

Ferguson

NEIGHBORHOOD

2021 NEWS 2021



Serving Ferguson and Surrounding Communities since 2021



June is for Fathers and Flags

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

FLAG DAY JUNE 14

As Father's day rolls around I think of all the things my father did for us. I was blessed with a father that although strict, was fair. Oh, when I was a teen I didn't think the way I do now, but how does the song go? "I wish that I knew what I know now when I was younger."

In the United States, Flag Day is celebrated on June 14. It commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States on June 14, 1777, by resolution of the Second Continental Congress.

It wouldn't have been a family vacation if something didn't happen to dad. One of my earliest memories of my dad was sitting in the backseat of a 1947 Chevy while my father received a ticket. It was in that same '47 that dad got us stuck on a gravel bar somewhere down on the Black river. We must have waited hours until a farmer came by and towed us out.

The Flag Resolution, passed on June 14, 1777, stated: "Resolved, That the flag of the thirteen United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation."

Dad had many automobiles after the '47. He had a 1953 Ford (I think the only Ford he ever owned). Then, his pride and joy at the time: a 1956 Oldsmobile w/Jetaway hydro-matic transmission. We drove it out to California where dad took us through mountain passes that were closed due to snow and got us lost on some dirt roads where we could see the highway we were supposed to be on but couldn't figure out how to get to it. On that trip, Dad and his brother slept on the ground outside the car in Yosemite. When a bear made its way into camp, the first thing dad did was grab a camera and chase the bear in the dark. Somewhere we have a photo of two eyes shining in the dark. That was dad.

In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation that officially established June 14 as Flag Day; on August 3, 1949, National Flag Day was established by an Act of Congress.

Once we went camping and got a flat tire. While dad was jacking up the car, the lug wrench slipped out of the jack and it flew into his cheekbone just below his eye. As my mother did not drive, dad had to finish changing the tire and then drive to town to find a doctor all the time trying control the bleeding. The only doctor available was pretty old and his hands shook while trying to stitch up dad.

Flag Day is not an official federal holiday. Title 36 of the United States Code, Subtitle I, Part A, CHAPTER 1, § 110 is the official statute on Flag Day; however, it is at the president's discretion to officially proclaim the observance.

Dad was great. He took us exploring caves (where he split his head open on a stalag-tight - more stitches). Then while re-filling the Coleman stove white gas spewed on him forcing him to jump naked into the river to wash off. "Mommy, there's a naked man in the river". That's my dad.

On one camping trip, his keys got locked in the trunk. All the other men with us made him sit down while they tore the back seat out of his '65 Mustang.

After my mother passed, dad and I would Skype every night around martini time. Dad passed way a little over four years ago and I still miss those martini talks.

I was truly blessed.



June News and Events at the Ferguson Public Library
For more information, please call the library at 314-521-4820 or visit us online at ferguson.lib.mo.us

Have you taken the challenge to read this summer?

The 2021 Tails and Tales Summer Reading Challenge is going on now! Give us a call or visit our website at ferguson.lib.mo.us to learn more.



Dungeons and Dragons Tuesday, June 8 at 6 pm

Join us on Zoom as we take on monsters and myths with magic, skill, and a whole lot of dice! Ages 12 and up are welcome. Register at bit.ly/31jptKW to get the Zoom link.

On the Farm Storytime Saturday, June 19 at 2 pm

Join us on Facebook as we head to the farm with stories and songs about life on the farm! Drive your tractor over to facebook.com/fergusonlibrary to join the fun.

NEW! OUTDOOR IN-PERSON EVENTS!

Fishing for Beginners Friday, June 11 at 4 pm


Join us and the Missouri Department of Conservation at January-Wabash Park as we learn how to fish! All supplies will be provided. All ages welcome. **Registration required.** To register, please call the library or visit <https://bit.ly/fmplfishing>

Mural Making Saturday, June 26 at 12 pm

Learn how to make a mural from start to finish in the library parking lot with us and Freedom Arts! Dress to get messy. Ages 9 and up. **Registration required.** To register, please call the library or visit <http://bit.ly/fmplmural>

JUNE CRAFT KITS

| | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|---|
| June 1-5 Mystery Animal Habitat | June 7-12 Paper Puppets | June 14-19 Decoupage Magnets | June 21-26 Bubble Art | June 28-July 3 Sunpaper Photo Art |
|---|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|---|



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



Ferguson Fire Department Springtime Fire Safety Tips

Spring is here! With the arrival of spring come blue skies, blooming flowers and spring cleaning. This is the perfect time for a refresher on fire safety tips that should be followed not only this time of year but year-round. Keeping fire safety in mind when doing things around the house, like cleaning dryer's lint filter after each load of laundry, will help prevent fires.

Important spring cleaning home fire safety tips from the NFPA:

Inside the Home:

- Check and clean your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors
- Check your fire extinguishers
- Check for overloaded or damaged extension cords
- Clean your dryer's lint filter before or after each load of laundry. Remove lint that has collected around the drum.
- Keep your stovetop clean and keep anything that can catch fire — oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains — away from your burners
- Prepare for storm related outages (make sure your flashlights and portable radios have batteries and that other supplies, such as bottled water, are stocked and available)
- Practice exit drills with your family so everyone knows what to do in case of an emergency
- Properly store household chemicals and never mix cleaning agents

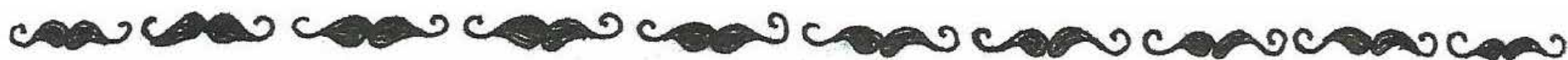
Outside and Around the Yard:

- Make sure your address numbers are up and visible from the street
- Clean up yard debris. Cut back dead limbs and grasses
- Maintain a clear 'fire zone' of 10' around structures. Clean up leaves and debris and consider using stone or non-combustible mulches
- Check outdoor electrical outlets and other electrical appliances
- Get your grill cleaned and serviced. Check all propane tanks and lines for leaks and damage
- Keep 100' of garden hose with an attached nozzle connected and ready for use

In the Garage or Shed:

- Clean up and properly store paints, pool and yard chemicals
- Check fuels containers for leaks and make sure they are properly stored
- Have all power equipment cleaned, serviced and readied for use

For more fire safety tips, visit www.nfpa.org/safetytips



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Trustees of the Ferguson Municipal Public Library District will hold a hearing to discuss the budget and adoption of the same for the fiscal year 2021-2022. The hearing will be held at 35 N. Florissant Rd., Ferguson, Missouri, in the Library Auditorium on June 28, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. All interested persons may appear and be heard at the meeting.



June Celebration Shout-outs

- 1st - Happy Birthday John Burgoon
- 9th - Happy Birthday Kathy Weyrauch
- 10th - Happy 11th Birthday James Nadeau
- 13th - Happy Birthday Amy Moore

Email Shout-outs to savoystl@yahoo.com - deadline is the 15th of each month

Sorry to announce we have no crossword this issue.

FERGUSON FACTS Did you know?

The "Town Talk" newspaper became an institution guaranteed to provoke controversy. Started in 1922 by Carl Jeske with a borrowed \$150, the paper championed civic causes and kept folks informed. Mr. Jeske, paper editor, was deputy marshal, complete with gun, city councilman, and head of the volunteer fire department. He never hesitated to speak his mind even when threatened for condemning a railroad guard who beat a high school boy. He was proudest of the paper's opposition to Ku Klux Klan activity in the area. The "Town Talk" also campaigned for paving Florissant Road and sidewalks, and funds for a community hall.

Looking Forward

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| June | July |
| 6 - D-Day 1944 | 4 - Independence Day |
| 14 - Flag Day | 11 - Marine Corps Creation Day |
| 20 - Fathers Day | August |
| 20 - Summer Solstice | 1 Girlfriend Day |
| | September |
| | 6 Labor Day |

The Ferguson News Group may be reached

text/voice: 314 249-6323
 email: asroc873@charter.net
 Like us on Facebook @fergusonneighborhoodnews
 Twitter - @FergNeighNews
 Instagram - fergusonneighborhoodnews

This paper is made possible through volunteers and advertisers

Advertise with the paper

Copy for ads for the paper must be received by the 15th of the month for inclusion in the following month's paper.
 Please send all ads to Tony: savoystl@yahoo.com

Volunteer with the paper

- Info Gathering
- City Meetings - attend and summarize City Council Meetings
- Other Meetings - assure all city-wide events summaries gathered
- Neighborhood groups
- Diversity Meetings
- Business Spotlight

Donate to the paper

Give a congratulatory shout out for only \$5

ARTFUL CONSIDERATIONS

by Glynis Mary McManamon, RGS

Ferguson Children's Art Festival

It was cold out, but the art was hot! Beautiful children's art from pre-school through 10th grade was on display on Saturday, May 8. Volunteers worked with children to make Mothers' Day cards, and Good Shepherd Arts Center distributed more than seventy art project kits and several sketchbook and pen sets to teenagers. The booklet featuring great art is available at the Ferguson Farmers Market for a suggested donation of \$5 as long as supplies last.



Art at the Market and Artists at the Market

Another great reason to come to the Ferguson Farmers Market: GSAC is sponsoring a booth at the market for local artists and craftspeople to share about their work, possibly demonstrate their creative process and offer items for sale.

In May artists/craftspeople included: Bridigitte Atkins of Phancy Fingers & Feet Boutique with original jewelry, Friends of Taiwan STL and Denise Magditch who transfers her humorous dinosaur cartoons onto t-shirts. June 19 Kalika Groaning, oil painter, will be featured.

Art at the Market – artmaking with children – will resume after a COVID hiatus. We have some new volunteers with fresh ideas. Materials are provided. There is no fee for children to participate, although donations are always welcome.

Juneteenth at Earthdance

Come to the Juneteenth (Emancipation Day) Celebration at EarthDance Organic Farm School, at 233 S. Dade Saturday, June 19, from 2 - 6 p.m. EarthDance will be “Celebrating Black Entrepreneurship” in this first annual event, featuring 12oh7eats, a local, black-owned, woman-owned and operated food business in North County. Guests are invited to support 12oh7eat’s crowdfunding campaign for opening a brick-and-mortar location.

