



Ferguson

NEIGHBORHOOD

2021 NEWS 2021



Serving Ferguson and Surrounding Communities since 2021

A Unified Front: Strengthening Ferguson Together

Greetings Ferguson Residents,

This is Chief Troy Doyle. As we move forward, I want to take a moment to discuss something very close to my heart — our Ferguson community. We are all part of a shared fabric, tied by bonds of neighborhood and city that we each have a stake in strengthening.

While serving as your Police Chief, my primary responsibility is ensuring your safety and security. This role, however, extends beyond just addressing crime — it involves tackling the quality of life issues that affect us all. We are not just a city with residents; we are a community, a family, and it's important that we work collaboratively to uplift each other and our city.

We are all in this together. This phrase has been used many times, in different contexts, but nowhere is it more accurate than in our community. Our challenges are shared challenges, and our victories are shared victories. And it is this unity, this interconnectedness, that forms the cornerstone of our mission to create a safer and more prosperous Ferguson.

When it comes to crime prevention, we must approach this task as a team. While our police force works relentlessly to protect our streets, we need you, the community members, to be our eyes and ears, our partners. Together, we can maintain vigilance, ensuring that our neighborhoods remain safe and our children can play without fear.

But safety isn't only about reducing crime — it's about improving our collective quality of life. This encompasses everything from improving our public spaces to supporting local businesses and fostering a thriving educational system. In doing so, we can attract more investment to our city, bolster the local economy, and provide a brighter future for our children.

We also recognize that there are systemic issues at play, and these must be acknowledged and addressed. Economic disparities, lack of access to quality education and healthcare, and food insecurity are just a few of the challenges we face. But face them we shall — not as isolated entities, but as a unified community.

In every sense of the word, Ferguson is our home. Its strength and resilience are a reflection of us — the people who live, work, and raise families here. That's why we need to come together, share our ideas, and support our community initiatives.

In the upcoming months, we will be organizing town hall meetings and community gatherings. These will be platforms for all of us to share our thoughts, ideas, and solutions to the challenges we face. We invite each one of you to participate and make your voices heard.

We have a long journey ahead, and the road may not always be smooth. But remember, a community that works together, thrives together. Let us always keep our common goal in sight — the betterment of our beloved Ferguson.

Thank you for your continuous support and dedication to our community. Together, we can make Ferguson an even better place to call home.

Stay safe and stay strong,
Chief Troy Doyle
Ferguson Police Department

BIG SHOUT OUT!

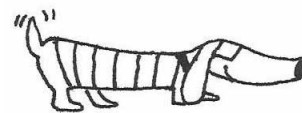
To my friends, the People & Pooches of the Jeske Park Community:

A Thank You to my Jeske Park dog-walking friends, and nearby Jeske neighbors, who I have come to know over the years; - all the Jeske area "People & Pooches", - I have met and chatted with, who have made our daily walks more enjoyable and interesting for Bailey and me. As you probably know, Bailey reached the end of the trail, quietly and peacefully, on March 30. She was about 16 years-old.

Words are so very inadequate to express my gratitude for your thoughtfulness and kindness in memorializing Bailey with a dogwood tree in our beautiful park, and are equally inadequate to express my appreciation for the many friendships we have made with you, and others of the area, in our walks; friendships I value highly. You make the Jeske Park neighborhood, and Ferguson, a great place to live, and after 57 years here, I am prouder than ever to call Ferguson and the Jeske area my home.

I look forward to seeing you at the Park and around the neighborhood now and then.

Don Weiss



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 fergusonlibrary.net



Have you signed up for the **Summer Reading Challenge**? Don't miss out on your chance to read and get rewarded this summer!

- **Saturday, June 3 at 10 am:** Stories and Songs for Little Ones
- **Tuesday, June 6 at 3 pm:** Crafternoon (adults and children with supervision): Ribbon-Wrapped Cork Boards*
- **Wednesday, June 7 at 6 pm:** Not a Book Club Book Club
- **Saturday, June 10 at 1 pm:** Smart Start for Health
- **Monday, June 12 at 6 pm:** Readings on Race Book Club - *An Afro-Indigenous History of the United States* by Kyle T. Mays
- **Monday, June 12 at 6 pm:** Cultural Cuisine: Israel
- **Wednesday, June 14 at 10 am:** Stories and Songs for Little Ones
- **Thursday, June 15 at 6 pm:** Rhythms and Folklore of Africa
- **Saturday, June 17 at 9 am:** Orchestrating Diversity Open Rehearsal
- **Tuesday, June 20 at 3 pm:** Crafternoon (adults and children with supervision): Tape-Resist Painting*
- **Wednesday, June 21 at 6pm:** Cultural Cuisine: Bolivia
- **Saturday, June 24 at 2 pm:** Perler Bead a Palooza (kids and teens)*
- **Tuesday, June 27 at 10 am:** Fingerpaint Fun (children 5 and under)*
- **Thursday, June 29 from 1-5 pm:** College Connections Center (teens)
- **Mondays from 9-12 pm:** Ferguson Sewing Club
- **Tuesdays from 1:15-4 pm:** CAASTLC At Your Library

Programs marked * require registration

June Craft Kits

- **June 12-17:** Friendship Bracelets
- **June 26 - July 1:** Hot Air Balloon

THE LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY, JUNE 19 FOR JUNETEENTH.

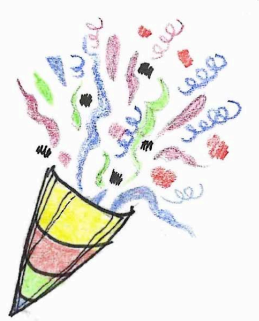
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PERMIT NO. 9

312 Calverton Rd.
St. Louis, MO 63135

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

June Celebration Shout-outs



- 2 - Happy Birthday Dick Bowes
- 5 - Happy 90th Birthday Marge Steffens!
- 10 - Happy 13th Birthday James Nadeau
- 19 - Happy 92nd Birthday Virginia Heitmann



Email Shout-outs to asroc873@charter.net - deadline is the 15th of each month

June at a Glance

8 Jeske Park Neighborhood Association Meeting 7PM

14 Flag Day



17 NorthHills Neighborhood Meeting 10AM (see ad page 4)

18 Fathers Day

19 Juneteenth

21 West Ferguson Neighborhood Meeting 6PM

22 South Central Neighborhood Meeting 6PM (see ad page 4)

26 South West Neighborhood Meeting 6PM (see ad page 4)

29 Eid al-Adha



When I think of Fathers Day I naturally think of my father. While not perfect, he provided for us. At times that was difficult as he quit his job and with nine others started a graphics firm downtown at 7th and Chestnut. Being self employed, it was often feast or famine. But we were blessed. Dad loved Mom and they were married for over 60 years. Dad was a veteran of World war II which most dads of the era were.

Dads are BBQ kings. Dads wear strange outfits. Some dads are full of Dad jokes. Dads are our couches, our mentors, our fishing and hunting buddies. Dads cut grass, shovel snow, clean gutters, bait hooks, work on small engines, paint houses, fix leaky faucets, and chase away monsters.

Dads have a tough job. Most worry about providing for their families, making sure the mortgage is paid and food is in the pantry. No matter what the problem or issue: Dads seem to make it okay.

