



## The "New" Old St. Ferdinand Shrine

Old St. Ferdinand Shrine at the foot of rue St. Francois Street has withstood the test of time. The present complex consists of four buildings: Convent, Schoolhouse, Rectory and Museum. The first building, the convent, was constructed in 1819; the last building was completed in 1888. It ceased to be an active parish in 1958 and since that time the complex has withstood a fire and floods both of which could easily have destroyed the complex. But yet, remarkably it still stands.

From 1958 the dream was always to restore the Convent and Church to their earlier periods. (The schoolhouse has always remained much the same.) Now, this dream has been realized. Restoration has taken place! After extensive research the Convent has been restored to the time when Mother Duchesne arrived and lived there. The original 1819 building is still standing but it was necessary that the furnishings reflect the 1819 period. That has been accomplished and presently, you are able to visit the Shrine and understand the way people lived in the Convent in 1819. It is remarkable that we can now better understand the trials of Mother Duchesne (St. Rose Philippine Duchesne) and we are drawn closer to her through the understanding of her commitment under harsh conditions and her strong religious faith that carried her through.

The Church, built in 1820, is being restored to its 1880's appearance. It was impossible to restore it to its original appearance, since so many additions had been made. However, when you walk in the Church now, you will see the Statues and Stations of the Cross and other changes that were from 1880's. The change is dramatic and beautiful. Pews still contain the names of early families, as do stained glass windows. Paintings brought from Belgium in the 19th century still hang in the Church.

The communion rail still exists as do many other artifacts left from earlier times. In addition the steeple has been restored to its 1880 look.

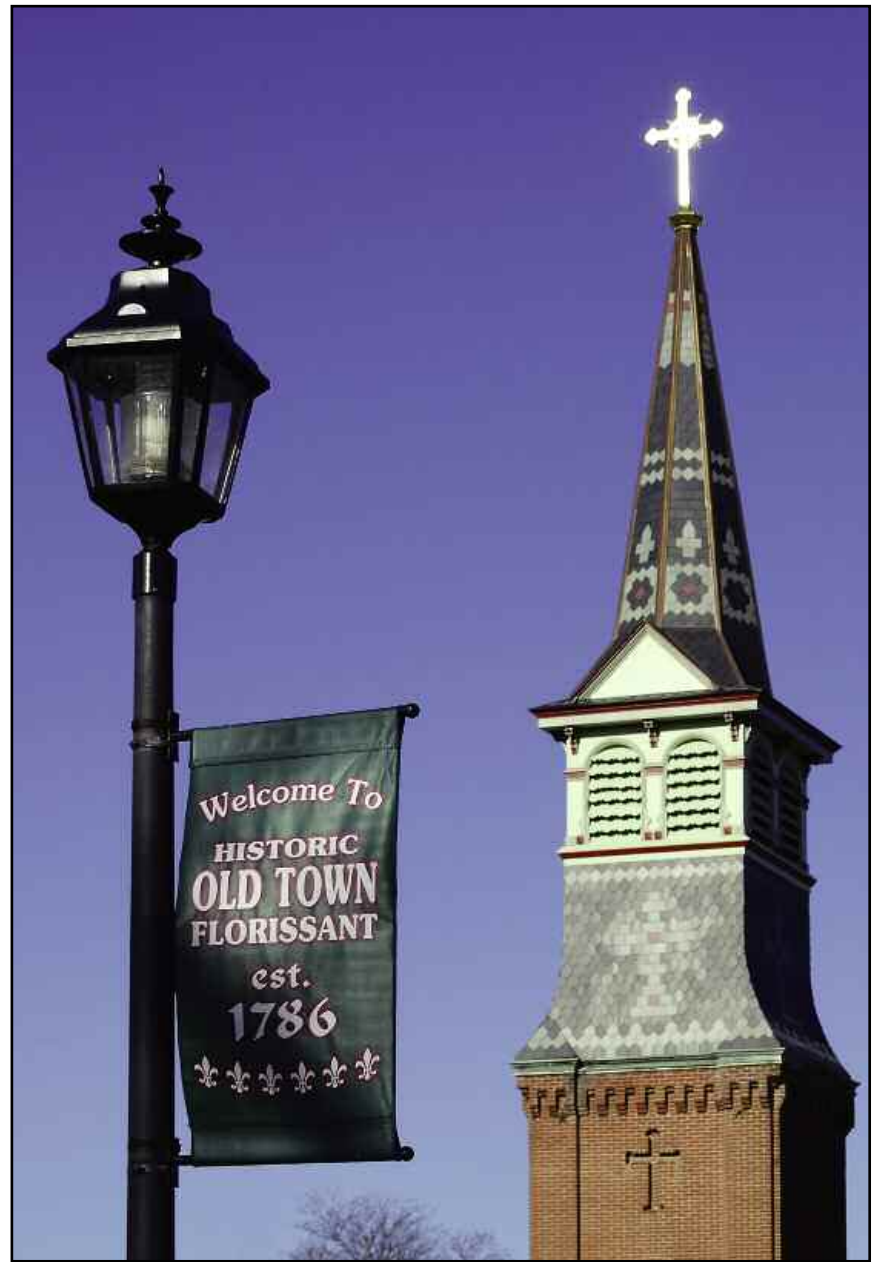
It is remarkable to know you are walking in the same area as St. Rose Philippine Duchesne, Father DeSmet, William Clark and John Mullanphy to name a few.

The Rectory built in 1840 is in much of its original condition. The space occupied between the Rectory and Church is now known as the Museum. The Museum tells us the story of the beginnings of the Church up to the present time.

The entire restoration project has been remarkable. This transformation was completed under the direction and tireless work of Father Thomas Keller pastor of St. Angela Merici Parish. Father Keller worked with Monsignor Ulrich of Sacred Heart Parish and Monsignor Jack Schuler of St. Ferdinand Parish. Their guidance and support has been invaluable as was the support of the Board of Directors.

The Schoolhouse Hall is rented for many types of celebrations. Call our office 314-837-2110 (9am-Noon) to inquire about a rental. Information is also on our website - oldstferdinandshrine.com (official site). The weekly Book Sale is held on the second floor of the Schoolhouse and is open on Sat. mornings from 9am-Noon. The books available are amazing and cover many topics. The Gift shop is open Mon. -Sat. from 9am-Noon. Gifts from First Communion and Confirmation are available.

We encourage people to visit this "New Shrine". Tours of the Shrine are available by appointment and are held throughout the day seven days a week. Call our office at 314-837-2110 to schedule your tour. Office hours are Mon-Sat. 9am-Noon



## Business Fair & 'Taste of North County'

The Greater North County Chamber of Commerce and the City of Florissant will co-sponsor the 26th Anniversary of the Chamber's Business Showcase, featuring a "Taste of North County."

The event will be on Saturday, March 22, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the James J. Eagan Community Center in Florissant.

The public is invited to attend the event to learn more about local businesses and organizations and the products and services they offer to the community. Special attractions will include health screenings, activities for children and a special visit from Ronald McDonald.

There is no charge to attend the Business Showcase.

The event will also feature a "Taste of



North County," showcasing local restaurants. An area of the community center will be roped off for this event. For a nominal fee of \$5 for adults, \$2 for children under 12, the public will be able to sample some of the great cuisine available in North County.

The chamber is seeking vendors for both the Business Showcase and the "Taste of North County." The event is open to both Chamber members and non-members.

For more information on exhibitor fees, call the Chamber office at 314-831-3500 or visit [www.greaternorth-countychamber.com](http://www.greaternorth-countychamber.com).

## Florissant Best Small City for Retirees

In a January article, Movoto, a real estate research blog, located in San Mateo California, ranked Florissant Missouri as the best small city in the United States in which to retire. Movoto consulted several retirees to find out what was important as they reached retirement age. Their responses include: Cost of living, Crime rate, Weather, Ease of travel, Retiree amenities per capita including healthcare, senior centers, adult education, dining, shopping, libraries, and arts & entertainment. Movoto looked at more than 140 cities with populations of 50,000 to 60,000 and using that criteria Florissant came out Number 1!

1. Florissant, MO
2. West Des Moines, IA
3. Lakewood, OH
4. Bradenton, FL
5. Jupiter, FL
6. Sarasota, FL
7. San Marcos, TX
8. Cedar Park, TX
9. Hendersonville, TN
10. Fountain Valley, CA

For more information go to <http://www.movoto.com/blog/top-ten/best-small-cities-to-retire-in/>

## St. Ferdinand Catholic Parish 225 Year Celebration



Photo Courtesy of Lynn Segura

On Sunday, September 15, 2013, Archbishop Robert Carlson, Mayor Thomas P. Schneider and Father Joe Post along with over 600 faithful, celebrated St. Ferdinand Catholic Parish 225 year existence as a Parish and School. The Celebration was held at Old St. Ferdinand Shrine and was a tribute to all who worked hard and contributed to the parish during those 225 years.

