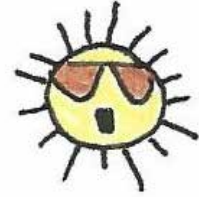


Ferguson

NEIGHBORHOOD

2021 NEWS 2021



Serving Ferguson and Surrounding Communities since 2021



Celebrate Safely

As you all know, I love our 4th of July. Parades, BBQ's, swimming, and fireworks. The only way that it gets better is if I have corn on the cob, sliced tomatoes with cottage cheese and pork steaks on the pit. And don't forget the watermelons. Seems that around this time of year is when the big trucks come up from Arkansas loaded with melons. And we were safe.

I will digress for a moment: as kids in the summer we used to stand down at the IGA on Frost avenue and watch them unload melons. All the time hoping they would drop one. Usually the men unloading would be watch us and then "accidentally" drop one and then turn to us and ask us if we could help them by eating the melon. Those melons didn't stand a chance. But we were safe.

Another memory is of baseball. Not MLB or little league, I'm talking pickup ball at the fields down in Frostwood between the swimming pool and Hobo Jungle (the woods by the railroad tracks behind Ameren UE). When I was young, hobos would camp in the woods and be able to hop a freight. But we were safe.

Baseball was our life when we were young. We played everyday before going swimming. Think of the movie "Sandlot": a lot of goofy kids that loved the game. When we weren't playing ball or swimming we were listening to the Cardinals: Harry Caray and Jack Buck when they announced together - before Caray went to Chicago. But we were safe.

When I think of the 4th of July, these are some of the memories I hold dear.

I pray everyone will stop and think for a moment. Please be safe this year. Celebrate without guns. Leave your guns locked up at home. So we will be safe.

You all probably think I am an anti-gun fanatic. Nope. I was a gunners mate on a destroyer. Shot a lot of guns. I am a gun owner. I used to hunt. I enjoy going to meat shoots. But bullets are like words. Once they leave the muzzle there is no getting them back..

Be safe - Papa Deau

EarthDance

PAY WHAT YOU CAN YOGA: JULY 7 & 21

COOKING DEMOS: JULY 9, 14 & 28

STORY TIME: JULY 14

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TO BE THE FIRST TO KNOW ABOUT OUR CLASSES AND EVENTS!

July 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

All Together Now

The **Summer Reading Challenge** is in full swing! There's still time for you to sign up and get rewarded for reading.

- **Saturday, July 1 at 10 am:** Stories and Songs for Little Ones
- **Wednesday, July 5 at 6 pm:** Not a Book Club Book Club
- **Saturday, July 8 at 10 am:** Popsicles with a Pup (come meet Ember, the Ferguson Fire Dog!)
- **Monday, July 10 at 6 pm:** Readings on Race Book Club - *You'll Never Believe What Happened to Lacey* by Amber Ruffin and Lacey Lamar
- **Wednesday, July 12 at 10 am:** Stories and Songs for Little Ones
- **Wednesday, July 12 at 6 pm:** Cultural Cuisine - Cajun*
- **Saturday, July 15 at 1 pm:** Taiwanese Calligraphy*
- **Monday, July 17 from 5-7:30 pm:** Bike Rodeo with Trailnet* (bring your own bike and helmet!)
- **Tuesday, July 18 at 3 pm:** Crafternoon (adults and children with supervision) - Tape-Resist Paintings*
- **Saturday, July 22 at 1 pm:** Grupo Atlántico Dance Performance
- **Wednesday, July 26 at 6 pm:** Cultural Cuisine - Spain*
- **Thursday, July 27 from 1-5 pm:** College Connections Center (teens)
- **Tuesday, August 1 at 3 pm:** Crafternoon (adults and children with supervision) - Decorative Coasters*
- **Mondays from 9-12 pm:** Ferguson Sewing Club
- **Tuesdays from 1:15-4 pm:** CAASTLC At Your Library

Programs marked * require registration

July Craft Kits

- **July 10-15:** Friendship Pins
- **July 24-29:** Paper Fan

Pick up a free kit while supplies last!

The library will be closed Tuesday, July 4 for Independence Day.

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July Celebration Shout-outs



- 2 - Happy 95th Birthday Audrey Fink
- 16 - Happy Birthday Sam Cook
- 26 - Happy Birthday Allison Bowes
- 31 - Happy Birthday Sharon Nadeau



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

July at a Glance



- 4 Independence Day
- 8 Clean up Ferguson & Dellwood
- 13 Jeske Park Neighborhood Association Meeting 7PM
- 20 South Central Neighborhood Meeting 6PM (see ad page 4)
- 21 West Ferguson Neighborhood Meeting 6PM
- 22 NorthHills Neighborhood Meeting 10AM (see ad page 4)
- 24 South West Neighborhood Meeting 6PM (see ad page 4)

CLEAN UP FERGUSON & DELLWOOD

On Saturday July 8 9:00 Am The Ferguson Eco Team, Earthday 365, Metropolitan Congregations United, Missouri Stream Team 888, and St. Peters United Church of Christ will be cleaning up areas in Ferguson, Dellwood, and West Florissant Ave from Chambers Rd to Highway 270. Trash bags will be provided. Bring grabbers (if you have them) and gloves. We will meet at St. Peters United Church of Christ at 1425 Stein Rd at West Florissant Ave 9:00 Am.

Refreshments afterwards. Contact earthday 365 at info@earthday-365.org or mcu at office@mcustl.com to get signed up.

A Parting of the Ways

Notice something different on page 5 and 6?

Everything is tied to the economy. That's why it was not surprising when the City of Ferguson reviewed their budget for the next fiscal year, they decided they will not continue providing the City and Parks & Rec information in the Ferguson Neighborhood News. This also includes the Farmers Market ad and information. I know a lot of you get your Ferguson News from us. However, the city council feels that the paper is only "a step up from junk mail". After stating our case in a budget review meeting and listening to the council's remarks, Heather Robinett made the motion to discontinue funding the paper. Only one lone dissenter voted against the motion with a "Hell No!".

As the City was paying for two full pages, it reduces our revenue as well. We are diligently recruiting more advertisers and hopefully we will be able to offset this reduction in revenue. If not, adjustments will have to be made affecting how we are mailing and distributing the paper.

Here at the Ferguson Neighborhood News, we still believe the good news that is happening in Ferguson and the surrounding communities needs to be shared with our local residents and the many others who visit, shop and dine here in Ferguson. If we don't toot our own horn, nobody else will.

As a small volunteer-run paper, we would like to ask our readers for your financial support in sending in a monthly donation. No amount is too small. When many people give a little, it will add up to making a big difference. If you would like to help, make checks payable to Ferguson Newspaper Group and mail them to 312 Calverton Road, Ferguson MO 63135.

Thank you in advance for your generous support.

You can find the Ferguson Neighborhood News at any of these fine establishments:

- Ferguson Community Center
- Robinwood Automotive
- Schnucks in Ferguson
- Dellwood Rec Center
- Ferguson Library
- Ferguson City Hall
- Reds BBQ
- Ferguson Brewing
- Ferguson Style & Spa
- Florissant Valley Community College
- Drakes Place Restaurant
- Ferguson Farmers Market
- Paul's Market
- Elicious Restaurant



Tuesday July 4th 2023
January-Wabash Memorial Park

Parade begins at 10:00 AM

Festival 4PM - 9PM

- Live Music
- Family Fun Zone
- Food Trucks & more.

