

# Ferguson

NEIGHBORHOOD

SINCE NEWS 2021



Serving Ferguson and Surrounding Communities

## ARE YOU CONCERNED?

*“Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their country.”*

The above sentence was something students in “typing” class had to learn when touch typing - which is a lost art. Oh, everyone still uses a keyboard or screen to enter text but learning to navigate the standard manual typewriter was a daunting task. There was no delete key or caps lock so when a mistake was made it was either start over or use white out and hope it doesn’t make a bigger mess.

But I’m not here to talk about typing, I am speaking of freedom of speech.

If you want to voice your concerns about the direction of Ferguson, there will be several opportunities to do so with candidates for Ferguson City Council this month sponsored by PROUD.

I encourage any resident that has concerns to please attend these forums at the Ferguson Library.

Oh, “The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog.” This one uses all the letters in our alphabet. A great exercise. Let’s not be the lazy dog - but the quick brown fox.

Have something to say? Be a positive voice for Ferguson.

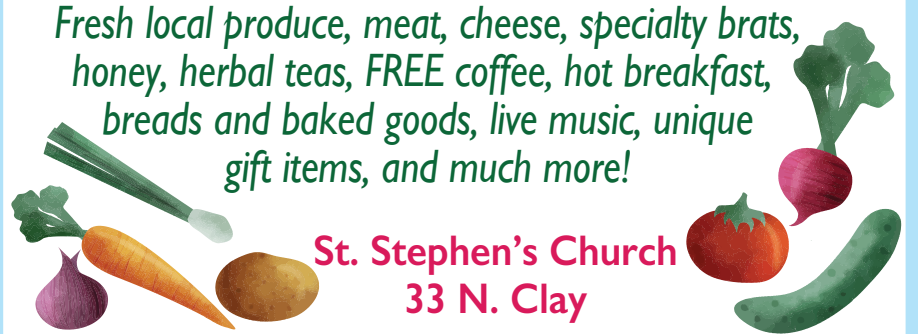
Papa Deau

TWO WINTER MARKETS LEFT FOR THIS YEAR!

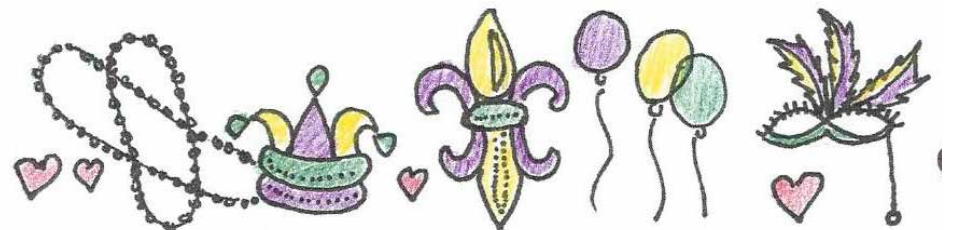
## FERGUSON WINTER FARMERS’ MARKET

NEXT MARKET: SAT, MARCH 15, 9AM-12PM

Fresh local produce, meat, cheese, specialty brats, honey, herbal teas, FREE coffee, hot breakfast, breads and baked goods, live music, unique gift items, and much more!



St. Stephen’s Church  
33 N. Clay






### Forums with Ferguson Council Candidates

Join in the round-table discussions with the Ferguson City Council Candidates:

Ward 1 Henry Iwenofu Michael Palmer	Ward 2 Jamil Franklin Larry Robinett	Ward 3 LaMika Covington Fran Griffin
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Thursday, 06 March, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.  
**How can we best market Ferguson as a good place to live?**

Thursday, 20 March, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.  
**Is our style of community policing effective?**  
In partnership with the Neighborhood Policing Steering Committee

Thursday, 03 April, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.  
**How do we encourage development on West Florissant?**

**Ferguson Public Library**  
35 North Florissant Road, Ferguson, MO 63135  
The event will also be streamed via Zoom

More information is available through:  
[www.proud-ferguson.org](http://www.proud-ferguson.org)



The event is geared for an adult audience, but all ages are welcome

On-line edition: [fergusonsmallbusinessdistrict.com/](http://fergusonsmallbusinessdistrict.com/)



### MARCH NEWS AND EVENTS AT THE FERGUSON PUBLIC LIBRARY

For more information, please contact the library at 314-521-4820 or visit us online at [fergusonlibrary.net](http://fergusonlibrary.net)

#### CHILDREN AND TEEN EVENTS

<b>STORIES AND SONGS FOR LITTLE ONES</b> Join us for storytime! Ages 0-5. Wednesdays at 10 am	<b>LEGO CLUB</b> Drop in and build! Ages 6-11. Saturday, Mar. 15 at 2 pm	<b>TEEN MAKERS</b> Make a meal in a mug! Register at <a href="http://bit.ly/fmplmakers24">bit.ly/fmplmakers24</a> . Tuesday, Mar. 18 at 6 pm
<b>BUT WHAT CAN YOU DO?</b> Ava learns she isn’t great at cartwheels, but she is great at lots of other things in this new play from Metro Theater Company! For families. Saturday, Mar. 8 at 12 pm	<b>SPRING BREAK MONEY SMARTS</b> Join us each day during Spring Break to play some games about money! Learn how to budget, save money, and more, all while having fun. Ages 5-12. March 17-21 at 1 pm	

#### ADULT EVENTS

<b>PREPPING YOUR VEGETABLE GARDEN</b> Get your garden ready for spring growing! Wed., March 5 at 6 pm	<b>READINGS ON RACE BOOK CLUB</b> We’ll discuss <i>James: A Novel</i> by Percival Everett. Monday, Mar. 10 at 6 pm	<b>CONVERSATIONS AND COFFEE</b> Discuss the news over light refreshments. Tuesday, Mar. 11 at 6 pm
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#### ALL AGES EVENTS

<b>BOARD GAME DAY</b> Step into spring with an afternoon of board games! Bring a game of your own or play ones of ours. All are welcome! Saturday, Mar. 1 from 12-3:30 pm	<b>FIBER ARTS SOCIAL CLUB</b> Craft and chat! Bring your knitting, sewing, crocheting, etc. projects and work while socializing. Beginners are welcome! Thursday, Mar. 13 at 6 pm
<b>CULTURAL CUISINE</b> We’ll explore Ireland and enjoy that classic dish, corned beef and cabbage, as well as some other Irish treats. For adults and children with supervision. Wednesday, Mar. 19 at 6 pm	<b>CRAFT KITS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mar. 3-8: Paper Orbs</li> <li>• Mar. 17-22: Agamograph</li> <li>• Mar. 31 - Apr. 4: Cork Boats</li> </ul> Pick up a free kit while supplies last!

POSTAL CUSTOMER  
ECRWSM

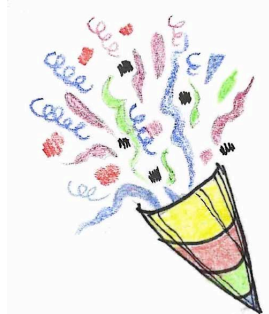
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St. Louis, MO 63135  
312 Calverton Rd.

If You Have Items of Interest, Contact - [asroc873@charter.net](mailto:asroc873@charter.net)



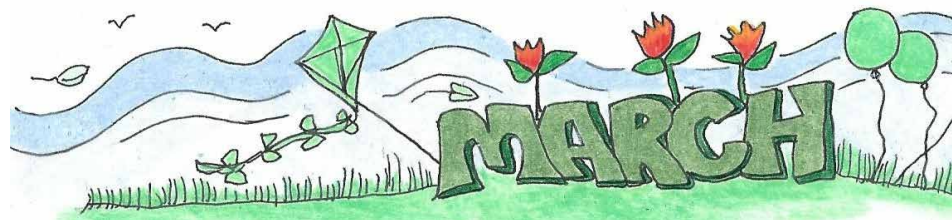
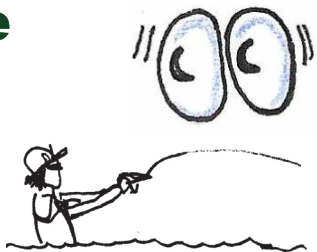
## March Celebration Shout-outs



- 14 Happy Birthday Jack Bowes
- 20 Happy Birthday Richard Bowes
- 24 Happy Birthday Jody Schneider
- 25 Happy 5th Birthday Beck Schmermund
- 28 Happy Birthday Luke Nadeau

### March at a Glance

- 1 Opening day of Trout Season
- 1 First Night of Ramadan
- 4 Forestwood Neighborhood Meeting 7 PM  
Emmaus Bible Chapel 900 Highmont Dr.
- 4 Fat Tuesday - Mardi Gras
- 5 Ash Wednesday
- 9 Daylight Savings Begins
- 10 North Elizabeth Neighborhood Meeting 7PM  
Ferguson Community Center 1050 Smith Ave.
- 13 Jeske Park Neighborhood Meeting 7 PM  
First Baptist Church of Ferguson 333 N. Florissant Rd.
- 14 Holi
- 15 NorthHills Neighborhood Meeting 10 AM
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 20 West Neighborhood Meeting 6 PM
- 24 South West Neighborhood Meeting 6 PM
- 27 South Central Neighborhood Meeting 6 PM
- 27 Ferguson Woods Neighborhood Meeting 7 PM  
North Hills Methodist 10771 Trask Dr.
- 31 Eid al-Fitr (observed)



#### We are saddened to share this news:

Steve Hewkin, owner of Hewkin Auto Body passed away on February 14th after losing his battle with cancer.

