



Ferguson

NEIGHBORHOOD

SINCE NEWS 2021



Serving Ferguson and Surrounding Communities

Another Successful Twilight Run!

Photos courtesy of Tim Larson



Ferguson Twilight Run presents awards to top finishers of the 5K and 10K, as well as the top three finishers in age groups. Soulcraft, a woodshop in Ferguson, created the awards for 16th annual Ferguson Twilight Run.



On your mark! Runners of all ages line up at the start line of the one-mile race at the 16th annual Ferguson Twilight Run.



Runners move at their own pace under the railroad pass at Ferguson Ave and Elizabeth Ave. during the 16th annual Ferguson Twilight Run, Saturday, May 17.



On-line edition: fergusonsmallbusinessdistrict.com/

WHERE TO FIND EARTHDANCE PRODUCE IN FERGUSON

PAY WHAT YOU CAN FARM STAND
FRIDAYS 3 - 6PM; SUNDAYS 11AM-3PM
233 S. DADE AVE, FERGUSON MO

PAY WHAT YOU CAN
all season long!

FERGUSON FARMERS MARKET
SATURDAYS 8AM-NOON
PLAZA AT 501

the DOG DAYS of SUMMER

June 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

- Children and Teen Events**
- **Tuesdays from 1-3 pm:** Craft and Go (ages 3-18)
 - **Wednesdays at 10 am:** Stories and Songs for Little Ones (ages 0-5)
 - **Saturday, June 7 at 2 pm:** Penny Pinchers' Party (ages 6-11)
 - **Tuesday, June 17 at 6 pm:** Teen Makers - Artist Trading Cards (teens)
 - **Saturday, June 21 at 2 pm:** Lego Club (ages 6-11 recommended)
 - **Tuesday, June 24 at 6 pm:** Journey to America (ages 0-18)
 - **Saturday, June 28 at 2 pm:** Making Moo-lah (ages 6-11)
- Adult Events**
- **Thursday, June 5 at 6 pm:** You're a Poet and Didn't Know It!
 - **Monday, June 9 at 6 pm:** Readings on Race Book Club Tenth Anniversary with author Patty Heyda and PROUD
 - **Tuesday, June 10 at 6 pm:** Conversations and Coffee
 - **Monday, June 16 at 6 pm:** Silk Flower Centerpieces
 - **Saturday, June 21 at 12:30 pm:** Sense of Tea
- All Ages Events**
- **Monday, June 2 at 6 pm:** Summer Movie Monday - The Wild Robot (PG)
 - **Thursday, June 12 at 6 pm:** Fiber Arts Social Club
 - **Wednesday, June 18 at 6 pm:** Cultural Cuisine - Soul Food

June Craft Kits

- **June 9-14:** Suncatcher Mobile
- **June 23-28:** Tiny Art

Pick up a kit while supplies last!

COLOR OUR WORLD

The Summer Reading Challenge is just getting started! Register today!

The library will be closed Thursday, June 19 for Juneteenth.

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June Celebration Shout-outs

- 1 Happy Birthday Rick Helldoerfer
- 2 Happy Birthday Dick Bowes
- 3 Happy Birthday Ja'Lana Clinton
- 10 Happy Birthday James Nadeau
- 29 Happy Birthday Daylen Weber



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

June at a Glance

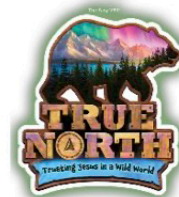


- 3 Forestwood Neighborhood Meeting 7 PM
Emmaus Bible Chapel 900 Highmont Dr.
- 7 Eid al-Adha
- 9 North Elizabeth Neighborhood Meeting 7PM
Ferguson Community Center 1050 Smith Ave.
- 12 Jeske Park Neighborhood Meeting 7 PM
First Baptist Church of Ferguson 333 N. Florissant Rd.
- 12 Ferguson Woods Neighborhood Meeting 7 PM
North Hills Methodist 10771 Trask Dr.
- 14 Juneteenth Celebration Forestwood Park 4 - 9PM
- 14 Flag Day
- 14 Historical Society Open House 10AM - 4PM
- 15 Father's Day
- 19 Juneteenth
- 21 North Hills Neighborhood Meeting 10 AM
- 23 South West Neighborhood Meeting 6 PM
- 26 South Central Neighborhood Meeting 6 PM
- 28 West Ferguson Neighborhood Summer Gathering
Plaza at 501 3-5pm

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Trustees of the Ferguson Municipal Public Library District will conduct a public hearing to review and consider the proposed budget for the fiscal year 2025-2026. The hearing will take place at the Library Auditorium, located at 35 N. Florissant Rd., Ferguson, Missouri, on June 23, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. Members of the public are invited to attend and provide comments.

FERGUSON PARTNERSHIP OF CHURCHES VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



June 23 - June 27, 2025 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,
Immanuel UCC, St. Peter's UCC
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Zion Lutheran Church

PRAY FOR PEACE

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

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



FERGUSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, June 14
10am - 4pm at the History House
Located behind the Community Center.

Join us for history, conversation, refreshments, enter a free drawing for a fun experience! NEW - take a peek at a nun's bedroom!



In conjunction with Historic St. Louis "Summertime Past" event.
historicsaintlouis.org

NEXT EVENT! JULY 17, 6-8PM - THE HISTORY OF LUCAS PLACE

First "suburb" of St. Louis built in 1850s. Guest speaker, Laura Watt. At Ferg Community Center

“ A fire leaves a wound. The community is the healing balm.”

Community Support for Drakes Place

To our sponsors, friends, customers, clergy, fellow business colleagues, volunteers, neighbors, city officials, family and people we’ve never met:

The Drake’s Place family is beyond grateful for our amazing community that has unselfishly prayed for us, given to us and supported us since the devastating fire that occurred at our restaurant. Even though many of you are facing economically difficult times, you all stepped in and helped us anyway. To those who donated anonymously, this is our chance to say “thank you” publicly.

May God bless each one of you for the love you have shown. We can’t wait to meet, greet, and seat you on our reopening day!

Love Sonny, Bridgett & the Drake’s Place Family

A big thank you to the multiple businesses who stepped up as sponsors for the Trivia Night fundraiser on May 30th.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| First Mid Bank & Trust | Louis |
| US Bank | Girls Getta Grip Gun Club LLC |
| Negwer Materials | St. Michaels Temple of the Expanded Mind |
| Onyx Business & Print Center | Fischer & Byrne Attorney at Law LLC |
| Robinwood Automotive and Tire | Alliance Credit Union |
| City of Ferguson | Worldwide Medical |
| City of Florissant | The Gala Rose |
| Paul’s Market | The City of Bellefontaine Neighbors |
| Eagle Springs Golf Course | Earl Green Towing |
| Mimi’s Bar & Grill | Picasso’s |
| Ferguson Brewing Company | Quizsmiths |
| Sportsprint | Elicious |
| Sam’s Club | AMT Racing Engines |
| NAACP | |
| Urban League of Metropolitan St. | |



Ferguson City News - June 2025

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
8 AM - Noon | Every Saturday (May-Oct)
Plaza at 501 (501 S Florissant Rd)

JUNE 2025

- June 7 Dinosaur Day
- June 14 Pops & Produce
- June 21 Berry Fest
- June 28 Take Me Out to the Market

Tiny Sprouts
FREE to Kids Ages 3-10
Weekly Incentives
Prizes and Swag

FERGUSONFARMERSMARKET.COM

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JUNE 2025

- June 7 Cops and Bobbers
8 AM - 12 PM | JW Lake
- June 14 Juneteenth Celebration
4 PM - 9 PM | Forestwood Park
- June 16 Summer Concert - JAM
7 PM - 9 PM | Plaza at 501

JULY 2025

- July 4 Ferguson 4th of July
10 AM-Parade | 6 PM-Festival
- July 18 Summer Concert - Just In Time
7 PM - 9 PM | Plaza at 501
- July 25 Holidays at Hudson Disc Golf
7 PM - 9 PM | Plaza at 501
- July 26 Pop Up Splash Pad Party
2 PM - 4 PM | Police Station