I hope this Father's Day is a blessing to all Dads. Sit back, relax, fire up the grill. Dad, you deserve it.

Contributors wanted!

We are always looking for new perspectives from our community. If you enjoy writing or have a talent for talking to people and transfer that to the written word then we would love to hear from you. As we are all volunteers, this is a non-paying position.

What's Happening in your Neighborhood That's Good?

We seem to be bombarded with all the negatives in life. Wouldn't it be nice to hear, see, or read something positive? We would love to hear about good things happening around our community. If you notice something good, please us know so we can share it. Let's all look for the good; in each other, and in our community. (photos are always welcome)

FERGUSON PARTNERSHIP OF CHURCHES VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



June 26 – June 30, 2023 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Immanuel UCC Educational Building
221 Church Street...Fellowship Hall Entrance

Ages 5-years-old-(by July 31) - 6th grade (completed)
Volunteers- 7th grade (completed) & older!
Registration Now Open!



FERGUSON PARTNERSHIP OF CHURCHES
BLESSED TERESA OF CALCUTTA CATHOLIC CHURCH,
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH-FERG, IMMANUEL UCC, ST. PETERS UCC,
ST. STEPHENS EPISCOPAL CHURCH, ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



The Ferguson Newspaper Group may be reached

text/voice: 314 249-6323
email: asroc873@charter.net
Like us on Facebook @fergusonneighborhoodnews
On-line edition fergusonsmallbusinessdistrict.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 Gary: asroc873@charter.net

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

Ferguson Newspaper Group
312 Calverton Road
St. Louis, Mo. 63135

Give a congratulatory shout out for only \$5

ARTFUL CONSIDERATIONS



By Beth von Behren

New Artistic Opportunities in North County



If you visit the Ferguson Farmers' Market regularly, you will find a new arts-oriented vendor and booth this summer. JAACK Art Studio, based in Florissant, will visit the Market several times this summer to introduce their business and to invite people of all ages to sit for a few minutes and either paint or do some artistic crafts.

JAACK offers several free arts opportunities through its Foundation for the Arts, where their mission is: "Enhancing the Community One Brush Stroke at a Time." Upcoming events include Seniors' 55+ Paint Therapy, Veterans' Paint Therapy, and Community Art Exchange. Their work is supported by donations, merchandise sales, and fundraisers, such as the "Network & Paint for Charity," held May 31. They also offer classes and event space for special occasions where your guests can paint, listen to music, enjoy karaoke, and dine. For more information, visit their website at JACCKArtStudio.com, or visit their booth at the Ferguson Farmers' Market this summer.

Calls for Submissions:

- The St. Louis Artists' Guild routinely lists upcoming calls for submissions for artists on its website, where deadlines and fees are listed. Please check them out at: stlouisartistsguild.org/calls-for-entry
- Art St. Louis also lists calls for entry on its website at: artstlouis.org. Click on the drop-down for "Get Involved" and select "Submit Artwork."

Summer Art in St. Louis!

Monet/Mitchell: Painting the French Landscape. St. Louis Art Museum, through June 25. More info: SLAM.org.

Action/Abstraction Redefined: Modern Native Art, 1940s-1970s. St. Louis Art Museum. First ticketed exhibit of modern Native American Art at SLAM. June 24 to September 3. More info: SLAM.org.

Chihuly in the Garden 2023. Missouri Botanical Gardens, through October 15. Chihuly Nights, Thursday thru Sunday nights, 6pm-10pm, through August 27. More info: Mobot.org.

Circus Flora Presents "Undercover." The Big Top, June 1 thru 21. More info/tickets: circusflora.org

St. Louis Shakespeare Festival presents "Twelfth Night." May 31 to June 25, Forest Park, Shakespeare Glen. FREE. More info: stlshakes.org

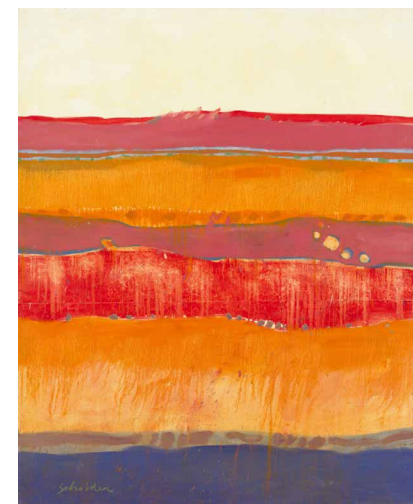
Opera Theatre of St. Louis Opens 2023 Season with Scott Joplin's "Treemonisha" (through June 24). Upcoming: "Tosca," May 27 to June 25. "Cosi fan Tutte," June 4-23. "Susannah," June 10-24. More info/tickets: Opera-Stl.org

STAGES St. Louis presents Elton John's and Tim Rice's "Aida." June 2 to July 2. Kirkwood Performing Arts Center. More info/tickets: stagesstlouis.org

Twangfest. June 7 to 10, at Off Broadway. Info/schedule/tickets: twangfest.com

Right:
Artwork by Fritz Scholder

Below:
Shakespeare Festival in Forest Park



Looking for a new man cave? Let me help you find the perfect one.

Happy Father's Day!

Georgia Denise Rossel
Alexander Realty—314.323.7547
georgiadells4u@hotmail.com




CROSSWORD

Caught Up In The System

By Robin Shively

ACROSS

1. Minibike cousin
5. Online business name
10. Imitate
11. "The ___ of the Greasepaint..."
13. Weirdest
16. School or church head
18. Second name of a kit
20. "Mr. Holland's ___"
21. Calvin Cardozar Broadus, Jr.
24. Product that comes in small bags
25. Agave fiber
26. Father of the Titans
28. Boob tube
30. Conception
31. Decimal base
33. Motive
36. Spays
39. Andy's sibling in a 1920 book
40. Station sign
42. While
43. Irish stew ingredient
46. Positive ID
48. St. Louis to Atlanta dir.
49. Secret
51. WW2 patrol boat
52. At a particular place
53. Percolates
57. Gold meas.
58. ___-Boom
59. In the style of
61. It may be wedding attire in Darjeeling
64. Quicksilver
66. Spring training locale
67. Pick
68. Digit
69. Pleasant city in France?
70. Gaiety
71. Russian revolution mo.

DOWN

1. Blemishes
2. Accessible
3. Rio Grande tributary
4. Ear or eye medicine
5. Bummer
6. '60's chic
7. Pop-up
8. A rite answer
9. Master of the Oceans
12. Consecrate
14. Seeks reparations
15. JFK org.
17. Labors
19. "Falling ___ warning", Florida cold weather alert
22. Dated
23. Aura, Sky and Vue maker
27. Mesh
28. Disney World transporter
29. 1969 Shocking Blue tune
32. Property
34. Adam or Atom
35. Fumes
37. Muslim festival
38. Files
41. "Enough" number of women justices on the Supreme Court, per Ruth Bader Ginsburg
44. Yoga type
45. "JAG" spin-off
47. Possible pub pint pour
50. In danger's way
52. Forest giraffe
53. Slumbered
54. Soil
55. Mickey's pet
56. Howard's friend
59. Love god
60. Kiev refusal
62. Center of heliocentrism
63. Graph or meteor extension
65. Arabian Nights bird

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Solution on page 13



Ward 3 Southwest Neighborhood Association

**4th Monday of Every Month
6 PM on Zoom**

Supported by
Ward 3 Council Members
Naquittia Noah & Mike Palmer



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, Wylin Ct, Haley, Willman Ct, Elkan, Beardsley, Anabel, Wabash, Fermo, Maurice, Woodstock, St. Louis Place, homes on S. Florissant, Redmond, Short and Adams.

