

Serving Ferguson and surrounding Communities since 2021

Welcome to the first issue of the New Ferguson Newspaper

I am pleased to announce the continuance of the Ferguson newspaper and would like to first thank Dorothy for the outstanding job as publisher and editor-in-chief for so many years. Your contribution to our community is truly a blessing. It was always a joy to read.

We have a team working together so we can continue to serve our community and have been hustling to put something together in time to make a January issue.

I think some introductions are in order. My name is Gary Nadeau. I grew up in Berkeley and have been a resident in the area since 1951. I will be acting as the new publisher.

As I cannot perform this task alone, Bob McGartland, Tony Lonero, Steve Kates, Machael Cleveland, Trish Cook, Mary Haux, Tish Mathis, Wendell Philips, Reggie Davis, Pearce Neikirk and Phil Berwick have all stepped up and are willing to continue this tradition.

We would not be able to do this without the continued generous support of our contributors and advertisers.

You will notice this first issue is a little lighter than usual. We are praying our new community paper will grow over time.

Thanks to all.

Happy New Year!

Wow! Can you believe we made it through 2020? It was one wild ride. I hope that most realize we have witnessed history again.

We have witnessed police brutality, racial injustice, senseless violence, a year full of politicians pointing fingers, and then Jupiter and Saturn aligning for the first time in 800 years. We watched it through my telescope out behind the barn. My sister sent me a photo of the alignment over Jerusalem - Beautiful.

The pandemic has brought out the worst and the best in people. Bad behavior, bullies and thugs, porch pirates, inconsiderate drivers. Then I look around me and see that God has also put in the saints we take for granted everyday. The cashier at the grocery store, the letter carrier that has to struggle with my mailbox everyday, my great neighbors that keep an eye out for each other and pitch in when anyone needs help.

I've heard Marley's is closing. That is too bad. As best you can afford to, try to support our local businesses that are struggling during this pandemic. They appreciate it and we will appreciate it if they survive and thrive.

Name the Paper Contest!!!

The first order of business is to get a new name for the paper. Why not use the old name you ask? There are issues with keeping the name and we not only serve Ferguson, but also send out copies to other communities. We are actively seeking your input and are holding a "name the paper" contest. Winner will receive a \$50 gift certificate to Pauls Market.

Send your idea with the subject line "Name the paper" to asroc873@charter.net



Outdoor Winter Market at St. Stephen's



The Ferguson Winter Market is now being held in the parking lot at St. Stephen's Church at the corner of Darst and North Clay. Because of the virus, no tables and chairs for gathering will be provided and food will be to-go only. This month's market will be held **Saturday, January 16th from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** Be sure to wear your mask.

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From Ferguson to Pakistan and Back again.

by Phil Berwick

"As seen in BrickYardsBlog.com"

At this launch of the rebooting of the Ferguson Times, I'll be in the beautiful land of Pakistan, freeing human beings from bonded labor. As I get ready to go, my spirit is wrestling with my flesh and my head tussling with my soul. Back in August, I freed a brick yard of 13 families, who had been there for 12, 15, and 30 years. The impoverished minority Christians, lower caste Muslims and Hindus cannot obtain loans anywhere in the country, except from Muslim brick masters. A typical nominal loan of \$100 or \$200, decades later, is never allowed to be paid off. But a man labors hard, in vain, sometimes along with his wife and the children born in the brick yard, hoping someday they will be set free. Mothers cannot give their children the attention they need, so the children sit and play with the clay, and even eat it. This generational bondage, also inhibits children from getting an education, so the families remain unable to read or write, open to usury. This vile system of the worst kind of subjugation, has been illegal in Pakistan since 1988, but has never been enforced. The 18,000 brick yards and brick masters are in the pockets of the local police. Benazir Bhutto, who was a brave woman Prime Minister of Pakistan in 1988, fought to get the law forbidding this debt bondage in their constitution. She was assassinated several years later, and although the law still is there in ink, that's all it is, it's there in ink. Pakistani humanitarians who've spoken up against this modern day slavery, have not fared well. They've been beaten, tortured, and killed. A few days before I left, on my first trip in August, a couple of relatives who are close, chastised me about going. "What about your family," "What about your wife," "What if You end up in jail!". I finally had it, and told them that if someone has a vision that they don't connect with, they should not try to disconnect the one with the vision. In some way, I would be safer in Pakistan, than Ferguson. Whenever one goes to a third world country and returns to America, they have a rude awakening of how much we have and now much others don't. What do I have to offer, coming from a country that's been given more than any people who've ever lived. Still to some, it's as if someone owes us something. I've been asked if I am bringing the freed slaves back here. At this point, it would be a moot point. Businesses, movie theaters, and churches are forced to close, except for drive-through food chains, and liquor markets. In Pakistan, if a person doesn't work, they don't eat.

