

18th Annual Florissant Old Town Fall Festival - Sunday October 11th

The 18th Annual Florissant Old Town Fall Festival is set for Sunday October 11th, 2015.

Florissant Old Town Partners and the City of Florissant, the Missouri Arts Council and the Regional Arts Commission co-sponsors the festival on rue St. Francois each year on the 2nd Sunday in October. In the past few years over 35,000 visitors attended the weekend events and we expect this to be the biggest and best ever!

The Old Town Fall Festival kicks off at 11 am on Sunday October 11th and runs until 5pm on rue St. Francois Street in the heart of Old Town Florissant. The full eleven full blocks from Florissant Road down to the St. Ferdinand Shrine is closed off for this event. All side streets will be blocked off to accommodate the festival. The street will be filled with activities for everyone with over 150 booths including games to play, sale items, food and beverages. We will have the old favorites like the Chili Cook-off, the wine garden, pumpkin decorating, Kincaid Puppets and entertainment on almost every block.

Everyone's favorite event the Fido Follies returns and will be located at the Government Center at 1055 rue St. Francois at the very top of the street. This is a dog friendly event, water bowls will be provided on every block. (Properly licensed and leashed of course) and enter them in the dog show. We have categories such as smallest dog, best kisser, best costume, best trick and largest dog to name a few.

Once again, if you are looking for the Children's Hands-On art projects sponsored by the Hazelwood Head Start Program it will be up at the top of St. Francois on the City Hall lawn. Children will have the opportunity to create their own masterpiece with the help of volunteer teachers.

The Police Department in conjunction with MOCHIPS, will be offering child identification kits free of charge. They will be set up in the Council Chambers near the Children's Hands-On art at City Hall.

Want to get an early jump on Holiday Shopping? The Craft Fair continues to grow each year!!! More than 60 crafters show off their talents with their hand crafted works for you to browse and shop. The craft fair is located near City Hall and Bank of America.

The Police Welfare Association is back again this year to host a Car Show on the Knights of Columbus Grounds on the day of the Festival. All proceeds from this event will be donated to the Florissant Police Department Canine Program.

For our Concert at the Lawyers Building in the 100 Block of St. Francois this year we have the SSJ Band on the band shell! Presented by the Florissant Fine Arts Council with support from the Missouri Arts Council and Regional Arts Commission on Sunday afternoon. Performances will be at 1:00 and 3:00 p.m.

We also have many entertainers throughout the 11 blocks of fun to include the Dixie Rhythm Kings, Cookie the Clown, Dan Sproat, Kraig Kalkbrenner, the Kincaid Karacter Puppets, Richard Renner - Stiltwalker/Juggler, Vince DeLaughder - Stiltwalker, Carol Brady our Story Teller, North County Big Band, The Buckhannon Brothers, 7 weeks after, the Metro Band and more.

St. Ferdinand Shrine will be selling items from the Shrine as well as other fun activities!

The 5K Race To The Shrine will be starting off the weekend at 4pm on Saturday, October 10th beginning and ending at St. Ferdinand Shrine. **For more information and to register please visit racetotheshrine.com.**

Don't Forget!!! A shuttle will be provided free of charge on St. Catherine for those Festival patrons who have difficulty navigating the St. Francois hill. The FLERT bus will be transporting festival patrons from block to block on St. Catherine which is one street over from St. Francois. There will be signs directing you to the stops.

The Fall Festival is hosted by Florissant Old Town Partners and the City of Florissant. As of this publication our sponsors of the Festival are:

Entertainment Sponsors: Dukes Mayonnaise
Corporate Sponsors: Baronwood Kennels, Nimmons Wealth Management, Click Heating and Cooling, Florissant Glass, Dooley's Florist & Gifts and Meridian Waste.

Community Sponsors: Boyle Law Firm, Zykan Family Partnership, Olson and White, Stygar Funeral Home.

Neighborhood Sponsors: Hazelwood School District, North County Republicans, Rock Paper



Scissors, Stem's Florist and Berkshire Hathaway.

Check out our updated sponsor lists on our website!!

Join us in the historic Old Town area of Florissant for a great day of entertainment for the whole family. For more information or to join the activities please call the Old Town Partners office at 837-0033 or visit the website at www.florissant-oldtown.com and click on the Fall Festival link.

Be sure to check us out on Channel 4 "Great Day St. Louis" every day the week of October 5th and live from City Hall on October 9th.

Look for Florissant Old Town Partners and like us on Facebook for continuous updates!

Safe Sound Streets – A Priority



The streets in the City of Florissant are getting older. The cost of repairing, maintaining and improving our streets continue to increase and the revenue sources for our streets have not changed and have not kept up with costs.

The streets in Florissant represent a \$115 to \$130 Million investment at today's costs.

A brief summary of our streets is as follows:

- We have approximately 167 miles of streets ...
- The average age of our streets is about 56 years old ... but some are about 75 years old ...
- We have a street rating system which shows our streets are currently in 'fair' to 'good' condition ... but the ratings also show a pattern that our street ratings are slowly declining ...



- We currently have about 2.33 miles of streets that need major repairs ... that we estimate at \$1,725,971 ...
- Within the next 5 years we have about 43.66 miles of streets that will need major repairs ... that we estimate at \$32,341,582 ...
- Within the next 10 years we have about 75.76 miles of streets that will need major repairs ... that we estimate at \$56,119,978 ...
- The type of repairs will vary from street to street but generally will include repairing base failures, replacing concrete pavement, replacing concrete curbs and gutters, grinding and re-profiling street pavement, resolving stormwater ponding problems, resolving joint failures, doing an asphalt overlay, installing ADA ramps/sidewalks, re-striping where needed and addressing any street signage where needed.

Good, safe, sound City streets are a priority. They improve and help maintain property values. They show the level of commitment and pride the residents, businesses and local governments have in their city. They assist the Police, Fire, all 'first responders' and emergency vehicles in the safe, expedient, efficient delivery of their services.

Mayor Schneider and the Florissant City Council have wrestled for many months on how best to increase revenues for street repairs, maintenance and improvements. Currently, the best approach is a ¼ cent Sales Tax. The old adage 'a-stitch-in-time-saves-nine' is good advice. So hopefully we can agree to fund needed street work now at a lessor cost ... rather than be forced to fund street work in the future at a much higher cost.

The Florissant City Council has passed an ordinance that will put this ¼ cent sales tax request on the November 3rd, 2015 ballot. This tax will raise about \$1.3 Million in additional revenues 'strictly for streets'. Forty one other area communities already have a similar tax for their streets. This is a proven acceptable approach to maintaining safe sound streets in our City.

Ongoing Street Repairs are Vital to Florissant's Quality of Life

What does it take to maintain the standards of a first-rate city such as Florissant?

Our City employees work tirelessly to ensure that Florissant remains in the vanguard of the state's most desirable places to live, work and raise a family. The cost of quality, however, is far from inexpensive. An example is the network of streets that permeates Florissant.

Our Public Works Department is responsible for maintaining the formidable total of approximately 167 map miles throughout the city. The Department keeps meticulous records of the condition of all streets in Florissant. According to Lou Jearls, director of the Department of Public Works for Florissant, presently there are about 2.33 miles of streets in the city in need of major improvements. That is less than 1.5 percent of all roads in our city.

The costs for street repairs, though, can be prohibitive. Jearls says that the money required to completely remove and replace a PCC (Portland Cement Concrete) street with new PCC pavement, curbs and gutters is between \$762,667 per mile and \$855,360 per mile. Thus, repairing just those streets in need of major improvements in Florissant would cost between \$1,770,014 and \$1,992,989.

In our 2015 fiscal year, approximately \$1,826,000 is funded for city street work. Thus, the entire budget could be used up just fixing the 2.33 miles of Florissant streets in need of major repair.

There are some asphalt streets in Florissant that have been slurry sealed for more than 30 years and are still in good condition. The key to proper maintenance of asphalt streets is that they be re-sealed every 5 years. Given Florissant's soil and weather conditions, Director Jearls has found that asphalt surfaces are easier and less expensive to maintain in our city.

Regardless of whether a road is repaired with asphalt or concrete, street maintenance requires a considerable but very worthwhile portion of Florissant's annual budget in order to maintain the City's reputation as one of Missouri's finest places to live.

Own a Part of Shrine History

St. Ferdinand Shrine has long been a part of the Florissant Community. The settlement of the area is noted in our American History. It was truly part of the Gateway to the West along with St. Louis and St. Charles. The Church was first known as St. Ferdinand Parish 1789 - 1958, then as Old St. Ferdinand 1958 -1988 and now as St. Ferdinand Shrine. The Shrine now displays items from all those eras plus we have a great deal of documentation that tells the history of the area.

