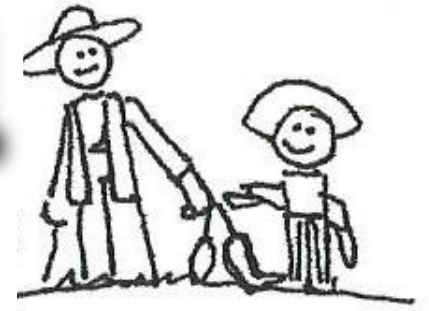




Ferguson

NEIGHBORHOOD

SINCE NEWS 2021



Serving Ferguson and Surrounding Communities

FORGIVENESS IS A DESIRABLE QUALITY

We have often heard people say “ I’ll forgive, but not forget “. We have also heard that “ To err is human, but to forgive is divine “. What does all of this mean and how do we do the proper thing when one offends us in some way?

To “ not forget “ means we still will remember the incident and each time we see the individual who caused it, we will be reminded of the incident. What we really must do so that our mental health is not affected negatively, is to make sure that we build the correct defense against that incident happening again. That way, we can truly forgive and forget the event so that we can move ahead in our relationship with the individual who we are forgiving and everyone else who may do or say the same thing. It does us no good to forgive and still remember! Of course, this is easier said than done, but it is certainly worth the practice. Remember, true forgiveness is “ DIVINE”

Remember, the reason for forgiveness anyway, is so that the relationship with the individual may continue but that you don’t get hurt in the process.

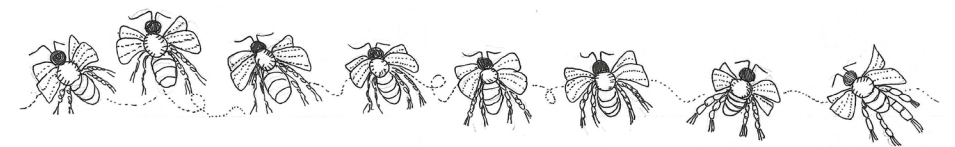
We are likely to make mistakes along the way, and will need forgiveness also, so “what is good for the Goose is also good for the Gander” In other words, what we expect from others, we must be willing to give in our relationships. We are likely to see the individual again, perhaps often, and it will be very unfortunate for us to have to grimace each time that occurs or each time we see the person.

You will discover that as you release all negative thoughts regarding the incident or the individual, the more refreshing you will feel when in that individual’s presence. Life and time are too important to allow an individual or a single incident to have a negative lasting effect on us. This activity or decision does not show weakness, but it shows a kind of maturity and strength necessary for us to live our best life. We only have one life to live and we must allow it to be one that affords us the maximum opportunity to be successful in our relationships. Who knows, but down the road we may have to help the same individual who required forgiveness earlier.

If possible, we must train ourselves to forgive and forget, by making sure that we insulate ourselves properly. As it is said, “ Overcome evil with good “

To assist us in our work, you may contact us at www.gracechapelministries.org or by email at gracechapeldevelopment@gmail.com.

The more we can earnestly forgive, the more we can help others and the better we will feel!



FERGUSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SPECIAL PRESENTATION TO RUTH BROWN DURING OPEN HOUSE

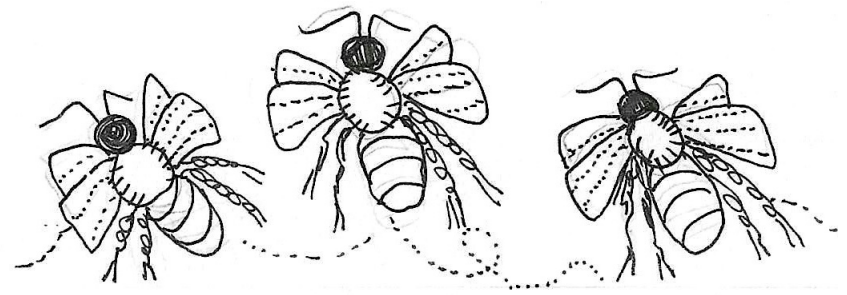
Saturday, June 8 • History House
Open House 10am - 4pm • Presentation 11am



We will be acknowledging decades of dedication to the Ferguson Historical Society by sisters, Ruth Brown and Mary Amrein including a special presentation to Ruth for extraordinary efforts and countless hours as Ferguson Historian and archivist.

Located behind the Community Center. Join us before or after the presentation for croquet on the lawn, conversation, refreshments, and enter a drawing for a basket of items donated from other St. Louis historic sites.

“SUMMERTIME PAST” (In conjunction with Historic St. Louis)

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

CHILDREN AND TEEN EVENTS

- **Wednesdays at 10 am:** Stories and Songs for Little Ones (ages 0-5)
- **Thursday, June 6 from 1-4 pm:** College Connections Center (teens)
- **Saturday, June 8 at 2 pm:** DIY Ice Cream (ages 6-11)
- **Friday, June 14 at 10 am:** Photography for Teens (teens)
- **Saturday, June 15 at 2 pm:** Lego Club (ages 6-11)
- **Thursday, June 20 from 1-4 pm:** College Connections Center (teens)
- **Saturday, June 22 at 11 am:** Adventures with Cubetto (ages 6-11)
- **Friday, June 28 at 10 am:** Adventure Play at the Park (ages 0-5)

ADULT EVENTS

- **Monday, June 10 at 6 pm:** Readings on Race Book Club - chapters 1-9 of *Dream Town* by Laura Meckler
- **Tuesday, June 11 at 6 pm:** Conversations and Coffee
- **Wednesday, June 12 at 6 pm:** Invasive Plants in Your Yard
- **Tuesday, June 18 at 6 pm:** Topics in Health

ALL AGES EVENTS

- **Monday, June 3 at 6 pm:** Monday Movie Matinee - Migration (PG)
- **Friday, June 7 at 3 pm:** Learn to Fish
- **Saturday, June 8 at 10 am:** Geocaching
- **Thursday, June 13 at 6 pm:** Fiber Arts Social Club
- **Monday, June 17 at 6 pm:** Monday Movie Matinee - Strange World (PG)
- **Thursday, June 20 at 6 pm:** African-American Campfire Tales
- **Wednesday, June 26 at 6 pm:** Cultural Cuisine - Snacks Around the World

June Craft Kits

- **June 10-15:** Travel Journal
- **June 24-29:** Neon Mobile

ADVENTURE BEGINS AT YOUR LIBRARY!

The 2024 Summer Reading Challenge is just getting started! Get registered today.

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

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

June Celebration Shout-outs



2 Happy Birthday Dick Bowes
 10 Happy 14th Birthday James Nadeau
 16 Happy Birthday Joan Dewitt



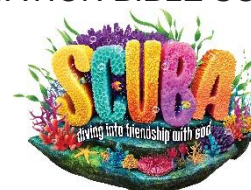
Email Shout-outs to asroc873@charter.net - deadline is the 15th of each month

June at a Glance



- 1 Children's Ministries BBQ Fundraiser
- 2 Worship in the Park (January-Wabash) 10:30AM
- 3 Forestwood Neighborhood Meeting 7PM
- 10 North Elizabeth Neighborhood Meeting 7PM
- 13 Jeske Park Neighborhood Meeting 7PM
- 13 West Neighborhood Meeting 6PM
- 14 Flag Day
- 15 NorthHills Neighborhood Meeting 10AM
- 16 Father's Day
- 17 Eid al-Adha
- 19 Juneteenth
- 24 South West Neighborhood Meeting 6PM
- 27 South Central Neighborhood Meeting 6PM
- 27 Ferguson Woods Neighborhood Meeting 7PM
- 27 Memorial Day

FERGUSON PARTNERSHIP OF CHURCHES VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



June 24 - June 28, 2024 9:30 a.m. - 12 Noon
 Immanuel UCC Educational Building
 221 Church Street

Ages 5-years-old-(by August 1st) to 6th grade (completed)
 Volunteers- 7th grade (completed) & older.

Registration Now Open!



VBS is sponsored by the Ferguson Partnership of Churches:
 Blessed Teresa of Calcutta Catholic Church,
 First Presbyterian Church-Ferguson, Immanuel UCC, St. Peter's UCC
 St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Zion Lutheran Church

Come Join us for Worship in the Park at January-Wabash Sunday June 2nd 10:30am



PRAY FOR PEACE

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

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

Paper Available at the following Locations:

- We have paper stands at:
- 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
 - Elicuios Restaurant
 - The Hive Cafe

Vacation Bible School

Who: Students who finished K-5th this year
Where: First Baptist Ferguson
 333 N. Florissant Road
When: July 22 - 26 9am - Noon



Special Event with the Jubilee Gang
 Friday 7/26/2024 at 7pm for the whole family!
 Dinner included at 6pm
 Register on-line: Click QR code or visit www.fbcferguson.org or churchlikeheaven.com

Chalking, Just North of Ordinary (Choo Choo!) a FREE chalk art festival



Whistlestop Train Depot
 #1 Carson Road
 Ferguson, MO 63135
Friday, July 5, 2024
Check-in begins at 9am
Judging begins at 4pm
Rain Date, July 6, 2024
Theme - Trains



30 SPACES AVAILABLE • CALL BOB TO REGISTER • 314-769-1413

SPONSORED BY THE FERGUSON SPECIAL BUSINESS DISTRICT

Community Forward Inc. Presents

YOUTH FOR JUNETEENTH

Honoring Our Youth – Celebrating Freedom



Saturday, June 15, 2024

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Urban League Empowerment Center
 9420 West Florissant Ave., Ferguson, MO 63136

Free Event! Fun! Food! Games!
 Bounce House!
 Face Painting!