The event is being co-hosted by Ferguson Human Rights Commission, Good Shepherd Arts Center and PROUD (People Reaching Out for Unity and Diversity). It will include live music, food and arts/crafts vendors, African dance and storytelling.

Always a Great Resource: Ferguson Public Library

In addition to continuing to distribute craft kits, the Ferguson Library will host Freedom Arts and Education Center on Saturday, June 26 at 12 p.m. to teach mural making. Participants will collaborate to come up with a theme, then learn how to create their mural on plywood panels using a grid system. The mural will then be displayed at the library. This program is for ages 9 and up, and will take place in person, outdoors. Registration is required: people can register by either calling the library at 314-521-4820 or online at bit.ly/fmplmural.

June Artist online at www.goodshepherdarts.org

Valerie Hosna-Davis sees a spiritual message in water lilies and celebrates this in photography. Water lilies underscore the transformative truths of Valerie’s Christian faith: “We are all like water lilies in the sense that we all live in very adverse conditions. These amazing flowers though rise above them, because they focus on reaching their life-source which is the sun and by doing so, they bloom into their fullest potential.”

Have an artist you want to see featured?

GSAC is looking for artists to occupy a booth at the Ferguson Farmers Market and also for online exhibits while we seek a place to reopen live. Have them contact us at info@goodshepherdarts.org. There is no fee for either opportunity.

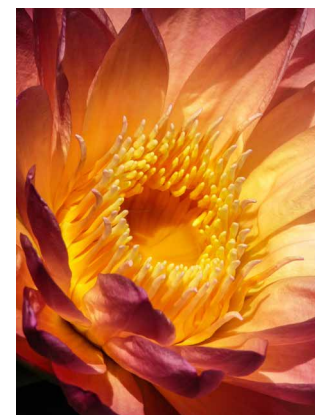
North County Writing & Arts Network (NoCoWAN)

NoCoWan is for all creative spirits in North St. Louis County who are interested in collaborating with other local writers and artists. Invited are those who are writing or have written manuscripts and want to discuss the writing and/or publishing process. NoCoWan also welcomes visual artists, performing artists, healing/therapeutic artists and practitioners,

folk artists, etc., who would like to share and discuss their work. All skill levels and genres are welcome.

They are listed on MeetUp at <https://www.meetup.com/North-County-Writing-Arts/> and have a Facebook page “North County Writing & Arts Network.” NoCoWan is currently holding meetings online via Zoom on the third Saturday of the month from 1 – 2:30 p.m. With the lifting of the mask mandate and other pandemic restrictions, they will resume face-to-face meetings in the near future.

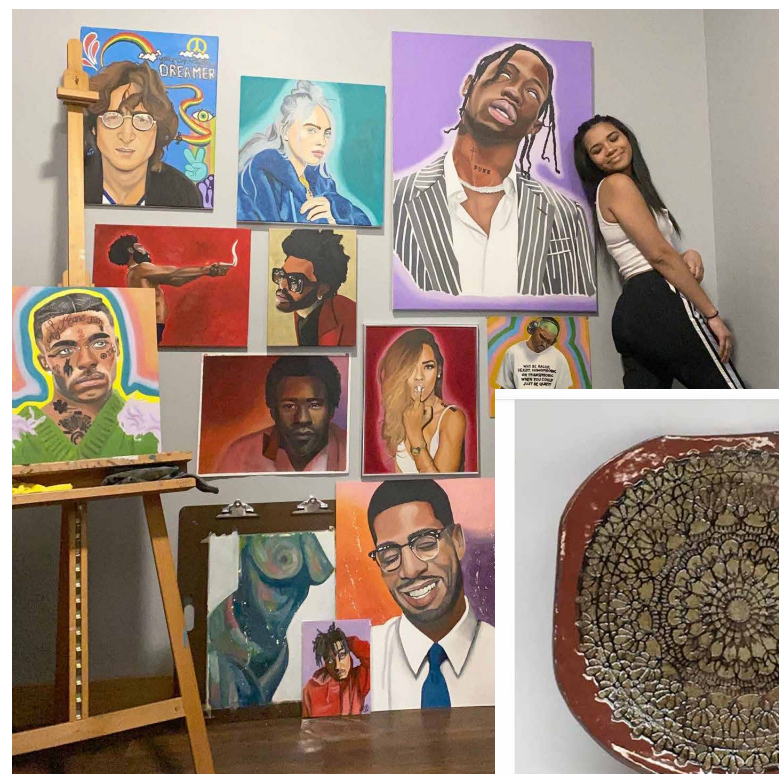
As weather gets warmer, remember Jeske Sculpture Park Summer is a perfect time to take a walk on the art side in Jeske Sculpture Park, one of Ferguson’s great secrets.



Valerie Hosna-Davis
photo water lily



Bridigitte Atkins original jewelry



Oil Painter Kalika Groaning



Denise Magditch dinosaur tee



Showay Chang ceramics



Photo by Ogata

Ferguson native Keyon Harrold named First ever Creative Advisor of JazzSTL

As a patron of JazzSTL, I am pleased and sometimes surprised by the emails I receive from them. A week or so ago an email came in that piqued my interest. It took a while but I finally received permission to include this excerpt from my email along with the photo.

“We are thrilled to announce renowned trumpeter Keyon Harrold as our first-ever Creative Advisor!”

“Not only is Keyon a well-known artist in his own right, but he is the ultimate collaborator, arts advocate, social activist, and supporter of jazz staying strong in the roots of the St. Louis community. Keyon is a Ferguson, MO, native whose passion for music is built on its ability to bring people together. He will be an amazing fit for JSL as we work to raise the profile of St. Louis as a center for great jazz music.”

“This three-year position, made possible thanks to support from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, is intended to utilize the talents and connections of a nationally-known artist who would work with our staff and the St. Louis community to create Jazz St. Louis’ first solo commission of a jazz piece representing the art, artists, and people of the St. Louis region. We intend to premiere that commission at the Ferring Jazz Bistro in Spring 2024.”

Gene Dobbs Bradford
President and CEO, Jazz St. Louis

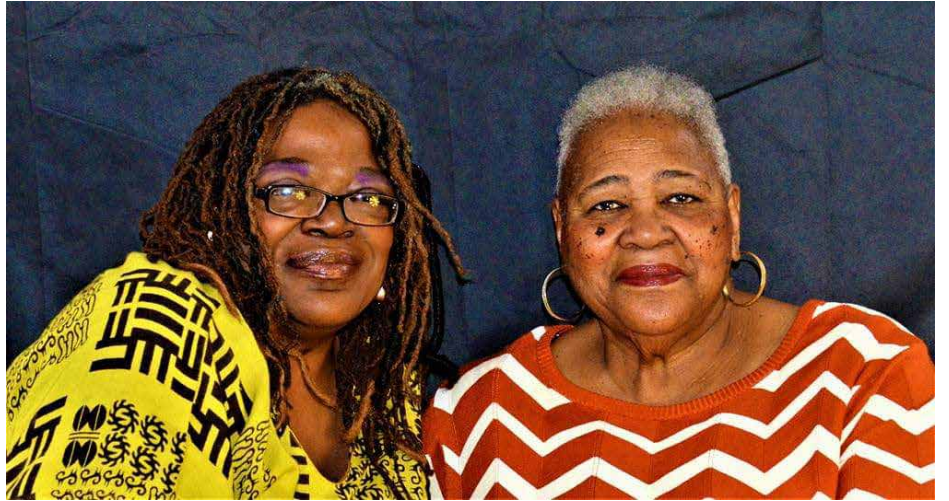
Watson Works to Keep a Promise

When Annsara Watson graduated from St. Louis Community College last month with an associate degree in general transfer studies, she came one step closer to keeping a promise.

“It feels amazing to know that I am at the first completion step in my goals,” said the 52-year-old nontraditional student. “It only pushes me to work harder to fulfill the rest of the promise.”

Although she has tried to earn her associate degree since the late 1980s, Watson always came up short until recently.

In fall 2019, Watson made a promise to her mother, Karen Jones, 74, a colon-cancer survivor, that before she draws her last breath, she will have her daughter’s associate and bachelor’s degrees.



Annsara Watson shares a moment with her mother, Karen Jones.

Working to keep this promise has driven Watson to achieve academically and shine as a leader at St. Louis Community College at Florissant Valley.

A retired licensed practical nurse, Watson has been on the dean’s list since she enrolled in spring 2020. She boasts a 3.6 GPA, is a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and a representative for the Student Government Association. She also owns a multimedia business, Dominating Productionz, LLC. (<https://www.facebook.com/DominatingProductionz2013/>)

What is even more impressive is the fact that Watson has achieved such success despite being diagnosed with cervical cancer in February 2008.

“Nursing is my passion. I had originally gone to college to become a doctor, but I’m so happy that I chose this field instead,” Watson said. “I believe that everyone has a calling and mine was nursing.”

When Watson became ill with her first blood clot to the lungs, she was unable to do the job that she loved so much. “My mind was still willing, but my body could no longer handle the stressors of the field,” Watson said.

Earning an associate degree is a steppingstone to Watson obtaining her bachelor’s degree in business administration and making good on her promise.

Karen Jones is glad her daughter is working to better herself.

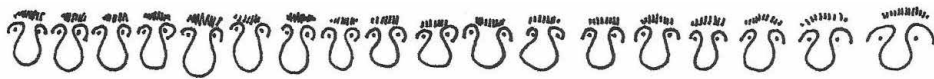
“She did promise me that, but I am not holding her to that. I’m just going along with the flow. What she does, she does for herself, and it won’t be for me ... it will be for her,” Jones said. “She adheres to that because it makes her push herself more, but I’m not holding her to that with a yardstick. I’m not pushing her, because I may take my last breath in the next five minutes.”

Jones said that if she takes her last breath before Watson reaches her goal, she doesn’t want her daughter to think she has failed.

“If I do, I want her to continue to do the things she wants to do before she leaves this Earth,” Jones said. “I’m proud of her. She has been through a lot of things that have set her back. She has been very ill, but she has been determined to go back to school.”

When Watson graduated from high school, Jones did not think her daughter really applied herself.

“She met this boy and had a son. She got her LPN, but now she wants to get her degree,” Jones said. “She doesn’t have to impress me and get a degree for me to love her more, but I am proud she is doing so well. I’m just amazed at the things she has accomplished and how good her grades are. I am in awe at how well she is doing.”



