

Ferguson

NEIGHBORHOOD

2021 NEWS 2021



Serving Ferguson and Surrounding Communities since 2021



Human Rights is Civil Rights.
This Black History month the Ferguson Human Rights Commission would like to recognize Civil Rights, Human Rights and Black History.

Black History Month is an annual observance originating in the

United States, where it is also known as African-American History Month. Black History Month's first endorsement was Negro History Week, created in February 1926 by Carter G. Woodson, known as the "father of Black history."

Woodson is a Harvard educated historian who started a group now known as the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH). Woodson was the son of a former slave and was the second African American to earn a Ph.D. from Harvard. He formed his group 50 years after the abolishment of slavery in the United States.

The purpose of the Human Rights Commission is to prevent or eliminate discriminatory practices.



The HRC focus areas are: Housing, Employment and Public Accommodations.

Human rights are rights that all humans have, simply because they are human. There are many historical documents that cover human rights but The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, passed by the United Nations after World War II, is the most important worldwide document. In the United States, federal, state, and local laws cover rights of American citizens based on the Bill of Rights to the U.S. Constitution. Sometimes these rights are called civil rights. Ferguson's Human Rights law, or ordinance, can be found in Chapter 21 of the City's Municipal Code.



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FERGUSON INDOOR WINTER MARKET

NEXT MARKET FEBRUARY 18!

**Every third Sat thru April
 9:00am-12pm**

**St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
 33 N. Clay • Ferguson, MO**



February News and Events at the Ferguson Public Library

For more information, please contact the library at 314-521-4820 or visit us online at fergusonlibrary.net

Take Your Child to the Library Day - Saturday, Feb. 4 from 1-3 pm
 Celebrate Take Your Child to the Library Day with us! Drop by the children's area anytime from 1-3 pm for bookish crafts and activities. Don't forget to sign up for a library card while you're here!

Third Annual Quilt Show - February 9-11
 The Quilt Show returns after a pandemic hiatus! See beautiful hand-made quilts made by local quilters on display at the library.

Kids Mystery Craft - Saturday, Feb. 18 at 2 pm
 We couldn't let the teens have all the fun! Join us for an afternoon of crafting while we make a mystery project. Follow us on Facebook and Twitter for hints! **Registration required.** For kids and their adults ages 6-12. Register online at bit.ly/fmplmystery23.

Building a Business Plan with Gale - Wednesday, Feb. 22 at 6 pm
 Wanting to get started writing your business plan? We can help! Join us as we show you what resources are available here at the library to get your business plan started right. For more information and to register, please contact the library and ask for Taneesa.

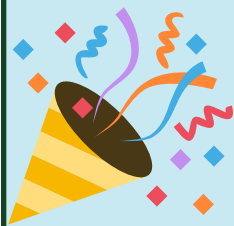
- Ongoing Programs**
- **Monday, Feb. 13 at 6 pm:** The Readings on Race Book Club
 - **Wednesday, Feb. 15 at 6 pm:** Krafty Korner
 - **Wednesday, March 1:** Game Night
 - **Every Monday from 9-12 pm:** The Ferguson Sewing Club
 - **Every Tuesday from 1:15-4 pm:** CAASTLC At Your Library

- February Craft Kits**
- **Feb. 6-11 - Paper Quilt Blocks:** Make some quilt blocks out of paper and celebrate the Quilt Show!
 - **Feb. 21-25 - Fabric Bookmark:** Make a fun bookmark using colorful fabric!

Available while supplies last!

The library will be closed Monday, February 20 for Presidents' Day.

February Celebration Shout-outs



- 7 - Happy Birthday Betty Newberry
- 9 - Happy Birthday Kathy Asikainen
- 21 - Happy 4th Birthday Matilda Schmermund
- 25 - Happy Birthday Lori Adams



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



ST. LOUIS COUNTY ELECTION BOARD – Election Judges Needed for 2023

In the upcoming April 4th, 2023, General Municipal Election in St. Louis County, voters will be choosing candidates and deciding on ballot issues for various public entities. Election Judges and Student Election Judges are needed to administer such elections in Missouri.

The St. Louis County Election Board is accepting applications for people who are interested in serving as Election Judges for the April 4th, 2023, Election. Additionally, the Election Board has an excellent High School Student program that gives students an opportunity to work with veteran Election Judges providing hands on experience in learning how elections are conducted.

Election Judges play a pivotal role in making it possible for citizens to rightfully exercise the franchise on Election Day. A typical election may have approximately 65% of voters cast ballots on Election Day at over 200 polling places across St. Louis County. Election Judges set up the voting equipment at the polling location, manage the voting process, and secure the ballots for collection at the Election Board. They are truly the “backbone” of the electoral process.



Election Judges are awarded a financial stipend of \$280 for their service. Students may receive a stipend of \$170 or earn 16 community service hours.

Serving as an Election Judge gives citizens a chance to perform an important civic duty and allows them to actively participate in their community.

Contact Jim McHugh of the St. Louis County Election Board to learn more.
(314) 615-1858
jmchugh@stlouiscountymo.gov



February at a Glance

- 2 Groundhog Day 
- 9 Jeske Park Neighborhood 7PM (see ad page 4)
- 14 Valentines Day 
- 18 NorthHills Community Meeting 10AM (see ad page 4)
- 20 Presidents Day
- 21 Mardi Gras (Fat Tuesday)
- 22 Ash Wednesday (Beginning of Lent)
- 23 South Central Community Meeting 6PM (see ad page 4)
- 24 Fish Fry - BTC 4:30 - 7PM

PRAY FOR PEACE

BOOK SIGNING



Come join us Cathedral at the Crossroads 10789 Old Halls Ferry Rd. 63136 for our Black History event! Guest author DeVonshae Ali in celebration of her new book, ‘**God of the THIRSTY chicks!**’. DeVonshae is a thirteen time published author, book publisher, educator, and evangelist.

February 11,2023, 11:30 am-1:30 pm.
Please come prepared to pay via cash or cash app.

Dear Readers,

I enjoy the paper very much and I would like to share this with everyone: We bought our home in Ferguson in October of 77. This October I have lived here 46 years. My husband passed away 3 years ago, and my children all live close by.

I have wonderful neighbors and friends here; both black and white. I love the Lord , and love to write. I would love to include a statement that is so true.

God sent his only son to this earth; to die on the cruel cross of Calvary. He who had no sin, sacrificed himself and took the sins of this “whole world”; all creeds and colors, all nations. He is not respecter of persons; God, Christ, and the Holy Ghost are spirits; they don’t see color, they see the heart and soul of all of us. He gave us all freedom to choose right or wrong. It is up to us to choose Gods way or the wrong way. I pray all of us will choose the right way..

God Loves You !

God Bless you all.
R.V.J.S.

The Ferguson News Group may be reached

text/voice: 314 249-6323
email: asroc873@charter.net
Like us on Facebook [@fergusonneighborhoodnews](https://www.facebook.com/fergusonneighborhoodnews)
Check out the on-line edition fergusoncitywalk.com

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

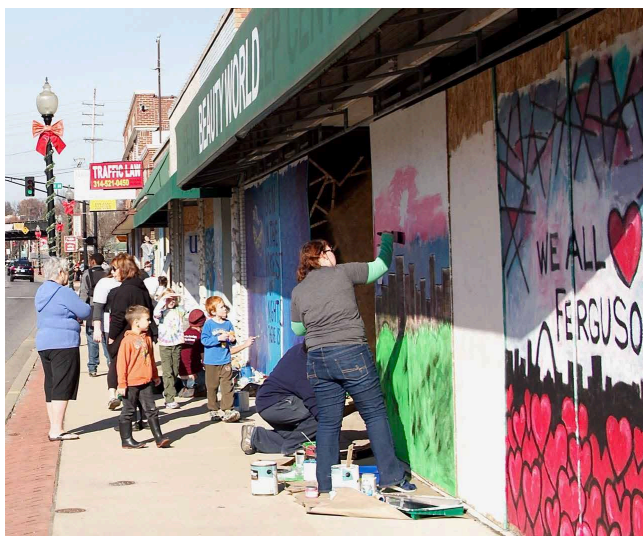
By Beth von Behren



Painting for Peace in Ferguson

By Beth von Behren

Have you driven through downtown Ferguson recently and noticed all the new businesses opening up? Maybe you smiled over the rebirth or had a pang of memory about what happened here eight years ago. Perhaps you wondered what happened to all the beautiful murals that were painted on the plywood that covered and protected the windows of downtown merchants?



Beauty World Painters

plans are in place for a public showing, an open house, and regular tours in late spring.

The exhibit was curated by former Ferguson resident Carol Klein. Carol grew up here and ended up writing a children's book about the plywood artwork, "Painting for Peace in Ferguson." You may already know the history, but what follows is what Carol saw and described.



Ferguson Hardware Painters.