He was the second generation owner after taking over the business from his father Don Hewkin. Hewkin Auto Body has been a long standing business in Ferguson since the early 80's.

May Steve's soul rest in peace.

#### 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.

#### Housekeeper Wanted

Looking for reliable housekeeper

314 524-1075



#### 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



## PRAY FOR PEACE

Please continue to keep officer Travis Brown and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

#### Fire at Drakes Place Causes Extensive Damage

They are grateful to the community for the support they have received so far. At this point they are closed but are looking to rebuild with the help of our community.

GoFundMe:  
[GoFundMe.com/helprebuilddrakesplace](https://www.gofundme.com/helprebuilddrakesplace)

Please consider donating to keep this fine restaurant in Ferguson

**Vote Twice For  
Vivian D. Mansaray  
for FFSD Board of Education  
on April 8th  
Help me create a better  
School System for our  
children:**



- Better Student Achievement
- Safer Schools
- Supporting Our Educators
- Equity, Diversity and Inclusion
- Sound Financial Governance
- Better Transparency
- Input From All Stakeholders

Endorsed By Grade A For Change

For more details on my positions go to [www.vivianmansaray.com](http://www.vivianmansaray.com) or scan the QR code below.



As a passionate mother of three students in the Ferguson Florissant School District I have a vested interest in all our children's future!

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Vivian D. Mansaray-MacKenzie Mansaray Treasurer

**FINANCIAL DECLINE**

**Support Experienced Financial Leadership**

**John Flick**

FERG-FLOS SCHOOL BOARD

- Proud Parent of FFSD Students
- 25+ Yrs Board Experience
- CFO Experience
- Fiscal Responsibility Supports Flourishing Schools**

**CAST 2 VOTES ON APRIL 8**

[www.electjohnflick.com](http://www.electjohnflick.com)  
Paid for by Friends to Elect John Flick  
Elmer Wilson, Jr, Treasurer

# Ferguson City News - March 2025

The City of Ferguson invites all residents to attend upcoming City Council meetings to discuss important local issues and updates. Meetings will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 11, 2025, and Tuesday, March 25, 2025, in the City Council Chambers. The City Council encourages community participation, and residents are welcome to voice concerns or provide input on upcoming projects and policies.

In exciting news for the community, several park construction projects are underway. The new park on W. Florissant Rd. is progressing with construction now in full swing. This new park will offer residents a beautiful space for outdoor recreation and community gatherings.

Additionally, the installation of a new playground at Lang Royce Park is well underway, offering upgraded recreational experience for families and children in the area. At the Ferguson Community Center, work on the

installation of a brand-new playground will begin soon, further enhancing the center's role as a hub for local activities and events.

Looking ahead to spring, the Ferguson Community Resource Fair will take place on Wednesday, April 23, 2025, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. This free event will offer residents the chance to explore a variety of local resources, hear from special guest speakers, and even utilize the shred truck to securely dispose of sensitive documents.

Residents are encouraged to mark their calendars and take part in these important events. For more information on the City Council meetings or upcoming park projects, please visit the City of Ferguson's official website or contact City Hall.

Stay involved and stay informed!

JOIN  
OUR  
TEAM!

SPLASH AT WABASH

Lifeguards  
Complex Attendant  
Front Desk Attendant  
Concession Aide

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SUMMER CAMP

Camp Counselor  
Group Leader

JOBS.FERGREG.COM

# CROSSWORD

## “Representation”

By Robin Shively

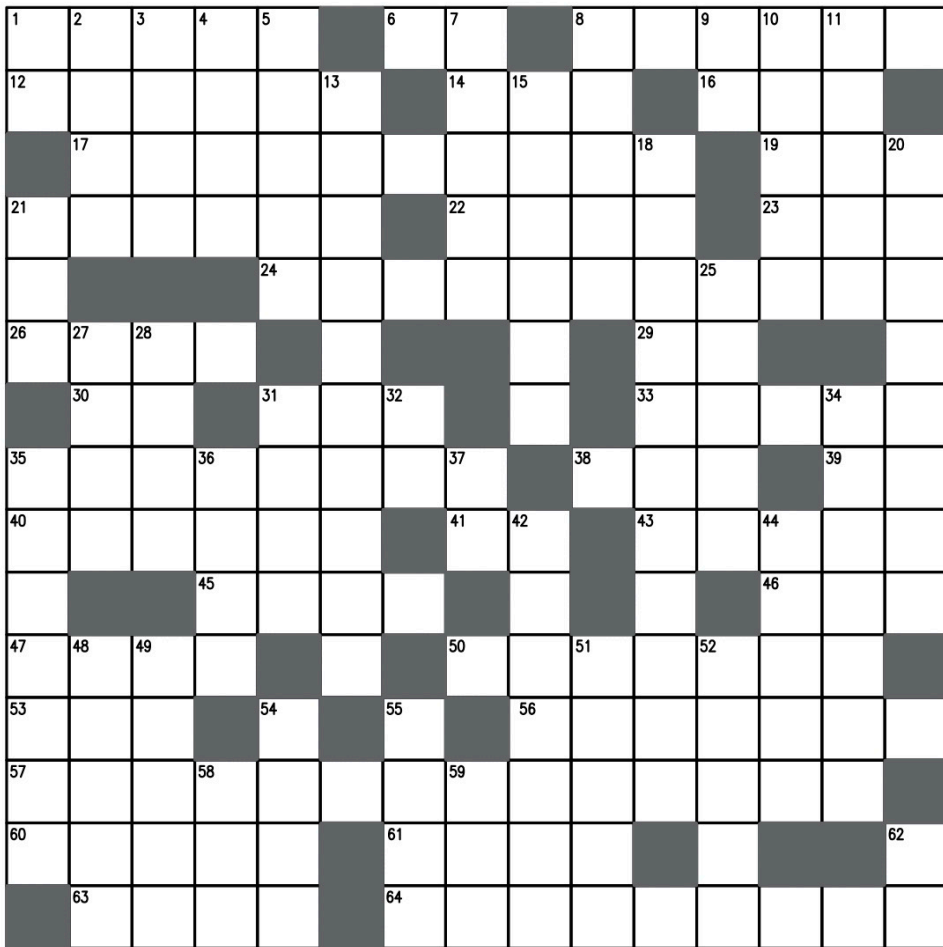
### ACROSS

1. Not on the mark
6. Tarheel st.
8. Flourless cakes
12. Whalebone
14. Caviar
16. Showoff
17. Declaration of \_\_\_\_, Document drafted & signed at 24 across
19. Angry
21. Selected
22. Machu Picchu locale
23. Ovid’s 3
24. Site of 1848 convention
26. Pustule
29. Radio setting
30. Karate garb
31. Suffix for velvet
33. M.A.S.H. clerk
35. Ron’s family
38. Mom mobile
39. Cornhusker st.
40. Naval clerical petty officer
41. 2004-5 Nintendo release
43. Equine movements
45. “\_\_us a child is born” – Handel
46. Eng. Healthcare sys.
47. With 42 down, organizer of 24 across
50. Atta boy!
53. Possessive contraction
56. Buttons & thread, for example
57. Year 13 down was ratified
60. It may be found in a garden
61. Batman & Robin, and others
63. God of love
64. City in which to find Midshipmen

### DOWN

1. \_\_ Nuts & Fruit Too, gift shop
2. Pageant accessory
3. Butter substitute
4. Boggy lands
5. Festive celebrations
7. Thin pancake
8. Tropical freshwater fish
9. Pos. or Neg. blood group sys.
10. South Asian language
11. Electronic correspondence
13. Amendment granting women voting rights
15. Single garage
18. 24 across attendee
20. Extreme misfortune
21. Pitcher headgear
25. Radar Range maker
27. S-shaped molding
28. Friendly greeting from Leonardo
31. Flair
32. Empire st.
34. National Women’s Suffrage Association  
co-founder, with 42 down
35. First territory giving women the right to vote in 1869
36. Obscene, offensive publication
37. Mount Rushmore st.
42. With 47 across, organizer of 24 across
44. Silver block
48. Sheep like
49. Lanza, for example
51. Slang contraction for “yes, sir!” conveying surprise
52. \_\_ Boingo, “Weird Science” band
54. Indigenous southwestern tribe
55. Mythical Spartan queen seduced by a swan
58. Rock genre
59. Sister
62. Magnolia st.

Solution on page 13



# ARTFUL CONSIDERATIONS

by Kimberly Kabak Epperson



Currently showing through April 30th  
Included with general admission \$20+  
Beatnik Bobs inside City Museum

### “Blessed by the Ancestors”

This is a captivating art exhibit that celebrates the rich artistic talent of Black artists hailing from Saint Louis, MO. The exhibit explores themes such as identity, heritage, resilience, and the profound connections between the artists and their ancestors. Curated by Brock Seals, this collection includes paintings, sculptures, mixed media pieces, and other forms of visual art that reflect the unique perspectives and experiences of the featured artists.

