse it is. but i would call it FORCED obsolescence, or maybe FORCED COMPLIANCE, wouldn't you?



Minimize Your Exposure

Lead can pose a serious health risk, particularly to developing fetuses, infants and children. You cannot see, smell or taste lead, and boiling water will not remove lead. There are immediate steps you can take to reduce your potential exposure:

• **Flush your taps.**
If the water in your facet has gone unused for more than six hours, flush the tap with cold water for 30 seconds to two minutes before drinking or using it to cook.

• **Use cold water for drinking and cooking**.
Hot water has the potential of containing more lead than cold waer. If hot water is needed for cooking, heat cold water on the stove.

• **Routinely remove and clean all faucet aerators.**
Follow manufacturer's instructions for replacing water filters in household appliances. Look for NSF53 certified filters.

Information taken from
Missouri American Water

ME GO NOW!
f.y.i.--i am still recovering from major surgery on my leg, and am still under doctor's orders to stay off my feet and rest. this takes time. i am told that this process will take as long as 12 months for a FULL recovery; but that as i approach full recovery, i will slowly recover more and more with each passing day. so, altho i am getting better, i will not as yet be able to take on working on your puter, either here at my place or at yours. but that day will come soon, God-willing and the creek don't rise. :) i WILL still be willing and able to take your phone calls, however. so,
ME GO NOW! :) God's blessings to us all!

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

IF YOU would like to ask Doug for some of his FREE puter advice, call him at *314*521*1789* in the afternoon or evening hours of most any day. Email contact is temporarily down. Celebrate the 4th SAFELY! God's blessings to all!

Artful Considerations

by Robin Shively



"*Origami is a metamorphic art form, you got that piece of paper, you don't add to it you don't take away from it, you CHANGE it.*"

–Michael Lafosse

Good Shepherd Arts Center is sponsoring an art activities station at the Ferguson Fourth of July celebration, including coloring sheets for children. On display at the GSAC tent will be the 1000 origami cranes that were created for last summer's #ThisIsMyFerguson show. Don't miss this opportunity for another chance to view this collaborative community art project before it is sent to its permanent home at the Hiroshima Peace Memorial later this summer.

Good Shepherd Arts Center artists and representatives will also be at some of the Ferguson Farmers Market "Art at the Market" events on Saturday mornings during July at the Plaza @ 501 South Florissant Rd. However, the Good Shepherd Arts Center gallery, located at 252 South Florissant Rd., will be closed July 5th through July 25th for summer vacation and maintenance. GSAC's August exhibit, entitled "SPARC," will open on August 3, with an evening reception and run through August 24th.

Taylor Deed, an organizer of the show, describes "SPARC" as "A curation of St. Louis based artists showcasing their work in the nature of art as activism, Blackness as spirituality, and the global, collective, creative revolution ignited by the movement and Spirit of Ferguson, MO." Artists connected to the exhibit are Artdivo, Brock Seals, Kyla Hawkins, and Taylorthemirror. In addition to the exhibit at GSAC, there will be other events held during the month of August connected with "SPARC."

Save the date, October 4, when the Arts Center hosts the opening reception for "Three Women: Visions and Voice," an exhibit by ArtFiber St. Louis. Ferguson resident Laura Saunders Kaiser will be joined by fellow fiber artists Deb Lewis and Pat Owac. The three members of ArtFiber St. Louis are putting together this exhibit as part of the "Innovations in Textiles" collaborative event which will be presented during the fall throughout the St. Louis region.

To submit information about local artists and art events to be included in future columns, contact Robin at cornersframing@gmail.com.

All the pieces shown here are fiber art.



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The Fourth of July – also known as Independence Day or July 4th

– has been a federal holiday in the United States since 1941, but the tradition of Independence Day celebrations goes back to the 18th century and the American Revolution. On July 2nd, 1776, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence, and two days later delegates from the 13 colonies adopted the Declaration of Independence, a historic document drafted by Thomas Jefferson. From 1776 to the present day, July 4th has been celebrated as the birth of American independence, with festivities ranging from fireworks, parades and concerts to more casual family gatherings and barbecues.