FERGREG.COM

CROSSWORD

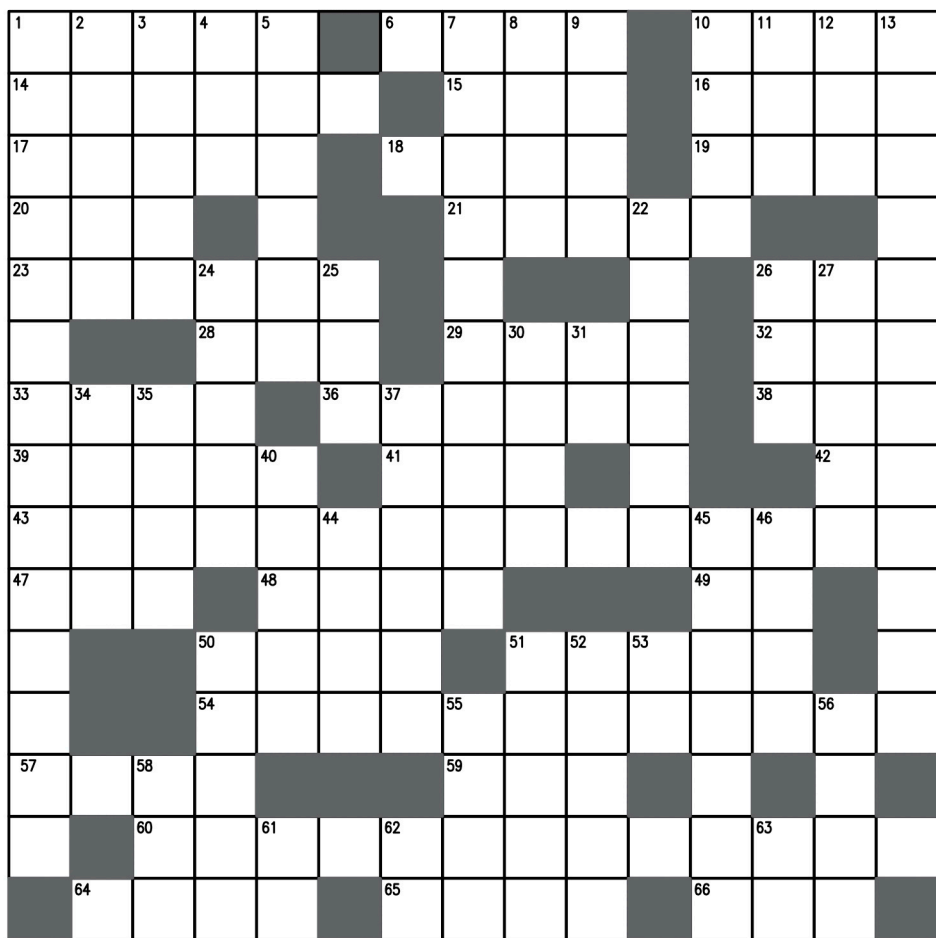
The "Y" Factor
By Robin Shively

ACROSS

1. Husky holder
6. Opposite of nearby
10. Cheer
14. Foot parts
15. "Thick __ Brick"
16. Sundance locale
17. Vapors
18. Garden supporter
19. Dull one
20. Before, poetically
21. Delighted
23. Wil's Next Generation role
26. Strange Magic grp.
28. Time period
29. Slang for anti-doping target
32. It may be hot
33. Ms. Banks
36. The Cheater singer Scott
38. Ump.
39. Bank job
41. Turner or Cole
42. Twilight st.
43. Robert Young series
47. Chances __; Mathis classic
48. Real Estate proclamation
49. B&O or CB&Q
50. Soothing gel
51. Influence
54. "Old Fashioned" soda brand
57. Western character actor Jack
59. Curvature
60. MASH chaplain
64. Sicilian volcano
65. Some say it is more
66. Marvel Warlord

DOWN

1. 1947 film set in 1880s New York City
2. Accustom to accept something undesirable
3. High point
4. Trendy type of shed
5. Protagonist Prynne
7. Mother country
8. On the ocean
9. Incline
10. Oswald murderer
11. Relating to the ear, pref.
12. Paddle
13. Don Corleone
22. San Diego team
24. Training line
25. Move unsteadily; weave
26. Make a mistake
27. Theater name
30. Sgt. Snorkel's dog
31. That is; abbrev.
34. This one is of the Tiger
35. Ceremony
37. Places for some monitors
40. Noted coil inventor
44. Crucifix
45. Jazz Pianist Dave
46. Pseudonym of artist Romain de Tiroff
50. Darrin Stephens or Don Draper
51. Crocus bases
52. Position; Site
53. Over 40 hrs.
55. Few and far between
56. Canyon comeback
58. Near the rear
61. Acad. Helper
62. Lead-in to Paso or Camino
63. Location of only active diamond mine in U.S.



Solution on page 13



ARTFUL CONSIDERATIONS

by Kimberly Kabak Epperson



June 4 @ 7:30 pm | \$25 – \$149
Loretto-Hilton Center 130 Eager Rd.
Webster Groves, MO 63119

Die Fledermaus

What starts as a harmless prank soon escalates into an epic battle of the sexes, filled with disguises, flirtations and comedic deceptions. No matter how the evening ends, one thing is for sure – you can blame it on the Champagne! See this playful comedy performed by Opera Theatre of St. Louis from May 24 to June 28

June 5 @ 7:00 pm | \$10 – \$99

The Big Top 3401 Washington Boulevard St. Louis, MO 63103

Urban Legend

Circus Flora is a beloved summer tradition in St. Louis, and it will return for its 39th season with an all-new show, Urban Legend, from June 5 to 22. Combining exceptional storytelling and world-class performances, Circus Flora dazzles audiences of all ages. In Urban Legend, the legends and lore of St. Louis come to life in thrilling and unexpected ways.

June 5 @ 8:00 pm | \$20 – \$30

The Marcelle 3310 Samuel Shepard Dr. St. Louis, MO 63103

Rent

New Line Theatre closes its 33rd season with Jonathan Larson's Pulitzer Prize-winning cultural phenomenon: the long-running rock opera Rent. A show about connection and healing seems like a story we need right now, maybe more than ever before.

June 7 @ 7:30 pm | \$55 – \$150

The Fabulous Fox Theatre 527 N Grand Blvd St. Louis, MO 63103

The Temptations and The Four Tops

To celebrate the 60th anniversary of hit song "My Girl," The Temptations and The Four Tops will bring their sound and swagger to The Fabulous Fox on June 7.

June 11 @ 5:30 pm-7:30 pm | Free but registration is required

Bellefontaine Cemetery and Arboretum 4947 W. Florissant Ave. St. Louis, MO 63115

Sunset Strolls

During the summer months, we offer a two-hour walking tour of the Cemetery and Arboretum in the cooling hours before sunset. This tour will be led by one of our Master Guides who will convey highlights of the Cemetery grounds, horticulture, and a variety of intriguing historic figures who call Bellefontaine their final place of rest. Tours will cover about 2 miles walking across moderate terrain. Please arrive between 15 to 20 minutes before tour time for a prompt departure.

Sunday, June 15 · 5 - 7:30pm CDT

The New Ambassador 9800 Halls Ferry Rd St Louis, MO 63136

Father's Day Blues Jam Featuring Jeter Jones 'Da Kang' of Trailride Blues

presented by Allusion Entertainment Productions
It's the Father's Day Barbecue Blues & Southern Soul Buffet Featuring **Jeter Jones**-- 'Da Kang' of Trailride Blues! Ladies, it's time to honor the fathers in style! Fellas, bring your best suits, boots, and hats —Ladies, grab your **fans** for a night of southern soul, rhythm, and the Blues! Opening performances by: Gregg 'happy guitar' Haynes with special guest- Robbie "Sweetie Pies" Montgomery; The Drew Project; Lawrence "L" Wilson & More! PLUS! Special VIP Pre-Show Reception Enjoy FREE rib tips before the show!

June 18 @ 7:30 pm-9:00 pm | Free

Ritenour High School 9100 St. Charles Rock Rd. St. Louis, MO 63114

Juneteenth Concert

Celebrate Juneteenth with the Gateway Festival Orchestra's "A Juneteenth Concert" on June 18, 7:30 PM, at Ritenour High School Auditorium, 9100 St. Charles Rock Road, St. Louis, MO. This vibrant evening is dedicated to showcasing the amazing talents of local Black composers and their fresh perspectives on orchestral music.

June 19 @ 2:30 pm-4:30 pm | Free but registration required

Missouri History Museum 5700 Lindell Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63112

"Tuskegee Airmen" Shuttle

Celebrate Juneteenth with the Missouri Historical Society! See the new exhibit Tuskegee Airmen: America's Freedom Flyers on opening day at Soldiers Memorial and enjoy an evening of performances at the Missouri History Museum. Meet at the Missouri History Museum in Forest Park to hop on a free shuttle to Soldiers Memorial in Downtown St. Louis for an exclusive first look at the Tuskegee Airmen exhibit. The shuttle will return in time to enjoy our Thursday Nights at the Museum event, Joyful Juneteenth: An Evening of Performances—a celebration of freedom through music, dance, and storytelling.



Hello Ferguson!

by Marian Linck

And just like that it is summer! The oak flowers are in full bloom in all their brown fuzzy glory. I could not be more miserable with sneezing, coughing, and wheezing. I love the ancient oaks here in Ferguson. The giant old trees are part of the beauty and charm of this town. I want the furry, fuzzy oak flowers to go away NOW!

My misery is not the subject of this month's article. I just wanted to share it with you and garner a little sympathy!

Many of you who have been reading my articles for some time may remember one about the Mecum Auction. If you are unfamiliar with the Mecum Auction, I can explain. For several years, my husband and I could spend a lazy hour or two, usually in the winter, watching on television, old, restored cars go up for auction. We each had favorites and would see these beautifully restored cars on the auction block and often fetch six figure sums for the sellers.