Currently showing through April 11th  
Free

Millstone Gallery at COCA

### In Presence of what; Absence of whom

St. Louis-based, Indian-born interdisciplinary artist Sukanya Mani presents her most intimate side by using clusters of undulating paper and fabric forms to retell the daily rituals and traditions that shaped her identity as an immigrant woman. Following her commitment to raising awareness about domestic abuse, with a highlight on immigrant and refugee populations, Mani asks the visitors to question the repeated rituals each of us performs to present our own versions of masculinity and femininity.

March 7th 7:30 pm \$30  
The Touhill Performing Arts Center

### Arianna String Quartet: Visionaries

The ASQ celebrates three special musical creators in the performance “Visionaries”. The program opens with Beethoven’s Quartet in F Major, the first work in his revolutionary set of Opus 18 quartets that balances elegance, lyricism, wit, and power. Then, John Corigliano’s poignant “Snapshot: Circa 1909” captures a momentary image in sound, a musical reflection of a photograph of his father and uncle, allowing us to contemplate our past, present, and future in a new way. In closing, the Quartet joins forces for the first time with virtuoso pianist Nina Ferrigno for a performance of Amy Beach’s marvelous Piano Quintet, Op.67, a tour de force work by one of America’s greatest composers and trailblazers of the early 20th century.

March 1st 2:00pm \$22  
March 7th and 8th 7:30pm  
March 9th 2:00pm  
James J Eagan Center of Florissant

### Alpha Players of Florissant present “Sweet Delilah Swim Club”

Five women whose friendships began years ago on their college swim team set aside a long weekend every August to recharge. Free from husbands, kids, and jobs, they meet at the same beach cottage, the “Sweet Delilah,” to catch up, laugh, and get involved in each other’s lives.

We visit with them on four different weekends spanning 33 years and rediscover the importance of enduring friendships.

March 23rd 3:00 pm \$15+  
The Touhill Performing Arts Center  
(Pre-concert activities begin at 2:00pm)

### St. Louis Symphony Orchestra Concerts for Kids – Mo Willems’ “Because”

45 min concert begins at 3:00pm, most enjoyed by ages 5+  
SLSO and Metro Theater Company join forces for this moving tale of a young girl’s journey to center stage told through music and theater. The New York Times bestselling author and illustrator Mo Willems has created a powerful symphony of chance, discovery, persistence, and magic. Amber Ren’s illustrations and Jessie Montgomery’s music beautifully bring Willems’ story to life, reminding us that sometimes the smallest moments have the biggest impact.

March 28th 7:30pm \$ varies  
March 29th 2:00pm  
Florissant Performing Arts Center

### Hawthorne Players of Florissant present “Steel Magnolias”

In the small town of Chinquapin, Louisiana, the ladies who are “anybody” come to have their hair done at Trudy’s Salon, discuss their lives, and gossip about others with sharp, hilarious dialogue. A tragedy brings out the underlying strength and love in their friendship, revealing them to be truly touching, funny and marvelously fun company in good times and bad.



# Hello Ferguson!

by Marian Linck

I recently cleaned out a file cabinet and found copies of this fine publication. Every month and every article that I write is accounted for. It is quite a tall stack of papers beginning with February 2022. Where has the time gone?

My concern now is repeating myself. I do not have the patience to go through all the articles. So, forgive me if this rings familiar.



I know I have mentioned that I work part-time at Norwood Hills Country Club. The Club is closed in January and open Fridays and Weekends in February. Subsequently, I do not work in January and only on Friday in February. If I did not like my job at Norwood and the short commute, one day per week would hardly seem worth it.

I digress. January and February are suitable times to purge the basement and closets. My goal was to empty a storage tub a day. That was a lofty goal and not met, but I made progress.



In January I tripped on a pink fluffy house-slipper and slammed into the side of the dresser. Nothing can be done about broken ribs, so I spent 3 weeks in January not carrying Christmas stuff down the stairs or bringing storage tubs up to rummage through. I am OK now, thanks.

When I look at all the storage bins in the basement, I get a little overwhelmed. Perhaps I am a "closet hoarder". I am not proud of that title, so I am doing my level best to beat my addiction.

One box had my oldest son's name on it. It was full of Corpus Christi, St. Louis University High and Cub Convention memories. You do remember we are Cub fans! Do not hate me! I eliminated some things immediately

and then sent pictures to my son in Arizona to inquire as to what he wanted. Gone, one tub and a package sent by FedEx to Scottsdale. He may have been surprised when I included his football jersey.

The next bin I tackled looked from the outside to be full of clothes. Memories came flooding me. Corpus Christi would have a pretty phenomenal basketball tournament every year. I found a few years of the T-Shirts we designed and sold to members of the Athletic Association, students and any parishioner who wanted one. A couple of these sweatshirts are



impressive. They are machine embroidered instead of screen printed. I can almost relive those tournament days looking at them. The quandary I find myself in is what do I do with them? Fairly sure my sons are not going to wear basketball sweatshirts from the 90's. For one thing, they will not fit any of us. The shirts have been laundered and are sitting on a dining room chair. I do not need to pack them back in a storage bin. Help?

I also located a Barbie storage case. This case contained a Midge Doll, a Tammy Doll, Skipper, Tammy's Boyfriend, and a Barbie head (yes, just Barbie's head). My grandmother was a genius when it came to making clothes for my "fashion dolls". I would show her what "store bought" outfits I liked, and she would duplicate the outfit, often making it better. Each outfit had its own hanger. There was a drawer full of shoes for the dolls. If any of my readers had a Tammy and can remember Tammy's Boyfriends name, PLEASE contact me. I thought Barbie's Ken looked like a dope, so I went for Tammy's. I just cannot remember his name.

I also found some authentic Greek Fisherman's hats. My Uncle spent his career with the State Department and lived in Greece with his family for some time. I do treasure these hats.

One bin must have gotten damp at some point and everything in the bottom was disintegrating...EW.

As I review this article, I am not impressed. I am sorry. I hope I can reveal something exciting next month. We do have St. Patrick's Day to look forward to in March and this will be my grandson Patrick's First St. Pats. Let the fun begin.

Thank you for tolerating this month's submission. I enjoy hearing from my readers, especially if you remember Tammy's Boyfriends' name!! You may contact me at [manhattanmarian@gmail.com](mailto:manhattanmarian@gmail.com)

## Ferguson Fire Department's Home Fire Safety Tips

### Check Your Detectors

Spring forward, fall back, and check your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. When you change your clocks, also change the battery in your detectors. Developing this habit is a good way to remember a simple task that can save your life. Be sure there are working smoke detectors on each floor of your home, particularly outside of sleeping areas. Approximately 20 percent of detectors don't work because of dead or missing batteries. In addition to replacing smoke detector batteries twice a year, smoke detectors should be replaced every 10 years.

### Space Heaters

Space heaters need space, too. As the weather gets cooler, space heaters come out of their summer hiding places. Remember to leave at least 3 feet of space around your heater. Unplug it when not in use.

### Cozy Up to a Safe Fireplace

Fireplaces are involved in thousands of home fires each year. Before you toss a log on the fire, have your chimney inspected annually and cleaned when needed. Creosote, the buildup of deposits, is a top reason for fireplace fires. In addition, cracks can allow poisonous carbon monoxide to seep into your home. And finally, a thorough inspection will remove any animals that may have built a home in your chimney during the summer. The fire protection association also suggests the use of fireplace screens to keep sparks from floating out. In addition, don't leave your home or go out or go to bed with a fire left burning. And if you have a gas fireplace, have all the connections and lines checked.



## Have an Escape Plan in Place

Be sure you have a family fire escape plan, and practice it regularly. Have an escape route for each area of your home and a designated meeting place outside. Draw a map of the escape plan and make it easy for all members of the family to understand. Train every one to stay low to the ground when escaping a fire. If you must travel through smoke to your exit, crawl and keep your head at level of 12-24 inches above the floor. Windows may provide a secondary means of escape from a burning home. For two-story homes, we would suggest the purchase of a non-combustible escape ladder that's tested and listed by an independent testing laboratory. Store the ladder permanently near the window. Escape ladders are available at most hardware stores. Buy one that hangs away from the house, rather than right up against it. Practice deploying the ladder, including how to use it from a first floor widow.

### Outside the Home

Never park your car or truck over a pile of leaves. The heat from the vehicle's catalytic converter or exhaust system can ignite the leaves below. The resulting fire could destroy your vehicle. Flammable liquids should not be stored in inside the home. Remove fuel from lawn mowers before storing them for winter. Contact your utility company if trees or branches are not clear of power lines. Prune back trees, and rake up leaves and debris. If you live in an open area with a lot of natural vegetation, consider creating a defensible fire zone around your home. Prune the bottom branches from trees and remove shrubs and trees within 20 feet of your home. Don't store cardboard boxes, paper or other flammable materials in the backyard. These materials provide ready fuel for a fire and all it takes is one spark.

**Have a Plan, Be Safe!!**

## Spring Training for Gardeners - Grow Your Garden by Learning from Local Experts!

Are you looking for ways to better nourish your mind, body, and even your community?