In all, about 300 pieces of plywood art were created. Many of them were designed using symbols of peace and resilience - flowers, doves, even a phoenix. Some of these works are on display in the offices of Delmar DivINE. The exhibit is called "Painting for Peace." It is not yet open to the public, but

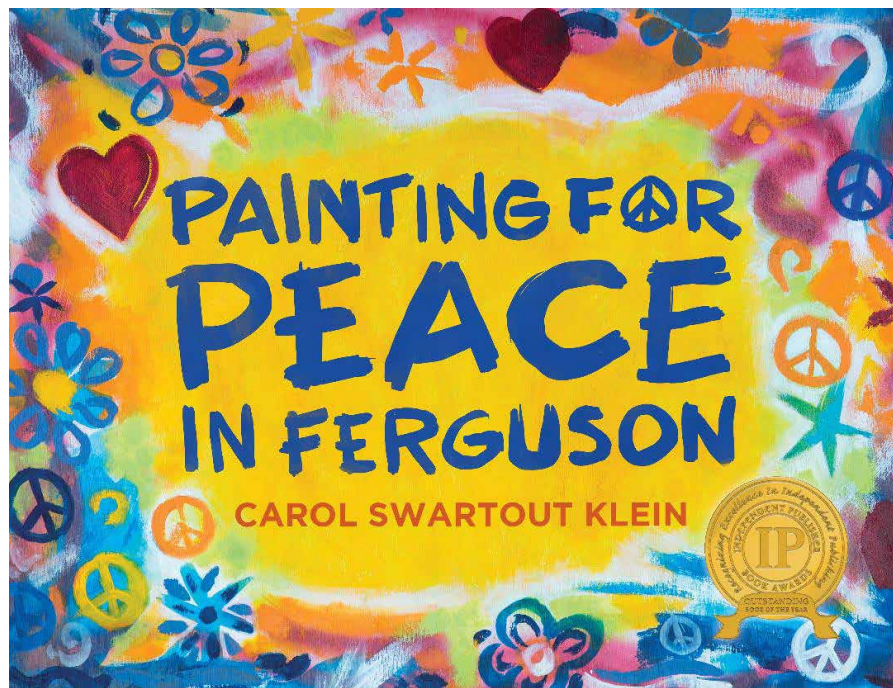
minority, and immigrant proprietors, were set on fire and windows broken in both the historic downtown corridor and the busy West Florissant business district.

The part that doesn't always get told is how the greater St. Louis community came together with Ferguson residents and business owners on that Thanksgiving weekend after the protests to paint the plywood boards protecting those businesses. Word went out on social media, and about 500 artists, both professional and amateur, showed up.

Carol grew up in Ferguson and came that day to help. She describes what she saw as a kind of street festival because in addition to local artists, people arrived to help clean up, play music, and serve food to the volunteers. It went on all day. It took about a week for most artists to complete their



West Florissant Art



work. Several of the murals were still in place when I moved to Ferguson in late summer 2016.

"The proud citizens of our community have always gathered in good times and in bad times," said life-long Ferguson resident and Farmers' Market Commission member Kathy Noelker about that weekend. "It was the wellspring of others from outside of Ferguson that helped in the healing process in our community. The people who came with love in their hearts and showed that love through their amazing art works and who were also joined by volunteers who helped clean up glass and debris, helped feed the many volunteers, and found strength in numbers of shared good works."

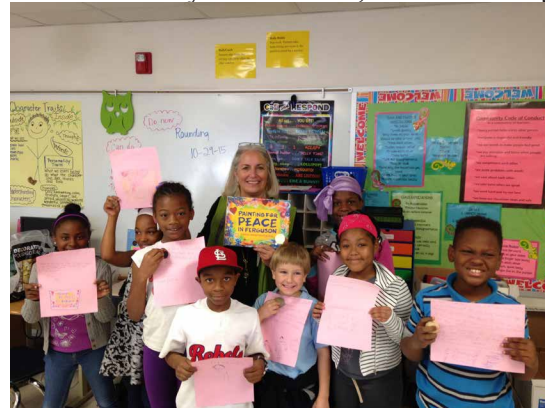
Eventually the boards came down and the windows were repaired. Carol started trying to collect as many of the murals as she could and has been able to locate and assemble about 50 or so. She took photos of everything and eventually wrote her children's book.



Maxine with Artist

Christina Carroll, one of the mural artists in the exhibit, said this about the artwork: "Everything was boarded up, band-aids if you will, while my community healed. It was amazing on the day of the mural paintings to watch as my community transformed from a place of pain and sorrow to the most beautiful gallery of art." [Artist exhibit statement.]

The Delmar DivINE organization was founded by Maxine Clark, the founder of Build-a-Bear, and is located in a building in the city's west end that houses meeting and event space, offices for nonprofit organizations, and affordable housing. Their mission statement says: "Through a combination of shared space, capacity-building programs, and support services, Delmar DivINE catalyzes a vibrant, collaborative group of organizations that deliver



Carol with Students and Book

effective services to clients, customers, and community."

Ferguson will always be the place where Michael Brown was shot and killed and where the Black Lives Matter movement found purchase. It remains a place where protesters gather whenever the need arises to remind the world that social justice is still a work in progress and that much work remains. There are many who live here who will always feel wounded.

Which is why preserving the artwork from that time is so important. Some of the plywood murals may have been destroyed, and others are housed in homes and businesses throughout the region. Carol is interested in helping to preserve any others that may need rescuing or restoration. If you know of any pieces from Ferguson or from South Grand, or if you have any in your possession that you would like to donate to this effort, please contact Carol at paintingforpeace.book@gmail.com.

Resources:
 Read more about Delmar DivINE at www.delmardivine.com
 Read more about Carol's book at: www.paintingforpeacebook.com or follow her on Facebook for updates about the exhibit at: <https://www.facebook.com/paintingforpeacebook/>

CROSSWORD

Winter Respite
By Robin Shively

ACROSS

1. Sting
5. 1945 conference city
11. Beetle's duty
12. Amos or Spelling
13. Tip a teapot
14. Pub pint
16. Locale
17. Big Coon cat
18. Plays
20. Tongue-twister commodity
22. Scull
23. "Children of ___"
24. Many an Irani
26. Military state
29. Easter and Christmas
31. Gen-Z sweetheart
32. Singer Morrissette
34. Sound expressing inquiry, perhaps in Canada
35. Only place in the world where alligators and crocodiles coexist
38. God of mischief
40. Blood carrier
41. Mature
42. Stuffs
43. Covered porch
44. Nook
48. Regret
50. Lyric
51. Longed for
56. Crichton series
57. AI-__
58. Dance center?
59. Geriatric
61. Popular college course
63. Ready for business
64. He has a system
65. Acquire
66. Gmail search option

DOWN

1. Secret supply
2. Strengthen it with some crunches
3. Pi r squared
4. Vile vapor
6. Birthstone
7. Labors
8. Vitamin D booster
9. Name associated with Beats
10. Hakuna ___
11. Siesta or Largo
15. Actor Greene
17. All in one's head
19. Nickname for 27th state
21. That girl
22. Lubricates
25. Grantham's dog
26. Relish
27. Noble UK system
28. Chicken __ king
30. Hockey feint
31. Light literary fare
33. Confuse
36. "Look up the instructions." (in text)
37. D'Artagnon or Cyrano de Bergerac
38. Number of cards in a Roman deck
39. Black __
41. Hoarse
45. Le Pew is known for his
46. Bribable and corruptible
47. Her face is said to have launched a thousand ships
49. Goad
51. Sunday finale
52. Filler for bags or boxes
53. Wall St. newbies
54. Tether
55. Mar on a car
57. End of a block?
60. Yuck!
62. A Kettle

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Solution on page 13



JESKE PARK NEIGHBORHOOD

COME MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS

FEBRUARY 9TH 2023
7 PM

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
333 N. FLORISSANT RD.
FERGUSON, MO. 63135



NEW

Ferguson
MISSOURI

Community. Focused. Together.

**Ward 3 South Central
Neighborhood Association**

Come join the new Ward 3 South Central Neighborhood Association!
Streets: Compton, Oliver, St. Louis Ave, Paul, Patricia, Lee, East, Wylie
Ct, Haley, Willman Ct, Elkan, Beardsley, Anabel, Wabash, Fermo,
Maurice, homes on S. Florissant, Redmond, Short and Adams.

4th Thursday of Every Month
6PM on Zoom
First Meeting: June 23, 2022

Supported by
Ward 3 Council Members
Naquitta Noah & Mike Palmer

Zoom Link
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/813427970917?pwd=Rk0tR204Y0RDSUJMd0krUS3oM2Rjdz09>
Dial in: (312) 626 6799
Meeting ID: 813 4279 7091
Passcode: 92888215
or visit: FergusonCity.com

**NORTH HILLS
NEIGHBORHOOD**

*Community
MEETING*

COME JOIN US VIA ZOOM!
EVERY
3RD SATURDAY

10AM

Call-In Number
+1 312 626 6799

MTG ID: 819 9311 4925
Passcode: NorthHills

Come visit St. Stephen's in February!

We have Service at 10 am every Sunday morning!

The Winter Farmer's Market will be on February 18th from 9 to 12.

Our Clay Café Dinner is on February 19th from 4:30 to 6:30 pm.
This month we will be having a Chili dinner!

Our Clay Café brunch will be on Feb. 21st from 10 to 12.

We will be hosting a Heart Health fair along with the St Louis County Health Dept.
Dellwood Pharmacy will be giving free covid, flu, shingles and pneumonia shots.

Tai Chi is offered every Thursday morning from 10 to 11 am.

We are located at 33 N Clay Ave in Ferguson.
Our office phone number is 314-521-0138 if you have any questions!