FERGUSON LIONS HALL RENTAL
 49 North Clark • 314-226-4077
 Picture your Baby Shower, Wedding Shower, Wedding Reception, Graduation Party, Family Gathering, or Other Special Occasions in this spacious hall and large parking area. Holds a maximum of 75 people.
 All Proceeds Support Ferguson
 Call 314-226-4077 for reservations and more details.

Hey there Ferguson!
 We’re Keith & Shannon Howard, a husband-and-wife real estate team specializing in vintage houses, 1980s & earlier. We match unique homes with unique people. We’re also North County natives, experts in local history & architecture, and former owners of a Ferguson Century Home. If you’re buying or selling...how can we help you?
 314-359-5927 • 314-786-3657
 HOWARDTEAMSTL@GMAIL.COM **MORE** MASTERS OF REAL ESTATE
GREAT NEW LISTINGS COMING SOON.....WITH ACREAGE!

Look What We Can Do!
LM CONTRACTING SERVICE
 CALL LARRY 314.327.3981

- Install Seamless Gutters
- “We provide leaf guard protection at a fraction of the price of other companies”
- Wash Away Dirt and Mold From Vinyl Siding

Let me give you a free professional quote. See how really nice your house can look.

The Best of Ferguson

by Teyuna T. Darris, M.A.



Shavanna Spratt--- A Voice for Change

For this month’s issue of “The Best of Ferguson”, I had the honor to interview a budding podcaster, passionate Doula*, and dedicated mother--- Shavanna Spratt.

Shavanna Spratt moved to Ferguson in 2011 after living in nearby Jennings so that she could be closer to her family. She is a graduate of North County Technical High School, and for over ten years, has worked in various aspects of the healthcare field. Along the way, Shavanna studied medical billing and coding/administrative assistance while in college, and is now a certified Doula, and the owner of Da Hood Doula, LLC. I asked Shavanna to explain why she decided to work as a Doula. She replied, “Because of my own traumatic birthing experience, and to help improve Black maternal healthcare. The Black maternal mortality rate is extremely high in the United States and, here, in Missouri.”



In addition to her work as a Doula, Shavanna is a budding and blossoming podcaster who combines her media savvy, entrepreneurial spirit, and her voice for positive change throughout the Greater St. Louis Region, into a project that she started as a student in the MU Extension’s Neighborhood Leadership Academy (NLA). In December 2020, Shavanna launched Da Hood Talks Podcast, which is growing in popularity, and

has even caught the attention of various local media outlets, and diverse communities through the Region.

I asked Ms. Spratt to tell me what inspired her to launch the podcast. She replied, “I was in the NLA class. Da Hood Talks Podcast was my final project for the class. I just wanted to give people a space where they could be heard, and for others to hear a perspective outside of their own.” On this show, Shavanna has conversations with residents and community leaders, business owners, entrepreneurs and community organizations from around the Greater St. Louis Area. Topics have included mental health, politics and racism. This is a great accomplishment for someone who considers herself to be shy, and reluctant to talk to strangers. But she shares that since she launched Da Hood Talks Podcast, “Now, I find myself talking to strangers more often about community and racial issues”.

In her free time, Shavanna enjoys watching movies and television shows like The Masked Singer. She also enjoys listening to R&B, Soul and Blues music. And, she loves to laugh. She shared, “I definitely believe that laughter is the best medicine.” And, as one who loves to laugh, Shavanna enjoys spending time at comedy clubs and shows. “I’m also working on making gardening a hobby, but I’m not good at it yet. I love learning new things, so I find myself taking different courses that help me to develop different skills.”

I asked Shavanna, “What are your dreams and aspirations?” She replied, “I hope to impact my community in a positive way. I hope to educate and help others by sharing my own story and experiences...I dream of living long enough to see my girls grow into beautiful young women where their dreams and/or possibilities aren’t limited, and the color of their skin can’t affect their outcomes.”

I also asked Shavanna (a mother of two little girls), “What are your greatest accomplishments?” She shared, “Becoming a mother is one of

my biggest accomplishments. I always wanted to be a mother and deep-down inside, I always knew I would be one.”

Shavanna also proudly shared that Da Hood Talks Podcast “is another major accomplishment. My biggest fear is public speaking, although it doesn’t sound like that on the show. I worry a lot about speaking in the right tone, saying the right words, pronunciation, and being understood.” Shavanna explained that, in the past, these things made her, and others she knows in her community, feel inadequate. She explained, “I feel that this stops a lot of people, but I hope by doing this podcast, I can change that...and others who may feel the same as I did will feel that they have a place to come and speak without judgement and speak up, because their voices matter, too.”



In February 2021, Shavanna was elected to serve as a board member of the MU Extension Council of St. Louis County. She’s also a 2020 graduate of the MU Extension’s Neighborhood Leadership Fellows (NLF) and Neighborhood Leadership Academy (NLA). Shavanna also advocates for black infants’ healthcare as an active member of the Flourish Community Leaders Cabinet. And, in 2021, she

was appointed by the Mayor of Ferguson to serve as a member of the Ferguson Human Rights Commission.

I closed our interview with my favorite question, “What makes you awesome?” She replied, “My authenticity. My ability to empathize with others. And, my passion to help others.” These are excellent qualities for a person who uses her voice for change.

*A Doula provides physical, emotional and informational support to mothers before, during, and a short time after childbirth.

About the Author

Teyuna Darris grew up in Ferguson, and works as a public school teacher and academic tutor. She is also a PhD student at Liberty University and enjoys reading, writing and narrating poetry and prose.

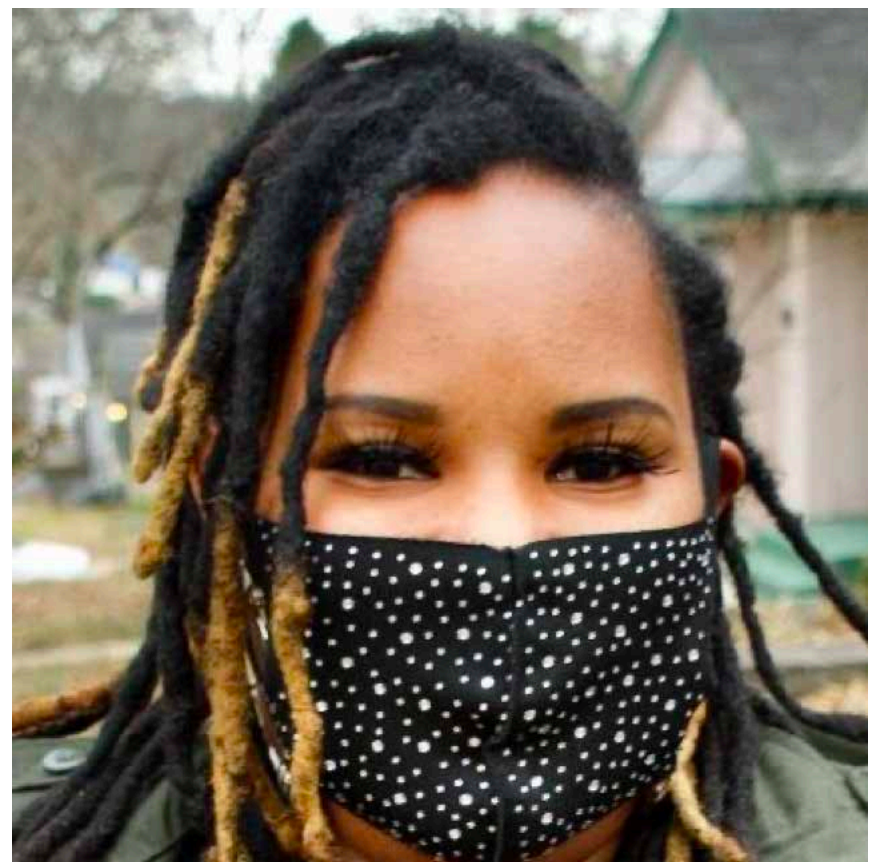


Photo Credit: Photo by Wiley Price / St. Louis American / December 2020

Which REALTOR really knows your neighborhood?
The One That Lives There!
ELAINE MARSDEN

314 446 3670 office
 314 578 4010 cell
 emarsden@cbphomes.com

COLDWELL BANKER
 PREMIER GROUP

Ferguson City Hall Information

Advanced Services of the Ferguson Fire Department

by John Hampton, Fire Chief – Ferguson Fire Department

I do not know who would not want the best medical care you can have for a love one or yourself. I'm an advocate for the fire department personnel to be as highly trained as possible. I have always thought that I would do the residents of Ferguson an injustice if I could not provide the best care possible. I try to treat people just like what I would expect. If a family member of mine was in a medical emergency, especially one that is life threatening, I would expect the best care possible.

The fire service has changed in the last 25 years. The Ferguson Fire Department has always been well trained and will continue that tradition by becoming an Advanced Life Support Department (ALS) unless the city says otherwise. The ALS is the new standard in the fire service.

The following are just a few examples of why we need to become an Advanced Life Support Department:

- Vaccines
- Medicine delivered during child birth
- Meds delivered during Cardiac Arrest
- Meds delivered during Respiratory Arrest
- Overdose meds
- Pain meds for trauma point, e.g., if a person including your own police officer and firefighters were to be shot or stabbed or any other life-threatening trauma from vehicle accidents or falls.
- Delivery of an IV which is vital during heat exhaustion or any type of medical emergency.
- During house fires, if we have a rescue there's use of a kit called Cyano kit. It is an amazing kit, which can only be delivered by a medic and used for a person that is unconscious from smoke inhalation.

There are so many advantages of becoming an ALS Department. I could go on for a very long time. In the next three years, if we do not become an ALS Department, we would be the only fire department in St. Louis County that would only be a BLS Department. It is a transition from Basic Life Support (BLS) to Advanced Life Support (ALS) and it is not done overnight. We currently have 7-8 medics now.

I will be happy to explain to council the difference of ALS and BLS and why we are changing to ALS.

We look at everyone in our city as family. Providing the best services possible is how the fire department should serve our family. The best we can deliver is something everyone should expect in life and death situations. Twenty to thirty years ago, the Basic Life Support Firefighter was the standard. Today the standard is the Advanced Life Support Firefighter medics is the standard. We are on scenes before ambulances, most of the times. During busy times we may be on the scene ten minutes or longer before an ambulance can get there.