Juneteenth Story Telling
 by Leilani Billups (Photo Top Left)

Three Youth Authors



Linda Jones (at left) is a native St. Louisan, has completed over 600 poems: "All Within 100 Years" and "Mama's Powder Puff Was Rough and Tough", 4 Chapter Books, and a historical memoir entitled, "Dream Benders".

Volunteers welcome! Contact: Shirley Emerson at shirleyemerson.att.net or Cynthia Wilson, at cwilson@urbanleague-stl.org

Thank You To Our Sponsors



CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES BBQ FUNDRAISER
Saturday, June 1st
11:00am-4:00pm
Ferguson Church of the Nazarene
1309 N. Elizabeth Ave

Congratulations to the
CLASS of 2024

Ten Old People Habits That Need To Make A Comeback

1. Cooking from Scratch
2. Gardening
3. Handwritten Letters
4. Mending Clothes
5. Spending Time Outdoors
6. Reading Books
7. Making Due with Less
8. Taking Time to Relax
9. Being Polite and Respectful
10. Living within their Means

ADVERTISEMENT DISCLAIMER

The Ferguson Neighborhood News supports our local businesses by following fair and equitable advertising guidelines.

The paper does not endorse or recommend any business that advertises with the paper.

Please do your due diligence before engaging to do business with any company.

ARTFUL CONSIDERATIONS

We are seeking anyone interested in the arts to take over as author of Artful Considerations.
 If you would like to pick up this column, please contact the Ferguson Newspaper Group either by email or phone.



HOW TO STAY SAFE WHEN A TORNADO THREATENS



Know your area's tornado risk. In the U.S., the Midwest and the Southeast have a greater risk for tornadoes.

Know the signs of a tornado, including a rotating funnel-shaped cloud, an approaching cloud of debris, or a loud roar—similar to a freight train.

Sign up for your community's warning system. The Emergency Alert System (EAS) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio also provide emergency alerts. If your community has sirens, become familiar with the warning tone.

Pay attention to weather reports. Meteorologists can predict when conditions might be right for a tornado.

Identify and practice going to a safe shelter for high winds, such as a safe room built using FEMA criteria or a storm shelter built to ICC 500 standards. The next best protection is a small, interior, windowless room in a sturdy building on the lowest level.

Consider constructing a safe room that meets FEMA or ICC 500 standards.



Immediately go to a safe location that you identified.

Take additional cover by shielding your head and neck with your arms and putting materials such as furniture and blankets around you.

Listen to EAS, NOAA Weather Radio, or local alerting systems for current emergency information and instructions.

Do not try to outrun a tornado in a vehicle.

If you are in a car or outdoors and cannot get to a building, cover your head and neck with your arms and cover your body with a coat or blanket, if possible.



Keep listening to EAS, NOAA Weather Radio, and local authorities for updated information.

If you are trapped, cover your mouth with a cloth or mask to avoid breathing dust. Try to send a text, bang on a pipe or wall, or use a whistle instead of shouting.

Stay clear of fallen power lines or broken utility lines.

Do not enter damaged buildings until you are told that they are safe.

Save your phone calls for emergencies. Phone systems are often down or busy after a disaster. Use text messaging or social media to communicate with family and friends.

Be careful during clean-up. Wear thick-soled shoes, long pants, and work gloves.

Take an Active Role in Your Safety

Go to ready.gov and search for **tornado**. Download the **FEMA app** to get more information about preparing for a **tornado**. Find Emergency Safety Tips under Prepare.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Trustees of the Ferguson Municipal Public Library District will hold a hearing to discuss the budget and adoption of the same for the fiscal year 2024-2025. The hearing will be held at 35 N. Florissant Rd., Ferguson, Missouri, in the Library Auditorium on June 24, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. All interested persons may appear and be heard at the meeting.

CROSSWORD

“Warm Hearts, No Cold Feet”

By Robin Shively

ACROSS

2. Succulent variety
6. Nervous
11. Two-toned cat
13. Here she comes
14. To exist
15. Fiery insect
16. Athletic logo
18. Voodoo amulet
20. Elsa or Nala
22. Veer
23. Bank job
24. Sicilian hot spot
25. Smart no.
26. Man to see about a horse?
27. Variety show
29. Single-strand genetic structure
30. Fancy evening affair
32. Keen
34. Di ___ pizza
35. “I don’t want to know!”
37. First name of first woman U.S. Senator from Texas
39. Mobster Siegel
40. Saint John and Saint Martin
43. Residue
45. Means of entry
46. Juan’s affirmative
47. Political period
48. Disallowed
50. POTUS understudy
51. ___ Of St. Mary’s
52. Posh dress
54. Monetary unit
57. Glandular enlargement
59. Holy ___
60. Agenda listing
61. Anagram of a window section
62. Racing family
64. Composition opener
65. Soothsayer
66. Eight were milking

DOWN

1. Stagnant
2. Songwriter Hoyt
3. Co. professing to “bring good things to life”
4. TV spots
5. Things that one may make, take or break
6. British buns
7. Fed. med. agcy.
8. NFL goal
9. ‘Turn the Page’ writer
10. May he win
12. Join
13. Aroma or its source
14. Tatanka
17. Word with oil or Oyl
19. Olympians series author
21. “Doesn’t apply” on forms
23. Fixer upper network
27. Age marks?
28. Cupid’s Roman counterpart
30. Clearheaded
31. Spanish name for a voracious Carle character
32. Pathway for 13 across
33. Indonesian textile pattern
36. Give aid to
38. 3 ft. lengths
41. Showed the way
42. They’re no saints
44. Fame, distinction
45. Skate option
48. Painter of dancers
49. Eschew the trappings of many answers to this puzzle
50. Cover, conceal
53. Pot
55. The ___ Green Show
56. Backwards music genre?
58. Word before runner
63. Sodium sym.

Solution on page 13

1		2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10
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WHAT IS A COMMUNITY ?

We are always referring to our community, but do we understand what a community really is and our individual responsibility as a member within this community?

It is my understanding that a community is a group that has similar interests and is committed to ensuring that its interests are protected and improved. This implies that it is the responsibility of the persons within this group to do what they can to make that community achieve the results they expect. It is not just the responsibility of those that have leadership roles, but is a requirement of each person who ascribes to or resides within the same geographic area.

Somehow, over the years, many of us have decided that our physical relocation to an area that has available housing is enough and we don’t necessarily have to participate in that community’s affairs. This even occurs in neighborhoods that have associations. I remember the time when a representative from the neighborhood would greet new residents, introduce them to others in the community, and maybe even give a community gift to the new neighbor. This practice appears to occur less and less these days. WHY?

Is it that people now want to be left alone or is it that we don’t know these new persons well enough to feel comfortable in approaching them? Whatever the reason might be, there seems to be more of an “at distance” relationship, if any kind at all established with new residents in an area. This is not good for the relationship that should exist and often leads to a lot of distrust. Not only does this contribute to less participation in community-wide events, but has a tendency to ostracize individuals and families from each other. NEIGHBORS become STRANGERS to each other.

Often, help that may be available, is not shared with our neighbors, because we don’t know them or feel comfortable sharing.

In these times of broken families we need community awareness more and more. We must rebuild our neighborhoods. We must help our neighbors. NO MAN SHOULD BE AN ISLAND, NO MAN SHOULD STAND ALONE. We need each other.

We must be willing to help those within our community who are experiencing “hard times”.

You may contact us at www.gracechapelministries.org or email us at gracechapeldevelopment@gmail.com if you wish to help, or are in need of help. We are here to make things better!

Together, we can make things better and preserve and rebuild the community around us.

Homeowners and Sidewalks

by John McDonald

One of the primary reasons my wife and I moved to Ferguson over 30 years ago was its “walkability”. We joined the parents walking their kids to school or to the park, families walking dogs around the block, shoppers walking downtown and so forth. Pedestrian traffic makes our neighborhoods come alive and we should do everything we can to encourage it.

A simple way to do this would be for homeowners and renters to ensure the sidewalks bordering their yards are unobstructed. Prune bushes and branches, overhanging limbs, encroaching vines, and clear debris or trash so that your stretch of sidewalk invites walkers. There are several advantages in putting in this effort. It will increase the curb appeal of your home, the more folks strolling through your neighborhood increase its vibrancy, and more pedestrians mean more eyes to deter troublemakers.

Take a critical look at your sidewalks. It’s easy for greenery along the edges to get a little wild in the Spring and early Summer no matter how well-kept the rest of the yard is. This is even more true when homeowners aren’t walkers, themselves, and don’t think about “walkability”. Doing so is good for Ferguson, though.





Hello Ferguson!

by Marian Linck

My subject this month is not about Ferguson, but it is about Kirkwood, a St. Louis area that I found remarkably interesting and previously had minimal knowledge of.

I was helping my family move recently. I love these people so I mean no insult or harm when I say at least one person in this family could be a bit of a hoarder and that might be one reason I appreciate and love her like I do. There was a pile of papers including appliance manuals, magazines, and some empty three-hole ring binders, one such binder caught my eye briefly and I set it aside. I picked it up later and realized it was a history of a fancy resort once located in the countryside named Kirkwood, Missouri. I was intrigued. I knew that long ago Ferguson was considered "countryside." The railroad employees who could afford a country home would escape to Ferguson to avoid the city heat. They hopped on the train in the city and got off at our local depot. I never thought about Kirkwood being country as well.

This three-ring binder looks amateurish but contained a wealth of information and had been professionally researched. The title is "Glimpses of Meramec Highlands." I recall an amusement park near Forest Park named the Highlands, but this was new to me.