As time progressed and the church grew in size, a rectory was added for the priests and a schoolhouse was added that housed grades 1-8. These changes meant many items to furnish these buildings were brought in along with the replacing of the older items. The older items were relegated to the attic and became known as "attic items". These items range from religious to furniture, decorations and paintings. The time has come for us to begin the sale of these "attic items" so that people could enjoy an artifact of the Shrine and because our attics are full! The sale will be held from 11am to 5pm at the Fall Festival Sunday October 11th in front of the Convent building (next to the Church).

Plan to attend and purchase a remembrance of St. Ferdinand Shrine.

While at the Shrine participate in our other activities - Tours of the Shrine, Face Painting, Pull Tabs, Sno Cones, Food, Basket Raffle, Shrine Gift Shop, Sale of Home Baked Bread and of course our great Book Sale. Our air-conditioned schoolhouse is the perfect place for you to rest and enjoy our great Shrine Nachos.

We hope to see you at the Fall Festival - Come and participate in our sale of "attic items" and enjoy our other activities. Don't forget to tour the Shrine and see the many improvements that have been completed.

See you Sunday October 11 at St. Ferdinand Shrine located at the foot of rue St. Francois.



Florissant's Historic Treasures



The Florissant Landmark Historic District Commission presents a special event to be held at the James J. Eagan Center Theater Wednesday, October 28, 2015. This event is open to the public and marks the special premier showing of a 45 minute video compilation entitled "Florissant's Historic Treasures". Doors open at 6:30 P.M. for a 7 P.M. showing, refreshments available. This premier event will feature portions of a five-part series highlighting some of the historic events, buildings and places that shaped the development of Florissant.

The documentary series of five separate 45 minute videos features several historic properties under specific themes. These subjects are: 'Places of Worship', 'Historic Business District', 'Saved by Preservation', 'Preservation by Relocation', and 'Residential Properties'. At a time following the premier event, each show will be available on YouTube and/or on demand at www.florissantmo.com and a DVD featuring all five shows will be made available for check out at Florissant City Hall.

Plan to be there at the Video Premier on October 28, 2015! It's a show that marks founding events that established this city and will remind us of the city's strengths and proud heritage. This preservation/education program was made possible in part, by a grant from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, State Historic Preservation Office and the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, the Landmark Historic District Commission and many committed individuals.

Home Improvement Mechanical Program (HIP-Mechanical)

Are you a homeowner and have found yourself cold and without heat? Emergency assistance is available through the Home Improvement Mechanical Program (HIP-Mechanical) and it could be your answer!

The HIP Mechanical Program offers a limited number of grants to home owners for the replacement of heating units. The household must qualify as low to moderate income. Contact the Community Development Office for more information 314.839.7680.



Autumn Leaf Disposal

As autumn approaches and the leaves begin to fall, the City of Florissant would like to remind its residents that raking, sweeping, or blowing leaves or grass onto the sidewalk or street is illegal.

Yard debris tends to clog our sewer systems and make our city streets unattractive to residents and visitors.

Please be considerate of your neighbors and dispose of yard waste properly.



Leadership & Members of Your City Council

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Dear Friends,

We can either remember this past summer as the wettest ever or we can appreciate how green our lawns and parks are and was all summer. We recently wrapped up our summer weekend Music Under the Stars concerts at St. Ferdinand Lake and the lets give a shout out to our City Council members who were responsible for the good weather.

"Music Under the Stars" is proudly sponsored by the Florissant Fine Arts Council and the City of Florissant and was blessed with outstanding weather and great attendance. We enjoyed the sounds of the Northwinds Concert Band, Rockin Chair Band, Ralph Butler Band, Bob Kuban Brass, SmashBand SuperHits, Billy Peek Band, Butch Wax & The Hollywoods with Theo Peoples from The Four Tops and Fanfare Band featuring Kittie Moller.

Our only remaining concert will be part of the Fall Festival on Sunday October 11th featuring the SSJ Rock and Roll Show Band with two performances there. Information on the many events sponsored by Florissant is always available on our website at www.florissantmo.com and on your Charter or AT & T television local government access channel.

The Wednesday Night Out events that we co-sponsored with Old Town Partners held on the last Wednesday each month last June, July, August and September were very well attended, received rave reviews and are a must do for next year. Kortes Custom Framing hosted an art show and we dedicated our 22nd Walk Through History in honor of Frank and Josephine Korte, Friends of Old St. Ferdinand Shrine hosted and ice cream social and showed the family movie Home in July, Stems Florist and Bunkers hosted a Tropical Island Street Party in August and we also dedicated our 23rd Walk Through History Plaque in honor of Don Zykan, Sr. and Hendels Café hosted a Jazz dinner fest in September where we also dedicated our 24th Walk Through History Plaque in honor of Johnny Londoff, Sr.

National Night Out was held Tuesday, August 4 on a wonderful clear and comfortable summer night and many block parties were hosted allowing residents to enjoy and get to know their neighbors. Pick any date you can to get your neighbors together and we will block off your street and your Mayor and a friendly Florissant Police Officer will likely stop by. To schedule a block party for your neighborhood for a future gathering please call Cheryl Entwistle at 314-839-7601. Also consider starting a Neighborhood Watch program for your street to encourage watching out for each other. Call Officer Craig Dehart at 830-6042. In the police section of the Focus Newspaper you find more information about starting your own Neighborhood Watch Program.

Season tickets are on sale now for two great professional theatre series here at the Florissant Civic Center Theatre. Get your season tickets by visiting the FCC Theatre Box Office or call 314-921-5678.

Once again this year's Summer Playground ended with our Family Night. The James J. Eagan Center had approximately 300 children registered for the programs. The theme for this

year's family night was "Loves the 90s". The Koch Day camp Program had over 320 enrolled in summer camp. We had great participation from the families that attended Family Night where refreshments were served and a slide show played with pictures of all the fun activities of the summer camps.

Congratulations to our very own Florissant Fish Swim Team who completed in their 13th season finishing undefeated for the fifth year in a row and winning their sixth conference championship. I was able to attend several events and was amazed at the large number of parents, grandparents, brothers and sisters and friends that attended each competition. This year's team comprised of 172 swimmers and 12 coaches. The swim program is designed to accommodate a wide range of physical talent and balances between competition, participation, family values and good old fashion fun.

VFW Post 4105 and City hosted a 9-11 ceremony on Friday, September 11 at the VFW Post at 410 rue St. Francois. VFW Ladies Auxiliary President Brenda Roberson, VFW Men's Auxiliary Randy Schroeder and Post Commander Bob Snider invited me to speak at this solemn occasion. My remarks reflected on the sacrifice and commitment required to advance the progress of democracy and recognized the special role of the military, police, firefighters and all first responders to keep our society safe.

The Veteran Day Parade will be held on Sunday, November 8th. It will start at 1:00 p.m. near the St. Ferdinand Shrine and finished at the James J. Eagan Center. This event has grown to rival all other parades in the Metro area. I encourage everyone to come out and show their patriotic support along St. Francois and St. Catherine all the way to the JJE Center.

We thank all the seniors who attended the Senior Town Hall meeting on September 17th to be informed about the progress in the beautiful city and to get an opportunity to speak with the City Administration. We would like to thank again Bent-Wood Nursing and Rehabilitation Center for graciously providing a delicious breakfast to those that attended. For all other upcoming Senior Events please contact Peggy Hogan our Senior Coordinator at 314-839-7604.

I would like to thank everyone for attending the City Wide Town Hall meeting that was on Thursday, October 1st at the James J. Eagan Center. The Chief, Judge Boyle, Department Heads and I were joined by Council Members and representa-

tives from organizations and agencies that serve Florissant to discuss what we are doing to advance the progress of our city. Included in the presentation was an explanation on why my Administration and your City Council has placed Proposition S on the November 3 Ballot for a ¼ cent sales tax increase for Street Maintenance and Safety. After the presentations we stayed until we had an opportunity to hear every question and suggestion.

The Florissant Old Town Fall Festival will be held on Sunday October 11th as the biggest block party in the state blocking off St. Francois Street from Florissant Road to St. Ferdinand Shrine. The festival is sponsored by Florissant Old Town Partners, the City of Florissant and the Missouri and Regional Arts Council. This important cultural community family friendly togetherness event runs from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and will have a wide variety of other musical and performing arts entertainment and delicious food and beverages. There will be crafts and snacks of all kinds and the famous Chili tasting contest in front of Click's Heating and Cooling. The Fall Festival weekend will include a Food Truck Knight at the Knights of Columbus grounds and the 2nd annual Race to the Shrine 5K run.

Economic Development remains active with 92 new Commercial businesses and 37 New Residential businesses opening since last September. We are looking forward to the new developments that are currently in the Planning or Due Diligence phase. Developers from across the United States are continuing to look at Florissant for new opportunities. Walmart opened their often talked about Super Store on August 26 with much fanfare. This is one of the only if not the only Walmart in Missouri that has been constructed without any Public Assistance approved by the Municipality the store is located in.