(Continued on page 6)

If You Have Items of Interest, Contact *The Paper* - asroc873@charter.net

ARTFUL CONSIDERATIONS

by Glynis Mary McManamon, RGS



Robin Shively has graciously passed the “Artful Considerations” column on to me. I will try my best to carry on what she artfully produced for the past several years.

Coming to Ferguson this Spring

The first “Ferguson Arts Festival: A North County Celebration” will take place on Saturday, May 8, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. From 8 – noon, the Ferguson Farmers Market will be the focus, with programming mainly designed for children. From 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. artists will be painting live in various locations in the city on West Florissant Avenue and North and South Florissant Roads. While it will be open to any artists, the Festival extends a special invitation to those local to North County in general and Ferguson in particular. Applications will be posted in late January on Good Shepherd Arts Center’s (GSAC) website and other outlets. Details will be finalized and shared in the February Ferguson Times. The event is being planned assuming that pandemic restrictions will be in place. Since it will be outdoors, that will address one safety concern. GSAC is sponsoring the event; Dr. Jackie Lewis-Harris is the chairperson.

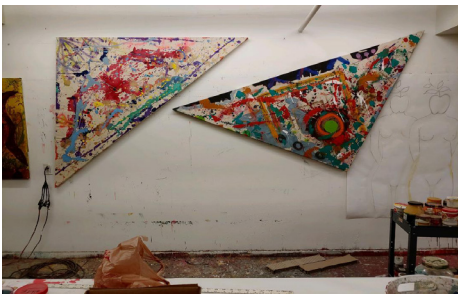
As You Take that Tree Down

Hope you caught “A New Holiday” a Christmas musical written and directed by soul singer Brian Owens and actress Sophia Stephens, which featured an all-Black cast and was filmed in St. Louis, amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. It starred trumpeter and nine-time Grammy Award winner Wynton Marsalis, singer Kennedy Holmes (NBC’s The Voice), actress Sophia Stephens (Broadway’s The Lion King), jazz singer Anita Jackson, and newcomer Riley Adams. The film was aired on Nine Network on Monday, December 21 and Wednesday, December 23 at 7 p.m. But if you did miss it, do not despair, check out Brian Owens Soul YouTube where you will find this and many other treasures.



A New Holiday

GSAC Continues a Virtual Presence



De’Joneiro Jones work in progress

It is hard for all of us to plan around shifting restrictions. GSAC continues to exhibit art on the website: <https://www.goodshepherdarts.org>. December’s artist, De’Joneiro Jones, has been rescheduled to February for Black History Month. He will show his own work. A documentary is underway about Mr. Jones, who has been a collector, an artist himself and a mentor of young artists for some years. The December show was a replay of “Those Who Teach CAN!” from 2018. If you missed it, you can find it in the archives on the website.

January will feature photography of Phillip Deitch, “News from the Front,” images of front-line workers and volunteers from the past year. Mr. Deitch will also share a testimony to Sr. Mary Antona Ebo, a Franciscan Sister of Mary a leader in the civil rights movement. Sr. Ebo was a key figure at the 1965 march in Selma, Alabama. She died November 11, 2017 at the age of 93. At press-time an artist talk with Mr. Deitch had not been finalized but will likely take place in late January.



Phillip Deitch

Resources

The Ferguson Municipal Public Library has been a fantastic arts resource this past year, providing take home craft kits. Ferguson residents can also check out Wi Fi hotspots – this is a resource that makes many other resources accessible.

You can get a lot of good basic art instruction from a man dubbed the “Japanese Bob Ross.” “Watercolor by Shisaki” is on You Tube. This gentleman shares a phenomenal library of demos in basic watercolor technique. His encouraging smile and sign-off of “Happy Painting” make him enjoyable to watch, and his teaching breaks painting familiar objects (an onion, a tree, a landscape). Shisaki-san’s demos are not limited to watercolor: he also teaches pencil techniques and produces amazing results using art supplies from dollar stores.