I was immediately intrigued by the subtitle, "St. Louis in the 1890's. A context for Meramec Highlands: St. Louis' Only Exclusive Health Resort". Wealthy St. Louisans in search of an exclusive health spa retreat would travel to Arkansas Hot Springs. There was a demand for such a resort within the region.



The Highlands Inn

In 1890 businessman, philanthropist and sometime politician, Marcus Bernheimer recognized a need and located some property in Kirkwood. There was access to a steam rail service, the Meramec River for boating and swimming. Sulfurated springs were available as well as a magnificent view of the river valley and clean country air. There was a demand during the late 1800s and early 1900s for an escape from the smoke-filled skies of the city.

His vision included four hundred and thirty-eight acres of land with 33,000 front feet on the Meramec River that had been improved with roads, sidewalks, shade trees and sewers. There was a large hotel, with all the amenities of private rooms, steam baths and electricity provided by a complete electric light plant. There was a livery stable, a twelve-room dormitory, two five room cottages, a store, a storekeeper's residence, a physician's office, and residence. There was a dance hall as well as a saloon.

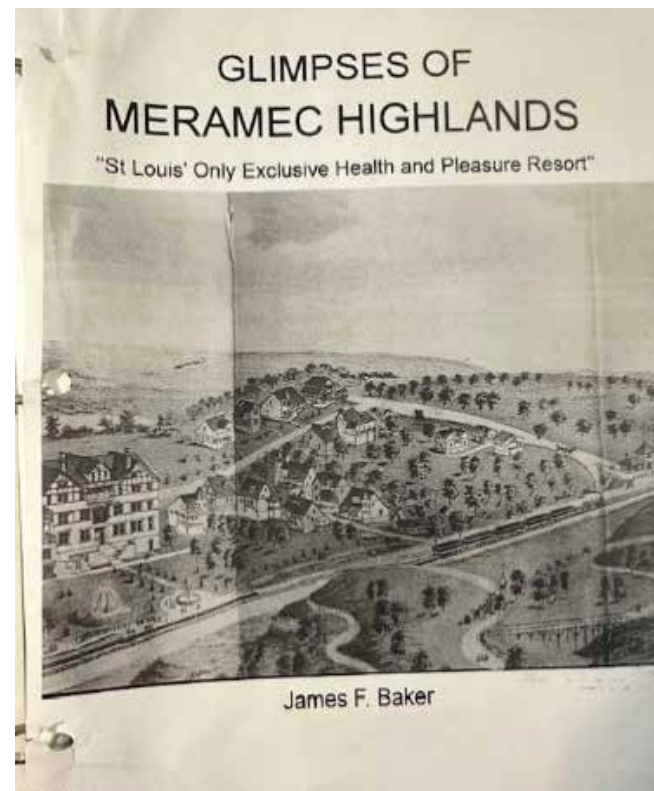
The Highlands Inn was a four-story limestone Victorian structure with towers, gables, and spires. It had broad verandas with massive cloth awnings. The carriage entrance of the inn faced Quinette Road, which is now Big Bend Road.

The resort was a popular destination for the wealthy during the long hot St Louis summers. The stories within this historical report made me think

of the stories I have read about the "Catskills" and the "Poconos." What a magical summer retreat those places were and still are.

Weekly rates for the Highlands Inn and nearby cottages were \$15 to \$17.50 per week.

Some of Mr. Bernheimer subdivision plans and concepts that did not materialize were used by Ralph Bixby and J.C. Smith for their Osage Hills Country Club and the current Greenbriar Country Club.



Structures still standing on the site of the former resort include the Frisco Depot, the general store, a group of cottages along Ponca Trail and on the winding streets of the Greenbriar subdivision.

The demise of this resort included several fires that destroyed the saloon and the dance hall at one time. Both structures were rebuilt. The addition of a streetcar

from the city that brought a more unsavory population to the beaches of the Meramec River also discouraged the more elite, let us say snobby, wealthy, entitled clientele, from the resort. There is also a story of the murder of the night watchman in 1916. By the 1920s the resort was failing and was in tax foreclosure in the 1930s.

There were so many stories of this resort that space does not allow for me to share. I am going to investigate a little and see if this book was officially published and widely available.

Pictured is one of the cottages still standing and was the childhood home of the young lady who let me have this historical account of the Meramec Highlands.

As I was wrapping up this month's article, I looked for a little more information about the Meramec Highlands. There are some mentions especially referring to Greenbriar Country Club. I was also curious if the author of the binder of information, Mr. James F. Baker, was still in the area. He said he lived in the house that had been the Meramec Highlands Store. I would enjoy visiting his home. I also plan to locate #24 Ponca Trail and drive by the home.

If you have knowledge of Meramec Highlands, please share it with me. My email address is manhattanmarian@gmail.com. Once again, thanks for reading my article this month.



#24 Ponca Trail

Digital Ferguson - So You Want To Be In IT

by David Pickens

When people ask me what I do, they sometimes respond that would like to get into IT. I usually ask them a few questions if possible, just to tease out if they are serious, because it's more than a notion.

As I explored IT I came to appreciate how super wide that notion really is, because IT is a big city. In some ways, deciding you that want to be in IT is a lot like saying you want to be an artist. The question naturally follows, what sort of artist? Do you want to paint pictures, play guitars, carve sculptures, or write books? Within IT the choices are also quite numerous, and each choice can be different as night and day. And yet they are all tied together in a bundle called IT.

And because it is such a big city, from the very beginning with a career in IT you are faced with a choice, and you will face this choice over and over as you go along, a choice I think it might surprise you. You will need to decide, over and over again, if you want to be a Specialist, or a Generalist. Allow me to illustrate.

The IT staff manager of one of my large IT clients called, said their main server was down, and as a result so also was the entire agency. I arrived and began to troubleshoot and, even though I am no slouch when it comes to server management and troubleshooting, this problem server had me completely stumped. I said we needed to call in an expert. The agency IT staff manager was alarmed. It will be expensive! So be it I insisted. It's really expensive having the entire agency unable to work. We need to call in an expert.

I called Microsoft technical support and swiftly got someone who helped us through a few steps we had already tried, and once that was done, transferred us to someone who specialized in Dell PowerEdge Raid Controller (PERC) technology. This young person walked me through several dozen screens, traveling on a strange journey way down into the very bowels of this extremely complex drive controller subsystem of a Dell server, until he lead us to a single field in a screen I had never seen before (and probably never will again) and had me change a zero to a 1, and then click OK, OK, OK, OK, OK, OK, OK, OK, OK. Up and up we went through the menu system. Then restart the server.

Server came up. Everybody cheered. And I did not feel in the least bit diminished or incompetent through any of this. In fact it perfectly illustrates the fact that in IT it is literally impossible to know it all. I have found instead that the IT people who feel they know it all are the least likely to be successful in the field, because they rely only on themselves and their own limited knowledge to the detriment of accomplishing things for the good of the company. And ultimately this know-it-all, army-of-one attitude also negatively affects their own career.

From the story above you might suspect I chose the IT Generalist route, and that is correct, but "choosing" isn't the correct word. It's more like, I fell into IT, and when I found myself falling into IT, I realized I wanted to know and learn about everything. I was actually working in my chosen field, engineering, and doing telecommunications systems engineering, when I began to dabble in programming in BASIC and playing with Personal Computers and learning how they work, and how to fix them. And then I wanted to learn how to connect PCs together using networking devices and software like Novell. Back then there were hubs, evil, necessary things. And then switches came along, very magical and helpful, and hubs went away. And then I started my own computer consulting business.

I learned about servers, and routers, and also learned how to write programs in Ruby On Rails, and spent some years designing and implementing a medical client and document management system from the ground up. So for me, with my desire to know at least a little about everything, has led to a really broad and in my opinion fun series of very different work experiences. That experience also helped me to be a better consultant because I developed a really broad overview of technology, which later in my career also helped me to have successful experiences as Director of IT for various agencies and businesses.

The route I didn't take is also available to everyone who has a different desire, and that is to become a true master of some aspect of IT. You would then become that wonderful person who reached down to help us when the server was broken, because you knew that obscure system like the back of your hand, inside and out and upside down. And there have been some periods in my IT career when I was that person, like when I was writing a large program in Ruby on Rails, I really learned that programming language inside out. I had gone from Generalist to Specialist during that time. But most of the time, I remained a jack-of-all-trades, master of none.

The best trick is to always know that someone knows more than you do, especially about a specific problem you are facing, and when to realize you need to reach out and get some expert help. This is true in almost any career field, but I think it's an especially sharp pointy stick in IT. One of the most intelligent things I think anyone can say is, "I don't know how to fix this thing. But I know how to find someone who does."

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.

What is Raghib Drinking?

By Raghib

Let me take a moment to introduce myself and my column. My name is Raghib and I love wine! The purpose of this column is to share my thoughts on wine and to highlight some awesome wines that are both affordable and delicious. My belief is that wine, like jazz, should be enjoyed by all. It shouldn't matter what type of jazz you are listening to, as long as you are listening. Thus, it shouldn't matter what type of wine you are drinking, as long as you are enjoying it.