When it comes to transitioning from a BLS Department to an ALS Department there is no argument. The ALS Department is definitely the direction we should be going in the future.

FERGUSON EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER / BUSINESS RELIEF

The City of Ferguson has created an Emergency Operations Center portal on its website. Here, you will find information related to the COVID-19, helpful resources and links to government agencies as well as the city's responses and adjustments to operations. Visit <http://fergusoncity.com/661/Emergency-Operations-Center> for more information.

LOOKING FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION OF HOW THE CORONAVIRUS IMPACTS YOU?

City of Ferguson..... <http://fergusoncity.com/661/Emergency-Operations-Center>

Center for Disease Control and Prevention..... cdc.gov/covid19

Missouri Health and Human Services..... <https://health.mo.gov/>

St. Louis County..... www.stlcorona.com

Ferguson-Florissant School District..... www.fergflor.org

HOW DO YOU GET YOUR FERGUSON CITY NEWS?

LIKE OUR FACEBOOK PAGES: City of Ferguson, MO; Ferguson Police Department; Ferguson Fire Department; Ferguson Parks & Recreation; Ferguson Operation "EOC"



VIEW UPDATES ON CHARTER CHANNEL 993



For Council meeting videos subscribe to "Ferguson Mo GOVT TV"



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 also submit a request for records using the Records 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

COUNCIL MEETINGS - TUESDAY, June 8th & 22nd

Council meetings are held in City Hall Council Chambers, however, due to the recent State of Emergency this meeting may be held virtually (RSMO 610.015); via Zoom Conference. Visit the website calendar or agenda center for instructions on how to access the Council meeting and/or how to address the City Council during the meeting. A copy of the recording will also be made accessible via the City's Website after the meeting. Feel free to contact the office of the City Clerk if you have any questions.

BIDS/REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The City of Ferguson often requests sealed bids or requests or proposals for a number of projects and services and we would like to use local vendors. These requests are listed on the city's website. Articles may also be placed in various publications; Countian, Post-Dispatch, St. Louis American. If you would like to be added to a mailing list to be made aware of a request related to your operations, please contact the City Clerk's Office or forward your contact information to 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, Senior Commission 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.

FERGUSON ADVENTURE CAMP

Join us all summer long for our action-packed traditional summer camp experience where kids will laugh, explore, and create memories and friendships that will last a lifetime! Campers will experience with weekly themes, crafts, games, swimming at Splash at Wabash, field trips and more!

Main Camp programming runs 8:30am - 4:30pm
Open Door runs 7:00am - 8:30am and 4:30pm - 6:00pm

7:00am - 6:00pm Ferguson Community Center
1050 Smith Ave
Ferguson, MO 63135

Weekly Fees: \$80/Camper (Ages 5 to 12)
(\$10 Discount for Ferguson Community Center Annual Members)

Registration Opens March 31st
www.FergRec.com (314) 521-4661

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| June 7 - June 11: | Summer Safari Field Trip - St. Louis Zoo |
| June 14 - June 18: | SUPERHEROES Field Trip - Magic House |
| June 21 - June 25: | Exploration Field Trip - Science Center |
| June 28 - July 2: | Treasure Island Field Trip - Myseum |
| July 6 - July 9: | Fear Factor Special Guest - Show Me Snakes |
| July 12 - July 16: | Moovin' and Groovin' Field Trip - Roller Skating |
| July 19 - July 23: | Hawaiian HulaBalloo Field Trip - North Pointe Aquatic Center |
| July 26 - July 30: | Wacky Week Special Guest - Babaloo |
| Aug. 2 - Aug. 6: | Summer Olympics Field Trip - Rockin Jump |
| Aug. 9 - Aug. 13: | ENDLESS SUMMER Special Events - End of Camp Party |

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; Phedra Nelson, Ward 1; Heather Robinett, Ward 2;

Toni Burrow, Ward 2; Fran Griffin, Ward 3; Naquittia Noah Ward 3; Jeff Blume, 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

Ferguson City Hall Information



| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|------------|------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| | Open to Everyone | | | | | Members & Residents Only | |
| Adult Swim | 12pm - 1pm | 12pm - 1pm | 12pm - 1pm | 12pm - 1pm | 12pm - 1pm | 12pm - 1pm | 12pm - 1pm |
| Open Swim | 1:15pm - 6pm | 1:15pm - 7pm* | 1:15pm - 8pm | 1:15pm - 6pm | 1:15pm - 8pm | 1:15pm - 7pm | 1:15pm - 6pm |

*Based on Swim Team schedule, pool will close at 5pm on occasionally Tuesdays.
Members & Residents Only

| Daily Pool Prices | | |
|-------------------|-----------|--------------|
| | Resident* | Non-Resident |
| Open Swim | \$3.50 | \$6.50 |
| After 4pm | \$2.50 | \$5.00 |
| Adult Swim | \$2.50 | \$4.50 |
| Tuesday Rates | \$2.00 | \$3.00 |

***Must Have Resident ID Card to receive Resident rates. Resident ID Cards can only be purchased at the Ferguson Community Center for \$5
3 and Under are FREE



Parks and Recreation

Ferguson's Summer Concert Series

Join us on the 2nd Friday of every month (June-September) for our Summer Concert Series at Plaza at 501! Come out and listen to great bands while enjoying the company of family and friends. We will have food vendors available for you to be able to purchase food and drinks.

Time: 7:00pm – 9:00pm
Location: Plaza at 501
Fee: FREE

June 11th: Retro Boogie
July 9th: MvLovin
August 13th: That 80s Band
September 10th: Bitter

Ferguson's Family Movie Series

Join us on the 4th Friday of every month (June-August) for our Family Movie Series! We will have free popcorn a few surprises. You won't want to miss this popular summer event! Please note that in event of bad weather, check our Facebook @FergRec for updates.

Time: 8:30pm
Fee: FREE

June 25th: Forestwood Park, 824 Ferguson Ave
Disney's Angels in the Outfield

July 23rd: Jeske Park, 211 Thoroughman Ave
Disney's Raya the Last Dragon

August 27th: Fire and Police Station, 222 S Florissant Rd

Shakespeare's Othello at January-Wabash Park

We have partnered with St. Louis Shakespeare Festival to host a FREE showing of Shakespeare's Othello at January-Wabash Park.

Date: Wednesday, August 11th
Show Time: 6:30pm
Location: January-Wabash Memorial Park
Fee: FREE

Ferguson 4th of July Celebration

We are so excited to be able to celebrate the 4th of July with everyone this year! Things will look a little different this year as we are keeping our residents safety in mind. Due to the COVID-19 guidelines and policies, we will NOT be having a 4th of July Festival, but WILL be having our amazing Parade and spectacular Fireworks Display!!!

Join us for our 4th of July Parade beginning at 2:00pm! The parade will begin at Plaza at 501 and travel down Florissant Rd, ending at January-Wabash Park. This year's theme is "Parading Out of the Pandemic". We are asking our residents to practice social distancing along the parade route. If you are within 6 feet of another person, we ask that you wear your face mask.

Interested in participating in this year's parade? Stop by the Ferguson Community Center or visit www.ferguson4th.com for the application. Once the application is filled out, submit to khaniford@fergusoncity.com or the Ferguson Community Center (1050 Smith Ave).

Beginning at approximately 9:15pm, we will have our spectacular Fireworks Display! Residents are encouraged to watch from their homes and not congregate at the park.

Parade: 2:00pm
Fireworks: 9:15pm

Ferguson's Family Fishing Fun Day

Join us for our Children's Fishing Tournament and Family Fun Fishing! Our Children's Tournament will run from 8:00am-10:00am for ages 5-15. Prizes will be awarded to the child with the most fish caught and the largest fish caught. Then from 10:00am-12:00pm we will begin our Family Fun Fishing section. No license is required for this event. Please note: January-Wabash Lake will be closed to the public during the Children's Tournament.

Date: Saturday, June 12th
Location: January-Wabash Memorial Park Lake
Children's Tournament: 8:00am – 10:00am
Family Fishing Fun: 10:00am – 12:00pm
Fee: FREE

Field Rentals

Rentals are now available for our fields and courts at Forestwood Park and the Ferguson Community Center! For more information, visit <http://www.fergusoncity.com/597/Athletic-Fields-Courts>.

Ferguson Rabies Clinic

You got vaccinated, now how about your dogs and cats! The annual Rabies Clinic for your furs babies will be held this year at Forestwood Park, 908 Ferguson Ave. Your pets will receive a one year rabies shot and other vaccines they may need at a substantial savings.

Date: Saturday, June 12
Time: 9am-11am
Location: Forestwood Park

Ferguson Teen Adventures

"Too old" for day camp? Ferguson Teen Adventures is designed for older kids with weekly themes, crafts, games, swimming at Splash at Wabash, field trips, and more. Registration closes at NOON on the Wednesday prior to the following week's session. Registration is now open!

First registered weeks payment is due at the time of registration. Payment for all other registered weeks is due by NOON on the Wednesday prior to each registered week.

Ages: 11-15
Dates: M-F, June 7th – August 13th
Time: 7:00am – 6:00pm
Main Camp programming runs 8:30am – 4:30pm
Open Door runs 7:00am – 8:30am and 4:30pm – 6:00pm
Location: Ferguson Community Center (1050 Smith Ave.)
Fee: \$80/Person per week
(\$10 Discount for Ferguson Community Center Annual Members)

Field Notes from Farm Girl - Mother Goose

Every Spring, our geese lay eggs for about three weeks and then quit for the rest of the year. That's a great job if you can get it, huh? If you saw the size of these eggs, and felt how heavy they are, you might understand why it's a short term gig. They are enormous. HUGE. If you can imagine the size of a chicken egg and that from that a baby chicken emerges, the same ratio holds true for the ginormous goose eggs. If you love geese, and all things were equal, every Spring you could just try to hatch all the goose eggs to get baby geese. Here's where the chicken to goose comparison ends: chickens will keep laying eggs even if they are sitting and trying to hatch a nest of eggs. A goose will not. It's as if they hold a 'can't walk and chew gum at the same time' philosophy. They don't seem to want to do both. Too many years I have left it to chance and the unpredictable Mother Goose instinct. Year after year, disappointment. 2020 was the year to try something different. We collected all the goose eggs to put into an incubator. It seemed pretty fail safe. As it turns out, even in a controlled environment such as an incubator, baby geese are hard to hatch. The bigger the bird, the challenges increase. Chickens hatch in 21 days, but geese can take up to 34 days to hatch and those extra days add more things that can go wrong. Temperature and humidity need to be just right at every stage of development, but through the different stages, the ratios, temperatures and percentages change, and getting it wrong means failure. Also the bigger the eggs, the stronger it has to be to hold those exaggerated angles of curve and weight of its contents. That means that whatever is inside, needs to be stronger to get out of a thicker shell. That shell needs to be dry and thick to hold in the contents through early development, but close to hatching, the humidity needs to be raised to permeate and soften the shell so the baby gosling can get out. It is an incredibly difficult balance. Frankly, it's a wonder they hatch in the variables of the outside world when you have to do all the math to replicate it. A good illustration of the difficulty is that of our 18 2020 eggs, only two baby geese made it to hatch and thrive. With odds like that, these babies seem even more precious.