I would like to commend all of the members of the City Council for their diligent work this past summer on several 3 person committees to prepare recommendations to the entire council and the Administration on several current challenges. Council Members Henke, Eagan and Schmidt



worked on reviewing employee compensation issues. Council Members Pagano, Jones and Siam are participating in an ongoing Committee to assist the Administration in identifying ways to improve and maximize our Code Enforcement resources and results. Council Members Schildroth, Lee and Caputa did an extensive amount of research on the best means to obtain the means to continue maintaining our 167 miles of City Streets to keep them safe and attractive which resulted in Proposition S.

Proposition S is an initiative on the November 3 election ballot asking Florissant voters to approve a ¼ cent Sales Tax earmarked for Street Maintenance to help keep our 167 miles comprised of 165 streets attractive and Safe. You will be receiving invitations to attend your choice of two informational meetings on Proposition S to be held at the John F Kennedy Center on Monday evening October 19th and at the James J. Eagan Center on October 29th. There are several articles in this edition of the Focus on the Challenge we face to maintain our Streets in a safe and attractive manner and more information is available on our City website at www.florissantmo.com.

I hope to see you at the Fall Festival on October 11th on St. Francois Street!

Sincerely,
Mayor Thomas P. Schneider

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"Swing Fore the Kids" GOLF TOURNAMENT
Oct. 10, 2015
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• Lunch- 10:30am til Noon
• Shotgun Start at Noon
• Buffet dinner and awards to follow golf.
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Safeguard Your Children Get them ID'd with MoCHIP! IT'S FREE!



The Florissant Police Department along with the Missouri Freemasons will be hosting a one day Missouri Child Identification Program (MoCHIP) during the Florissant Fall Festival on Sunday, October 11, 2015, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM. The event will be held at the Florissant City Hall inside the Council Chambers.

This program, FREE OF CHARGE, provides parents with critical information on their children in the event their child turned up missing or abducted. This nationally recognized program provides parents with a digital photograph, digital fingerprints, DNA swab, child information and emergency contacts, a dental bite impression, and two (2) laminated ID cards. Most importantly, all information is turned over to a parent or legal guardian on completion of the process. No child information is stored or kept by the MoCHIP program or the Florissant Police.

If you've been through the MoCHIP program and have had your child ID'd, bring the mini CD back and we'll update it for you. The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) strongly urges parents to have the most up-to-date information, including pictures - so if you've had your 0-4 year old ID'd in the last 6 months, it's time to do it again. It is recommended to have

children ages 5-10 ID'd once a year, and when children 10 and over enter puberty you should consider having them ID'd every 6-12 months, as their features and bodies are changing drastically. Often overlooked are older teens and young adults who are actually most at risk - please urge your 14 - 21 year olds to get ID'd. It typically takes only 10-15 minutes.

As a result of the efforts by the Missouri Freemason through the MoCHIP program, parents/legal guardians of over 125,000 have received this critical identification information free of charge.

Make sure you mark your calendars for this event and keep your eyes open as the date approaches for more information. For more information visit the MoCHIPS web site at: www.mochip.org, MoCHIP on Facebook, or contact the Florissant Police Department Public Information Office at (314) 830-6042

Neighborhood Watch Program



TAKE A BITE OUT OF CRIME

This program encourages citizens to take an active role in keeping their neighborhoods safe by reporting suspicious activity, practicing effective personal safety techniques to reduce the risk of becoming a victim of a crime, watching out for each other in their neighborhood and staying in touch with fellow neighbors to encourage keeping your neighborhoods safe and free from crime. Chief Lowery says, "Our residents are our eyes and ears in the neighborhoods, I encourage every resident in the city to participate in this very important program."

Those who volunteer to become a block captain will be trained on how to conduct a neighborhood watch meeting, pass along important safety information, discuss issues in the neighborhoods and keep their group members up to date on crime trends in their neighborhoods. Once a block

captain you'll receive daily updates, via emails from the police department, on notable criminal activity.

You can also register for the Florissant Neighborhood Watch Program by picking up a form and the Florissant Police Station or by visiting our Department website and downloading a registration form.

If you're interested in finding out more about the Florissant Neighborhood Watch Program or you're considering becoming a Block Captain contact Officer Craig DeHart at (314) 830-6042 or visit our website at www.florissantmo.com/police.

October is National Crime Prevention Month. The Police Department would like to take this opportunity to encourage our residents to keep their outside lights on all night long to help illuminate our streets and deter criminal activity in our neighborhoods. New LED bulb technology allows this to be done at a minimal cost in electricity to our residents. Please join this effort to increase safety in our community.



Florissant Police Department Warns People to be Aware of Scams

The Florissant Police Department wants to warn people of scam artists attempting to take advantage of people's generosity in the "Pigeon Drop" scam. Every year, police departments from across the St. Louis area hear of incidents where con artists approach unsuspecting people with offers of a quick and easy payoff. Unfortunately, the only quick payoff is to the con artists as they steal the victim's money. These con artists tend to target elderly victims who are easily confused. Most of these crimes occur during the mid-morning and afternoon hours. Most of the initial stories that the con artists tell the victims are pre-rehearsed, and they persuade the victims into participating.

We have had a large amount of residents reporting that they received phone calls from people identifying themselves as IRS agents who state that the resident owes a large amount of money to the IRS and demands an immediate payment. These callers sound very convincing so please remember that the IRS will never call you on the phone and demand immediate payment. Never give out any personal information over the phone, including any financial information. If you have any questions about possible debt to the IRS please contact them directly at www.irs.gov.

Another scam our residents have encountered is the Technical Support scam. Residents have



reported getting phone calls from people stating that there is a problem with the resident's computer that needs to be fixed. The person on the phone then states they are associated with a well-known company to earn their trust and then ask you to give them remote access to your computer. Once that access is granted they can make changes to your computer or infect it with viruses that can steal your personal information. Remember, you are the only one that knows if your computer has a virus, take it to a reputable computer repair shop to have it looked at and do not give anyone access to your computer over the phone.

The men and women of the Florissant Police Department want to remind everyone that, "if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is." Make educated decisions, and do not provide money to someone that you just met with the promise of a big payoff in return. The Florissant Police Department also wants to remind everyone that if you are contacted by one of these types of scam artists, to please notify your local police department of the incident as soon as it happens.

Contact the Florissant Police Department
by phone at (314) 831-7000.
Call 911 for Emergencies

Florissant Police add Motorcycles to Traffic Division

Chief Lowery is excited to announce a new Police Motorcycle program to the Florissant Police Department. The Police Department bought two Harley Davidson Ultra Classic Motorcycles in June/2015. These motorcycles were purchased by the Police Department and outfitted with emergency lighting through a Traffic Safety Grant. We currently have two Officers that have been through a very intense two-week training course that is specifically designed for Police Motorcycle riders. Two more Officers will be attending training this fall. The motorcycles will be used for traffic enforcement, parades, funeral details, and other special duties.



In Memory of Earl Martin Szwabo

Former City of Florissant employee Mr. Earl Martin Szwabo, passed peacefully on Saturday, August 15, 2015 at the age of 93. He was married to the late Mary Elizabeth Szwabo for 69 years.

Earl Szwabo served in the Army and was stationed in the Philippines during World War II. In 1942 when he was 17 years old, Szwabo's unit was taken by the Japanese as prisoners of war. For the next 42 months, Szwabo was moved from camp to camp, forced to work in Japanese factories and suffered as countless friends died at the hands of their Japanese captors.



Earl Szwabo at Age 17

The Japanese first took Earl to Bilibid Prison in Manila, where he stayed for a month before they sent him to the Cabanatuan City Camp for one year. He was then sent to help build an airport for Japanese troops on Palawan Island. After Palawan, Szwabo was sent to work at a copper mine factory in Nagoya, Japan.

Szwabo worked at the factory for about 18 months, melting copper for the Japanese war fleet. On August 6, 1945, United States dropped the atomic bomb on Hiroshima. In September 1945 Szwabo and the other POWs took a train to Tokyo and found a Red Cross ship where they received medical care.

Szwabo was transported to the United States for recovery and treatment. He remained hospitalized for several months as doctors helped him regain his health after 42 months of near starvation, deplorable living conditions, and ill-treatment while captive. Szwabo decided to stay in the Army and advanced in rank to become a chief warrant officer. He retired November 1, 1960.



In September 2010, 65 years after his liberation from Japanese captivity, Earl Szwabo was invited back to Japan with five other former POWs. They were part of the nation's first ever "peace visit" and received an apology from the Japanese government for their inhumane treatment. Earl Szwabo grew up in St. Louis City and resided in St. Louis County.