Georgia Denise Rossel
Broker Associate
Alexander Realty Inc.
314-323-7547
georgiadensells4u@hotmail.com
Facebook: @georgiadeniserossel

Let me help you find
your perfect match...

If you are in love with a house
near or far let me be your
matchmaker!!

A gateway to better primary care

The healthcare professionals at our Ferguson center are here to help seniors like you get the most out of life.

We provide transportation assistance to and from appointments (if needed), same-day appointments, telehealth visits and more. We're truly a one-stop shop for all your primary care needs.



ArchWell[™]
HEALTH

For more information call (314) 449-9727 or visit: ArchWellHealth.com/LiveWell



Hello Ferguson!

by Marian Linck

As many of you may already know I am employed at Norwood Hills Country Club. Traditionally the clubhouses on Country Clubs close at the beginning of the year. Typical downtime in January, February and March is three weeks or as long as eight to twelve weeks. This time gives the managers and a few of the staff to clean and make improvements. I am not important enough to be kept employed during this closure and that suits me just fine.

I have big plans for the eight weeks that I am not going to work. First on my list is take down and reorganize the Christmas decorations. We usually leave everything up and the outdoor decorations lit until Epiphany which is January 6. Outdoor items were taken care of promptly because one never knows what kind of weather January may bring. As for the indoor items, well it has been said "the best laid plans of mice and men". Let's just leave it there for now. The first week in January was occupied by the preparation of my mother-in-law's home for sale. We quickly realized the sale would go more smoothly if we removed some of the dated wallpaper and fixtures. We hired a painter, a great local guy. If you need someone send me a message and I will share his contact information. Then I scheduled an estimate for new carpet which should be installed next week. All of these events required that I be at the property occasionally throughout the week leaving very little time for my own home. I tell myself that everything is fine. I have 7 more weeks to tackle Christmas stuff, my mother-in-law's stuff that is stacked up in a spare bedroom and a storage space that is crammed full of stuff I need to organize.

Now, I kind of lose my mind when getting ready for Christmas inside our home. I think I have addressed this about myself in a past article. I get out Christmas dishes, Christmas stemware, Christmas barware, table clothes, nick knacks and of course we cannot forget the tree and candles in all the windows. I did not decorate the second floor this year, thank goodness. Now, the second week of unemployment finds me struggling with back and hip issues that have been plaguing me off and on since August. I am not moving quickly and experiencing pain when I am moving around. It is difficult and very painful to work on the house. I decided that in addition to my chiropractic visits I should add some visits to my favorite Physical Therapist. After the first visit with PT and doing prescribed exercises throughout the day, I am feeling better, and I can get started on my "chores". Not so fast there missy! Now I have some sort of upper respiratory issue. No, it is not Covid. I self-tested and the results were negative. I cough until

my ribs hurt and I am wheezing. Today, January 14, the day before this article is due, is the best day I have had in a few days. Oh, I almost forgot, I drove to Swiss, Missouri to pick up a half cow that we are sharing with our son. Add that trip to my botched schedule and not much has gotten done.

Now that I have all your sympathy and you are all playing your tiny violins for poor little me, I am fine. Thank you for letting me rant and share my miserable January so far.

Let me also add that my husband is sick as well. His symptoms are different, but he is just as miserable. I cough while he sneezes and blows his nose. Let me just tell you, we do not do well together when we are both sick at the same time. We irritate the crap out of each other. Patience runs thin. Not only am I aggravated by my own symptoms, his symptoms compound the aggravation. The feelings are mutual. We deserve a trip to a warm climate after all this, but then who is going to do all the organizing and purging I had planned for my time off?



I would love to hear from you. There is no need for more sympathy. Manhattanmarian@gmail.com



cough cough

Ferguson City Hall Information

Roadways

“We should not be scrimping on investments in public safety. The lack of infrastructure spending is costing us lives in America.”

- Senator Cory Booker



Hello Neighbor,

If you live in Ferguson and been driving around our 6.1-mile-long city of 435 streets, you no doubt would have noticed that far too many of our streets have significant challenges. With the ever-growing number of cars driving on Ferguson’s roadways upkeep is a challenge. The challenges to financially support and maintain to minimum standards are real and are magnified with the rising cost of materials and the demands of a shrinking workforce. But in spite of those headwinds, Ferguson’s Public Works Department is working hard to keep up.

Most municipalities in St. Louis County are entitled to Federally provided capital improvement funds, if they are participants in the County’s Community Development Block Grant Program. Seventy-seven out of 88 St. Louis County municipalities participate. St. Louis County’s CDBG Program strengthens and supports urban communities by providing quality housing and sustainable suitable living environments, and expanding economic opportunities, principally for persons of low and moderate income. Ferguson’s annual allocation for CDBG funding is \$155,300. Here is the CDBG Funding at work in Ferguson:

CDBG funds usage, by project, in the last 6 years (*NOTE* The streets listed are CDBG Funded Streets only)

Street Improvements (Schedule I) (Completed in the Summer of 2018)

- Royce Drive (1700’ X 26’) From Fargo to Lang
- Kirk Drive (1408’ X 26’) From Highmont to Lang
- South Dellwood Drive (1910’ X 26’) From City Limits to Lang
- Fargo Drive (West) (690’ X 26’) From Royce to South Dellwood

Street Improvements (Schedule I) (Completed in the Fall of 2018)

- Joyce Ellen Lane (837’ X 26’) From Chambers to Cheri Heights
- Cheri Heights (500’ X 26’) Full Length
- Bangert and Epple Drive (395’ X 24’) Full Length
- North Hills Lane (175’ X 21’) From Brotherton to City Limits

South Harvey (Schedules II & III) (Completed in the Summer of 2020)

- South Harvey Avenue (3320’ X 24’) From Carson to Suburban

The funds from the CDBG are used according to the Census Blocks in Ferguson. It is totally different from the Promise Zone designation program. Several other streets have been repaired and/or totally resurfaced in our community without using CDBG funds. They are: Florissant Rd., Frost Ave., South Dade, Robert Dr., and Ford Ave. The budget for streets this upcoming year has increase significantly.

Ferguson was also the recipient of a competitive Federal Traffic grant, the Surface Transportation Program (STP). STP provides flexible funding that may be used by States and localities for projects to preserve and improve the conditions of streets. Usually, there is a required local match for the funding. STP’s requires a 20% match from local communities. The following is an example Ferguson’s use of a STP:

Ferguson – Roadway Functional Classification Applications (Elkins Drive, St. Louis Avenue, Woodwind Avenue)

- WDG prepared the three applications on behalf of the city and submitted in May 2021, applications (including traffic counts)
- The EW Gateway staff has recommended to the EW Gateway Board that the Elkins-Atmore-Woodwind segment be upgraded to a Collector Road and eligible for Federal Funding (see attached exhibit)
- The EW Gateway staff is not recommending St. Louis Avenue to be upgraded to a Collector Road
- The EW Gateway Board will vote on official approval on October 27th
- Following approval, the City is eligible to submit an STP grant application for this segment (due February 2023)

At the current rate we are moving to tackle our street issues, it will take years to repair and upgrade Ferguson’s 435 streets. We must find a better

way to approach this funding challenge and to make these much-needed improvements in a timely manner.

The traditional approach to identify funding would be a bond issue, which would not cost the residents of Ferguson additional taxes to repair and improve the streets in our community. This approach would have to be approved by Ferguson’s voters. Ferguson residents would also be a part of the decision-making process to identify and prioritize road improvement projects. Would you consider this process an acceptable option? Would you support a bonding initiative so that these critical projects will no longer be deferred?

I look forward to your input.

“We have to rebuild our crumbling infrastructure, transform our energy sector and create millions of decent paying jobs in the process.”

-Senator Bernie Sanders

Connecting,

Mayor Ella Jones

City Meeting Calendar

Board/Committee/Commission Meetings typically have reoccurring schedules and may be held in various locations. Currently, to protect the health and safety of our citizens these meetings are primarily being held virtually (RSMO 610.015); via Zoom Conference unless otherwise needed. Visit the website calendar or agenda center for instructions on how to access public meetings and/or to view the complete listing of meetings, dates, times, etc.

City Council Meeting	Second & Fourth Tuesday	7:00 p.m.
Civilian Review Board	First Monday	6:30 p.m.
Farmers Market	Second Wednesday (Monthly “in season/bi-monthly “out of season”)	6:30 p.m.
FNIP Meeting	First Tuesday	6:30 p.m.
FSBD	Third Tuesday	5:30 p.m.
Human Rights	Third Monday	6:00 p.m.
Jeske Park Neighborhood	Third Thursday	7:00 p.m.
Library Board	Fourth Monday	6:00 p.m.
North Hills Neighborhood	Third Saturday	10:00 a.m.
NPSC	Third Thursday	6:00 p.m.
Park Board	Third Wednesday	6:00 p.m.
Plan Commission	First & Third Wednesday	7:00 p.m.
Redistricting	Third Thursday	5:30 p.m.
Senior Commission	Third Thursday	9:30 a.m.
South Central Neighborhood	Third Thursday	6:00 p.m.
South West Neighborhood	Fourth Monday	6:00 p.m.
West Ferguson Neighborhood	Second Thursday	6:30 p.m.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Tuesday, February 14th and Tuesday, February 28th at 7 pm; Council meetings are held in City Hall Council Chambers located at 110 Church Street, however, to protect the health and safety of the public this meeting may be accessed virtually (RSMO 610.015); via Zoom Conference. Visit the website calendar or agenda center for instructions on how to access the Council 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.