**4th Thursday of Every Month
6PM on Zoom**

Supported by
Ward 3 Council Members
Naquittia Noah & Mike Palmer

Zoom Link
Meeting ID: 826 7908 5465
Passcode: 178001

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

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81993114925?pwd=UzJmVUJlMDhSbUZGOG1QSC90RGlqdz09>

Zoom Link
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89141306663?pwd=S2lXWGNGKdmlFOFdldlNVS0lrN0hTQT09>
Dial in: (312) 626 6799
Meeting ID: 891 4130 6663
Passcode: 678106
or visit: FergusonCity.com



Hello Ferguson!

by Marian Linck

Well, here it is, May fourteen. This article is due tomorrow and once again I have waited until the last day to submit my offer for the June edition. We just got home from a trip to Mecum car auction, something that can be included in "things I love". However, I am going to go in another direction and write about something else I love, old things.

I love old houses, old furniture, old jewelry, old clothes, not so much. In our living room stands a rather majestic upright grand piano. I do love this piano and there is a story to go with it. My son played it when he was young. I like to think he enjoyed the lessons and the competitions.

When my son began piano lessons, we bought an inexpensive electric keyboard just to see if he would play it. He seemed to like the instrument and his teacher recommended we try to get him a real piano. Funds were not abundant, so we began the search for a used piano from someone whose children no longer took lessons. Word spread quickly among our friends and relatives that we were on the hunt for a good used piano,



We had a few leads. Someone mentioned a piano in the cafeteria of Corpus Christi Grade School. I had to admit I had never noticed it, but the cafeteria lady certainly knew about it because the kids would beat on it as they waited in line for lunch. Enter Fr. Kevin Hederman. We spoke with Fr. Kevin about the piano and asked if there was a way, we could purchase the

instrument from the church. His reply was that it was payment enough to get the thing out of the cafeteria and make the cafeteria lady an extremely happy woman. Four men, two boys, a pickup truck, and a lot of swearing later it was in the living room of my little home in Jennings. When we moved to Ferguson two professional movers moved it like it was light as a feather.

This piano somehow speaks to me. It has a story to tell. It did not always live in the basement of a school but where and to whom did it belong? I learned how to open the piano, look at the board and get the serial number from it. The serial number would reveal the date and location it was built. Our piano was built in 1904. I cannot help but think it may have a Worlds Fair story to tell. I will continue to listen.

The first old piece of furniture I ever acquired was an old wooden rocking chair. I was probably 10 years old and was attending an auction with my grandparents near Mexico, Missouri. I told my grandma I really liked that rocking chair. She bid on it, paid five dollars and it became my first "antique". I still have that rocker. I tried to sell it not too long ago because my taste in furnishing has changed somewhat and it is sitting unused on one of my "porches". I could not let it go. That chair's story is not complete yet, I suppose.



I also own a couple of steamer trunks. Where have they been? Did someone come from Germany or Ireland with their precious belongings in that trunk? Was it on a slow boat to the United States at some time? What story can those trunks tell?

I mentioned at the beginning of this article that we attended the Mecum Car Auction this past weekend. I love old cars too. I enjoy seeing the early Corvettes because my father worked at the Corvette plant here in St Louis until they moved the operation to Kentucky. I look at a 1960's Corvette and wonder what hand my dad had in the production of the car. The Model A's and old mail trucks are fun to look at as well, but my true love is a 1957 Chevrolet Belair. A restored Belair at auction can go for \$100,000 or more. I won't ever buy one, but I can get my picture taken with a few and dream. I suppose most of the stories the car could tell have been restored out, but I can make up my own stories. If I had a Belair, it would not sit in a garage. I would happily drive it all over town and write my own stories and make my own memories with it.

Thank you for letting me share more things that I love. What do you love? I love hearing from readers like you.

My email address is manhattanmarian@gmail.com.



At the Mecum Car Auction

Ferguson City Hall Information

Our Ferguson 2040 Comprehensive Plan – HOW DO YOU GET YOUR FERGUSON CITY NEWS? Community Development

“Leadership is having a compelling vision, a comprehensive plan, relentless implementation, and talented people working together.”-Alan Mulally



Hello Neighbor,

In 2020, the community came together, meeting on many evenings, to create Our Ferguson 2040 Comprehensive Plan. The purpose of the Comprehensive Plan is to provide sustainable housing, outreach, small businesses growth, community wellbeing, as well as to highlight the city’s efforts to connect locally and regionally for improved transportation and development. The future sustainability of the city of Ferguson relies on our ability as well that of our state, our partners, and neighboring local government to recognize our cooperative relationship and work together to achieve our common goals; in short, the plan has high ambitions and cannot be achieved by Ferguson alone. It is important to note that the vision of the Comprehensive Plan is intended to reflect how Ferguson should be in twenty years, not how it is today.

This plan is the vision that we have set out to achieve. Vision is the key to unlocking the gates of what was and what is, to propelling us into the land of what could be, and has not yet been. It is vision that makes the unseen visible and the unknown possible. We must focus on the vision of the Comprehensive Plan that we have all taken our time and talents to develop. Let us start with Housing in Our Ferguson Plan and open the plan to page 45. It is stated that Ferguson has 9,800 housing units spanning a diversity of all types and sizes. Seventy-three percent of these units are detached single-family homes: fifteen percent are attached single -family homes or small multifamily properties (with tow to four units): and the remaining twelve percent are larger multifamily properties with five units or more. Approximately forty -four percent of Ferguson’s occupied units are renter occupied (ESRI, 2019) with the remaining fifty-six owner-occupied. Rent occupancy has increased more than ten percent in the previous decade, from forty percent in 2010: this is a trend consistent with that of the St. Louis region.

We must reverse the current trend and, instead, seek more owner- occupied houses. The benefits of homeownership are tremendous. Financially, there are numerous advantages associated with homeownership including building equity and increasing generational wealth. Through consistent and timely mortgage payments, homeowners can strengthen their credit ratings over time. There are also various social benefits generated through homeownership. Homeownership enhances neighborhood stability because when compared to renters, homeowners will remain in one area for longer periods of time. Neighborhoods are also made stronger because homeownership increases civic participation and promotes social engagement.

In a recent St. Louis Post Dispatch article, it was stated that Ferguson ranked the # 2 city in Missouri for seniors to retire in. Not only do we want to attract seniors to live in Ferguson, but attracting first time homebuyers to reside in Ferguson is a major goal for the city to work on among other projects.

“Setting a goal is not the main thing. It is deciding how you will go about achieving it and staying with the plan.” -Tom Landry

Connecting, Mayor Ella Jones

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council Meetings will be held on Tuesday, June 13th and Tuesday, June 27th at 7 pm. Meetings are held in City Hall Council Chambers located at 110 Church Street, and may also be accessed virtually; via Zoom Conference. Visit the website calendar or agenda center for instructions on how to access meetings held by the City Council. A copy of the recording will also be made accessible via the City’s Website after the meeting and on YouTube. Feel free to contact the office of the City Clerk if you have any questions.