When the initial battles in the Revolutionary War broke out in April 1775, few colonists desired complete independence from Great Britain, and those who did were considered radical.

By the middle of the following year, however, many more colonists had come to favor independence, thanks to growing hostility against Britain and the spread of revolutionary sentiments such as those expressed in the bestselling pamphlet "Common Sense," published by Thomas Paine in early 1776.

On June 7, when the Continental Congress met at the Pennsylvania State House (later Independence Hall) in Philadelphia, the Virginia delegate Richard Henry Lee introduced a motion calling for the colonies' independence.

Amid heated debate, Congress postponed the vote on Lee's resolution, but appointed a five-man committee – including Thomas Jefferson of Virginia, John Adams of Massachusetts, Roger Sherman of Connecticut, Benjamin Franklin of Pennsylvania and Robert R. Livingston of New York – to draft a formal statement justifying the break with Great Britain.

On July 4th, the Continental Congress formally adopted the Declaration of Independence, which had been written largely by Jefferson. Though the vote for actual independence took place on July 2nd, from then on the 4th became the day that was celebrated as the birth of American independence.

In the pre-Revolutionary years, colonists had held annual celebrations of the king's birthday, which traditionally included the ringing of bells, bonfires, processions and speechmaking. By contrast, during the summer of 1776 some colonists celebrated the birth of independence by holding mock funerals for King George III, as a way of symbolizing the end of the monarchy's hold on America and the triumph of liberty.

Festivities including concerts, bonfires, parades and the firing of cannons and muskets usually accompanied the first public readings of the Declaration of Independence, beginning immediately after its adoption. Philadelphia held the first annual commemoration of independence on July 4, 1777, while Congress was still occupied with the ongoing war.

George Washington issued double rations of rum to all his soldiers to mark the anniversary of independence in 1778, and in 1781, several months before the key American victory at Yorktown, Massachusetts became the first state to make July 4th an official state holiday.

Neil Armstrong and "The Prince of Ferguson" ©

James Vincent Morales 2016

Not having any medical training or Seminary experience to speak of, it is my belief that mom and dad had a deeply religious experience in late October 1968. That's the year we moved from Goodland, Kansas to Ferguson, Missouri. Our house on Fenwick Drive needed my parents blessing, room by room. As it goes with all Biblical things, my brother, the youngest of our brood, was born in July of '69. For the purpose of this recollection, his name is and always will be, "The Prince" or "The Chosen One" (each carry the same weight for reference to my little brother). "The Prince" was born near the day that Neil Armstrong and company took off for the moon and Mom and Dad brought "the Prince" home close to the day of Apollo Eleven's historical "Lunar Landing. "The Chosen One's" regality was preordained: Man landed on the Moon not for all of Mankind but for "The Prince".



Like the entire civilized world, our brood plus "The Prince", were all sitting down glued to our black and white TV watching and listening to Walter Cronkite and the lunar landing. Mom was sitting in a chair furthest away from the TV holding what she and dad had brought home from the hospital. We all waited to see history and history is what we and the entire world saw…

The time came for Neil Armstrong to walk where no man had ever walked before. He stepped off "The Lem" and it was done: "One small step for man, one giant leap for mankind ®", were the words Neil Armstrong had spoken on that day. With that, there came a high-pitched scream from the bundle that Mom and Dad had brought home. So loud and so annoying, especially at this historic time, that none of us could hear what was going on way up there in the cosmos. We all tried to filter it out the best we could with no such luck. We watched the TV, irritated to no end. "Why don't you take IT back to the hospital where you got IT from and leave IT there?" was the collective thought.

Then the screaming stopped, as if by magic or divine intervention. Maybe mom smothered it. Who's to say? Who cares? It was quiet again. I turned around to see what was going on with the Prince and I saw something I had never seen before in my life. First, Neil Armstrong walking on the moon, now this: "The Prince" with his mouth where his mouth shouldn't be! This puzzled me for a long time. Later on in life I tried to find the correlation between Neil Armstrong and nursing, but had no success. Meanwhile, Mom taught us how to take care of "the Chosen One", with bathing, feeding, and diaper changing with real cloth diapers and the like.