Earl worked for the City of Florissant from February 1, 1963 until he retired on June 30, 2004. During his 41 years of service with the City he served as a police officer and retired as Director of Personnel and Purchasing.

He was the devoted father of Dr. Peggy (John Forbis) Szwabo, Michael Szwabo, and Mark Szwabo; dear grandfather of Wesley Szwabo-Forbis (Brittani Alvarez), Nikolas (Stephanie) Szwabo, 2nd Class Petty Officer Jozef (Brenda) Szwabo and great-grandfather of Alekzander Szwabo; dear uncle, great-uncle, cousin and friend.

Funeral service was held at 10 am, on Monday, August 31, 2015 at HUTCHENS Mortuary, 675 Graham Rd, Florissant, MO.

His funeral procession was led by over twenty law enforcement motorcycles comprised of Florissant PD, St. Charles County PD, Hazelwood PD, Maryland Heights PD, Webster Groves PD, St. Ann PD and the patriotic guard. He was to be laid to rest with honors at the Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery.

Memorial donations are appreciated and should go to the Descendants Group-American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor - In care of Ms. Judy Pruitt, 23 Elwell, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130



View from the Chair Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission



August 26, 2015

To: Dan Ross, Executive Director
Missouri Municipal League

Safety is a Casualty of Funding Shortage



Dear Dan,

Recently my wife and I, as many other parents do each August, took our 18- and 20-year-old daughters to college. For us, this year was a passage as we now find ourselves as "empty nesters." In the future, they will be visitors rather than residents in the home we created for them. While we thrill at our daughters' growth to adulthood, their accomplishments and the future ahead, we also worry about their safety and well-being.

I worry in particular. The greatest threat to my daughters' lives is the very thing their father has responsibility for - Missouri roads. For someone my age the leading cause of death is heart disease followed closely by cancer. But for my children, in the prime of life, it is the automobile.

I was reminded of this again powerfully when Sgt. Bill Lowe of the Missouri State Highway Patrol appeared before the Commission this month. He spoke of the emotional toll it took on him the first time he looked at the lifeless body of a person killed on our highways.

If I am tenacious and relentless in pressing for funding for transportation, it is because I know that increased funding will allow us to save lives - to save the life of someone's son or daughter, even my own. I am reminded of it every month when I receive the report of deaths on our Missouri highways - approximately 770 lives last year - down from over 1,200 in 2005. This year, fatalities on our roadways are up 13 percent. The numbers are staggering. Sadly we have grown almost immune to the figures. We seem to have accepted them as the cost of mobility. But it doesn't have to be this way.

It is no mere coincidence that an increased construction budget from 2005-2010 coincided with a dramatic reduction in fatalities. Funding saves lives. It allowed us to deploy more safety devices on our roads such as

median cable barriers, rumble strips, wider stripes and larger signs. MoDOT has the technology and ability to make our roads safer in concert with law enforcement, emergency medical services and educational programs. It lacks only the money to do more.

MoDOT's system-wide approach to making safety improvements has proven successful, but continuing on that path will be difficult in the future with insufficient funding. A greater investment in transportation could allow MoDOT to place more median cable barriers to help prevent head-on crossover collisions on our major highways; add shoulders and rumble stripes to two-lane highways to reduce the number of run-off-the-road accidents; use high-friction surface treatments to improve traction during wet weather on problematic curves; and build more J-turns to improve intersection safety on four-lane expressways. (J-turns reduce the number of conflict points at an intersection by constructing what functions much like a left-turn lane permitting turning cars to get out of the flow of traffic - and they are much cheaper than building a grade-separated interchange.)

What does it take to motivate us to invest in transportation? Every year that passes without action costs lives. You never stop worrying as a parent. There is so much outside our control. But making our highways a safer place is within our control - if only we have the will to act.

Let's get going!
Stephen R. Miller
Chairman

If you would like to communicate with the Commission, you can always reach us at MHTC@modot.mo.gov. If you would like to read previous issues of the "View," you can find them on the MoDOT website: <http://www.modot.org/ViewFromTheChair/index.htm>

Florissant Police Encourage Use of Business Surveillance Systems



the professionals it would be a good idea to get multiple bids on a system with similar specifications and make sure to check out the companies you are getting bids from with the North County Chamber of Commerce and the Better Business Bureau.

If we could get most of our businesses in the city to have state-of-the-art surveillance systems it could be a deterrent to would-be criminals that are thinking of doing criminal activity within the City of Florissant. If you have any questions concerning Video Surveillance Systems please notify the Public Information Unit at the Florissant Police Department at 314-830-6042.



Chief Lowery would like to take this opportunity to encourage all of our businesses in the City of Florissant to invest in a video surveillance system to help protect employees and customers that are at that business. Surveillance systems are better than ever and get cheaper as the technology advances. When these systems first became popular they were very expensive and hard to set up and operate. The new systems are easier to setup and operate, and can often be purchased and installed by the business owner. Many local electronics stores offer surveillance systems for less than \$500. If the business owner prefers to leave it to

Florissant Elks Lodge

FREE THROW CONTEST

James J. Eagan Civic Center
Dec. 12th Registration 9-10 am.
Boys and Girls age 8-13
Trophy's will be awarded
For More information call Gene - 921-3502

Lobby Box Office Hours: Mon. and Fri., 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Tues., Wed., Thur., 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
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, online at 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. **Individual tickets go on sale 45 days prior to the opening of any production.**

OCTOBER

****St. Louis Family Theatre Series Presents:**

Caps For Sale
 From *Adventure Theater MTC, Maryland*

Oct. 9 – 7:30 p.m. Oct. 10 – 2:00 p.m. Oct. 11 – 2:00 p.m.
 Monkey Business! "Caps! Caps for sale! Fifty cents a cap!" The peddler has a huge stack of caps, balanced carefully on top of his head. Brown caps, blue caps, gray caps, and red caps. But no one wants to buy a cap. So he goes for a walk in the country, and takes a nap under a shady tree. When he wakes up, the caps are gone — all except his own checked one. Where could his caps have disappeared to? And how will he ever get them back? Celebrating the 75th Anniversary of this favorite book, this new musical will enchant the whole family!
ADMISSION: \$7.00 to all. Group rates available
Information and reservations 314-921-5678 or www.FlorissantMO.com

***OJM, LLC Presents:**

Only Just a Minute
Oct. 14 – 10:00 a.m. Oct. 15 – 7:00 p.m.
Oct. 16 – 8:00 p.m. Oct. 17 – 8:00 p.m.

Only Just a Minute is a powerful original drama that tries to answer the central question "what price equality?" This timely play was presented for the first time in Atlanta last fall. It is about the relationship between Benjamin E. Mays, who was then president of Morehouse College, and his mentee, Martin Luther King, Jr., and their non-violent fight for equal rights for African Americans. It is being produced by Bob Dockery, Jr., who has presented award-winning programs about African-American lifestyle and culture for 35 years. (The October 17 production can be included in your Florissant Fine Arts Council Applause Series season ticket package.)
ADMISSION: \$30.00 Adults; \$25.00 Seniors/Students
Information and reservations 314-921-5678 or www.FlorissantMO.com



Northwinds Concert Band Presents:

Sunday Afternoon at The Pops
Oct. 18 – 3:00 p.m.

Northwinds Concert Band, under the direction of Larry Marsh, will present a "Sunday Afternoon Pops" concert on October 18 at 3:00 p.m. in the Florissant Civic Center Theatre. The program will open with memorable musical scenes from classic movies, including 2001: A Space Odyssey, Singing in the Rain, Beetlejuice, Spider Man and The Wizard of Oz. The concert will also feature music from Broadway and Tin Pan Alley, plus exciting Latin tunes and marches. The program will conclude with "Arlington: Where Giants Lie Sleeping," a beautiful new tribute to the generations of American servicemen and women buried at Arlington National Cemetery. The acclaimed Northwinds ensemble has presented concerts in metro area for over 40 years as a program of Ferguson-Florissant's Community Education Department.
ADMISSION: \$8.00 Adults; \$6.00 Seniors/Students
Information and reservations 314-921-5678 or www.FlorissantMO.com

Dayspring School of the Arts Presents:

Giselle, A Classical Ballet Performance
October 23 and 24

For information go to www.dayspringarts.org

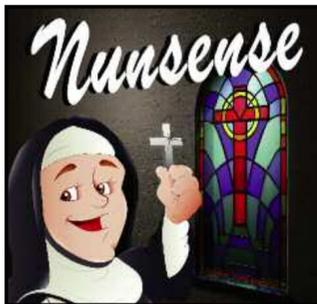
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NOVEMBER

Hawthorne Players Present:

Nunsense
Nov. 6 – 8:00 p.m. Nov. 7 – 8:00 p.m.
Nov. 13 – 8:00 p.m. Nov. 14 – 8:00 p.m. Nov. 15 – 2:00 p.m.