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

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	Second Thursday	7:00 - 8:30 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	Fourth Thursday	6:00 p.m.
South West Neighborhood	Fourth Monday	6:00 p.m.
West Ferguson Neighborhood	Third Thursday	6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

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.

Ferguson City Hall Information

ORDINANCES AND/OR RESOLUTIONS RECENTLY PASSED

Ordinance #2023-3724 An Ordinance Authorizing The Mayor Of The City Of Ferguson, Missouri, To Execute The Deed And Acknowledge Other Documents In Order For The Real Properties To Be Transferred To The City For City Development And/Or Beautification

Ordinance #2023-3725 An Ordinance Amending The Boundaries Of Certain Wards Within The City Of Ferguson, Missouri **(the new ward map can be accessed on the city's website)**

Resolution #2023-13 A Resolution Selecting A Contractor For The Renovation Of A Conference Room, Awarding The Contract To Said Contractor, And Authorizing The City Manager To Execute The Contract On Behalf Of The City **(renovations at the community center)**

Resolution #2023-14 A Resolution Approving City To Enter Into Contract With Debtbook **(financial software)**

Resolution #2023-15 A Resolution Authorizing The City Manager To Enter Into And Execute An Agreement With Paylocity **(payroll software)**

Resolution #2023-16 A Resolution Appropriating Revenue, And Amending The 2021-2022 Parks Fund Budgets **(for the purchase of parks maintenance equipment)**

Resolution #2023-17 A Resolution Selecting A Vendor For The Purchase Of A Chipper, Awarding The Purchase To Said Vendor, And Authorizing The City Manager To Execute The Purchase On Behalf Of The City **(for the purchase of parks maintenance equipment)**

Resolution #2023-18 A Resolution Amending The Authorized Signers For UMB Accounts

For more information contact the City Clerk's Office at 314-521-7721. You can also access Council meeting videos and view meeting minutes on the city's website



Show-Me Missouri Healthy Homes Program

St. Louis County Promise Zone partners,

Join us as we spread the word about this fantastic resource for Promise Zone residents. Saint Louis County Department of Public Health's Show-Me Missouri Healthy Homes Program (SMMHHP) is hosting community presentations about funding resources for eligible Promise Zone residents to improve their home's health and safety. Grant funds will cover an average cost of \$6,500.00 per residential unit to address healthy home interventions and home improvements.

Eligible Saint Louis County Promise Zone residents qualify if their household income is at or below 80% Area Median Income (AMI), see the chart here.

2022 Family Median Income								
Person(s) in Family	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
80% Income Limits	\$53,150	\$60,750	\$68,350	\$75,900	\$82,000	\$88,050	\$94,150	\$100,200

CONSIDERING 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.



CLIP AND KEEP

HOW TO CONTACT THE CITY OF FERGUSON

Located at 110 Church Street

City Manager's Office..... (314)524-5252

CityClerk..... (314)524-5152

Human Resources..... (314) 524-5257

Planning and Development..... (314) 524-5257

Zoning Issues..... (314) 524-5257

Public Works/Code Enforcement..... (314) 524-5191

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The Ferguson Computer Corner

by Doug Neely

JUNE, 2023

WELCOME ALL to June! (If you guys have been paying attention, for the past several years I have been starting out this column with information from Wincalendar. What some of you may have noticed is that I often do not include some dates each month. The reason is simple; almost all dates have several things going on, and that extends to individual dates. Often, there are just too many to include, so I only mention those that I think are the most noteworthy to you. I leave it to you to go to Wincalendar.com to find the rest, if you have a mind to do so.) Here are my picks for this month:

4th—Trinity Sunday...we worship the 3 Godheads of the Trinity, being the Father, the Son (Jesus Christ), and the Holy Spirit.

14th—Flag Day...On this day, we show our love and respect for our country's flag, which represents us.

18th—Father's Day...Here, we espouse our love and respect for our fathers.

21st—Summer Solstice...This is the official start of the season of summer. (Like it or not, it'll be hot!)

I Guess I'll Have To Buy A New Puter, dept.

Many of us have been here before, even myself. Don't believe me? Let me tell you my story.

It has been a long time since this puter shop has been around. So long ago that I do not recall the name of the place, but it was a shop on West Florissant, in a small shopping center that was quite busy in its day. Yvonne was looking for her second home desktop puter. She visited many stores, including the big boy places, but nowhere else offered her the deal she was looking for. She was offered a "custom-built" puter with windows and an Intel cpu of her choice, either a pentium or a celeron. She took the pentium.

She kept and used (or TRIED to use) it for several years.

She took it back to the store to have it repaired. Not knowing at the time that it was due to an improperly designed motherboard, she took their word when they told her that they couldn't find fault with it. (She took it back 3 times, if I recall.) Finally, they refused to resolve the issue. If they had done the right thing, they would've had to replace the entire motherboard, a most expensive operation, to be sure.

Well, she went back to using her original puter until she had the \$\$\$ for a new one. Ultimately, she did get her 3rd puter, and it worked well for her. (This is where I get into the act.) Sweet thing that she was, she GAVE me that troublesome piece of s41t, and after much consternation and research, I found the problem.

Longer story shorter, I wound up removing the motherboard, replacing it with one that worked properly. It, too, has long ago been replaced, but I still have the kinda cool case. Were I to be so motivated, I could build it into a great and far more modern puter, but that day has not yet arrived.

So, What Is The Point Of This Wonderfully Entertaining Historical Piece Of History, Doug?, dept.

To that I say this: Generally speaking, MOST puters, UNLESS they are blown up with an ICBM, CAN be repaired. Most of us do not have such toys, and if we did, the cost of such would probably cost a bit more than a new puter, or a repair of said puter.

So Now What?, dept.

In my personal experience regarding puters, the owner of such a non-properly-functioning puter has to consider his situation by asking himself this question: how much will it take to repair it as opposed to buying a new one? Simply put, it is usually a lot cheaper to repair the old family stand-by. And I don't think I need to tell you how much a new anything costs these days. (My dollar tube of toothpaste now costs \$1.25---such a deal!) If YOU are facing a costly expenditure for your own beloved puter, you can contact me, and I will help you sort it all out.

ME GO NOW!

You know, don't you, that God will always treat you right? He will not ever replace you! He WILL REPAIR

you, and then you will work properly once again. Rinse. Repeat. As often as is necessary, which will be a lot. But hey, we are great at being sinners! Don't worry; God offers His own LIFETIME guarantee! See one of His agents in church to arrange for your own heavenly deal!

I'm going to church now, and I look forward to seeing you there! His blessings to you and to yours!

IF YOU need to ask Doug for some of his world-famous advice about puters, or God-stuff, or just wanna jaw a bit, email him at: fergusoncomputercorner@aol.com

Don't forget to put the phrase "I need puter advice" into the subject line of your email, and be sure to put your local phone number into the message area so he can call.

Don't worry about waking him up; he looks forward to hearing from you. :)






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EarthDance's Pay What You Can Farm Stand is open for the season! Pay What You Can for produce!

