

# Ferguson

NEIGHBORHOOD

SINCE NEWS 2021



Serving Ferguson and Surrounding Communities

## Harvest Time and School Time

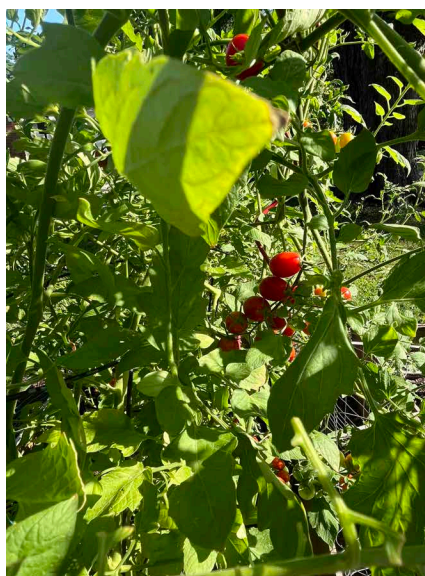
This summer has been brutal as you all know. The tornado's of May completely devastated parts of mid-town and north St. Louis. The blistering heat of July and August paired with the lack of rain has left lawns thirsty and gardens suffering.

Although I planted in May, I'm still trying figure out when my tomatoes will be ready for harvest. I've only gotten a few ripe Better boys, no Yellow boys or Roma's. But my grape and cherry tomatoes are providing me a snack almost anytime I go out to my garden.

I still have a lot of green ones but I thought I would at least have some ripe by now. Anyone like fried green tomatoes?

As I write this, school has started and excited students are ready to get back with their friends. Teams are in training with the anticipation of a winning season. Parents of seniors will begin investigating college opportunities.

We all will be looking forward to the change of season and the crisp cool air of autumn, Before we know it snow, ice, slush and we will be longing for the heat of summer. And so the cycle continues...



Papa Deau



Oh what's a mother to do?

**Second Annual PAWPAW FEST**  
at the FERGUSON FARMERS' MARKET

**RESCHEDULED FOR THE FRUIT!**  
New Date: Saturday, Sep. 20, 2025  
8am-Noon

Fresh pawpaws grown at EarthDance Organic Farm School

Pawpaw trees from Forest ReLeaf

Pawpaw education with farmers & tree experts

Pawpaw treats from local vendors including (but not limited to):

Pawpaw ice cream sandwiches from SugarWitch!

Pawpaw Beer from Natural History Brewing!

Pawpaw booch from Confluence Kombucha!






Learn all about this amazing, native tree fruit! Did you know? Pawpaws can be hand pollinated!

Ferguson Farmers Market  
501 S. Florissant Rd.  
Ferguson, Missouri 63135



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

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**September 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**

<p><b>Stories and Songs for Little ones</b> Join us for storytime! Ages 0-5. <b>Wednesdays at 10 am</b> NO storytime on September 3</p>	<p><b>Lego Club</b> Drop in and build! Ages 6-11. <b>Saturday, September 20 at 2 pm</b></p>
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**Adult Events**

<p><b>Readings on Race Book Club</b> <i>The Message</i> by Ta-Nehesi Coates. <b>Monday, September 8 at 6 pm</b></p>	<p><b>Conversations and Coffee</b> Discuss today's news and events. <b>Tuesday, September 9 at 6 pm</b></p>
<p><b>Coloring Day</b> Relax and color! For teens and adults. <b>Monday, September 15 at 6 pm</b></p>	<p><b>Black Author Book Club</b> Suggest your favorites for our new club! <b>Wednesday, September 24 at 6 pm</b></p>

Save the Date: Financial Planning Basics - October 1 at 6 pm

**All Ages Events**

**Animals in My Backyard with the Endangered Wolf Center**  
What lives in your backyard? What can you do to help your local wildlife? Learn about the large variety of wildlife that may live around you! Plus, meet a special animal friend!  
**Tuesday, September 23 at 6 pm**

<p><b>Fiber Arts Social Club</b> Calling all crafters! Bring your latest project and work while socializing with some fellow crafty people. <b>Thursday, September 11 at 6 pm</b></p>	<p><b>Cultural Cuisine</b> Celebrate International Condiment Month! Register at <a href="http://bit.ly/fmplcultural23">bit.ly/fmplcultural23</a> to save your spot. <b>Wednesday, September 17 at 6 pm</b></p>
<p><b>September Craft Kits</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sept. 2-6:</b> Paper Straw Bracelet</li> <li>• <b>Sept. 15-20:</b> Woven Owl</li> <li>• <b>Sept. 29 - Oct. 4:</b> Moon Phase Hanging</li> </ul>	<p>The library will be closed on Monday, September 1 for Labor Day.</p>

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



## September Celebration Shout-outs

- 5 Happy Birthday Jan Brown
- 15 Happy Birthday Blair Brown
- 21 Happy Birthday Heather House
- 24 Happy Birthday Judy Ruder
- 25 Happy Birthday Rev Patrick Hayden  
(Pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish)



Email Shout-outs to [asroc873@charter.net](mailto:asroc873@charter.net) - deadline is the 15th of each month

## September at a Glance



- 1 Labor Day
- 2 Forestwood Neighborhood Meeting 6-7 PM
- 11 Ferguson Woods Neighborhood Meeting 6-7:30 PM
- 19 NorthHills Neighborhood Meeting 10-11 AM
- 20 Pawpaw fest
- 23 Rosh Hashanah
- 22 South West Neighborhood Meeting 6-7 PM

### Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate -- Ferguson Municipal Public Library District

A public hearing will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, September 22, 2025, at the Ferguson Municipal Public Library District, located at 35 N. Florissant Road. The purpose of this hearing is to allow citizens to provide input on the proposed property tax rates set by the Ferguson Municipal Public Library District, a political subdivision.

The tax rates will be established to generate the revenue budgeted for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025. A table detailing the proposed tax rates will be posted on the Library District's website at [www.fergusonlibrary.net](http://www.fergusonlibrary.net) no later than seven (7) days prior to the hearing date.

The proposed rates fall within the existing tax rate ceiling and do not exceed the rate authorized by Ferguson voters on April 3, 2018. In accordance with Missouri Revised Statutes Section 137.073 and Article X, Section 22 of the Missouri State Constitution, the Library District may adjust the rates as required by law.

### Want to honor your veteran this November?

Let's see how many veterans we can show our thanks to. Send in their name, branch of service, and years they served. We would love to let them know how much we appreciate them.

### Ferguson Church of the Nazarene



Sat. Sept. 20 8am-2pm  
1309 N Elizabeth Ave, Ferguson  
*We have something for everyone.*

### "SAVE THE DATE"

2nd Annual Ferguson Historical Society Fundraiser  
Sunday, Nov 2  
3:00pm - 5:00pm  
[ferghistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:ferghistoricalsociety@gmail.com)

## 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](mailto:asroc873@charter.net)  
Like us on Facebook @fergusonneighborhoodnews  
On-line edition [fergusonsmallbusinessdistrict.com/](http://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](mailto: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**

## GUESS WHO'S OVER 100?

Join us on **Century Home Sunday** when we present commemorative plaques to our lovely historic Ferguson homes

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 14<sup>th</sup> 2025  
1PM - 3PM