Now in your mind imagine the puffball cuteness of a bright little baby chick. Multiply that times 100 and you have a baby goose. Out of this giant Humpty Dumpty egg pops this big bird that has literally developed almost folded in half. As it emerges with that duck-like beak, they are about the cutest things you've ever seen. Your heart literally goes squish. It's inevitable. One look and you're smitten. When our two made it out of their shells, stood up and started peeping, I knew everything was going to change. I held them and played with them every free moment I got. Sometimes I would just sit quietly to have them snuggle in the crook of my arm to bob their heads until they fell off into baby goose slumber. It was utterly magical.

As my two baby geese got bigger (still living at home so I could keep them safe) everyday I would awake to their little voices calling me. Geese do something that in my experience to date, chickens do not. They imprint. What that means is that if they identify you as their parent, they will follow you everywhere. And they did. Each day as soon as I had dressed for the farm work ahead, I released them and the three of us walked the 7-minute walk to the garden. I chuckled every single day as they waddled and squawked behind me. As they grew, they kept pace with me until finally they began to run ahead. As the weeks went on, I taught them to fly to race to the garden gate. When they finally lifted off and made it the whole way, I felt like the proud mama of the Wright brothers. You better believe I did! I still have all the practice videos on my phone to prove it. Every evening before the sun set, they would walk home with me and as the last fingers of amber light slipped away. Arriving back home, the three of us would climb the front stairs to go inside and each settle down for some rest before doing it all again the next day. I loved last summer and this ritual we had. The world had shut down and this farm girl and her baby geese lived every day like life would never change or change back. It was a heaven that couldn't last and I knew it.

As it always happens, at some point, they need to be among their own kind, and they finally grew to be big enough that I felt they could protect themselves and assimilate into their new non-human flock. The first night I didn't take them home with me broke all of our hearts. I hated it but I knew it needed to happen. They would go on to make new friends, have new family, and though I doubt they think of it the same way, they will always be my babies.

This year, one of my baby geese laid her very first egg and when I discovered it, my heart swelled with pride. As the other geese also began their Spring egg laying ritual, I pulled the eggs and put them into an incubator. Not because we need more eggs. Not because we need more geese. I saved the eggs because my heart needs more baby geese and all the magic and wonder they bring into the world with them. It's a new year and the world has either changed, changed back or whatever we are calling the current 'now'. In any case, life has picked up the pace again, but regardless, I still want a slower and simpler life that has time in it for baby geese. I want another year of company in the garden and all the walks and talks as I watch them grow. Maybe I am rationalizing, but from watching last year's babies, they turned out more than alright being raised by a human and not a goose. If they spoke human, I'm pretty sure they would agree.

Last Thursday, with a heart full of hope, a notebook of temperature and humidity calculations, and plenty of patience, two giant shells were cracked open from the inside to utter the call that my ears have been waiting for. Two more yellow grey fluffballs, with big bright eyes, tiny wings and webbed clown shoes for feet made their way into our farm world. Their little voices the most perfect sweet pitch, and just like that, the world slowed down perfectly again for this human Mother Goose. □





Hello Ferguson!

by Marian Linck

If you have lived in Ferguson for any length of time at all you have had an experience with the smart fearless gray squirrels with whom we share our lovely city.

My husband and I are having our own personal war with the gray critters this year. They have found their way into our attic and made a meal of and perhaps a nest in our of our flexible ductwork. This is not an inexpensive repair! We figured out how and where they were making their entrance. They were climbing a trellis, hopping on a downspout, hopping over the gutter and then running up the roof and into the attic. We could hear them running around and burying their stash of nuts.

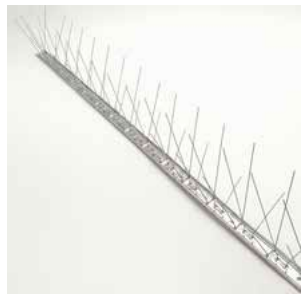


The heating and air conditioning service suggested getting a slingshot and shooting mothballs into the attic especially where they were finding their way into the space. My husband thought that was a great idea. As a small boy he always wanted a slingshot! Now his boyhood dreams could come true! He went to BassPro to buy his weapon and I headed to the Dollar Store for moth balls.

We installed a security camera pointed right at the gutter and roof to watch the squirrels.

Next step, my husband installed "bird spikes" on the vertical section of the downspout. As he was putting the ladder away, we literally watched the little bugger run through them!. Ok, he thought, lets bend a few of the spikes so when he runs through he gets his eyes poked. Once again, we watched this smart little @\$?! run right through.

Then we hung a plastic owl right next to the downspout. Next step, turn on the camera. It was almost comical when I watched the squirrel first



run through the eye poking spikes, then stop to look at our owl. I truly expected Mr. Squirrel to skreech to a sudden halt, scream and run back through the bird spikes to get away from his natural enemy. That is NOT what happened. He stopped, he looked, practically shook hands with our pretend owl and went on his merry way. I could not believe my eyes.



Events are back at the Ferguson Farmers' Market!



We're so happy to have events back at the market! Remember to stay safe and wear a mask if you're not vaccinated. But come on out to the market on Saturday mornings and enjoy this long-standing Ferguson tradition. Picnic tables are back out where you can sit and enjoy breakfast, coffee, or a

yummy snack from one of our vendors. And speaking of vendors, so many new ones this year! Another reason to come out - support our vendors and show them how great our customers are.

If you missed our events on May 8, we had a hugely successful first annual Ferguson Children's Art Festival! We also had a free drawing for a beautiful rhododendron donated by Geraldine Florist here in Ferguson. Come out on June 19 for our Juneteenth Celebration, Germanfest on August 7, Ecology Fair on August 21, our 20th Anniversary Celebration on September 18, and a Fall Festival in October. All these events will have music, special vendors, activities for kids, and more! Watch our social media and website for updates. We'll try to throw in a few more surprises. Don't forget plenty of fresh produce all season long!



Kathi Remmert, winner of Mother's Day drawing on May 8.

Welcome Martin and Kelly Braun from Marley's on June 5! Come see them again, wish them luck, and thank them for their many years as a beloved part of our community. Odds and ends from Marley's available for purchase, too!

Next step, visit the internet again for more advice. We bought "squirrel spikes". These are some nasty looking sharp pokey things. We thought that no crazy squirrel could walk over these things! Rich, my husband, installed the squirrel spikes just past the bird spikes and said "if that little joker can get in through these things, we are just going to let him in and invite him to dinner!" Guess who is coming to dinner soon?

I must add, that prior to this intense defensive action we purchased several "Ultrasonic Pest Repellers" that plug into household outlets. They are supposed to emit a sound that scares mice, squirrels, and raccoons away from your home. Humans cannot hear this magical sound. We have one of these gadgets in nearly every room in the house including the attic. My humble opinion, they do not work. I could be wrong.

I have shared our squirrel escapades with a few people I know. I shared with one person in particular who delivers mail to the little Episcopal Church where I work part time. His animate explanation was that we were not dealing with just any average squirrel. He said "these are city squirrels". "They are smart, they are smarter than we are and they can work around any obstacle we put in front of them!" How can any creature with such a tiny little brain be so smart? Perhaps, unlike humans, whom it has been said of only use a fraction of our gray matter, they actually use their entire brain. They use their tiny little brain very efficiently outsmarting us humans.

We have gray squirrels in Ferguson. My grandparents lived in a small town in central Missouri, Mexico. The squirrels there were red and I think had a very different personality. Of course, Grandpa somehow protected his garden, especially tomatoes from them while my Grandma tamed a few of them. There was always an ear of corn nailed to a board in a tree for the squirrels to eat, but best of all was the extra large widow sill on the bedroom window. Gramma would sit by the window every day with a handful of vanilla wafers. One by one a few of her furry red friends would come and take a cookie from her.

Now, I am in no way willing to make friends with the gray beasts in Ferguson. I am also real tired of them living rent free in my big old house!

Feel free to share your squirrel stories with me. We can make this a series, perhaps. You can reach me at manhattanmarian@gmail.com. Thanks for reading my squirrel story.

It is so nice to see everyone coming out through the week!

Please join us for our Sunday brunch and enjoy a flight of Mimosas or a handcrafted Bloody Mary.

FERGUSON BREWING COMPANY

P: 314.254.7359
418 SOUTH FLORISSANT ROAD • FERGUSON, MO 63135

9th Annual **THE TASTE IN FERGUSON**

A FUNDRAISER FOR THE ROBBIE MCGARTLAND / SAMANTHA LIPIKA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
www.TheTasteInFerguson.com

Let's get together again!

SAVE THE DATE SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

JAVIER MENDOZA ON THE BIG STAGE

- Planning for outdoor Food Tasting Event
- Many of your favorite Food Vendors Returning
- Beer Wine and Spirit Tastings
- Hands on Kids Activities
- More Information in coming months
- Follow us on Facebook

St. Vincent dePaul Food Pantries

The Society of St. Vincent dePaul Conference of Blessed Teresa of Calcutta Parish operates 2 food pantries in Ferguson. BOTH pantries have remained open during the COVID-19 pandemic, serving our neighbors through a drive-thru process. You will remain in your car throughout the process, while our volunteers will record your information and then load your groceries in your trunk. All of our volunteers wear masks, maintaining social distance to keep you and our volunteers safe.