One year we decided to go watch the auction in person in Indianapolis. We have been going to Indy in May for four years now.

This year we stayed in such a wonderful hotel; I thought I should share the details with you.

The hotel is the Crown Plaza Indianapolis Downtown Union Station. I found this gem on Hotels.com and it was reasonable for a downtown hotel. First, a little history lesson:

St. Louis has an impressive Union Station but the Union Station in Indianapolis was the first one built in the country. The building was built in 1888 and is currently being used as an event space as the "Grand Hall and Conference Center." In the station's heyday 500,000 passengers would pass through Union Station each month. With almost two hundred trains passing through the city, daily traffic was becoming a problem. Union Railway planned a system of twelve elevated tracks in a two-story train shed. The first train arrived in this shed in 1918 with over sixty trains arriving and departing daily.



By 1970 the demand for train travel was replaced by airplane transportation as well as automobile travel. Union Station and the train shed were facing the threat of demolition. A local Architect formed the "Committee to Save Union Station." In 1982 plans were approved by the city of Indianapolis to



restore historic property. In 1986 Union Station opened its doors as "The Festival Market Place" closing only ten years later. In 1999 the historic property reopened as "Crown Plaza's Grand Hall and Conference Center". In 1986 the train shed was converted into what is now the Crowne Plaza Hotel. The hotel was built on tracks 1 through 8, leaving tracks 9 through 11 are operational and still running just south of the hotel. When we checked in on Friday evening the front desk let us know that we may experience a low rumble at some point during our stay. The hotel staff wanted to assure us that this was normal and could be expected.



The appearance of this hotel highlights the original iron beams of the train shed and only three of the original beams were cut to construct the hotel. While the history of the hotel is interesting and significant, what truly stood out for us was the friendly helpful staff. The customer service was amazing. Just when I had given up and decided customer service had been replaced by AI and was obsolete, I met this group of people. They smiled, helped, made eye contact, and had a sense of humor. Breakfast was included with the stay I booked; however, it was not the typical "breakfast buffet." Guests could enjoy an omelet made to order as well as an assortment of fruit, cheeses, cold cuts, pastries, and bagels. Cereal was also available. Guests could also order from a short menu. We chose to order from the menu and were pleased.

The hotel rooms were quiet, roomy, and comfortable. Just outside our door was a train track and 1920's Pullman Train cars. Yes! You could enjoy a stay on a renovated coach. We will book one of those train cars next year. Indianapolis is a beautiful city. The city is walkable, clean and feels safe. There is new construction going on everywhere. People live, play, and dine in Downtown Indianapolis. Downtown St. Louis could take some lessons from Indy. Perhaps Indianapolis is a shining city because it is also the Capital of Indiana.

You may reach me with questions and comments at manhattanmarian@gmail.com.

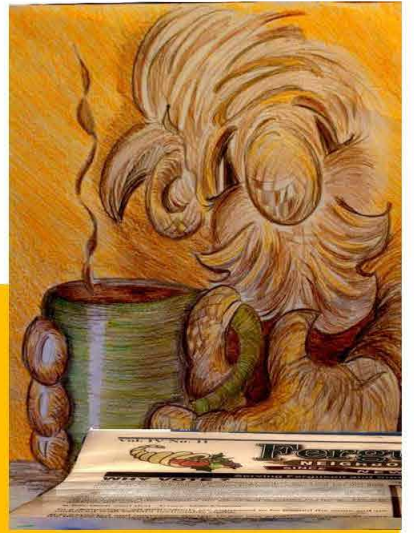




This Silver Maple had been much closer to the church. We rocked and rolled it out to the curb where FEMA will pick it up. The Pastor behind the man behind the chainsaw (and the Merferds) prayed for us.

FERGUSON 'FRIENDS OF THE PAPER' ARE COMING THROUGH!
 IN KEEPING THE JEM OF OUR FREE PAPER PRINTING, WE'LL STILL BE NEEDING SOME MORE of YOU!

FERGUSON FOLKS WERE AMONG THE GOOD SAMARITANS YOU CAME ALONG-SIDE THOSE IMPACTED BY THE TORNADOES.



To help Keep this paper, become a monthly 'FRIEND' For electronic payments call 314-524-3440 and ask for Danielle, or mail checks to Ferguson Newspaper Group 312 Calverton Road St Louis Mo 63135

The Author/Artist is an Arborist & Abolitionist, freeing kids in Pakistan from bonded labor. See FreedomCry.Life

Wendell Phillips 'Phil Berwick 'Phil' 314-568-8367

freedomcryinfo@gmail.com

EarthDance and Operation Food Search Partnership continues to Grow

By Laken Sylvander

EarthDance believes healthy food should be grown, shared, and understood. That's why the organic teaching farm is thrilled to deepen its partnership with Operation Food Search (OFS) this season through a vibrant new teaching garden led by EarthDance's Volunteer & Garden Coordinator, Dani Fuhrman (pictured, right, at the OFS teaching garden).

"Food pantries are vital, but by helping communities grow their own food we're not just meeting an immediate need—we're healing the system itself," Dani said "As one OFS volunteer said, 'teach them how to fish.' There is empowerment in teaching, and that is what we hope to do in our collaboration with the garden."



Dani Fuhrman, EarthDance's Volunteer & Garden Coordinator, poses with a newly-installed raised garden bed at the Operation Food Search Teaching Garden. The project also includes a four-part garden education series designed to empower OFS food pantry partners to grow food for their own missions. And with help from volunteers, new trellises and soil-building practices are already bringing the space to life.

This 384 sq ft garden space—already equipped with raised beds and a state-of-the-art irrigation system—is being transformed into a hub for community education and crop diversity. "We've planned a multi-season garden centered around crops that support reproductive health and cultural relevance—like Kersting's Ground Nuts and Sokoyokoto Celosia, which are of African origin," Dani shared.

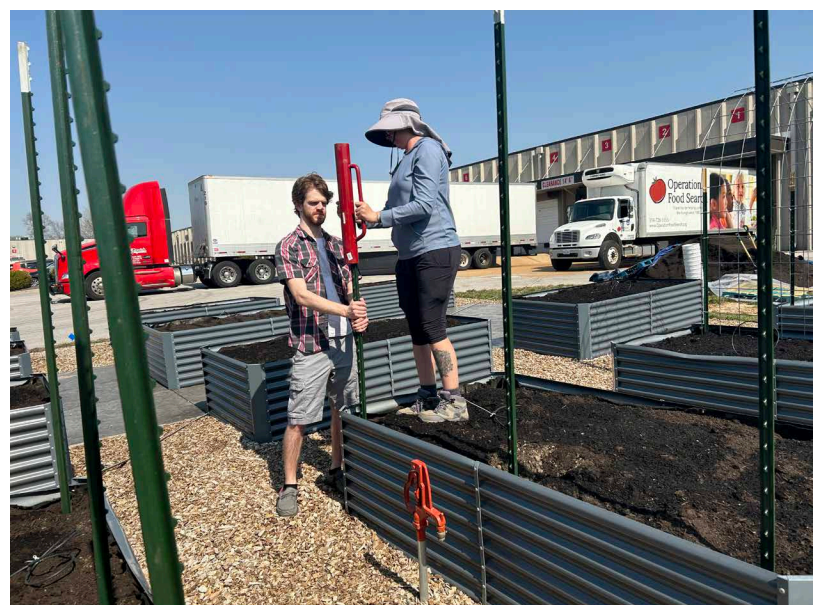


Dani and volunteers work to install the new OFS Teaching Garden

"One of my main focuses has been building soil fertility using organic compost, cover crops, and legumes," Dani says. "It's still in the build phase, but it's already teaching and inspiring volunteers and staff at OFS."

What does a thriving garden look like? Dani paints a powerful picture:

"Thriving means producing enough food to share with OFS programs and pantry partners. It means seeing more gardens pop up around the region through support from our classes. It means a collaborative space where food systems workers come together and grow—not just crops, but relationships."



Volunteers work to install the new OFS Teaching Garden

This vision is already coming to life, as the partnership has continued to grow with the addition of Steven Franz, an EarthDance apprenticeship alum, as orchard support in the teaching garden.

THE DOG DAYS OF SUMMER - PLEASE BE KIND

By Dara Ashby ~Ferguson Animal Coalition (501c3 organization to keep pets safe and happy)



Summer is finally here! Many of us wait anxiously for shorts weather to arrive! But dogs and cats definitely do not.



Imagine being forced to stay outside in the sweltering heat, wearing a heavy winter coat. Being forced to stand barefoot on burning hot pavement. Did you know that dogs paws can blister from burns? Not fun and is often deadly for pets.

What is especially miserable is a dog being chained outside or kept in a pen during the HOT summer.

They face risks of heatstroke, dehydration, and sunburn, as well as extreme stress from the constant limitations of their confined space.

Their limited access to shade and water, coupled with the lack of social interaction and enrichment can quickly lead to severe overheating, stress, frustration & anxiety which often times leads to many behavioral problems.