In the Months Ahead:

- February
 - 14 - Valentines Day
 - 17 - ASH Wednesday
- March
 - 17 - St. Patrick’s Day
- April
 - 4 - EASTER
 - 15 - TAXES DUE
- May
 - 9 - Mothers day
 - 15 - Ferguson Twilight Run

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Understanding Engineering Terminology

PERCUSSION MAINTENANCE - I hit it and it started working

CYCLE POWER TO THE PANEL - Turn it off and on again

HIGH IMPEDANCE AIR GAP - I forgot to plug it in

ORGANIC GROUNDING - I got electrocuted

THERMALLY RECONFIGURED - It melted

KINETIC DISASSEMBLY - It blew up

THERMAL SHOCK - It burned

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Family Food Corner

by Chef Robert B. Cleveland

Hi, I am Chef Robert B. Cleveland Proprietor/Serv Safe Examiner of Cleveland's Cuisine LLC Catering Company in Saint Louis, MO. Welcome to the Family Food Corner! A place you and your family will leave with a hearty story and juicy meal to share!

My passion for cooking started when I was just a little boy sneaking in my Grandma's kitchen, especially around the holidays. I remember she would invite everyone to come over for breakfast to share her food and spread her love. On Christmas Eve I watched as she prepared her famous homemade rolls. Then early Christmas morning she would be preparing what my daughter would say, "a feast!" Like many others in my family I was an unofficial taste tester. That simply means I was sneaking into the pots to taste the delicious food before my Grandma finished cooking. As soon as my Grandma turned her back, I thought I was being slick, ready with my spoon and napkin to sample whatever delightful aromas were brewing in those pots. The funny thing is as I was tipped-toed out of the kitchen, I'd hear her say, "Keep on and I'm going to have you in here with me!" She and I would fall out laughing. But that didn't keep me from striking out again to get a taste, especially the rolls! Finally, one Christmas, she got me. I was in the kitchen cutting onions. My eyes were watering. I heard her laughing as she gave me a wet towel to wipe my eyes. I continued helping my Grandma make sausage gravy for the biscuit's, bacon, grits, rice, eggs, and homemade hash browns. Yeah, we ate good at my Grandma's house. By the time we finished cooking, everyone had arrived at the house. There was so much cheer, laughter and hungry stomachs. Most of all it was experiencing the joy of Momma (Grandma) cooking.

My family is a praying family, so even before meals we say grace and give thanks for our food. Watching everyone dive in, seeing the expressions on their faces, and the warmth in their hearts with every bite they took, I knew I was hooked to become a chef. Honestly, it was not about the food, it was the joy and sense of togetherness that made it all worthwhile. Seeing something you created and the immediate reactions of love and joy, and some would even do a little dance. That's when I knew my dishes hit the right spot and were more than something to fill a physical need. Now in my family your food has to be good or your cooking days will be revoked. Plus, they would let you know if the food were bad because they were not going to eat it, and it would go untouched on the table, to the trash or back with its owner.

Grandma and I would go on to cook family holiday meals for several years, until she got older. I would always say, 'Momma I'm ready. Let me take the reins.' She would laugh and say, "You think you're ready." Finally, I got the call I had been waiting on for years. The day had come. It was an early November morning the phone rung and it was Momma on the other end asking me to cook Christmas breakfast. Again, in my family when Grandma gives you the stamp of approval, it's a badge of honor. Now, I'm pleased I can carry on the tradition.

Today's Recipe: Biscuits (yields 10 portion, 2oz each)

Ingredients:

- 3 cup All-purpose Flour
- 1 tsp Salt
- 3 tsp Sugar
- 3 tsp Baking Powder
- 7 Tbsp Butter
- 1 cup Milk
- 1 Tbsp Butter

1. Sift the dry ingredients.
2. Cut 7 Tbsp's of butter into the dry ingredients until the mixture is crumbly like coarse breadcrumbs.
3. Add the liquid, mix just until combined.
4. Place the dough on a lightly floured bench and fold 3 times.
5. Roll or press the dough about ¾ inch thick, cut about 2 ½ inches.
6. Place biscuits on a parchment lined pan
7. Brush the tops with the reserved Tbsp of melted butter
8. Bake at 425 degrees for about 15 minutes, until a golden-brown color

STLCC-Florissant Valley president to receive Christian Hospital's Drum Major Award

ST. LOUIS (DEC. 17, 2020) – Elizabeth Gassel Perkins, Ed.D., is being recognized by Christian Hospital Foundation at its 4th annual Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration, "Embracing the Dream." The virtual celebration will be held Friday, Jan. 15 from 12-1 p.m. Participants should visit <https://www.christianhospital.org/> for details.