As "The Chosen One" grew older, the "Mom and The Prince" show grew as well. Mom was a stay-at-home mom. Of course, everywhere mom went, "The Prince" went too. After a hard day of school, my siblings and I would come back home to find evidence of the days travels by my mom and "the Chosen One": a "Burger King® Crown", "Burger Chef®" tidbits and worst of all, "McDonalds®" scraps. Now, growing up in the 60's with our ever-expanding family, Mom and Dad's money was tight. The only time we had fast food is when we pulled off the highway in Ferguson, Missouri from Goodland, Kansas in 1968. Besides that, we didn't get "McDonald's®", or anything else 'till we were in our 30's.

That's the way it was. Then one day, when "The Prince" was 4 or so, my brother Anthony and I had a slight detour from conventional wisdom… we were bad. I would like to say that we weren't bad that often, but I value my tongue and I don't want it to snap off… In accordance, my mother's "M.O". for showing us the "Path to Righteousness and Divine Guidance," was simple: "go downstairs and wait for me". I guess she chose the basement to muffle the sounds of our abject wretchedness. No begging, crying, or pleas of insanity would save us.

My mother's weapon of destruction was the ever effective and painful orange "Hot Wheel"® track. This instrument had the properties, when used to its fullest potential, to make a true believer of those unfortunate souls that strayed from the path of civility, and my mother used it with malice aforethought. Mom would buy us "Hot Wheels" ® cars and tracks for Christmas and our birthdays, knowing she would always have an ample supply of the tools of Wisdom, Hope, Knowledge, and Forcible Understanding. Anthony and I were quick studies and would sail the tracks into the creek behind our house.

My brother and I took that long "march" down to the basement, the one we had taken twice, three, 14 times before. What can I say? It was a path well-traveled. We went downstairs and waited for the reincarnation of" Lizzie Borden" to descend upon us… She came downstairs with "The Prince" holding on to her apron. They got down to the bottom and mom started looking for her weapon of choice: the orange Hot Wheel Track®. Anthony and I had already dispatched with all the tracks, even the ones in her super-secret hiding place. The more she looked and couldn't find anything to hit us with, the madder she got. She got into such a frenzy my brother and I were glad Dad didn't own an axe or a chainsaw. At the height of her madness, "The Prince", tugged on mom's apron and said the words my brother Anthony and I will NEVER FORGET. "Here momma, you can use this". "The Chosen One", whose diaper I changed, whom I saved from a pack of rabid dogs, a mauling grizzly bear and a hungry panther, all in the same day, took his belt off and gave it to my mother.

My brother and I just stood there, betrayed, mouths agape. "Oh, thank you honey, you're such momma's little helper. Now go upstairs. I think "The Electric Company" is on TV. They're cookies on the table. I will be up in a minute when I finish with your brothers. You don't want to see this". She turned around and had her way with us. I will attest to the day I that am no more, that "The Chosen One" was smiling all the way up the stairs.

The beatings done, my brother and I plotted against the "The Prince". The next day Mom had an Avon® or Tupperware® party to go to. That left Anthony and I to babysit "Matahari" himself, in the flesh. We could not have written a better script... We had found two pieces of cardboard and wrote "UP FOR ADOPTION" on both sides, tied strings around his shoulders to hold it up and made him walk up and down Fenwick Drive. We told him if he didn't do it, we would sell him to the Circus or the Gypsies. A neighbor saw him walking in front of her house and ran out hollering, "WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO MY PRINCE?!!!" She ran at us with a belt but we escaped. That was the WRONG thing to do. When mom got home, the neighbor gave up the ghost and we got the "What For" twice: One for what we did and another one for running away from a beating. Justice was not to be for Anthony and me.