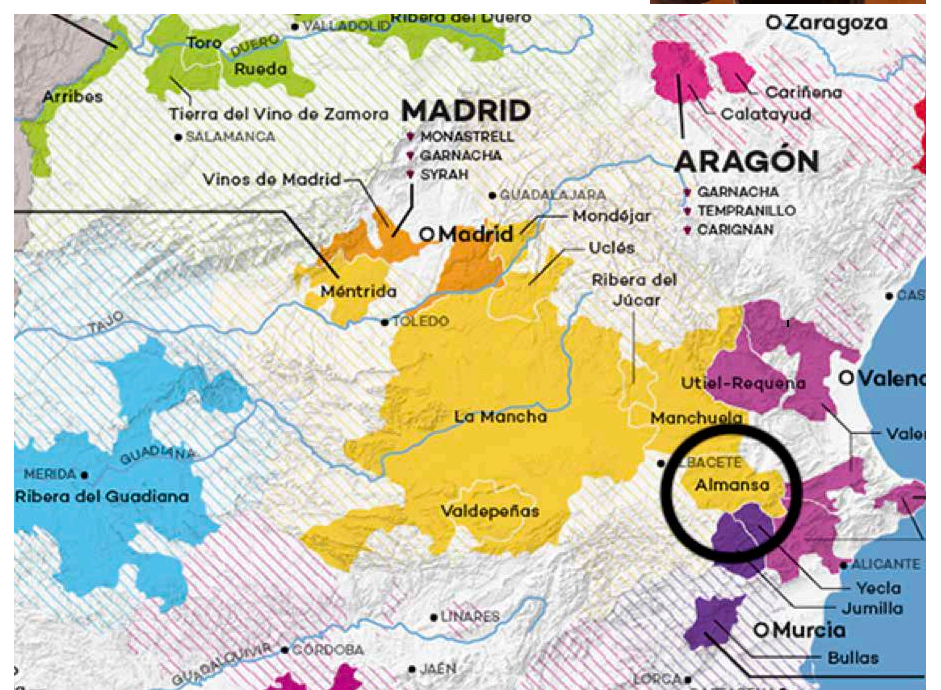


As we begin our wine journey together, it is important for us to lay some wine rules. Rule #1, avoid wine snobbery! If you choose to have a red wine with sea food and a white wine with steak, so be it! I have enjoyed a \$400 bottle of red wine with Little Caesars Pizza (located in Ferguson of course!). The most important thing to remember is that wine is for your own personal enjoyment or to be enjoyed with friends. Rule #2, refer to rule #1.

An introduction to wine can be intimidating. Fancy terms like varietal, acidity, appellation, and tannins can be a bit overwhelming, especially at the beginning of your wine journey. My goal is to break down those fancy terms into words that the common reader can understand. In this months column, let's focus on the term varietal (va-ri-e-tal). According to the Cambridge dictionary, varietal means a type of grape that is used to make wine or a wine that is made from one type of grape.

This week, I would like to share with you one of my favorite Spanish red wine blends from the Almansa region of Spain.

Laya combines two grape varietals, Grenache (Garnacha in Spain) and Monastrell. It's an absolute joy to drink and the price point won't hurt your pockets either. With hints of dark fruit and chocolate, this red blend will not disappoint. It can be paired with pizza, pasta, or any other Mediterranean dish. Price point, under \$10. Happy tastings!



What's Fresh: June '24

Joia Walker - EarthDance Farm to School Educator

What's Fresh June

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!

June is here and we're excited about summer! This summer, we'll be hosting students attending the Strength & Honor and Unleashing Potential summer programs and working in our newly developed education garden space. This space makes room for hands-on development with our junior and beginner gardeners.

Currently many things are in bloom and ready for harvest like herbs, flowers and one of our favorites, carrots! Carrots are such a versatile root vegetable. They can be enjoyed raw, steamed, roasted and in sweet or savory dishes. They are a great source of vitamin A which is great for glowy skin and eyesight and are a great snack for energy that lasts throughout the day. Grab your EarthDance carrots from our Pay What You Can Farm Stand and try this sweet and refreshing Carrot Smoothie recipe from The Chunky Chef!

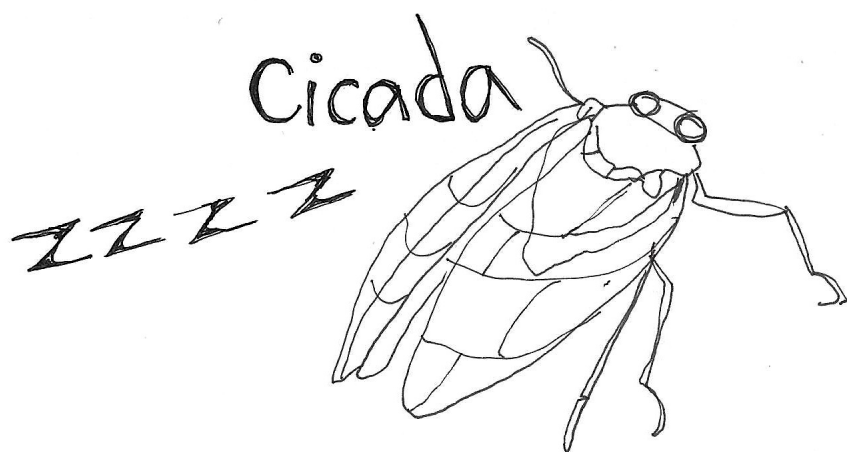


Ingredients

- 1 cup cold coconut water or regular water
- 1 cup baby carrots
- 1 cup frozen strawberries
- 1 cup frozen mango chunks
- 1 navel orange peeled and cut into chunks
- 1 cup pineapple chunks
- 2 Tbsp granulated sugar optional

Instructions

Add ingredients to blender and puree until smooth



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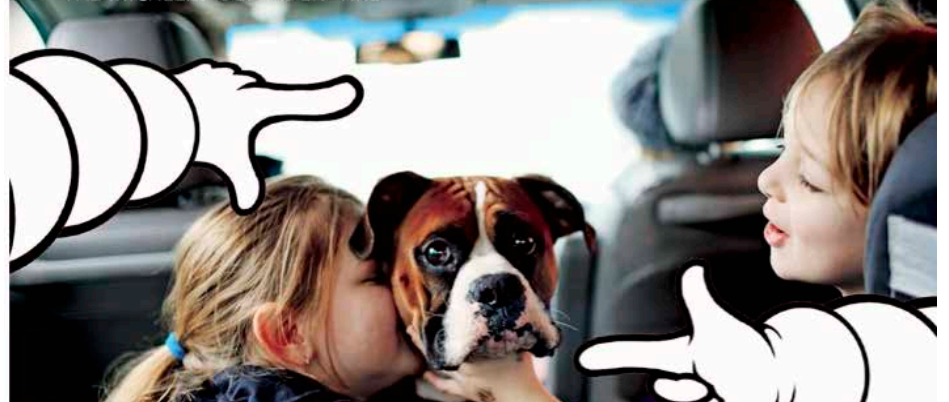


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FOR THE LONG HAUL AND THE LITTLE MOMENTS.

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Financial Focus – The Cost of Waste

By Joan Cleaveland (cleav73@gmail.com)

Lindenwood University – BA Business Administration

Last week, I got a gift in the mail. I call it a gift because I wasn't expecting it and I didn't order it. On the box it says "You're at the heart of everything we do." Inside I found some helpful toiletry items and medical supplies like Band-Aids, toothpaste and brushes. I would guess the total value of this box of what you could call personal swag might be around \$50 or more. With the exception of a couple of items, everything was a CVS product. While it seemed to be a nice gesture, it made me wonder about the cost and benefit. Perhaps this box might be better used by a homeless person or a young family. Is it necessary? Especially when I consider that my insurance already provides me with a card I can use to purchase these same items at CVS as I need them.

A week earlier, I received a letter explaining that my insurance would no longer cover tennis shoes or fishing poles. I didn't even realize they covered those things, so I won't be missing them. This did make me wonder if these are examples of government wasteful spending. When my parents died and we were cleaning out their home, we found an excessive amount of health care items. It appeared they had been stocking up on things that were free to them. We tried to give away some of the items and were told they couldn't be accepted because they were expired or just not acceptable. It felt wasteful to throw the items away and I felt as if tax dollars were being wasted. Since this is a Medicare Advantage Plan it is partially funded by the government, while the premiums paid by those insured funds the rest.

There are many sources to find out about frivolous or wasteful spending by our government. Rand Paul a U.S. Senator in Kentucky puts out an annual Festivus Report to share examples of wasteful spending. One of his examples was a hot dog study. Like many grants we hear of this one seemed to have an obvious conclusion – yes dogs do get hot walking in the summer. They did take it a step further to determine that fur color has no effect on the dog's temperature after a walk. While we don't know exactly how much the study cost taxpayers, the organization that funded the study receives \$1.7 billion a year from congress. So it does suggest there could be other studies that might seem even less important. What is the cost versus benefit?

If we look around we can find waste on all levels. And often those who will point it out may be in the best position to help reduce the waste, so why don't they? If you work in corporate America, you may find part of your job is to stay within a budget. And, you may have heard how important it is to spend your entire budget or your area may lose some funding. Within government this happens too. No politician wants to

have their constituents think they aren't getting their fair share of grant money or economic assistance. The fact that often earmarks are added to bills that need to be passed

We don't have to look far to find wasteful spending right here in our local municipalities. St. Louis received over \$24 million in grants for the Loop Trolley. Many people consider it a waste of money. I happen to really enjoy the trolley and wish it could do better. Yet I understood why so many people wanted to drop the project when the costs seemed out of control. By then, the grant funds had been spent and rather than having to pay the funds back, the decision was made to go ahead and put in enough money to make the system work. So we hope it can be more of a benefit to our area in the future.