Fireworks begin approximately at 9:15

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

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Give a congratulatory shout out for only \$5

CROSSWORD

Nights in the Park

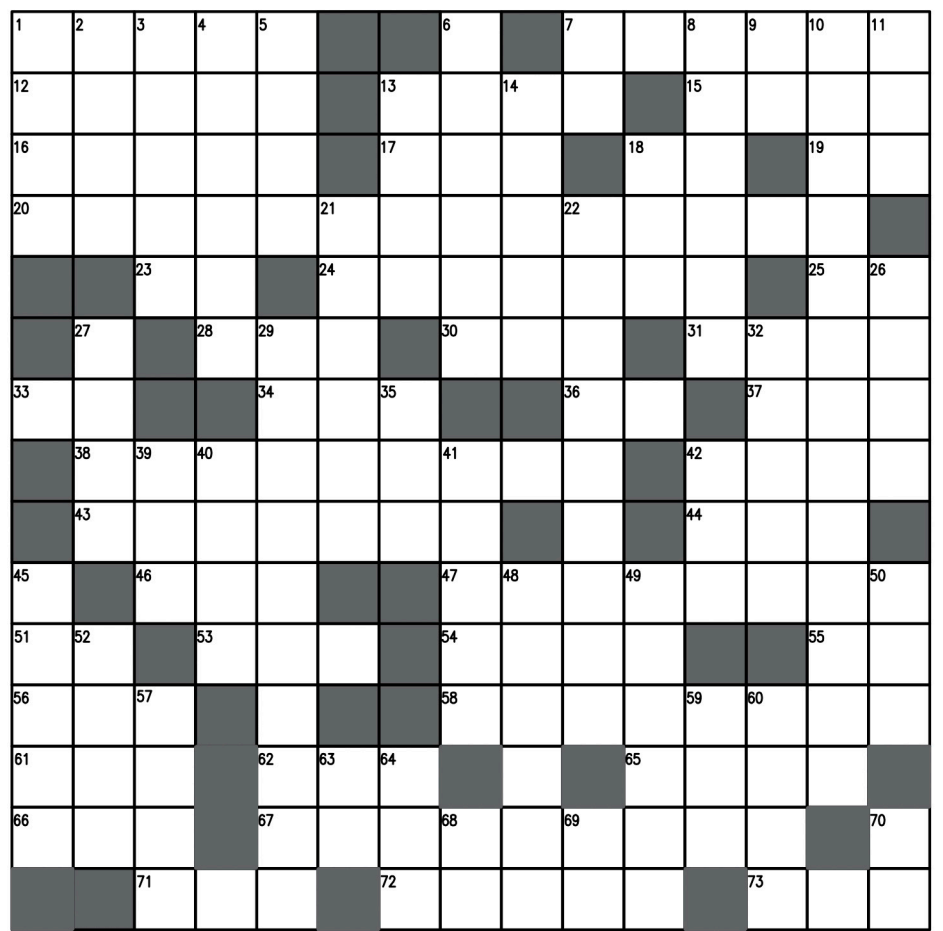
By Robin Shively

ACROSS

1. Hermit
7. Colorful Madagascan nocturnal bird
12. Go along
13. Section of Manhattan or London
15. Title role for Fonda
16. Grieve
17. Produce eggs
18. "The ___": 2003-07 series
19. Rd. alternative
20. Protagonists in a certain fairy tale
23. Not as big as lg.
24. Denali
25. Private research institution in NY state
28. ___-mo
30. 1971 Bloodrock song
31. It may be bearded or Siberian
33. Mr. Diddley
34. Sprite
36. Our group
37. Chemical suffix
38. The Roches or Andrews?
42. Copy-cat
43. Hooker portrayer
44. Plaines leader?
46. TV show with Mr. Bill
47. Offends
51. Initials for a monkey illustrator
53. Firm up
54. Babe's hue
55. Extra hrs.
56. Nightmare Street
58. Conscripts and Volunteers
61. French penny
62. Token
65. Word before shop or builder
66. Title for Ms. Duckworth
67. See 29 down
71. Wee woofers' woof!
72. "Rock On" singer David
73. Uneven?

DOWN

1. Member of the fold
2. Mitch Miller's instrument
3. Indonesian island
4. Techno percussion set
5. Landlord's due
6. Did a bank job
7. Legal injunction, abbrev.
8. Bologna motorcycle co.
9. ___ Reign, Seattle team
10. Best Picture of 1961
11. Allow
13. Czech or Serb
14. Prefix pertaining to water
18. Initials for large British herding breed
21. Naval clerks
22. Mr. Rogers adjective
26. Cause of many a tech error
27. Hemi competitor
29. With 67 across; small, terror-filled retail outlet?
32. Age
35. Beginning for school or season
39. Letters on a crucifix
40. Without
41. Members of a horse breed
42. Nothing much has been made of it
45. Chicago vinyl brand
48. Baker's staples
49. Kiosk name
50. Paul, John, and George (but not Ringo)
52. Skin soother
57. Largest outdoor musical theatre in N. America; and the theme of this puzzle
59. Poster finish?
60. Acronym for the 4 "happy chemicals"
63. Bread song
64. It is not Smokey's middle name!
68. Windows, Linux or Apple; abbrev.
69. Second of seven, on a scale
70. Instinctual part of personality



Solution on page 13



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

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89141306663?pwd=S2lXWGNkdmlFOFdldlNVS0lrN0hTQT09>
 Dial in: (312) 626 6799
 Meeting ID: 891 4130 6663
 Passcode: 678106
 or visit: FergusonCity.com



Ward 3 Southwest Neighborhood Association

**4th Monday of Every Month
6 PM 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
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MTG ID: 819 9311 4925
 Passcode: NorthHills



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



Hello Ferguson!