Here's a more detailed look at what summer can be like for a chained/caged dog:

Physical Risks:

- **Heatstroke:** Dogs are susceptible to heatstroke, especially in hot, humid conditions. They can overheat quickly and suffer from heatstroke and death.
- **Dehydration:** Chained dogs may have limited access to water, increasing the risk of dehydration, which can be dangerous in hot weather.
- **Sunburn:** Shade changes throughout the day. You may leave for work with your dog having shade but later, he is left baking in the sun. Dogs don't have the same protective layers as humans and can easily get sunburned; particularly those with short coats.
- **Pest Problems:** Chained/caged dogs are more vulnerable to insects, fleas, and ticks, which can cause agonizing constant itching and health problems.
- **Cords and Tethers:** Tethers can cause injuries, including burns or strangulation if they become tangled or wrapped tightly around the dog's neck or limbs. A few summers ago, a dog here in Ferguson was found strangled to death when the tether got wrapped around a tree.

Psychological and Behavioral Consequences:

- **Loneliness and Boredom:** Chained/caged dogs often experience extreme loneliness and lack social interaction with other dogs or humans. Dogs are "pack animals" by instinct and deserve to be inside with their family.
- **Anxiety and Stress:** Keeping your dog in constant confinement and with lack of stimulation can lead to anxiety, hyperactivity, and aggression. It's a vicious cycle.
- **Stereotypical Behaviors:** Chained/penned dogs may develop repetitive behaviors, such as pacing or excessive barking, as a result of boredom and stress. Can you blame them?
- **Decreased Quality of Life:** Overall, chaining or keeping a dog confined outside and even worse when in extreme temperatures, can drastically reduce a dog's quality of life, leading to a miserable existence. It's basically like being in jail for a crime you didn't commit.
- It's easy for a dog to wrap a tether around objects in the yard and get stuck, preventing them from accessing water and shelter.
- Tethers can cause serious injury by wrapping tightly around limbs or becoming embedded in a dog's neck.
- Studies show that even friendly dogs can become unhappy, anxious, neurotic and aggressive when kept in a pen, on a chain or tether.
- Tethered/caged dogs are more susceptible to insect bites, parasites and cruel attacks by humans and other animals.

SO...please HAVE A HEART! ❤️

PLEASE BRING THEM INSIDE WITH YOU! When they are outside, fill up a kitty pool with water and let them enjoy summer fun! And be sure they have access to fresh drinking water.

When walking your pup, keep in mind that dogs' paws can easily burn on hot pavement. Walk them early in the morning or late evening when the weather (and pavement) is cooler. Or let them walk in grassy, shaded areas.

And NEVER, EVER leave them in a car. Even with the windows cracked a car can heat up to life threatening temperatures when the temps are above 70 degrees. A car can heat up to 104 degrees in 30 minutes on a 70-degree day.

Let's ALL have a fun and safe summer and bring your pets inside when the temperatures soar.

Dara Ashby~ Ferguson Animal Coalition
 "Keeping them Safe"
 "Keeping them Happy"
Dara@fergusonanimalcoalition.org



HEAT SAFETY FOR PETS

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| NO LEAVING PETS IN THE CAR! | NO HEAVILY EXERCISING PETS! | NO LEAVING PETS OUTSIDE UNSUPERVISED! |
| | | |
| ACCESS TO SHADE & FRESH WATER WHILE OUTSIDE! | LIMIT OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES TO COOLER HOURS OF THE DAY! | COOL OFF WITH FANS, AC, KIDDIE POOLS, FROZEN TREATS, ETC! |
| | | |
| MONITOR PETS CLOSELY FOR SIGNS OF HEAT STRESS! | BE EXTRA CAUTIOUS IF YOU HAVE A HIGHER-RISK PET! | PROTECT THOSE PAWS & AVOID HOT SIDEWALKS! |
| | | |

SIGNS OF HEAT STROKE:

- Vomiting
- Excessive Panting
- Lethargy
- Difficulty Breathing
- Collapse
- High Rectal Temperature (Greater than 103°F)

SEEK IMMEDIATE VETERINARY CARE IF YOUR PET IS EXPERIENCING A HEAT STROKE

ANIMAL EMERGENCY & REFERRAL CENTER OF MINNESOTA

The Locket

by Patricia Brothers

You wanna end the world? All you have to do is come up with an airborne disease and put it in a compressed locket that when opened, it sprays the contents everywhere. You design the locket to make any five-year-old want to have it. Even an adult might want it. This beautiful, deadly locket was found on the playground. The silver, heart shaped locket with the bluest of blue sapphires in it surrounded by diamonds. It sparkled in the sun as the kids ran around mindlessly. Except for Lexi. Lexi spotted the necklace and picked it up right away.

She didn't bother to tell anyone that she had it. It was something for her to covet. Later that day, after dinner, I noticed she was wearing it. She told me she found it on the playground. She had asked her sister Maxi to braid her hair like Elsa the Disney Princess. She had asked if she looked as beautiful as Elsa and I told her she was more beautiful. I must admit, I was mesmerized by it. If it was a fake – no harm, right? If it was fake, it looked awfully real. But what if it was real? If it was real, then how did it end up on the playground of an elementary school? A teacher? Parent?

My thoughts were all over the place. I told Lexi that for now, we would hold onto it. If someone asks for it only then would we turn it in. I wanted her to have something nice of her own. I could see that she really enjoyed it. In my ultimate mind, if it were real then we would have a nice insurance plan for money. With that necklace she looked like royalty. Princess Lexi. Then. The ultimate gut punch; I just didn't know it at the time. We were sitting on the sofa watching Frozen for the hundredth time. Honestly, I lost count of how many times we have watched Frozen. She opens the locket. There was a hiss and then she sneezes.

I mindlessly hand her a tissue and asked if she was okay. She told me that the locket must have been a bit dusty. No worries. She blows her nose and sets the tissue on the table. Allen picks up the tissue and throws it away. He rubbed his eyes as he had just finished a double. He yawns, stretches, and then heads off to bed. In the middle of that, Maxi is walking down the hall. He ruffles her hair. And that was the beginning. We were ground zero. We started the whole thing. Was this our punishment for not turning it in? I wrote down every detail. I did not want to forget. Should someone find my diary, they would know the whole story.

Most would ask why? Why did we keep the locket? Like I said, if it was real, it was our way out. We were having a bit of money troubles and Allen was working doubles what seemed like every day. We never got to see him. Pawning it would have meant at least a few hundred dollars. It was heavy. It had to be real. I wanted it to be real. I needed it to be real. I needed our family to resemble somewhat of a normalcy. When Allen would come home, dinner would be cooked, the house was clean, and the kids were ready for bed after dinner. Now, he comes home, and the kids are up later because they don't see him. I was a stay-at-home mom. He made sure I never worked a day in my life.

Now all of that has been stripped from me. I am on the run from everyone. I am the immune. You would think that this is a great thing right. Wrong. Absolutely wrong. Did I mention that this disease crossed species? Animals died and other animals ate them. It was a very vicious cycle. Getting back to the City of the Immune. It was like the The Wizard of Oz. It looked perfect on the outside, but on the inside – there was suffering, and you were lab rats. But if you wanted to live the life of luxury, that was the only way. It was the only city to be fully functioning with government and security.

Then there was the City of Technology. They had all the parts that you needed to function. Getting parts and supplies cost. It was either your life, or things of value. It lacked the electricity and natural resources to run. The City of Nature had the natural resources and could help Electricity, but they were greedy and selfish people. The people there lived off the land sufficiently but could use some common or modern-day needs. However, although the two cities are close in proximity, never pooled together the resources because each one thought their way of living was best. Then there was the City of Religion.

The City of Religion believed that God was coming and there would be a messiah to deliver us from this plague. That messiah was my son – Seth. Seth was born from two people who were immune during a time of infertility. Seth was hidden from the world. We had to protect him until we knew it was safe for him to be exposed to the world. If people really did the math, they would know that he was special. We had to increase his age and explain that he was just short for his age. We drilled it into Seth so much that even he believed it.

Everyone wanted my son and I'd be darned if they could have him. When I met Jacob, we both were trying to escape Immune. This wasn't the best feat. Immune had eyes and ears everywhere. Anytime Immune wanted or needed anything they would go to the other cities and start a war to pillage what they wanted or bribed the civilians for information. Immune did their best to hold onto what was left of the western government. When Immune found out I was Ground Zero – they did what all governments would do. There was a bounty on my head.

I was tired of running and honestly, I wanted to just sleep for once without looking over my shoulder. When I arrived at the gates, that's when I saw Jacob. He shook his head "no" at me. He mouthed the words for me to run, but it was too late. Days turned into weeks. Weeks turned into months. Months turned into years. I was poked, prodded and downright stripped of any sanity and humanity. But at least we were functioning right? One day, I was walking down the street and they were beating Jacob. I ran as fast as I could. I pushed them away. They were beating him. We escaped into the woods and waited days before trying to leave.