Sponsored by the Ferguson Landmarks Commission

Meet at 110 Church Street | Refreshments served afterwards

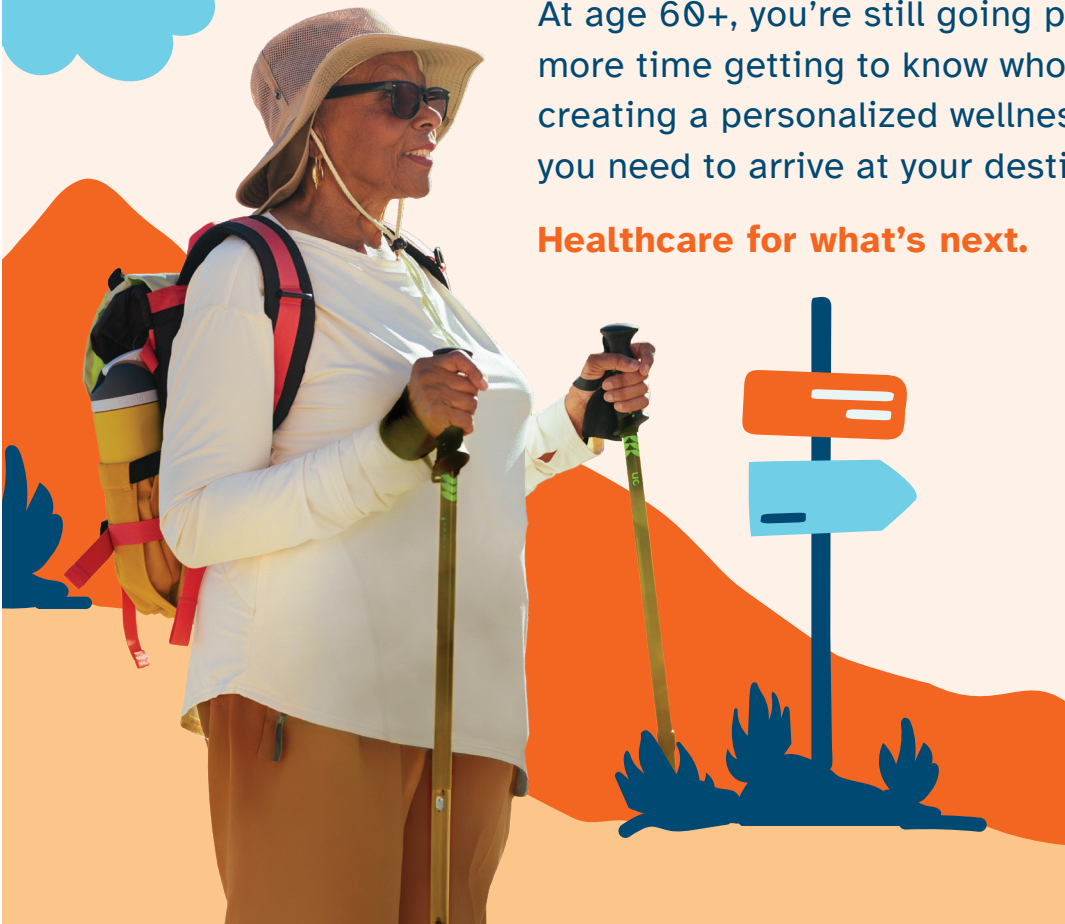
# Is going hiking next on your list?

## We'll support every step.

**Get there faster. With our help.**

At age 60+, you're still going places. That's why our doctors spend more time getting to know who you are and what's important to you. By creating a personalized wellness plan, they can help give you the tools you need to arrive at your destination safely—and with confidence.

**Healthcare for what's next.**



Learn more at [ArchWellHealth.com](https://www.archwellhealth.com) or call (314) 449-9727.

Primary Care for St. Louisans Age 60+



### Ferguson City News - September 2025

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

### SEPTEMBER 2025

- Sept 6 Indigenous Peoples Day
- Sept 13 Blues Day at the Market
- Sept 20 PawPaw Festival
- Sept 27 Enchanted with the Market

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

[FERGUSONFARMERSMARKET.COM](https://www.fergusonfarmersmarket.com)

## SAVE THE DATES!

**October 25, 2025**  
4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

**December 19, 2025**  
5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

[FERGREG.COM](https://www.fergrec.com)

# CROSSWORD

## I Left out the RI

By Robin Shively

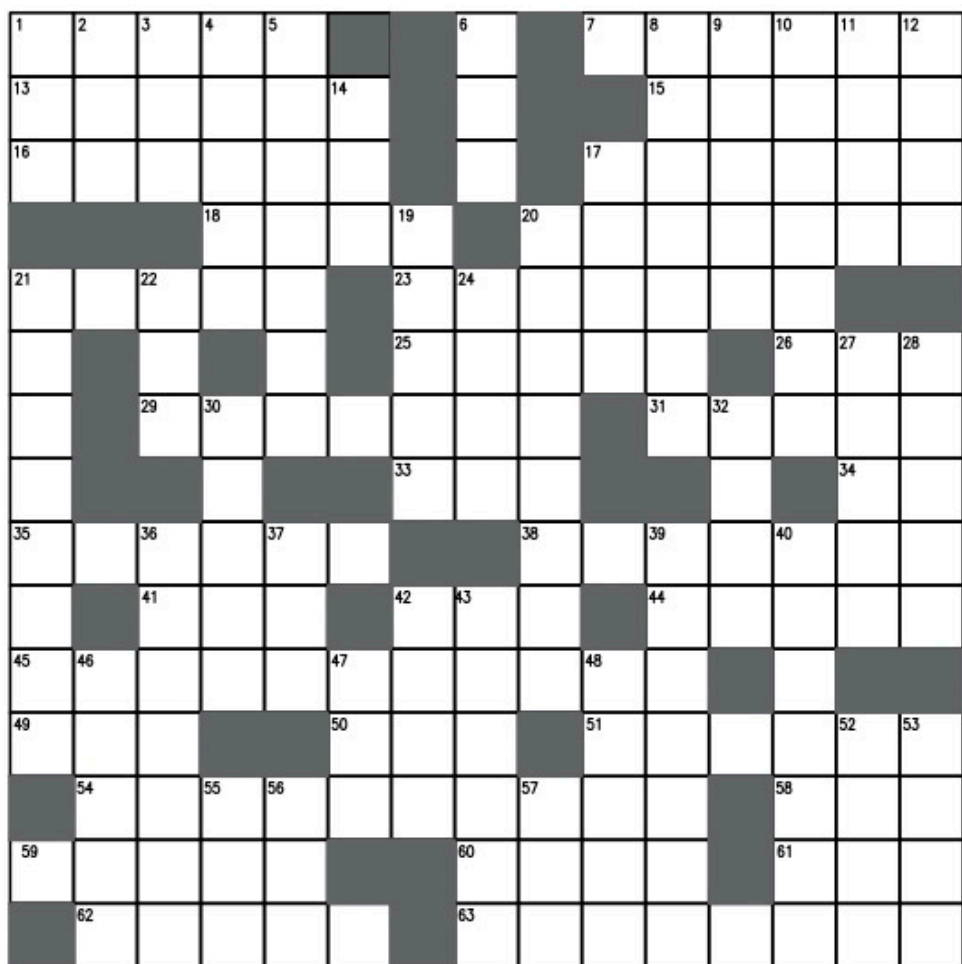
### ACROSS

1. Domingo or Pavrotti
7. Marinara requirement
13. "Denver" diner dish
15. Beetle
16. Quayle got it wrong
17. Often misspelled with permanent ink?
18. Phyllis' hubby
20. Tenon partner
21. Spoke in the plural
23. London trucks
25. White fur of an ermine
26. Rx from Dr. Mom
29. Type of rice
31. Adams with negatives
33. N.O. airport code
34. Bond's antagonist
35. Physics stuff
38. Course for dogs
41. "\_\_\_ the ramparts..."
42. Hosp. heart recording
44. Gets beat
45. Earthy answer misspelled in last month's puzzle?
49. Barrister's abbrev.
50. Wood for Don Ho's instrument
51. Kitschy statues among the daisies
54. Most widely Googled and misspelled word from March 2020 to March 2021
58. Apple picker
59. Adventurous pursuit
60. Change for a five
61. Shallow inlet
62. Steel city on the Ruhr
63. What people often do with several answers in this puzzle, including this one

### DOWN

1. Spinner
2. "Punk rock's moody younger sibling", per Rolling Stone
3. Possible dot follower
4. Start of a Norwegian line
5. Keeps
6. Speller's event
8. N64 game, \_\_\_ of Time
9. Without shine
10. Kahlo and Rivera
11. New Mexico art hub
12. 'Peter and the Wolf' duck
14. Elephant weight unit
17. British politician
19. Before you were a \_\_\_ in your father's eye
20. Wax on, wax off mentor
21. Dorm partner
22. A little will do ya
24. Scraps
27. Dutch spring
28. Satiates with sweetness
30. Late bloomer
32. \_\_\_ contendere
36. Twists
37. Homophone for air
39. Reason for an unscheduled day off work
40. A corresponding part or segment
42. Boys' school on the Thames
43. Coffee plant relative often combined with CBD
46. Ending for Chaplin or Kafka
47. Reggae forerunner
48. '\_\_\_ of God', 1985 film
52. Like Voldemort or Scar
53. Special Navy unit member
55. Ornery beast
56. US 66, e.g.
57. End of cheer heard in Urbana-Champaign

Solution on page 13



## TRIVIA

Put the following scientific discoveries in order, according to which happened first:

- A. The electric battery
  - B. Discovery of Uranus
  - C. The mercury barometer
  - D. The heliocentric model of the solar system/The planets in our solar system orbit around the sun.
- (Answers on page 13)

# ARTFUL CONSIDERATIONS

by Kimberly Kabak Epperson



September 3rd-September 21st \$Ticket costs vary \$20+

Edison Theatre at Washington University  
6445 Forsyth Boulevard St. Louis, MO 63105

### Raisin: The Musical

Chicago's South Side in the 1950s – Mama Lena dreams of a new life in a better neighborhood, but her family members have their own ideas. Jazz, gospel and pop make for a musical treat in this Tony Award-winning adaptation of Lorraine Hansberry's play *A Raisin in the Sun*, presented by The Black Rep.