In 1788 Commandant Francois Dunegant deeded the land for St. Ferdinand Parish and in 1789 a vertical log structure was built and served as the original church. A portion of the Old St. Ferdinand Shrine building, as it exists today, was built in 1821.

The active St. Ferdinand Parish of today moved to its current property in 1957. In 1979 the Shrine of Old St. Ferdinand complex was placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

For more information on the 225 year celebration go to: <http://www.stferdinandstl.org/parish/225th-anniversary>. For more history on the Shrine of Old St. Ferdinand go to: <http://www.oldstferdinandshrine.com/history.html>

## Marine Corp League Presentation



Pictured (l-r) Councilman Ben Hernandez, Mayor Thomas Schneider, Councilman Jeff Caputa and from The Marine Corp League #184 Mike Crane, Lonnie Morie and Tom White

At the Monday, January 13th City Council meeting members from the Marine Corp League #184 presented Mayor Schneider and former US Marines Councilman Ben Hernandez and Councilman Jeff Caputa with a certificate of appreciation for inviting the Marine Corp League #184 to participate in the 2013 Fall Festival and the 2013 Veteran's Day Parade.

## Florissant Recognized by FEMA

At the Monday, January 27th City Council meeting Mayor Thomas P. Schneider and City Engineer Tim Barrett were presented with a plaque on the behalf of the City of Florissant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Dale Schmutzler, CFM who is the Section Chief and Floodplain Risk Reduction Coordinator with the State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) was on hand and made the presentation to Mayor Schneider.

The City of Florissant was being honored for achieving a Class 8 status within the National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP) Community Rating system (CRS). This achievement recognizes that our community has undertaken a series of meaningful activities to protect its citizens from losses caused by flooding and has significantly exceeded the requirements for NFIP participation and effective floodplain management. Florissant is one of seven CRS communities in the state of Missouri and one of two in St. Louis County.

As a result of the City's Class 8 CRS status flood insurance policies within the Special Flood Hazard Area (i.e. 100-year floodplain or A Zones) are eligible at renewal for a 10 percent premium discount. Flood insurance policies in zones outside of the Special Flood Hazard Area (i.e. X and D Zones) are eligible for a 5 percent premium discount. The discounts should be automatically included at the time of the policy renewal. Consult your insurance agent for further information. It is estimated that approximately \$32,000 in premiums will be saved annually within the City.



## How "Cool" is Our City?

Several years ago, the City of Florissant opted to become a "Cool City," joining with more than 1,024 communities and 88 million Americans in 50 states (and DC and Puerto Rico) across the nation to implement meaningful climate change solutions. While each city's energy solution plans are unique, Florissant

has concentrated on practical, innovative ways to use efficient energy and reduce carbon dioxide (greenhouse gases) pollution, expand recycling efforts, save taxpayer dollars, and protect the environment.

One of the ways the Environmental Quality Commission has raised awareness about the above concerns has been to partner with local businesses and organizations who have become "Cool Cities Businesses." These businesses receive a special *COOL CITIES BUSINESS* sign to display on their properties and get unique recognition via City Educational Broadcasts, the City Web site, and Florissant Focus articles. Citizens are encouraged to visit these businesses and express thanks for their environmental policies.

### Honorable Mentions:

**Batteries Plus, 113 N Hwy 67, 63031, 838-2277**

**U-Haul Center of Florissant, 1300 N Hwy 67, 63033, 837-2227**

**Click Heating & Cooling, 124 St. Francois St., 63031, 656-7698**

**Brief Reflections Resale, 114 St. Francois St., 63031, 972-1121**

**Fashion Craft Carpet, 2306 N Hwy 67, 63033, 838-6969**

If you have a business or know of one that would like to apply for Cool Cities Business status, please call the City Health Department at 314-839-7654 or visit Web site <http://www.florissantmo.com> and go to Government/Boards and Commissions/Environmental Quality Commission for an application. The EQC is also looking for "cool" citizens who would like to share their eco-friendly ideas on our Florissant TV cable Green Like Me segments. These can be anything from practices that conserve water and energy to habits that help prevent air, water, and land pollution. They can also use the phone number above.



## Charter Goes All Digital

Florissant and most of North County is the first in the St. Louis area to go all digital. If you are a Charter customer you will now have to get a digital box to watch Charter programming. For the first year there are special promotions for everyone, especially seniors. To learn more, residential customers should call 877-GetCharter or go to [www.Charter.com/Digital](http://www.Charter.com/Digital) and business customers can call 877-630-4199.

## St. Patrick's Day Celebration at St. Ferdinand Shrine

On St. Patrick's Day St. Ferdinand Shrine will be serving their annual St. Patrick's Day Meal with all the Irish Trimmings. Adult meals are \$8.00 and Children's \$4.00

Meals are served from 11:00 am - 6:00 pm. The Church and Book Sale will be open on that day. You will be able to have a tour of the newly restored Church and Convent.

In addition you can visit our Gift Shop - First Communion and Confirmation Gifts will be available. Plus don't forget you can stock up on your reading material at the Book Sale.

Future events include a Pancake Breakfast on Palm Sunday from 8am-11:30 am. The breakfast is held in the Schoolhouse. Reservations are not needed. The May Event is the annual Valley of Flowers Festival.

### Council Members



Ward 1 - **Tim Lee**  
839-7669 ext 1009  
314 / 837-8875  
[ward1@florissantmo.com](mailto:ward1@florissantmo.com)



Ward 2 - **John Grib**  
314 / 839-2669  
[jagrib@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jagrib@sbcglobal.net)



Ward 3 - **Joseph Eagan**  
314 / 395-6838  
[ward3@florissantmo.com](mailto:ward3@florissantmo.com)



Ward 4 - **Jeff Caputa**  
314 / 239-1568  
[ward6@florissantmo.com](mailto:ward6@florissantmo.com)



Ward 5 - **Keith Schildroth**  
839-7669 ext 1014  
314 / 839-2927  
[ward5@florissantmo.com](mailto:ward5@florissantmo.com)



Ward 6 - **Pat Stinnett**  
839-7669 ext 1015  
314 / 578-4777  
[ward6@florissantmo.com](mailto:ward6@florissantmo.com)



Ward 7 - **Jackie Bond Pagano**  
839-7669 ext 1016  
314 / 837-1315  
[ward7@florissantmo.com](mailto:ward7@florissantmo.com)



Ward 8 - **Mark Schmidt**  
839-7669 ext 1017  
314 / 838-7410  
[ward8@florissantmo.com](mailto:ward8@florissantmo.com)



Ward 9 - **Ben Hernandez**  
839-7669 ext 1018  
314 / 825-4909  
[ward9@florissantmo.com](mailto:ward9@florissantmo.com)

## Food Truck Event - April 23rd

Mayor Schneider wanted to announce that the Knights of Columbus Duchesne Council #2951 and the City of Florissant will be co-sponsoring a Food Truck Event on Wednesday, April 23 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on the lot near the Old St. Ferdinand Shrine located at 50 rue St. Francois.

There will be approximately ten trucks or so that will be selling food on that day. Drinks will be available for purchase.

Proceeds will benefit local Non-for-Profit charities including the TEAM Food Pantry. Patrons are also encouraged to bring non-perishable food items for collection barrels that will be on site.



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**314-838-4500**  
755 Rue St. Francois  
Florissant, Missouri 63031



## The Florissant Focus

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### Greetings Everyone,

What a COLD winter season we have had this year! It has been a long time since we had this much prolonged freezing weather and we may see more this season.

**Winter ice/snow storms** have cost the City over \$200,000 in chemicals, fuel, labor costs and equipment repairs up to January 31. We have had a most challenging winter storm season with a major snow storm accompanied by lasting single digit temperatures. The January 4th snow storm dumped approximately 10-12 inches of snow followed by arctic temperature conditions on us.

The extreme cold and no sun prevents the salt and chemicals that we use from having any useful affect preventing the emergency management crews from exposing the pavement for several days after that storm. I would like to thank our Street and Parks department maintenance crews for clearing our streets and City Parking lots so life could go on in Florissant. We are all ready for spring to get here soon.

Congratulations to Officer Mark Pounders and Officer Andy Hale who were recently promoted to sergeant and we welcome Officer Kevin Fodde and Officer Matthew Bohn to our **police department**. I would also like to recognize and congratulate Officers Tyrone Perry, Andrew Gerwitz, Joshua Smith, Gary Niemann, Michael Reiter, Sean Meyer, Gary Lively, Shannon Bowen and Detective Joseph Monahan. At the December 2013 City Council meeting these officers received commendations for exceptional police work. We continue to build and have a very strong Neighborhood Watch Program and I would like to thank everyone that continues to do their part in making their neighborhoods safe. You are our eyes and ears and if you see something suspicious, call the Police Department immediately. Your assistance to our low crime rate has been and will continue to be appreciated by all the men and women of the Police Department. Our Crime Prevention Officer (CPO) Andy Haarmann joins me to thank you for your assistance. If you are interested in becoming a part of the Neighborhood Watch Program or would like more information on how to start one please call his office at 314-830-6042.