Have you ever wondered if maybe your food supply was the place to start?



With food insecurity on the rise, and rising uncertainty about Federal funding for many food-related programs, EarthDance Organic Farm School in Ferguson is steadily inviting people to learn to grow food in community.

Their annual home-gardening course is coming right up! Spring Training for Gardeners runs March 12 through April 12, 2025. The 5-week course is offered on a pay what you can scale - meaning participants can pay nothing, take a discount, pay retail value, or pay more in solidarity with other local gardeners and learners.

The course includes 5 live-online sessions, with an option for local participants to join us for 3 hands-on Saturday workshops that include seed starting (take home the seedlings you pot!), bed building (for raised bed growing), and a work day in a nearby community garden and celebration lunch on the farm.

Spring Training is taught by knowledgeable farmer educators who specialize in growing healthy soil and abundant, diverse foods at scales ranging from container gardens to market farming.



Spring Training is meant for anyone ready to take their gardening skills to the next level—whether you’re a true beginner, or looking to increase your yields. Learn more at [earthdancefarms.org/farmers/spring-training](http://earthdancefarms.org/farmers/spring-training) and consider joining EarthDance for one or all of the live-online classes from wherever you are, and in-person if you’re able to join at the farm on March 15 & 29, and April 12th.

Top: Spring Training for Gardeners coaches Will Delacey (left) and Jena Hood (right) teach soil basics in the EarthDance greenhouse.

Middle: Spring Trainee ‘24 Elaine practices potting for soil health.

Below: 2024 Spring Trainees gathered at a Ferg-Flor school garden for Plant It Forward, a community garden work day and celebration of Spring Training’s conclusion. Spring Training coach Jo Phillips pictured (kneeling, center).



## What’s Fresh with EarthDance and Inheirited’s Joia Walker

It’s March and we at EarthDance are loving our greens! The beginning of the year is a time when people are still navigating their goals and greens can be a vehicle to “Goal City”. The greens mixture at EarthDance is rich in vitamins A, C, K and iron. These vitamins and minerals help promote better eyesight, cell growth and even have some reproductive benefits! These greens can also do the hard job of cleaning our digestive systems, helping us to feel more energetic and mentally clear. I’m not sure about you, but these benefits are enough to have me seeing green!

So What’s Fresh at EarthDance this March? Spring Training sign-up! What an exciting time to get a jump on your spring plans. February is a great month to start those spring seeds and learn how to build a home for your future crops. Spring Training at EarthDance is a great resource for novice and advanced gardeners alike! We are also beginning a new semester with our friends at Unleashing Potential, planting seeds of agricultural and nutritional education in Ferguson-Florissant students.

Be sure to grab your greens at the Ferguson Winter Market, located at 33 N. Clay Ave. Ferguson, MO 63135, on 02/15/2025, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm. If you’re looking to jazz up your salad, try this recipe from inheirited.com!

### Quinoa & Black Bean Salad



#### INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup quinoa
- 1 can of black beans
- 2 cups vegetable broth
- 1 cup of water
- ½ cup red onion (diced)
- 1 cup of bell pepper (any color) (diced)
- ½ cup of corn
- 1 avocado (diced)
- 4 large cloves of garlic
- ¼ cup minced fresh cilantro
- 1 tsp black pepper
- 1 tsp sea salt
- 3 tbsp grapeseed oil
- ½ tbsp cumin
- 1 tsp smoked paprika

#### PREPARATION

Place 3 cups of vegetable broth into a medium pot with the lid on and bring to a boil.

Once the broth begins to boil, add quinoa, 1 tbsp olive oil, 1 tsp of sea salt and let cook for 15 minutes on medium heat. Stir every few minutes. While the quinoa cooks, peel and dice the garlic. Dice onion, peppers and cilantro.

Heat 2 tbsp olive oil in a medium pot and add garlic, peppers and onion. Season with black pepper, sea salt, smoked paprika and cumin. Sautee on low to medium heat.

Once the veggie mix has caramelized or softened, add black beans, corn and half of the cilantro. Stir and let cook for 5 minutes.

By this time the broth may be cooking down in your quinoa. Turn off the stove but do not remove it from the heat.

Remove black bean mixture from heat, add to the quinoa and stir. Let sit covered for 10 minutes on the warm eye of the stove. Dress with diced avocado, remaining cilantro and a sprinkle of sea salt enjoy!

#### TIPS

Non- stick cookware works best  
If you don’t have chicken broth, 1 chicken bouillon cube and 2 cups of water will do.

Tricolor quinoa makes a prettier dish and adds “meal appeal”.  
Add chicken to this salad for even more protein!

# Introducing the Imago Dei Gallery

In spring of 2020, while our world was grappling with the uncomfortable restrictions and fear caused by a global pandemic, our nation was confronted with the jarring, real-time image of George Floyd slipping into unconsciousness and eventual death. In a flash, our streets, including here in Ferguson, exploded with protests and riots as people from all ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds demanded change from a system that they realized was still very much broken.



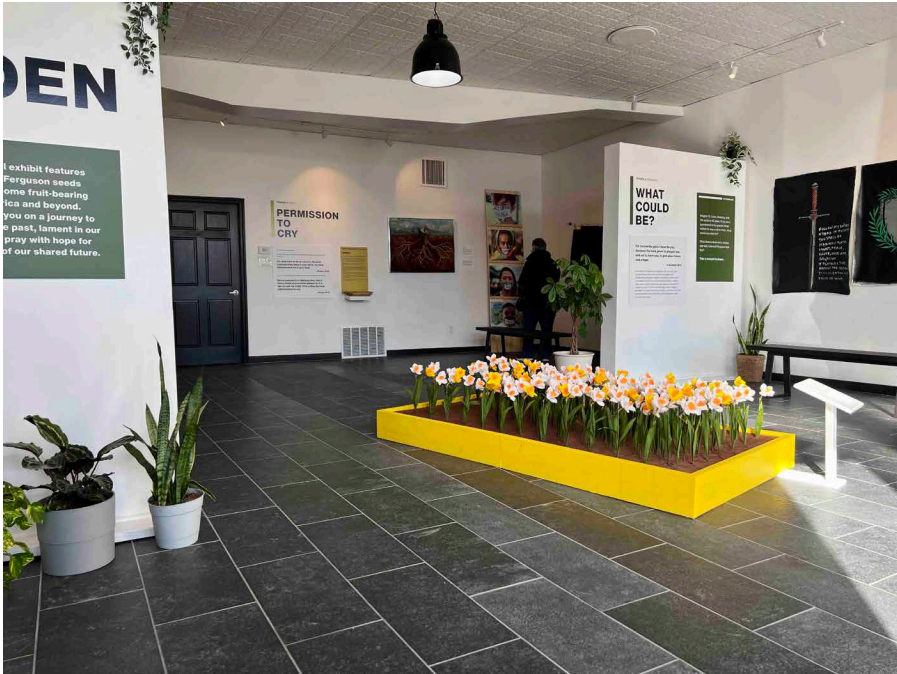
Imago Dei is Latin for “in the image of God” and alludes to the biblical principle found in Genesis 1:26-27 that humankind was created in God’s image and is thus inherently worthy of dignity and honor.

Not to be confused with the name of the studio cafe in which it is housed, the Gallery’s inaugural exhibit is called The Garden and was designed and curated by local artist Amber Majors and the Civil Righteousness Team. When a visitor enters The Garden exhibit, they are invited into a journey from humankind’s first home (Eden), through the brokenness of modern society (exploring 13 specific stories from St. Louis’ history related to race relations), and ultimately into the Kingdom of God, where wounds are healed, hope abounds, and promises are fulfilled.

For more information on how to schedule a private group viewing of the Gallery, please email [office@civilrighteousness.org](mailto:office@civilrighteousness.org). For the latest information on The Imago Dei Gallery, including weekly hours, stay connected through The Garden Studio Cafe’s FB or IG pages or visit the website: <https://thegardenstudio.cafe>. The Gallery is free and open to all religious or nonreligious persuasions. Children 10 years of age or younger need to be accompanied by an adult.