There we talked about what happened in the beginning to our families. It took me a moment to remember, and I sobbed uncontrollably. He promised at the first chance we got, I would get a diary or notebook to write it all down. I needed that. I needed to remember. I told him about the locket and what happened that night. I told him about the days that came after. Lexi did not wake up. She was nearly in a coma and burning hot. Allen was fine at first and went to work as normal. Maxi too was unresponsive. Maxi had Lupus and her poor body couldn't fight it.

I told Allen to go to work. That day was so overwhelming. The hospital nearly called CPS thinking we had poisoned our children. Lexi coded and was rushed to the O.R. Meanwhile, Allen coughed a few times at work and was sent home. He never made it home. He was rushed to the hospital. Then things became a blur and the world went mad. They were careless. They did not take this pandemic as serious as they should have.

The first wave took as many as half the world. Then resources started to become scarce. The second wave was nastier than the first and took three quarters of the world population. They called it the super bug. Suddenly, bleach and other cleaners became unobtainable unless you were able to pay at a premium. People washed their hands so much that water had to be regulated even more.

We knew we had to run. By the time we were ready, we were surrounded by Immune soldiers. If you are reading this, it is the start of Book 1. It also means that I am no longer in control of my life and President White has us stored away somewhere like a diamond in a coal mine. Please find us and save us.

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Under The Hood With Robinwood
By Bob McGartland

Sustainability Is Driving the Auto Industry Forward

After years in the automotive world, I've learned that change in this industry doesn't happen overnight. But lately, there's one shift that's really gained traction—car manufacturers are rethinking what vehicles are made of. And honestly, I'm glad to see it.

We're not just talking about going electric. We're talking about materials. Sustainable ones. The kind that are renewable, recyclable, or just plain smarter to use.

Ford, for example, has been using soy-based seat foam for over a decade, cutting down on petroleum use. BMW is incorporating recycled fishing nets into its floor mats and trim parts. Mercedes-Benz is experimenting with biomaterials made from mushrooms and cactus for its interiors. Even Kia and Hyundai are turning heads with sugarcane-based plastics, recycled PET fabrics, and corn-based bioplastics in their electric vehicle models.

Natural fibers are showing up more often, too. Hemp, flax, and kenaf are being used in door panels and insulation. These materials are strong, lightweight, and grow quickly, making them ideal for replacing heavier plastics.

And it's not just about the interior. More companies are using recycled aluminum for structural parts and water-based paints with fewer harmful chemicals. Even tires are getting a makeover, with manufacturers like Michelin exploring natural rubber alternatives and bio-sourced reinforcement materials.

So, why should any of this matter to drivers?

Because these materials reduce the carbon footprint of building a vehicle. They cut down on waste, require less energy to produce, and often result in lighter cars—improving fuel economy or battery range. And in many cases, they make cars easier to recycle when they reach the end of their life.

As a car guy, I care about performance, reliability, and craftsmanship. But I also care about where this industry is headed. If we can build cars that look great, drive well, and are easier on the planet—that's a win. So the next time you slide behind the wheel, take a look around. That dashboard or seat covering might be made from something far more sustainable than you think. And that's a good sign for the road ahead. We are always here to answer any car-related questions. Feel free to give us a call, stop in or drop us a line at robinwoodauto.com.

I want to thank everyone who came out and supported the trivia night fundraiser for Drake's Place Restaurant. It was a great night! So many people came out and showed their love for Sonny and Bridgett.

THE RIGHT PRESCRIPTION

By Dr. Larry A. Brown

This is a season when a lot of issues and diseases are circulating and there seem to be a litany of new prescriptions on the market, along with many disclaimers, alluding to their effectiveness. Whether or not they work remains to be seen. Often, the right prescription, at the right time, is just what is needed.



The old folks still rely on remedies that they have used and found effective. Those may have been passed on to them from the previous generation. There is room for remedies in health as well as society and the workplace. Almost anywhere you look, there is room for improvement. If we look around our homes, we can even find lots of room for the right prescriptions.

Have you ever thought that YOU could be the prescription?

We have recently experienced or at least, know about times when the right prescription was needed.

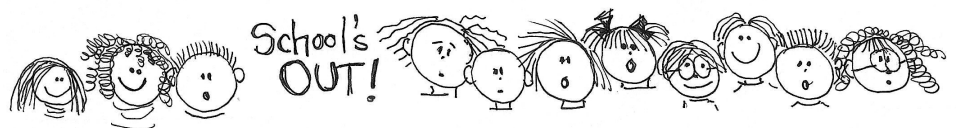
Often, we think about big things needed and automatically disqualify ourselves. The real facts reveal that there are needed, prescriptions of all sorts and sizes.

If we take a look at recent times and the havoc that affected our community and the residents who lived within the areas that were hit by tornadoes and storms. We see many opportunities for small things that WE could do in order to make life better for those affected by these unfortunate circumstances which could happen to any of us at any time.

Toilet tissue, water, food, new or used clothing, or temporary housing, may be something we can do, and will be appreciated and solve the problem that someone is experiencing or just helping to remove debris, which is something we can do, and is a small contribution, but which goes a long way, may be just what someone needs. How easy it can be to participate in providing correct prescriptions at the right time! It is how we look at things!

We are used to allowing others and we have often refused to participate or have just not thought about it, or we have often looked to something or someone else to solve the problems that are all around us. It is time for us to become involved in solutions, so that we are not a part of the problem! I challenge you to look inside yourself and outside at the community and it's citizenry and identify PRESCRIPTIONS that you can produce. It may be Just What the Doctor Ordered.

If you find you need help then contact us at www.gracechapelministries.org or send us an email to gracechapeldevelopment@gmail.com. You can also donate to our tax exempt organization.



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Financial Focus – Working Together!

By Joan Cleaveland (cleav73@gmail.com)

Lindenwood University – BA Business Administration

Most people will admit that our great country has been taking on way too much debt and hasn't been very efficient. Government has a responsibility to protect its citizens and keep our finances in check. It's always easy to blame the other party for woes that have been to some extent self-inflicted. And we often don't remember the past as well as we should because we live in the world of social media and instant gratification. When a candidate says he will make major changes on Day One, followers are excited believing problems that have been building for years, even centuries can be fixed immediately!

For those who were caught off guard and believed there was a protocol to follow – surprise! Tackling the efficiency and effectiveness of government is a lot more complicated. In just the first 100 hundred days we've seen DOGE (Department of Government Efficiency) use a chain saw to race through government programs, agencies and departments to save billions of dollars. While it may be great for the media and those unelected people in charge of making it happen, the turmoil and consequences of these actions haven't been fully felt yet. Considering the number of employees slashed from payroll and those who were quickly re-hired when it was realized how badly we needed them, it is estimated that \$160 billion has been saved. So far, the cost of this rampage is about \$135 billion which doesn't include lawsuits brought forth over these changes. Time will tell how these changes will continue to affect us in the future.

For now, let's take a look down memory lane. Believe it or not President Theodore Roosevelt was the first to try to reduce government. In 1905, he created the Committee on Department Methods. Throughout the Twentieth Century there were many more task forces formed looking for opportunities to improve the management of the executive branch of government. Looking back it is easy to see how other problems would get in the way – World War I, the stock market crash and the Great Depression, World War II and so on. Through it all we built a reputation as a World Leader and our economy boomed after World War II. This era seems to be what the MAGA followers are hoping to return to. After our pull out of Vietnam and the high inflation of the seventies, 1981 brought us President Ronald Reagan. In some ways he reminds me of Trump, his conservative view that the problem is "government" resonated with the people.

In 1982, Reagan established the President's Private Sector Survey on Cost Control with an executive order. It was paid for with private-sector contributions and became the Grace Commission saving over \$100 billion with executive orders. However, about 73 percent of their recommendations required Congress to act, so the additional \$88 billion which could have been saved was never passed. Those changes would have affected Medicare and federal pensions which were very controversial. Even with the tax cuts he implemented Reagan left the White House in 1989 with the national debt tripled in just 8 years.



In March 1993, President Bill Clinton set up the National Performance Review which ran through September of 1993. Its purpose was to look at the Government agencies, departments and programs to determine if we could eliminate waste. Over that six month period during his first term, 400 recommendations for change came forth. Many of these recommendations did involve cutting jobs, but what they found was that the biggest savings would come from improving the government procurement system. If anyone is old enough, you may recall Vice-President Al Gore bragging about the cost of a hammer on David Letterman. At that time it was about \$6 at a hardware store, yet the government was paying about \$400 due to the rules, regulations and people involved in procuring this hammer. The Hammer Awards were introduced during the Clinton administration and helped get those working in the government involved in looking for waste. Over his eight years in office Federal workers were reduced by 426,000 and they had the smallest federal government since the Eisenhower and Kennedy years. The government saved about \$136 billion over Clinton's two terms. And like Reagan before him Clinton went through Congress to get much of this done. In some areas he was not as successful, but Congress did work with him on the buyouts and hiring freezes for employees. Most of the savings came from changes in regulations and bringing e-mail and websites for the workers and agencies to become more efficient. For many it may be hard to believe that the government was slow to adopt the new technology.