Movoto, an online real estate site, has named **Florissant the best small city for retirees in America**, according to a story posted on its web site ([www.movoto.com](http://www.movoto.com)) on January 22, 2014. The article, written by content editor Randy Nelson, looked at five criteria in determining the desirability for retirees to locate in each of 140 cities with populations between 50,000 and 60,000, based on feedback from retirees. Cost of living, crime rate, weather (average summer temperature and air quality), ease of travel (distance to nearest international airport) and retiree amenities per capita (health care, senior centers, adult education, dining, shopping, libraries, arts and entertainment) were the factors studied in making the list.

It is gratifying to see that the many splendid services and venues that the City of Florissant operates are appreciated and enjoyed by our residents, including our senior citizens. Many of those activities, such as our annual New Year's Eve Senior Dance, cater specifically to our senior residents. Movoto said that "Almost 16 percent...of Florissant's 53,000 resi-

dents are age 65 or older."

The report pointed out that "The retiree community of this St. Louis suburb, our No. 1 place to retire, can find plenty to do, including dances, a golf league and more at the James J. Eagan Center or the John F. Kennedy Center."

**The Senior Office** is in full swing with many activities, trips and dances coming up including the St. Patrick's Day dance on March 13th. The Silver Words Club for widows, widowers and single seniors will host a special meeting at the Nature Lodge featuring a visit from the World Bird Sanctuary on Thursday March 20 at 1:30 PM. For further information on all these events contact Peggy Hogan the Senior Coordinator at 314-839-7604

**We have activities lined up for our Youth**; if you are in 5th through 8th grade, the place to be on March 7th from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. will be at Eagan Center Ice Rink for the 2nd Annual Party on the Ice! You won't want to miss this event. There will a DJ, soda, pizza and plenty of good times. Tickets have already been on sale and a resident card is required to purchase tickets. This is the 4th DARE event in conjunction with Project Lift-Off, Splish Splash and last October's Halloween Costume Party. All these exciting events are geared towards our youth that ties in with our DARE program. Snack with the Easter Bunny and Easter Egg Hunt will be on April 5th from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the James J. Eagan Center. Tickets are free for residents.

**Theater** - Our very own Florissant Civic Center Theater has season tickets available for you to purchase and to come see some of the great shows we have lined up. Check out the Theater section of this newspaper to see what productions and shows we have on tap. Get you season tickets by visiting the FCC Theater box office or call 314-921-5678.

The 3rd annual Old St. Ferdinand Shrine Benefit Dinner on January 26th was another success. We are grateful for the willingness of the Archdiocese of St. Louis to review the relevance and importance of the Shrine and as a result there will be an increased variety of events allowed at the Shrine for religious ceremonial purposes, including weddings giving it a renewed place in the lives of people as they live in and visit our city. In addition to its religious significance the Shrine has great historical significance and its importance as a pilgrimage and tourist destination is sure to increase the number of visitors to the oldest City in the County.

**Economic development** is strong in the City with many success stories from last year. We welcome the first ever Here Today store that opened in early November. This is the first store to open in our State and in the world. Brite Worx Car Wash is coming soon and this building will be the first prototype in the state. The company has chosen Florissant to launch this exciting new concept. It is constructed of glass and Plexiglas and offers a full range of services.

We have many projects on the horizon including the bonafide investor we have been seeking so as to send out a request for proposals to redevelop the Plaza Madrid Shopping Center. Our focus has always been to keep this City moving forward while still preserving its rich history. Progress is measured in more ways than brick and mortar but we are all gratified by the tangible results of our efforts for progress. I encourage Florissant Residents to purchase

gift cards to their favorite Florissant Restaurant or Florist or Gift Shop to present to friends outside of Florissant and give them the opportunity to shop in our great City.

The 26th Anniversary of the **Greater North County Chamber Business Showcase** was expecting an overflow crowd to enjoy a "Taste of North County" on Saturday, March 22nd at the James J. Eagan Community Center. This year, the Chamber partnered with The City of Florissant and repeated the "Taste of North County" theme that was so successful last year. We thank everyone that supported the event and to everyone that attended.

**Mayor's Shamrock Ball** - The 7th Annual Mayors' Shamrock Ball, was held on Saturday, March 8, 2014, at the Garden Villas North and was expected to again be a great success and well attended. Proceeds generated from this premier green tie event of North County benefit Valley Industries Sheltered Workshop. Over the past six years, this fundraiser has evolved into one of the biggest social soirées of the year where people go to be seen with some of the region's influential movers and shakers. This event was expected to have 80 sponsors and about 500 people in attendance. The goal is to raise approximately \$40,000 for Valley Industries, a non-profit organization with a mission of providing dignified, meaningful employment for adults with developmental disabilities. The event hosts were Myself, Mayor Norman McCourt of Black Jack, Mayor James Knowles, III, of Ferguson, and Mayor Matthew Robinson of Hazelwood.

After a mutually beneficial 5 year relationship with Billy Casper Golf the City Council and the Administration agreed that we have the professional personnel in place now to manage the **Golf Club of Florissant** directly again. With spring just around the corner and the magnolias about to bloom at Augusta National, make sure that you frequent The Golf Club of Florissant to enjoy the course improvements made by Golf Course Superintendent Andy Sprunt. (A native of England, the birthplace of Golf, Andy grew up with links golf and still speaks with a lovely English accent.)

Andy has modified our 18-hole championship golf course into a wonderful facility for both beginners and advanced golfers. Our customer friendly staff puts customer service at the forefront of your golfing experience. With our large deck and banquet room we can handle most any size golf outing. For more information or to book your next golf outing or special event contact PGA Master Professional Terry Grosch, our General Manager at 314-741-7444. (Terry is a native of North County and is one of only a handful of Master Professionals in the region and his reputation is respected by tour players, competitive amateurs and high handicap players alike.)

**Public Works** - The Public Works Department is preparing to do **\$1,785,000 in street work** which includes \$925,000 in slurry seal resurfacing work on 131 different streets, \$400,000 in concrete pavement replacement and repairs on 21 streets, and \$400,000 in major street repairs with an asphalt overlay on 5 different streets. Major street repairs will begin in early spring.

The City will be applying for a **\$1,900,000 grant** to make major street and stormwater improvements to North Lafayette Street (N.Hwy67 to Washington). The City will also be applying for an **\$85,000 grant** to replace the Pedestrian



Traffic Signal at Robinwood School on Derhake. And the City will be applying for a \$550,000 grant to replace St. Anthony Lane Bridge over Fountain Creek. Recently MoDOT completed inspections of all bridge structures in the City and found no major problems on any other structures. I am pleased that the City has continued the systematic program of replacing bridges put in place when I was City Engineer in 1977.

The City has been officially notified by **FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency)** that we now qualify as a Class 8 Community which offers a **10% reduction** in NFIP (National Flood Insurance Program) premiums to local policy holders. I would like to commend City Engineer Tim Barrett for his outstanding work in this area and admit that he is doing an even better job than I did managing the Florissant Flood Plain Map.

**James J. Eagan Civic Center** will be getting \$434,000 in HVAC upgrades and energy controllers this spring. **Bangert Park** will be getting a new comfort station/restroom. City Garage will be getting a \$135,000 vehicle wash facility to help comply with Federal Clean Water mandates.

The Public Works Department Code Enforcement effort has also implemented a new program to **monitor and maintain vacant properties** in the City. If vacant residential property owners refuse to maintain the exterior of their properties, than the City will contract to have the work done and will bill the owner. If the owner refuses to pay the bill it will go on their Real Estate Property Tax bill owed at the end of the year.

This year's **Electronic Recycling Event** which will be sponsored by Midwest Recycling Center is planned for Saturday April 5th from 9am to 2 pm and **Document Shredding Day** which is sponsored by Cintas and Meridian Waste Services will be held on Saturday, April 12th from 9am to 12pm. Both events will be held at St. Ferdinand Park more information to follow as the events gets closer.

The **Recycling Center** in St. Ferdinand Park was closed January 6th in an effort to further promote and increase curbside recycling in the residential subdivisions. If anyone needs a **FREE recycling tote**, please call 314-839-7654.

Our next Focus will be out before our annual Valley of Flowers festival. With warm thoughts I look forward to seeing you soon in the beautiful city in the Valley of Flowers.

Sincerely,  
Mayor Schneider

## Retirements and Promotions within the Florissant Police Department



Retiring Officers - Sergeant Michael Layton and Sergeant Richard Miller

Two Sergeants with the Florissant Police Department recently announced their retirements. Chief Timothy Lowery and the entire Florissant Police Department community wishes Sergeants Richard Miller and Michael Layton the best of luck and thanks them for their many years of service.