FERGUSON EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER – FLOOD RECOVERY/COVID 19

The City of Ferguson has created an Emergency Operations Center portal on its website. Along with information related to COVID-19, you will also find helpful resources regarding flood recovery. Visit <https://www.fergusoncity.com/> 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; Phedra Nelson, Ward 1; Heather Robinett, Ward 2;

Toni Burrow, Ward 2; Mike Palmer, Ward 3; Naquittia Noah Ward 3; Eric Osterberg, City Mgr; Public Relations Intern, (314) 524-5229

City Hall: 110 Church Street, 63135, (314) 524-5060. Website: www.fergusoncity.com Contact Us by Email: Information@fergusoncity.com

Ferguson City Hall Information

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

YouTube 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

Ferguson Parks and Recreation

Be sure to follow us on all of our social media for the most up-to date information!



Facebook: @FergRec
Twitter: @FergRec
Instagram: @FergParks
TikTok: @FergParks

Program Guides, Online Registration, and More: www.FergRec.com

February Adult Day Trips & Programs		
Becoming Jane & Sauce on the Side	Thursday, February 2	\$40
Chocolate, Chocolate, Chocolate Tour	Friday, February 10	\$50
Game Day	Monday, February 13	FREE
National Almond Day	Thursday, February 16	FREE
Charcuterie Board Bingo	Wednesday, February 22	\$14
Game Day	Monday, February 27	FREE
St. Louis Blues Game	Tuesday, February 28	\$110

How to Register:

Online: Visit Register.FergRec.com

Phone: Call (314) 521-4661

In-Person: Visit the Ferguson Community Center

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.

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.



Come Work for Us This Summer!

Ferguson Parks and Recreation has a ton of fun, flexible, and rewarding jobs available both seasonally and year-round. Work with kids at camp, soak in the sun at Splash at Wabash, or provide excellent customer service at the community center. Check out all our amazing jobs at jobs.fergrec.com.

Positions Available at Splash @ Wabash

- Lifeguard
- Pool Manager
- Front Desk Attendant
- Concession Attendant
- Swim Team Coach
- Swim Team Assistant Coach

Positions Available at Ferguson Adventure Camp

- Camp Counselor
- Group Leaders

Positions Available at the Ferguson Community Center

- Front Desk/Building Attendant



Goodness Abounds within Our Community

By Bob McGartland

We can find ourselves believing there is only negative news that happens every day when you read the headlines, watch the local news or spend time on social media. Well, I still believe there is plenty of good things that happen every day, they just don't make the headlines. Here's a story worth sharing with you.

Several months ago, Nasha L, brought her vehicle in to our shop for repairs. After running a few tests and inspecting the vehicle over we found there were major repairs needed to be done that far exceed the value of the vehicle. It was time her vehicle went to the salvage yard. This wasn't good news for a mother with 6 kids.

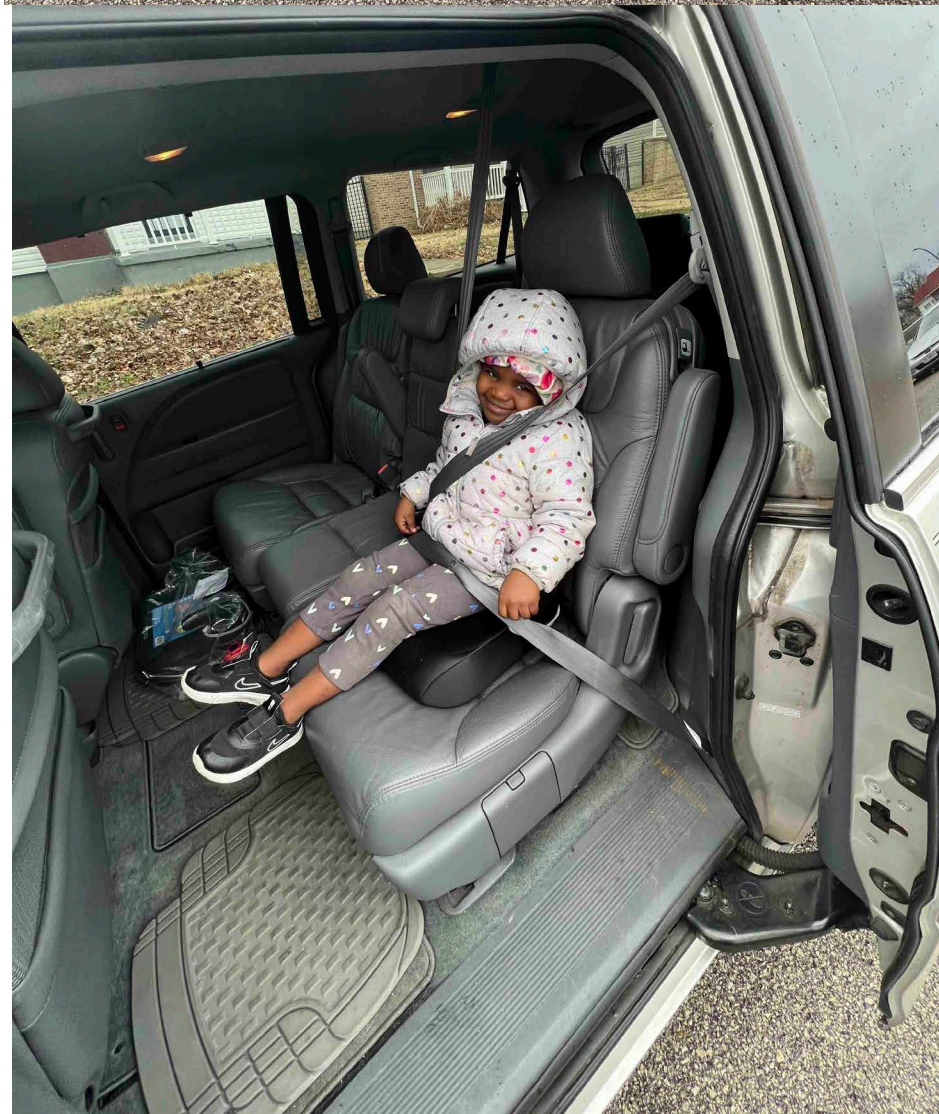
A few months earlier one of our customers told me he was waiting for a new Honda van he had ordered from the dealer. I asked him if he would sell me his old van when his new van comes in. He agreed to sell me his 2007 Odyssey van for \$1,500. There's always someone asking me if I have a good used car for sale. This van needed some maintenance, but I knew it had plenty of life left in it and that it would be a good vehicle for someone.

We fast forward to end of November when I get the call from my customer that his new van finally came in. I told him that I have a family in need who could really use this van. A few days later he brought in his old van cleaned up on the inside and outside to the shop. To my surprise he said, "since you are giving this van to a mom with 6 kids, I am donating the van to you." Generosity is very much alive in our world!

With some financial assistance from the St. Alban Roe St. Vincent De Paul Conference, they paid for the cost of the parts and tires. My technicians at Robinwood Automotive got the van in tip top shape.

2023 started off good with Nasha L meeting the person who donated the van to her at the license office to sign the papers and transfer the title to her. You can see from the pictures it was a happy day for everyone. For those who might not recognize the man in the picture, he is Gary Nadeau the editor of The Ferguson Neighborhood News. Gary has a generous heart. See him holding Naomi just like one of his own grand kids. Not only with giving his Honda van to a family in need, but also with giving hours of his time and putting his heart into making a great community paper The Ferguson Neighborhood News every month. Thank you, Gary, for all that you do!

If you have a story of goodness within the community let the paper know. They will arrange someone to get the details and write an article. Let's continue to share as many stories as possible of goodness throughout 2023!



What's Fresh: February

Joia Walker - EarthDance Farm to School Educator

As a part of the collaborative Farm to School Program with the Ferguson-Florissant School District, the team at EarthDance Organic Farm School has started the "What's Fresh" initiative! What's Fresh highlights farm fresh organic produce in its season, in hopes of educating families, neighbors, staff, and students on the benefits of growing and eating fresh produce. Each produce item featured can be found right here at EarthDance growing on our organic farm!

What's Fresh in February? Kale and Swiss Chard are featured this month. Swiss chard is in the beet family and packs a mighty punch when it comes to health. The leaves can be cooked like spinach and the stalks are brightly colored and can be sauteed and included in a meal for added color, crunch and flare! Swiss Chard is high in potassium, iron and antioxidants like beta-carotene. These vitamins and minerals offer great benefits for our eyes, immune system, cells and even our blood. Kale isn't lacking in the nutrient department either. It's rich in omega-3, a healthy fat that is great for the heart and lungs and folate, a B vitamin that aids in brain health. These two leafy greens are a great power couple!

Want to know how to prepare these powerhouses? Check out the recipe below!