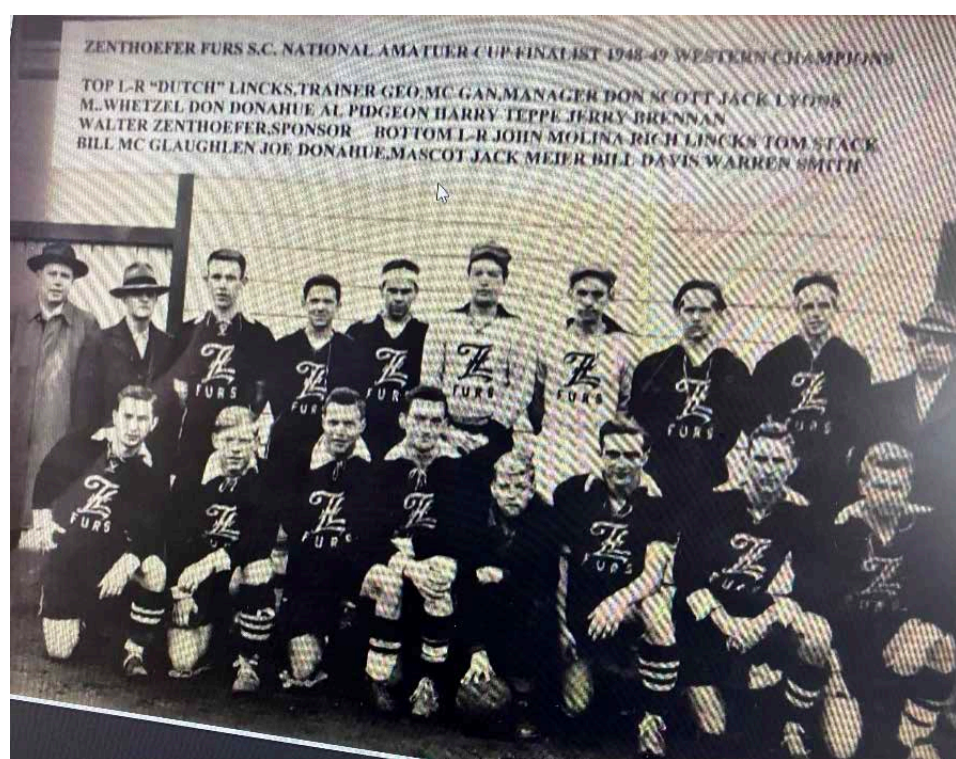
by Marian Linck

If soccer was not a favorite sport in St Louis before with the introduction of the MLS expansion team, “St Louis City” soccer has taken this town by storm. Facebook is flooded with families sharing their joy and excitement at a game. The stadium is beautiful, and state of the art. “St Louis City” is in first place in the league and making this city and all the surrounding towns and neighborhoods proud.

St Louis IS the capital of soccer in the Midwest!

That statement may be vehemently disputed but let me expand a little on soccer in St Louis.

My husband comes from a long line of soccer players. His dad, also named Rich played the sport until his mid 60’s. As he grew older, he played on senior teams, Show-Me games, and a couple of indoor games. My husband cherishes the memory of playing alongside his dad a few times. Senior Rich Linck began his career in CYC Leagues in North St Louis moving on to local amateur teams including a team sponsored by Zenhofer Furs and senior men’s teams. His contemporaries and some teammates went on to compete in the historic World Cup win in 1950. Richard E Linck was inducted into the St Louis Soccer Hall of Fame in 1990.



This background brings me to my own family’s experience with soccer. As soon as our sons were old enough to walk, they began kicking a soccer ball with their dad and grampa. We invested in smaller balls designed for smaller bodies and feet. They seemed to take to the sport like it was in their blood. Perhaps it was,

Our oldest son’s early experience with a team was when he was no more than 5 years old. This team was coached by a very patient young man who decided to name his proteges “The Turf Smurfs”. They had blue uniforms to match the name. The games were in the Dellwood indoor facility and was fun for the boys and parents as well. Many of us rookie soccer parents and young players learned a great deal about the game of soccer. The trips out for pizza after the games were an incentive to remain committed to the little blue team and its young coach.

Our boys were soon old enough to attend school and thus our CYC experiences began at Corpus Christi Parish and school. As a family we immersed ourselves in the soccer culture at the Parish. My husband coached teams as well, taking on the role of referee for CYC. He soon rose to the rank of “Head Referee in North County CYC”.

What was my role in this soccer madness? Other than all the laundry and driving to the “away” games and cheering on the men in my life I took on the responsibility of the concession stand at the soccer field at Corpus. I am a chatty person and I loved interacting with my fellow parishioners and school parents as well as those families visiting our field with their teams. In those days parish concession stands not only sold soda, candy, and chips, but also beer. The beer was cheap and free flowing often leading to some

interesting situations. The more beer I sold the more animated the soccer crowd became. This leads me to one of the more entertaining events on the soccer field. As I said earlier, my husband was the referee for the games while I was behind the concession stand. We were both at all the games. There were usually two games per evening so there were a lot of sales of beer, soda, and snacks during the night.



Stars of C.Y.C. Soccer Face Two Big Tests — 1959

Picked players of the Catholic Youth Council are ready to meet the United States open team in an exhibition match at Public Schools Stadium tomorrow night. Front row, left to right: RICH LINCK, BOB WALTERS, FRANK BORGHI, AUGIE BUSCH, BILL O'BRIEN and TOM TROST; middle row: SONNY VITALE, GEORGE ENDLER, JACK DUEKER, RICH NIEHAUS, BOB BURKES, PAUL PISANI and GINO PARIANI; back row: BOB GUELKER, head coach; SYL MALONE, assistant coach; TOM McDONNELL, TOM DONOVAN, GENE CUCCHI, JACK LALLY, CHAR COLOMBO, JACK FITZGERALD, EDDIE SCOTT, assistant coach, and LEO LANGE, trainer. Missing when picture was taken, Sam Davis. The players will also face the Dundee club of the Scottish League here the night of May 26th.

One night I was particularly busy when my husband dashed into the small space that served as the concession stand announcing to me “The beer tap is broken!”. My reaction was to grab a cup, pull the tap, pour a beer, and announce “No it is not! Look! A perfect beer in this cup”. He continued to tell me the tap was broken, and I continued to argue with him. He soon pulled me aside and said we had some rowdy drunken parents at the game that were making his job difficult and making other people watching their children uncomfortable, thus, “The beer tap is broken!” Imagine the reaction I got from the crowd when I said the tap was broken, I am not a good liar, but I had to do my best to stop the flow of beer. One alternative for the thirsty drunken group was to hop over the railroad tracks and buy beer at the National Grocery store directly behind the Parish. I was no longer part of the problem if that is what they needed to do to maintain the “buzz”.

I also must mention the presence of a statue of Mary at the soccer field. She was lovingly referred to as “Our Lady of the Soccer Field”. She had had a difficult existence as she looked over the young people playing on the field. Her head had been knocked off a few times and repaired. When Corpus Christi Parish closed, and we heard about a potential buyer of the property somehow Mary mysteriously appeared in our yard. A miracle? I am not saying.

Do you have any soccer stories to share? I would enjoy hearing from you. My email address is manhattanmarian@gmail.com.

Thank you for reading my articles.
Marian Linck



Thank you, Community of Ferguson!

By Molly Rockamann

As we are celebrating the 15th Anniversary of EarthDance this year, I wanted to take the time to write a thank you note to YOU, dear community members of Ferguson, for what you've helped make possible. I have been doing a lot of reflecting lately on what this milestone year means to the farm, to our community, and also to me personally.

Fifteen years is but a blink of an eye in the lifespan of the land we are now stewarding. It is also long enough to have had the chance to see a LOT of changes unfold, both on these 14 acres on South Dade Ave and in our beloved community.

2008 was the year that the idea of EarthDance went from a multi-faceted idea in my head (that had been percolating over the course of several years) to a long Microsoft Works document typed out on my desktop computer at Sportsprint. I remember having an enthusiastic conversation with Colleen Wilson, a fellow volunteer pea picker on John Wilkerson's plot, about the plethora of classes, events, and connections that could happen at this uniquely located farm. I remember discussing some of these ideas with Caroline Mueller herself, and her referring me to her brother to work out the lease agreement. I loved hearing Caroline's stories so much, and thought that the rich history of this farm and this land deserved to be well-documented so that even more people could hear her stories, and so I pitched the idea to my filmmaker friend Rebecca Rivas, and she took on the project of making a short documentary about the history of the Mueller Farm with me. I then realized that we needed to find a way to share the film with the community of Ferguson, and so Colleen and I created an event around it, held at Savoy Hall of course, with the support of the Faramarzi family. At that very first farm-raiser, which we called Pesto Festo, we had delicious food made with locally-grown ingredients, a silent auction, live music, the film screening, and a ceremony during which we presented Caroline with a new sign for the Mueller Organic Farm, to signify the farm's renewal. The film included interviews with Andy Ayers of Riddles Penultimate Cafe; farmers Rufus Cole, John Wilkerson, and Vicki Lander; community members Kathy Noelker, Ruth Brown, and Farzad Faramarzi; city official Rosalind Williams; former farm neighbors Curtis and Dennis Buckhannon, and Dennis McBride; and of course Caroline Mueller herself. (Check out our YouTube page to see the video!)