Our Tuesday USDA pantry is located at Blessed Teresa Parish, 120 North Elizabeth Ave. We are open from 9:30-11:30 A.M. Our Friday pantry is located on Church Street in the old firehouse. We are also open from 9:30-11:30 A.M. You may attend one of our pantries once a month. Our pantries are operated to assist all of our neighbors in need of food. We rely on the US Department of Agriculture (USDA), Operation Food Search, St. Louis Area Foodbank, local grocery stores, and our generous parishioners and neighbors for the food we distribute. Thank you to everyone who donates!

We will continue to operate as a drive-thru pantry for the foreseeable future. It is our goal to keep you and our volunteers safe and healthy.

“In accordance with Federal civil rights law and USDA civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.”

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the Agency (state or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.”

Financial Focus

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

Since businesses have started to re-open, we’ve been hearing how difficult it is for employers to find workers. Even large corporations that had allowed employees to work from home are finding it difficult to bring the workers back to the buildings. Spoiled by working in casual wear, and saving precious personal time by not commuting has caused many workers to look at this as an opportunity to have more flexibility in work schedules. And for those who left low paying jobs behind during the pandemic, there may be other concerns keeping them from going back to work. And some of those not working left a small business behind that couldn’t survive the pandemic. Our response to the employment problems will have effects on the economy and many wonder just what the best approach is?

Many states are choosing to withdraw from many of the federal pandemic related job benefits. It is estimated that these changes coming in June and July will affect 1.4 million of those currently receiving unemployment benefits. Considering that the economy itself is doing pretty well these programs and benefits have done what we needed. It was announced a couple of days ago that more restrictions are being lifted. So are we pulling the rug out too soon? If we wait until the September 6th deadline, would the effects on the economy help keep it strong?

Our economy runs on consumer spending. We are often encouraged to start shopping again to aide in recovery like we did after 9-11. And often economic recovery packages like those passed during the pandemic or after the depression helped to fuel the spending to move things in the right direction. The thought behind moving quickly to eliminate benefits for many of the unemployed is planned to hasten them back to work – the theory being that when the funds run out people will return to work. What if that isn’t the reason people aren’t going back?

For families with young children day care providers and schools may not be re-opened yet leaving them in a quandary on how to manage going back to work. Other families may be caring for an elderly or disabled loved one due to restrictions still in place at some care centers. Just lifting the mask requirement for those who have been vaccinated won’t allow most businesses to fully re-open. So while hiring is happening and the job market appears to be strong, business will continue to reassess during the recovery. So we must consider that some staffing changes depending on need could affect unemployment rates in the short term. It has been implied that living off the government is more appealing to many.

Some businesses thrived over the past year with so many people at home using technology to shop and continue to spend. Will re-opening have an effect on staffing at businesses like Wal-Mart and Amazon? That remains to be seen. Small business took a beating when they had to shut down and many did not survive. Some of those business owners are also the ones benefiting from unemployment benefits now. Will small businesses be able to re-open? And if they do, will they be able to find workers?

Before the pandemic we saw protests for a living wage, mainly targeting fast food companies. With the government’s help many of those displaced workers did find out how much easier it is to live modestly on unemployment benefits, so it shouldn’t surprise us to find out that some are holding out for better work opportunities. Some of the jobs that are searching for employees need skilled workers and are often willing to train and offer some benefits to attract those willing to learn. So perhaps that is a good thing – learning a new skill offers an individual so many more opportunities to improve the welfare of their family and future in the job market. It may also be time for those in the fast food industry to take notice and offer more to attract employees.

It seems clear re-opening may not be that easy. Some jobs don’t exist anymore and new ones may be out there, but may not provide a living wage for a family. One easy answer is that employers will have to pay more to attract the best people. And most can easily understand the result of higher wages will be higher prices. Balancing all of the factors can be tricky and we’ll be depending on those in power to do just that. It is a unique time for employees – if you are well trained and have the skills it’s a good time to be seeking a job. If you have any questions or comments please contact me at cleav73@sbcglobal.net.



304 S. Florissant Rd.
314-395-0513

HOURS:
10:00 am-9:00pm Tues-Sat
Closed Sun & Mon

Everything Hot Off the Grill!

RED'S COMBOS: Tips & Wings / one side \$16.50
Try our new combo - Tips & Polish / one side \$16.50

Find us on 

ANDY WURM TIRE & WHEEL

Specializing in Tire & Wheel Packages
201 S. Florissant Rd. • Ferguson, MO 63135
(314) 522-3040

Over 10,000 Tires in Stock!  TPMS Experts!
Over 400 Wheels on Display!

 www.andywurm.com  

Mon. - Fri. 7:30 - 6:00 • Sat. 7:30 - 2:30



Lose track of the miles with the longest-lasting tire from Michelin, and focus on what really matters – the memories made along the way. **Stop in today.**

Copyright © 2018 Michelin North America, Inc. All rights reserved.
The Michelin Man is a registered trademark, owned by Michelin North America, Inc.

FOR THE LONG HAUL AND THE LITTLE MOMENTS.
THE MICHELIN® DEFENDER® TIRE





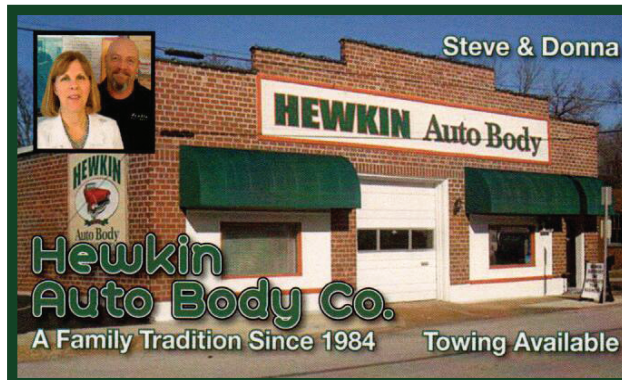
Living Tree Care

"In the Business of Saving Trees"

Arborists/Abolitionists
www.FreedomCry.life

Pruning Specialists
Consulting - Disease Control
Removal

314-568-8367
LivingTree@Earthlink.net



Steve & Donna

HEWKIN Auto Body

Hewkin Auto Body Co.
 A Family Tradition Since 1984 Towing Available

"Quality Guaranteed, By People Who Care"

.....

15 Darst Rd.
 Ferguson, MO 63135
 314-522-9468
www.hewkinautobody.com

Stay In the Neighborhood



Oak Knoll
 37 North Clark Ave.,
 Ferguson, MO 63135
 314-521-7419 www.oakknoll1948.com



Avalon Garden
 4359 Taft Avenue,
 St. Louis, MO 63115
 314-752-2022
www.avalongarden1920.com



Ackert Park
 894 Leland Avenue, University City, MO
 314-726-4767 www.ackertparksc.com

Oak Knoll, Avalon Garden and Ackert Park

Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation Centers

"A caring family with personality" See for yourself!



- 24-hour nursing care and services
- Reasonable rates
- Medicare / Medicaid Certified
- Religious Services
- Direct TV
- Internet Availability

To Free a Widow and Her Children for the Day of Eid

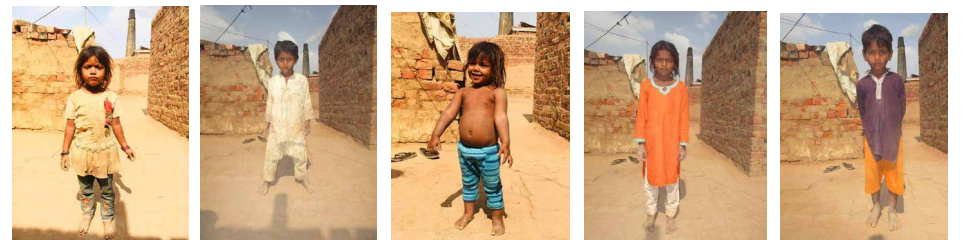
by Phil Berwick

Continuing the fight to end slavery in Pakistan



At the end of Ramadan, is the Muslim holiday of the Auspicious Day of Eid. Along with celebration, is the extending of charity. Brick Yard workers do not get off on Holidays. We will be visiting the brick master. Since he is Muslim, just as SAFIA is Muslim, we will be suggesting to him, this opportunity to show mercy. But if he shows no mercy, we will be returning to pay the ransom. We have a list, of other minority widows and children, usually the Christian minorities, if anyone would like to join with us.

Safia and her husband labored in brick yard # f16, in kasur, pakistan, never allowed to work off an \$80 loan, for treatment of safia's polio, 16 years ago. The brick master has no mercy, even now that safia is alone. He is demanding \$1035 for her and her children's freedom.



These are Safia's children in 100 degree heat. The children of bonded laborers never get an education. Once they are free, the children will get schooling.

Families are forced to make a quota. When safia's husband was alive, the family made 1000 bricks a day. Now safia makes 200 for \$1, enough for one meal for her family.

The enslaved children of the 20,000 massive out door brick kilns of pakistan do not know that they are not free.

As they grow older, awaking at 3:00am to be making bricks by 4:00, 10-12 hours a day, the smiles become less and their reality...More.

Sons and daughters of bonded laborers take over their father's and mother's unjust debt burden, having to bury their parents in their brickyards. Although illegal since 1992, the brick masters pay off the police. And pakistan's parliament is ignoring the slavery in their nation, pressing instead for harsher blaspheme laws, and complaining about israel and islamaphobia.



Safia and her five children, soon after her husband was buried in the brick yard. Safia is crippled due to polio.

If you would like to help, visit Www.FreedomCry.Life



Under The Hood With Robinwood

By Bob McGartland

When the Time Comes, Should You Buy or Lease Your Next Vehicle?

At some point we all have to decide if we are going to keep our existing vehicle or buy a new one. When that time arrives, many of our customers will ask me “would you buy or lease your next vehicle”? I decided to do a little homework on the subject. Here is what I found.....

LEASE BENEFITS:

When you lease a vehicle, you enjoy the benefit of driving a NEW vehicle pretty much all the time. You can arrange your lease so the number of months you are leasing is the same as the warranty period of the vehicle. Thus, you are always driving a vehicle that is “in warranty”, protecting you from a major repair expense. Many people who lease enjoy this peace of mind. Most leases do not include regularly scheduled maintenance issues like oil changes, fluid flushes, tire rotations, alignments, and other ongoing vehicle needs. Whether you lease or buy, you also need to pay for insurance. The lease investment is made up of two components: First, an “up front” down payment which can be accomplished with a cash payment or with the trading in of a current vehicle that you own, & secondly, a monthly lease payment. Lease payments are normally promoted as very affordable and will be normally less than buying a car. WHY? The lease payment is based on what the dealer will refer to as the “residual value” of the vehicle after your lease period is complete. In short, you are paying for just a portion of the value of the vehicle during your lease period, thus the lower monthly payment. When that vehicle is returned to the dealer it will go on their lot and be sold as a lease return premium used vehicle. The dealer loves leases.....they enjoy the combination of your down payment, lease payments, and then the money they receive when they sell the vehicle you return.