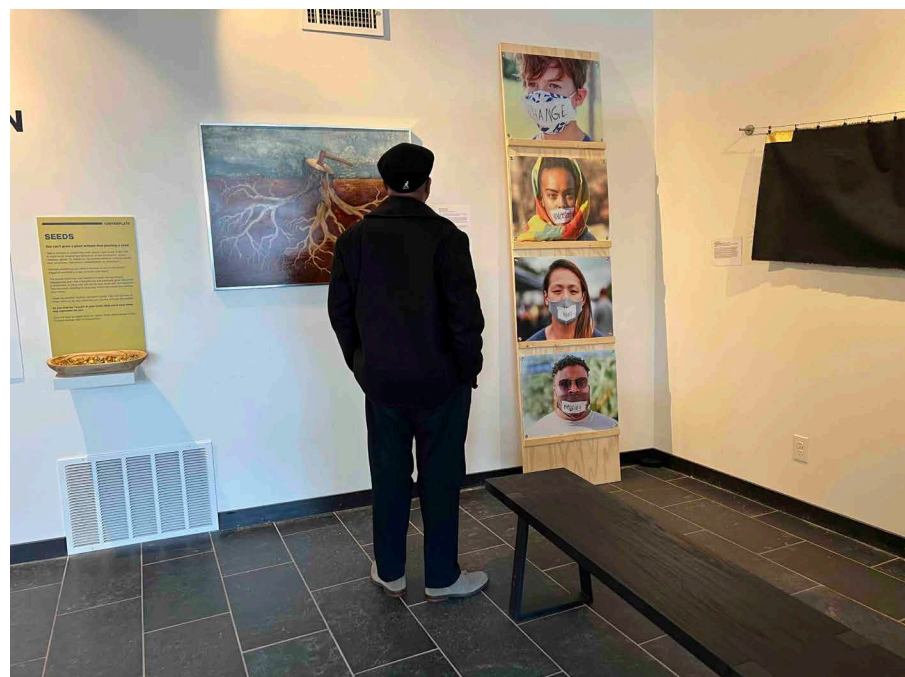
Written by Tami Flick



While our nation was writhing in pain, a small group of Christians from 24-7 Prayer USA in Kansas City were also wrestling with how to process and respond to the pain they were feeling and the collective anger they were witnessing in the streets. In response, they designed a temporary, contemplative prayer space to help individuals of all ethnicities listen, learn, and lament the African American experience in the United States. They skillfully wove together scripture, historical and contemporary stories, and original artwork into creative, interactive prayer stations that invited people into an immersive journey of awakening and understanding.

In partnership with Rev. Jonathan Thomas and Civil Righteousness, Inc., this temporary exhibit then traveled to Ferguson in June of 2020 and found residence in one of the store fronts along N Florissant for that summer. In Ferguson, the prayer stations expanded with the inclusion of St. Louis-based artists and components that featured justice issues specific to the St. Louis region. Tailoring the prayer space to each host city has been a hallmark of the space’s creative design.

The prayer room then traveled to Kalamazoo, MI in February of 2021 where it evolved into the Listen. Learn. Lament. Love. Racial Healing Prayer Space. From Kalamazoo, it has been hosted in 10 locations across the United States, including Fredericksburg (VA), Grand Rapids (MI), Chicago (IL), and Portland (OR). In Grand Rapids, the space was renamed “Imago Dei: Racial Healing Prayer Room.” In each city where this prayer expression has journeyed, the exhibition has featured local art pieces and curated raw and honest discourse around local history and present-day realities such as redlining, educational disparity, policing, etc.



The Imago Dei Gallery, a permanent expression of this space, with rotating exhibits and themes, has just opened inside The Garden: Studio + Cafe + Kitchen (the building that formerly housed the Corner Coffee House at 100 N Florissant).

## HAVE A PLAN

Dara Ashby, Ferguson Animal Coalition  
Dara@fergusonanimalcoalition.org



### Ferguson Animal Coalition

Many of us reap the benefits from having a dog or cat as an addition to our family. And they don't ask for much in return. A good belly rub, some exercise, food, water and positive interaction throughout their lifetime. Many are just content sitting on your lap or laying quietly by your feet while you read a good book.



Unfortunately, we never know when we might pass away or end up in a care facility. Oftentimes, it can happen suddenly and unexpectedly. But one thing that is for certain is that we will all die when it's our time. It's so important to plan ahead for who will care for your furry family members when you can no longer care for yourself or pass away.

Throughout my 33 years in rescue, I have received many pleas for help to find placement for a dog or cat that was left behind when their owner passed away. Fortunately, I have been able to help many of those suddenly orphaned pets find new loving homes. With the pet overpopulation crisis happening throughout our country, it's more important than ever for all of us to have a plan in place for who will take over care of our dogs and cats. The dog and cat home market is saturated. Shelters and rescues are overwhelmed.

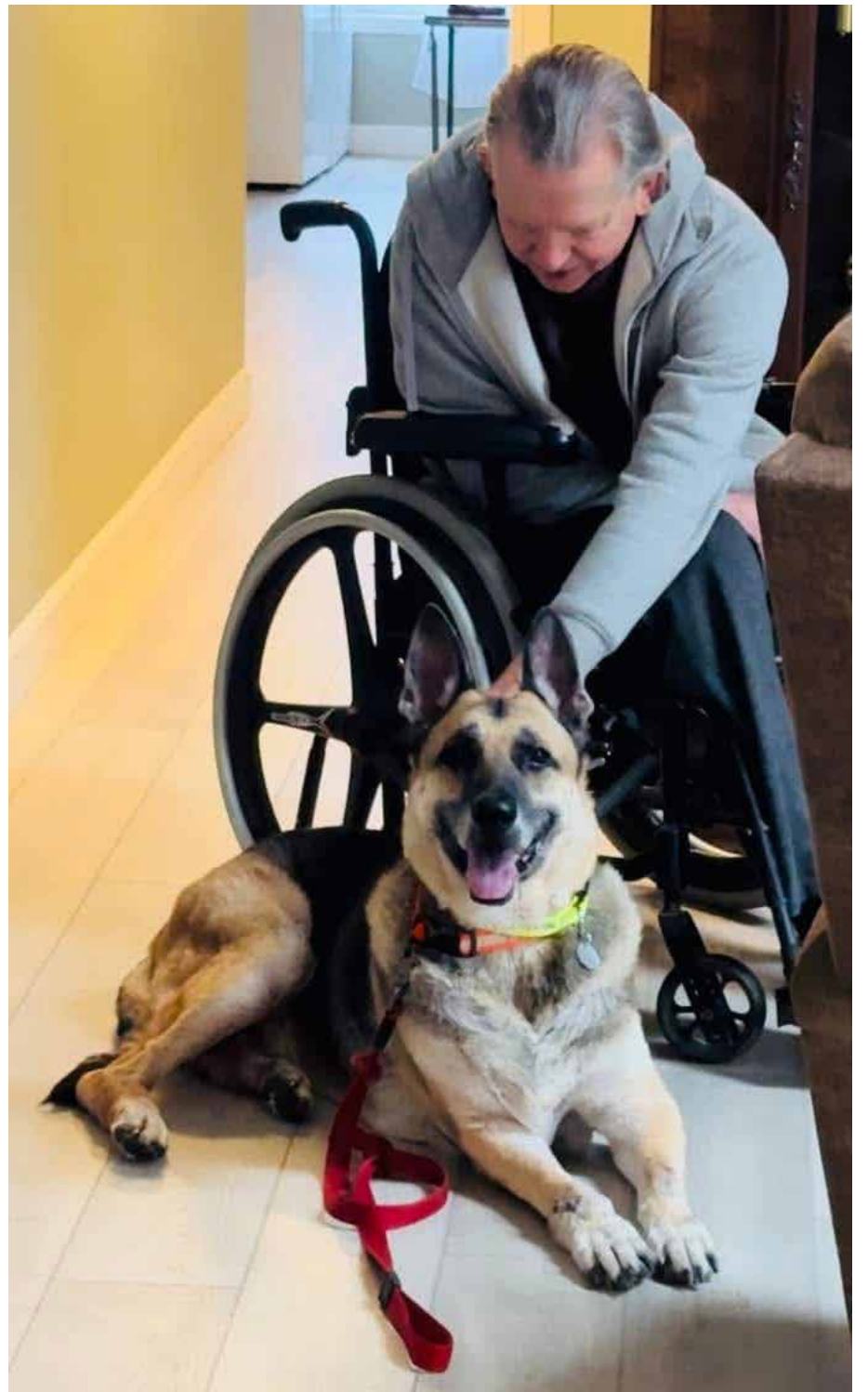
Imagine that you are warm and safe and loved in a home with your person who you care deeply about, and suddenly, overnight, you are whisked away from your home to a loud, scary shelter, tossed in a steel cage with bars, and surrounded by hundreds of other homeless animals, all praying for a home. It is terrifying for them. And not all of them make it out alive.



Please have a plan in place. The best scenario is if you have a family member or relative that is also a dog or cat loving person that will agree to care for Fido or Fluffy if something happens to you. Be sure to discuss a plan with them to make sure they will do so. Far too often, I'm asked to help a dog or cat who is left behind and family members decide they don't want to take on the responsibility. Don't assume. If you have a friend that you trust dearly, talk it over with them to see if they will take over their care, should something happen to you. You can even include details in your Will or Trust, to be sure the plan you have is implemented after your passing. In fact, this is very recommended. Once you are gone or unable to speak for yourself, it will be too late.

I know that many of my articles about dogs and cats seem to be doom and gloom. But I'm a realist and have unfortunately seen firsthand what can happen to pets in so many different scenarios.

To end on a happier note, a German Shepherd senior boy named Fritz was loved and adored by his mom for many, many years. Sadly, his mom was whisked away in the middle of the night by paramedics. After her hospital stay, she ended up not being able to go home but was forced to go directly into a nursing home. A kind man in social services was responsible for getting the elderly woman settled at the nursing home and to help sell her



home. Fritz had been left behind, in the empty house, with nowhere to go. This good Samaritan reached out to me for desperate help and I was miraculously able to.