EarthDance booth at the Taste in Ferguson, 2015

I remember emailing and telling every single person I knew in Ferguson at the time about this event, and how we needed them there. And you all SHOWED UP. In a big way. We had standing room only at that first event, and ran out of food so quickly (I'm sorry!) that some volunteers had to run out and get other "local food", aka egg rolls and crab rangoon from Queen's, pizza from Faraci's, and toasted ravioli and wings from Vincenzo's! :) That very first event raised \$5000 in literal seed money for EarthDance, and we have been growing ever since.

Throughout the years I have been deeply humbled and amazed by the amount of support community members and business leaders and fellow nonprofits have extended to us. I'll always be grateful to Steve Lawler and Jerry Butler at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, for reaching out to find out how they could support our efforts, and then providing kitchen, classroom, and meeting space in their beautiful building on Clay Ave for our myriad activities, and even more importantly providing moral support and coaching through the numerous challenges that arose in a start-up non-profit farm.

I am grateful to the insanely dedicated volunteers who week after week, would rise super early on Saturday mornings to set up and take down the tents and tables for the Ferguson Farmers Market, first at the Victorian Plaza, and then at Plaza @ 501 - Chris, Dennis, Joe, John, John, Ron, Jim, Thea, Hadley, Bryan, Pam Martin, Tim, Kurt, Bud (RIP), Geno, and so many more; in addition to the great folks who have managed and volunteered at the market itself over the years - Kathy Noelker, Gunnar Brown (RIP), Marveena Miller, Mary Haux, and now Joe and Katelyn and the team at the Ferguson Parks & Recreation department. I am immensely grateful to the residents and elected officials who formed and now comprise the Farmers Market Commission to help usher in a new era for the market, to help it navigate through challenges and ensure its strength and longevity for decades to come.

I am grateful for the friendship and support of our neighbors Betty and Tony and Debbie, and others who live nearby, for cheering us on, sharing great meals, and looking out for us.

I am grateful to our neighbor Brian Owens, for sharing his immense musical talents by performing at the farm countless times, and bringing fellow artists to perform here.

I am grateful to Amanda Owens, Katy Mueller, Bryce Robinson, Marsha Gebhardt, Coach Al, and others, for being a part of our Outreach Committee to help us connect with even more community members.

I am grateful to Coach Al Harrold, and his unwavering commitment to the young people in our community not only through his full-time job at the school district, but also through his creation of the Strength & Honor summer camp, that he brings out to the farm each week of their program.

I am grateful to the incredibly dedicated people behind the Ferguson Twilight 5K who have added such a special event to our neighborhood that underscores the values of health and wellness and who are dedicating a portion of proceeds towards our collaborative summer programming this year.

I am grateful to Phedra Nelson and the wonderful folks at the Emerson Family YMCA who years ago helped us conduct a Community Food Assessment in Ferguson to help us better understand how we can best serve our community when it comes to food. One of the key messages we received was to go into the schools more, which leads me to thank the partnership of SO MANY teachers, staff, families, and administrators in the Ferguson-Florissant School District who have found ways to invite us into your classrooms for cooking demonstrations, or taste tests, or garden days, and have found ways of bringing your students out to the farm!

I am grateful to Heather & Larry Robinett, and Marianne and Roseanne Petru, who have provided consistent and generous support to us to help us keep going!

I am grateful to Rodney of Soulcraft, and his wife Julie, for helping us make our Pay What You Can Farm Stand an even more appealing space for families by upcycling an old Muny set piece into our Play What You Can Farm Stand that kids love playing at!

I am grateful for our friends at All Among Us, Jamaa Birth Village, Ferguson Youth Initiative, Blessed Teresa of Calcutta Food Pantry, A Red Circle and more, for sharing in our mission and finding ways to collaborate and support each other and those we serve.

I am grateful to every single one of you who has taken a farm tour, brought your children or grandchildren here, participated in Spring Training or one of our classes or programs, volunteered, eaten our produce, helped spread the word, and just shared your love and commitment to bettering our community with us. Ferguson, we love you, and can't thank you all enough. Here's to the next 15 years! www.earthdancefarms.org



Putting up a high tunnel to extend the growing season, 2013



Junior Farm Crew, 2016



Pesto Festo 2008, at the Savoy Banquet Center



Selling at the Ferguson Farmers Market, 2010

The Ferguson Computer Corner

by Doug Neely Kissing is fun! So is BBQ! Put me down for BOTH!

JULY, 2023

We just finished the first half of 2023. 6 months gone already! Did you even notice? Why don't we look at Wincalendar to see what July has in store for us?

- July 3rd...St. Thomas
- July 4th...Independence Day
- July 6th...International Kissing Day
- July 25th...St. James

International Kissing Day??? I don't know about you, but I think this is the first I've heard of it. Still, far be it from me to put a damper on it; let the kissing commence!!! :)

It's the 4th that has me wondering. I mean, if we had to, would we be able to do it again? I'm serious. Do you think that we have the guts to do it again? Let me know what you think. I'll even print your thots if you would like. For that matter, tell me what the 4th means to you.

Once Upon A Time, In A Land Far Away...dept.
It seems to me that the first computer was a simple calculator. More likely, fingers. Remember when you were in school, and the teacher said you could not use your fingers to arrive at an answer to the math question she asked you to answer? We had to write down the appropriate numbers on paper to show our work. It wasn't too much later that we were told not to use our slide rules to do the same calculations. All of that was "cheating". It became serious cheating when we were told that if we used our calculators that we would get an "F" for cheating.

Today, I am not in school anymore, but I suspect that using machines to do our calculations is actually required. I know that today, people who work in an office, or even a construction site, you will be using a desk computer, or a tablet, or even a cell phone to get an answer to your math problem.

I have taken notice of the latest tool in our toolbox called ChatGPT. We call it AI for Artificial Intelligence. If the science-fiction movies are correct, we will be using it for the foreseeable future. No touching required; just speak to the computer and ask the software program your question, and it will reply to you in speech.
I believe the plan is to make a tool that holds (ALL, ???) of man's

knowledge and reply with an answer at the speed of a super-computer, without making a mistake. Well, I say it will never be foolproof, because they haven't figured out how to make the machine think for itself. This means that programming with "if-then" commands will be used to "think". Well, it still is not thinking; but this process, IF it can be made to go really FAST, will make it SEEM like it is thinking.

And then there is the problem of what to do when the AI is trapped in a "logic" calculation. How about this one: what came first, the chicken or the egg?

There has even been a few times on Star Trek that Captain Kirk or Spock made the bad computer think itself into a box from which it could not get out of.
Bad puter dead; good people of Enterprise live.