As "The Prince" grew older, he too would descend to "the Parlor of Pain" in the basement. We were attending McCluer High School when justice was finally served to "The Chosen One" for his slight departures from the path of Righteousness. Our peace in the whole saga is that Anthony and I had each other to console. "The Prince" had to take the long walk by himself, just like Neil Armstrong's solitary walk on the moon on July 20, 1969, ten years earlier.

Someone much wiser than I once said "Life is like a spoke in a wheel…. It always comes around".

THE END

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Natural Gas Safety Tips

If you smell gas (a rotten egg smell), immediately evacuate the building and call 911or the fire department.

If you smell gas, DO NOT . . .

• Remain in the building
• Use light switches
• Try to find the source of the leak
• Smoke or strike matches
• Use a telephone or any electrical equipment that might create a spark.
Wait until you are OUTSIDE.

DO . . .

• Have at least one working carbon monoxide detector for each level of your home.

• Never use a gas oven or range top as a space heater.

• Never try to repair or install a gas appliance yourself. Never let a home handy-person try to do the job for you.

• Keep the space around furnaces and water heaters clean and clear of build-up, rags, newspapers, and other debris.

• Never store combustibles such as gasoline, aerosol cans, paint, solvents, household cleaners, pool chemicals, or similar products near any fuel-burning equipment.

• Be cautious using products such as paint strippers, glues, rubber cement, varnishes, turpentine, cleaning fluid, and floor finishing products. They give off vapors that can be ignited by any flame source, such as a burner pilot light. Vapors can also corrode metal vents and appliance combustion chambers. Turn off all gas appliances when using these products and keep the space well ventilated with exhaust fans or plenty of fresh air.

The Best of Ferguson

by
Ruffina Farrokh Anklesaria, M.A.
will not have a column for few months,
but will return in the near future.





Television

Television: taken from the Greek word meaning "Far Sight' was first invented sometime in the 1920s. But it wasn't until 1946 or 1947 that my parents got the first televisions set that I remember. It was a small screen set in a huge wooden cabinet.

The bulky, high voltage cathode ray tubes of those first residential TVs required a very deep cabinet, and, as I remember it, the cabinet was perhaps 2 feet or more deep. It was maybe five feet wide and would probably dominate a small room, but, as was true of automobiles after the war, if you wanted a car or a TV, you took whatever you could buy. Even though the picture was fuzzy and in black and white, we were all amazed that we could witness an event that we normally could only see in person or at the movie theater . . . and we could see this event right there in our living room.

Because no one really believed TVs would actually become available to the generally public, people would invite friends and neighbors over to their homes to watch the test tube pattern on their small televisions. (Remember a few years back when Virtual Reality was all the talk of the future.'Not in my life' I would think.) We were even more amazed when the TV began televising an occasional baseball game. The games were so full of snow, it was hard to tell which white dot was the ball. Besides the terrible picture, the cameramen where brand new at following the game, and often would be televising the wrong area of the field instead of where the action was located. With only one camera and no slo-motion, you can just imagine how uninformative the game was. But baseball fans are baseball fans and I know I watched whenever I could.

Later still, color TV was beginning to make it's appearance in area homes. My parents purchased one and I would bring my children over to Mom and Dad's to watch. You had to manually adjust the color and I noticed that everyone seemed to have a different opinion as to the proper color of grass, the sky, and even human skin. There were all these knobs on the side of the TV screen and each knob did different tones and intensity.

In those early days, the antenna that received the TV signal was located on or near the top of the TV. It was two metal rods that you could pull apart until the picture became clear (or at least clearer). Everyone called these antennas Rabbit Ears. There was no remote control. But there were very few channels, so getting up and changing channels did not seem such a hardship. Besides, you don't miss what you've never had.

When cable TV arrived in the area, my husband and I talked about whether or not we should subscribe to cable and we finally agreed that we would try the "basic" package. One Saturday morning the doorbell rang and a cute little blonde sat down in the living room with my husband to explain the cable opinions. I was busy cleaning the house and by the time I came into the living room, Bud had signed up for all the cable channels that were offered. "But she was so knowledgeable" was his answered when questioned.