So back to our current times, blaming our civil servants for the problems isn't the answer. And the concerns expressed by many about Congress sitting this out and allowing the Executive branch to act with a barrage of executive orders to get things done are real. Our government is for the people and we the people have elected the President and the Congress. It is time for them to work together and slow things down a bit. The workforce is just 4% of the federal budget, so as Clinton found out there are many other places to find waste. If our branches of government can work together we can save money on lawsuits that keep cropping up. Remember, we get the kind of government we elect, so do your civic duty by voting and letting your elected officials hear from you. If you have any questions or comments you may send them to cleav73@gmail.com.

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What is Raghib Drinking?

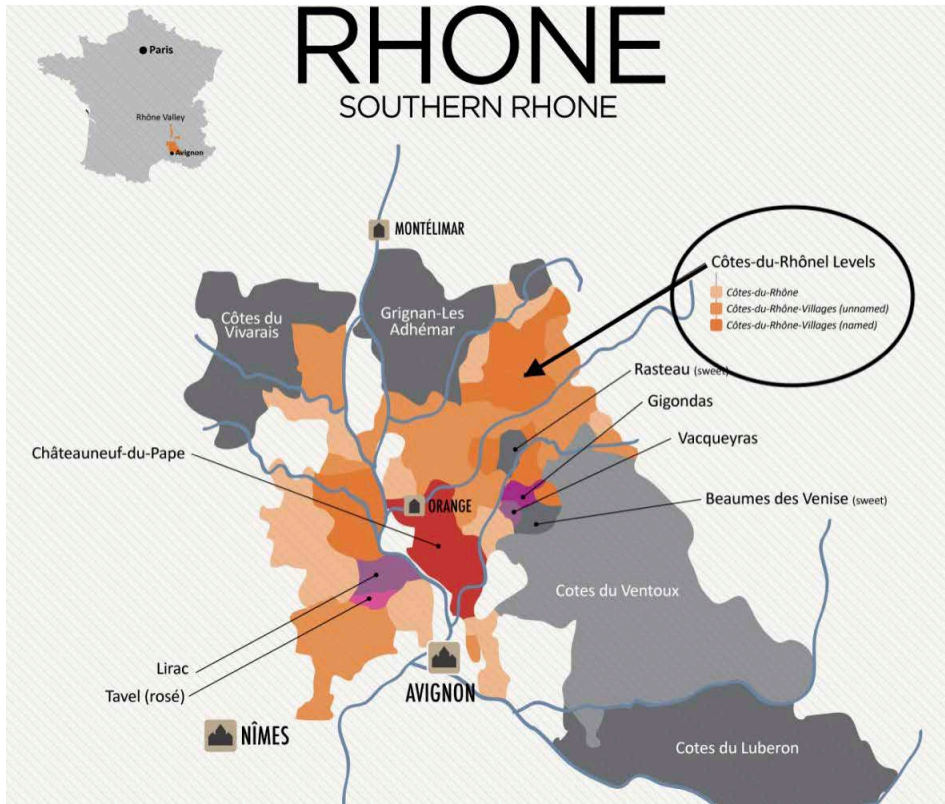
By Raghib

There are times when I feel like I would like to move to France. I usually have this feeling after a very good bottle of French wine. Well, in the last month, I have had some very good bottles of French wine and you guessed it, I would like to move to France (LOL)!



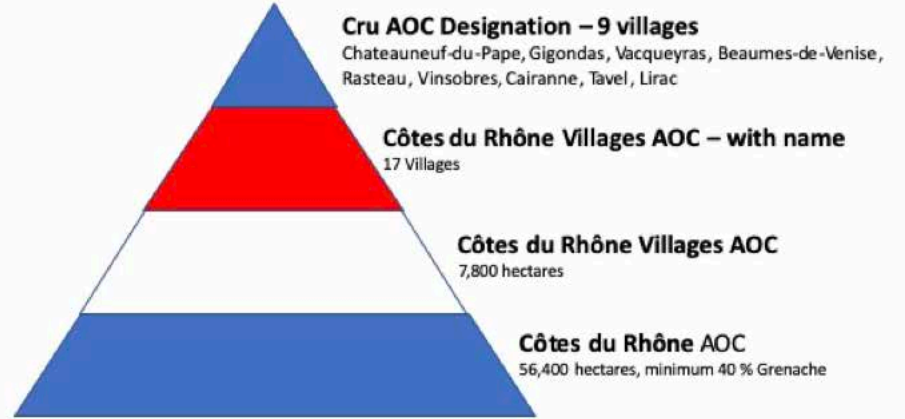
Anyways, if you have been reading the column for a while you have read about the obsession the French have with the word terroir (ter-war), which refers to the microclimate and soil. In the early days of my wine journey, I didn't think much about terroir as I was more into grape varietals. My my my have times changed (LOL). When great terroir is matched with great winemaking techniques, you end up with a great bottle of wine. However, sometimes it is all about the terroir! The Rhone Valley, in France, consists of Northern Rhone and Southern Rhone. For the purpose of this column, I will focus on Southern Rhone.

Côtes du Rhône is the largest area of land and volume. Larger than Napa Valley, the limited yield and strict rules regarding grape variety ensure that high quality wines are produced. Next, we have Côtes du Rhône Villages, which produce wine at a lower volume but tend to have a little more complexity as a result of its unique climate and soil. Next, we have Côtes du Rhône Villages with the name of the village added. For example, Côtes du Rhône Villages Séguret is produced in the village of Séguret. Villages wines typically have lower yield and higher quality. Lastly, Cru wines make up the top classification. There are 9 villages associated with Cru wines. These wines are absolutely fantastic! At the end of this column, I will share one of my favorite Côtes du Rhône Cru's!



According to The World Atlas of Wine (6th Edition), in Southern Rhone "the vines lie on the broad terraces of smooth, round stones warmed by the sun...In the south the dominant grape for red wines is the versatile Grenache, increasingly supplemented by Syrah and Mourvèdre." It makes you want to move to France doesn't it?

There are many appellations in Southern Rhone. In addition to Côtes du Rhône, Among some of my favorites are Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Gigandos, Vacqueyras, and Lirac. Each has absolutely delightful and versatile wines that you will enjoy. In order to understand the wines of Côtes du Rhône, one must first understand its classification for wine.



One of my favorite wines from Côtes du Rhône is Domaine du Pere Caboché. This wine is elegant and has an excellent price point. Smooth with hints of ripe dark fruit, spices, with a hint of tobacco. This wine is so versatile, you can pair it with chicken, pasta, or it can stand alone. I paired it with grilled chicken. Price point, \$14.



Bonus:
To all of my Catholic friends who are reading this column, congratulations on the selection of Pope Leo XIV. I have a special recommendation for you. Earlier in the column, I mentioned one of my favorite Côtes du Rhône appellations is Châteauneuf-du-Pape, which translates to "the house or palace of the Pope". Wine produced in Châteauneuf-du-Pape are an absolute delight! You can find a great bottle for \$50-\$80 and an absolutely incredible bottle between \$300-\$700.

Happy tastings!

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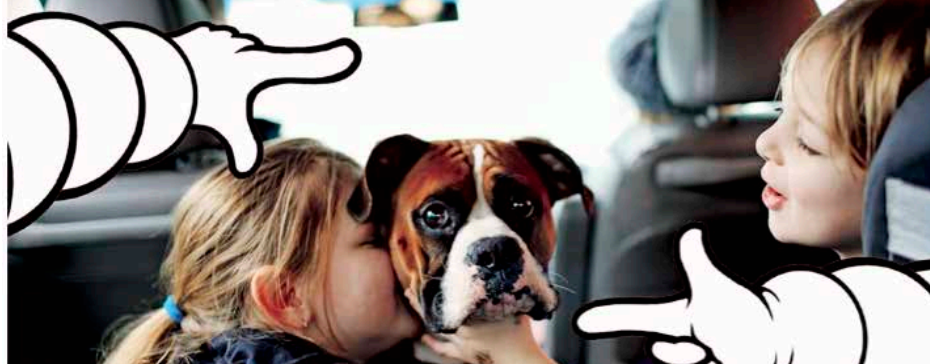
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A Red Circle's Creative Spot Opens in Ferguson with Powerful Two-Day Celebration Rooted in Healing, Youth, and the Arts

Permanent Arts and Wellness Center Launches with Elected Officials, Performances, and a Vision for Restoration

Ferguson, MO (May 2, 2025) — In a joyful, defiant act of community-building and hope, A Red Circle launched its long-awaited A Red Circle's Creative Spot with a two-day grand opening May 2–3 in Ferguson, Missouri. With murals, music, and memory, the new arts and wellness hub formally opened its doors at 414 S. Florissant Road—marking a decade since the Ferguson uprising with color, clarity, and creativity.