Elizabeth Gassel Perkins, Ed.D

Perkins, campus president and chief academic officer of St. Louis Community at Florissant Valley – as well as Chris Krehmeyer, president and CEO of Beyond Housing; Martha Jane Stewart, community activist; and Keith Williamson, president, Centene Charitable Foundation at Centene Corporation – will receive a 2021 Drum Major Award.

The award is the highest honor Christian Hospital bestows upon unsung heroes who have given their time, talents, treasure and service in the name of justice, equity and equality.

Perkins was taken aback when she learned about the recognition, "I have absolutely no idea what I have done to deserve this very nice honor," she said. "It truly is a privilege to be associated with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. I hope his courage to dream and most importantly act, continues to inspire our students, the community and generations to come."

In 2019, Perkins was honored with North County Churches Uniting for Racial Harmony and Justice's Outstanding Education Award for her active support of NCCU activities and the College's sponsorship of their joint Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration. She chaired the celebration's committee for two years.

Perkins joined STLCC as provost of the Florissant Valley campus in August 2016 and served in that role until the provost title changed to campus president and chief academic officer in January 2019. In addition to her role as campus president, she serves as the administrator for the College's dual credit, dual enrollment and early college partnerships.

While at STLCC, Perkins has led taskforces on developmental education redesign and wait listing options for students, and serves on a variety of committees for the College and campus. She also serves on the board of directors for the Greater North County Chamber of Commerce and as chair for North County Incorporated (her term ends Thursday, Dec. 31).

Her passion and work with developmental education redesign and removing barriers to education is fueled by her commitment to access for all, as these barriers disproportionately impact students of color nationwide. The intention of her work in implementing multiple measures, co-requisition remediation and other delivery models is to create access to education and help students graduate from college.

DRIVERS NEEDED

North County Meals on Wheels urgently needs drivers. If you can spare a couple hours a week, please call 953-6800. Mileage is reimbursable.

Your help can make a difference in someone's life.



Ferguson Community News

Be sure to get up to the recreation office to register or call us at (314) 521-4661.

WE THE PEOPLE

“American people is this: democracy. The right to be heard. To have your vote counted. To choose the leaders of this nation. To govern ourselves,” Mr. Biden will say.

“In America, politicians don’t take power-the people grant it to them. The flame of democracy was lit in this nation a long time ago. And we now know that nothing-not even a pandemic-or an abuse of power- can extinguish that flame.”

- Joe Biden, President-Elect

‘We, the people’ is the beginning statement of the Preamble to the United States Constitution. As I eagerly watched the election returns on Nov. 3, 2020, this is one of the first thoughts that came to my mind. Yet it took several days for the votes to be counted. The people had their right to vote and be counted in the Nov. 3rd election for president of these United States. The election is a process that takes into account each state and each state will conduct the election in a decent and fair order. Sometimes, the results of an election process do not yield the results some people want, but it is the democracy that embodies our nation.

All of us have the right to choose our candidates and democracy encourages us to respect the will of the people.

President-elect Joe Biden stood strong for democracy to prevail for the people. Right now, so many law makers want to abolish the Electoral College for various reasons. What is the point of the Electoral College? Why is it that we don’t elect the president on the popular vote? In reviewing the purpose of the Electoral College, I offer this explanation. The Electoral College was created by the framers of the U.S. Constitution as an alternative to electing the president by the popular vote or by congress. There are currently 538 electors in the Electoral College; 270 votes are needed to win the presidential election. On December 14, 2020, the Electoral College casted their vote for Joe Biden to become the 46th President of the United States of America.

Now, we are ready to embark on a new journey in the mist of the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic. Questions are being asked. Will the president -elect shut down the economy? How will the vaccine be administered to the everyday people like you and I? Is it possible that unity and healing can be embraced in our county again? We must wait patiently for the answers to all of the questions. This new normal requires us to be more tolerant of each other in our homes and communities.

We are looking forward to an election in Ferguson come April 6, 2021. What do you want from the candidates? Do you want the candidates to take power, or do you want to grant power to them upon the election? The choice is yours because we live in a democracy. Are we going to respect the will of the people?

Thank you,
Mayor Ella Jones



COVID-19 Update

Over the next few months, Ferguson Parks and Recreation will be slowly and safely bringing back programs and classes for the community. Be sure to follow us on Facebook at Facebook.com/FergRec or check out our website at www.FergRec.com for the most up-to-date information.