We took Fritz to see a veterinarian who updated this old boys' vaccinations, had bloodwork done, and arthritis meds prescribed. What a sweet, sweet but very heartbroken boy with nowhere to go. After networking him like crazy hoping to get lucky and find him a home, we DID! A brilliant man who had retired in his field of engineering had recently had a stroke and was confined to a wheelchair. He had lost his will to live life to the fullest. He and his wife heard about this senior shepherd being homeless and so they offered to take Fritz in. The sweet companionship of Fritz provided unconditional love to this man who had lost his ability to walk. This sad dog helped the man find joy in his life where there was none. To this day, Fritz is loving life in his new home and being very loved in return.

Fritz was one of the lucky ones. Happy endings can happen, but far too often they don't. The time is now to make a plan. I oftentimes wish we had a crystal ball to tell us of our future so that we can prepare. But since no one has this, we need to be ready for all scenarios. Our companion animals don't ask for much. We owe it to them to make sure they are A-OK if something were to happen to our ability to care for them. Please plan ahead. Go here for more information about estate planning for pets: [bestfriends.org](http://bestfriends.org)





**Under The Hood With Robinwood**  
By Bob McGartland

**Augmented Reality in Car Maintenance**

As a seasoned mechanic, I've spent countless hours under the hoods of cars, diagnosing and repairing everything from routine oil changes to complex engine issues. Over the years, I've seen technology evolve at a rapid pace, but one innovation that has truly caught my attention is Augmented Reality (AR). In this article, I'll share my perspective on how AR is transforming the world of car maintenance and will be making life easier for technicians in the future.

**What is Augmented Reality?**

Augmented Reality is a technology that overlays digital information, like images, videos, or text, onto the real world through devices like smartphones, tablets, or specialized AR glasses. Think of it as having a digital assistant that can provide you with useful information right when you need it, without having to look away from your work.

**How AR is Changing Car Maintenance**

In the past, mechanics had to rely on physical manuals or computer-based guides to troubleshoot and repair vehicles. This often meant juggling between the car and the manual, which could be time-consuming and prone to errors. With AR, mechanics can now access real-time, interactive instructions directly on their devices, making the process much more efficient.

For example, let's say I'm working on a car's brake system. With AR, I can use my AR glasses to see a detailed, 3D model of the brake assembly overlaid on the actual car. This model can guide me step-by-step through the repair process, highlighting specific parts, showing me how to disassemble and reassemble components, and even warning me about potential issues.

**Benefits of AR in Car Maintenance**

Here are a few benefits to using AR in car maintenance:

1. **Increased Efficiency:** AR can significantly reduce the time it takes to diagnose and repair issues by providing real-time, interactive instructions. This means mechanics can work faster and more accurately, which translates to shorter wait times for customers.
2. **Improved Accuracy:** By overlaying detailed, 3D models and instructions onto real-world objects, AR helps mechanics visualize the inner workings of a vehicle more clearly. This reduces the risk of errors and ensures that repairs are done correctly the first time.

**Challenges and Future Developments**

While the benefits of AR in car maintenance are clear, there are also some challenges that need to be addressed. One of the main challenges is the cost of implementing AR technology. High-quality AR devices and software can be expensive, adding additional costs for repair shops to adopt this technology.

Another challenge is the need for ongoing training and support. Mechanics must be trained to use AR devices effectively, and software must be regularly updated to ensure that it remains compatible with the latest vehicle models and repair techniques.

**Conclusion**

In conclusion, Augmented Reality is a game-changer in the world of car maintenance. By providing real-time, interactive instructions and detailed visualizations, AR is helping technicians work more efficiently, accurately, and confidently. While there are still challenges to overcome, the potential benefits of AR are undeniable. As a seasoned technician, I'm excited to see how this technology will continue to evolve and shape the future of automotive repair.

As always, feel free to contact Robinwood Automotive with any automotive questions or concerns. Visit us at [robinwoodauto.com](http://robinwoodauto.com)

**LET'S MOVE ON!**

By Dr. Larry A. Brown



The earth is changing and we must move with the tide in order to stay current and survive! While here, we should have as pleasant experience as we can, and do as many positive things as we can. I don't believe that mankind is born to be negative and do things to hurt other mankind or the environment. Yet, if we don't understand that we have a purpose in life, then we may let things occur that are not for our good!

However, if we understand early on that we must do all we can to make the world and its people remember us as 1 who contributed positively to better things and not be remembered as a someone who represented themselves to be a negative force while here.

That being said, we must seek to do that which is good. Yes, we have the responsibility to do all we can, to make life better.

We should not leave it up to others, nor refuse our turn at the plate.

Often. We don't have to do much, but have a positive mindset so that when the opportunity arrives when we can do something good or bad, we elect to do the good thing rather than the bad. We must always be aware that the choice is ours to make, good, bad, or none - which is also bad.

Often, a smile or positive expression is all it may take to give someone a positive remembrance and the strength to carry on in a positive way,

The key word is "consciousness"

What a great world this would be if every person did all positive things and cared for neighbors as themselves.

Make sure that you are found doing positive things and you will understand the concept of "reaping that which is sown"

Often, we are the victims of society because we or someone near us have or has not done the right thing.

It is not appropriate to proclaim "I should have or could have", when the opportunity arrives.

Each one of us has these chances and may respond differently, but as long as it is a positive response and as long as you maintain a position for the "good to endure", the outcome will be positive.

Since we don't control our length of time or the circumstances, we must find ourselves doing or ready to do positive things always.

We are here to be a blessing, not a curse, to mankind. What are you doing to ready yourself to be a positive force while you are here? Things will continue to move whether we move with them or not. It is your choice. However, it is also your blame. Let's continue to move in a positive direction and it will make the world and us be better as we move on.

# Financial Focus – Personal Finance 101

By Joan Cleaveland (cleav73@gmail.com)

Lindenwood University – BA Business Administration

Last month, I wrote about building wealth. Some may think of wealth as being very rich. Actually building wealth is about being financially comfortable so that you could withstand an emergency and have some excess funds to build a nest egg. The Personal Financial Statement (PFS) is the tool to measure how well you are doing. Increasing your net worth will allow you to stop living paycheck to paycheck. The asset side of your PFS shows what you own including your investments. Growing the asset side by saving more helps increase your net worth. The other side shows your liabilities or debts and this month we'll look at increasing your net worth by eliminating some of those debts.

Examples of debts most people have involve a mortgage, car payment, education loans, home improvement loans or credit cards. A debt is different from the regular expenses of living like your utility bills, groceries, transportation and subscriptions you may have. For starters we'll look at credit card debt. Chances are it has the highest rate of interest so it will have the biggest impact on your finances. Look at the amounts you owe and how much of a balance you carry on your cards. Ideally paying off your cards monthly and never carrying a balance can be the best way to avoid financial problems. It's also a good idea to look over your statements and see the purchases you've made. Were they necessary? Were they needs or wants? If you are paying for groceries or bills just to earn points that might make sense, but if you don't pay off the balance every month it could be costing you more than you think. Perhaps there is spending you could eliminate altogether to do a little belt tightening. Like the commercials you may see offering to save you hundreds by cancelling subscriptions you've forgotten about – this is where you can look for yourself and save. Credit cards can be a blessing and a curse, it is important to get in the habit of looking at your spending regularly.

Education loans are especially hard on young people just starting out. Hopefully, you were able to have advice from parents and if you are lucky even financial assistance from them. For those who are looking at colleges and how to pay right now, keep in mind that when you need to start paying these loans back your income may not be what you expect. There are so many choices in higher education you would be wise to look at state universities where you aren't paying for a prestigious name. Many schools may have programs allowing you to work to help with tuition expenses. If you have graduated and aren't able to pay the loans as quickly as you would like, it may be worth speaking to the finance office. They may be able to offer a better rate or a change in terms to help.

Home Improvement loans and mortgages are offset on your PFS by the value of your home on the asset side. So the important thing to remember

here is too make sure the value of your home always exceeds the amount of debt you carry against the home. This is how people lose homes, they may spend a great deal of money using the home's equity. If the home isn't kept up and it's value drops it could cause a problem down the road if you can't make a payment. If you experienced a job loss or a need to relocate, you may find you can't sell the house for what you owe, it could mean foreclosure. If you are young and haven't bought your first home yet, keep this in mind – homes values fluctuate. Most lenders prefer to loan you 80 percent of the home's value or less. If you do need to borrow more you'll probably need to purchase special insurance to protect the lender should you be unable to pay. If you have an existing mortgage and are still paying for this type of mortgage insurance – do check your current values and find out from your mortgage company if the insurance can be removed now. This will help improve by lowering your mortgage payment, allowing you to save more.

Other loans like automobiles also, have an offset on the asset side of the PFS. However unlike your home, your vehicles will usually depreciate. So the goal is to get this loan paid off while the car is still young and you can hopefully go without having a car payment for a while. If you have other loans that may be unsecured similar to a credit card, it is important to also tackle these quickly to get those debts off the books. Reviewing your debts periodically can help you find ways to reduce or eliminate them.