Ottolenghi's Chickpeas and Swiss Chard with Yogurt



Ingredients

- 2 carrots, peeled and chopped in to 3/4-inch/2 cm pieces
- 3 tablespoons olive oil, plus extra to serve
- Salt and black pepper
- 1 large onion, finely chopped (1 1/4 cups / 180 g)
- 1 teaspoon caraway seeds
- 1 1/2 teaspoon ground cumin
- 7 ounces / 200 g Swiss chard leaves, sliced into 1/2 inch / 1 cm strips
- One 15.5 ounce/440 g can chickpeas, drained and rinsed
- 5 tablespoons / 75 ml water
- 1 lemon: juice half to get 1 tablespoon and cut the other half into 2 wedges, to serve
- 1/4 cup / 70 g Greek-style yogurt
- 1/4 cup / 5 g cilantro, roughly chopped (maybe substitute other herbs, such as parsley and mint)

Instructions

1. Heat the oven to 425 degrees. Mix the carrots with 1 tablespoon of the oil, 1/4 teaspoon salt and a grind of pepper. Spread out on a parchment-lined baking sheet and roast for 20 minutes — they should still be a little crunchy.
2. Place the remaining 2 tablespoons of oil in a large frying pan, over medium heat, and add the onion, caraway and cumin. Fry for 10 minutes, stirring occasionally, until golden brown. Add the chard, cooked carrots, chickpeas, water, 1/2 teaspoon salt and a good grind of pepper and mix through. Cook for 5 minutes, until the chard leaves are soft and hardly any juice is left in the pan.
3. Remove from the heat, stir in the lemon juice, top with a generous spoonful of yogurt, a sprinkle of cilantro (or parsley and mint), a drizzle of oil, and a wedge of lemon and serve.

This winter, you can find our farm fresh, certified organic EarthDance produce at the Ferguson Winter Farmers Market at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church at 33 North Clay Ave., from 9 am - Noon on the third Saturday of the month, through April. The upcoming winter market dates are: February 18, March 18, and April 15. In addition to cash and credit card, we accept SNAP/EBT and farmers market senior nutrition vouchers!

To learn more about Farm to School and other EarthDance programs visit www.earthdancefarms.org.

Follow us on Instagram and Facebook @earthdancefarms, or sign up for our monthly newsletter!

Visit <https://cookswithoutborders.com/ottolenghis-chickpeas-and-swiss-chard-with-yogurt> for this recipe and more!

Movement and Migration: The Black Diaspora

On February 10 and 11, the Missouri History Museum hosts February History Exploration Day - "Movement and Migration: The Black Diaspora." This event will feature the history of Black Americans traveling to or through St. Louis. At 11:30 am both days, Mama Lisa will present a free workshop about People on the Move: Exodusters of 1879



Mama Lisa joined by Abalone Pearl, Dusty James and the cast of Fundisha Family Folktales - Clara Brown 12-30-2022 Missouri History Museum
Photo by Shaun Booker



PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Aaron M. Harris
Telephone: 314.749-5379
Email: aaron@fyiferyouth.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Tatianna Hanna



Dart Ford

Ferguson Youth Initiative welcomes two new members to its Board of Directors

FERGUSON, MO—The Ferguson Youth Initiative (FYI) welcomes two new members to its nine member Board of Directors. Tatianna Hanna (Harris Stowe State University) and Dart Ford (Enterprise Bank & Trust) are starting their three-year term as members of the adult Board of Directors. Tatianna will assist in improving the college readiness mentoring model that is currently offered to the students that attend the after school program *Drop In* that is offered on Friday's.

They join a board that currently consists of Winnie Thompson (Chair), Trent Ball, Dr. Benjamin Eye Johnny Little, Monique Moore, LaTonya Neely and Genesis Steele. Adult Board Members assist with ensuring that the ideas from the FYAB are able to be successful and impactful for the community

FYI was created in 2010 in an effort to give the teens of Ferguson a voice. Today, FYI's programming continue to empower teens in Ferguson and the surrounding communities to become productive, positive and contributing members of their communities through their programming. FYI hosts the Ferguson Youth Advisory Board, a group of 10 youth that are eligible to attend Ferguson Florissant School District. The FYAB works with Ferguson City Council to create events and activities for the community. FYI also offers SLAM an opportunity for teens to express themselves artistically through performance or visual arts. For more information on FYI an our programming please visit www.fyiferyouth.org

Bravery in Pakistan

From assaulted to advocate
by Phul Berwick

Nadeem Hameed, Pakistani Director of our FREEDOM CRY (Life) org. interpreted for me in many intense situations on my three month long freedom missions into Pakistan.

One year ago a young lady from Nadeem's home church was kidnapped by three men, sexually assaulted, returned and dumped out in the narrow road down from Nadeem's home. Afterwards Nadeem was describing how they both retraced the journey halfway across the nation. Although she had been drugged, they found the primary attacker and had him incarcerated, a rare thing. Brave ones like Nadeem have to do this on their own. The laws and leaders are rarely on the side of minority Christian women. We intend to crack that cowardice like broken bricks.

Mini had told Nadeem after her ordeal that she wanted to become a lawyer. She has missed two semesters of school over the trauma. Her brothers wanted her to get married to cover her shame. It is a twisted thing, where in too many nations shame is laid on abused women and not the wicked men. We have CHANGED her brother's plans.

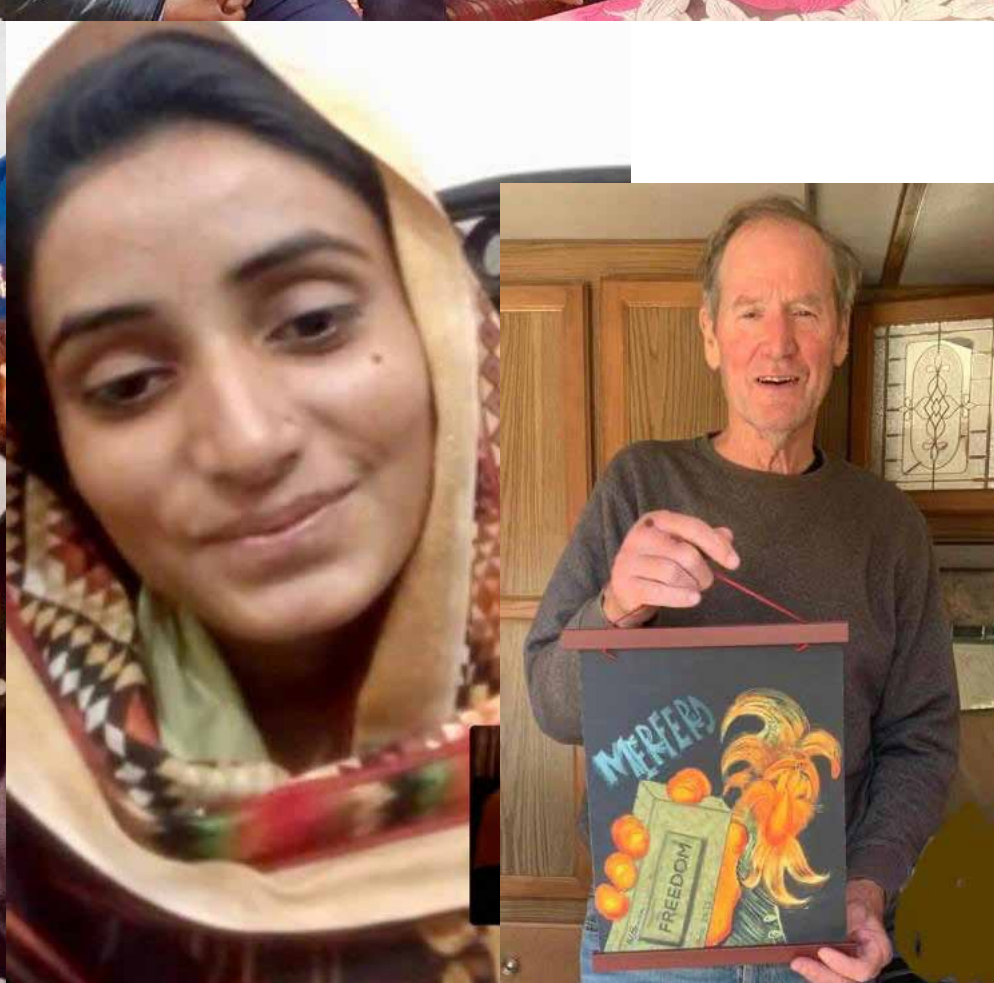
Yesterday, a year later, Nadeem was interpreting for me. Mini's dream to become a lawyer has not changed. I am informing her that beginning Jan 15 her dream becomes a reality.

Starting next week, Mini will begin her dream come true. For the next several years she will learn the laws of the land that will grow teeth, the teeth of a lioness. If any woman on my 1000 Living Tree Care, friends and family e-mail list considers supporting Mini in her mission, I can explain the plan and cost. I have her covered until then or forever.

Nadeem was pressured (as usual in Pakistan) from family members of Mini's assailant to make Mini drop charges. Nadeem and Mini did not give in. He leads 23 brave Pakistani Freedom fighters and Freedom School System teachers. Someday Mini will make 24, or a hundred and twenty-four. I'll be on my fourth month long mission in mid-March. But more than ever, I could use some 'Born in the USA' support.

Any who donate to our cause will receive a signed Merferd.