2020 Parks and Recreation Fall Brochure

Ferguson Parks and Recreation’s brochure has gone digital! Due to COVID-19, we will not be mailing copies of our brochure this fall. Be sure to check out our fall 2020 brochure at www.fergrec.com.

Community Center

Memberships

Resident Youth –Yearly \$50
Resident Adult –Yearly \$85
Resident Senior –Yearly \$50
Resident Family – Yearly \$165

Non Resident Youth –Yearly \$120
Non Resident Adult – Yearly \$200
Non Resident Senior –Yearly \$120
Non Resident Family – Yearly \$300

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

Residents must present 2 forms of identification to receive a resident rate.

Special Programming

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. Spring and fall dedication ceremonies 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

Ferguson Community News Page is published monthly and is paid for by the City of Ferguson
City of Ferguson City Council: Ella Jones, Mayor; Linda Lipka, Ward 1; Stephan Garrett, Ward 1; Heather Robinett, Ward 2;
Toni Burrow, Ward 2; Fran Griffin, Ward 3; Byron Fry, Interim Ward 3; Jeff Blume, City Mgr; Public Relations Intern, (314) 521-5229
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Walk Ferguson- 3 Wards, 100 Miles, 365 Days

Come join us as we walk Ferguson over the next 365 days! We will have 2 walking groups each week to help you accomplish your goals. Each walking group will walk approximately 1.5 miles for about 30-45 minutes. Not able to join one of our walking groups, but want to get out and walk? No worries, you can still get out and walk on your own. Be sure to check @FergRec on Facebook every Monday for meeting locations for the week. Want to stay in contact and be the first to know the weekly meeting spots? Visit www.fergrec.com and submit your contact information to be added to our list! Please remember to wear your face mask.

Start: September 30, 2020

End: September 29, 2021

Weekday Walking Group: Wednesday's (ongoing) @ 4:00pm

Weekend Walking Group: Saturday's (ongoing) @9:00am

STLCC-Florissant Valley and NCCU's 2021 Dr. MLK Jr. Celebration

Hear rousing speeches, sing inspirational music and watch as Christian Hospital is honored virtually

ST. LOUIS (Dec. 11, 2020) – St. Louis Community College at Florissant Valley and North County Churches Uniting for Racial Harmony and Justice will host their annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Tuesday, Jan. 19.

The community event – which is from 6-7:30 p.m. – will take on a virtual twist, but it will still include inspiring speeches, celebrate excellence in the community with a formal award presentation and more. Participants should visit STLCC's YouTube Channel to watch the event and stlcc.edu for details.



Rudolph Nickens – diversity, equity, inclusion and sustainability partner at Evolution, which is a coaching, consulting and investment firm – will speak on the celebration's theme, "Intelligence Plus Character, That is the Goal of True Education."

Rudolph Nickens

Nickens is an experienced facilitator, educator and entrepreneur with a strong background in cultural diversity, business management and community development. Previously, he served as director of equal opportunity and diversity for the Missouri Department of Transportation. In keeping with tradition, North St. Louis County students will lead and participate in the celebration. Azariah "Z" Estes, a first-year, general-transfer student at the College, is the celebration's student emcee. Aquita Lowe and Zoe Wallace will both serve as student speakers. Lowe is a second-year, general-transfer student and Wallace is a first-year, general-transfer student at the College. Participants will also hear winning speeches from NCCU's Oratorical Contest and can sing along to an instrumental rendition of James Weldon Johnson's "Lift Every Voice and Sing."

In addition to being inspired by rousing speakers and a musical performance, guests will learn more about why Christian Hospital is being honored with the 2021 Dr. Rance Thomas Excellence in Community Partnership Award.

"Christian Hospital and president Rick Stevens are incredible partners with St. Louis Community College through a diverse and large number of avenues," said Elizabeth Gassel Perkins, Ed.D., campus president and chief academic officer at STLCC-Florissant Valley.

"To begin with, and probably most specifically, Christian Hospital partners with our nursing and health sciences programs to offer valuable training to future healthcare professionals. Beyond the incredible partnership they share with STLCC, they are instrumental in the community and strive to improve the health and welfare of everyone in the region by providing stellar patient care, educational opportunities and participating in outreach activities to all North St. Louis County residents."

The contingency date for the virtual celebration, should the College close due to inclement weather, is Thursday, Jan. 21 on the same time schedule.