Looking at the regular expenses of living like utility bills, transportation, groceries, subscriptions and necessary repairs may also give ideas for saving. Since the cost of everything seems to be going up I am sure most of you may be wondering how to control these expenses. Often, they seem to be out of your control. So we may need to look for alternatives, maybe you can cut down egg consumption. Turning off lights in rooms that are not being used is something everyone has done since we've had electricity. Trying to combine several trips, so you are driving less. What are your daily purchases – do you buy coffee out? Do you buy lunch out? Saving by making your lunch and bringing your own coffee may not sound like much, but it really adds up over time and can save several hundred dollars a year. And as I mentioned earlier, there may be an app to do some of the work for you and that's fine. Just keep in mind that it can be done without an app.

So as you review your own finances keep in mind your children learn from you and instilling good spending habits may be the best gift you can give them for their future. Dave Ramsey is a radio personality and financial advisor; his tips for teaching children are to work, save, spend and give. Learning that you only earn by working and by saving you can keep out of debt. And you need to spend to enjoy life and giving is good for the soul. If you have any questions or comments please contact me at cleav73@gmail.com.



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# What is Raghib Drinking?

By Raghib

When I first got serious about wine, I couldn't really afford to spend a lot of money purchasing it. I was newly married, just bought a house, and was working as a new teacher in a local school district. I actively sought out wine for value and I got really good at it. To this day, if I am entertaining, I will almost always have a great value wine available that my guests just can't get enough of. Usually, those wines are between \$12-\$25. I may share some of my favorite value wines



in a later column, but for this column, I want to introduce you to two buck Chuck! You see, years ago, Chuck and I became fast friends. We had a great time together and made some great memories. We didn't plan on losing contact, but sometimes life happens. Anywho, last week, a colleague and I struck up a conversation about Trader Joe's. She mentioned that she was working there part time. I asked her about my old friend Chuck. She told me he was still around and is still popular, but the price has increased to \$3.99. I took a mental note.

Well, one Saturday morning, after completing my parental taxi cab duties, I decided to pay Chuck a visit. I braced myself for what I thought would be an epic battle for a parking spot. If you have ever been to THAT Trader Joe's, you know exactly what I am referring to. I planned my strategy, I would enter from Brentwood Blvd, park by Total Wine, and walk to Trader Joe's. At least that is what I thought I would do, but

age, distraction, and muscle memory had other plans LOL! I entered through the dreaded main entrance! To my surprise, I was able to immediately find a parking spot very close to the entrance of Trader Joe's. I excited my truck and found Chuck in all of his glory. He still looked the same. I grabbed a few bottles and headed to the checkout. Mission accomplished!

After securing my bounty and heading back home, I began thinking about dinner and a perfect pairing to have with Chuck. I decided to stop by Paul's Market in order to pick up a few nice cuts of beef tenderloin. I love Paul's Market! The butchers are helpful and knowledgeable, and the staff is always pleasant. The next time you are at Paul's, make sure you pick up their Quebec Steak Shake and use it as a dry rub! Delicious!



Alright people, back to the wine. After pouring myself a glass while preparing dinner, I took a few sips. Good old Chuck was better than I remember. We reminisced about old times and then he reminded me that he had matured and no longer went by the name "two buck Chuck", at his age he preferred Charles, Charles Shaw!

Charles Shaw, Cabernet, 2022. Not as dark in color as a typical California Cabernet. Hints of cherry, plum, green pepper, and mint. Paired with Beef Tenderloin, carrots and broccoli. Price point \$3.99

Happy tastings!




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# Dahlia the Dragon

By Patricia Brothers

There weren't always dragons in the valley. That is; until Dalia became one.

It was a beautiful day. Dalia sat there enjoying the warmth of the sun. She smiled and waved at the neighbors as she always does on her afternoon walks. She rounded the corner to stop at her local and favorite coffee shop. She stopped cold in her tracks as she witnessed the shop being robbed. That is when the glass shattered, and two bullets struck her. One in the head and the other in the heart. She fell backwards. There is a flash of light, and the Sorceress appears.

The Sorceress chants a quick spell and extends her arms. The only words that were clear were "you are not meant to die". Dalia blinks twice and stands up. She looks around at the onlookers who is standing there in disbelief. Most of what she was hearing was ... "how is she is alive?" Dalia stood there looking at her blood-soaked clothing. She turned her head to look in the window of the dress store next door. She touches the window to ensure she is not dreaming. More so to be sure she is not dead.

The further along the sidewalk she walked, people made a clear path for her. Faithful and religious people saying prayers. Others doing a sign of the cross. Others nearly ready to worship her. She walked slowly back home. So many thoughts are running through her head. She attempted to process the fact that not only could she hear the whispers, but she also heard the silent thoughts as well. She remembers the hot bullets piercing her body. But she knows that she had to have died instantly. She arrives home and sits on the front steps. The neighbors scurry into their homes.

She stares at her hands once more and decides that it best to go inside. Mark, her husband, rushes to her. He grabs her and holds her at arm's length. He stares at her as if this was not a real-life event. He is speaking and Dalia can see his lips moving, but she cannot hear him. Even though

her clothes are full of blood, he pulls her in close and holds her tight. She slowly raises her arms to embrace him as well. That is when the light flashes start. It is so blinding that Dalia falls to the floor. She is screaming and writhing in pain. The children come barreling down the steps. Mark intercepts them and pushes them away.

Dalia musters the strength to pull herself up and run to the bathroom. She turned the shower on full blast with cold water only. She steps into the shower fully clothed. The blood begins to run down the drain as if it were water itself. Dalia shakes uncontrollably. She sheds her clothing to clean herself up. She leaves the wet clothing on the floor of the tub. She takes her hair out of the high ponytail and holds her head under the water. More blood follows. Finally, she is clean and steps out of the show she looks in the mirror. The Sorceress appears. Dalia gasps.

The Sorceress manifests herself to stand before Dalia's naked body. She speaks. "You are quite the specimen. It is time to walk in your purpose". She grabs Dalia's hand and leads her through the mirror into an enchanted world where Dalia learns she will never be the same. Several demigods stood before Dalia. The room is spinning. Dalia is overwhelmed by the beautifully terrifying people in front of her. "Are they even people? Or are they spirits? What are they?" She is about to find out.

*"The Sick" is an unfinished novel by Patricia Brothers. It will be published by June 2025. Follow her on social media platforms @triciabwriting to get updates on the stories.*

*Patricia Brothers is a native St. Louis author who has always dreamed of acting and writing. She began this journey early on in her high school career starting with supporting roles and eventually landing her first starring role as Eleonora in the stage adaptation of Eleonora and The Raven by Edgar Allan Poe. She loves writing and scored the highest grades in her English class. Although praised for her work it also led to weekly meetings with the guidance counselor. Now she writes to entertain the masses. Her vivid imagination and intrusive thoughts lead to great stories such as Death by Imagination and Stella's Revenge. Her Only Desire and Never Go in the Woods Alone are soon to be released. The greatest thing about her writing is "It all depends on whose imagination you are using"..*



***FROM a Brand of Peace  
in ferguson and St Louis,  
to a brand of freedom for  
brick yard kids in Pakistan,  
to helping 'Papa Deau' save  
the Ferguson Neighborhood  
News, Merferd has been  
around the world & back.***

FreedomCry.Life



Since a call-out to help save our paper, a group of heroes of a free, 'Freedom of the Press' have answered the call. The printing and mailing costs had exceeded ad sales, and a couple of us had been covering that. We then invited our columnists to consider pitching in, and asked readers who could to donate. And with generous hearts including a subscriber from Columbia Missouri, the paper is on better financial ground. I will be maintaining this column, perpetually challenging readers to SUPPORT the businesses who faithfully place ads in our city's jewel. Because too many folks were willing to drive 5 miles out of their way to save 5 cents, our local hardware had to pack up and leave. Let none be driving out of their way to buy a fast food burger, that is not the burger pictured in the window, when those pictures are the hickory smoked burgers at Paul's Market, and Mimi's in our own home town. And why travel to Italy, When Vincenzo's has survived several war zones next door, still serving the very best cuisine. For tires and auto repair smack dab on south florrisant road are Andy Wurm, Ferguson Motors, and Robinwood. I could keep naming the stellar businesses, just take a look.

Drakes Place needs our prayers. We'll keep you posted.



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***By Wendell Phillips 'Phil' Berwick/ Artist/Arborist/Abolitionist  
freedomcryinfo@gmail.com/ FreedomCry.Life/ Merferd.com***

**Crossword Solution from page 4**

1	I	S	O	F	F		6	N	C		8	T	O	R	T	E	S		
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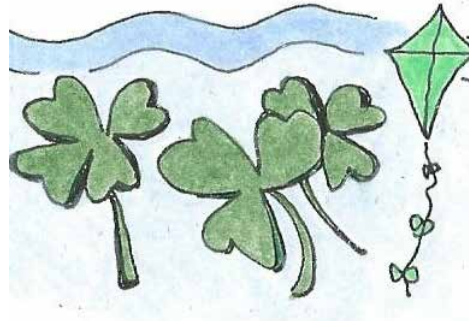
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**God Speaks**  
by Doug Neely

MARCH, 2025

Who is Jesus?  
John 1:1 New International Version  
In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.  
This refers to Jesus in the creation story in Genesis. There are many words in the bible to both refer to His other names, as well as names that also describe Him, and or what He does.  
So, the Father is God, the Holy Spirit is God, and the Son (Jesus) is God. Not 3 Gods, but one God.