September 6th 10:00 am-10:00 pm \$50 – \$85

America's Center & The Dome 801 Washington Ave. St. Louis, MO 63101

### 2025 Gospel Music Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and Exposition

Celebrating the legends and trailblazers of gospel music, the 2025 Gospel Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and Exposition features live performances by DOE (Dominique Jones) and MAJOR. The former is a Grammy Award-winning singer, songwriter and musician known for her blend of contemporary worship, gospel and soulful melodies, while the latter has been nominated for a Grammy Award for his R&B-informed gospel sound and devotional messaging. Showcasing local businesses, the expo runs from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., and An Evening of Song, the live performances hosted by Vickie Winans, goes from 7 to 10 p.m.

September 12th 4:00 pm-9:00 pm FREE

North Main St. St. Charles, 63301

### Mosaics Fine Art Festival

Running along historic North Main Street in Saint Charles, the Mosaics Fine Art Festival features diverse artwork from artists across the country, alongside a pet pavilion and a children's village with a creation station. The festival aims to stimulate the community and educate children and adults in art and its ability to enhance their lives.

September 14th 7:00 pm-9:30 pm \$59.50 – \$155.50

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

**Avatar: The Last Airbender in Concert** offers a captivating experience, blending a live orchestral performance of the iconic series soundtrack with an immersive two-hour recap of the animated show's three seasons on a full-size cinema screen. The live ensemble features a fusion of Eastern and Western traditional instruments, all meticulously composed and arranged by Jeremy Zuckerman, the original composer of the show's music.

September 20th 12:00 pm-7:00 pm Free

Tower Grove Park 4256 Magnolia Ave St. Louis, MO 63110

### Frizz Fest 2025 and South Grand Music Fest

Frizz Fest is a Natural Beauty Festival that fosters a safe, inclusive, and vibrant space where the Black community can thrive—celebrating beauty, culture, creativity, and entrepreneurship. Just around the corner on South Grand, there will also be the South Grand Fall and Music Fest from 11am-8pm, which includes more than 70 retail vendors and community organizations, along with ongoing entertainment in Ritz Park. During the event, South Grand businesses will offer varying specials, discounts and entertainment, and tucked between the storefronts, you'll find themed activities, games and crafts.

Sept 21st 8:45pm \$Ticket costs vary \$25+

Touhill Desmond and Mary Ann Lee Theater 1 University Blvd, Saint Louis, MO 63121-4400

### Candlelight: Best of Hip-Hop

Enjoy a unique night of an intimate string quartet performing hip-hop classics like you've never heard them before! In a dim, candlelight setting, this makes for a classy date night that is sure to be inspiring and unforgettable.

September 27th 10:00 am-1:00 pm Free

Mary Meachum Freedom Crossing 28 E. Grand Ave St. Louis, MO 63147

### Mary Meachum Freedom Crossing Celebration

Every year, Great Rivers Greenway celebrates the Mary Meachum Freedom Crossing with a reenactment of her attempt to help assist five enslaved people to freedom at the site. This year's two-part event will tell the stories of the people who Mary tried to help, promoting a theme of unconditional freedom. The free community event also includes food, drinks, children's activities, local artists and makers, live music from various eras and skits that showcase historical scenes from Black communities in St. Louis.



# Hello Ferguson!

by Marian Linck

I love Ferguson. I love the big old trees in our town. I love these trees even when they drop leaves in the pool. I know, people who live in a forest should not have swimming pools. The existence of the pool is not my fault. It came with the big old house. I love the pool despite all the work involved. I love my big old house.

What I do not love in Ferguson is what my husband and I refer to as the “City Plant”, Poison Ivy. Poison Ivy is everywhere in our beautiful hometown of Ferguson.

We have some nice, mature giant trees on our property. What bothered me about these trees were the thick vines growing on the trunk. We thought the vines were unsightly and harmful to the tree. We inspected the vines and determined they would be safe for us to remove from the trees. I guess we did not look closely enough. We both suffered a raging case of poison ivy. I am very allergic to the weed, and the rash took over. I had evidence of our endeavors on my face, hands, legs, everywhere. A dose pack of Prednisone quickly took care of the itch and bumps. I do like the energy boost Prednisone offers as a side effect. I digress.



At this time, we were planning to go on a cruise in the fall. New rules for the cruise industry require passengers to have a current valid passport. We went to Walgreens for our passport photos and completed the paperwork for our first passport. Passport pictures are never great but when you are recovering from poison ivy all over your face...let us just say it was not pretty. When our documents arrived, we were concerned. We commented that if the ship went down in a hurricane and the local news would cover the story about a local couple who were on the ill-fated ship. Our passport photos would be shared on the news and we knew our friends and acquaintances would be concerned. They would wonder what had gone awry in our lives and why we looked so poorly. The boat did not sink, and I am here to tell the tale.

New yard and weeding rules have been established in my family. My husband does not react as wildly to poison ivy as I do. He gets a couple of little itchy bumps here and there while I turn into a giant pustule. I have been forever banned from weeding, and I happily complied, until this summer, that is.

We spent spring and summer preparing our home, pool, and yard for our grandson’s first birthday party. This summer has been extremely hot and with just the right amount of rain. Vines and weeds grew faster than my husband could keep up with. We were losing the battle against rampant growth.

We have a brick wall that separates the back and front yard. The wall runs the width of the property. I happen to love this wall and put Christmas lights on it every year. My affection for said wall increased after a visit to Oxford, Mississippi. William Faulkner had home in Oxford. The property was named Rowan Oak and is now a museum. What I found most interesting about the home was a brick wall along the property. This wall looked so much like the wall in my yard. Both walls are not fancy. They are built with amateurish brick laying, are not straight but both are a lovely addition to their properties. I decided to take care of my brick wall and make it a focal point of our property. THEN, this spring arrived, and vines grew up and over my wall.

Many of you know we are big fans of Wrigley Field; however, my goal was not to have a mini-Wrigley in Ferguson. My husband was struggling to keep up with weed and vine control. I stepped in to save my wall. I got a big heavy rake, careful not to touch the vines and just pulled them off the wall. I did a decent job and so did the poison ivy. Back on the prednisone for the first time in many years. I did once again enjoy the energy boost side effect.

My wall looks beautiful again. The birthday party was wild success. My husband and I plan to park our butts in the pool for the rest of the summer. We are tired but grateful we could host the celebration and share our home with friends and family.



Thank you for letting me share my poison ivy story this month. Did you know goats eat poison ivy? I want a baby goat.

I welcome your comments. Please reach out to me at [manhattanmarian@gmail.com](mailto:manhattanmarian@gmail.com).



## Under The Hood With Robinwood

By Bob McGartland

### Safety Innovations: Seat Belts, Airbags, and Crash Testing - Why We Can't Take Them for Granted

September brings more than back-to-school traffic and the first hint of fall in the air, it's also a fitting time to reflect on the safety features in our vehicles — and how far we've come in protecting drivers and passengers.

Fifty years ago, the idea of buckling up before pulling out of the driveway wasn't second nature for most Americans. Seat belts, though available, weren't mandatory, and few drivers understood how drastically they could reduce fatalities. Today, thanks to decades of education, engineering, and legislation, seat belts are the single most effective safety device in the history of the automobile. They've saved more than 374,000 lives since 1975, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

But safety didn't stop at the belt. The introduction of airbags in the 1980s marked another milestone. These devices deploy in milliseconds, cushioning occupants from the force of a crash. Airbags — now standard in every new vehicle — have prevented tens of thousands of deaths and even more serious injuries.

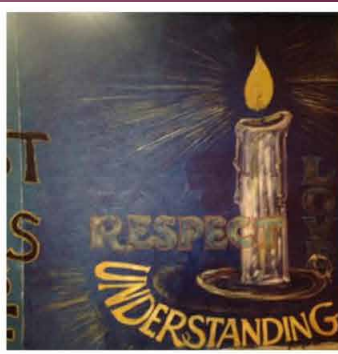
Another breakthrough that often goes unnoticed is the anti-lock braking system (ABS). First appearing in luxury and high-performance vehicles in the 1970s before becoming mainstream in the 1990s, ABS helps drivers maintain steering control during hard braking, especially on slippery roads. By preventing the wheels from locking up, ABS reduces the risk of skidding and can shorten stopping distances in

many conditions. While not a substitute for safe driving practices, this technology gives drivers a better chance to avoid a collision altogether — a reminder that some of the best safety features are those that help prevent crashes in the first place. In addition, ABS works hand-in-hand with modern stability control systems, allowing vehicles to respond more predictably in emergency maneuvers. This integration means that drivers not only stop more safely but also have greater control in challenging weather, such as heavy rain, ice, or snow, which can be common in many parts of the country.

Behind these life-saving innovations lies a less visible but equally crucial practice: crash testing. Automakers and safety organizations put vehicles through punishing simulations to study how they perform in collisions. The data gathered from these tests doesn't just meet regulatory checkboxes — it drives new designs, stronger materials, and smarter safety systems. These tests also help manufacturers improve restraint systems, evaluate side-impact protection, and adapt to evolving road conditions and driving behaviors.