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January News and Events at the Ferguson Public Library
For more information, please call the library at 521-4820 or visit us online at ferguson.lib.mo.us

GET THE LATEST INFORMATION BY VISITING US ONLINE!
The COVID-19 pandemic is changing rapidly, and that means our services are changing rapidly too. Please check our website or visit our Facebook page to get the latest information about our services before visiting the library.

Eat Smart, Be Active Virtual Series – Tuesdays at 6 pm
Our series of healthy change programs with the MU Extension continues into the new year! Join us on Zoom as we learn how to stay active, eat a balanced diet, and more. Register online at <https://bit.ly/MUnutrition> or by calling the library.
January 5, January 12, and January 19 at 6 pm

Snowed In Storytime – Saturday, January 16 at 2 pm
Grab your coziest blanket and get snowed in with us at Snowed In Storytime! Join us on Facebook for stories, songs, and more.

January Take Home Craft Kits
Our craft kits are back after a brief holiday break! Take home a new craft kit each week in January.

- **Jan. 11-15 - Perpetual Calendar:** Create a calendar that you can use every year!
- **Jan. 19-22 - Mini Piñata:** Make a small piñata to liven up your home, or fill it up with treats and break it open!
- **Jan. 25-29 - Loom Weaving:** Use a mini loom to learn some basic weaving techniques!


As always, our craft kits are free and are handed out on a first come, first served basis. Pick one up with our curbside service today!

The library will be closed Monday, January 18 for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.



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The Ferguson Computer Corner

by Doug Neely
JANUARY, 2021

Something You Are Not Aware Of, dept. Well, you should be aware of it, and you should be asking questions of everyone about it. We are speaking of the computer break-ins instigated by our good buddy Putin over there in Russia. Break-ins because a lot of computers in a lot of systems are no longer virgins. Am I being crude? You bet I am, because this is far more serious than you have been misled to think. I mean, you have not seen any detrimental effects, have you? No, but you might have your eyes opened up soon. Don't want to think about this? Want to get under the covers and take a nap? Go ahead. But doing that will not fix anything. On the news, they told us that our computers, business, personal, and government have all been breached. And they said it happened in March of 2020.

Some Q & A, dept.

Q. How can we get it out of our puters?

A. You can't. This will likely be something that the gov't plans to silently introduce into the internet thru their servers to carry the fix to your puter. You won't even know it is happening.

Q. What kind of nasty little bug did they give us?

A. I am going to break it down like this. The malware could be the type to set up a nice little corner of your harddrive for itself, but do nothing else until it is activated. Or maybe it will only report back to Putin what we are doing. Possibly it may wreak great havoc upon our infrastructure.

Q. Which of the above 3 do I think is most likely?

A. The first one, where it sets up a little corner for itself, waiting until it is activated.

Q. Why?

A. The 3rd one is a good likelihood, but not now. Timing is everything; when the time is right, the activation will compliment other aspects of the overall attack on us.

Q. What about reporting what we do?

A. That activity could be picked up in a number of ways, and show Russia's hand before they are ready. (packets of data being sent out is a lot more than there should be.

More memory is being used by the system than normal. Processing power should be a lot lower.) The best thing for the enemy to do is to lay low and be quiet until it is activated. I would bet real \$\$\$ that one of these 3 methods was used to find the breach. An outfit like Russia would use hackers who don't like to leave footprints. But there is ALWAYS evidence; it just takes longer to find it when your enemy knows what he is doing.

Q. Does that mean that our guys do NOT know what they are doing?

A. It could, but I seriously doubt it. We have some pretty smart guys on our side; I think every bit as smart as Putin has. Maybe a lot smarter. Hey, parents! When your kid pulls a fast one on you, do you always find out immediately? I'll take that as a NO. I mean, that is not proof that your kid is smarter than you because you will catch them soon enough, right? Of course.

Q. What can we do to lessen the damage/exposure?

A. First off, regardless of all I have said up to now, NOT EVERY computer will be "infected". It stands to reason that some systems, will remain clean. That includes gov't, business, & personal computers. You still need a good AV. Keep it updated, and use it to scan at least monthly, preferably weekly or daily.

Q. What Operating System is most resistant to Russia's attack?

A. I think someone in our gov't knows the answer to that. I can only think it thru with a little logic. I don't know about you, but when I am out shopping, I pay attention to the computers in use at that business, as well as the operating system being used. IN MY EXPERIENCE, the most used OS is (drumroll, please!) WINDOWS 7!!! Not too very long ago, 7 was most used by us normal folk, too. Most gov't computers will be using win 10, but many will still have 7. this is because businesses invest a LOT of \$\$\$ in proprietary software that runs on an older operating system, and they don't want to spend the big bucks to pay for software that runs on 10 when their win 7 puters are working so well.