What are other names the bible ascribes to Jesus?  
(there are many, for now, this should suffice)  
For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder. And His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.  
Isaiah 9:6 King James Version

What has Jesus done for us that is so important?  
He paid the price for our sins, so that we can spend eternity in heaven with Him. See John 3:16, below.  
For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.  
John 3:16 NIV

(the bible usually refers to eternal life as heaven. Hell is usually referred to as eternal damnation, or perishing.)

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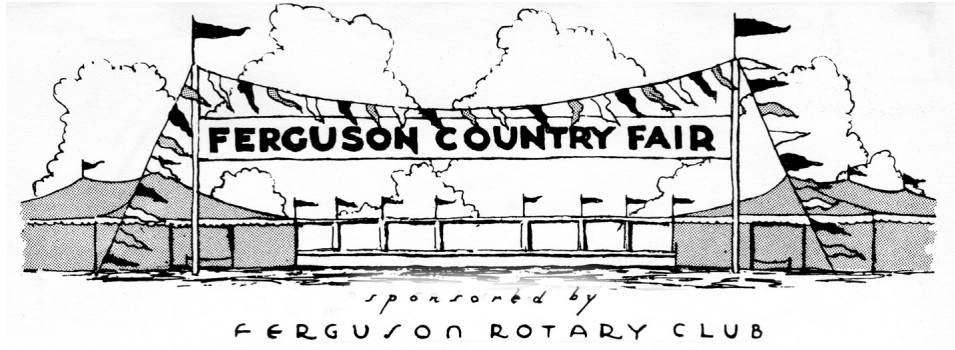
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# Ferguson Has A History Museum

Ferguson has a Historical Society and a History Museum. We encourage any people reading this article to join in the conversation and become a member. Last month we began to feature the Ferguson Country Fair – an event sponsored by the Ferguson Rotary from 1949 until 1961. We had mentioned that Rotary International was and is an organization of businessmen and professionals dedicated to assisting their community in many ways. There were other similar groups in Ferguson including the Lions Club. As an example, the Ferguson Rotary used funds from the fair to put lights on the athletic field at Ferguson High School along with other services.



exhibitors and their wares have been sold out. . .with goods to be shown varying from tractors to cameras with a large array of household appliances covering all the latest developments in each field.” “As reported in advance releases there will be square dancing every night.” “Curly Kimbrel and his Missouri Ramblers have been signed to provide the music for the three nights of fun. Curly and his outfit feature an unusual instrument and the unusual character of Pee Wee Schneider, playing his unduplicated ‘schooshlollyphone’” “Other professional entertainment includes ... acrobats on roller skates.... a world famous clown...( and) a King and Queen of the trampoline.” “Not the least of the attractions will be the tent full of agricultural produce in which farmers and gardeners from all over the country will vie for the coveted blue ribbon.” “There will be carnival rides of all sorts for adults and kiddies alike.”



There was even a greased pig contest for boys and girls under 14. This was just one of several “country fair” events taken from the many rural country fairs across the history of the Midwest. Greased pig contests were fun for kids and adults – but not for the pig – usually a baby or young pig – greased up with lard. The winner was the first person to catch the pig and be able to keep it from slipping away. Of course, the winner was a greasy mess and the pig was frightened to death – some young pigs could die of a heart attack.

But we are not going to start with the fair as the fair was the result of what life was like in Ferguson following World War II. Beginning in late 1945 and going into the early 1960’s was a growing time for suburbs like Ferguson. Prior to the war, Ferguson was a growing community, but nothing like after the War. Soldiers were coming back looking for families and places to live and work. What did Ferguson have? It had land to build thousands of small post-war houses and it had jobs nearby, especially in the growing aircraft industry. It also had the railroad and local as well as area-wide bus service. Ferguson had always been a self-sufficient community, but it became a larger community with all the services right here along and near Florissant Road.



I grew up during these years and I remember the Ferguson of those years. If you lived here your family probably had one car and you lived either in one of Ferguson’s historic houses or one of the thousands new two or three-bedroom homes. Dad took the car to work and Mom and the kids could take the local around Ferguson to shop or visit. If you wanted to go to St. Louis (for really big shopping) you could take the suburban bus line. From memory, Ferguson had at least three drug stores, grocery stores and at least 4 doctors-dentists-chiropractors. In the downtown there were two car dealers, two hardware stores and three barbers (for men) and a few hair salons (for women). We had a department store, shoe stores, shoe repair shop, and a TV repair shop along with a bank, dry cleaners (who delivered) and a couple of bars. Ferguson had churches representing many Christian religions, along with a nightclub and a movie theatre plus elementary and secondary public and private schools. All this along or within a block of Florissant Road. There were many local businessmen (men at the time) so times were ripe for groups like Rotary and the Lions. When you have local businessmen with an eye to improving the community, you get some great ideas – such as a Country Fair.



**WANTED**

**entrants for the**

**greased pig contest**

AT THE

**Ferguson Country Fair**

SPONSORED BY THE FERGUSON ROTARY CLUB

THURSDAY, FRIDAY and SATURDAY NIGHTS

SEPTEMBER 8, 9 and 10

**rules**

Open to boys and girls up to 14 years old. Entrants must be residents of St. Louis or St. Louis County. Contest to be held about 9 p. m., each night of the Fair. Entrants may enter any or all three contests. No entry fee required. No advance arrangements required—just show up in old clothes, or better still in coveralls. (That pig will be good and greasy). Rotary Club assumes no liability for damage to clothing or otherwise.

The cost of admission was a dime for adults with the “kiddies” getting in free. It doesn’t say how old a “kiddie” could be. We have to assume that some “kiddies” did stoop to look young enough to get in free.

This was only the first of many Ferguson Country Fairs to follow. The Fairs ended in 1961. Future articles will look into those fairs and reveal more about the history of Ferguson and what we did at that time.

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Information for this article came from the files of the Ferguson Historical Society.

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](mailto: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.”

“The long-awaited Ferguson Rotary Club’s Country Fair begins tonight and continues through Saturday night.” “The two large tents housing the

# FERGUSON TWILIGHT RUN

5K★10K  
1-MILE FUN RUN

For Timely Release – March 2025 edition, Ferguson Neighborhood News

## It's spring! Ferguson Twilight Run is May 17 *The annual community run/walk is a spring tradition in North County*

**Ferguson, MO** – The signs of spring are everywhere – more daylight, tree branches with tiny buds, and your friends and neighbors walking and running the sidewalks, streets, and trails to train for the 16th annual Ferguson Twilight Run.

### **Race Day**

Ferguson Twilight Run is Saturday, May 17. Runners and walkers of all abilities will enjoy one-mile, 5K (3.1 miles) and 10K (6.2 miles) distances on routes that are USATF-certified by Big River Running Company.

Register online at [fergtwilightrun.com](http://fergtwilightrun.com). You can sign up as an individual, create a team, join an existing team, or be a virtual participant.

- The race starts and finishes at **Plaza at 501**, located at the intersection of Florissant Road and Suburban Avenue.
- **Race festivities are 4:30-9:30 p.m.** including music and vendor booths
- **Race start times:** One mile at 5 p.m., 10K at 5:45 p.m., 5K at 6 p.m.
- Registered participants receive a T-shirt and finisher medal
- **Awards ceremony at 8 p.m.;** age-group winners will receive awards
- **Baby joggers/strollers and service dogs are welcome on the course;** pets must stay at home.
- **Want more details?** Follow Ferguson Twilight Run on Facebook, Instagram, X and YouTube for course routes, street closures, packet pick up, registration, announcements, volunteer opportunities and more.

### **Donnie White Sr. Memorial Beneficiary Award**

Ferguson Twilight Run donates proceeds to nonprofits in North St. Louis County through the Donnie White Sr. Memorial Beneficiary Award. To date, more than \$129,850 has supported a host of programs and services focused on impacting positive, healthy outcomes. In 2024, the beneficiaries included Girls on the Run St. Louis Ferguson-Florissant Schools, Strength and Honor Mentoring & Tutoring, A Red Circle and Emerson Family YMCA.

To be eligible for consideration, the organization must be a registered nonprofit in good financial standing, promote active living in North St. Louis County and provide physical activity opportunities focused on health in North St. Louis County. 2025 beneficiary awards will be announced in April.

### **Become a Sponsor or Vendor**

There are opportunities for area businesses, community organizations, family groups and individuals to support Ferguson Twilight Run as a sponsor or vendor.

Learn more about sponsorships at [fergtwilightrun.com](http://fergtwilightrun.com).

### **History**

Ferguson Twilight Run debuted in May 2010 as the first evening race in North St. Louis County. The run/walk encourages a sense of community while supporting a common interest. Proceeds are donated to nonprofits in north St. Louis County that promote the healthy and sustainable benefits of fitness.

### **CONTACTS**

Dwayne T. James, 314-325-2197 [racedirector@fergtwilightrun.com](mailto:racedirector@fergtwilightrun.com)

Nez Savala, 816-678-9071 [miss\\_tv@yahoo.com](mailto:miss_tv@yahoo.com)



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