Sergeant Richard Miller retired on December 31, 2013, after 44 years of service at the Florissant Police Department. Most recently, Sgt. Miller served as a patrol supervisor. Sgt. Miller began his law enforcement career at the Florissant Police Department on January 26, 1970. During his tenure, Sgt. Miller spent a majority of time in the Bureau of Field Operations, but he also spent time in the department's Bureau of Investigations and performing various administrative functions in the City of Florissant.

Sergeant Michael Layton retired on January 24, 2014, after twenty-eight years of service at the Florissant Police Department. Sgt. Layton worked for the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department for ten years prior to coming to Florissant. During his tenure at the Florissant Police Department, Sgt. Layton spent time in patrol, and he served many years as one of the police department's D.A.R.E. Officers. Sgt. Layton was recognized as the Missouri D.A.R.E. Officer of the Year.

Chief Lowery is happy to announce the promotions of Sgt. Mark Pounders and Sgt. Andrew Hale. Sergeants Pounders and Hale previously were assigned to the department's Bureau of Investigations as Detectives. They are currently assigned to the Bureau of Field Operations as patrol supervisors.



Promoted Officers - Sergeant Mark Pounders and Sergeant Andrew Hale

## Florissant Police Project Lifesaver Program

Chief Timothy J. Lowery is proud to announce the implementation of an innovative search and rescue program that can help protect some of the most vulnerable citizens of the City of Florissant. Called Project Lifesaver, it is a rapid search and rescue response program that aids victims and families suffering from Alzheimer's disease and other related disorders such as Down syndrome and Autism, who become lost.

Individuals, who participate in Project Lifesaver, will be given personalized wristbands that emit a tracking signal. When a caregiver contacts 911 stating that their loved one has wandered away or is missing, our trained personnel will utilize a tracking device that allows us to locate the missing individual quickly.

Over 5,000,000 people in the US have Alzheimer's. That number will grow to 15 million by 2030. Well over 50% of these people wander and become lost. A lost person with Alzheimer's or other dementia represents a critical emergency. They are unaware of their situation; they do not call out for help and do not respond to people calling out to



them. Nearly half of them will die and many can become injured or fall victim to predators if they are not located within 24 hours.

The Florissant Police Department has received the equipment necessary to track the individuals with a grant thru Project Lifesaver. Interested individuals can contact Project Lifesaver directly at 757-546-5502 or go to their website at <http://www.projectlifesaver.org/> to enroll in the program. The cost to enroll is \$95 for the transmitter and related equipment and a \$25 monthly fee.

If the enrolled individual goes missing, the caregiver must immediately notify the Florissant Police Department so a search can begin.

The Florissant Police Department is the first law enforcement agency in eastern Missouri to have a



Project Lifesaver Program and have the ability to electronically track enrollees when they go missing. Chief Lowery encourages anyone with a family member who lives in the City of Florissant and has a tendency to wander from home to consider this potential life-saving program.

## The Friends of Law Enforcement Exploring to Host a Trivia Night



The Friends of Law Enforcement Exploring are once again hosting a Trivia Night to benefit the Florissant and Overland Law Enforcement Explorer Posts on:

**DATE:** Saturday, March 29, 2014

**TIME:** 6:30 p.m.

**LOCATION:** JFK Community Center

315 Howdershell  
Florissant, MO 63031

**COST:** \$160.00 per team/table  
(Maximum of 8 persons per table)

This event has sold out in the past so

we recommend you reserve your spot early to guarantee your table. There will also be a silent auction during the event. Beer, soda, wine and snacks are included with your registration fee.

For more information or to reserve your spot contact:

**Florissant Law Enforcement Explorer Post**  
1700 North Highway 67  
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(314) 831-7000

Attn: Officer Andy Haarmann

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## Florissant Sees a Decrease in Crime

Chief Timothy J. Lowery is happy to announce that crime in the City of Florissant has decreased in 2013. Index crime statistics comparing 2012 to 2013 in Florissant show an overall reduction of 11%. This is the fifth straight year that the City of Florissant has seen a decrease in crime. The reported crimes are broken down in to two categories, Part I and Part II Crimes. Part I Crimes include Homicide, Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Stealing, Motor Vehicle Theft and Arson. Part II Crimes include Simple Assault, Property Damage, and Sex

Offenses (other than Rape).

Chief Lowery attributed the drop in crime to the Officers who diligently patrol the streets of Florissant and the Investigators who are identifying and getting charges on repeat offenders. Chief Lowery said that the most important factor in the decrease was the strong partnership the Police Department has with the Citizens of Florissant. "The citizens are our eyes and ears within the neighborhoods," said Chief Lowery. "I encourage the residents to continue to call the police to report suspicious activity as it is occurring."

Crime Reports - Part I Offenses					
Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Murder/Homicide	2	0	1	0	2
Sexual Assault/Rape	9	2	6	3	3
Robbery	62	47	42	30	32
Aggravated Assault	57	52	52	48	46
Burglary	301	294	309	241	234
Larceny/Theft	1004	890	693	798	709
Vehicle Theft	138	170	114	138	60
Arson	3	2	5	2	1

Crime Reports - Part II Offenses					
Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Simple Assault	370	345	353	340	469
Property Damage	392	366	270	344	148
Sex Offenses	10	18	13	13	24

Total Reported Offenses					
Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Part I	1,576	1,457	1,222	1,260	1,087
Part II	772	729	636	697	641
TOTAL Parts I & II	2,348	2,186	1,858	1,957	1,728

**For More Information from  
the Florissant Police Department  
visit [www.florissantmo.com](http://www.florissantmo.com)**

## Florissant Park Police Program is a Success Among Residents

The Florissant Police Department's Park Police Program has been proven to be a success among the users of Florissant's Parks and Recreation facilities. Officers Gary Lively and Dio Foster have been patrolling the parks and recreation centers since May of 2013. They have been very visible as they do foot patrols during summer sports leagues in the parks and during events in the recreation centers in the cold weather months. Both offi-

cers have extensive law enforcement experience; Officer Lively retired from the Creve Coeur Police Department as a Lieutenant and Officer Foster retired from the Berkeley Police Department as a Sergeant.

As the weather improves in the spring, you will once again see Officers Lively and Foster patrolling the parks on foot to ensure that you have a safe and fun experience while at our parks.



Officer Gary Lively and Officer Dio Foster

## Florissant Once Again to Participate in the Nationwide D.E.A. "Drug Take Back Program"

The City of Florissant will again join forces with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) along with other government, community, public health and law enforcement partners to participate in a nationwide prescription drug "Take-Back" initiative that seeks to prevent increased pill abuse and theft.

The City of Florissant will have a collection site for people to drop off their expired, unused and unwanted prescription drugs for destruction on



Saturday, April 26, 2014 (10:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M.). The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

Tablets, capsules, and all other solid dosage forms will be collected. Intravenous solutions, injectables, and syringes will not be accepted.

Florissant will provide a collection site at:

Florissant Police Department  
1700 North Highway 67  
Florissant, MO 63033

Visit [www.dea.gov](http://www.dea.gov) for more information on the program and for additional collection sites.



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*The Box Office will close each day from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. for lunch.*  
Arrangements to purchase tickets can be made by phone at (314) 921-5678, by e-mail at [FCCT@FlorissantMO.com](mailto:FCCT@FlorissantMO.com), online at [www.FlorissantMO.com](http://www.FlorissantMO.com), or by mail addressed to: FCC Theatre, #1 James J. Eagan Dr., Florissant, MO 63033. Call 314-921-5678 for additional information 24 hours a day. Visa, MasterCard and Discover are accepted. Visa, Mastercard and Discover are accepted. **Individual tickets go on sale 45 days prior to the opening of any production.**

## MARCH

*Alpha Players present:*

### THE CEMETERY CLUB

Mar. 7 – 8:00 p.m.    Mar. 8 – 8:00 p.m.    Mar. 14 – 8:00 p.m.  
Mar. 15 – 8:00 p.m.    Mar. 16 – 2:00 p.m.

If you like *Steel Magnolias* or *The Golden Girls*, then you will love *The Cemetery Club*. Three Jewish widows (Doris, Lucille and Ida) meet once a month before going to visit their husbands' graves. Doris is set in her ways. She visits the cemetery faithfully and refuses to live a life that does not involve her deceased husband. Flamboyant Lucille is making up for the flawed relationship she had with her husband by chasing as many men as she possibly can. Ida is slowly getting over the loss of her husband and has decided she is ready for some changes in her life. See what happens when one of those changes includes going out on a date. This show is guaranteed to touch your heart.

**ADMISSION: \$16.00 Adults; \$14.00 Seniors/Students; \$8.00 Children under 12**  
**Phone information and reservations: 314-921-5678 or [www.FlorissantMO.com](http://www.FlorissantMO.com)**

*\*\*St. Louis Family Theatre Series presents:*

### THE UGLY DUCKLING and THE TORTOISE & THE HARE

*From Corbian and Lightwire Theater, New Orleans, LA*

Mar. 21 – 7:30 p.m.    Mar. 22 – 2:00 p.m.    Mar. 23 – 2:00 p.m.