Yet, with all this progress, there's a growing concern. Modern cars are safer than ever, but distraction, speed, and impaired driving continue to claim lives. The best safety system is still a focused, alert driver who uses the tools at their disposal — starting with the click of a seat belt. As September's school buses and commuter traffic fill the roads, it's worth remembering that every innovation we enjoy today came from a hard-learned lesson of the past. These features were built for a reason, tested to extremes, and proven to save lives. Let's honor that legacy by using them every time we drive.

We're here at Robinwood Automotive to help with any of your automotive needs. Visit us [robinwoodauto.com](http://robinwoodauto.com).



**“To give unto them Beauty for ashes The oil of joy for Mourning”**



**N**ot much was reported on the home grown organic and spontaneous movement that was to become known as ‘Pant for Peace.’ Conflict sells in the world of the legacy media. Peace doesn’t. From August 9 through 24, 2014, peaceful protests during the day became destructive by night. Yet hundreds of colorful paintings were painted by hundreds of colorful people. Lydia my flower 🌸 girl daughter came home from California to join in the fray. the store she chose had been a salon where half of Queen’s clients were able to walk to her. The painting hangs in a place called the ‘DELMAR DEVINE’. It’s too bad it does not hang in Queen’s salon. Many minorities’ businesses would never open again. There was a prayer tent set up away from the of the eyes 🌍 of the world, but not from the eyes of God. I washed the feet of Michael Brown’s uncle one night. Healing ❤️ had to happen. May it continue, Just like this paper....

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 Merferd.com



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

By Joia Walker

September is bringing us beautiful weather and great events! The second annual Pawpaw Fest is happening this month, and we can’t wait! This amazing fruit is sure to draw a crowd to the Ferguson Farmers Market, on September 20th, from 8am-Noon. Make you’re there to try this sweet, custardy native fruit!

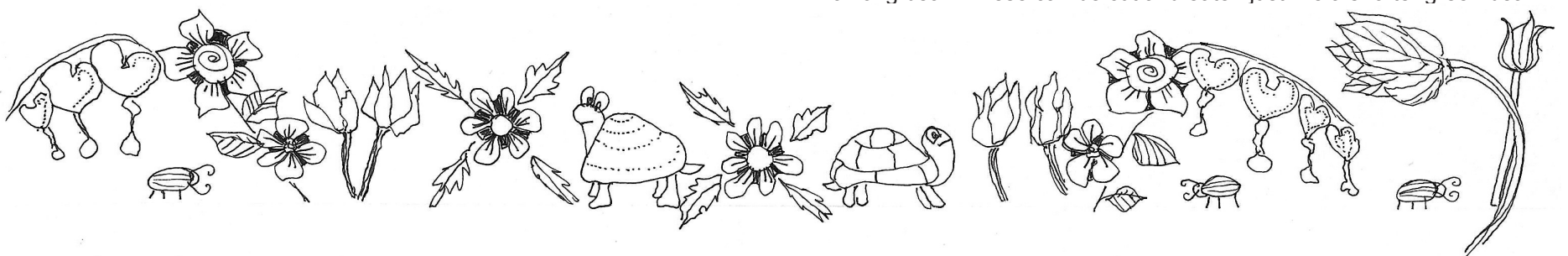
What else is fresh this month? Green beans! These beautiful beans, from the fabaceae or legume family, are in bloom and are packed with nutrients. Green beans help lower bad cholesterol (LDL) levels, reducing the chances of heart disease. These vibrant colored beans contain folate (vitamin B9) and potassium (an essential mineral & electrolyte) which assist in lowering blood pressure. Green beans are not only healthy but they’re also tasty! This versatile bean can shine like a star in a casserole or compliment the perfect protein. Green beans also make a great dehydrated snack for the kiddos!

Be sure to grab your green beans at EarthDance (233 S. Dade Ave. Ferguson, MO 63135) during PWYC Farm Stand hours (Fridays 3pm - 6pm & Sundays 11am - 3pm) or at the Ferguson Farmers Market, (501 S Florissant Rd. Ferguson, MO 63135, 8am - 12pm) and try this recipe from www.thegardengrazer.com



EarthDance Full Season Apprentice Adara Ameer holds a freshly harvested Thai long bean. These can be cut and eaten just like a shorter green bean!

Photo by Annie Henehan



## The Women's Safe House, Affinia Healthcare join forces to support domestic violence survivors

ST. LOUIS, MO – The Women's Safe House (TWSH) and Affinia Healthcare have entered a partnership to provide healthcare services to survivors of domestic violence through a new offering, The Health and DV Program.

Survivors of domestic and sexual abuse, human trafficking, sexual assault, and stalking seeking help from TWSH will now receive primary and preventative healthcare services through this partnership.

“Survivors who have broken free from a traumatic environment need a wide range of supports to help them recover and move to the next chapter of their lives,” said Candace Henderson, Director, Community Health. “Often, they are starting over and support for their physical and mental well-being makes for a strong foundation. We are honored to provide these services at this critical point in their lives to help survivors rebuild and move forward.”

The Health and DV Program is designed to support underserved members of the community who have experienced trauma due to domestic violence and related forms of abuse. Affinia Healthcare will accept referrals from TWSH for primary and secondary survivors

(women and children) and deliver medical, dental, psychological and other services within 24-48 hours of the referral. Affinia Healthcare will also provide transportation for survivors (when available or necessary) and offer on-site health education.

TWSH also agrees to provide comprehensive support services – including safety planning and advocacy – to all individuals referred by or connected to Affinia Healthcare due to DV-related concerns.

TWSH also agrees to provide comprehensive support services to all individuals referred by or connected to Affinia Healthcare due to domestic abuse-related concerns. These services include — but are not limited to — crisis intervention hotline, safety planning, advocacy, emergency shelter, case management, counseling, legal aid, housing assistance, and 12 months of aftercare.

Also a part of the agreement is for staff from both organizations to participate in ongoing training focused on identifying and responding to domestic violence.

“While some effects of DV are immediately visible – like bruises or broken bones – others may not surface until later,” said Aja Buie, TWSH Director of Residential Services. “Conditions like gastrointestinal issues, cardiovascular problems, and other chronic illnesses are often overlooked, yet may stem directly from abuse. Through this program, TWSH and Affinia aim to remove systemic barriers to care for those traditionally underserved by the healthcare system.”

The partnership began in June 2025 and will run for a year, with an option to renew after June 2026.

If you or someone you know needs assistance with a domestic abuse situation, please call the TWSH hotline, 314-772-4535.

## The Consent Decree / A Path Forward the Took Us Backward

This is a response to a guest editorial from the last issue; “Our Path Forward with the Consent Decree”, by Blake Ashby, insisting Ferguson follows through with the decree. Many residents don't know what the ‘consent decree’ is. So in a nut shell, through pressure from President Obama's Department of Justice, because of what transpired regarding Michael Brown, and past policing practices, the city of Ferguson agreed to being fined \$450,000 a year, and submitting to community policing training. Almost immediately Ferguson had begun an about face on its own. As for the punishment portion of the decree, the heavy fines haven't helped our city, but have hurt our city, hampering our cops from doing their job.

The consent decree was not meant to better ourselves, but to make an example of us. And over 6 million dollars later to extort us. What has the DOJ done for our police force that they haven't already done? Eruptions at council meetings were mentioned. I've attended, and some of the council have been personally insulted because of their stance, the chamber packed with those wanting to keep paying the piper. I've submitted a request through the SunShine act to discover to whom the fines were dispersed. The 6- \$7,000,000 should have gone into the betterment of the under-served areas of Ferguson.

Our schools and teachers have since suffered, public works cut in half, the police hogtied, and lawlessness unleashed. Instead, all these years the money has flown to never never land, to a law firm associate of a past administration, and their ‘monitor’ who shows up once a year. Ferguson ‘paid’ exorbitantly, as many businesses, mainly owned by minorities suffered looting, vandalism, and arson fires during the riots, never to recover. And when anarchy again descended during the ‘peaceful protests’ of 2020, our city, our citizens, our minority police force and more businesses were assaulted and shut down once more.

The council is 4 to 3 in not sending another dime of filthy lucre. But unless the consensus is unanimous, when the next deadline happens in December to pay up, media reports, from St Louis to across the country will COLOR the saga, stirring up strife upon our city again. Sadly, conflict sells. We have been threatened by certain powers that be, that we could be fined for not paying the fine. This punishment for the sins of our past was supposed to last three years, not ten. In the beginning of his opinion last month, Ashby said that Ferguson wants to force the judge to end the consent decree. Rather I submit that most of us want to cease being forced fined for a past that's long gone, or in the ground. In September the council resumes meeting twice a month on second and fourth Thursdays at 7:00 pm. Sign up to speak is 6:45.