By EarthDance Organic Farm School Operations Manager Margaret Gerker and Outreach Associate Alisha Harris

We believe that access to healthy food is a human right. Our Pay What You Can Farm Stand offers organically grown fruits, herbs, and vegetables to everyone, regardless of income. You simply pay what you can. Our Farm Stand is handicap accessible. We accept cash, credit card, SNAP/EBT, WIC farmers market vouchers, and senior nutrition market vouchers.

And, new this season: Double Up Food Bucks and free, public events during Farm Stand hours! We hope you will join us!

Attention all people with young children in your lives! We will be hosting Storytelling at the Farm with Ready Readers on the second Friday of each month from 5:00-5:30 pm. Ready Readers is a nonprofit organization working to help increase literacy and lifelong learning. Come hear a story with us!

Also new this year: Every second Sunday of the month at the Farm Stand, Les Dames d'Escoffier St. Louis Chapter will be hosting cooking demonstrations. Les Dames d'Escoffier International (LDEI) is a

What's Fresh from the farm in June?

By EarthDance Farm to School Educator Joia Walker

EarthDance is answering the question, "What's Fresh in June?". This is such an exciting time for EarthDance because we are celebrating our 15 year anniversary! Thank you Ferguson for all of your support over the years. June is also the month that we welcome summer apprentices and continue to serve the community with our Pay What You Can Farm Stand. The pay what you can model allows shoppers to receive fresh organic produce while paying what they can on any given day. In addition to fresh produce, our farm stand is also selling plant starts under the pay what you can model while supplies last!

So, What's Fresh in June? We've got the Beets!! Beets are such a great source of antioxidants and nitrates, which can help lower blood pressure. This beautifully colored root vegetable is in the amaranth family, along with chard and spinach. That explains why the leafy, edible greens at the tops of beets look so much like chard. Beets and beet greens are not only great for eating and juicing but also for dyeing. The vibrant red color is great for dyeing cotton and wool items and also eggs. Try dyeing your next t-shirt using this beet dye recipe from <https://discovernewfields.org/>.

Materials

1 lb beets - I used three large beets
Turmeric
Water
Cutting Board
Knife
Tablespoon
2 medium pots
Tongs
Blender
Fine mesh strainer
Paper Towels
2 large bowls
Gloves
Cotton t-shirts and socks
Rubber bands
Gallon sized zip lock bags
Squeeze bottles OR a soup ladle



Instructions

For the Beet Dye

Chop the beets into 1 inch pieces (no need to peel unless they are extremely dirty). Place the beets in a pot and cover with enough water to cover the beets by two inches. Bring to a boil then reduce heat, simmer 'til the beets have turned a lighter shade of red and are easily pierced with a fork. Let cool to room temperature and place the liquid and beets into a blender. Blend on high until the beets are fully processed. Place a fine mesh strainer over a large bowl and pour the beet slurry into the strainer. Press down on the beets to extract as much liquid as possible. You can discard the beets or save them for another purpose—we made a spicy beet & yogurt dip with pita and it was delicious. Pour the dye into squeeze bottles if you have them or just set the bowl to the side.

worldwide philanthropic society of professional women leaders in the fields of food, fine beverage, and hospitality. Come out to the farm from 11 am to Noon every second Sunday to learn a new recipe each month featuring an EarthDance farm fresh ingredient!

And, Double Up Food Bucks stretches your food dollars so you get more fruits & veggies at participating farm stands. How it works: Bring your SNAP EBT card to the farm stand when you shop. Staff are there to help. Buy any fresh vegetables and fruit with your SNAP EBT card. Earn an immediate 50% off the total amount of fruits and vegetables purchased. Right now, we have Pay What You Can Fresh Produce AND a wide variety of Plant Starts (while they last!)

Finally, this month only: June 9th from 2-5pm we will also host a STEM Expo for kids of all ages! Participants will rotate through table-top demonstrations and get to select a STEM tool prize at the end. Activities include things like pollinators, compost stew, pot-a-plant, and more.

Come for the produce, stay for the learning & fun! We hope to see you this summer and fall at the EarthDance Organic Farm School Farm Stand at 233 S. Dade Avenue, Ferguson MO, 63135

Farm Stand Hours:
May 5 – September 24
Fridays: 3pm-7pm



Margaret and Alisha

And, starting in June - **Slow Flow Yoga on the Farm!** Starting Friday, June 2, we invite you to join us every Friday from 4 to 5pm for beginner-friendly yoga in the EarthDance Pavilion. We'll bring the ambience and instruction - featuring EarthDance staff and guest instructors - please bring your own mat and water bottle. Yoga classes will be offered on a pay-what-you-can basis, with a suggested donation of \$5-\$15.

Instructions

1. The night before fully wash and dry all clothes that you intend to dye the next day—this will rid them of any impurities or fabric enhancers and allow the cotton to absorb more dye.
2. Fold your t-shirts and socks depending on the design you want to achieve—there are some very cool templates online to help guide you with this. Secure your folds with rubber bands placed at five inch intervals or however many layers of color you would like to apply.
3. Put on protective gloves unless you want your hands to stain! In a location that is safe to dye in apply the dye either with the squeeze bottles or using a soup ladle to fully saturate the fabric on one side. Flip the shirts and socks over and then apply the same color to the same section on the other side.
4. Place each individual shirt and pair of socks into a gallon size zip bag and let sit at room temperature overnight and up to 24 hours.
5. After your 24 hours is up cut the rubber bands from your garment taking care to not cut through the fabric and unroll to see your design!
6. Rinse your shirt out until the water comes clear, we used a garden hose in the grass for this. Hang you garments to fully air dry in a safe location. After they are dry place them in the dryer on high heat for a full cycle to set the dye.

Pro Tips

- Remember with tie dye—LESS IS ALWAYS MORE. The more dye you add the more it will bleed overnight and turn into one color as opposed to two separate colors. Your garment will pop much more if you deliberately leave sections of cloth undyed.
- Your dye will fade when you rinse it out and that is okay! Because your dye doesn't include any synthetic setting agents it won't be as bold as commercially prepared dye.
- After the first test round we would suggest using one color on one garment—it ensures that you have less bleed in the fabric between the two colors during the resting and rinsing process.
- After drying your garments in the dryer we strongly recommend running a damp towel that can get stained through the dryer. Your next load of laundry will thank you!
- Use 100% cotton garments as they absorb dye the best.

Thank you for reading about What's Fresh at EarthDance and don't forget to visit us at the Pay What You Can Farm Stand, Fridays from 3:00 pm - 7:00 pm and Sundays from 11:00 am - 3:00 pm. We're also at the Ferguson Farmer's Market every Saturday from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm.

Grand Opening: B Juiced

B Juiced, a cold pressed juice bar held its grand opening on Saturday May 20 with co-owners Jada Huffman on the left and Brandace Johnson on the right cutting the ribbon to officially open its doors. They are located at:605 S Florissant Road.

Welcome to the Ferguson community!



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Sunday June 11, 1-3 pm

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Art work will be on display from the end of May to the end of June. This project is in conjunction with the UMSL Art Department and the Ferguson Special Business District.

MERFERD and The TREE TOONS

"Merferd Colors the World" By Wendell Phillips Berwick

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Get out your colored pencils. This is the continuation of a coloring book from Phil Berwick

Digital Ferguson - CCTV Camera System Overview

by David Pickens

This is the second article on security cameras and it's going to be more of an overview of a very different digital technology than the Ring security camera from last month. We're going to explore basic ideas about Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) camera systems. You know, the ones they are always hoping to have captured video of the killer on those law-and-order shows, only to find the camera isn't working, or someone evil erased the tape.