Another point to consider is this. In order to get a machine to think is to make it self-aware. To get it self-aware, you have to grant it life. Humans are incapable of making a non-living thing become living. Even if that could be done, it would have no soul. In that case, it would likely immediately become an evil being, intent upon killing human beings. This idea also has been "proven" by science-fiction movies. :)

So, as for ChatGPT, it has already shown to be capable of making a video seem so real, it cannot be verified as fake. Who knows? Some people have already said that it might be used to create some "real" clips of those running for office in the next election to sway voters to change their vote, so that someone who should not attain office will be able to do so. If true, that is so very scary.

ME GO NOW!
God does not change. He is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow. The bible says so. This is so that you will KNOW that you can TRUST HIM, even when you cannot trust anyone or anything else.
And THAT day is coming. And it is sooner than you think. God loves you completely, even when NO one else does. TRUST HIM!

IF YOU would like to ask Doug for puter advice, or to ask about God-stuff, or pretty much any topic, email him at: fergusoncomputercorner@aol.com
Be sure to include your local telephone number, and put this phrase into your subject line: I need puter advice IF you do NOT do this, he will not get your request. God's blessings to you and to yours!





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The Spinal Column

What is Text Neck & What Can I Do About It?

The average American spends over five hours every day on their digital device. In fact, American's check their smartphones 96 times per day. That's once every 10 minutes! If you are part of the 85% of Americans that carry around a smart device each day, then you likely are a sufferer of text neck.

What is text neck?

While not an official medical diagnosis, Text Neck refers to the pain caused by looking down to text, as well as other actions such as checking email, scrolling social media, browsing the web, using apps, and more, on a digital device. American spend upwards of 5000 hours each year on a digital device. That's not just smartphone use either. Text neck can result from use of iPads and tablets, kindles and digital readers, handheld video games, and even laptop devices sitting below eye level.

What causes Text Neck

Essentially, bad posture leads to text neck. The human head weights around 10-12 pounds. However, the act of looking down at a device increases the weight of hte head on the body to up to 60 pounds. The constant and continuous action of looking down negatively impacts the natural curvature of the neck and spine. As an individual looks down to use digital devices, the curve of the neck actually reverses. This leads to a deformity of the ligaments and muscles that hold up the head.

Symptoms of Text Neck

The pain of text neck stems from this deformity as the nerves in the area become stressed. This is called occipital neuralgia and results in pain, headaches, migraines, and other issues. The poor posture of the body causes subluxations in the spine. A subluxation is defined as a "dislocation in the body" or a misalignment. Subluxations prevent the body from moving properly and cut off proper communication from the brain to the body.

Physical Signs of Text Neck

- Increasingly poor posture
- Rounded & bent forward shoulders
- Hunched over appearance
- Physical Symptoms of Text Neck
- Physical Symptoms of Text Neck
-

Did You Know

The human nervous system consists of two main parts: the central nervous system (CNS), which includes the brain and spinal cord, and the peripheral nervous system (PNS), which includes all the nerves that run throughout the body.

How To Prevent Text Neck

Text neck syndrome can be incredibly painful and impact your day-to-day life. However, there are simple steps that you can take to reduce the impact of digital use on your body.

- Hold your device at eye level
- Practice good posture by tucking chin and pulling your shoulders back
- Take a break from your device every 15 minutes
- Be aware of your posture

Exercise To Minimize the Impact of Text Neck

We all use digital devices in our daily lives. Simply throwing them away or going without is rarely an option. That is why it is so critical to be aware of the negative impacts of digital device use on our bodies and implement exercise routines to keep our bodies healthy and aligned. The exercises don't need to be complex, as even a short amount of time each day will do wonders for the health of your whole body!

Chin Tucks

While sitting in an upright position tighten your shoulder blade muscles and gently squeeze the shoulder blades together. Hold this position for 5 seconds repeat 30 times.

Chest Stretch

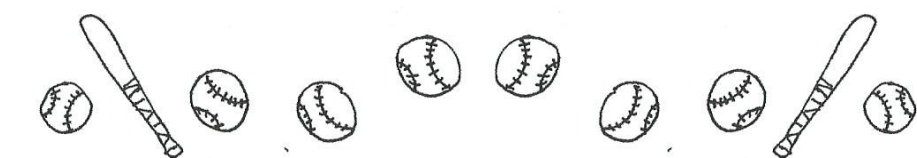
Support the body with one hand on the door frame at shoulder level. Slowly lean forward until you feel a stretch in your chest. Hold this position for 30 seconds. Repeat three times on each side.

More than merely the neck and shoulder area, the health of the body is negatively impacted by text neck. The lack of brain to body communication can impact muscles, organs, joints, and virtually every area of the body. This can result in a variety of health issues. In fact, many individuals don't realize that their digital habits are the root cause for other health-related issues. Your chiropractor can provide insight into the full extent of the damage due to text neck.

Regular chiropractic check-ups to ensure your holding your alignment can help reduce pain throughout the body. Low back, neck, shoulder, head and sciatic pain can be relieved if you're holding your alignment. This allows you to enjoy more pain-free and stress-free days.

There has never been a better time to take control of your health. Chiropractic care is a natural, drug-free, pain-free way to improve body function and improve your health and well-being.

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What's Fresh: July

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 and purchased right here at EarthDance growing on our organic farm!

So What's Fresh at EarthDance this July? Cherry Tomatoes! Cherry Tomatoes are one of those veggies that start growing and just don't seem to stop. Surprisingly, one plant can produce about 300 cherry tomatoes in one season and indeterminate tomato plants can get up to 12 feet tall! Cherry tomatoes are a good source of vitamin c and lycopene, an antioxidant found in red fruits, that helps to fight free radicals.

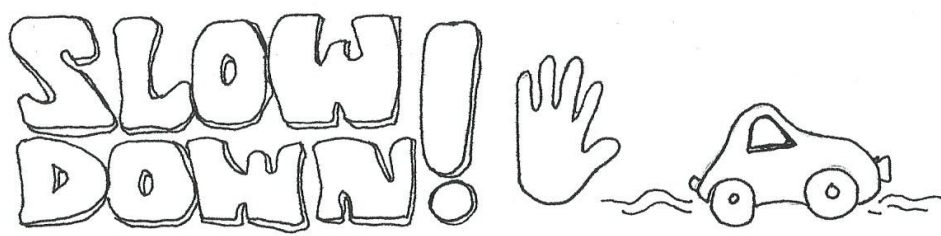
There are so many dishes that can be made with cherry tomatoes but one of the tastiest dishes I've seen is Cherry Tomato Gratin. Check out this recipe from <https://www.foodandwine.com/recipes/garlicky-cherry-tomato-and-bread-gratin>. Fresh herbs and cherry tomatoes for this recipe can be found at our Pay What You Can Farm Stand, Fridays from 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm, Sundays from 11:00 am - 3:00 pm and at the EarthDance booth on Saturdays from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm at the Ferguson Farmer's Market.

Ingredients

- One 5-ounce piece of day-old French baguette with crust, cut into 1-inch cubes (5 cups)
- 1 1/2 pounds small cherry tomatoes
- 1/3 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 3 medium garlic cloves, thinly sliced
- 1/2 cup chopped flat-leaf parsley
- 1/2 cup plus 2 tablespoons freshly grated Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground pepper

Directions

Preheat the oven to 375°. Lightly oil a 10-inch ceramic quiche dish. In a large bowl, toss the bread cubes with the tomatoes, olive oil, garlic, parsley, Parmigiano-Reggiano and salt and pepper. Scrape the mixture into the baking dish and bake in the center of the oven for 35 minutes, or until the bread cubes are browned and crisp and the tomatoes are very tender. Serve warm or at room temperature.