The Order of the Little Sisters are holding a variety show to raise money to bury several sisters who died from botulism. They must enter the deary departed before the health inspector comes and finds the dead nuns in their freezer! The show is fraught with humor, Catholic and otherwise, as we watch five nuns try to perform amidst chaos and calamity.
ADMISSION: \$20.00 Adults; \$18.00 Seniors/Students; Group rates available
Information and reservations 314-921-5678 or www.FlorissantMO.com



***Florissant Fine Arts Council Presents:**

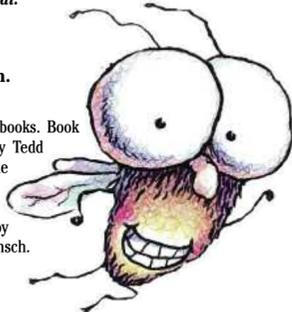
James Gavin, Is That All There Is: The Strange Life of Peggy Lee starring Wesla Whitfield
 From *KMP Artists, Austin, TX*
Nov. 21 – 8:00 p.m.

Enjoy Peggy Lee's songs performed by a world class vocalist while James Gavin, author of her biography, narrates on stage her life from his research.
ADMISSION: \$28.00 Adults; \$26.00 Seniors/Students; Group rates available
Information and reservations 314-921-5678 or www.FlorissantMO.com

City of Florissant Thanksgiving Holiday Special:

Fly Guy & Other Stories
 From *TheatreworksUSA, New York, NY*
Nov. 22 – 2:00 p.m. Nov. 27 – 2:00 p.m.
Nov. 28 – 2:00 p.m.

A new musical revue based on favorite children's books. Book titles subject to change: Fly Guy Meets Fly Girl by Tedd Arnold, Diary of a Worm by Doreen Cronin, Fluffy the Classroom Guinea Pig by Kate McMullan, Horace & Morris But Mostly Dolores by James Howe, Kitten's First Full Moon by Kevin Henkes, Lilly's Big Day by Kevin Henkes and Paper Bag Princess by Robert Munsch.
ADMISSION: \$5.25 to all.
Information and reservations 314-921-5678 or www.FlorissantMO.com



DECEMBER

Bluant Music Group LLC Presents:

Derek Anthony Homecoming Showcase
Dec. 4 – 7:30 p.m.

Derek was born and raised in Florissant, and will grace the very same stage he performed on in high school (Hello Dolly, Music Man, and many other performances). Special guests and surprises planned! Derek currently lives in Texas and has been touring in Texas for the past six years! Derek has opened for Mark Chesnutt, Jo Dee Messina, Josh Turner, Kansas, Clint Black, Tracy Lawrence, Dierks Bentley and many, many other top grade artists!
ADMISSION: \$12.00 - \$32.00
For information and reservations use this link: www.showclix.com/event/Event40069053653

St. Louis Brass Band Presents:

Holiday Spectacular
Dec. 6 – 2:30 p.m.
ADMISSION: \$7.00 Adults; \$5.00 Seniors/Students
Information and reservations 314-921-5678 or www.FlorissantMO.com

**The Florissant Fine Arts Council presents the Applause/Applause 2015/2016 series with financial support from our members, the Regional Arts Commission, Missouri Arts Council (a state agency), the Employees Community Fund of Boeing St. Louis 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, American Eagle Credit Union, Wells Fargo, Missouri Arts Council (a state agency), and the Regional Arts Commission.*

For Information 24 Hours a Day Visit www.florissantmo.com/
Select "Departments" and then "Theatre"

***Florissant Fine Arts Council Presents:**
Ryan & Ryan "Music for Mavericks"
Dec. 12 – 8:00 p.m.



Just in time for the holidays!!! Ryan & Ryan is a dynamic father-son piano duo that blends classic and contemporary music into an enthralling concert experience. As a performing team, Donald and Barron amaze audiences with their skill, expressiveness, and love of making music. Their experience in classical, jazz, ragtime, hip-hop, and funk allows them to create exciting new music and give fresh interpretations of old. Ryan & Ryan is a proven hit with audiences of all generations. Their inventiveness, infectiousness, skill and general joy of life make for irresistibly engaging performances. To sum it up, they make music that inspires.
ADMISSION: \$28.00 Adults; \$26.00 Seniors/Students; Group rates available
Information and reservations: 314-921-5678 or www.FlorissantMO.com

Northwinds Concert Band Presents:

Hometown Holiday Special
Dec. 13 – 3:00 p.m.

Northwinds Concert Band, under the direction of Larry Marsh, will continue a thirty-year tradition of holiday concerts at the Florissant Civic Center, when the acclaimed wind ensemble presents a "Hometown Holiday Concert" on December 13 at 3:00 p.m. The band will present a wide-variety of holiday and seasonal favorites, a lovely rendition of medieval carols, Leroy Anderson's "Christmas Festival," and a bright-spirited medley of holiday music from Broadway musicals. A highlight of this year's program will be the presentation of a classic short film based on Raymond Briggs' children's book The Snowman, with music composed by Howard Blake. Children of all ages are sure to enjoy this family classic.
ADMISSION: \$8.00 Adults; \$6.00 Seniors/Students; \$12.00 Immediate Family
Information and reservations: 314-921-5678 or www.FlorissantMO.com

***Florissant Fine Arts Council Presents:**

A Christmas Carol
Dec. 20– 2:00 p.m.

The powerful story of Ebenezer Scrooge has been made into a wonderful family musical. This full stage musical comedy version of Charles Dickens' ever popular classic is a delightful and thoroughly entertaining new adaptation filled with song and dance.
ADMISSION: \$28.00 Adults; \$26.00 Seniors/Students; Group rates available
Information and reservations: 314-921-5678 or www.FlorissantMO.com

\$2,000 Tuition Scholarship from Trinity Catholic

In July of 2015, Trinity Catholic High announced that the school would again be providing a \$2,000 Tuition Scholarship to all eighth grade students applying for the 2016-2017 school year. Since the announcement, there has been an exciting buzz amongst elementary school families across North County. Trinity's Tuition Scholarship comes as a result of Archbishop Robert Carlson's remarkable generosity and continuous support of Trinity Catholic High School. The scholarship is being offered "as a sign of support for Trinity Catholic High School's mission and to honor its commitment to providing the only co-ed, Catholic, secondary education in North St. Louis County."
 Trinity President Sr. Karl Marry Winkelmann, S.S.N.D., said, "Trinity really is expanding minds and changing lives," and added that the Tuition Scholarship "provides families in our community with an incentive to invest in a quality education that will transform the lives of their children."
 Parents, teachers and administrators at Trinity are also overjoyed with the Tuition Scholarship. According to those in the school community, the Tuition Scholarship is another reason for area families to choose the exceptional education provided by Trinity and avoid lengthy commutes to other schools. Since being founded in 2003, Trinity has stood as a beacon of light for families in North County who want a private, faith-based and academically driven education for their children. The Tuition Scholarship makes that rare commodity even more affordable.
 Now, for \$2,000 less, those who choose

Trinity are given access to a fully accredited, coeducational and private education where all are welcome. Trinity's status as a premier high school is backed by superior academics and a tradition of excellence. The graduation requirement at Trinity, 31 credits, is higher than most schools in the St. Louis area and introduces students to a true college preparatory curriculum. Trinity also provides a wide range of electives including Architectural Drafting, Mechanical Drawing, Family and Consumer Sciences, Marketing, Graphic Design, Drama, Music, Physical Education and much more.
 Pairing academic excellence with championship athletics makes for a great combination. In just 13 years since being founded, Trinity's athletic teams have won 31 District Championships and advanced to 6 State Finals (not including several additional individual athlete qualifiers). This legacy of exceptional Catholic education is continued from Trinity's predecessor schools Mercy, St. Thomas Aquinas, Rosary, and Aquinas-Mercy.
 Rich history, exceptional academics, and tremendous extra-curricular activity are all even more affordable now thanks to Trinity's Tuition Scholarship. Here is how the scholarship breaks down:
 • \$1,500 automatically taken off of tuition for applying to Trinity for the 2016-2017 school year
 • An additional \$500 is taken off of the tuition if the student is registered by February 18, 2016.
 The scholarship is renewable for all four years, meaning families can save up to \$8,000 on their student's high school tuition.