LEASE CONCERNS:

I found three concerns from people who have leased and purchased vehicles. First, you are “never” without a payment. When you bring your vehicle back at the end of the lease period, you are faced with the decision to lease or buy another vehicle. Just like your first lease, this will include another down payment and monthly lease payment. Secondly, every lease comes with a mileage limit. If you exceed the mileage limit, there are expensive penalties that will need to be paid at the end of your lease. Thirdly you must return the vehicle in good condition. If your kids have used sharpies to color the interior, your dog’s claws have damaged the interior, or other out of the ordinary wear and tear occurs, you can be held financially responsible for these issues. In my opinion, a lease is similar to renting a nice apartment. You make your monthly payment, enjoy your apartment, but never own it.

BENEFITS OF BUYING YOUR VEHICLE:

To be fair to the lease comparison, I have to assume you are buying a new vehicle and plan to make payments, not pay cash. Like the lease, you will enjoy a warranty period, but if you own the vehicle beyond the warranty period you are exposed to potential repair issues no longer covered by the warranty. Extended warranties can be purchased to give you longer protection. Like the lease, you will normally have a down payment that can be accomplished with cash or trading in your current “owned” vehicle. Like the leased vehicle you are normally responsible for the regularly scheduled maintenance on your vehicle. The big difference between leasing and buying is determined by how long you want to keep your vehicle. Once you make your 36, 48, 60, or even longer monthly payments, you will finally own your vehicle. For a period of time, you enjoy increased spendable income that was previously being used to make the monthly payment on your vehicle. You also have a vehicle with a value that can be used to reduce the investment you make in your next vehicle as a trade in or sell for cash.

BUYING CONCERNS:

In my opinion, there are two main concerns around buying your next vehicle: First, is a possible “major” repair that you could face once beyond the warranty period and secondly, if you decide to trade in the vehicle before the loan has been paid in full, many people find themselves “upside down”. What this means is you still owe a large sum of money on the current vehicle. This amount does not go away. You either are faced with a cash payoff or that additional amount has to be added to your next car purchase which increases your payments. If you are buying a vehicle your best course is to keep it until it is paid in full.

BOB’S TAKE:

There are online price comparisons between leasing and buying that will give you some numbers to consider. Most will determine that buying is better than leasing in the long run. The primary reason is once you pay off the vehicle, you still have its value to use as a trade in or sell outright for cash. I think you have to do what works for you.....if the lower monthly payment of leasing helps your family, take a serious look at leasing. Just go in with your eyes wide open as leases have responsibilities. If buying, remember there are many vehicles on the dealers list that are “lease returns”. In my opinion, these low mileage previously owned vehicles allow you to have your cake and eat it too.... you can buy them for substantially less than a brand-new vehicle, so the price & payments are lower, most are sold with a warranty, and you own the vehicle when you are done making the payments. While you are driving that new used vehicle just bring it to Robinwood and we will take good care of you.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns about your vehicle, stop in or give me a call. Visit us at robinwoodauto.com. It’s Summertime! Enjoy the summer months with the family.



Plastic bags pollution

Americans use 100 billion plastic bags a year, which require 12 million barrels of oil to manufacture. ... Up to 80 percent of ocean plastic pollution enters the ocean from land. At least 267 different species have been affected by plastic pollution in the ocean. 100,000 marine animals are killed by plastic bags annually. Think of some way you can cut your use of plastic bags and recycle the ones that you use.



Family Food Corner

by Chef Robert B. Cleveland

ServSafe Proctor & Examiner, Owner of Cleveland’s Cuisine LLC, Chef Yo Share Kitchen

Wow, look how fast time has passed. Graduation is in the air and beginning of summer is clear. The city is gearing up for removal of covid-19 restrictions and our city is gearing up for more fun activities.

Well, don’t count my crew out we got a big feast, and fun, festival planned for this year. We rented out a state park on the lake and calling all ages of the family for a massive water fight. Round up your water guns, balloons, buckets and be ready to get wet. We going to have a old vs young water fight, guys vs girls, tug of water, and our family favorite splash tag! I don’t know if you’re like us but we have a automatic water balloon loader and the balloon loader holds about 50 balloons, yes it a real big thing! So, everyone stays safe and let’s enjoy our summer!

Frozen Strawberry Smoothie Popsicles

- 8 fresh strawberries, hulled and quartered
- ¼ cup plain yogurt
- ¼ cup apple juice
- 2 tablespoons honey

Directions

1. Blend strawberries, yogurt, apple juice, and honey in a blender until smooth.
2. Pour blended mixture into ice pop molds; freeze until solid, about 12 hours. Fruit Popsicles

Ask Amanda

Thoughts and Advice on Sincere Communication

Dear Amanda,

I have a life-long friend I've known since elementary school, I want to remain close but lately I've felt less and less desire to talk to her or spend time together. She has always had a habit of responding to anyone else's stories or issues by one-upping them. Every single time I say "I'm not feeling well" or "I've had the worst day!" she responds with "oh me too, I've had a cold all week" or "Today has been terrible for me!" and then starts talking about herself immediately. I don't mind hearing about her life, problems, or good things that happen to her, that's part of friendship, but it feels like nearly all of our conversations are about her and I'm never able to share what's going on in my life. I've always just ignored her habit of doing this but it feels like a very one sided friendship. Is there any way to talk to her about this or should I just accept that this is our friendship and keep my distance?

Sincerely,
Hopeful About Friendship

Hello Hopeful About Friendship,

Thank you for your question! It sounds like this friendship is important to you, so I'd start with making a list of things this friendship brings to the table that's kept you in each other's lives so long and keeps you wanting to build a stronger friendship. Maybe that list will highlight some reasons why the friendship has been working for so long, or worst case scenario, show that maybe this isn't a friendship with a solid enough foundation to keep investing in if you aren't able to get your communication in a good place. Often, people believe that by sharing their similar experience or story they are bonding, showing sympathy, or showing that they are listening. This can lead to one person feeling like they did a great job connecting and the other person feeling unheard. I would suggest asking openly for time to share your story or experience without interruption. That might sound like "Hey Friend, I have had a really hard day, would you mind if I tell you about everything that happened?" This slight revision to how you're approaching conversations with her may solve the problem entirely, it has for me in certain situations. If you find that it's continuing, having a frank conversation about it might also help. You can start by sharing the reasons your friendship is valuable to you, why you want it to be maintained and healthy. Then tell your friend how the behavior of one-upping makes you feel and ask that they try to leave more room in your conversations for you to fully share and be heard. Communicating about communication can feel scary or hard, especially at first, but with practice and the right people it really helps make the connection stronger in the end. I wish you and your friend the best of luck in moving forward from here.

Sincerely,
Amanda

Dear Amanda,

My divorce was finalized a little over two years ago and I've recently wanted to get back into dating. I think I'd like to try online dating but my family and friends are pretty traditional and think it's strange. They say things like "At your age if someone is online dating there must be a good reason why" and then find a lot of reasons why someone isn't right for me when I show them the profiles. They think that if someone is using dating apps to find people then they have failed at finding someone "the right way" or that there is "something wrong with them." How do I convince my family and friends that online dating is okay?

Sincerely,
Looking For Online Love

Hello Looking For Online Love,

Thank you for asking such a great question. I went through some similar conversations a while back when I took the plunge into online dating. I think it can be a love it or hate it situation. For me, I did dating "the regular way" all through my 20s and found it to be a complete waste of time. Not only did I end up in some pretty uninspired relationships I also wasted so much time on bad dates. I found it to be a lot easier and faster to get to know someone online and if they turn out to be jerk I'd only wasted a few messages and a bit of time instead of a whole evening and nice makeup! Most of us have busy lives so we don't have a lot of time to spend doing things that don't add quality and value into our day to day experiences. I also found I felt a lot safer with online dating where I had more control over the who/what/when of dates than I did when I was in my twenties and a friend of a friend I'd never met picked me up from my house and drove me to dinner. At this point, all of my friends who are dating are using online dating of some kind in their search to find meaningful connections. Also, full disclosure, I met my now-wife through online dating, so I think it's pretty great. I hope you have some fun getting back out into the dating pool and that your friends and family are able to see you enjoying yourself is enough of a reason for you try out online dating.

Sincerely,
Amanda

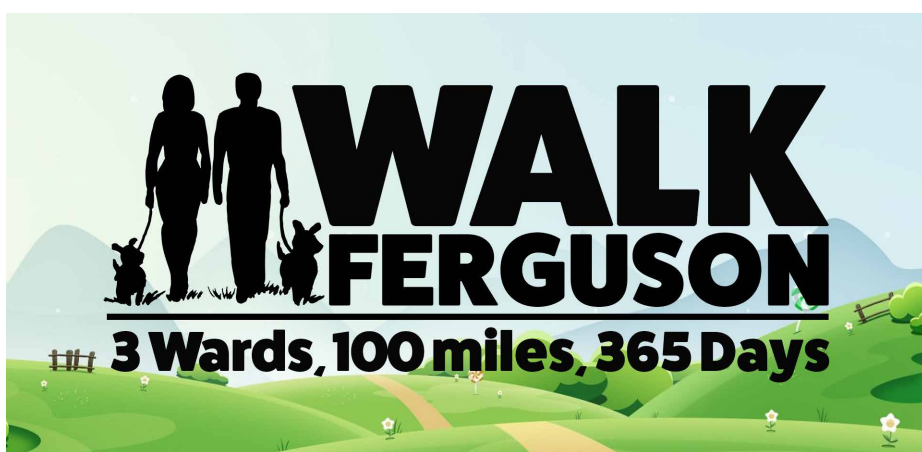
Remember, if you've got a question and you'd like some empathetic and (possibly) humorous advice, please send it over to me at FergusonAskAmanda@gmail.com

Column Author Bio:

Amanda Hodgkins has spent the last decade facilitating weekly peer discussion groups on communication and relationships and co-leading weekend retreats on authentic relating practices. She currently uses her degree in psychology in the corporate world, applying her passion for communication to build harmony and cohesion for the teams she's managed. Amanda blends compassion, humor, and honesty into her own unique and creative perspective on the challenges she encounters. She moved to Ferguson from her hometown of Houston, Texas, with her wife to escape the hurricanes and humidity. She now spends her days working from home, gardening, raising ducks, playing board games, and walking three energetic dogs in local parks.