The grand opening featured more than a ribbon cutting. It was a declaration that healing is a right, that joy can be infrastructure, and that North St. Louis County deserves sustained investment in its young people and community. A Red Circle's Creative Spot is now a permanent space in the region dedicated to arts, mental health, leadership, and holistic wellness for youth and community members. Through rhythm, paint, poetry, and presence, the weekend will embody the center's mission to fill the very gaps the current administration has widened—especially those left by school arts cuts, underfunded mental health programs, and racial disparities in healing access.

This launch comes at a time when federal support for mental health, wellness, and equity programs is being scaled back. Communities like North County are being told to do more with less. A Red Circle did more — by building The Creative Spot anyway. Despite being excluded from a recent \$3.2 million St. Louis County allocation due to district restrictions, A Red Circle secured over \$200,000 in funding through non-council ARPA-related grants, private contributions, and mission-aligned partners. As Executive Director Erica R. Williams put it: “We weren't invited to the table. So we built our own.”

Ferguson Mayor Ella Jones addressed the city's past pain while highlighting today's celebration of art, healing, and youth. She further recognized A Red Circle's Creative Spot as more than just a building, but a fulfilled promise to the community, acknowledging its phenomenal work in fostering community thriving.



(Left to Right) LaRhonda Wilson, Representative from Congressman Wesley Bell; State Senator Angela Mosley; Jaime Jenkins, President, Greater North County Chamber of Commerce; Mayor Ella Jones; A Red Circle Community Arts Director, Jessica Johnson; A Red Circle Executive Director, Erica Williams; and A Red Circle Community Arts Program Coordinator, Joyce “Lady J” Huston, gather for ribbon cutting at A Red Circle's Creative Spot located at 414 S. Florissant Rd. Ferguson, MO. Photo by Caitlin Ung

“A Red Circle's Creative Spot is where a paintbrush becomes protest, a drumbeat becomes healing, and youth reclaim their power through art. This is what community restoration looks like.”

— Erica R. Williams, Executive Director, A Red Circle

“This isn't about commemorating a tragedy. It's about claiming joy. It's about investing in the everyday magic of our kids and showing them that healing is their birthright.”

— Jessica Johnson, Community Arts Director, A Red Circle's Creative Spot

“The blues is more than sad music. It's survival music. It's what we've always had to keep going—and that's why I'm here. To pass it on.”

— Lady J Huston, Artist-in-Residence at A Red Circle's Creative Spot and National Blues Artist

The weekend opened with a standing-room only crowd at the ribbon cutting ceremony where a slate of elected officials, nonprofit leaders, and residents gathered to mark the historic launch. Mayor Ella Jones reflected on Ferguson's journey and emphasized the power of reclaiming space through

joy. Councilperson Naquittia Noah spoke about the importance of investing in youth as a public safety strategy. State Representative Kem Smith



Lady J Huston performing at A Red Circle's Creative Spot Grand Opening located at 414 S. Florissant Rd., Ferguson, MO. Photo by Caitlin Ung.

presented an official resolution from the Missouri House honoring the space as a critical addition to the state's wellness and equity infrastructure. Remarks were also delivered by Councilperson Rita Heard-Days, and LaRhonda Wilson from Congressman Wesley Bell's office.

A Red Circle's board members stood in solidarity as the ribbon was cut to cheers and music. Tori Sombright, A Red Circle's board member, closed the remarks with a reflection on community trust and the vision this center represents. After the ceremony, guests toured the new space with a festive celebration and previewed upcoming programs.



(Left to Right) Ferguson Councilperson Naquittia Noah, Mayor Ella Jones, ARC Board member Marilyn Alex, State Representative Kem Smith, A Red Circle Community Arts Director Jessica Johnson, A Red Circle Community Arts Program Coordinator Joyce “Lady J” Huston, State Senator Angela Mosley, State Representative Stephanie Boykin, and Mayor Reginald Jones at The Creative Spot Grand Opening located at 414 S. Florissant Rd. Ferguson, MO. Photo by Caitlin Ung.

Quotes & Themes from the Weekend

Healing as Resistance

The event drew on the legacy of Ferguson while pointing forward. With chants of “We are the future” and signs reading “Joy is Justice,” exhibits from youth took center stage as artists, healers, and leaders.

From Protest to Creation

The space builds on ten years of movement memory. “This isn't just a ribbon cutting—it's a generational handoff,” said Erica Williams.

Joy as Infrastructure

“We're done waiting on permission to feel good,” said Jessica Johnson. “This is our healing. And it's permanent.”

Music as Medicine

Lady J Huston's finale of singing and playing the trumpet, was a masterclass in rhythm and release. “This,” she said, “is sacred ground. Because healing at home is the real show.”



(Left to Right) A Red Circle Community Arts Director, Jessica Johnson; A Red Circle Executive Director, Erica Williams; MO State Representative Kem Smith; A Red Circle Community Arts Program Coordinator, Joyce “Lady J” Huston; holding a resolution in front of The Creative Spot's Grand Opening located at 414 S. Florissant Rd. Ferguson, MO. Photo by Caitlin Ung.

God Speaks!

by Doug Neely
JUNE, 2025

GOD says to forgive your neighbor.
Who is your neighbor? Just as Jesus forgives all of mankind, so does He intend that we also should forgive anyone who sins against us, whether we know them or not.

So, how many times should we then forgive our neighbor? As many times as He forgives us. That would mean as many times as is necessary, or, an unlimited number of times.

In the bible, it states a number which is different, according to which book of the bible you are reading from. One example says 70 times 7. Another example is 77 times. 70 times 70 is also used. The reason there is no agreed upon number is to show that there is no limit. These days, if our internet goes out, and we are asked how many times it went out, we may say a million times, to indicate a LOT. There is NO LIMIT to how many times it has gone out.

Yes, there were such things said during biblical times, to indicate A LOT also, just as we do today. Please read the bible in similar fashion.

From Matthew 18:22, the New International Version:
“ I tell you, not seven times, but 77 times.”

Be gracious and magnanimous!

Also, remember that in the Lord’s Prayer, we ask God to forgive us our sins “as we forgive those who sin against us!”

Crossword Solution from page 4

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Ferguson Scouts Thank Paul's Market
Ferguson Scout Troop 608 wanted to share the below picture of Senior Patrol Leader Carson Weyrauch presenting Jerry McClure, owner of Paul's Market a plaque of recognition for all of the support he and Paul's Market has given Troop 608 over the last several years. Paul's has helped us in countless ways.



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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.



We are now in the beginning of Summer in Ferguson – just the time to get outdoors and take a quiet walk, hike or – a bike ride. You certainly do not have to go as far as the Chain-or-Rocks Bridge to ride the Riverfront Trail to downtown St. Louis or as far as St. Charles to ride the Ted and Pat Jones Katy Trail across Missouri or any of the many other great bike trails in the St. Louis Metro. As residents of Ferguson, we have our very own Ted and Pat Jones Trail right here in Ferguson.



The Ted Jones Trail is a 2.2-mile trail between Ferguson and the University of Missouri, St. Louis (UMSL) – you can start at either end. While the trail parallels Florissant Road, it takes you on a tree-lined journey – peaceful and quiet. The trail is monitored by local police and with limited access points is quite secure during daylight hours (Trail hours are 7:00 AM thru 1/2-hour after sunset).

The trail has three major access points. The Ferguson access begins at the intersection of Short and Redmond Ave (the street East of the Post Office) shown at the left. There is limited street parking here, however it is seldom busy.

This is a great point to start as it is the actual beginning – and you get to walk or ride over a bridge over Paul Avenue. Not a big thrill – but a good place to stop and look over the area. When you bike or hike – you are supposed to relax and enjoy the trip.

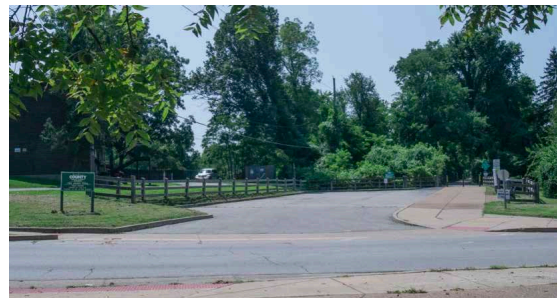
The second starting point is somewhat mid-way. It is on Woodstock between Florissant Road and Bermuda. Here you have an actual parking lot.

This is a 2.2-mile “Rails to Trails” paved trail which starts at 594 feet above sea-level in Ferguson and rises (very slightly) to 623 feet near UMSL. In other words, you have to work a little from Ferguson to UMSL but can coast on the return trip – a great plus.

Along the way you will not only experience the woods, but some unique experiences. About mid-way you will see a 392-foot-long tunnel taking



you under Interstate 70. The tunnel has been decorated by a number of graffiti artists. The Top image is looking East, the second is looking from UMSL – West. The paintings extend into and along the tunnel. After you pass under the tunnel, you are on your way to UMSL.