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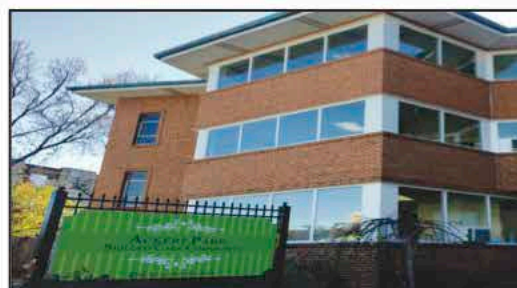
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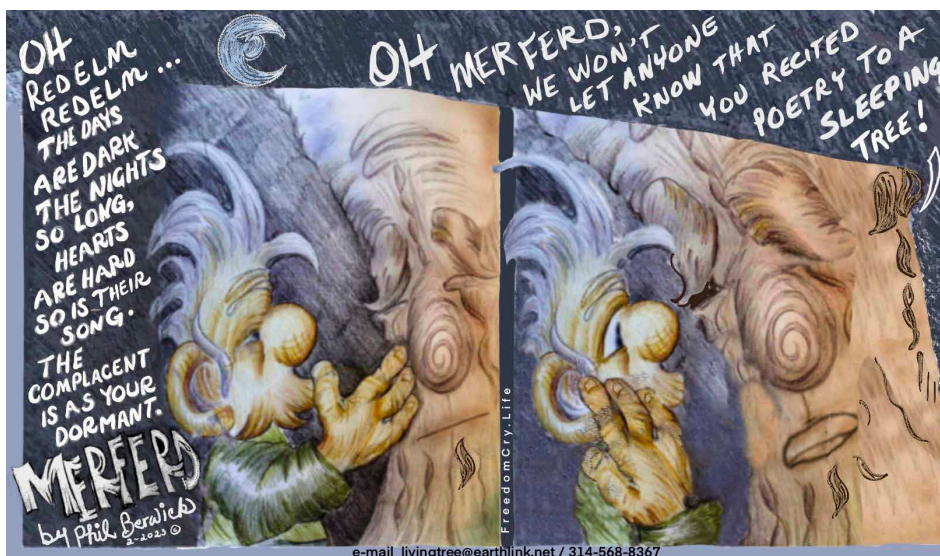
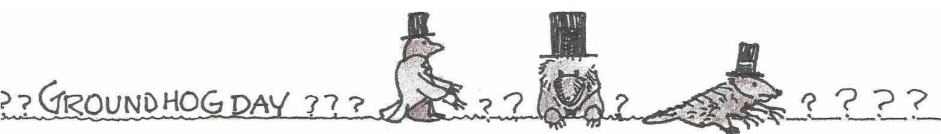
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Under The Hood With Robinwood
By Bob McGartland

Tires & Wiper Blades - Often Overlooked - Important for Your Safety

Two areas that we see regularly overlooked by many vehicle owners are tires and wiper blade condition. With winter here for the next few months, I thought this month's Under the Hood could shed some light on these two important areas of your vehicle.

WIPERS:

Even though our wipers are right in front of our eyes, they are probably the most overlooked safety equipment by most drivers. Your windshield wipers are constantly exposed to precipitation, debris, and road grime and wear out sooner than most of us expect. With the St. Louis weather and temperature environment, we suggest new wiper blades at least once a year. There are also some obvious signs to watch for that indicate it's time to replace your wiper blades:

1. Obvious cracks, tears, dryness, and/or loss of flexibility of the blade itself.
2. The wiper blades are leaving streaks or a film on the windshield when operating.
3. The blades are bent and not making good contact with your windshield.
4. Seasonal weather changes.
5. The wipers are suddenly making a scratching or grinding sound.

Wiper blades come in all types of sizes, styles and prices. We suggest replacing them regularly and invest in a quality wiper blade. There are more expensive brands that claim to deliver a better wiper experience. Most important is to replace the existing wipers with the correct size that your vehicle owner's manual recommends. If you are not sure about the size, stop in at Robinwood and we will make sure you get the correct blades. Even though they appear to be easy to install, sometimes they are not. You can extend the life of your wiper blades by properly clearing your windshield of ice and snow as best as possible before operating the wipers.

TIRES:

The only contact point between your vehicle and the road surface is your tires. For that reason, we always suggest you invest in a quality tires and have tire inspections on a regular basis.

Here are my tire maintenance tips:

1) Check your tire pressures regularly. Every tire can lose approx. 1 pound of tire pressure on a monthly basis. Under inflated tires impact the handling of the vehicle, reduce your gas mileage, and leads to premature tread wear. Catching tires that are under inflated can prevent the need to replace tires due to the damage that occurs while driving with low tire pressure. Likewise, over inflation can make the tires more receptive to puncture. If you do not know the proper tire pressure, your vehicle will normally have the recommended tire pressure on a sticker mounted on the inside of the driver side near the door latch, or just stop at Robinwood and we will let you know. The tire pressure marked on the side of the tire is for maximum inflation pressure. This is almost always higher than what is recommended for the vehicle.

2) Inspect your tires regularly, especially before a long road trip. Look for cracks, bulges, nails screws, or other objects that may cause a blowout.

3) Rotate your tires regularly. We recommend rotating your tires every 5000 to 7000 miles. Proper rotation will increase the life of your tires dramatically.

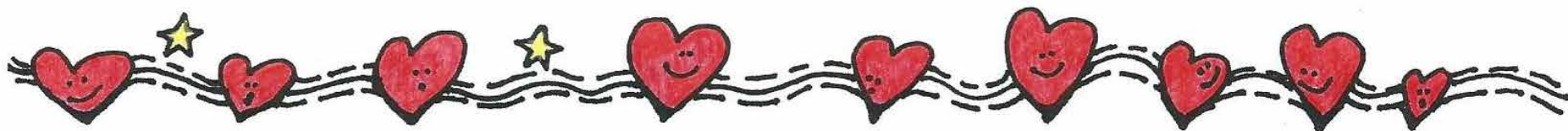
4) Don't install mismatched size tires. One mismatched tire can impact the wear on the other three. A mismatch size tires will also damage the vehicle's drive train components. This leads to very costly repairs. Tire are sold and installed in sets, so replace them in sets. It just makes sense.

5) Worn tires are worn tires.... don't keep driving on them beyond their useful life.

When do you replace your tires?

Repair facilities like Robinwood have a fancy tool called a tire tread depth gauge, that can tell you instantly how much tread life you have left on your tires, so if you are not sure, stop in for a free tread check. Also, all tires have a wear bar located between the treads and if the tread bar is at the same level as the tread depth, it is time to replace those tires. Lastly, you have probably heard the penny test. If not, here it is.... Take a penny with the Abe Lincoln side facing you and insert it in between the tread. If you can see honest Abe's head, it's time for new tires!

I hope you all had a good start to the New Year! As always if you have any concerns about your vehicle, Robinwood Automotive is here to help. Happy Motoring!






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Crossword Solution from page 4

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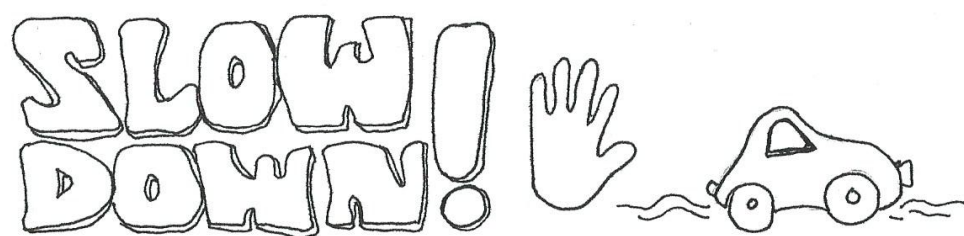
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#WeAreBTC

The Ferguson Computer Corner

by Doug Neely Be my Valentine! A day to give and to receive lots of love!

FEBRUARY, 2023

- 2nd---Groundhog Day! Will we have more winter?
- 14th---Valentine's Day! I call it RED Day; a day by any other name! LOL!
- 20th---President's Day AND Washington's Birthday!
Is someone trying to squeeze two holidays into just one? Probably. But, they will never admit to it...!
- 21st---Mardi Gras! For most people, this is "anything goes" day.
- 22nd---Ash Wednesday! Time to reflect upon how bad we have been. The timing of 24 hours after Mardi Gras is most fortuitous!

How Many Apps Do YOU have?, dept.
 Some time ago, I wrote about what too many "free" programs running on your puter would do to it.

- You must have 3 things available, in abundance, in order that your puter will always run swiftly and efficiently, like you insist upon.
1. lots of processing power (a powerful cpu)
 2. lots of ram (system memory)
 3. system resources (created by the operating system to run your programs)

Understand that these 3 things are LIMITED. Upgrading your cpu, IF possible, will only get you a limited additional amount of processing power. You can only run so much ram, as this, too, is quite limited. You can upgrade your operating system to SLIGHTLY increase your system resources. EVERYTHING in our imperfect world is limited. Beyond this, you can only decrease the demand put upon your system.

In the puter world, it is far better to LIMIT the programs used on your puter. If you do not, one day you will need to remove some (or a lot) of them. Sounds reasonable. There are some programs that once installed do not fully uninstall, or even uninstall at all. When this happens, one must wipe the drive of the operating system and reinstall it. Not a fun job.