Hans Christian Andersen's classic *The Ugly Duckling* has helped generations of children understand one of humanity's universal struggles. Lightwire Theater brings this classic story to the modern stage offering hope to us all as we root for the ugly duckling who exemplifies resilience and heroism along the way to becoming a beautiful swan.

Aesop's fable *The Tortoise and the Hare*, now more than 2,500 years old, continues to drive home the time-tested adage, "Slow and steady wins the race." Lightwire Theater, with its dazzling visuals, poignant choreography and creative use of music ranging from classical to jazz to pop, literally brings these classic tales into a new and brilliant light.

**ADMISSION: \$7.00 to all; group rates available**  
**Phone information and reservations: 314-921-5678 or [www.FlorissantMO.com](http://www.FlorissantMO.com)**

*Show Schedules and Information  
are Always Available Online at  
[www.FlorissantMO.com](http://www.FlorissantMO.com)*

*\*Florissant Fine Arts Council presents*  
**CALIFORNIA DREAMING**  
*From the State Theatre of Georgia*  
Mar. 28 – 8:00 p.m.



*California Dreaming* celebrates that brief magical moment in the mid 60s and early 70s when American youth migrated to California by the millions and transformed pop culture forever. When well-groomed folk musicians grew out their hair and plugged in their Fenders and Rickenbackers, the radio began to sizzle with tight harmonies and dreamy lyrics. *California Dreaming* features the music of groups like the Mamas and Papas, The Beach Boys, The 5th Dimension, The Byrds and Crosby, Stills & Nash. The audience will be treated to songs like *What a Day for a Daydream*, *I Get Around*, *Turn Turn Turn*, *Surfin' USA*, *Our House*, *Little GTO*, *Good Vibrations* and *California Dreamin'*. The show is a tribute to and filled with the music that defined an era and introduced the world to the good vibrations of love, peace and summertime fun.

**ADMISSION: \$28.00 Adults; \$26.00 Seniors/Students; group rates available**  
**Phone information and reservations: 314-921-5678 or [www.FlorissantMO.com](http://www.FlorissantMO.com)**

## APRIL

*Hawthorne Players present:*

### LAUGHTER ON THE 23RD FLOOR

Apr. 4 – 8:00 p.m.    Apr. 5 – 8:00 p.m.    Apr. 11 – 8:00 p.m.  
Apr. 12 – 8:00 p.m.    Apr. 13 – 2:00 p.m.

The story is inspired by the playwright Neil Simon's youthful experience as a staff writer on Sid Caesar's *YOUR SHOW OF SHOWS*, with all the attendant comic drama as the harried writing staff frantically scrambles to top each other with gags while competing for the attention of star madman "Max Prince."

**ADMISSION:**  
**\$18.00 Adults;**  
**\$16.00 Seniors/Students;**  
**group rates available**  
**Phone information and reservations:**  
**314-921-5678 or [www.FlorissantMO.com](http://www.FlorissantMO.com)**

Laughter  
on  
the  
2 3  
RD  
Floor  
by Neil Simon

*Hawthorne Players Musical Auditions:*

### THE WIZ

Apr. 6 – Noon on by appointment  
Callbacks: Apr. 8 – 7:00 p.m.  
For information: [www.hawthorneplayers.com](http://www.hawthorneplayers.com)

*Musical  
Auditions*

*\*Florissant Fine Arts Council presents:*

### THE SWING OF HEARTS

Featuring

### THE RIVER CITY RAMBLERS

Apr. 26 – 8:00 p.m.

A "Romantic" Evening of Heart-felt Song with Wayne Coniglio leading St Louis' finest 35 piece studio orchestra, featuring Cecil Cope from Memphis and St Louis' own Elsie Parker, joined by special guest Bob Ceccarini & The River City Ramblers. With the help of band leader Coniglio audience members will fall in love all over again. Cecil Cope will present unique renditions of some of Frank Sinatra's classic love songs and Elsie Parker will take the listener on a guided tour of one's own heart.

**ADMISSION: \$28.00 Adults; \$26.00 Seniors/Students; group rates available**  
**Phone information and reservations: 314-921-5678 or [www.FlorissantMO.com](http://www.FlorissantMO.com)**





Northwinds Concert Band presents:

**SUNDAY AFTERNOON AT THE NORTHWINDS POPS**

Apr. 27 – 3:00 p.m.



Northwinds is a program of Ferguson Florissant's Community Education Department.

**ADMISSION: \$8.00 Adults, \$6.00 Seniors/Students**  
 Phone information and reservations: 314-921-5678 or [www.FlorissantMO.com](http://www.FlorissantMO.com)

**MAY**

Alpha Players present:

**THE 25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE**

May 16 – 8:00 p.m.    May 17 – 8:00 p.m.  
 May 23 – 8:00 p.m.    May 24 – 8:00 p.m.    May 25 – 2:00 p.m.

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee is a hilarious tale of overachiever's angst chronicling six adolescents vying for the spelling championship of a lifetime. In a high school gym, long time hostess Rona Lisa Peretti prepares for the annual spelling bee. The current crop of spelling contenders include Chip (the Boy Scout), Schwarzzy (the youngest and most politically aware contestant), Coneybear (the somewhat wide-eyed offspring of hippie parents), Barfee (an allergy-plagued student), Marcy (an over-achieving Catholic school girl), and Olive (a tentative, shy newcomer.) Watch as they learn that winning isn't everything and that losing doesn't necessarily make you a loser.

*(For mature audiences.)*  
**ADMISSION: \$18.00 Adults; \$16.00 Seniors/Students; group rates available**  
 Phone information and reservations: 314-921-5678 or [www.FlorissantMO.com](http://www.FlorissantMO.com)

*\*The Florissant Fine Arts Council presents the Applause/Applause 2013/2014 series with financial support from our members, the Regional Arts Commission, Missouri Arts Council (a state agency) and the City of Florissant.*

*\*\*The St. Louis Family Theatre Series gratefully acknowledges financial support from the City of Florissant, Junior League of St. Louis, Missouri Arts Council (a state agency), American Eagle Credit Union and the Regional Arts Commission.*

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**How Will Social Security Fit Into Your Retirement Income Strategy?**

Have you given much thought to collecting Social Security? The answer probably depends on how old you are — but whatever your age, you'll want to consider the best way of incorporating Social Security benefits into your retirement income strategy.

Of course, if you have several decades to go until you retire, you might be wondering if Social Security will even be there for you at all. The basic issue is that the Social Security system is experiencing a sharply declining worker-to-beneficiary ratio. In plain English, this means that fewer workers are contributing to Social Security while the huge baby boom generation is retiring and taking money out. Still, Social Security has enough money to pay full retirement benefits to every eligible American until 2038, according to the Congressional Budget Office. After that point, benefits would have to be reduced unless changes are made to the Social Security system.

And several changes have indeed been proposed. Given that we do have nearly 25 years until benefit cuts may need to be made, it seems reasonable that some type of solution could be reached to put Social Security back on solid ground.

In any case, when thinking about your retirement income, you need to focus on those things that you can control — such as when to start taking Social Security and how you can supplement your Social Security benefits.

Depending on when you were born, your "full" retirement age, as far as collecting Social Security benefits, is likely either 66 or 67. You can start getting your checks as early as 62, but if you do, your monthly

payments could be reduced by as much as 30% — and this reduction is permanent. Consequently, if you can support your lifestyle from other sources of income — such as earnings from employment and withdrawals from your IRA and 401(k) — you may want to postpone taking Social Security until you reach your full retirement age. In fact, you can get even bigger monthly checks if you delay taking your benefits beyond your full retirement age, although your payments will "max out" once you reach 70. Keep in mind, though, that other factors, such as your anticipated longevity, should also enter into your calculations in considering when to take Social Security.

As mentioned above, your retirement income may also include withdrawals from retirement accounts, such as an IRA and a 401(k), along with other investments, such as a fixed annuity. And these other accounts are quite important, because Social Security provides, on average, only about 40% of retirement income for the average 65-year-old today. Consequently, in the years and decades before you retire, contribute as much as you can possibly afford to these other accounts. Given the advances in medical care and the greater awareness of healthy lifestyles, people are living longer than ever — which means you could spend two, or even three, decades in retirement. To enjoy those years fully, you'll need adequate income.

By planning ahead, you can determine how best to fit Social Security into your retirement income strategy. Every move you make to help "secure" your retirement can pay off for you in the long run.

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**Know The Risks and Signs of Stroke - FAST!**

By *Amer Alsheklee, MD, Neurologist and Stroke Medical Director with SSM Neurosciences Institute at DePaul Health Center*



Stroke is the fourth leading cause of death in America and one of the leading causes of adult disability. No matter what age, race, or gender a person is, anyone can have a stroke. The good news is that 80 percent of strokes can be prevented.