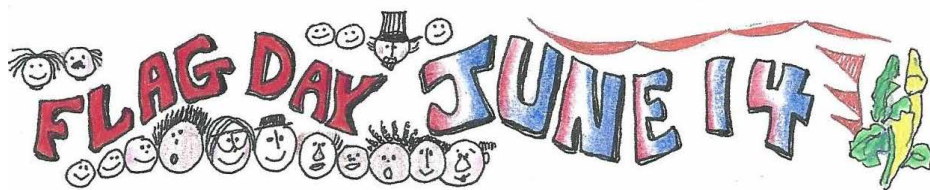
CCTV is first of all one of the least expensive ways to get a video camera system with a lot of cameras. Me being somewhat of a cheapskate, and handy with technology, this is the system we have installed. Yes we do have a monitor mounted on a wall in our living room, with six little video pictures of areas around our house. We can see who is on our front porch, and can see when a critter is stealing apples from our apple tree, because these cameras see even in the dark.

And when we come home, and discover all the apples have disappeared, we have a DVR – Digital Video Recorder – connected to all these cameras. The recorder as currently set up records about 38 days of high-definition video from our cameras for playback before it starts writing over old video. And so we can fiddle with our DVR, rewind the picture, and find out exactly when our apples disappeared, and watch the critters who took them, and play that sad tale over and over again. We can even save the video and post it on our Facebook page.

Now the term DVR I used above might ring a bell with you because you might have used a DVR to record cable, broadcast, or network streaming shows, or at least helped someone set one up. But before you perk up and say, "Hey, I already own one of those!" and rush out and buy some cameras to hook up – you need to understand the DVR you get from Spectrum, Dish Network, or any other outfit are not the same thing we're discussing here.

A DVR for a CCTV camera system has multiple video input jacks usually in the back – one jack for each camera. These special DVRs are sold with 4, 8, 16, or 32 video ports depending upon how many cameras you want to deploy. The easiest systems to set up from almost any point of view are the complete kits that contain all the cameras, special cables, and a DVR for recording the video. A complete kit with equipment for 8 cameras might cost around \$500 at the low end.

I just did a little survey and prices on these systems are the same or even slightly higher from when I bought our CCTV system five years ago. For example an Annke system with 4 wired waterproof indoor / outdoor cameras, all cables included, and an 8-channel DVR is \$175 – about the same as it was in 2018. What has gone up are some features. For example some CCTV camera systems now have the ability to see in color at night, whereas my system switches to black-and-white only at night. Also the definition or amount of detail captured by the more recent cameras is greater. You'll need to carefully read the descriptions of the systems in order to make correct comparisons.



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.

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."

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.

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.

One thing to be especially aware of about these systems is that some of them are proprietary, in that you can't mix and match different brand cameras and DVRs for example. There are some CCTV systems that its XYZ brand DVR only works with XYZ cameras. And in some cases if you read the reviews you might see that some other brand camera might maybe work, but the manufacturer won't guarantee it will work or be totally compatible with some software features. So I suggest for the less adventuresome among us, stick with a system that includes everything – DVR, cameras, and cables.

Now I already mentioned price as one advantage for CCTV systems because camera for camera, a CCTV system is probably going to be the least expensive way to add a lot of cameras, especially over time since there is no monthly subscription to Ring, or any other web-camera vendor. Another huge advantage is privacy because your video recordings are stored right inside the DVR sitting in your house or office, so no one up in The Cloud is spending their lunch hour snooping on you as you munch potato chips while binge-watching re-runs of Grey's Anatomy. Who am I to judge?

One big disadvantage is that these systems aren't wireless like the Ring camera system. You'll be running one cable for every camera, a thing that you might not think is a very big deal until you actually try to run some cables through some walls and around some corners and connect them up to your DVR. I have had this conversation with friends, acquaintances, and even with myself thinking this isn't going to be difficult but it really is, especially if you don't want your house or office spaces having weird spider-webs of camera cable strung all over the place. This is a job for a very handy person, or a very determined non-handy person, or someone who knows a handy person.

Another disadvantage of a CCTV system is a problem with almost every technology that needs user input to make it work. Sometimes the magic software works, and sometimes it doesn't. What I mean by this is read the reviews carefully, and if you find a lot of frustration with people trying to figure how to make things work – avoid! Some of these systems don't even come with a user manual.

I hope I'm made clear that a CCTV camera system is a really attractive system as far as price + features but they are really not for the faint-of-heart as a do-it-yourself type project. If you don't mind getting a little dirty and doing a good bit of poking around with software that clearly was not written by a programming genius you can end up with a very economical system that, like ours does, now that all the jacks are in their boxes, just works day in and out without much fuss, and doesn't cost any monthly rent.

David has been in Information Technology in almost every role possible for such a long time it would take a supercomputer to calculate. The first computer someone let him play with was in an F4-E. His first PC was a Timex Sinclair because he could not afford a TRS-80. He is currently running a computer consulting practice. You can contact him at david@bigpurr.com.

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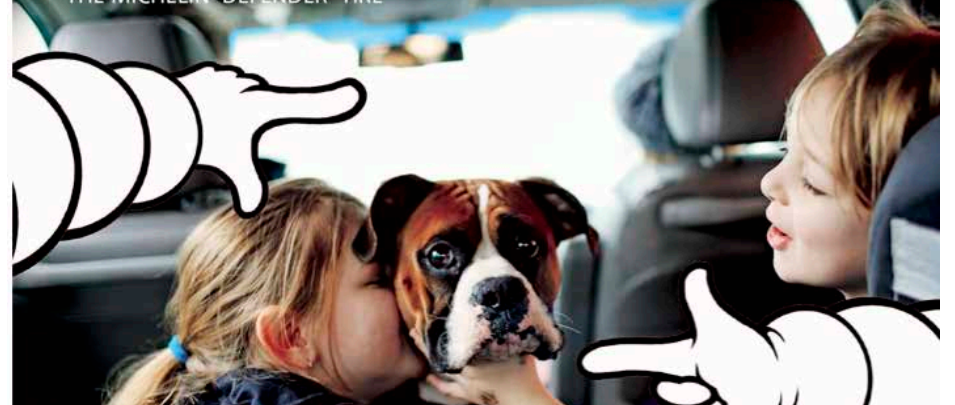


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Under The Hood
With Robinwood
 By Bob McGartland

Tired Tires?

As we leave Winter behind and look ahead to Spring & Summer, please take a moment to make sure your tires are ready for any road trips you have on your calendar. Tires are an essential part of any vehicle, providing the necessary grip and traction to keep you safe on the road. They do however, wear out over time and it's crucial to know when your tires need replacing. Here are the signs that your tires need replacing.

The first sign is tread wear. Tread depth is a crucial indicator of tire health. Tires have built-in indicators called "wear bars" that appear when the tread depth reaches 3/32 of an inch. If the wear bars are showing, it's time to replace your tires. It's essential to note that the shallower the tread depth, the less effective the tire is in providing adequate grip and traction. In wet or slippery conditions, this can be dangerous as the tire may not be able to provide the necessary grip to stop the vehicle.