Wendell Phillips ‘Phil’ Berwick  
Ferguson



# Ferguson Needs to go after Derelict Property Owners

Ferguson needs to go after derelict property owners. The tools are available – the City just needs to start using them.

Jeske Park where we live is one of the many nice neighborhoods in Ferguson, different sized homes and lots, near January Wabash Park and our Jeske Park. It's a little bit of suburban heaven.

But like too many of our neighborhoods, we have that one really bad derelict house, vacant for well over a decade. The owner in California paid the property taxes and nothing else – no house maintenance and no yardwork. Two years ago Ferguson had a cleanup day and a few of us cleared out the trash and debris. The City periodically mows the front yard and paid to remove a tree that fell on the roof. But that's it. The gutters are hanging off, windows have been boarded up, the siding is starting to pull away. It looks like a house in an abandoned part of St. Louis City.

The owner next door commented that it will be practically possible for him to eventually sell his house; nobody is going to buy a house next to a derelict property. And of course, he is not the only homeowner impacted. It's an old saying, but still true: it takes a village to raise property values. All residents of the neighborhood have to maintain their property for values to rise. A single derelict property can become a cancer, causing appraisers to lower values and dissuading people from buying houses in the neighborhood.

Different factors have impacted Ferguson's housing stock. Changes in code enforcement mandated by the Consent Decree. Turnover of the City's code inspectors. The national trend of companies buying up single family homes to turn them into rentals. The three years of tax delinquency requirement before a property can be auctioned off. All have made it harder for Ferguson to hold property owners accountable.

Yet despite all of this, there are still options for Ferguson to go after derelict properties.

The Missouri Abandoned Housing Act allows the Ferguson Neighborhood Improvement Program (FNIP) to sue to take possession of derelict properties that are only one year behind in taxes. When I was on the

Ferguson Council we started working with FNIP and Legal Services of Eastern Missouri to initiate two or three lawsuits, with the City offering to pay the legal costs. These were to be used to create a legal template that would streamline the process and reduce costs. Unfortunately this initiative seems to have petered out – to my knowledge, no lawsuits were ever filed.

Ferguson can also directly sue derelict property owners for the City's cost of maintaining their properties. They either have pay up or the City gets a judgment and eventually the property is auctioned off. Again, when I was on the Council, we laid the groundwork. The City clarified its process for placing liens on the derelict properties and changed procedures to only require one notice per year for ongoing property maintenance violations. Both of these changes provide the basis for filing lawsuits against derelict property owners.

Ferguson can't afford to sue every derelict property owner, but we can afford to sue a few each year. And we can send threatening letters to other derelict property owners, telling them they are on the list. At the very least, it will cause some to pay up, giving the City more budget to do more derelict property maintenance. A few will decide the hassle isn't worth it and sell. To put it bluntly, we need to inflict as much pain as possible on derelict property owners, to either get them to shape up or get out of our city. However again, unfortunately the City seems to have ended this initiative.

It's a shame the City is not doing everything it can to address derelict properties. Ferguson is a beautiful city, and judging from the number of young families moving in still a wonderful place to live. It's gotten rough around the edges in spots, and we have some work to do to get us back to where we were. But it can be done. Ferguson has the tools to make a difference. We just need to start using them.

Blake Ashby served on the Ferguson City Council.



# The Garden Studio Cafe Story (part two)

## Meet Me At The Corner

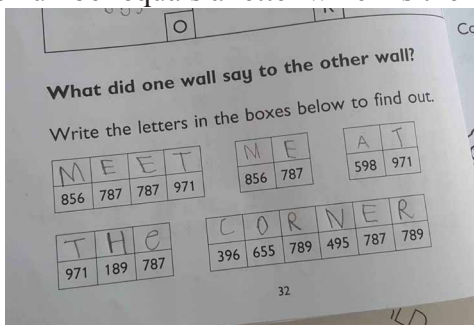
Last month I informed you that opening The Garden is a miracle. But this is one visible outcome of a long series of invisible realities that have taken place over the last seven years. Recently, at least three separate individuals have said, “Welcome to the neighborhood! We are so glad that you’re open! Some poor guy owned this place for years trying to get something going but never could. I don’t know what happened to him but thankfully you all did it!” Well, for the record, I’m that guy and this is that.

Nationally, we pride ourselves upon the idea of the American dream. From race and culture, to immigration and public policy; we tend to place value on people or situations where we sense the presence of grit, determination, and stick-to-itiveness. Hollywood found out long ago that humans are hard-wired for a good underdog story. Yet the real world is really difficult. Our journey was equally wrought with hope, hardship, hospitality, and hostility. I mentioned that at least five miracles took place and it was these types of undeniable divine interventions that kept me in the fight when it seemed like there was no reason to keep going. I’ll share one.



It was a September day in 2018 and the Corner coffee shop had been on the market for sale for a long time. I looked at it several times, dreaming about what could be if we were able to purchase it. I was outside doing some yard work, conversing with God. I often speak to Him as though

I’m having a normal conversation with a human. While raking leaves I simply said, “I just don’t get it. How would we pay for this if we were to get a loan for it? What could we do? How do the numbers add up?” All of a sudden an idea popped into my head and I saw a phrase just as clearly as I could see the grass underneath my rake, “Meet Me At The Corner”. I imagined an ongoing community event where we could come together and talk about really challenging things, but in a way that ultimately leads to healing and brings transformation across the divides. Then, I thought about how much these types of conversations are needed everywhere so I imagined some of them on a podcast or media channel. I got so excited about it that I ran into the house to share the idea with my wife, who was busy homeschooling our child at the moment. I burst into the house but before I could say anything, my daughter (who was about 7 years old at the time) interrupted excitedly and said, “Dad! Guess what I just spelled?” She had been doing a math assignment where you add numbers together and if you get the correct answer, the number equals a letter which is then placed in a box at the bottom of the page in order to spell a sentence. She showed me the sentence, “Meet Me At The Corner.” My legs almost failed me from the shock of it all! While I was outside asking about the numbers, she was inside literally adding them up; and we arrived at the same answer.



After at least two more related miracles, we closed on the sale in February 2019. With a high of 8 degrees fahrenheit that day, I entered the building to find that a pipe had burst and dumped about two feet of water into the space. Further, black mold had been growing behind the walls for a long time, but had gone undetected in the inspections. To deal with it properly, walls would need to be opened and professional remediation would begin to turn our minor refresh into a major total renovation project. The remediation was followed by two years of global pandemic, the theft of over \$90,000 from a contractor who did not do his job, compounding construction challenges to bring it up to modern code standards, political blockages, and consistent defamation of character by some in the community.

Despite what felt like all of hell raging against the work at times, more miracles followed and we became even more determined. Today we are not the Corner Coffee House, but we have planted The Garden where hope grows at the intersection of coffee, culture, community, and controversy. With it, we’re answering at least three calls to action from the Ferguson Commission. But most of all, we’re answering the call of Christ, to love our neighbors. Maybe you need a coffee, a place to meet a friend, or a miracle? Either way, we’ve prepared a place for all to come and experience a sense of joy. Feel free to meet me there.



# What is Raghib Drinking?

By Raghib

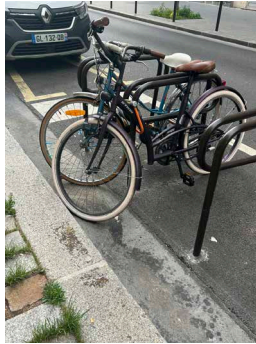
When you arrive in Paris, there are reminders that you are in an old city. The architecture of the building, the narrow and walkable streets, the smell, and of course, the cafés. Cafés are the life blood of Paris, lovers sit close and gaze into each other's



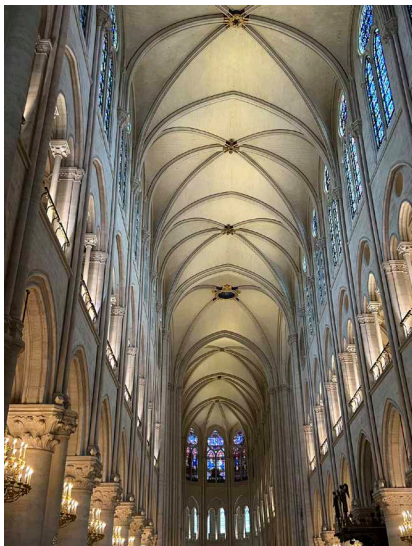
eyes there, people read books there, and a mom, after a hard days work, will sit down and order herself a glass of wine and Coca-Cola for her young child before their bus arrives (it was amazing to witness). I guess it's all a part of the magic of Paris. I was happy to be back in Paris, it was exactly as I remembered it!