The gov't is the same way. If their proprietary software is not available for a win 10 version, they will continue to use the old stuff. This is why NASA only recently retired the space shuttle. All the software would only run on the old computers using the old operating system.

Bottom line: my \$\$\$ is on a linux distro. Personally, I pick Ubuntu. You pick what you like, but know that if you pick one of the windows operating systems, your system is MORE at risk than mine is. As a matter of fact, if you were running an Apple system, you would be at greater risk than linux, but less than windows.

ME GO NOW!

We need to pray, so i'm gonna go do that now; too many have suffered, and even passed on, leaving a vacuum in our lives. Just ask JESUS to fill that vacuum! We must ask for help from God to persevere, and He WILL help us. Remember that this vale of tears is only temporary. I'm but a stranger here, heaven is my home! May God bless us all!

IF YOU would like to have some of Doug's FREE puter advice, here's how to get some. Calling him on the phone is usually best. Call in the PM hours, using this number: (314) 521-1789. It would be most conducive if your name and number show on my caller ID. When e-mailing, send your query to fergusoncomputercorner@aol.com BE CERTAIN TO INCLUDE YOUR LOCAL TELEPHONE NUMBER SO HE CAN CONTACT YOU TO DISCUSS YOUR ISSUE, AND PUT THE PHRASE I need puter advice INTO THE SUBJECT LINE OF YOUR MESSAGE. If you would like to know why, just ask! Blessings to you and to yours!



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From Ferguson to Pakistan and back again

(continued from page 1)

If I'm going to call out the crime of slavery in another country, I acknowledge what was once my own country's long history of exploiting migrant workers. And then there is our country's wretched sin of the centuries of the transatlantic African slave trade. At least when the present day brick masters sell a family to another brick yard, the whole family goes along.



In America, slave masters had no problem and no conscience in separating children and parents. England ended the practice of slavery without shedding a drop of blood. In America, over 600,000 northern and southern young men who fought in the bloody Civil War, never got to go home to their girl friends or their fathers farms. And then there are the native peoples, the Indian nations, who trusted the US Government when they gave their word. Every treaty we ever made, we broke.

Yet still, the thing we in the USA have been able to do as individuals or as a people, is to awaken our collective conscious, acknowledge our sin, repent and to consider others. But recently people are becoming polarized by politics and even radicalized. Like a neighbor, who won't take a vulgar sign off his garage, even though his candidate might have won.

As I was growing up, my mother would often quote something Jesus said; "Phillip,"mom would search me with her eyes and say, "to whom much is given, much is expected."





Under The Hood With Robinwood

By Bob McGartland

New Year's Resolution For Your Vehicle

Happy New Year Everyone! With the start of 2021 it is exciting we have a new newspaper that is following the long tradition the Ferguson Times has provided Ferguson and the surrounding communities for so many years. Thank you to Gary Nadeau our new publisher and the other people who have jumped in to bring this new monthly paper to print. And this means you will continue to see my smiling face once a month as the Under the Hood with Robinwood articles will be coming your way. A new year usually gets us thinking about what we can do different this year. We make a list of new year resolutions. Generally, our resolutions have something to do about us personally. Lose weight, stop smoking, read more books, stop yelling at my spouse etc. Here is a way to minimize stress in just one area of your everyday life, your vehicle. Our vehicles are a lot like our refrigerators, we just take for granted they will work..... until they don't. Then the stress begins! May I suggest making this New Year's resolution; Get my oil change done regularly and on time. Keeping your vehicle in top running condition in 2021 can be very simple, have regular oil service performed on your vehicle by an automotive professional. Here is why.....

Even though vehicle manufacturers recommend oil change intervals based on mileage, we think it is important to take into consideration your driving habits. Do you drive mainly in the city with lots of starts and stops, on the highway with longer trips, or a combination of the two? Is your vehicle important to your work? Depending on the type of driving you do, we will recommend an interval that makes sense for you. Longer intervals between oil changes may seem like they save money, but do they really? During your oil change service Robinwood will inspect important areas of your vehicle and catch problems before they become more serious. Here are some examples of areas we inspect during oil service:

1) Fluid levels = Coolant, transmission, power steering, and brake fluids are important to keep an eye on for their condition and to make sure they are at proper levels.