FINANCIAL FOCUS
 For **Edward Jones**

Reported by
Gary Meyer - Investment Representative
 1080 rue St. Francois
 Florissant, Mo 63031
 314-839-9385



What Should You Know About Establishing A Trust

You don't have to be a CEO or multimillionaire to benefit from a trust. In fact, many people gain advantages from establishing one — so it may be useful to learn something about this common estate-planning tool.
 Why would you want a trust? For one thing, if you have highly specific wishes on how and when you want your estate to be distributed among your heirs, then a trust could be appropriate. Also, you might be interested in setting up a trust if you'd like to avoid the sometimes time-consuming, usually expensive and always public process of probate. Some types of trusts may also help protect your estate from lawsuits and creditors.
 Currently, only a small percentage of Americans will be subject to estate taxes, but estate tax laws are often in flux, so things may be different in the future — and a properly designed trust could help minimize these taxes.
 If you decide that a trust might be right for you, you should work with an experienced estate-planning attorney. Trusts can be highly effective estate-planning vehicles, but they can also be complex and varied — so you'll want to make sure you understand what's involved.
 One important decision will be to choose a trustee. The trustee is legally bound to manage the trust's assets in the best interests of your beneficiaries, so your choice of trustee is extremely important. Your first impulse might be to select a family member, but before doing so, consider asking these questions:
 • Does he or she have the experience and knowledge to manage your financial affairs competently?
 • When called upon to make a decision that may affect other family members, will your prospective trustee act in a fair and unbiased manner?
 • Will naming a family member as trustee create a strain within the family?
 • Does your prospective trustee have enough time to manage your trust? Does he or she even want this responsibility?
 • Do you have other family members who are willing to serve as trustee if your chosen trustee cannot do so?
 This last question leads to another key aspect of establishing a trust — specifically, you can name a "co-trustee" to help manage the trust, and also a "successor trustee" who can take over if the person named initially fails or refuses to act in the capacity of trustee. Again, you will want to put considerable thought into whom you ask to take these roles.
 And you don't have to stick with individuals, either — you can decide to ask a financial institution to serve as trustee. By hiring such an institution, you will gain its objectivity and expertise, but you still need to ask many questions about costs, services provided, and so on.
 Finally, as you develop your plans for a trust, consider communicating your wishes and ideas to your family and anyone else who may be beneficiaries of your estate. When family members don't know what to expect, disappointment and frustration can follow. If you know your loved ones are on board with your estate plans, you may feel even more comfortable in putting these plans in place.

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Senior Citizen Halloween Party



ALL WITCHES, GHOSTS & GOBLINS are welcome to this Spooktacular event – THE SENIOR CITIZEN HALLOWEEN PARTY! Dress in costume for our annual costume contest or come as you are and watch the fun! Hear one of the best vocal impressionists in the country – Karl “Trickee Holmes” in the Scott & Karl Duo! Enjoy a delicious lunch of Roasted Pork with Savory Stuffing, Creamy Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Mixed Vegetables, Rolls & Butter and Scrumptious Apple Pie. Great attendance prizes will be raffled, chances will be sold for a Pot of Gold and beautiful gift baskets, and we’ll top off the day with Bingo!

WHEN: Thursday, October 29, 2015

TIME: 10:00am – 2:00pm

WHERE: James J. Eagan Center

TICKETS: \$10.00 each – includes admission, lunch, entertainment, attendance prizes & Bingo. Tickets will be sold to Florissant Residents only in The Senior Office in Florissant City Hall until October 26th. Call the Senior Office at 839-7605 for more information.

Savings for Florissant Seniors!

If you are over 60 years old and live in the city limits of Florissant – you may be eligible for half price trash service! Call Meridian Waste to see if you qualify, 314-227-7000.



Missouri Rx Plan

This prescription drug plan with the State of Missouri pays for 50% of your out-of-pocket costs on medications that are covered by your Medicare Part D plan. This means you will save 50% on your deductible and 50% on your co-pays. You may be eligible if you are single and your annual gross household income is 21,660 or less or if you’re married with an annual gross household income of \$29,140 or less. Call the MO Prescription Drug Plan Help Desk, 1-800-375-1406, for an application or more information.

Speaker Series

Meet Martin Kilcoyne! Sports Announcer for Fox 2 Sports and Host of the Big 550 KTRS, the MARTIN KILCOYNE Show! Famous St. Louis News and Radio Personality, Martin Kilcoyne, will make a special appearance in Florissant to meet Florissant Senior Citizens! Refreshments will be provided by Bent-Wood Nursing & Rehabilitation Center. Don’t miss this! This is a FREE event, but seating is limited. Call the Senior Office, 839-7605, to make your reservations starting October 12 through November 4th.

WHEN: Thursday, November 5, 2015

WHERE: James J. Eagan Center, A/B Room

TIME: 2:00pm

Home Care for Seniors by Seniors

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Florissant Senior Citizen Christmas Trips

Concert at the Conservatory & Pio’s Restaurant



Enjoy a private Christmas Concert performed by Lindenwood University’s Acapella Choir called VOICES ONLY at the most Charming & Intimate Venue in St. Louis – the Conservatory on St. Charles Main Street. After this outstanding concert, we’ll enjoy an authentic Italian Lunch at Pio’s Restaurant in St. Charles.

WHEN: Tuesday, December 8th, 2015

TIME: 10:30am – 2:30pm

COST: \$33.00 includes transportation, concert & lunch

TICKETS: Tickets go on sale Tuesday, November 10 from 9:00 – 11:00am at the Florissant Senior Dining Center for residents with a current resident card. If there are tickets remaining, a second registration will be held on Tuesday, November 17 from 9:00 – 11:00am at the Florissant Senior Dining Center for residents and non-residents. Non-resident cost is \$35.00.

Ambassadors of Harmony at the Touhill & Lombardo’s Restaurant

Rekindle the Joy and Magic of the Holidays! First experience an authentic Italian Cuisine Lunch at one of St. Louis’s Finest Restaurants, LOMBARDO’S! Then listen to popular holiday songs with classic carols and sacred music that tell the Story of the Season at the Ambassadors of Harmony “Sounds of the Season” Concert at the Touhill Performing Arts Center.

WHEN: Saturday, December 12, 2015

TIME: 11:00am – 5:00pm

COST: \$54.00 includes transportation, lunch at Lombardo’s Restaurant & Ambassadors of Harmony Concert at the Touhill Performing Arts Center on UMSL Campus.

TICKETS: THIS IS A SILVER WORDS CLUB TRIP: Tickets go on sale first to Silver Words Club Members only at the Silver Words Club Meeting on Thursday, November 12th. If there are tickets remaining, tickets will go on sale in the Senior Office in Florissant City Hall on Friday, November 13th to all Senior Citizens, residents and non-residents. Non-resident cost is \$56.00. Call the Senior Office at 839-7605 for ticket availability.



Ring in 2016



Looking for something to do on New Year’s Eve but you don’t want to go out in the evening? Come to the City of Florissant Senior Citizen New Year’s Eve Party! It is a DAYTIME EVENT – 10:00am until 2:00pm right here in Florissant at the James J. Eagan Center. Included in the ticket price are noisemakers, champagne, tiaras & top hats, wonderful attendance prizes, appetizers, dinner, beer, wine, and soda! Enjoy dancing or listening to an outstanding performance of the 18-Piece Orchestra, the St. Charles Big Band. A delicious dinner of Chicken Piccata, Baby Buttered New Potatoes, Green Bean Almondine, Italian Salad, Rolls & Butter, and Decadent Cheesecake will be served. DATE: New Year’s Eve, Thursday, December 31st, 2015 TIME: 10:00am – 2:00pm with the countdown at 12:00 noon! PLACE: James J. Eagan Center TICKETS: \$15.00 each – Residents only. Tickets are sold in the Senior Office in Florissant City Hall from November 16 through December 28th. Call the Senior Office for more information. Bring your camera!

LOOK WHO’S 102!



Florissant Resident, Helen Klein, turned 102 years old in August! Helen celebrated her birthday at the Florissant Senior Dining Center with cake and ice cream and a Special Certificate of Congratulations from Mayor Schneider. Helen attributes her longevity to CHOCOLATE AND RED WINE! Congratulations Helen!

SCAM WARNING

Scams targeting senior citizens are making their rounds throughout the country. The Senior Office, along with the Florissant Police Department, wishes to educate our Senior Citizen Population on a few scams that have affected our Florissant Senior Citizens.

• IRS phone scam: Callers claim to be employees of the IRS – but they are not. They even have altered caller ID to say IRS or US Government. These con artists sound very convincing. They report to you their badge number or bogus IRS identification. Victims are told that they have a refund due to them and they need to give them their social security number and their bank account information so that they can automatically send their refund to them. Or they may say that you OWE money to the IRS and MUST pay promptly in order to avoid being arrested or avoid having your driver’s license suspended or some other threat. NOTE: The IRS will never: 1) call to demand immediate payment 2) demand that you pay taxes without giving you the opportunity to question or appeal 3) require you to use a specific payment method 4) ask for credit or debit card numbers over the phone 5) threaten to bring in local police or other law-enforcement groups. If you get a call stating they are from the IRS – hang up.