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"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 - Network Cameras and Security System Overview

by David Pickens

This is my last of a three-part series on security camera technology. I have saved the most complicated type of security camera system for last so if I lost you last month with the CCTV system you might want to skip to the summary at the end. The extra thing that makes network cameras unique and somewhat more demanding is that they need a network to operate, either wired or wireless.

Some network cameras are like CCTV cameras in that they require a wired network but use a network technology called ethernet. Ironically most of you probably already have one of those even if you don't use it, because if you have an internet connection most likely there are ethernet network jacks on the back of your internet modem. A wired network camera will have an ethernet jack on it also and you can buy pre-made ethernet cables of different lengths to connect them to your network. And depending on the camera and the software that comes with the camera – you might just be in business.

On the other end are the wireless cameras, and we have already sort of visited those in the first article in that the Amazon Ring cameras use your wifi network to connect. Now clearly this seems like an enormous advantage – no wires to run! But this comes at a price as there is a little thing called network bandwidth that we need to at least discuss. Basically every network has a limit as to how much data per second it can handle. And of course depending on the equipment used a wired network can usually handle from ten to fifty times the data that a wireless network can handle without becoming over-crowded and slow. And network cameras can spit out a lot of data especially if you want high-definition video.

In fact if you are a business owner wanting to install a fairly large number of network cameras in your video surveillance system you're going to want to consider putting that system off by itself on its own network separate from your ordinary business network because the cameras will put a very high load on your network and possibly slow it down to the point of uselessness. There are also in some cases a need to segregate the network due to privacy and security considerations that come into play, for example in healthcare settings.

The other difference that a network camera has is how it gets its power. In a CCTV system the camera had a data cable and power cable separate from one another. Wired network cameras have the ability to use Power Over Ethernet (POE) technology. These cameras use a special POE adapter to put the power and data over the same network cable. Or if you buy a system with a Network Video Recorder (NVR) these usually have POE network jacks included so you don't need a separate POE adapter for each camera.

Other than the network design, an NVR and a DVR are very similar and provide a way to record and review your security camera video, and usually sufficient storage to keep at least a week or two of video history. Some systems will have the ability to send video data out into the cloud so that the camera recordings won't disappear if someone steals your NVR! But I'm not sure that's really a common thing. The most interesting features usually revolve around notifications of when the camera detects something like someone delivering a package or your child gets home from school. These features almost always require a subscription of some kind.

So I think we have run the gamut. The Amazon Ring and other related cameras have the advantage of an all-in-one package, wireless convenience, and simpler setup – with the addition of additional costs of a subscription model and sort of being locked into that particular system and its features. CCTV technology moves a little more into the do-it-yourself space, needing wiring run, a good bit more fiddling around with settings and setup, but often at a lower cost per camera and especially of ongoing costs. And then the network camera systems which often now have the most advanced features available but again at the additional complexity level of needing to maintain a network or possibly a second network.

The number one issue I have encountered with both CCTV and network camera systems is far too often there is a horrible lack of clear documentation, and sometime no documentation whatsoever. And that really horrifies the engineer in me. It's not that I don't love fiddling around and trying stuff – it's more that I know most folks don't enjoy that sort of thing! And if I, as an electrical engineer, find something difficult in an electronic appliance, it's really going to have a bad effect on someone non-technical.

So if you do want to venture outside of the "Smart Home" camera offerings like Ring or Nest cameras my best advice is to carefully read the product reviews to avoid surprises. For the adventurous among us these systems can be a fun challenge and very economical to install and operate. But if you need the advanced features and economy of some of the more complex systems but don't feel like taking on the technical challenges consider hiring a professional security alarm installation company. They'll know the ins and outs and already have products they know and understand, and they know how to run the cables without your needing to get a ladder.

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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Under The Hood
With Robinwood
By Bob McGartland

The Pros and Cons of Electric Vehicles

Introduction: Electric vehicles (EVs) have gained significant popularity in recent years, offering a greener and more sustainable mode of transportation. However, before making the switch, it's essential to consider the pros and cons associated with owning an electric vehicle. This article will delve into various aspects, including pricing, savings, ongoing maintenance, mileage range, towing capacity, battery life, and replacement costs.

Pricing: The average selling price of electric vehicles varies depending on the model and features. While some EVs may have a higher up-front cost compared to traditional gasoline vehicles, there are often federal and state incentives available that can help offset the initial investment.

Predicted Savings: One of the significant advantages of electric vehicles is the potential for long-term cost savings. EVs generally have lower fuel and maintenance costs compared to internal combustion engine vehicles. Electricity is typically cheaper than gasoline, and electric vehicles require fewer maintenance services such as oil changes. Additionally, incentives such as tax credits and lower charging rates can contribute to overall savings.

Ongoing Services: Similar to gas or hybrid vehicles, electric vehicles also require ongoing maintenance, including tire rotations, brake inspections, and regular software updates. While the maintenance needs may differ slightly, routine servicing is necessary to ensure optimal performance and longevity of the vehicle.

Mileage Range: Electric vehicles' mileage range can vary widely depending on factors such as battery capacity, driving conditions, and weather. The best-performing electric vehicles can offer a range of over 250 miles on a single charge, while others may have a more limited range of around 100-150 miles. It is crucial to consider your driving habits and the availability of charging infrastructure when selecting an electric vehicle.

Towing Capacity: Electric vehicles generally have a lower towing capacity compared to some traditional vehicles. While they can handle lighter loads, towing a boat or an RV may be challenging due to the additional weight. It is essential to review the specifications of specific electric vehicle models to determine their towing capabilities.

Battery Life and Replacement Costs: The lifespan of an electric vehicle's battery depends on various factors, including usage, charging habits, and environmental conditions. On average, modern electric vehicle batteries can last between 8-15 years or more. However, it is important to note that battery degradation over time is normal, resulting in reduced range. Battery replacement costs vary depending on the model and capacity but can range from several thousand dollars to more significant amounts.

Conclusion: Owning an electric vehicle comes with its share of advantages and considerations. While they offer potential cost savings, reduced emissions, and a more sustainable driving experience, it's crucial to consider factors like pricing, ongoing maintenance, mileage range, towing capacity, battery life, and replacement costs. Understanding these aspects can help individuals make an informed decision when considering the purchase of an electric vehicle that aligns with their specific needs and requirements.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns about your current vehicle, or questions about buying a new or used vehicle, feel free to give me a call. I will be happy to help guide you through the process. Visit us at robinwoodauto.com. **HAPPY 4TH OF JULY EVERYONE!**

NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK UNITS ARE NEEDED

By Dr. Larry A. Brown

The concept of block units for neighborhoods is a very valid one because it allows people in an area to get familiar with each other, and it creates a family of concerned citizens. Furthermore, it establishes a kind of community attitude of pride and care so that everyone strives for the best of its neighborhood. Residents try to keep things clean and safe, and they look out for each other.

These days of increased crime require increased organizing along these lines as a way to help protect our neighborhoods and the people who live in them. The job cannot be left only to the police because of the size of the problem. The Neighborhood Block Unit Association is one of the oldest organizations around and was founded by the Urban League many years ago.