2) Air Filter = Your air filter controls the flow of air into your engine. Proper air flow also means maximum mileage efficiency. We can inspect your air filter at every oil change interval.

3) Tire Inflation and Condition = Tires can lose air pressure for many reasons. In the winter, with colder temps, many times tires can experience a "bead leak". It is an easy repair if caught before you damage your tire by driving on it while under inflated. Your only contact with the road is the surface of your tires ...your safety and handling are dependent on good tires. We will keep you informed about the condition of your tires!

4) Lights & Turn Signals = might seem simple, but you would not believe how many vehicles come in and have headlights burned out and/or brake lights and turn signals that are not working. This is another area we can check during your regular scheduled oil service.

5) Battery Condition = Batteries have a life expectancy and should be tested regularly to prevent the inconvenience of an unexpected failure.

6) Wiper Blades = Replacing wiper blades at least once per year is recommended. Snow & ice are especially hard on your wipers so keeping an eye on them during the winter months is important.

7) Brakes = Many oil changes also include a tire rotation. When the tires are off it is simple to check the condition of your brakes.

Believe it or not, maintenance and safety inspections when done by trained professional technicians are not designed to make you spend money. Inspections are intended to inform you of the current condition of the vehicle and if potential issues are on the horizon. Maintained vehicles saves the customer money. Knowledge is power. An informed customer is in control of the repair process. At Robinwood Automotive our slogan is "Automotive Repair by People Who Care", and our mission is ensuring a safe and reliable vehicle for our customers.

Start 2021 by resolving to have regular oil changes & preventive maintenance inspections performed on your vehicle.... you will be glad you did. Visit us online at robinwoodauto.com. for your next appointment.

Financial Focus

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

We've done it before – we'll do it again!

With each New Year comes hope, 2021 won't be any different. Following a year like 2020 economic recovery will be a priority. Today both people and politicians are so divided it breeds uncertainty in just how much progress we can make. We've seen the difficulty getting a stimulus passed, so rebuilding the economy needs cooperation and putting the American people first. In fact, we've done it before after the Pandemic in 1917, so maybe a bit of history might help.

We've heard comparisons of COVID-19 to the Spanish Flu of 1917. In many of the articles I've read it is often pointed out that cities that took action quickly to contain the flu had less economic disruptions and recovered more quickly. St. Louis was one of those offered as an example of how to react. Like today though there were many places that took little to no action and there were many disagreements about the need to shut down business for a period. Many people complain about the economic hardships caused by shutting things down. And for others the death toll reinforces the need to try to eliminate risks. Even though the Flu Epidemic of 1917 eventually went away without finding a vaccine or cure, the cost in human lives was tremendous. It is also noteworthy that the Spanish Flu took about three years to run its course. Today we have the vaccine and it brings hope of re-opening businesses and returning to some sense of normalcy.

Even with a vaccine, it will take time to vaccinate enough to eliminate the risk, so continuing forms of prevention such as masks and social distancing will be crucial to our economic recovery. If everyone would abide by such rules when in public, perhaps closing businesses wouldn't be necessary. As divided our country is right now, that doesn't seem likely. While reading about the earlier pandemic, I found that they also had disruptions and uncertainties to deal with. WWI ended during the pandemic, women got the vote and there was a labor revolution going on. Striking unions for higher wages led to violence with letter bombs. Meanwhile other countries throughout the world were also dealing with challenges. In Russia the Monarch was overthrown leaving government in a shambles ripe for a revolution. Most of Europe was dealing with huge debts, as they worked to recover from the global pandemic.

By 1923, we had entered the Roaring Twenties a period of prosperity. Getting there was helped by the introduction of new technologies like the use of electricity and the automobile. These spurred on growth in other areas of the economy. Producing rubber, steel and construction took off to supply the new products created. Cars meant people could travel bringing about the concept of motels, gas stations and restaurants. Communications took off as radio provided new entertainment and the ability to connect the nation earlier to news and events.

Today's world is very different, yet technological advancements continue to amaze and spur new products and services we never dreamed possible. Communicating is perhaps the biggest change we've seen in this century. Without this technology virtual learning and working from home would not be possible. John Maynard Keyes, an economist from the early twentieth century had written about new technology being a key to ending depressions. Let's keep that in mind as we venture into an economic recovery. We have hope for our government leadership, to work together and improve the lives of all Americans. We've done it before and we'll do it again. If you have any questions or comments please contact me at cleav73@sbcglobal.net.

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