One of the first things that I do when I arrive at an international destination is to walk and spend some time outside in the sun. Walking gives me an opportunity to explore and get a sense of the environment and spending some time outside in the sun helps to counterbalance the jetlag. We

arrived at our hotel midday and I decided to go for my usual walk. Paris was alive, people were walking and riding bikes. It appeared that everyone had a destination. Cars were present, but seemed to blend into the environment, they are simply an accent, a prop in the play of life. The cars are much smaller here and are in a sense, secondary. The walking or cycling pedestrian is dominant, cars yield when one desires to cross the street. I'm not sure that I would be given that kind of courtesy in downtown St. Louis!



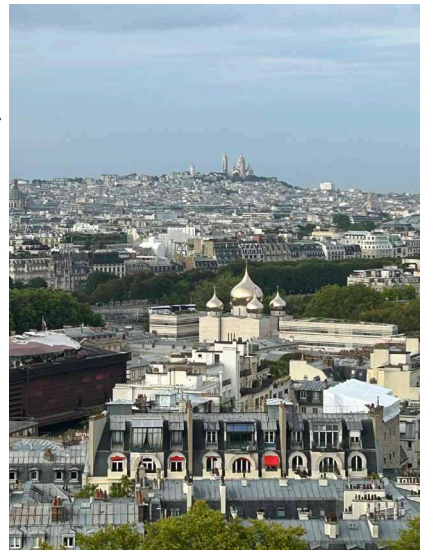
When I returned from my walk, we decided to explore the city as a family. We asked the hotel concierge directions to Notre Dame, as we were all



eager to see how the renovations would look after the devastating fire. His directions were that when we exited the hotel to make a right and keep walking until you get to the Seine River and then make a left and keep walking until we see Notre Dame. We started our walk but just as we were leaving, the rain started to pour down. We were prepared! We went back to our rooms and grabbed our rain jackets and started our journey. We did exactly as we were told by the hotel concierge and arrived at Notre Dame about 20 minutes later.

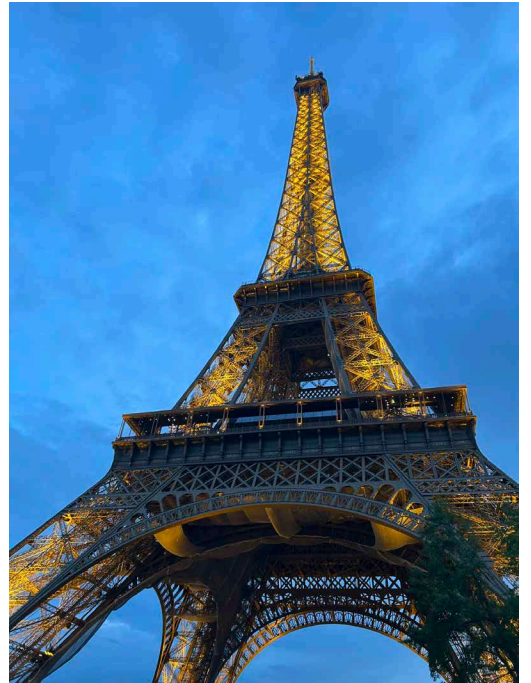
It was hard to imagine that just a few years ago that Notre Dame was engulfed in a massive fire that destroyed the structure. They were still completing touch up work on a few areas, but overall it was about 99% complete. The line was long to enter, but was moving very quickly. We entered the line behind a group of teenage girls, who were quite chatty.

As we arrived at the entrance, security pulled the girls aside and told them they could not enter because they were dressed inappropriately. The majority of them had on mini skirts. As we entered Notre Dame, my oldest remarked that he smelled smoke. I inhaled and agreed that there was a quaint smell of smoke. Quietly, I explained to him that a few years ago the structure was almost lost to a fire.



Other than the faint smell of smoke, you could not tell that this structure was almost lost a few years ago. I imagine that the restoration and rehab were rigorous and detail oriented. We left Notre Dame, and decided to take a different route back to the hotel. Because we were hungry, we found the perfect little cafe and ordered lunch and people watched. There are really sophisticated people in Paris, even their pets are sophisticated! After we finished eating and people watching, we took the 20 minute walk back to our hotel. We arrived at our hotel a little after 5:00 p.m. We had time to relax before we would make our way to the Eiffel Tower. It was now 7:00 p.m and we had tickets for 8:00 p.m. Rather than risk being late by taking the train, we decided to Uber there. A few minutes after entering the Uber, everyone was fast asleep except for me. Because of traffic, the ride took about 45 minutes. When we arrived, the sheer number of street vendors caught me off guard. They were selling t-shirts, hats, Eiffel trinkets, and an assortment of other items. It reminded me of walking 125th street in Harlem when it was lined with vendors. When we gained entry to the tower, we proceeded to head to the stairs. When I purchased our tickets in advance, I chose the stair option instead of the lift as I figured trekking

up over 600 stairs would be a more memorable experience for our family. The climb was much easier than I anticipated. It took us about 10 minutes to get to the first level and another 10 minutes to get to the second level. The views did not disappoint! We took a few photos and read about the history of the Eiffel Tower. It was surprising to read that 24 people are contracted to paint the Eiffel by hand and the color of the tower has gone from golden, to orange, and now brown. We descended down the Eiffel Tower rather quickly, I would say it took us about 10 minutes to reach ground level. It was now about 9:50 p.m. and the sun was starting to set. As we were leaving, we looked back and the lights of the tower were starting to light up the sky.



Part two will continue in next month's column. I hope that you have enjoyed reading. Happy Tastings!

## Recycling: Simple as 1-2-3

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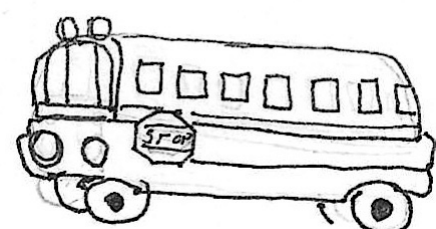
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# Financial Focus – The Costs of Cutting the Budget!

By Joan Cleaveland (cleav73@gmail.com)

Lindenwood University – BA Business Administration

After the August recess, Congress is returning to Washington to work on spending bills for the coming year budget which begins October 1st. This is when the finger pointing starts and threats of a government shutdown come about. Or lawmakers pass a short-term spending measure to allow more time to get the budget passed without shutting down the government. As I mentioned last month, some of the cuts to come have been identified and all fall in the discretionary spending category. Since Trump has already been able to pass his Big Beautiful Bill prior to the actual budget, we know that nearly 4 trillion has been added to our already astronomical deficit. So to get a balanced budget significant cuts will be required.

If you recall from last month, mandatory spending includes Social Security, Medicare and other entitlement programs. As implied this spending is required, so cutting expenses must come from the Discretionary Spending category which includes about 50% for defense with the rest for education, transportation, housing, environmental, science, and social service programs. As we've already seen, some of these programs have been alerted to big cuts for the new fiscal year. With little discussion our lawmakers have fallen in line with the President's wishes first passing the Big Beautiful Bill and now helping slash programs and agencies that were put into place over the past century to provide for the needy, the arts, education and the environment.

Last month, I looked at the Department of Labor which had several sections combined and others completely eliminated. Now let's look at the cuts to the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB). It was created in 1967 as a private nonprofit corporation authorized by Congress with the Public Broadcasting Act of 1967. As a steward of the federal government in public broadcasting it has been the largest single source for funding public radio, television and related online and mobile services. Its purpose has been to ensure universal access to non-commercial, high quality content and telecommunications services. It distributes more than 70% of its funding to 1500 locally owned public television and radio stations. Most young people today do not remember a world where there was no Sesame Street or Mister Rogers. Would Ken Burns have ever been able to make his historical documentaries we've enjoyed through the years? And the news from PBS News and other programs from across the globe are perhaps the least biased accessible by all. Back in May the President called for an end to "taxpayer subsidization of biased media" with an executive order. He went

further to say PBS and NPR do not represent "fair, accurate, or unbiased portrayal of current events to taxpaying citizens." So in July, the Senate's Appropriations Committee rescinded 1.1 Billion in funding the CPB that had already been approved. While millions of Americans called and wrote Congress to try to prevent losing the funding the CPB will be closing at the end of the fiscal year September 30th. A small staff will remain to completely close out operations within the next few months. Donations to support PBS and NPR stations have been pouring in, let's hope we can keep them going. Like many programs it is hard to measure the value in dollars, and I will say it doesn't seem right that an Administration that doesn't agree with a media outlet that provides such good programming especially in rural areas not always accessible to everyone may be struggling now. Communications to reach all of our citizens is important and nearly 50 years ago, it was considered essential. A couple of other communications providers created over 50 years ago are also on the chopping block. Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty. During the Cold War in 1949, Radio Free Europe was created and based in Germany to provide news from the United States to Eastern European countries. In its early years, it received funds covertly from the CIA through an anti-communist front organization the National Committee for a Free Europe. Eisenhower's Crusade for Freedom Campaign helped promote RFE. It was believed that the Cold War could be fought by political rather than military means. Radio Liberty was formed by the American Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia in 1951 and broadcast to the Soviet Union. Several European countries have already joined to fund Radio Free Europe and keep it going. It is sad and concerning to see these major cuts to areas that may result in other non-monetary costs, but affect our lives in the future and our reputation across the globe. Yet, we must address our growing deficit and from what we are seeing, it doesn't look like this is really going to solve that problem. Expenses for defense, and border security are going up and we'll need to cover the nearly 4 trillion increase from the Big Beautiful Bill passed in July. So the 9 billion cut from Foreign Aide, PBS, and NPR does seem rather small.