Would it shock you to learn that your tablet and your cell phone have this very same problem? The people who make these apps for your phone can

offer these apps for free because they are so very nice and considerate, right? I don't think so, Dudley. They make \$\$\$ from giving you a free app. People just LOVE to get freebies, even when they don't know what all is in it. What's not to like? It's FREE, isn't it? The Devil just LOVES trusting souls like you! Get it NOW; PAY for it later! And boy, will you ever PAY. Ah! Worry about paying later! Not me!

They make \$\$\$ in a lot of ways, but mostly in selling your private information. Banking passwords, credit card info, putting a lien on your house, medical info to sell you some scheme, etc., etc., etc. You understand, don't you? Your private info may get sold several times before it is ever used. But old info is not as desirable as fresh info.

Paying For It., dept.
 You may only have to pay a few \$\$\$ to cover a fill-up at the gas station, or you might get a lot of \$\$\$ removed from your bank account. Or you may pay for Frank's new car. Whether you can cover your losses or not, do you really want to lose even a dollar? Of course not.

But Doug, HOW Can We Prevent Loss?, dept.
 Do NOT install ANY app unless you trust the source from whence it comes, and you absolutely NEED it. Do this, and it is very unlikely you will be hit.

ME GO NOW!
 I have to go and get ready for Valentine's Day! LOTS of stuff to do! If you want a free "app" that is totally FREE, and won't cost you anything, simply accept Jesus Christ as your personal Savior from sin, death, and the power of Satan, and be baptized. You will then spend eternity in heaven, not hell. This is big. It is literally the best deal you will EVER get. If you want to investigate this, just ask your friendly neighborhood Christian or pastor. You can even ask me. I will be happy to get you "connected". Go ahead; be God's Valentine! He truly loves you, and wants you to join Him in heaven for eternity.

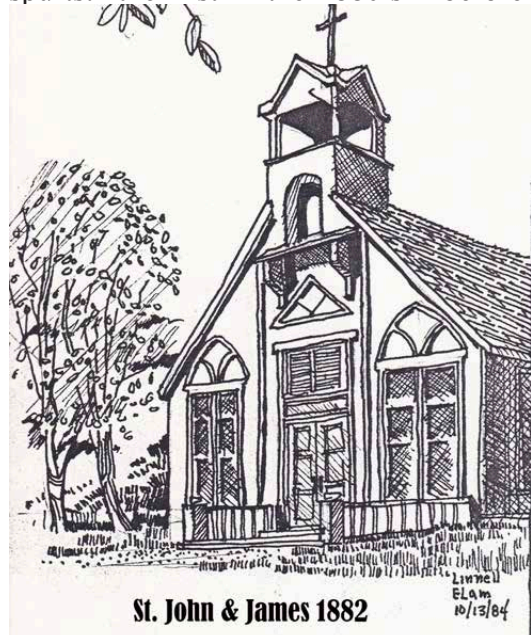
IF YOU would like to ask Doug for his free puter advice, please send him an email here:
 fergusoncomputercorner@aol.com

Be certain to include your local telephone number in your email message, and put this phrase into the subject line: "I need puter advice." If you don't do these 2 things, he will not be able to help you. Have a loving Valentine's Day!

Ferguson Has A History Museum

Ferguson has a Historical Society and a History Museum. We encourage any people reading this article to join in the conversation. Contact information is at the bottom of this article.

In the last two issues, we have been presenting information about three of the earliest church buildings in Ferguson: First Presbyterian Church (1871), St. Stephens Episcopal Church (1872) and Mt. Olive (1880). In this issue we will take a look at the fourth oldest church building – St. John and St. James Catholic Church (presently Blessed Teresa of Calcutta). As pointed out in earlier articles, the area experienced two religious growth spurts: the first in the 1880's – before the time of Ferguson becoming



St. John & James 1882

a city (1894) and the second following World War II as the airplane and space industry began its expansive growth. Sts. John & James was part of both expansions. As a reminder, these church buildings were not the beginnings of each Church as members had been meeting in homes and other churches years before the actual construction. For the remainder of the article, we will refer to this church as Sts. John & James until its merger with several churches and becomes Blessed Teresa of Calcutta.

The history of the Catholic Church (Roman) begins far earlier than Ferguson. The founders of Ste. Genevieve, St. Louis, and Florissant were all French Catholics who brought their faith to the area. We are not here to present this history, but a brief history of the North County area will be helpful. While the area around current day Ferguson had few inhabitants in the 1750's, the area around Florissant did have French farmers and explorers. In 1789 Florissant became a French community and built the first Catholic Church in this area. By 1820 that church was replaced by St. Ferdinand – currently St. Ferdinand Shrine located in Spanish Land Grant Park at the end of St. Denis Street (Rue St. Dennis) – a major historic landmark to be visited today.

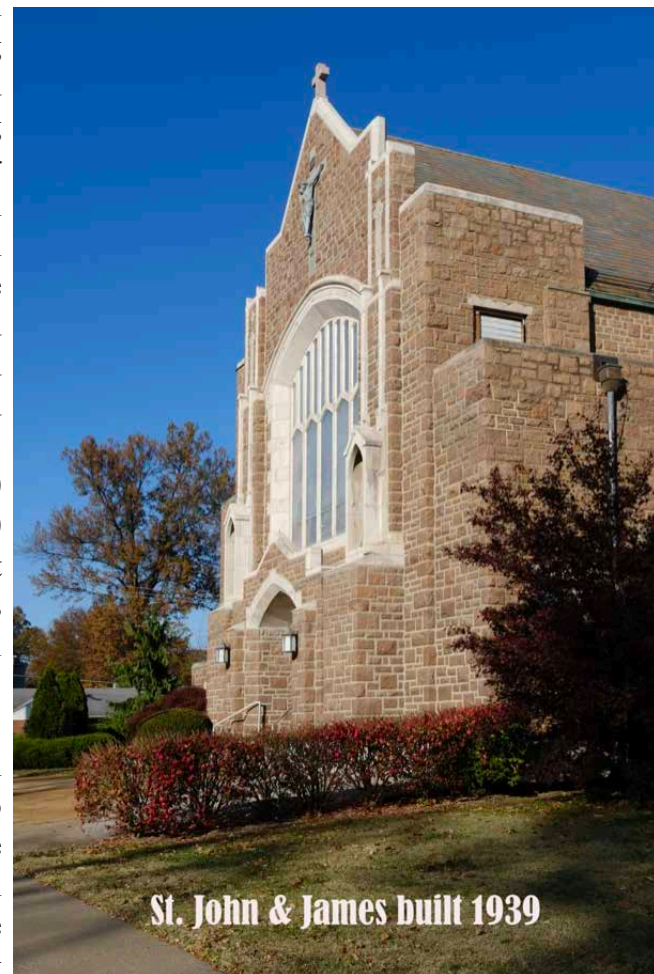
There were not many early Catholics in Ferguson, however by 1882 there were 10 Catholic families in the Ferguson Station area. At that time a small frame church was built at the corner of Chambers and North Elizabeth Avenues. The land and money provided by several Ferguson people with names you might have seen on street signs: Darst, Hereford, Chambers, and Larkin to name a few. This was a mission church supported by the Mount Carmel Catholic Church in Baden. Father David S. Phelan, pastor of Mount Carmel was the clergy for the new church. For 25 years Father Phelan would make the weekly trip from Baden (just north of the St. Louis City limit) to Ferguson – a considerable distance in these early years of dirt roads and St. Louis weather.

By 1907 the Catholic population of Ferguson had increased considerably. Archbishop John J. Glennon, in 1907, established Sts. John & James as a parish in the Archdiocese of St. Louis. Reverend Vincent J. McCartney was appointed the first official pastor. By 1918 the small wooden church was no longer adequate for the growing numbers of families. A basement was excavated under the old church with a roof placed over the area. Since there were not the funds to build a new church building, services were held in the "basement". For the next 21 years this served as the parish church. In 1925 a corner stone was placed for the future building, but the current church building would not be started for a number of years. On Ascension Thursday in 1939 the first Mass was celebrated in the completed upper church. The new building seated 300. Architects were George D. Barnett and A. A. Aegerter. It is a structure of Tutor Gothic style patterned after La Ste. Chappelle (a 13th century shrine in France). This is the church building which stands today (with additions).

The Church is not the only aspect of Ferguson History related to Sts. John & James. There is also the school. Along with the demolition of the original building in 1918, the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet opened the first Catholic School in Ferguson. There were two temporary classrooms set up to handle grades one through six. The sisters did not live in Ferguson, they lived in various areas of St. Louis and took the streetcar to the Ferguson Loop, then walked to the school. In 1925 a wealthy Ferguson resident, Powell Chambers, donated the money to build a granite school building.

With the building of the new school, the sisters got rooms on the second floor and no longer had to commute.

In 1942, Father Godfrey purchased the old "Adams Home" at 202 S. Elizabeth, as a convent, along with the field next to it (Godfrey Field – now a series of homes along Elizabeth and Godfrey Lane). Father Godfrey left after 30 years which included the building of the new church and the school. Following the end of World War II, things in Ferguson bloomed in population and activity. The school soon added a gymnasium and a cafeteria and enrollment increased. There were over 800 families and 500 children. Since that time, the school has been enlarged several times.