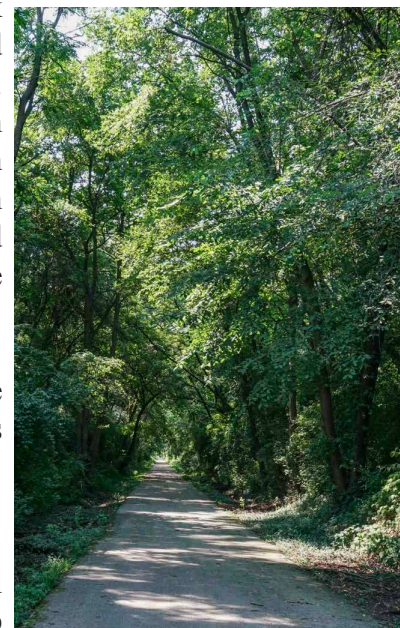


Near the end of the trail, you will pass over a bridge and then it is downhill (really downhill) to UMSL. Great for going, but a tough hill coming back. At the bottom of the hill, you can access the UMSL campus – take the trail on your left – up a very steep hill to campus level. While this is the end of the Ted Jones Trail you can access the St. Vincent Trail on the west side of the campus. This 5.5-mile trail will take you from the North UMSL (main) campus of UMSL through the South campus on the way to St. Vincent County Park.



A Large part of the enjoyment of the trail is the actual trail itself. It is a ride through the trees – a way to get away from the noise of the city.

At note about Ted and Pat Jones. Ted is actually Edward T. Jones (1925-1990), son of the founder of Edward Jones Investments. This husband-wife duo are generous donors to Missouri. Pat Jones (1925-2018) donated her farm to become the Prairie Fork Conservation Area. The couple donated 2.2 million dollars to start the Katy Trail. They are also responsible for the creation of the Confluence Point State Park in North St. Louis County. Their concern was that people from around the world would be able to come to Missouri and see the wonders of nature.



Why not grab your hiking shoes or favorite bicycle and enjoy a part of Ferguson that is free to use and enjoy.

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

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

Mosquitos! Help!!

Marsha DeMere Gebhardt

Kudos to Ferguson! It is one of relatively few municipalities in the St. Louis region that has stopped routine mosquito fogging, as recommended by St. Louis County Vector Control.

Mass mosquito fogging DOES NOT significantly reduce the mosquito population! It only kills adult mosquitoes that are flying at that specific time and are within reach of the spray. It does nothing to kill the incredible number of mosquito larva, that breed in as little as a cap-full of standing water around your house and yard. Instead, the sprayed chemical stays on plants and trees, and kills the beneficial pollinators and the insects and caterpillars that birds feed to their babies.

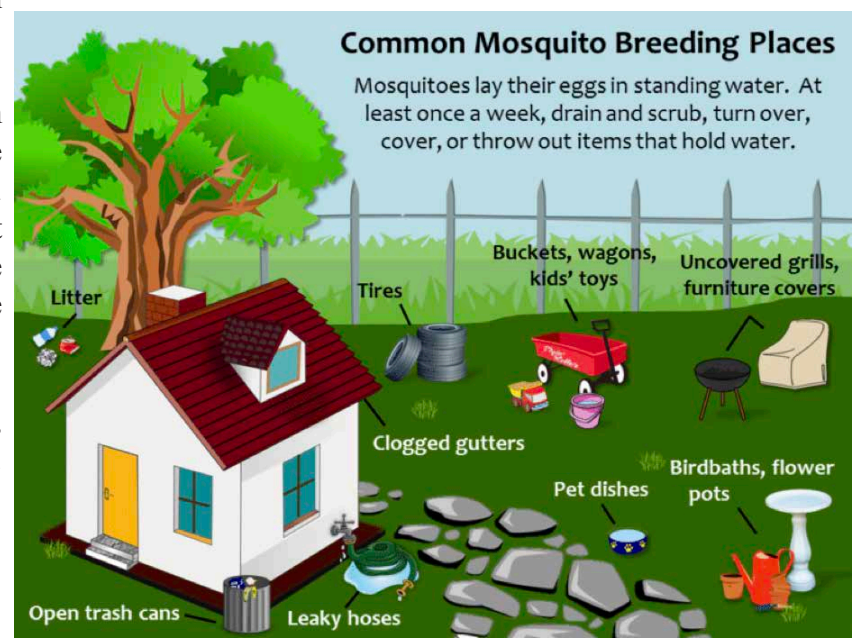
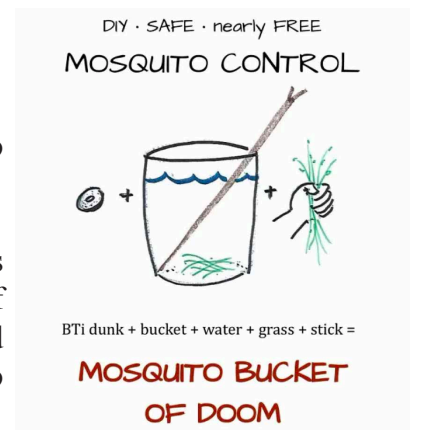
SO...What should we do?! it is up to each of us to reduce the impact of mosquitos on our outdoor living.

Most mosquitos do not carry diseases. They are known as ‘nuisance mosquitos’. These are the ones we can deal with ourselves, in the following ways.

- Prevent them from biting you:
- Have a fan blowing on you and others gathered with you. Mosquitoes are weak flyers, so a fan ‘blows them away’!
- Keep bare skin at a minimum. Wear lightweight long sleeves and long pants.
- Spray yourself, not the air and surfaces.
- Reduce or eliminate the number of mosquitos in your yard by eliminating standing water.
- Make a Mosquito Bucket of Doom! This will attract female mosquitos to lay their eggs in the bucket’s ‘gunky’ water, and the larva will not survive due to the bacteria in the mosquito dunk. (The dunk will not harm birds or most other insects.)

Make your own Mosquito Bucket of Doom! At the Ferguson Farmers Market on June 14th! Ferguson Parks and Rec has purchased the mosquito dunks and the Greening Ferguson Citizens Committee will provide the buckets and instructions. You’ll be welcome to take ingredients for a neighbor or two, as well. (The West Ferguson Neighbors will provide materials to make Buckets of Doom at their June Gathering. Other neighborhood organizations might like to do the same at future neighborhood events.)

Here’s to ‘dooming’ the mosquitos, while celebrating the many other, wonderful, insects...the butterflies, moths, and the many non-stinging native bees and wasps. These are a pleasure to observe, and a vital food source for our native birds.



How Parents Can Help Their Children Prevent Summer Learning Loss

By Teyuna Darris

I want to share a few simple, effective ways you can help your child prevent—or at least reduce—summer learning loss. Whether you have toddlers, early readers, or upper elementary students, your daily efforts matter. Below are practical strategies tailored for two important age groups: Early Childhood and Elementary School.

1.) Early Childhood (Birth to Grade 3)

From birth through third grade, parents and caregivers should focus on language exposure, basic counting, and strengthening both fine motor and gross motor skills—all while supporting their children’s natural curiosity about the world.

You can support your child’s early development by:

Talking with your child daily

Discuss everyday topics like the weather, a book you read together, or a place you recently visited. The more your child hears language, the more their brain develops.

Counting everyday objects

Count buttons on a jacket, chocolate chips in a cookie, stairs in your home, or ceiling tiles in a room.

Tracing letters

Use paper, flour, sugar, or sand to trace letters. This helps children connect hand movement with letter shapes and builds fine motor skills.

Limiting screen time

Encourage the use of books, crayons, paper, toys, and board games instead of phones or tablets.

Narrating daily routines

Use clear, simple language to describe your actions: “Next, we’ll wash the dishes,” or “Later, we’ll count the flowers in the flower bed.”

These everyday activities not only strengthen your child’s foundational literacy and math skills—they also build vocabulary, emotional awareness, and communication confidence.

2.) Elementary School (Grades 1–5)

Between first and fifth grade, your child is developing stronger reading, writing, and math skills. This is also the stage when confidence and independence in learning begin to grow.

You can support your elementary-aged child by:

Encouraging daily reading (15–20 minutes)

After reading, talk with your child about what they understood or enjoyed. Ask questions like, “What happened in the story?” or “What do you think might happen next?”

Keeping a summer journal

Let your child write simple sentences or short paragraphs inspired by drawings or daily experiences. Encourage them to read their entries aloud to family members. This builds fluency, writing skills, and public speaking confidence.

Practicing real-world math

Count change from purchases, measure distances around the house, calculate gas usage, or track grocery prices. Turn everyday tasks into math moments.

Using affordable workbooks

Dollar store learning workbooks (usually \$1.25 each) are great for practicing reading, writing, and math. One page a day can go a long way.

Setting a light routine

Try this: reading before breakfast, math after lunch, and storytelling or writing before bed. Keep it flexible but consistent.

Pairing audiobooks with print

If your child struggles with reading, listen to audiobooks together while following along in a print or digital version of the book. This supports comprehension, vocabulary, and reading stamina.

These low-cost, high-impact strategies help children grow academically while nurturing their confidence, emotional resilience, and love for learning.

I hope these suggestions help you support your child’s academic, social, and emotional development this summer.



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