Last month, I had suggested that perhaps those savings could be directed towards the deficit and not just put into other programs. Alas that doesn't seem to be the case. As I mentioned last month many economists will tell you there are only four ways to reduce our deficit – first keeping inflation under control, second to maintain a stable and responsible government, third to decrease spending and finally to raise taxes. Next month, I'll look at the first two ways to reduce the deficit and how we might be doing in those areas. Remember this affects us all and we may need to prepare for a bumpy ride. If you have any questions or comments you may send them to cleav73@gmail.com.


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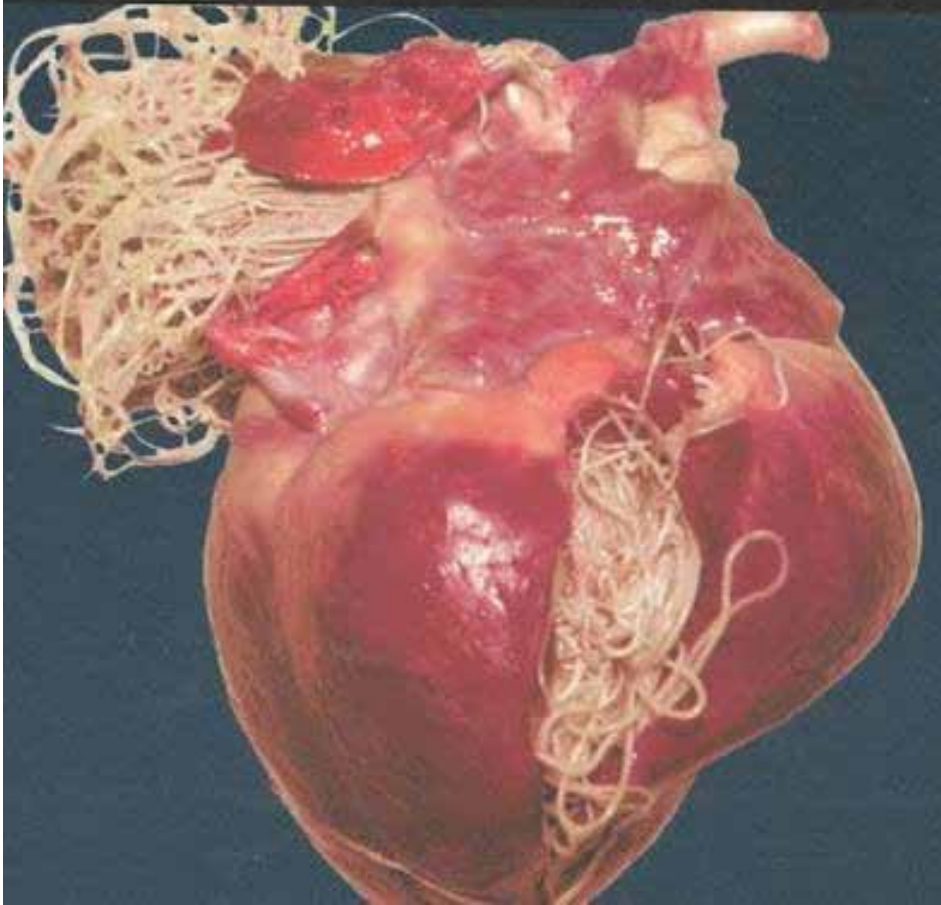
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# HEARTWORMS



# KEEP THE WORMS OUT OF YOUR PETS HEART



So, what exactly is heartworms?

Many pet owners do not know about this common and very often deadly (but preventable) disease that is transferred by one single mosquito bite from an infected mosquito to a dog or cat (although not as frequently, for a cat). Specifically, it's a serious and potentially fatal disease caused by parasitic worms that look like spaghetti noodles (up to 12' long) that take over your pet's heart and lungs. Heartworms result in severe lung disease, heart failure, and other organ damage. The death from heartworms is basically like strangulation of your pet over a period of time.

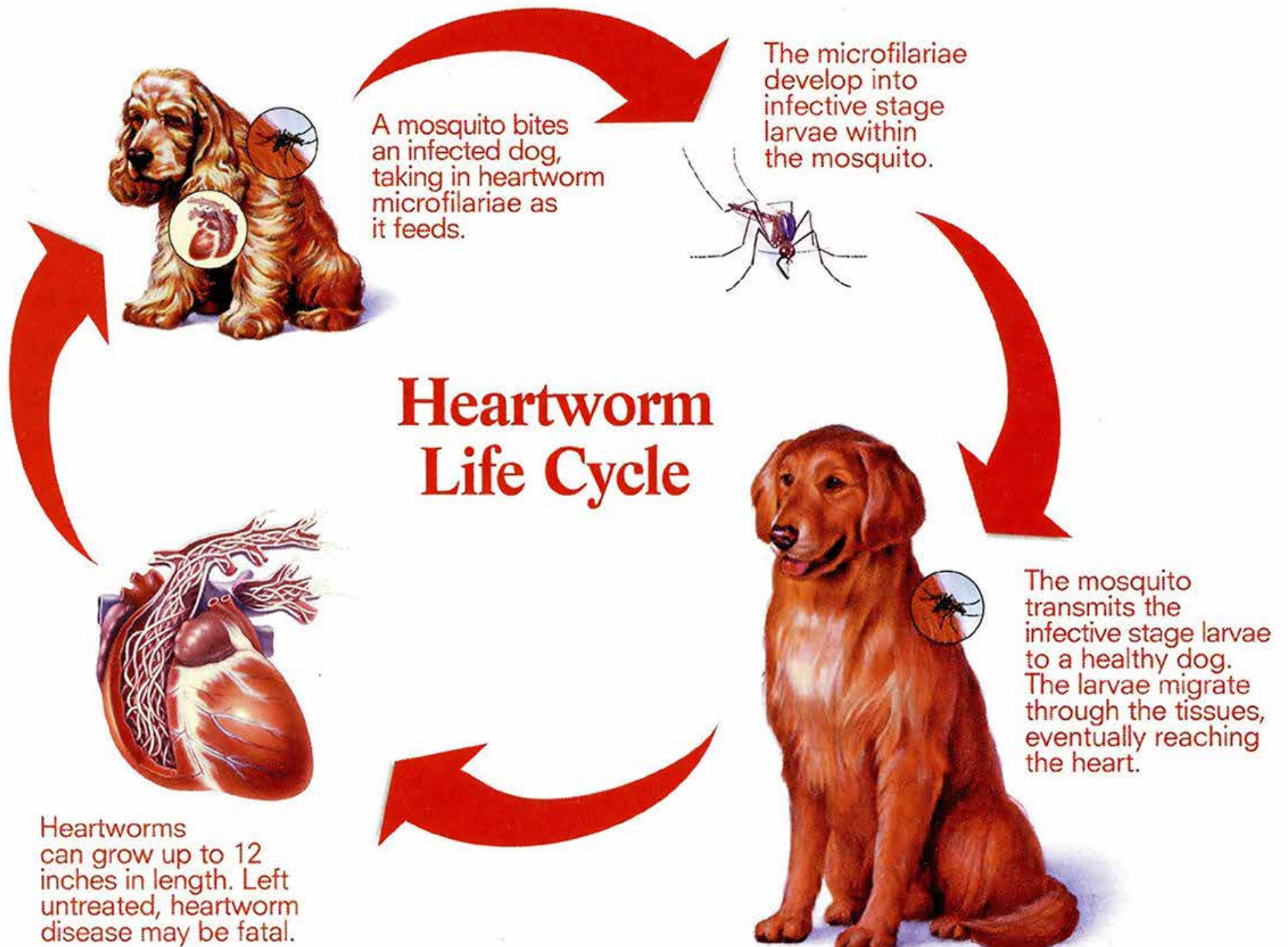
As we all know here in Ferguson, those pesky little mosquitoes are everywhere and they are always scouring the area for a tasty host to bite. And with global warming, these pests linger on into Fall and even Winter months. Too often those victims are your dogs. Outdoor cats can be at risk too, which is one of many reasons to keep your cats inside as indoor-only cats, where they will be safe from predators and cars, too.