On a personal level, we look for ways to cut back on wasteful spending. Eating at home rather than out and looking for free or discount times for activities that can save money for families helps. A financial app that shows people the subscriptions they are paying for and not using is another way to cut wasteful spending. I do wonder why the people in the commercials never looked at their credit card statement. Yet this is a perfect example of wasteful spending on a personal level. In our fast moving world it is hard to keep up and doing a review of charges on a statement seems like a lot of work to many people, so downloading another app might be best for some. Some simple things we do to reduce expenses are to turn off lights not being used in the home and perhaps timing our laundry chore to a better time of day when energy costs are lower. Instilling the "waste less" philosophy in our children by setting a good example can help change attitudes toward using less.

Addressing wasteful spending in government is a conundrum. Much of it gets into the process as an earmark on a bill being presented. Back in 2011 there was a moratorium put on earmarks with the intention of slowing down spending and controlling the deficit. It was signed off on by President Obama and had been approved by both parties. In 2021 it was lifted with the approval of both Democrats and Republicans because it seemed to be stalling the legislative process and didn't have the intended results. So while we are back in the earmark business there are some changes limiting the size and number of funding requests from a member of Congress. There will also be audits by the Government Accountability Office to check for issues that had been prevalent prior to the moratorium. While not all earmarks are bad, our elected officials are the ones who can halt wasteful spending. For more information check out the Citizens Against Government Waste (CAGW) and stay informed on what your local elected officials are approving. And if you see waste, ask about it. I will be contacting my insurance company to see if I can opt out of receiving any more gift boxes. If you have any questions or comments please contact me at cleav73@gmail.com.

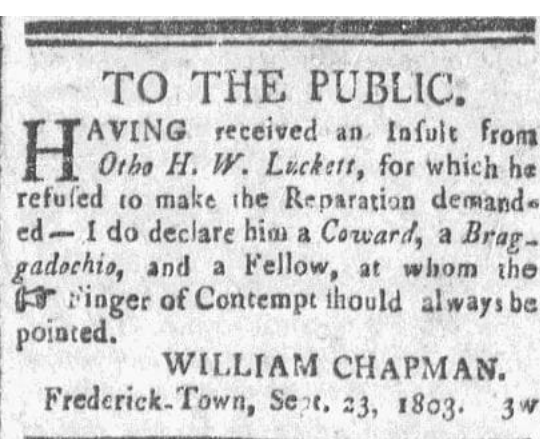
THE FINGER OF CONTEMPT

By Michael Pierce

I've loved history, specifically American History, since I was a kid. I've always read a lot of histories and biographies, along with my yearly reading of Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance.

History can be a very serious business. War, famine, politics, racism – you name it, and you realize that billions of trees have been sacrificed to stories about how messed up things have gotten over the centuries, and successful (and failed) efforts to make things better. We also read the stories of famous people and the impact they have made on the world, the USA, some particular state, some particular county, some particular city, blah blah blah, ad nauseum. It can be overwhelming. I think of someone who once told me some historians want to dig down to the exact hour, minute, and second that Stonewall Jackson sneezed while sucking on a lemon during the Battle of Chancellorsville. I also love digging into the minutiae of some events, but I just can't bring myself to dig THAT deep.

So I smiled when I recently saw the little newspaper item that accompanies this story. Now I have to admit that I immediately Googled 'Finger of Contempt' in a failed effort to learn what that might have meant in 1803. I couldn't even determine which finger would have been utilized.



What I did learn was Otho Holland Williams Lockett was born in Virginia in 1782. He died in 1854, in Ohio. He became a husband and father along the way. He always had a predilection of getting into trouble, and it seems a lot of that trouble would involve the Chapmans. Since dueling was a prominent way of solving grievances between 'gentlemen,' at that time, I crawled down a rabbit hole.

Now ya gotta remember that dueling was the MMA of the 18th and 19th centuries. Dudes would draw pistols and shoot at each other for all sorts of reasons. We've all heard of the Burr-Hamilton affair. Locally we have the two duels between Thomas Hart Benton and Charles Lucas. Lucas definitely came out on the losing end of their duel in 1817. Then there's the Lincoln-Shields 'almost' duel of 1842. Shields challenged Lincoln. Lincoln accepted. Shields was vertically challenged compared to Lincoln. Lincoln chose broadswords as the weapons to be used. As their seconds discussed the details, Lincoln walked about Bloody Island and snipped off leaves high in a tree. Shields changed his mind.

So I looked for news of a duel in the Lockett-Chapman affair. I was a tad disappointed that I found no such story. Lockett was a compulsive gambler in his early years. Maybe that had something to do with it. Instead, Lockett and various members of the Chapman family fought in court, over a variety of issues, for at least thirty years. Lockett and two others were once fined \$100 each for what the court called 'election hijinks.' Details on all the court cases are available, but there's way too much to go into here.

Otho, and two other children, were 'highly doted upon' by his mother. His Revolutionary War veteran dad died when Otho was a youngster. I guess the doting mother was what we would now call a 'helicopter parent.'

The moral of the story? If someone offends you, just point at them with the finger of contempt every time you see them. The choice of which finger to utilize is entirely up to you.

So, What Should I Wear to My Job Interview?

By Pat Mathias



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A female client recently asked me what should she wear to her job interview. It is a good question. No one wants to show up to an interview being “declined” for the running because how she is dressed.

Since your first impression is based on how you are dressed, let me provide a few tips. Before I start, let me first share what you should not wear.

- Avoid wearing sandals, tennis shoes or open-toe shoes.
- No shorts, halter tops, or low cut blouses.
- Seriously consider what color you dye your hair.
- If you wear jewelry, avoid large, bulky jewelry.
- Avoid heavy makeup and huge glued-on eye lashes.
- Although this is not a clothing item, avoid wearing perfumes or colognes.

Okay, now that you have some basics of what not to wear, let’s get you dressed for success!

1. Whether you have short or long hair, have your hair neatly groomed. Try to avoid outlandish hair colors (green, purple, blue, etc.) until you determine if it fits the company’s culture. . . and after you get the job. (If you wear dreadlocks, consider putting them into a rubber band or braid for the interview.)
2. Ladies, if you wear makeup, make yourself look as close to “natural” as possible. Foundation, mascara, eye-liner and a light shade of lip stick ought to do it. If you choose to wear false eye lashes, make sure they look like your natural eye lashes. Eye contact is an important part of a job interview-you do not want to challenge the recruiter with oversized eye lashes.
3. Again, if you wear jewelry, keep it simple. Avoid jewelry that could possibly be distracting.
4. When it comes to attire, it is better to err on the side of being too dressed up. Men wearing a suit and tie and women wearing a suit (skirt or pants would do). Women should strive for a solid colored suit, but could add color with the blouse that compliments the suit.
5. For ladies: wear or not wear panty hose? That is the question. If you go to purchase panty hose, you will notice that that section is getting smaller. This is due to business casual has become the norm. Again, it is better to be safe than sorry. . . get the panty hose if you choose to wear a skirt suit. (Tip: Keep a back-up pair in your car. Just in case.)
6. Shoes could be fashionable, but not flashy. We are still trying to look more professional vs. making a fashion statement.
7. This is worth repeating. . . Avoid perfumes and colognes. It would just be your luck that the perfume you wear reminds the male recruiter of his ex. Or, the cologne causes the recruiter’s allergies to flare up. It is better to not to a chance.

I hope you find these tips helpful. My client? She ended up texting me her two choice outfits, which was helpful to guide her to look as professional as possible for her interview.



Under The Hood With Robinwood
By Bob McGartland

Is There “Really” Any Difference Between Tire Brands?

When it comes to choosing tires for your vehicle, the plethora of brands available in the market can be overwhelming. From Michelin and Bridgestone to Goodyear and Continental, each brand claims to offer something unique. But is there really a significant difference between all these tire brands, or is it just marketing hype? Let’s delve into the nuances of tire manufacturing and performance to uncover the truth.

1. Material Quality and Technology

One of the primary differentiators between tire brands is the quality of materials used and the technology employed in manufacturing tires. Premium brands often invest heavily in research and development to engineer rubber compounds that offer superior grip, durability, and performance in various conditions. For instance, Michelin’s CrossClimate tires utilize a unique rubber compound that adapts to different weather conditions, providing excellent performance year-round.

2. Tread Design and Performance

Tread design significantly impacts a tire’s performance, especially in terms of grip, handling, and water evacuation. High-end brands typically invest in advanced tread designs that enhance performance in specific conditions, such as wet roads or off-road terrain. For example, Goodyear’s Wrangler series features aggressive tread patterns designed for off-road traction, while Bridgestone’s Turanza tires are optimized for quiet and comfortable highway driving.

3. Longevity and Wear

The lifespan of a tire is another critical factor where differences between brands become apparent. Premium tires may come with a higher price tag, but they often offer better longevity and wear characteristics, translating to a lower cost per mile over the tire’s life. Brands like Michelin and Continental are renowned for their tires’ durability, offering warranties that attest to their long-lasting performance.

4. Price and Value

Price is undoubtedly a significant consideration for many consumers. While premium brands are generally more expensive, they argue that the higher initial investment is justified by the superior performance, safety features, and longevity of their tires. However, many mid-range and budget brands have significantly improved their product quality, offering competitive performance at a lower price point. Brands like Kumho and Hankook provide excellent value, challenging the notion that only premium tires offer the best performance.

5. Specialization and Niche Markets

Some brands specialize in certain types of tires, catering to niche markets. For instance, Pirelli is well-known for its high-performance tires used in motorsports, while BFGoodrich specializes in off-road tires. These specialized brands often offer unique features and performance benefits not found in generalist tire brands.