• Tech Support Scams: This scam begins with a phone call. They say they are from “a well-known company” that fixes computers and they say they need to “fix” your computer because it has been infected with a virus. The caller ID says they are in fact this well-known company. The scammers alter Caller ID. They ask you to go to your computer & turn it on & they will “direct” you on how to fix the problem. Never do this unless YOU called a computer-repair company to help you. THIS IS A SCAM. They want to gain valuable information from your computer. If you get a call like this – hang up.

• Pigeon Drop or “Found” Money: This scam usually occurs in a mall or a parking lot. It has happened here in Florissant recently. Usually a well-dressed woman approaches a selected victim – usually a female senior citizen. The young honest-looking woman claims she has just found a bag or an envelope and ask if you dropped it? When you say “no”, she looks around (very believably) and decides to look in the bag for identification. My Goodness – there’s a lot of money in there! A very sophisticated scheme now unfolds. She talks excitedly about all the money in the bag. She says she works for a lawyer’s office & she’ll call him and see what to do with it. Now the instructions from the so-called lawyer begin: This lawyer will see to it that you get your share of this money. The lawyer instructs that first you need to show proof that you have sufficient funds to support yourself during the time that the lawyer complies with the law by seeking the true owner. To provide evidence of “individual financial responsibility” or “good faith”, they want you to withdraw a certain amount of money and have the lawyer hold it until they try to find the true owner. You even talk to the lawyer on the phone & you get his address – Yes it is so believable. You get the money from your bank and they come up with a scheme to switch bags with you or somehow take your money and you are scammed.

Always Remember: If It Sounds Too Good To Be True – It Probably Is! If you have questions, call the Senior Office at 839-7604 or the Police Department at 830-6042.

SENIORS EVENTS SCHEDULE

OCTOBER

Tickets for the HALLOWEEN PARTY will be sold in the Senior Office until Oct. 26th
8 - SILVER WORDS TRIP: Old Cathedral, St. John Nepomuk & Copia’s
12 - Reservations taken for Meet Martin Kilcoyne Speaking Event, at 839-7605
29 - HALLOWEEN PARTY & BINGO, Eagan Center, 10:00am – 2:00pm, Lunch, Entertainment: SCOTT & KARL, attendance prizes, Pot of Gold & Bingo

NOVEMBER

5 - Speaker Series: Meet Martin Kilcoyne, 2:00pm, Eagan Center A/B Room
10 - Ticket Sales begin at Dining Center for Christmas Trip: Conservatory Concert & Pio’s
12 - Silver Words Mtg at JFK, 1:30pm, signups for Ambassadors of Harmony & Lombardo’s
16 - Ticket Sales begin in Senior Office for New Year’s Eve Party
26 & 27 - Offices Closed – Thanksgiving Holidays

DECEMBER

8 - Christmas Trip: Concert at the Conservatory & Pios Restaurant
12 - Silver Words Trip: Ambassadors of Harmony (Touhill) & Lombardo’s
24 & 25 - City Offices Closed – Christmas Holidays
31 - NEW YEAR’S EVE PARTY, Eagan Center, 10am-2:00pm, Dinner, Appetizers, All Drinks, 18-piece Orchestra, hats, tiaras & noisemakers and champagne!

Volunteer with Your Heart in 2015 and Bring Comfort Into Someone’s Life

Every day people say “I would like to be a part of helping someone”. Hospice is a special kind of care designed to provide sensitivity and support for people in the final phase of a terminal illness. Heartland Hospice’s goal is to provide palliative and supportive services to meet physical, psychological, social and spiritual needs of patients and their families in a health care facility or other residential settings. Volunteers can provide one-on-one attention to residents who are lonely or cut off from their families, thereby reducing feelings of isolation and contributing to their sense of belonging. The benefits are endless when one can make a “DIFFERENCE”.

Volunteers Are the Heart of the Hospice Team.

We depend on our Hospice volunteers to help us provide the extra love and care our clients and their families need at this time in their life. Heartland volunteers offer support, companionship and practical, caring help to this special group of people. Staying with the patient so family members can take a break, reading scripture to patients, or holding their hand. The help and support our volunteers give is returned to them in countless ways. You can make a DIFFERENCE. All assignments are in close proximity to your home, work or school. You can donate as little or as much of your time as you desire.

Please contact Virginia at 314-453-0990 if you would like to bring something special into someone’s life. Be sure to inquire about our next Training Class.



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SAFE STREETS
FLORISSANT PROPOSALS

Just How Safe Is That Bridge?



Large bridges spanning rivers don't come to mind when you think of the City of Florissant; however, the City has seventeen bridges and culverts on the National Bridge Inventory (NBI). This doesn't include bridges on State and County roads such as I-270, N Highway 67, Washington, and Shackelford Rd, etc. The City also is responsible for several smaller culverts and footbridges. Each of these require periodic inspection and maintenance to ensure the safety of those who use them. Who is looking after the bridges and culverts and what kind of shape are they in?

The City's Engineering Division is tasked with managing the bridges and culverts that the City is responsible for. The Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) and St. Louis County Department of Highways & Traffic inspect and maintain bridges on their routes. All bridges on the National Bridge Inventory, regardless of jurisdiction, are inspected and rated in accordance with Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) standards.

Engineering Division Staff visually inspect every bridge structure at least once a year. Additionally, MoDOT performs biennial inspections of all the City's NBI bridges with the Engineering Division staff. The most recent MoDOT inspection occurred in 2014 and the next round of inspections will take place in 2016. The Engineering Division compiles the findings from both the City and MoDOT inspections and prepares a scope of work for the annual Bridge Repair Program which is competitively bid out each summer. Some of this year's work items included a

comprehensive surface sealing program for nine bridge decks, replacing the timber bridge deck on the Rogers Lane footbridge, and removing overgrowth and drift from three bridges.

The ages of the City's bridges and culverts range from 9 to 60 years old with an average age of 27 years; however, ten of the seventeen are 20 years old or less thanks to an initiative undertaken in the 90s, supported by then-Councilman and now Mayor Thomas P. Schneider, to replace the City's worst bridges. Eleven bridges were replaced during this period with the most recent being the St. Edward bridge over Fountain Creek. A typical lifespan for a bridge is 50 to 75 years.

Structural ratings are assigned to bridges and range from 0 to 9 with 0 the worst and 9 being the best. A rating of 7 or greater is considered "good", a 5 to 6 rating is "fair to satisfactory" and a 4 is "poor". A rating less than a 4 indicates that action is needed to keep the bridge open and safe.

The average structural rating of the City's bridges is 6.5 or "satisfactory to good". Seven bridges are rated a 7 or higher and only one bridge, St. Anthony Lane bridge over Fountain Creek, has a "poor" rating of a 4. This bridge is still safe to drive on but it is scheduled for replacement in 2017 with the design currently underway thanks to a grant through FHWA's On-System Bridge Program (BRM). This grant is funded at 80 percent with federal funds with 20 percent City matching funds. Once this bridge is replaced the average rating of all the City bridges will be increased to a 7 or "good" condition.

Rate My Street?

Florissant has over 167 centerline miles of City streets and every mile of them is rated every single year. Why rate the streets? Where did this rating system come from? Who rates them and how do they do it?

A pavement rating system is a critical tool to assess the condition of the street and determine what type of maintenance is needed. When the individual street ratings are viewed alongside all of the other street ratings City staff can determine where the most pressing maintenance needs are, what type of maintenance is needed, where future needs will be, and general trends in street conditions.

The City rates streets using a modified version of the Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating (PASER) system. The PASER system was developed by the Transportation Information Center of the University of Wisconsin - Madison and has been adopted by numerous transportation agencies throughout the country, notably including Saint Louis County Department of Highways & Traffic locally. Due to its wide acceptance, PASER ratings have become a uniform way to compare streets between different transportation agencies.

Rating a street is not like assigning a "G" or "PG-13" rating to a movie, though it seems like some streets should be rated "R" due to the language they solicit when motorists hit a pothole. The PASER system is a visual method of pavement evaluation that identifies surface defects, deformation, cracks, patches and potholes. The presence, amount, and severity of these issues are correlated to a numerical rating on a 1 to 10 scale with 10 being a newly constructed street free of defects and 1 representing a failed street in need of total reconstruction. The City has modified the system by substituting a 1 to 100 scale in place of the original 1 to 10 scale to provide more detailed assessments. In comparison a street with a rating of 6 on the original scale would receive a rating of 60 on the City's scale.

Every year the Superintendent of Streets, Gary Meyer, drives each mile of every City street and evaluates them in accordance with the PASER criteria. These ratings are input into the City's pavement inventory for analysis and are the primary means for deciding which streets are in line for maintenance work and what type of work is needed.