Looking out for our neighbor discourages crime from within and without because those who have bad intentions know that people within the neighborhood are not going to stand by and let negative things happen. Evildoers will look elsewhere to ply their trade and if the communities nearby have strong associations, the evildoers will become discouraged and will go outside of the organized area; or maybe even, forget about doing evil deeds.

Presently, cars are being stolen and broken into, people are being robbed, homes are being vandalized, and all sorts of crimes are being committed within our neighborhoods because they are not organized and the individuals who reside within them often don't know each other or look out for each other. This is a sad documentary of neighborhood life today, but it is a real assessment of conditions. Whatever happened to the slogan, "It takes a village to raise a child".

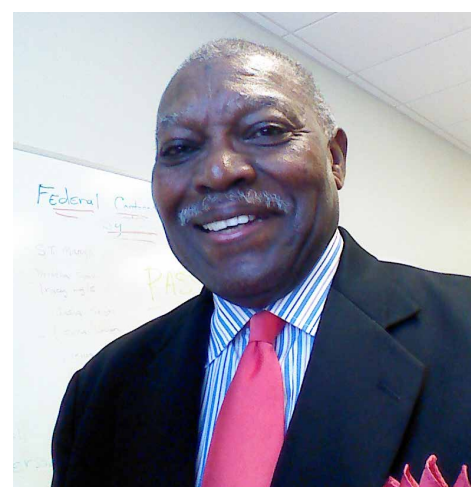
Senior citizens are afraid to travel within or outside of the neighborhood, and often, this is the area in which they have invested their whole lives in.

We must do something because the neighborhood should be safe. It should be a place where we get to know and appreciate human beings. It should be a place that we can make as beautiful and meaningful as we would have it, instead of making it a defensive shelter and vulnerable place in which to dwell.

It should be a place where socialization first occurs. The Neighborhood Association usually plans a few social events that bring folks together in addition to their regular monthly meetings. Sometimes they have "Block Parties" which allow folks to fraternize and meet socially.

Block Units are also meeting places for neighbors and problems are often solved therein. Believe me, there is a different and more positive atmosphere that exists in communities that have active neighborhood block units.

Of course, the most recent months, have discouraged group activities because of the spread of COVID, but as things get back to normal, we might want to increase the organizing of more block units.



Grace Chapel Ministries works to see that people thrive and survive within their communities and that folks do well while they are alive in this world. Grace Chapel Ministries may be reached at www.gracechapelministries.org or email: gracechapeldevelopment@gmail.com or phone, 314-995-5013.

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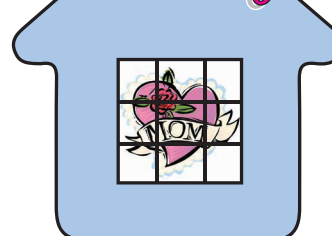
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Ferguson Has A History Museum

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.



While the name is no longer prominent in most of America, many of you readers will remember the name, SEARS. SEARS is actually a shortening of the actual company name, Sears, Roebuck & Company. You may be asking what Sears, Roebuck & Company, an Illinois company, has to do with Ferguson. We will get to that later.



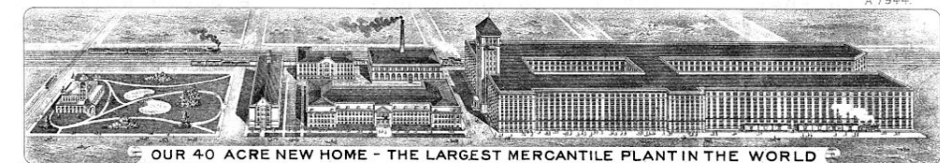
The story of Sears, Roebuck & Company (we'll call Sears in the article) begins with Richard Sears (left) and the creation of a mail order watch business in 1886. Mail order was important during this time, especially in rural America (and a majority of Americans lived in rural areas). Farmers and small-town people had little access to a large variety of products – they were limited to what a local general store might have. This could be

especially true for African Americans living under Jim Crow rules. In 1892, Sears joined with a watch repairman, Alvah Roebuck – hence the name Sears, Roebuck. In 1887 the company moved from Minneapolis to Chicago and issued its first catalog of watches. Catalogs were the internet of the day – the Amazon – of the day. By 1893 the company began adding non-watch items and by 1894 the catalogue contained over 332 pages. While Roebuck dropped out of the company, the name remained. In 1906, Julius Rosenwald (right) joined the company and the company incorporated with a public stock sale. Sears was the first major retail IPO.



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In 1925, Sears opened its first retail store in the Chicago area. Most major retail stores located in city areas – but Sears focused in the out-lying areas. The focus was always on lower to middle class clients and farmers – people using streetcars or driving autos. The other change Sears made was to put items on open shelves unlike the general stores of the time where merchandise was behind counters. Self-Service! Sears also spared no money on their store architects, as Eliel Saarinen, a major architect of the era and father of Eero Saarinen – the Gateway Arch, designed many of the stores. Eventually Sears would create some of the best-known brand names: Kenmore, Craftsman, Diehard and Silvertone. 1931 saw the creation of the Allstate Insurance Company.



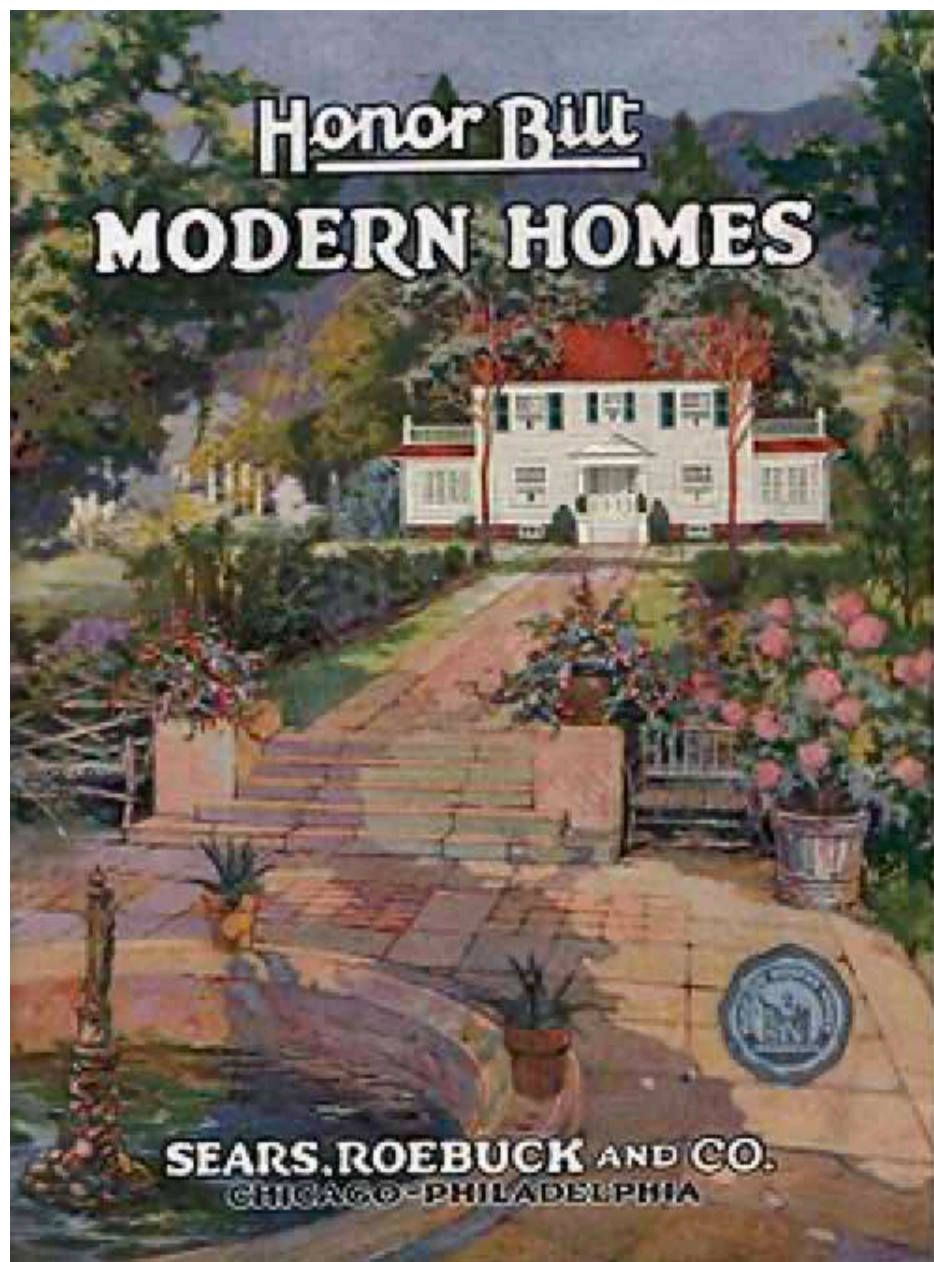
Of course, the mail order business was growing briskly over the years. In rural areas the Sears Catalog was second only to the Bible. The catalog had two uses. It was often placed in the outhouse where people had the time to read it – then use the page for toilet paper. Its pages were often placed under a parent's pillow when Christmas was arriving. It is important to point out that Sears