A stroke occurs when an artery that carries blood to the brain either bursts or becomes blocked. These arteries carry life-sustaining oxygen and nutrients so when they fail, the brain begins to die.

When the artery bursts and spills blood into the surrounding tissue, it's called a hemorrhagic stroke. A stroke caused by an artery becoming blocked by a blood clot or piece of plaque is called ischemic stroke.

Your risk of having a stroke can fall into one or both of two categories — modifiable and uncontrollable. Modifiable risks

include those that can be controlled by improving your lifestyle, such as controlling blood pressure, diabetes, cholesterol, and stopping smoking. The uncontrollable risks can't be changed, and they include age, genetics, race, and gender. (While stroke is more common in women than in men, more deaths from stroke occur in men.)

**FAST** is an easy acronym to remember the warning signs of a stroke.

**F – FACE:** Ask the person to smile. If one side of their face droops, they might be having a stroke.

**A – ARMS:** Ask the person to raise both of their arms. If one arm drifts downward, they might be having a stroke.

**S – SPEECH:** Ask the person to repeat a simple phrase. If their speech is slurred or strange, they might be having a stroke.

**T – TIME:** If you observe any of the signs, call 9-1-1 immediately! Time is one of the critical factors in how a stroke patient is treated and how they recover.

Medication to treat or reverse stroke symptoms is available in many emergency departments, so the earlier you recognize these characteristic symptoms and get to an ER, the greater the chance you have to reduce, recover from and even reverse the effects of stroke.

Dr. Amer Alsheklee is an interventional vascular neurologist and is the Stroke Director with SSM Neurosciences Institute at DePaul Health Center. His offices are located at 12255 DePaul Drive, Suite 200. He can be reached at 314-355-3355. For more information visit [www.ssmhealth.com/neurosciences](http://www.ssmhealth.com/neurosciences)

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## Senior Citizen Parties!

Have you heard about our SENIOR CITIZEN PARTIES? For only \$10.00 you can enjoy a delicious lunch catered by Tornatore's Catering, Great entertainment, outstanding attendance prizes, chances for a Pot of Gold and Gift Baskets and BINGO! Come to the Senior Office in Florissant City Hall with your Florissant Resident Card to purchase your ticket. Upcoming parties are:

- St Patrick's Party & Bingo! March 13th at 10:00 am at the James J. Eagan Center. Enjoy a traditional corned beef and cabbage lunch and a Special Irish Performance by Dan Sprout. Tickets will be sold from February 3rd through March 10th. Wear your GREEN!

- St. Louis Cardinal Party & Bingo! May 22nd at 10:00am at the James J. Eagan Center. Great entertainment by Scott & Carl (famous for playing at local wineries!). Also, BRING YOUR CAMERA - a special guest will be flying in! Space is limited so get your tickets early. Tickets will be sold from April 7th through May 19th. Wear your St. Louis Cardinal Attire!



**THE SILVER WORDS CLUB** is a City of Florissant Club for Widows and Widowers and Single Seniors. If you're interested in joining, please call the Senior Office at 839-7605. This club meets once a month with a meeting or a trip. The upcoming events are listed below:

- **March 20th: MEETING at Sunset Park Lodge 1:30 – 3:30pm. World Bird Sanctuary will visit with their birds of prey!** Space is limited so you must call the Senior Office at 314-839-7605 to make a reservation for this event, beginning on Monday, March 3rd. Last names beginning with S-Z are asked to bring a snack to share. Sign-ups will be held for the trip to Lone Elk Park, the Museum of Transportation and Mimi's Café.

- **April 10th: SILVER WORDS TRIP to Lone Elk Park, Museum of Transportation and Mimi's Café.** Time: 10:00am – 4:00pm. \$14.00 which includes bus transportation, visit to Lone Elk Park and guided tour and train ride in the Museum of Transportation. Lunch is at your own expense.

- **May 8th: MEETING, 1:30 – 3:30pm at the JFK Center. "Game Day".** Bring your board game, cards or dice. Last names beginning with A – I are asked to bring a snack to share. Tickets go on sale for the trip to the Eagleton Building (Courthouse) and Lotta Watta Creek.

*\*All Silver Words Trips are open to Silver Word Club Members ONLY at the Silver Words Club Meeting. The next day, if there are tickets remaining, they will be sold in the Senior Office in City Hall to residents or non-residents. Call 839-7605 for ticket availability.*

**If you lend someone \$20.00 and never see that person again, it was probably well worth it!**

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## Remember CARD PARTIES?

On April Fool's Day, Tuesday, April 1st, 12:30-3:30, the First Ever Multi-City Senior Citizen Card Party will be held at the St. Ann Community Center. The Cities of Florissant, Ferguson, Hazelwood, St. Ann, Bridgeton and Maryland Heights will join together and sponsor this event. WE will provide soda, coffee, dessert and FABULOUS attendance prizes. YOU bring your favorite game to play with your table of four! There will be a limited number of tickets available for each city so get your tickets early! Ticket sales begin in the Florissant Senior Office on February 18th. MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THIS FUN EVENT! Call the Senior Office, 839-7605, with any questions!



## Trips for Senior Citizens!

The City of Florissant provides wonderful, economical day trips for Senior Citizens. Listed below are the upcoming trips:

**HISTORIC KIMMSWICK, ANHEUSER BUSCH MUSEUM and THE BLUE OWL RESTAURANT:** Thursday, April 3, 2014, 9:00am -3:00pm, \$10.50 which includes transportation, and tour (lunch is at your own expense). Visit the Historic Anheuser Busch Museum & Estate in Kimmswick and see the Anheuser Collection of Family Heirlooms, Antiques, Portraits and the Family Library! Stroll through the streets of Kimmswick and enjoy the crafts and specialty shops. Then enjoy a delicious lunch (at your own expense) at the Famous BLUE OWL RESTAURANT. Tickets go on sale at the Florissant Senior Dining Center on Tuesday, February 25th from 9:00 - 11:00am for residents with a current Florissant Resident Card. If there are tickets remaining, a second registration will be held on Tuesday, March 4th at the Florissant Senior Dining Center from 9:00 - 11:00am. Call the Senior Office at 839-7605, for ticket availability.

**"THE SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH CARONDOLET" TOUR AND LUNCH:** Tuesday, May 20th, 2014, 9:15am – 2:00pm, \$18.00 which includes transportation, tour and lunch. Take a tour of the Historic Motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet located in South St. Louis. Restored and renovated in 2000, the Motherhouse is filled with rich history and sacred spaces glorified with architectural and artisan details. The Sisters will provide a delicious buffet lunch. Tickets go on sale at the Florissant Senior Dining Center on Tuesday, April 8th from 9:00- 11:00am for residents with a current Florissant Resident Card. If there are tickets remaining, a second registration will be held on Tuesday, April 15th at the Florissant Senior Dining Center from 9:00 -11:00am. Call the Senior Office at 839-7605 for ticket availability.

**Please Note:** The City of Florissant Senior Office welcomes people of all abilities to use any of our programs, facilities or services. We will make every effort to adapt our programs to incorporate your individual needs. If special accommodations are needed to participate in a program, please call our office at 839-7604 at least 48 hours in advance.

## SENIOR CITIZENS DID YOU KNOW?

If you are 60 years of age or older and live in the city limits of Florissant, you may be eligible for a substantial discount on your trash bill. Just call Meridian Waste Services (314-227-7000) to see if you qualify.



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## Senior Dining Center

The City of Florissant is unique in that we have our very own Senior Citizen Dining Center. It is located at 621 rue St. Francois right down the street from Florissant City Hall. We'd like to invite you to join us for a delicious catered meal served every day Monday through Friday at 12:00 noon. Meals are \$5.00 each for residents and \$6.00 for non-residents if accompanied by a resident. Reservations are required by calling 839-7603 the day before you want to come. You can come just for lunch or stay and enjoy some of our many activities including Pinochle, Specialty Bingo, Tai Chi, Doozle's Day, Parties, Crafts, or Rob your Neighbor. Get a table of friends together or come in and make new friends, have a great meal and make lasting friendships! Call the Senior Office at 839-7605 for more information



## EGGSTRA! EGGSTRA!



The EGGSCITING "EGG LADY" is coming to Florissant for an EGGSTRAVAGANZA! Let's have some EASTER FUN! Enjoy an Easter Treat and find out everything you didn't know about EGGS!

**When: Thursday, April 17th, 2014**

**Time: 1:00pm**

**Where: Eagan Center, A/B Room**

**Cost: Free (Space is Limited)**

**Call the Senior Office at 839-7605, starting April 1st for reservations**

## SENIOR CITIZENS BE ALERT!

It has been reported to the Senior Office and the Florissant Police Department that there have been calls made to Florissant Senior Citizens where the caller states that they would like to come out and speak with the Senior Citizen to "go over the changes with Medicare and Social Security". The Senior Citizen many times believes it is the Social Security Office or Medicare Office that they are talking to. Unless YOU have contacted the Medicare/Social Security Office, they probably are not trying to call you. From the reports to date, the callers have been investment companies who sell investment products and supplemental insurance and although not criminal, this is their way to get into the home and sell their product. If you receive a call like this, insist that they tell you what company they represent. You may want to tell the caller that you want to think about this and call them back. This will give you time to decide if you WANT them to come into your home or not. If you have any questions, please call the Senior Office at 839-7604.