Column Disclaimer:

Disclaimer: By submitting a question to Ask Amanda, you grant the author of this column permission to publish it in the Ferguson Neighborhood News, their website/blog, or elsewhere including print publications, internet websites, or social media. The author reserves the right to edit questions for length and clarity; your full name and/or email address will never be included or distributed. The author of this column is expressing personal and professional opinions and views, the author is not a therapist, counselor, or clinician. The advice offered is intended for informational purposes only and not intended to replace or substitute for any professional, financial, business, medical, legal, and/or other professional advice. If you have specific concerns or a situation in which you require professional, psychological or medical help, you should consult with an appropriately trained and qualified specialist. The author and Ferguson Neighborhood News are not responsible for the outcome or results of following their advice in any given situation. You are completely responsible for your actions, the author and Ferguson Neighborhood News do not accept any liability for any situation in your life past, present, or future.



An advertisement for Blessed Teresa of Calcutta Catholic School. It features a yellow sticky note with a checklist of school programs: Pre K-3 and 4 School Program, K-8th Grade, Tuition Assistance - Today and Tomorrow, Arts Program and Extra Curricular Activities, Christian Values and Community Service, Integrated Technology, and Athletics. The text also states "2021-2022 Enrollment Opens January 24th. Classrooms Fill Quickly; Call Today For a Tour!" and provides the website "BTCPARISH.ORG | 314.522.3888". The school's address is "150 N. ELIZABETH AVE. FERGUSON, MO 63135". At the bottom, it says "Preserving the Past. Building the Future. One Child at a Time." There are small photos of students and a teacher.



NEWS FROM THE PARK (Calverton Park)

Calverton Park recently sent out a newsletter to Calverton Park residents in which Mayor James Paunovich stated he has instructed the city to begin the process of seeking bids to build asphalt speed humps.

“In conjunction with the data collection we have received from the city’s Radar Speed Sign, which has been in most locations around the city since October 2020, the following locations were identified to be of greatest need of the new speed humps.

- Calverton Road
- Reasor Drive
- Williams Boulevard

These locations were chosen carefully based on the following data points.

- Average daily number of vehicles
- Number of violations to the average daily number of vehicles
- Amount of foot/bicycle traffic daily to the total number of violators/average daily traffic

N. Florissant Road and N. Elizabeth Avenue are unable to receive these speed humps due to them not being city-maintained roadways.

For the other city streets that were not identified above, that does not mean your street doesn’t have a problem with speeding vehicles. This only means that the qualifying streets above have the greatest need based on computer-generated data. We have received assurances from our police, fire, and EMS partners, that the new speed calming measures will not significantly impact emergency response times in case of emergencies.

I have also been notified by the police department that with decreased speeds in the roadways receiving speed humps, they can focus the traffic enforcement unit on streets that continue to see excessive speeds.

We are committed to keeping Calverton Park a city that is safe for you and your families.”



COMPLETE
Auto Body & Repair

A2B 314-427-8697
24 HOUR
TOWING & RECOVERY SERVICE

All service work (oil changes, tires ect.) at our original location:
10100 W. FLORISSANT RD., DELLWOOD, MO

Auto Body Repairs, visit us at our new location:
3776 PERSHALL RD., ST. LOUIS, MO 63135

\$50 GIFT CERTIFICATE!

For New Customers - Our Welcome Gift To You!

Valid at any of our locations in St. Peters, Hazelwood, Dellwood, or Ferguson and/or our towing company, A2B Towing.

IF IT'S NOT PERFECT, IT'S NOT COMPLETE!

www.completeab.com for more details. 314-868-2000

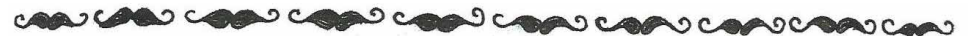
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK FROM 7AM TO 9PM

SNOWIE'S TREATS

DONUTS, ICE CREAM, SHAVED ICE, AND SNACKS



900 South Florissant Road • Ferguson, MO 63135
314.942.3809 • snowiestreats900@gmail.com



STLCC.EDU



ENROLL NOW!
LET'S MAKE 2021 COUNT!

 St. Louis Community College
Florissant Valley

Line art provided by Sharon Nadeau



Music! Magic! Comedy!
Trish Cook • 314-440-7903
Find us on 

JOHN BAKER
HEATING & COOLING

In business 33 years!
Low Rates! No Waits!
We Also Do Water Heaters!
Clean and Check Your A/C
\$59.95
Plus 24 Hour
Emergency
Service



JOHN BAKER
HEATING & COOLING
\$10 OFF
Your next service
With this coupon
Call 314.878.6228

jdbcooling.com

The Ferguson Neighborhood News Salutes the

Class of 2021



Hazelwood West

North Tech

NorthView

Hazelwood Central

Hazelwood East

McCluer North

Riverview Gardens

Lutheran North

McCluer

Jennings

McCluer South - Berkeley

Pattonville

Ritenour

St. Louis U.

Trinity

Beaumont

University City

Incarnate Word

Normandy

CBC

Vianney

Chaminade

Principia

De Smet Jesuit

Rosati-Kain

Bishop Du Bourg

**BE READY TO HIT THE ROAD
SUMMER TIRE SALE!**

BUY 3 TIRES, GET THE 4TH ONE FREE!



524-3440 • robinwoodauto.com



(Most passenger & light truck tires, some size restrictions apply. Expires 6-30-21)

Interior Plaster, Patch and Crack Repair Specialist

Free Estimates
20 years experience
Call Larry

**(314) 521-5257 or
(314) 412-0048**

Sanders Tree Service



Trees Trimmed, Removed and Stumpgrinding

Call Jim:
524-8154

PPS
Premier Plumbing Solutions
Veteran Owned

Say "I Love Ferguson" when presented your bill and receive \$10 OFF!

524-0222

LAWRENCE KISWANI – P9419, D9419
Master Plumber/Drain Layer/Licensed/Bonded

- No Service Charge • Free Estimates
- 10% Senior Discount (Maximum of \$50)
- 10% Discount for Veterans and First Responders
- Compare our price on water heaters

Employment opportunities available!

RUUD®

Ask about rebates on a new furnace & air conditioning system. Call for free quote and analysis.



KNOWLES Heating & Cooling

Ask about our ductless Mini splits for those unconditioned spaces.

We service all brands Phone 521-0284

SCOTT'S

Soft Wash, & Gutter Cleaning

314-550-3095

We're Your Neighbors and We're Here for You!

We Offer:

- One and Two Bedroom Residences
- Delicious Dinners Delivered to Your Door
- Full Service Amenities
- Housekeeping Services
- Continental Breakfast for Pick-Up
- Socially Distanced Entertainment
- Beautifully Landscaped Patios
- A Dog Park for Your Furry Companion
- A Daily Newsletter and Other Surprises

St. Catherine Retirement Community

Call Us Today to Schedule Your Tour!
314-838-3877
www.StCatherineRetirement.org

3350 St. Catherine Street
Florissant, MO
TDD 800-545-1833 x359
Language Assistance
Services: 562-257-5255

Find us on 

Proud to be Part of Retirement Housing Foundation 



EMISSIONS TEST \$18


(Reg. \$24) Only at Ferguson Motors coupon expires 6-30-21

32 North Florissant Rd. Ferguson MO 63135
314-522-0013
Ferguson Motors has been in business since 1935. Locally owned and operated.
Call Kevin or Jesse

\$10 OFF

Any service over \$100 Only at Ferguson Motors coupon expires 6-30-21

Ferguson Motor Service



MARIE LODATO CRINNION
ATTORNEY & COUNSELOR AT LAW

11 Cardigan Drive
314-524-4513
www.CrinnionLaw.com

Wills, trusts, estate planning, power of attorney, real estate, contracts, business, traffic

SPORTSPRINT
TEAM, CORPORATE, AND PROMOTIONAL APPAREL

COTTLEVILLE, MO 636-477-1412 5285 HIGHWAY N
FERGUSON, MO 314-521-9000 6197 BERMUDA DRIVE
O'FALLON, MO 636-240-5000 211 SOUTH MAIN

SPORTSPRINT has you covered! Since 1973.
CUSTOM SCREEN PRINTING, EMBROIDERY, AND PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS
WWW.SPORTSPRINT.COM

HAMILTON & HAMILTON LANDSCAPING

SPECIALIZING IN RETAINING WALLS
KEYSTONE BLOCK
WINDSOR BLOCK
DIAMOND BLOCKS

ALL TYPES OF YARD WORK
TREE & BUSH TRIMMING AND REMOVAL
TOP SOIL

25 YEARS EXPERIENCE SENIOR DISCOUNT

CALL ANYTIME 314-522-1944



A+ rating BBB

HOME IMPROVEMENT SERVICE
Repairing & Remodeling Specialists

- Carpentry • Plumbing • Electrical • Painting • Roofing • Siding • Ceramic Tile
- Windows • Doors • Decks • Tuckpointing • Concrete • Gutters • Wood Flooring
- Kitchens • Bathrooms • Basements • Leafproof Gutter Protection

Serving all of North County – SENIOR DISCOUNTS
Established in 1977

Big or Small We do it All! Licensed & Insured

MARK & JOE RUFFINO Phone 868-4122 Cell 740-2176



Dealership IQ

Vehicles | RVs | Watercraft | Motorcycles | Tools

Sell your things locally – "Free"

DealershipIQ.com

Limbs R Us

- Tree Removal
- Tree Trimming
- Brush Clearing
- Stump Grind
- MBE/DBE Certified
- Fully Insured w/Workers Comp

314-323-7319

Vincenzo's ITALIAN RISTORANTE



**242 So. Florissant Rd
FERGUSON 314-524-7888**

ROBYN L. STRANQUIST
ATTORNEY AT LAW

314-808-5666

LICENSED IN MISSOURI & ILLINOIS

KENNEDY FENCE

8632 WABASH AVE. * ST. LOUIS, MO 63134 * 521-0936