Conclusion

While the differences between tire brands can sometimes seem subtle, they are indeed significant when it comes to material quality, tread design, performance, longevity, and specialization. The best choice for a driver depends on their specific needs, driving conditions, and budget. It’s essential to research and consider what each brand offers to make an informed decision that ensures safety, performance, and value. Ultimately, the “right” tire brand is one that best meets the unique demands of your vehicle and driving habits. We been selling tires for over 40 years here at Robinwood. We are happy to answer any tire questions you have.

As always, if you have any vehicle service needs, and do not have a regular automotive service provider, Robinwood Automotive would be honored to provide your automotive service needs. Visit us at robinwoodauto.com

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Post Third Properties

“Buildings and homes can become vacant or abandoned for a multitude of reasons, including: destroyed in disasters, foreclosure, failed business or disinvestment by the owners.”

-United States Fire Administration

Hello Neighbor,

Our great city of Ferguson, as do many, many of our fellow municipalities, are faced with a range of challenges that impact on our everyday quality of life, the stability of our communities and City’s ability to provide basic everyday services. We are burdened with far too many abandoned properties that are in derelict (disrepair) conditions with the owners not doing basic repairs or paying property taxes. Many of these properties have not had taxes paid in years and are subsequently taken by St. Louis County government because of delinquent taxes. Those properties are attempted to be sold at auction by the County or ultimately moved to a program administered by the County call “Post-Third Properties” which means because they weren’t purchased through the County’s tax sale, the County then becomes the default owner. Sadly, the municipalities where these properties are located are then burdened with upkeep until the County finds a buyer or the municipality can find an entity who is willing to purchase and develop the properties. The cost to just the North St. Louis municipalities, including loss tax revenue and basic upkeep is estimated at just less than \$15,000,000, a devastating amount toward these collective communities’ bottom lines.

The St. Louis County Department of Revenue maintains an annual list of these properties. Each impacted municipality does have an opportunity to provide a list of properties to the County’s Department of Revenue for redevelopment with the desire that the County titles those properties to the municipalities and eliminates all outstanding taxes due on the said properties. For example, Unity Park in Ward 3 is a prime example of redevelopment of a Post Third Property. At this point the municipality can acquire the properties for redevelopment and the titles of the properties are not clear. It is up to the city or developers to clear the titles. This process for exchanging ownership for the targeted properties has been in place for years until the County Executive Dr. Sam Page decided to PAUSE the program.

Ferguson has 127 Post-Third Properties according to the Post Third Properties List which was published on December 1, 2023, by St. Louis County. As reported in the 2020 Census, the total number of vacant homes is a staggering 1,427 out of 8,887 housing units.

The City of Ferguson hosted the Metro East Region Missouri Municipal League on November 1, 2023, and several mayors were inquiring of each other as to why the PTP was PAUSED. I called County Councilwoman Rita Heard-Days of District 1, and asked for an update and additional information on the PTP. From that conversation County Councilwoman Days encouraged me to set a meeting date with all the mayors of North County to meet and to discuss the PTP PAUSE; she agreed to contact Council Councilwoman Chair Shalonda Webb to attend the meeting.

A letter was sent to all North County Mayors asking to include their city’s logo in agreement of a meeting and invite County Executive Dr. Sam Page to the meeting. The meeting was set for Nov. 16, 2023, at 8:30am, held in Ferguson’s City Hall. The County Executive had a conflict in his schedule and couldn’t attend the meeting with the mayors until January 5, 2024.

The mayors held the meeting with their Community Development staffs, Code Enforcement officers, City Managers/Administrators, and several stakeholders. The meeting was very proactive and informative that the next steps were agreed upon and followed. One of the next steps was to hold a St. Louis County Council Committee of the Whole (COW), meeting to be chaired by County Councilwoman Chair Shalonda Webb on Dec. 5, 2023, at 3:30pm in the County Council Chambers. Another step was to prepare for the COW meeting and the mayors’ meetings hosted by mayors, city of Beverly Hills Brian Jackson, city of Jennings Gary Johnson, and Ella Jones, respectively.

The meeting was held on Dec 5, 2023, at 3:00pm, and each mayor, Community Development Directors, Code Enforcement Officers, Police Chiefs, and stakeholders had an opportunity to speak before every County Council member from the various Districts. To our surprise several of the other County Council members didn’t have information concerning the PTP and why it was PAUSED. County Executive Dr. Sam Page sent one of his staff members to explain to the mayors why the PTP program was PAUSED. From that meeting the mayors decided to continue to meet in preparation for the January 5, 2024 meeting.

On January 5, 2024, the meeting was held at Ferguson’s Community Center and County Executive Dr. Sam Page arrived as scheduled. The meeting progressed for about an hour and we were at an impasse. I then turned to Dr. Page and asked if he would be willing to work with a mayors’ taskforce to get the work done to continue the PTP and he agreed. The taskforce was organized after much deliberation and ready to meet for the work at hand.

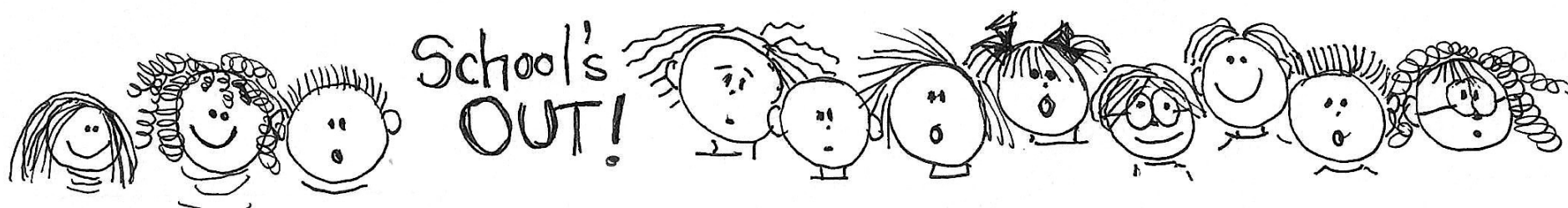
In February 2024, the mayors met with Dr. Page’s staff for the first meeting and the following meetings were led by County Councilwoman Rita Days of District 1 and County Councilwoman Chair Shalonda Webb. All parties involved hammered out the new legislation for the PTP and it should be on the Council’s agenda soon. In the meantime, the Post Third Properties Program was started again and so far, the municipalities are applying for the PTP without any hesitation from the county. The North County mayors working together to improve the quality of life for their citizens is their prime directive.

Special thanks go to County Councilwoman Chair Shalonda Webb and her Administrative Assistant of District 4, Shonte Harmon-Young, County Councilwoman Rita Heard-Days and her Administrative Assistant of District 1, Maria Thomas, Anni Dineen and Kellie Shelton from the city of Jennings, Ms. Lillian Eunice from the city of Pine Lawn, City Manager John Hampton and Ferguson’s staff, and Elliot Liebson from the city of Berkeley.

Finally, thanks go to mayors, Sharon Pace, James McGee, Gary Johnson, Reggie Jones, Dinah Tatman, Tim Lowery, Michele DeShay, Terry Epps, Arnold Hinkle, Brian Jackson, Monica Jefferson, Patricia Ross, Willie Fair, Community Developers Directors, and City Managers/Administrators.

Note: Committee of the Whole meeting can be viewed on the County’s website on Dec. 5th, all press releases and letters from the mayors can be viewed on the Ferguson City website from the Mayor’s Desk.

Connecting,
Mayor Ella Jones



HOT WEATHER TIPS FOR PETS

It's summertime and most of you are excited to enjoy the warm weather! However, don't forget that pets can overheat quickly. Keep your pets safe during hot weather.

Don't let dogs linger on hot asphalt when the temperature is very high. Being so close to the ground, your pooch's body can heat up quickly, and sensitive paw pads can burn. Keep walks during these times to early mornings or evenings after the sun has gone down. If you see someone walking a dog on a hot day on asphalt stop and educate them. Most people are receptive to being educated.

Feel free to trim longer hair on your dog, but never shave your dog. The layers of dogs' coats protect them from overheating and sunburn. Brushing cats more often than usual can prevent problems caused by excessive heat. And be sure that any sunscreen or insect repellent product you use on your pets is labeled specifically for use on animals.

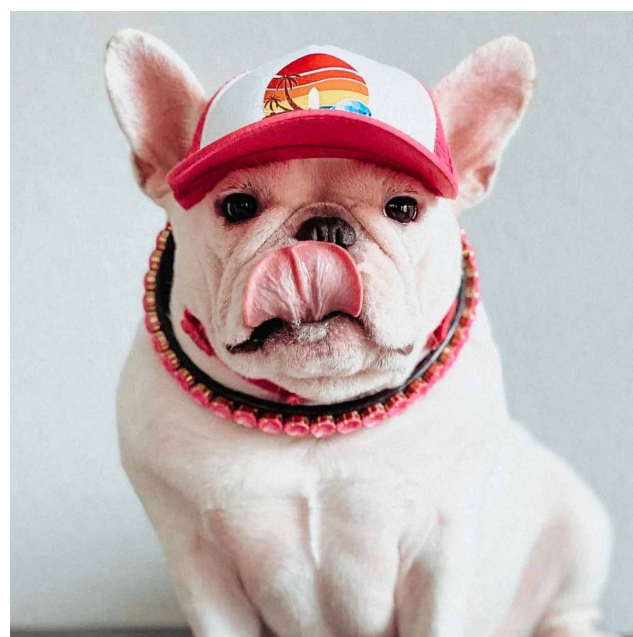
NEVER leave your animals alone in a parked vehicle. Temperatures in cars can rise quickly even with the windows cracked. This can lead to fatal heat stroke! If you see a dog locked in a parked car on a day warmer than 70, call the authorities.