## Dance To The Music Of The St. Charles Community Jazz Band!

On Friday Night, April 25th, the St. Charles Community Jazz Band will perform at the James J. Eagan Center from 7:00pm - 10:00pm. Tickets are available in the Senior Office in Florissant City Hall for just \$8.00 which includes admission and snacks. Beer and wine are available for purchase. All are invited, residents and non-residents. Come watch this performance or dance the night away with other Senior Citizens! Call the Senior Office at 839-7605 for more information.

## Do you know someone suffering from Alzheimer's or dementia?

The Florissant Police Department has a new program that may help. Please read about "Project Lifesaver" in the Police Department Section of this newsletter.

## Educational Program on Dementia

"Conversations About Dementia" is a FREE educational program offered by the Alzheimer's Association which offers tips on how to have honest and caring conversations with family members about going to the doctor, deciding when to stop driving, and making legal and financial plans. This program will be held in Florissant on Tuesday, March 18th, from 6:00-7:30pm at the James J. Eagan Center. This program is free, but pre-registration is required. Register online at [www.alz.org/stl](http://www.alz.org/stl) or by calling 1-800-272-3900. Please contact the Alzheimer's Association's 24/7 Helpline, at 800-272-3900, for more information on this program, support groups or other activities in this area.

### SENIORS EVENTS SCHEDULE

#### MARCH

- 1 - Ticket sales continue for Multi-City Card Party.
- 3 - Begin taking reservations for Silver Words Meeting at the Lodge.
- 13 - St. Patrick's Party & Bingo, Eagan Center 10:00am
- 20 - Silver Words Meeting at Sunset Park Lodge, 1:30 World Bird Sanctuary will visit. Sign-ups for Lone Elk, Transportation Museum & Mimi's Café

#### APRIL

- 1 - Multi-City Card Party 12:30-3:30pm St. Ann Community Center
- 3 - Senior Citizen Trip to Kimmswick to tour Anheuser Museum & Blue Owl
- 7 - Ticket Sales begin in Senior Office for St. Louis Cardinal Party (May 22)
- 8 - Ticket Sales begin at Dining Center 9-11am for trip to St. Joseph Carondelet
- 10 - Silver Words Trip to Lone Elk Park, Transportation Museum & Mimi's Café
- 17 - Speaker Series: EGG LADY Presentation, 1:00, Eagan Center A/B Room
- 18 - City Offices Closed - Good Friday
- 25 - Senior Citizen Dance, Eagan Ctr., 7-10pm, St. Charles Community Jazz Band

#### MAY

- 2,3,4 - Florissant Valley of Flowers Celebration
- 8 - Silver Words Meeting, JFK, 1:30, sign-ups for Eagleton/Supreme Court Bldg & Lotta Watta Creek
- 20 - Senior Trip to Sisters of St. Joseph Carondelet Tour & Lunch
- 26 - City Offices Closed - Memorial Day




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## Come Join Us for the 6th Annual Confluence Trash Bash!

Volunteers wanted! The 6th Annual Confluence Trash Bash will take place on Saturday, March 15 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Hundreds of volunteers participated regionally in last year's Trash Bash. In Florissant the event was a huge success with nearly 70 participants staging out from St. Ferdinand Park and removing roughly 20 cubic yards of trash!

The City of Florissant will be hosting one of four "starting locations" and this year the City's location will be at Bangert Park at 275 S. New Florissant Road. Volunteers will gather at the park in the morning, collect their equipment and instructions and then spread out to clean local creeks, streams and neighborhoods. After the cleanup everyone will gather back at the park for a BBQ lunch. Prizes will be awarded for the largest, weirdest and most valuable pieces of trash.

Those interested in volunteering may register at: [www.stlmsd.com/trashbash](http://www.stlmsd.com/trashbash) or call 314-436-8708 for more information.



Any volunteers wanting to be a team leader may contact Tim Barrett, City Engineer at 314-839-7643. Volunteers are encouraged to dress warmly and waterproof boots are recommended but not required. Gloves and trash bags will be provided. Come join us for this family-friendly event!

## Free Electronic Recycling and Document Shredding

The City of Florissant's Health Department is proud to announce two major upcoming events, an Electronic Recycling event and a Document Shredding event.

The free Electronic Event will be held on April 5th, 2014, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at St. Ferdinand Park, rain or shine. You must be a Florissant resident and have a City resident card. Acceptable items, working or not, includes Computers, Printers, Keyboards, Laptops, Hard Drives, Cell Phones, Pagers, Radios, Scanners, Speakers, VCRs, DVDs, Fax Machines, Answering Machines, Televisions, Stereos, Furnaces, Water Heaters, Air conditioners, Microwaves, Power Tools, Kitchen Appliances, Lawn and Garden equipment, etc. There is a one television per car limit. **Also, please note that any Lawn and Garden Equipment that does not have the oil and gas removed will not be accepted.**

The City of Florissant would like to thank Midwest Recycling Center for participating.

The Document Shredding Event will take place April 12th, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. also at St. Ferdinand Park, rain or shine. Items that are acceptable include, Bank Statements, Tax Records, Credit



Card Statements, and Invoices, essentially anything with your name and address on it.

You are allowed to bring up to five bags or boxes. Types of boxes include copy paper boxes, banker and shoe boxes. Types of bags include shopping bags, grocery & trash bags. **Please DO NOT BRING three ring binders, hanging file folders, CD's, DVD's, or hard bound books.**

This event is sponsored by the City of Florissant, Cintas and Meridian Waste and is open to Florissant Residents who must show a Resident Card.

**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

## Florissant Home Improvement Program



The City of Florissant's Community Development Office will have applications available for the Home Improvement Program beginning Tuesday, April 1, 2014. Applications can be found by visiting [www.florissantmo.com/cd/blockgrant.shtml](http://www.florissantmo.com/cd/blockgrant.shtml) or the Community Development Office located in the Government Building at 1055 rue St. Francois.

COMPLETED applications will be accepted beginning at 8:00a.m. Thursday, May 1, 2014.

Applications will be selected on a "First-Come-First Serve" basis.

The Home Improvement Program offers no interest, forgivable loans up to \$5000 to income eligible Florissant homeowners. Applicants must be Florissant homeowners and they must have owned and occupied the house for at least two years prior to application. The loans can only be used for home repair and to address code violations.

Homeowners accepted into the program must remain in their home five years from the date of completion of the program requirements.

A seminar explaining the 2014 Home Improvement Program will be held on Tuesday, April 8, 2014 at 6:00pm in the Government Building. For additional information contact the Community Development Office at 839-7622 or 839-7679.

## Homeownership Assistance Program

Looking for a Home? Move into the City of Florissant and take advantage of our Homeownership Assistance Program.

The City of Florissant offers a program for potential home buyers that will match their down payment on the purchase of a home within the Florissant city limits up to \$6000.00.

The Homeownership Assistance

Program is a forgivable loan after 5 years of residency and is available to eligible individuals and families moving into the city limits of Florissant.

Applications and program guidelines can be found on our website at [www.florissantmo.com](http://www.florissantmo.com) or you can contact the Community Development office at 314.839.7680.

## Florissant Garage Sale

Florissant residents can haul down the clutter from their attics, and treasures from their garages and organize accumulations from their barns for the 5th Annual Florissant Garage Sale.

The Garage Sale will be held at the James J. Eagan ice rink area on Saturday April 26th from 9:00AM-1:00PM. All of the usual garage sale items can be found throughout the sale as well as some unusual items. There is sure to be a treasure with your name on it!

- **Each applicant will only receive one space.**
- **Only Florissant residents receive a space to sell.**
- **Fee to sell - \$15**
- **The selling of craft items will not be approved.**
- **Fill out an application and return it by April 18th.**
- **Applications will be available beginning February 10th at JJE, JFK, and at [www.florissantmo.com](http://www.florissantmo.com).**
- **Space is limited**

**The Garage Sale is FREE to attend!**



## Missouri Youth Hockey State Championship Tournament Games

The James J. Eagan Center will be host to the Missouri Youth Hockey state championship tournament games. These games will include teams from the Bantam B and Squirt Silver divisions. Games will run Saturday February 22nd and Sunday February 23rd from 8:30am to 6:30pm on Saturday and 8:30am to 2pm on Sunday. For more info, visit [www.mohockeyyd.org](http://www.mohockeyyd.org).