If your pet contracts heartworms, it is not contagious to humans or other pets but these worms fester and grow, embedded in your dog or cats' heart, and will eventually and likely cause a very agonizing and painful death.

**PREVENTION IS KEY!** When your pup or cat starts to display symptoms, such as coughing, exercise intolerance, and lethargy it's often because the heartworms have already begun taking over the heart and lungs. A monthly heartworm prevention pill, plus an annual heartworm blood test at your local veterinarian are critical to prevent this deadly illness. Heartworm treatment can be very expensive and also very, VERY painful. Avoiding the need for treatment is the easiest answer. Go see your local veterinarian or visit Ferguson Animal Hospital here in Ferguson by calling (314) 524-0707 located at 10050 New Halls Ferry Rd, Ferguson, MO 63135. Or check out your local Humane Society or the APA for specials.

In summary...unless you plan to keep your pets in a bubble suit when they go outdoors, please have a heart and protect your pets!

Dara Ashby  
 Ferguson Animal Coalition  
 Dara@fergusonanimalcoalition.org



# God Speaks!

by Doug Neely

SEPTEMBER, 2025

In 1 Thessalonians 5:17 we read, "Pray without ceasing."

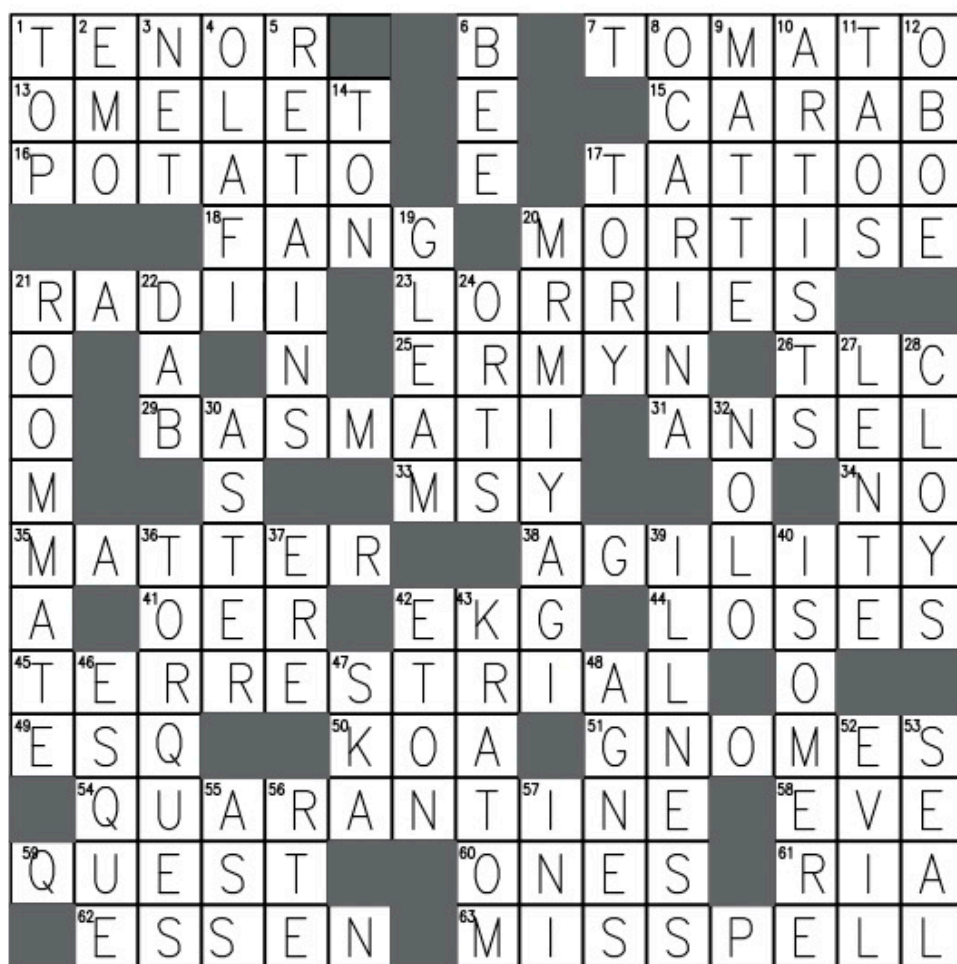
How much should we pray? All the time? That doesn't leave much time for ANYthing else, does it? How would we eat, for instance? How would we have time for our family? How about time to put in those hours at work so we can earn a living?

Some of you have a set time or times each day to pray. Sounds reasonable. Doing this is a way to set aside time for prayer that helps to ensure that your soul has sufficient time with God.

Prayer is not the only way we speak to God. To put it a better way, prayer is not just closing your eyes and thinking words to God. Consider this: prayer is anything and everything we do in life. Our entire life is a prayer to God, isn't it? After all, He is always hearing us and watching us, whether we are praying to Him or not. Whether we are aware of it or not. Still, we should consciously pray as often as we can, because it is good for our soul. Can we ever get enough or too much? I think not.

May God bless you and keep you.

## Crossword Solution from page 4



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# Ferguson Has A History Museum

Ferguson has a Historical Society and a History Museum. We encourage any people reading this article to join in the conversation and become a member.



This week we are going to take a look at two things: First a report on a Ferguson History Society event



seen below. On April 26 FHS sponsored a trip to the Campbell House in St. Louis. The Campbell House (1850's) is the only standing building left as part of a large "suburb" of St. Louis (around 15th Street) – St. Louis was much smaller in the 1850's – but crowded and

polluted. The wealthy wanted out so the Lucas family developed plans for a "suburban" subdivision of around 30+ homes – Lucas Place. Our docent for this trip was Laura Watt – who also happens to be a serious student of the history of the Campbell house, Lucas Place and the Lucas family.



On July 17th she gave a presentation to over 20 people. Now you might say "What has this to do with Ferguson?" The name Lucas is important in North County history – The Lucas family later established a fine home on – guess what road? – Lucas and Hunt (you see the two families married). It was a fascinating evening. The History House is planning similar programs in the future.



The second subject is one we introduced in last month's article on Vogt School – Central School.

Central is the large school building at the corner of Wesley and Clark Streets – just one block up from Florissant Road. The school was constructed in 1880 and is certainly one of the oldest continuously operating schools in Missouri. Currently, Central School serves pre-Kindergarten thru 2nd Grade students and their families. With around 20 classrooms, a Library, gym and cafeteria, it is a large building with large historic classrooms. To give a little more about the school, we will repeat a little of last month's comments.

Ferguson established a public school system as early as 1867 with a 1-room building on Wesley Avenue near Florissant Road. By 1870 a second room was added. Then, the school was moved to a building (still standing and a private home) at what is now 110 South Clark. In 1880 a new building was built with 2 classrooms on the first floor and a village hall on the second – this was Central School. The original building is shown at the right (with newer additions darkened. The entrance to the building was on Wesley (as it currently is, but now in an early addition).

Central housed students from grades K through 10th Grade (2-year high school). In 1903 the School District of The City of Ferguson was established and the high school was extended to 12th grade (4-year high school). In both 1904 and 1908 additional classrooms were added to Central. In 1927 an elementary school was added on Chambers Rd., Griffith School (small frame building). By 1930 Central School was getting crowded with all 12 grades and only Griffith to take some of the load. A high school needed to be added and that school would be Vogt. In 1936 Vogt became a junior high as the new Ferguson High School (on January) was built. That building became Ferguson Junior High (now Ferguson Middle School) when McCluer High School was completed in 1962. Throughout all these additions and the many more which would come later as Ferguson, Florissant, Kinloch and Berkeley School Districts eventually merged into the Ferguson-Florissant R-2 School District – Central has operated as a public School for over **145 years!**

In the view from the parking lot behind the school (bottom of page 15) you can see the additions over the years. To the left is the gym, the area between the gym and the original building is an early addition (better seen from the Wesley side) and to the right is another early addition. If you look at the photo below you can see the newest attrition to the right on that photo – the darker brick. The bell tower, on top of the original Central School has been a source of enjoyment for students over the years. Originally sounding the bell would announce that school was about to start and students had best hustle. While no longer announcing the start of school, I can remember that on special occasions, over the later years, select students were allowed to ring the bell. I did attend Central School for first and second grades.

This article was mainly about the physical building. In future months we will go into the history of Central School not as a building but has a story of a school – a place for human history.

If you have any stories about Central School – please pass them along using the e-mail address below. We will be happy to talk with you and record your experiences. Your stories could become part of our History House collection or in one of the future articles. Any stories or documents you might have of any historical place, event, or family in Ferguson is always welcome and we are prepared to do recorded oral histories at your home or at the History House. Remember: History is yesterday but yesterday is only a blink away – today becomes history. We are also interested in what is happening just yesterday.

**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."*







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