Give pets plenty of fresh, clean water when it's hot or humid outdoors as pets can get dehydrated quickly. Make sure your pets have a shady place to get out of the sun, be careful not to over-exercise them and keep them indoors when it's extremely hot.

Visit the vet for an early-summer checkup. Make sure your pets get tested for heartworm if they aren't on year-round preventative medication. One bite by an infected mosquito can be deadly to your pooch.

So enjoy your summer, but keep your pets in mind too.

Dara Ashby, Ferguson Animal Coalition, (314) 853-7550



ASPCA

120°

Within 30 minutes, the car's interior can climb from 85° to 120°.

102°

On an 85° day, it only takes ten minutes for the inside of your car to reach 102°.

90°

Even if the temperature outside is only 70°, the inside of your car may be as much as 20 degrees hotter!

It's Hot Out!

Don't Leave Your Pet in the Car!

Pets most at risk for overheating are young, elderly or overweight animals, those with short muzzles and those with thick or dark-colored coats.

A car may overheat even when the windows have been left open an inch or two.

Shade offers little protection on a hot day and moves with the sun.

Many states and local governments have laws that prohibit leaving an animal unattended in a motor vehicle under dangerous conditions, which includes hot days. Your car could be damaged or you could be charged with a crime.

If you see an animal in a car on a hot day, try to locate the owner, or call 911! Stay by the car until help arrives.

Health Begins in the Soil

EarthDance Organic Farm School here in Ferguson is a teaching farm, offering food and educational programs on a Pay What You Can basis for learners of all ages. Growing healthy soil, food, and community is central to their mission. The EarthDance team believes and works to ensure that health begins in the soil.

The farmer educators at EarthDance are steadily learning, using, and teaching organic farming and gardening practices. Working in partnership with nature is at the heart of everything this team does. "We're striving to work in a symbiotic relationship with the soil and the land and the overall ecosystem," Lead Farmer and Educator Jena Hood said. "We are nature!"

To grow and share fresh, healthy, organic food with you for whatever amount you can pay, the farmers work diligently to:

Nurture biodiversity - Biodiversity means the coexistence of many kinds of plants, animals, and microorganisms. It's essential for human health and well-being, as well as that of the environment as a whole. Biodiversity is vital to soil fertility, fending off plant diseases, erosion control, crop & tree pollination and more. It also makes the farm so beautiful!

Add organic matter to the soil - Adding carbon-based matter that is breaking down - like leaves and compost - to the soil helps to create a thriving ecosystem for everything that lives in, on, and in connection with the soil.

Do a lot of weeding! And allow weeds to grow - Herbicides are harmful to the environment, and we don't use them, so the farm team does A LOT of weeding by hand. A flame weeder is used when possible. And, anywhere farmers aren't currently growing food, many weeds are left to grow - they're just plants! Many of them have flowers, and pollinators love these flowers. We do, too!

Avoid mechanical tilling, or deep churning of soil - Soil disturbance can be harmful to the soil and everything that lives in it. Soil compaction is an ongoing challenge for food growers, though, and sometimes it's necessary to help loosen soil so that plants and other organisms have the below-ground air, water, and space they need to thrive. Other ways we break up compacted soil to improve aeration and water flow include using a broad fork - a manual garden tool - or by planting a cover crop of tillage radishes that have very long roots.

Plant cover crops - Non-food crops help replace soil nutrients, slow erosion, improve soil density, and add organic matter to the soil as they decay.

All of these practices and more help sustain the land, the ecosystem, and EarthDance's ability to grow and share fresh, delicious, organic food in our community. If you've never visited EarthDance, it's a lovingly tended gem, tucked right into a Ferguson neighborhood, at 233 S. Dade Ave. Enjoy a farm walk or drive during Farm Stand hours. The EarthDance Pay What You Can Farm Stand is open Fridays 3-6pm and Sundays 11am-3pm. And Pay What You Can for produce at their booth at the Ferguson Farmers Market, too! Every Saturday 8am-Noon at 501 S. Florissant Rd.

"We hope that the care and commitment we have to tending to farm in these ways, that you can taste it in the food," Jena said.



EarthDance advances food justice by training organic farmers and gardeners of all ages, providing connection to healthy food and the land, and cultivating vibrant community.



MERFERD and the TREETOONS

"Merferd Colors the World"

A graphic story coloring strip for all ages
By Wendell Phillips Berwick
Based on a true story of Merferd at war with the "Low Downs" graffiti gang. Catch up and follow at Merferd.com

LURKING IN THE SHADOWS WERE THE NIGHT-PAINTERS. THEY HAD SNUCK INTO THE GARDEN, BECOMING ENVIIOUS. DETERMINED TO STOP THE SPREAD OF COLOR, WHEN DARKNESS FELL, THEY LEAPT AMONG THE SLEEPING TREETOONS, TURNING EVERYTHING BACK TO BLACK AND WHITE.



The Ferguson Computer Corner

by Doug Neely
June, 2024

Wincalendar Stuff, dept.
There is not a great deal of holidays of interest to us this month. Still, here are the 2 I found:

14th---World Blood Donor Day...giving blood to save lives is a God-fearing thing to do!

16th---Father's Day...give Daddy his due! if you have no clue as to what that might be, I have found that a good beef steak will get it done! My own favorite is a tender ribeye with mushrooms and butter and a big baked potato!

Puters Colors, dept.
I was recently reminded of some of the original puters (i'm gonna say the 286 and 386 and 486 types). This era we will refer to as the eggshell era, as all puters were "painted" the exact same color and shade of eggshell white. More like a dirty white, I suppose.

Shortly thereafter, the color changed to an ugly beige. My guess is that any other color would stand out from the rest. Or maybe somebody had a LOT of beige. Who knows? It came to pass that you could get any color you wanted as long as it was beige.

I Beg To Differ, dept.
after some time, somebody challenged the beige world dominance, and they did it with a sharp, no-nonsense black. Good choice. As they say in the fashion industry: everything goes with black. (I don't care whether they say that or not; I am saying that!)
And then there was white. Oh boy! And this era only lasted for months, until the specialty mom & pop outfits began offer candy-apple red and brilliant eye-popping orange. Then there was blue and purple and hot pink! I think that covers it! Next we get the metallic specks added to the above colors to make it sparkle to catch your eyes. And they did. For a short while. Now we are back to a more-subdued color palette, primarily beige and black. Oh joy!

What about you? Got an old shiny black trimmed in hot race car orange? Candy apple green? What about brightly-lit fans? (oops! That is another tale that we may investigate at another time!) However, I will tell you that I made a beautiful, bright, all-green puter for my mom, and I put several green-lighted fans into it. It would light up the room with a pleasant green glow any time you turned on the puter. Almost luminescent. How lovely! And I still have it! :)

ME GO NOW!
Just because we have no major holidays this month does not mean you can take off from going to church! Going to church should be a regular thing!
God's blessings to you and to yours!

IF YOU would like to get some of Doug's FREE puter advice, just email him at:fergusoncomputercorner@aol.com

YOU MUST PUT THE PHRASE I need puter advice INTO THE SUBJECT LINE AND INCLUDE YOUR LOCAL TELEPHONE NUMBER IN THE BODY OF THE EMAIL. If you don't do this, you will miss having the interesting and helpful discussion you that you were gonna get! :)

Affinia Healthcare adds Pharmacy services at Ferguson health center

FERGUSON, MO– Affinia Healthcare is expanding the services offered at its newly opened health center in Ferguson with the opening of its new pharmacy. Pharmacy hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The health center is located at 3396 Pershall Road (next door to the Emerson YMCA).

"Having access to medications is critical for our patients' health and wellness," said Kenyatta Johnson, Pharmacy Director. "The Pharmacy team did a great job ensuring we met the necessary requirements to establish this service for our patients to help ensure they are able to continue the treatment prescribed by our doctors and clinicians."

Prescriptions will be processed and filled at the Affinia Healthcare pharmacy at the Lemp Avenue location, then transported to Ferguson for the point-of-sale. A pharmacist will staff the Ferguson pharmacy during operating hours.

To schedule an appointment, call 314.814.8700.

Crossword Solution from page 4

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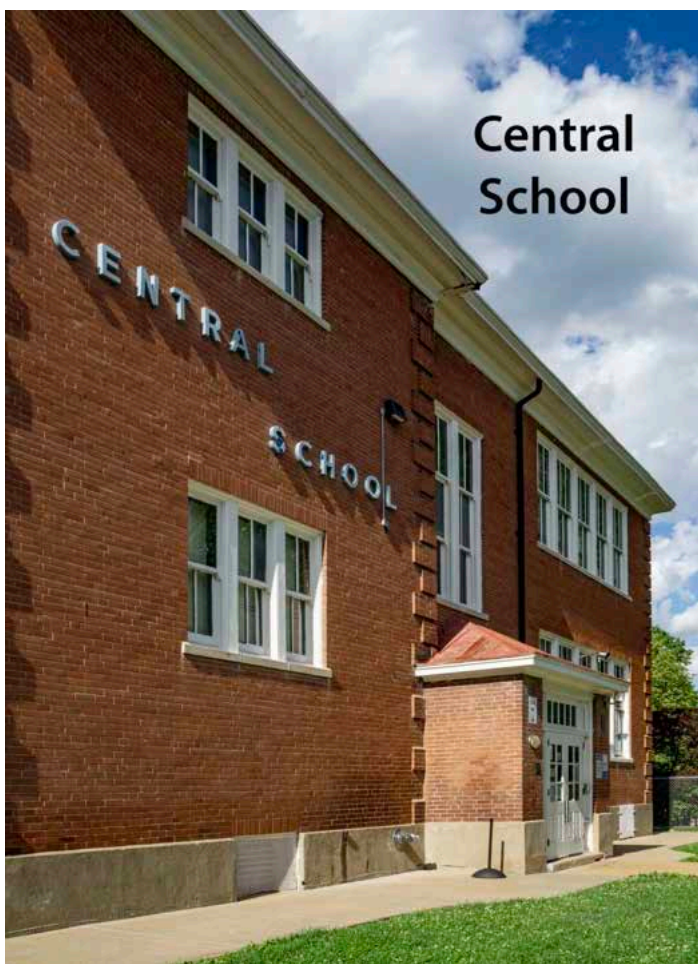


Ferguson Has A History Museum

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



In the next several months we will explore more about the history of the Ferguson-Florissant R-2 School District. The district has 23 schools operating in 9 different cities. In future articles we will focus more on the district and on the Ferguson schools. In this issue, however, we look at 7 Ferguson schools.