Uptick In Sidewalk Work Around The City



You have probably noticed a large increase in the appearance of new red panels on the sidewalk ramps at many intersections around the City. You may have asked yourself: What are these? What do they do? And why are there so many of them? These panels, otherwise referred to as "detectable warning surfaces" are used to alert visually impaired pedestrians that they are leaving the safety of the sidewalk and entering the roadway. The increase in the installation of these panels is just one facet of the City's recent initiative to comply with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements and improve accessibility on the City sidewalks.

The City has a long standing program to remove trip hazards along the City's public sidewalks. Under this program residents report a potential hazard to the City's Engineering Division for evaluation. Confirmed trip hazards are then corrected via grinding or replacement. The City is also required to bring the existing pedestrian facilities (sidewalk, ramps, crosswalks, etc.) into compliance with ADA requirements

when we perform street improvement work, such as an asphalt overlay, lane widening or curb and gutter installation. Previous work has included retrofitting, repairing or replacing a significant amount of sidewalk along portions of Derhake Road, Lindsay Lane, Love Lane, S. Waterford Drive, St. Anthony Lane, and Trotter Way. Similar work is being completed this summer on Humes Lane, Madison Lane, Pueblo Drive and Tahoe Drive.

The repair and replacement work is performed by a contractor who is selected via an annual competitive bid process. The work is funded out of the City's Capital Improvement Fund via the sidewalk replacement and street contracts accounts. This year T.S. Banze Construction was the successful bidder and has replaced over 16,000 square yards of sidewalk and repaired nearly 600 slabs. Due to the contractor being under budget the City is advertising a supplemental bid to complete additional sidewalk work before the end of the construction season. Sidewalk maintenance is continual, please report any slabs in need of repair to 314-839-7618.

Eagan Center Ice Rink Season

The ice rink at the Eagan Center will open for the season on October 26. Public Skate times are as follows: Wednesday 7-9PM*, Friday 7-9 PM, Saturday 2-4 PM & 7-9 PM, and Sundays 2-4 PM*, *Wednesday & Sunday sessions are Resident Family Specials. Resident and Non-Resident prices are: Youth (6-17 yrs. old): Res. \$1.50, Non-Res. \$3.00, Adult (18 yrs. & older): Res. \$2.25, Non-Res. \$4.00, Golden Age Pass: Res. \$1.75, Non-Res. N/A, Family Special: Res. \$3.00, Non-Res. N/A



Halloween Party



The city of Florissant will host a Halloween Party on Saturday, October 31, 6-8 pm at the Eagan Center. Come and join us for a spooky, fun-filled evening. Children will get to show off their costumes while having fun playing games and winning prizes. This event is Co-Sponsored by the Florissant Parks and Recreation and the Florissant Police Explorers Unit FOR AGES 12 AND UNDER. Free Admission to Florissant Residents. Refreshments provided. Games and Prizes. Costumes are encouraged! FLORISSANT RESIDENTS ONLY-RESIDENT CARDS WILL BE CHECKED.

Halloween Dance & Costume Party



This event is co-sponsored by the Florissant Parks & Recreation Department and D.A.R.E. Join us for a night of fun and dancing. Pizza and soda are included along with a DJ, candy, games, and prizes. Costumes are strongly encouraged. Friday October 23, 6:30-9 PM at the JFK Center for 5th - 8th grade. Tickets are required and will be available beginning September 28th. Cost is \$5 - residents and \$7 non-residents. For more information 921-4250.

Water Art Certification Training

There is a growing demand for Certified Instructors (in fact there is always a shortage). The goal is to teach you everything you need to know to be a successful instructor. Everyone is welcome. This is a fundamental water aerobics instructor course. This program is a research based exercise design program which was developed to provide

aquatic fitness leaders with functional techniques for designing programs in both shallow & deep depths. The in-depth classroom theory and pool practice provides the foundation for safe, effective program exercise. Classes will be held October 9th & 10th. Contact Kelly Snider @ 314-839-7671 Ext 7259 or ksnider@florissantmo.com



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Cool City Business Environmental Quality Commission



What is a Cool City Business? In 2005, Mayor Robert G. Lowery Sr. signed the Sierra Club's U.S. Mayoral Climate Protection Agreement, making Florissant a "Cool City." The city is now committed to curbing global warming in our community. The E.Q.C. is working with local businesses that have or are willing to commit to environmentally friendly practices, thus becoming a "Cool City" business. To understand better what and who Cool City Businesses are, let's get a more familiar look at them.

Cool City Businesses are diligent business owners that recycle, reduce and reuse daily, thus, reducing the carbon footprint. We support the commitment of these businesses since they set an example to all businesses, to build a sustainable future, while maintaining a viable business in this city.

One item we need to use from time to time is the cardboard box. U-Haul at 1800 North Lindbergh, 837-2227 has a great variety of boxes, packing materials and haulers. U-Haul was our first Cool City Business because they recycle. U-Haul is one stop shopping for packing, moving and hauling. For your atmospheric repairs and improvements, we have Click Heating and Cooling at 124 St. Francois, 656-7698. Click Heating and Cooling has the newest energy efficient appliances and properly disposes unwanted appliances. Click has an excellent BBB rating.

Batteries Plus Bulbs at 113 North Highway 67, 838-2277 carries energy wise LED and CFL bulbs, PLUS batteries of all varieties. Batteries Plus Bulbs recycles old batteries and many types of bulbs that should not be disposed in the trash. Purchased battery installation is available for many items and old batteries can be recycled.

Fashion Craft Carpet at 2306 N. Lindbergh, 838-6969, has been in Florissant for 70 years, 40 under Mr. Slominski. His carpet is soft and strong because it is made from recycled plastic bottles. Can you imagine, something that we throw away can come back as a better product? Also available is beautiful Hardwood, Vinyl and Laminate. All installation by Fashion Craft Carpet is in-house, no outside contractors will be in your home.

Dooley's Florist & Gifts at 690 Rue St. Francois St, 837-7444 provides beautiful flowers and live plants. Many live plants purify your indoor air. Dooley's Florist and Gifts is diligent in recycling and reusing products. The Bedroom Store at 13225 New Halls Ferry Rd., 831-8900 has a variety of mattress brands and types for you to choose from, to help you get the best sleep possible. The Bedroom Store recycles mattresses and other items and has solar panels to help reduce our carbon footprint. Patronize our Cool City Businesses to thank them for helping make the environment safer.

Are you recycling? If not, why not? It is sooooo easy! Hit us on our Facebook page and tell us why you recycle and what you recycle. Please share any recycling tips you have. (www.florissantenvironmentalqualitycommission.facebook.com)

Study Finds Dry Air in Homes Isn't Just Uncomfortable, It's Unhealthy

Comfort and health both suffer in the winter and dry air is a major cause. When cold air from outside is heated in the home the relative humidity (RH) drops significantly. As the air dries out it becomes damaging to both a home and its residents. Dry indoor air causes a myriad of problems, including:

- Increased likelihood of colds, flu and upper respiratory ailments. Viruses that cause colds and flu thrive in low humidity, so dry indoor air can spread airborne viruses more easily than air that is properly humidified.
- Damage to home furnishings. Dry air causes walls, woodwork and hardwood floors to crack, which can lead to costly repairs or replacement.
- Higher energy costs. Air that is not properly humidified causes people to feel colder at higher temperatures. This leads homeowners to turn up the thermostat, increasing energy bills.

Control Dry Air
 Dry air is also responsible for a number of the comfort issues that people experience in the winter. Air in the house that is below 35 percent RH can cause nosebleeds, sore throats and dry, itchy skin.

To reduce damage to the home and improve health and comfort, homeowners must improve the RH of their indoor air. In fact, it can even increase the chance of getting sick. Research published on PLOS ONE, a scientific journal, found that aerosol transmission of influenza decreases when indoor relative humidity is kept above 40 percent.

The best way to control the humidity levels in your home is with a whole-home humidifier.

Set it and forget it...
 A whole-home humidifier installed as part of a heating and cooling system is designed to deliver the perfect amount of moisture to a home without constant adjustments. Unlike portable humidifiers, whole-home humidifiers are uniquely efficient and effective. With a whole-home system there is no need to refill the unit with water. Furthermore, it will accurately measure the outdoor temperature and indoor humidity levels to automatically provide the ideal amount of indoor relative humidity. Humidity is also dispersed throughout the house, instead of in just one room.

For more information on whole-home humidification and total control of your indoor air quality, call Goldkamp Heating & Cooling at (314) 839-3332.

Report Provided by Kevin Kelly, Comfort Specialist with Goldkamp Heating & Cooling



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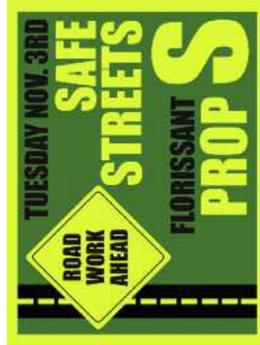
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