This will be held at the James J. Eagan Center in the City of Florissant and #1 James J. Eagan Drive, Florissant, MO 63033

## Street Repair & Improvements

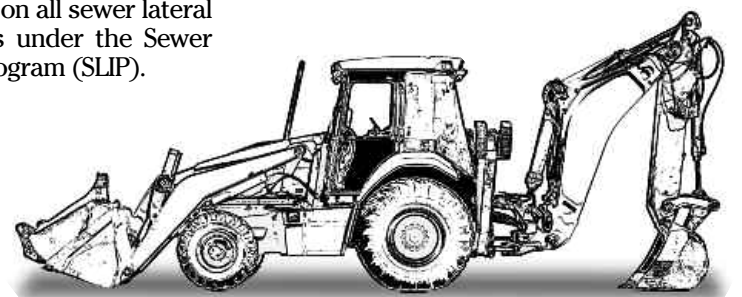
This spring, City crews will begin this season's maintenance of replacing deteriorating concrete slabs and patching other areas that need repair with hot asphalt mix.

Several concrete streets will have major repairs done to concrete slabs and then an asphalt overlay to protect the concrete underneath. This work will also begin this spring.

The Street Department continues to do the excavation work on all sewer lateral repairs for residents under the Sewer Lateral Insurance Program (SLIP).

When work is being done in your area, keep safety in mind. Drive slow and use caution. At times, there will be detours and weather related delays that cannot be avoided. Please be patient and be courteous to the workers. Everyone's safety is our main concern.

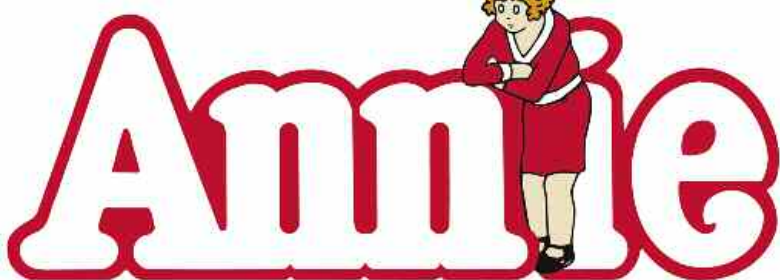
For more information, you can contact the Florissant Street Department at 314-839-7652.



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### Titan Alumni Players Present the Musical

March 14-16 at Trinity Catholic 1720 Redman



The Titan Alumni Players, featuring alumni from Mercy, St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Thomas Aquinas-Mercy, Rosary and Trinity Catholic High Schools, will team with current Trinity Catholic students to perform the musical Annie March 14-16. Performances will be held at Trinity Catholic - 1720 Redman, Rd., St. Louis, MO 63138 - Friday and Saturday, March 14 and 15 at 8 p.m. Sunday's performance will be held at 1 p.m. Tickets for the Friday and Sunday shows are \$10 for adults and \$5 for

students high school age and younger. Saturday's show is a dinner theater with dinner served at 6:30 p.m. Cost for the dinner is \$30 for adults and \$20 for children 12 and under. All proceeds of the musical benefit the arts at Trinity Catholic. For ticket information call Laurie Mogelnicki at 314-374-4796 or Marcia Montgomery at 314-503-2414. Group pricing is available and reservations for the dinner theater must be made by March 8.

## A Snack with the Easter Bunny and Easter Egg Hunt

Join us for a light snack and drink with the Easter Bunny and his friends. Children can enjoy a few fun activities and visit with the Easter Bunny before heading outside for an Easter Egg Hunt!

Tickets will be required upon entry for all children. Tickets will be available beginning Monday March 3rd at the James J Eagan and John F Kennedy Centers. Tickets are free and must be obtained by a Florissant Resident showing a valid and current resident card. Tickets are limited so get yours early to avoid missing out on this exciting event! Parents, do not forget your camera to capture memories that will last a lifetime.

**Ages: 12 & Under**

**When: Saturday April 5th**

**Time: 10:00-11:30AM**

**Location: James J Eagan Center**

**Price: FREE- Requires Ticket**

**Obtained Prior To Event**



## Bunny Hunt

Join us at the Nature Lodge to make Easter decorations, dye Easter Eggs and Search for the Easter Bunny

**Ages: 2-5**

**When: April 16th**

**Time: 11:00-12:00PM**

**Location: Sunset Park Nature Lodge**

**Registration: R 3/31 NR 4/7**

**Price: R \$8, NR \$10**

## Ozzie's Spring Training



Boys and girls will work on hitting, pitching, fielding, and base running in this one day baseball or softball clinic. Get your son or daughter prepared for the season with this great spring training camp!

**Ages: 7-14 Ages: 4-6 (Mini Hitters)**

**Date: 4/13 Date: 4/13**

**Time: 3:00-5:30PM Time: 3:00-4:00PM**

**Location: Koch Park Field #4**

**Location: Koch Park Field #4**

**Price: R \$33, NR \$37, R \$17, NR \$21**

## Kickstarter's Soccer

The Franciscan Soccer Club's ROOTS SOCCER program is a proven success story. Over 3000 children in St. Louis and surrounding areas have participated since its inception in 2006. Children learn to play soccer the right way from our caring, professional trainers. This unique "climb the ladder" process prepares children for our CLUB TEAM program which begins at age 5.

**Ages: 3-6**

**When: Saturdays**

**Session: 3/8-4/12**

**Time: 9:00-10:00AM**

**Location: JFK Center**

**Price: R \$60, NR \$70**

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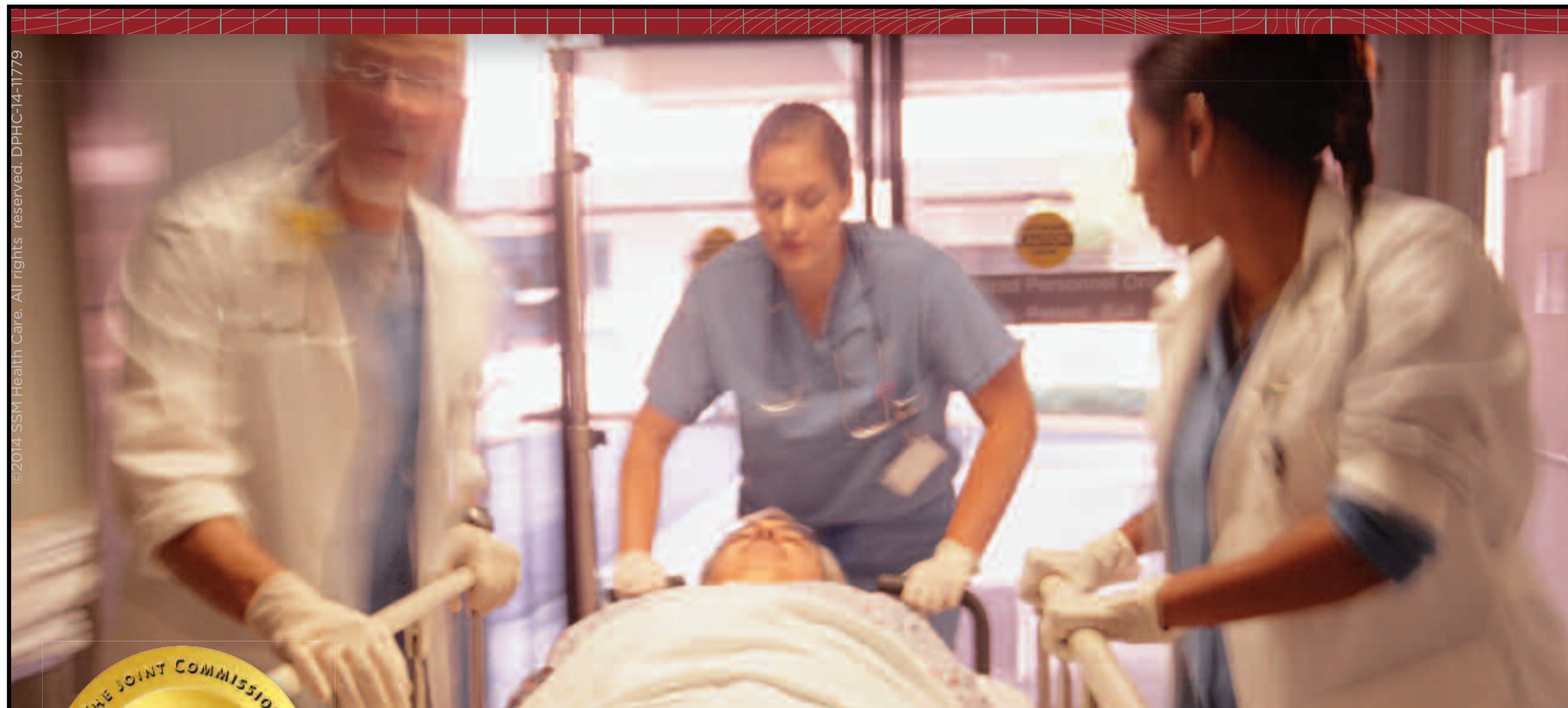
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March 2014

# THE Florissant Focus

The Newsletter of the Beautiful City of Florissant, Missouri

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