Central School

The first school we will look at is Central Primary School. It is the oldest and precedes the actual Ferguson-Florissant R-2 district. The original building was built in 1880. Several additions have been created since. Since 1880 it has continuously operated as a public school serving various levels over its many years. Central School also served as a community center. Currently Central School serves

Grades PreK through 2nd Grade. It is located at 201 Wesley Avenue (corner of Wesley and Clark).



Vogt School

The second school in Ferguson is Vogt School, located on Church Street in Downtown Ferguson. Vogt was constructed in 1930 as a new High School, replacing Central School. This school also existed prior to the formation of the R-2 School District. The school is named after John M. Vogt who was a long-time member of the School Board and its treasurer. Like Central School, Vogt also served as a community center. At the current time Vogt serves as an administrative center.



Griffith School

The second oldest school in Ferguson is Griffith Intermediate School. In 1927 Griffith did not look like this – it was a two-room building. It is considerably larger, today. Currently, Griffith serves grades 3 thru 5. Griffith is located at 200 Day Drive (Day and Chambers Roads)



Ferguson Middle School

Ferguson Middle School was originally built as a new high school in 1936 – replacing Vogt which became the new junior high school. Built on the site of the original January Home, the school is located at 701 January Avenue – next to January-Wabash Park. The original building is on the right of the photo. New additions are to the left.

Located on land behind Ferguson Middle School is one of Ferguson-Florissant's newest buildings. The Johnson-Wabash 6th Grade Center focuses on only one grade – 6th. The school is located at 685 January Avenue. You cannot see the school from January Avenue, you must take the drive along the east of Ferguson Middle School to find the building.



Johnson-Wabash School

A second intermediate school in Ferguson is Lee-Hamilton Intermediate School. Following the end of WW-II Ferguson became a rapidly growing community. By the beginning of the 1950's new schools needed to be built to take care of the growing number of students in the area. This is the period of time for Lee-Hamilton. Currently Lee-Hamilton serves grades 3 thru 5. The school is located at 40 Powell Avenue.



Lee-Hamilton School

The final school in Ferguson is the STEAM Academy at McCluer South-Berkeley High School. When the airport authority purchased the land in Berkeley housing Berkeley High School, the district built the new McCluer South-Berkeley High School. The school currently serves grades 9 thru 12 and specializes as a STEAM academy. The school accepts students from all over the district by application only.

There is one other school located in Ferguson, but it no longer exists. In 1885 Ferguson built a one-room, frame school for “negro” children. The Vernon School, located on Florissant Road south of Maline Creek, existed as an elementary school until 1927 when it was replaced by a larger two-room brick school on Carson Road near Kinloch. See the May 2022 article for more information on the Vernon School.

Membership in the Ferguson Historical Society is open to anyone – membership levels range from \$20.00 to \$50.00 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

Ferguson’s high school students normally attend McCluer High School, a traditional high school, located at 1896 S. New Florissant Road in Florissant, Missouri. Ferguson middle school students, who qualify for attendance, may attend the STEAM Academy Middle School located at 8855 Dunn Road in Hazelwood, Missouri.

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

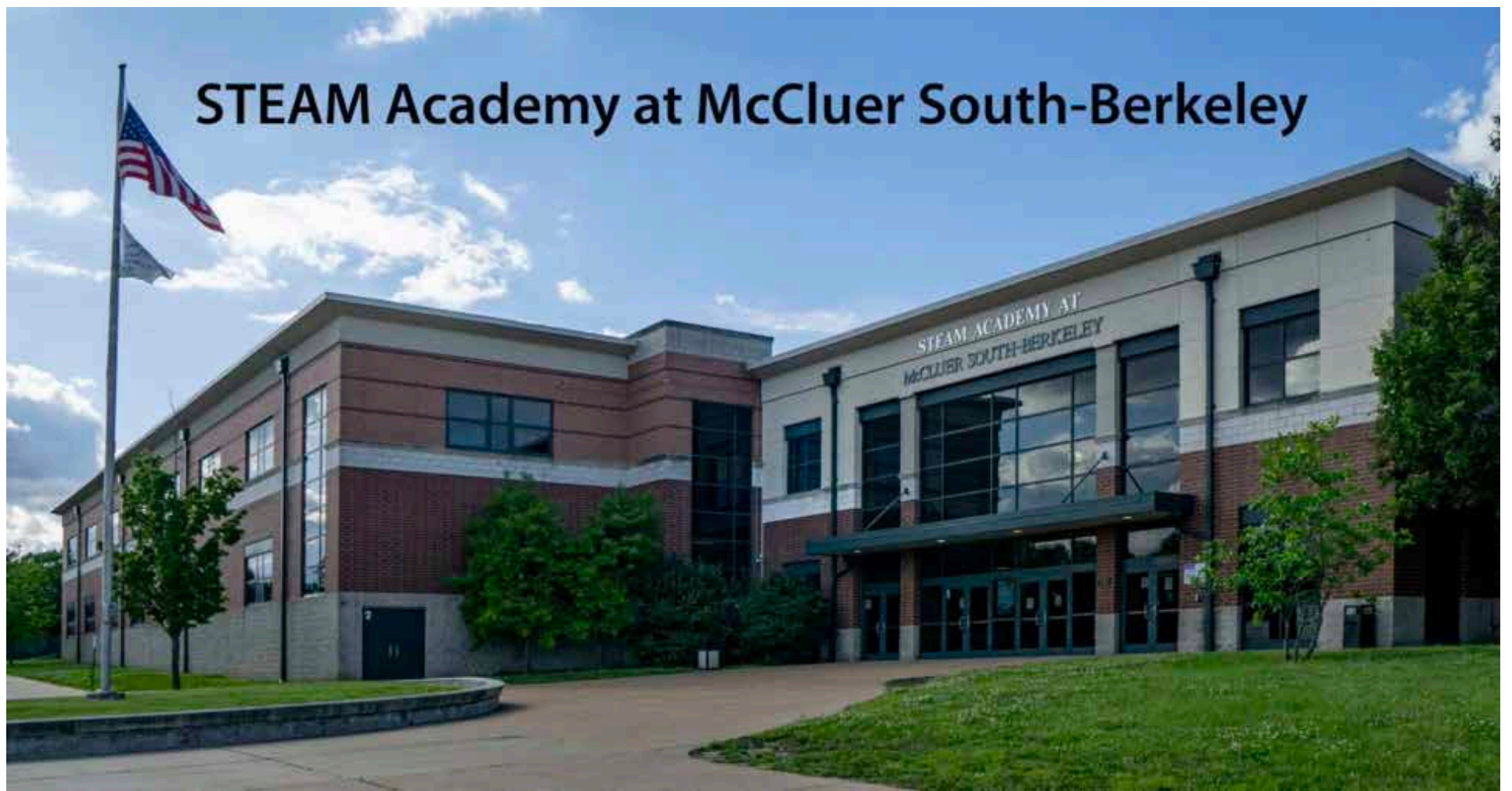
You Are Invited to an Open House Saturday, June 8 -10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

The theme is “Summertime Past” and the event will feature food and drinks, an outside back patio seating area along with our current displays and some special “summer” displays.

This is a special event as we will be celebrating Ruth Brown and her many years of service to Ferguson and the Ferguson Historical Society. Presentation will be at 11:00 AM.



The Vernon School



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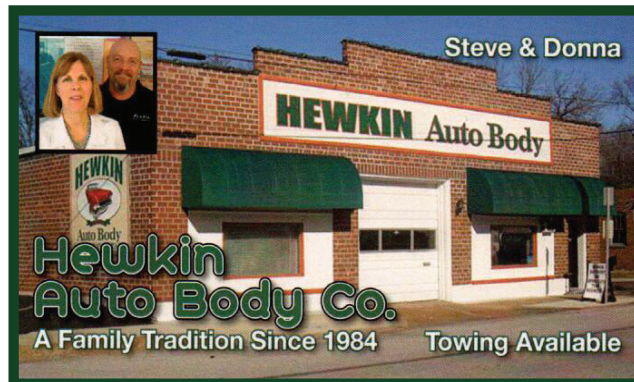
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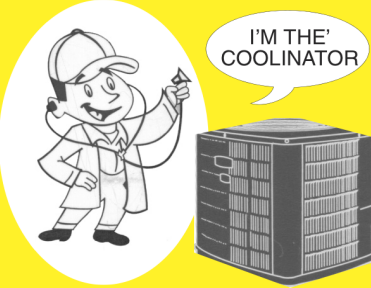
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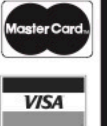
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