was not alone in the catalog business – there were many others including Sear's major competition – Montgomery Ward.

Largely because of mail order, the company grew over the years and became the largest retailer in the world by 1980. Following 1980 business began to fade slowly over the years. The catalog ceased publication in 1993 and by 2023 there were only around 30 Sears stores left. You can still order on-line.

So - what does all this have to do with Ferguson. Sears catalogues, over the years, covered diverse items from basic tools, household items, farm supplies, automobiles – and yes – even houses.

Below is a 1922 Modern Homes catalogue. From 1908 until 1940 Sears sold pre-cut and pre-packaged homes – over 70,000 in North America. Over the years there were over 370 different designs. If you go to Wikipedia you can find more information about many of these homes along with images of them. Most of these home kits, or “Kit Homes”, were shipped by the rail then trucked to the location. Being a railroad city, Ferguson was a great place to build a “Sears Home”. A number of “Sears Homes” are in Ferguson. That's the connection you may have been looking for.



In next month's article we will look in more detail about “Sears Homes” and locate some examples in Ferguson. In addition, we will pass on information on how to tell if you have a “Sears Home”.

Stories of historic Ferguson come from documents in the Ferguson Historical Society archives.

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.”

Ferguson Highlights

by Teyuna T. Darris, M.A.

“Bishop Von D. Smith--- A Life of Service”

I always enjoy learning about the stories of people who go out of their way to make a positive impact in their neighborhoods, town, cities and wherever else they might be. People who do this are generally servants. They could be public servants, restaurant servants, household servants, or even community servants. And, no matter what you call it, they are serving others to ensure that their needs are met.

In January 2023, I met Bishop Von D. Smith. He’s not a Ferguson resident, but he’s been serving in and around Ferguson for many years. This month, I’m happy to highlight Mr. Von D. Smith, as I share his story with you.

During our interview, I asked Reverend Smith, “What do you do for a living?” He replied, “For the past fourteen years I have had the privilege to work and serve at a school district in St. Louis, MO as a Family & Community Specialist (FCS). As an FCS, it’s my responsibility to connect families and students with community agents to provide the resources they need to support student academic achievement. I have helped to create some very important structures, and I’ve built some lasting relationships.”

My next question was, “How and why did you come to live in Ferguson?” To this Reverend Smith replied, “I have served as Pastor of True Vine M.B. Church of Ferguson for the past nine years. As a leader in Ferguson, I wanted to give more, and set the example of citizenship by volunteering. And, knowing that we have some work to do towards reaching equity and justice, I believe my work on the Ferguson Civilian Review Board can help us to take a step in that direction.”

I also asked him, “What did/are you studying in school?” Smith replied, “I am a recent graduate of Midwest College of Theology with my bachelor’s degree; and currently I’m the Bachelor’s Instructor.”

Then, I asked that famous St. Louis question: “Where did you go to high school?” Smith replied, “I am a graduate of University City Sr. High Class of 1978, it was a really special time!”

Afterwards, I learned that Reverend Smith has some awesome hobbies and ambitions, as he shared, “I have really begun to enjoy traveling, by car, plane and yet by train. It’s really great to leave and explore new places.”

He continued, “My dream...my aspiration is to become a published author of inspirational books. I love to motivate and cause people to reach further and become more in their own eyes. And, I love team building. And, I appreciate creating, and I enjoy seeing things work together.”

It’s probably safe to say that almost everywhere, there is a need that we can support to help lift the burdens of others. Through his work in ministry and community, Bishop Von D. Smith is a shining example of that.



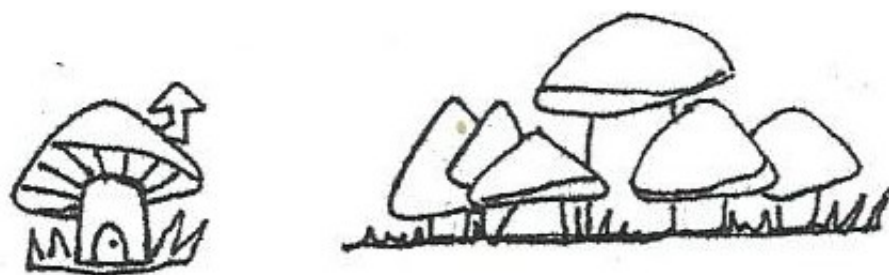
Bishop Von Smith at the 2021 Kingdom Destiny International Fellowship Workshop in Plantersville, Mississippi.



Bishop Von Smith receiving his Associates Degree at the Midwest College of Theology Graduation in Dec. 2022



Bishop Von Smith at the 2020 Kingdom Destiny International Holy Convocation in St. Louis, Missouri.



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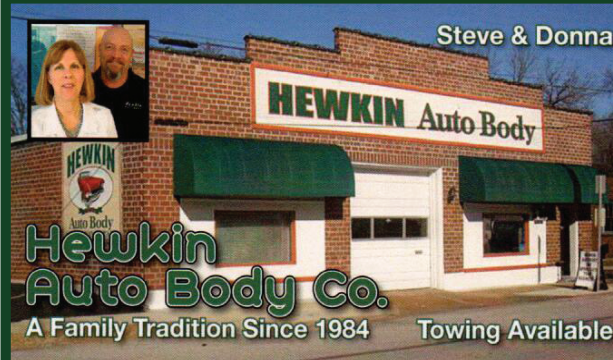
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