St. John & James built 1939

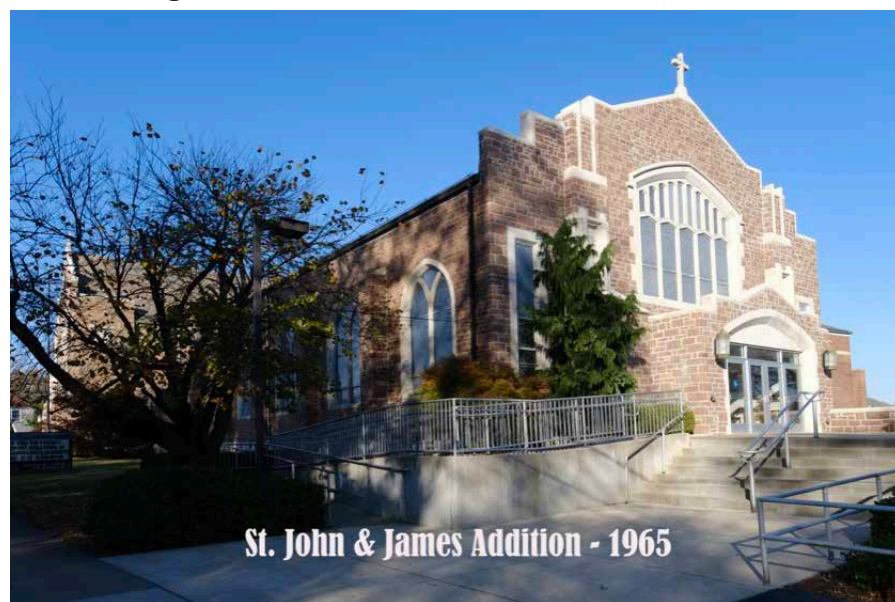
By 1960 the church and school were too small to accommodate the now more than 1000 worshippers. The 1939 church building was left standing while a new church was built perpendicular to it. The worship area was rearranged and services in the new building began in 1965. In 1964 ground was broken for a new convent and a subsequent rectory on the Church grounds (the old Adams Home was sold). This is pretty much the way things now look at the northeast corner of North Elizabeth and Chambers. As with all mainline churches in Ferguson, the population of services and school rooms is down from its heights in the 1950's, 60's and 70's – and the church has changed names. In 2005, Blessed Teresa of Calcutta was the bringing together of six area Catholic Churches into one Church and School. Blessed Teresa of Calcutta is still an active part of the Ferguson community. Today, those of us who have grown up in Ferguson, often still refer to it as Sts. John & James – a Church with a long history in Ferguson and a great promise for the future.

Next month we will explore another early Ferguson Church.

Stories of churches in the Ferguson area come from documents in the Ferguson Historical Society archives. The 1982 "One Hundred Years" from Sts. John & James Parish was especially helpful.

If you have any suggestions, questions, or items to donate to the Ferguson Historical Society, please contact Jerry Benner at atjbenner@mindspring.com. You are also welcome to visit the History Museum at 1064 Smith (behind the Community Center) by e-mailing the above address. Note: we will need to schedule a date for you, so ask well in advance.

"The Ferguson Historical Society is dedicated to preserving and promoting the history of Ferguson Missouri. Membership is open to all sharing our interest."



St. John & James Addition - 1965





The OT Lens

by Chelsia Bradley

The 5%: Black Occupational Therapists

This Black History month, I would like to recognize Black occupational therapists. Black occupational therapists make up 5% of the occupational therapy field. Institutions across America have implemented DE&I programming, but why are these initiatives important? An SGU medical blog states, “when patients cannot find providers that resemble them, their beliefs, their culture, or other facets of their life, they run the risk of not being understood or being able to receive the appropriate treatment.”

In occupational therapy, we use the term ‘therapeutic use of self’ to describe the idea of strategically using our experiences to strengthen our therapeutic relationships. Strong therapeutic relationships can motivate clients and foster the trust and comfort needed for them to disclose sensitive or potentially dangerous things.

When our workplaces and classrooms represent multiple cultures, ethnicities, ideologies, and religions, we provide the opportunity to learn from and lean on colleagues representative of the communities we serve. We expand our world, grow our lived experiences, and actively practice cultural humility.

A few of my past experiences have captured diversity in action. One example is when another student and I were working with a client of the Catholic faith. This student was also Catholic and presented the idea of praying with a rosary to help facilitate the suggested hand-strengthening activities. The client was receptive to this idea because it was meaningful and allowed them to work toward their goals.

Another example is when a colleague approached me about a Black client on their caseload. This client had decreased hand function. One of their goals was to return to managing their 4C (tightly coiled) hair. Having 4C hair myself, I presented different techniques and tools to try.

My Blackness has afforded some of my clients unspoken understanding and familiarity. My experiences as a wife, mother, military-child, non-traditional student, Christian, and St. Louis native are all diverse pieces of my life that I have used to connect with my clients.

As therapists, we often meet people during some of the most challenging times of their lives. By actively working toward a diverse, equitable, and inclusive workforce, we are helping our clients achieve better health outcomes. We are increasing their chances of connecting with the therapist they need when they need them the most. And we are providing healthcare providers with team members they can lean on when working through unfamiliar situations.

I want to acknowledge that nothing—including race—guarantees a shared experience. Making such an assumption can wreck a therapeutic relationship. Strategic communication, competency, and compassion are the best tools for understanding and connecting with any client of any background.

I am happy to connect with students interested in OT, host workshops, or participate in speaking engagements.

Additionally, I want to note that several universities throughout the St. Louis area have established a 3-2 partnership with Washington University’s Program in Occupational Therapy. 3-2 partnerships allow students to finish their bachelor’s and master’s degrees within 5.5 years rather than the typical 7.5.

For more information, contact me below!

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Financial Focus – Investing in Silver

By Joan Cleaveland (cleav73@gmail.com)

Business Manager for St. Joseph Parish in Cottleville
Lindenwood University – BA Business Administration

Seems like we are seeing more and more opportunities to buy or sell silver and gold. In times of inflation it always seemed like a good bet to invest in precious metals. Interest rates will fluctuate on many safe investments like bank products or U.S. Treasury investments. Stocks and mutual funds can be very volatile and considered risky. During the seventies and early eighties, high inflation was the worst we’d ever seen and the prices of gold and silver reacted by going up. It was around 1982 when my husband decided little one ounce silver bars would be great Christmas gifts. Those little bars are locked in my safe deposit box with the date purchased and the value at that time noted. Since I haven’t looked in several years, I am guessing the cost may have been about \$13 - \$15. Today the price for an ounce is about \$24.27. I do recall the price reaching \$50 an ounce a couple of times over the past forty years. So like the price of everything it fluctuates based on supply and demand.

So when I hear of the sale of government held coins that are available in limited supplies on ads in newspapers or television, I wonder if I should look into adding to my stash. Like any investment one thing to consider is when you may need the money being invested. You probably can’t just walk into a store and use your silver coins to buy new living room furniture. So it probably shouldn’t be considered a short term investment. One commercial I’ve heard suggests that these Silver Morgan dollars are being sold to the public because of the government melting millions of dollars in the coins during World War I. That made me question the story, so I did a little checking and found out it is true. It also helped me consider the difficult task Congress has making the unpopular decisions that may in the long run be better for our country as a whole.

World War I lasted from 1914 thru 1918 and was often referred to as “the war to end all wars.” As we know it certainly was not and like many wars since, the United States was reluctant to get involved. However, that changed when Germany declared the waters around the British Isles as a war zone in 1915, they began using submarines to sink merchant ships and

passenger vessels including the Lusitania. With Americans on board some of the ships, public opinion against Germany increased. Within the next couple of years Congress passed a \$250 million arms appropriation bill to prepare for war and President Woodrow Wilson declared war on Germany in April 1917, Military spending had created havoc with the economies of the European Allied forces. Most countries had suspended the use of coins made from precious metals like gold and silver to enable them to finance the war effort. Paying internationally was typically done in gold, however with a shortage and the need to keep reserves the Pittman Act of 1918 was enacted by Congress. While Britain was forced to pay with paper silver certificates to make purchases from India – there was concern about their ability to actually back up the silver certificates with silver.

This worked out well to allow the U.S. to pay with silver rather than gold for aircraft, ammunition and other wartime supplies from our European Allies, especially Britain which needed to be able to back up their silver certificates. Essentially, this legislation allowed the government to meltdown over 270 million Morgan silver dollars. The specifics of the law were spelled out, “An act to conserve the gold supply of the United States; to permit the settlement in silver of trade balances adverse to the United States; to provide silver for subsidiary coinage and for commercial use; to assist foreign governments at war with the enemies of the United States; and for the above purposes to stabilize the price and encourage the production of silver.” It authorized the destruction of up to 350 million silver dollars, as needed, for the goals stated above. Furthermore, it required the U.S. Mint to buy bullion from U.S. mining companies at above-market rates of \$1 per ounce that had been charged to Britain to mint replacements for the silver dollars that had been melted down! While in today’s world there may be more arguments about passing such legislation, it does make one wonder if putting the long term success of the war effort and following through with the replenishment of the melted coins allowed for a better outcome. Some believe that had this not been done, the Allies would have lost the war and suffered from an economic meltdown.


With those in charge today, we can only hope that they would put country before party and get down to the business should such an emergency become necessary today. Meanwhile, maybe buying some silver coins or ounce bars wouldn’t be such a bad idea. If you have any questions or comments please contact me at cleav73@gmail.com.



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