The second sign is bulges or cracks on the sidewall of the tire. Any bulges or cracks on the sidewall of your tire can indicate that it's time for a new tire. These can be caused by age, impact damage or underinflation. Bulges or cracks can weaken the tire's structure, leading to a blowout or other issues which can be dangerous while driving.

The third sign is vibration or shaking while driving. If you feel a vibration or shaking while driving, it could be a sign that your tires are worn unevenly, have a separation in the tire's inner structure or are out of balance. This could also be a symptom of alignment issues or suspension problems. Driving with worn or unbalanced tires can damage other parts of the car and lead to costly repairs.

The fourth sign is uneven wear. Uneven wear on your tires can be caused by alignment issues or suspension problems. It could also be a sign that your tires are not inflated properly. When tires are underinflated the inside section of the tire wears prematurely. When a tire is overinflated, both the outside edges of the tire wear out prematurely, leading to a loss of grip and traction. It's crucial to maintain the recommended tire pressure to ensure even wear and tire longevity.

The fifth and final sign is age. Even if your tires look fine, if they are more than six years old, they should be replaced. Over time, the rubber in tires can break down and lose elasticity, which can lead to cracking and other issues. This process is known as dry rotting. Dry rotting can cause the tire to fail, leading to a blowout or other safety issues while driving.

In conclusion, it's essential to keep a close eye on your tires' health and replace them when necessary. Any of the above signs can indicate that it's time for new tires. Regularly checking your tire pressure, rotating and balancing your tires, and having them checked by a professional can help ensure their longevity and keep you safe on the road. Feel free to stop at Robinwood Automotive and we will gladly provide a FREE tread check and provide an honest recommendation about the life of your tires. Visit us at robinwoodauto.com.

Hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable Summer!

SHOOTING IS A RESULT. WE MUST ATTACK THE CAUSE!!

By Dr. Larry A. Brown

Sometimes "shooting" becomes the ultimate and finite result of frustration. Often, a person has tried to get resolution to a situation in all the ways they may know how, but either their efforts have gone unnoticed, or they have been unsuccessful. They have become more and more agitated because they have been unable to solve the problem or at least reduce it. The individuals may feel that they are being ignored or that no one else cares. Often, there may be others around who are feeling and experiencing the same kind of discomfort, but they are able to factor it in with their other pressures and continue to handle it. (Their cup is not running over yet)

Often, shooting is done spontaneously, without regards to the outcome. The brain has told the individual that this is the way to handle the situation now and completely. Of course, in a civilized society which ours is supposed to be, there should be other ways available, including self – restraint, and changing environments. If a person reaches the point where they feel alone in the situation, that no one cares about them or cares for a cure for the situation, and it is up to them to handle the situation immediately, is when shootings and other bizarre solutions occur.

I, personally, find it difficult to dwell on this kind of subject matter too long, without wanting to take some kind of action to eliminate part of the stress that it creates.

We may say that the blame lies with COVID stress, competition for the American Dream, lack of finances, defamation, or the many, many other reasons that cause one to resort to shooting, I feel very strongly that the primary cause is a lack of respect for HUMAN LIFE.

If we are taught again, as we were when we were kids, to believe that the worst thing that you can do is to take another person's life, then, we might find other ways to resolve or deal with undesirable situations.

Our culture of permissiveness, and freedoms of many kinds, has resulted in confusion about right and wrong.

The longer we let this kind type of demonstration occur, the worse it is going to get.

Even now, people are afraid to venture out, even to get gas, or attend desirable events. Many are even afraid to go to church!

Gun restrictions are not the real answer. Stronger sentences are not the real answer. Curfews won't do it. New laws won't do it. The answer lies in our ability as a nation and as a people to return to the principle of RESPECT for LIFE!!

We all must become involved in some way in this process. Visit www.gracechapelministries.org to see how you can help. The time is now !!!



Dr. Larry A. Brown is a retired Chairman of the Board and co-founder of Worknet, Inc., which has a national ten-year contract with the Social Security Administration to find jobs for people with disabilities who are interested and qualified to enter the traditional workforce. He is also co-founder and president of Grace Chapel Ministries, former president of National Cable Training Centers, and president of Woodstock Industrial Products Group.

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Crossword Solution from page 4

1	M	2	O	3	P	4	E	D			5	D	6	O	7	M	8	A	9	I	N		
10	A	P	E			11	R	12	O	A	R		13	O	D	D	E	14	S	15	T		
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Financial Focus – Debt Ceiling

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It seems like the financial news is full of doom and gloom these days with the passage of increasing the debt limit looming over us. Perhaps it has been resolved by the time you are reading this, however right now it seems like we are at an impasse. Of course this isn't the first time we've been through this. The following is from my column in November 2013.

We just breathed a sigh of relief because the debt ceiling has been raised. At what cost? So much damage has already been done and it is only a short term fix. Continuing to operate a government in this manner only weakens consumer confidence and what may be left of our reputation in the world. Hearing comments from other individuals and even some elected officials, there seems to be some confusion on what this fiscal fight was really about because we don't understand the "debt ceiling". If we are going to find this scenario repeated again in January, we better understand just what is on the table. So I'll attempt to explain in understandable terms exactly what the debt ceiling is all about.

The debt ceiling is a method to limit the amount of debt the government can create. I suppose if you want to think about it in terms of the family budget, it might mean the highest amount of debt the family budget could handle. And of course for the family budget, you really can't raise your debt ceiling too high or chances are a lender will not approve it. With government we can issue bonds to get more money to spend, however it is important to remember that these bonds are now debt and the government will need to pay it back.

Since the beginning of our country, Congress has placed restrictions on government borrowing. The first debt ceiling was imposed in 1917 with the establishment of the 1st Liberty Loan Act. Over the next several years, a 2nd Liberty Loan Act followed and further development of the debt ceiling evolved. Even before this our Treasury used issuances of securities to finance various projects such as the Panama Canal. Many wars were also financed by the Treasury issuing specific bonds to raise funds for a restricted purpose.

Over the years, changes were made to the debt policies moving us from securities tied to a specific purpose to utilizing debt issuance as a means to manage federal finances. As things changed and Congress began to actually pass a budget in 1973, many would argue that raising the debt ceiling is just a formality and causes more problems because the actual spending has already been approved. Raising the debt ceiling basically allows us to pay the bills we've already created. And therein lies the problem. If our creditors, those who have purchased our bonds and we are indebted to, get nervous about their investment it could have some devastating effects on not just our own, but also the World Economy.

So maybe it's time to consider the Gephardt Rule which went into effect in 1979. Richard Gephardt was asking many of these same questions about the need for a debt ceiling limit when budgets had already been approved. What this parliamentary rule meant was that spending that had already been approved did not require the additional step of approving a raise in the debt ceiling. This resolved the contradiction in voting for appropriations but not voting to fund them. For several years the rule seemed to work. In 1995, it was put to rest and in 2011 it was officially repealed. Since then our experiences with delays in approving a debt limit increase have gotten uglier. Now conditions that may be difficult accept are being attached to debt limit increases and it seems to have become a sport for some to see what demands they can force the other side to cave in to. While there are still many who do not like the Affordable Care Act, it seems a bit odd to have that as part of the bargaining chip to preserve the reputation and credit of the United States.