It wasn't too long after the cable event that I was shopping at Sam's. They had (and still do) the TVs displayed just as you came in the door. The nicest sets had Closed Caption. "Anna and the King of Siam" was playing and the little Asian children were singing a song that Anna had taught them. Wow, was I impressed! I had seen that movie a number of times before and could never understand the words of that song. I bought a Closed Caption TV before I left the store that day. "But the salesman was so knowledgable", I told my husband.

I just read that there are almost 120 million TVs in the U.S. I'm not surprised at that number. I visited Egypt a number of years ago and the tour bus traveled on an elevated highway over a slum in the city of Cairo. I looked down and the houses were really nothing but piles of rubble. But ever single pile of rubble had a TV antenna sticking out of the roof.

Today the newspaper said that the average male over the age of 65 spends 3 hours a day watching TV. I didnt think that sounded too bad until the paper pointed out that the TV time used to be spent reading.

But that TV viewing statistic was for senior citizens. I understand that now cell phone sales actually surpass TV sales. So the younger generation now views their phones more than TVs.

I wish more generations would return to reading in their spare time. And, in case you haven't noticed, Ferguson's own library is sponsoring more and more fun and educational programs all the time. Get to know them!

Answers to Trivia, Page 12

1. Ozone
2. Orlando
3. Othello
4. Old Glory
5. Ode to Billie Joe
6. Olympics
7. Omelet
8. Olive
9. One hundred and one
10. Owl
11. Orange
12. Opera
13. Oliver

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Calendar of Events In and Around Ferguson

Complete Details of These Events Throughout the Paper

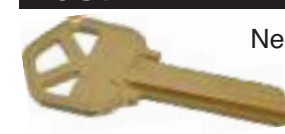
Forestwood Boys at Marley's Bar & Grill . . . . . Sun., June 30
Learn to Sew – Library . . . . . Mon., July 1
4th of July Parade, Festival and Fireworks . . . . . Thurs., July 4
Scott AFB Midwest Winds – St. Peters UCC . . . . . Fri., July 5
Movie "The Sandlot" – St. Peters UCC . . . . . Sat., July 6
Reading on Race Book Club – Library . . . . . Mon., July 8
Universe of Stories – Rockets – Library . . . . . Tues., July 9
Card and Paper Club – Library . . . . . Wed., July 10
Northwest Chamber Membership Meeting – Hilton Frontenac . . Thur., July 11
Audri Bartholomew Concert – St. Peters UCC . . . . . Fri., July 12
Scott AFB Winds – St. Peters UCC . . . . . Fri., July 5
Universe of Stories – Planetary Bath Bombs – Library . . . . . Sat., July 13
Needles Club – Library . . . . . Tues., July 16
4H Culinary Class – MU Extension . . . . . Mon. - Fri., July 15 - 19
Gospet Choral Workshop – St. Stephen's . . . . . Fri., July 19
Universe of Stories – Hotel Transylvania – Library . . . . . Fri., July 19
Health Fair – Community Empowerment Center . . . . . Sat., July 20
Yoga at the Library . . . . . Sat., July 20
Ferguson Council Meeting – City Hall . . . . . Tues., July 23
Tuesday Night Book Club – Library . . . . . Tues., July 23
Universe of Stories – Galaxy Paint Pouring – Library . . . . . Wed., July 24
Carnival – Zion Lutheran . . . . . Thurs., July 25
PROUD Evening in the Garden – EarthDance . . . . . Sat., July 27
Universe of Stories – Back to School – Library . . . . . Tues., July 30
Adulting 101 – Financial Planning – Library . . . . . Wed., July 31
Chef Bananas at the Library . . . . . Thurs., Aug. 1
5th Annual Unity Weekend – YMCA and Jan.-Wab. . . . . Fri. & Sun., Aug. 2-4
Ferguson Veterans Group Planning – Comm. Ctr. . . . . Sat., Aug. 10

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