So many people think that not raising the debt ceiling will somehow reduce the deficit or that raising it will increase our debt. If we are serious about reducing the deficit, we should be working on it thru the budget process, so that spending isn't approved in the first place. And of course, that's the tough part because no one can agree on what gets cut. And here you can compare this to the family budget the only way to keep from being in a deficit is to increase revenue or decrease expenses. And since Congress can't seem to agree on a budget our elected officials don't seem to be doing their job.

Because expenditures are authorized by separate legislation, the debt ceiling does not directly limit budget deficits. In effect, it can only restrain Treasury from paying for expenditures after the limit has been reached, but which have already been approved (in the budget) and appropriated. While I had hoped to make this easy to understand, I've found out just how confusing it all is because there are constantly deals being made to get things done and new bills with provisions added just to "kick the can down the road a bit" as one commentator put it.

So how do we do a better job of getting past the constant crisis fiscal management? I hope that those in office would begin to act like Americans and not like Republicans and Democrats. Understanding what the debt ceiling really does and does not do is something we should expect of them. And perhaps it is time to seriously consider eliminating the debt ceiling vote and get down to the real business of creating a budget which will help reduce the deficit.

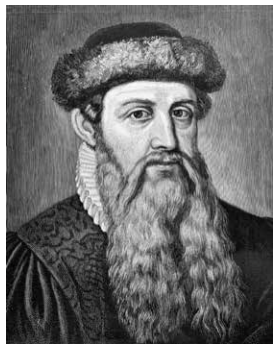
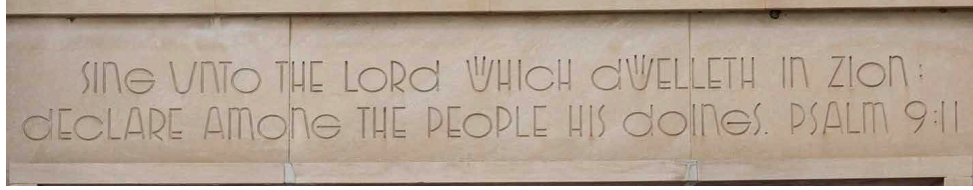
Not much has changed in the past ten years. Good leaders would work together to improve our "debt ceiling" process or create a better way to manage our deficits. Blaming the other party doesn't solve anything and as I've explained, holding the debt ceiling hostage only creates damage to our creditability. Many of our current leaders have forgotten who they work for. If you have any questions or comments please contact me at cleav73@gmail.com.

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 or as a member. Contact information is at the bottom of this article.



In the last six issues, we have been presenting information about six of the earliest church buildings in Ferguson: First Presbyterian Church (1871), St. Stephens Episcopal Church (1872), Mt. Olive Baptist (1880), Sts John & James Catholic (Blessed Teresa) (1882), Ferguson Methodist Church (1886) and Immanuel UCC (1888). In this issue we will explore the youngest, Zion Lutheran Church in Ferguson (1908).



The story of the Lutheran Church actually begins around 1450 with this man, Joannes Gutenberg (left) – creator of moving type and the original printer of the Bible for distribution to the public. Prior to the publication of the Bible, the Word was passed on by clerics for the people to listen. Now the word could be read and interpreted by anyone who could read (mainly wealthy and well-placed people). By ca 1520, one of those people was

a professor of Bible at Wittenberg University, Martin Luther (right). Luther protested the Roman Catholic Church by attaching 95 theses to the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany. By 1521, Luther was removed from the Roman Church and in 1525 conducted the first Lutheran service. Luther, along with John Calvin, King Henry VIII and other religious reformers, created the beginnings of the Protestant churches



The beginnings of Zion Lutheran Church in Ferguson begin much later – in 1908 a group of worshipers, many German speaking, met in the Bindbeutel Building at Church St. and Florissant Road to form a Lutheran Church. By 1909, they had bought a large frame house at the intersection of Carson Road and Clark St. (current location of Zion). The early services were often in German (as were those in last month's Immanuel UCC). As the congregation was growing, in 1910, a Christian Day School was started. The school lasted until 1917 when it ceased operation because of difficulties the church was experiencing. With the leadership of a vacancy pastor, the church began a period of revival and was soon able to hire full-time clergy.



By 1926, following a fire, Zion was growing enough that a new church and rectory needed to be built. That building continued in use until the size of the congregation required the building of a new and larger church in 1952. This old building continues to stand today on Carson Road and is currently leased out.

The new church stands at the corner of Clark Street and Carson Road. In the photo you see the church building along with the parish hall and school building which was completed in 1957.

Zion Lutheran was a growing congregation in 1950's, so a grade school was started for grades K thru 3. Over the years the school was extended to cover K thru 8th grade. In the years following, a day-care center was started. Both grade school and the day-care closed in 1992.

1988 brought a major change in Zion Lutheran. Zion was in fellowship with the Missouri Synod of the Lutheran Church. What we think of as a Lutheran Church could actually have belonged to a number of different Synods – all of whom had slightly different interpretations of the Bible and theology. A major realignment came about in 1988 – the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church of America) combined three Lutheran synods into a new synod. There was now a split between the older, more conservative Missouri Synod and the new, more modern ELCA. We won't go into the theology, here – nor will we take sides. Zion left the Missouri Synod and joined the ELCA.

It is interesting to note that both St. Stephens Episcopal and Zion Lutheran Churches were built in the same decade – and of similar, but very different, 1950's modern design. Even the church windows, while designed by different artists, came from the Emil Frei Studios in St. Louis. Both worship spaces feature this 1950's modern style: the blond wood work, contemporary altars and baptismal fonts. The large center window is particularly impactful. It was designed by St. Louis artist Rodney M. Winfield. It was installed in 1957, just prior to the formal dedication of the church building on December 9, 1957. The window, through its 7 sections tells the history of "God's People" from the time of Moses through the life of Jesus and into the life of today's people. It links the two covenants, old and new: the promise of the Messiah. The window is dedicated as a memorial to Pastor Herbert C. and Mrs. Estelle Claus, who served Zion from 1923 until the pastor's death in 1955.

Zion may be best remembered by the general Ferguson community for its Lenten fish fry. Like many of us, life changed in 2020 with the advent of Covid19. The fish fry was brought to an end as with so many other activities.

Today, Zion Lutheran Church ELCA, is a strong representative of the Christian churches in the Ferguson area. Like the other six churches covered in these articles, Zion has a rich history which contributed a great deal to the vitality and history of Ferguson

This marks the end of the series on historic churches in Ferguson. There are many other churches in the Ferguson area, but the focus of these articles was to concentrate on the early churches around the turn of the 20th century.

Stories of churches in the Ferguson area come from documents in the Ferguson Historical Society archives. Much of this month's material came from "Historical Highlights On Our Sixtieth Anniversary" put together by members of the congregation along with input from Kristina Oswald and Dorothy Kaiser, members of Zion.

Membership in the Ferguson Historical Society is open to anyone – the price is \$20.00 a year. If you are interested in joining or have any suggestions, questions, or items to donate to the Ferguson Historical Society, please contact Jerry Benner at fjbenner@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."



Zion Lutheran Chapel Window



Zion Lutheran Church

Note the mid-century architecture both outside and inside the chapel.

The beautiful church windows came from the Emil Frei Studios in St. Louis.



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