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NEWSLETTER / NEWS RELEASE
From the Office of the Mayor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 5, 2024



THE 2ND ANNUAL TOUR de FLORISSANT WAS A HUGE SUCCESS

Florissant hosted the 2024 Bommarito Audi West County Gateway Cup race series on Monday September 2nd. Historic Old Town Florissant was the new host venue for the final day of The Gateway Cup, which is a prestigious four-day cycling event over Labor Day weekend in four of the coolest neighborhoods in the St. Louis area. This event plays hosts to thousands of athletes and 30,000-40,000 spectators over the entirety of the weekend.

The Bommarito Audi West County Gateway Cup was the final stage of the American Criterium Cup. All four days of the Bommarito Audi West County Gateway Cup are part of USA Cycling's National Criterium Calendar, the official, professional road racing series in the United States.

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The best professional and amateur cyclists in the world came out to see what Florissant has to offer, and what they found was great community support and a very challenging course. This international event brought cyclists in from as far as New Zealand and everywhere in between, including over 40 US States!

The weather was perfect for being outside from beginning to end and thousands of people came out and cheered all day. There were lawn parties, patio parties, and watch parties held at local businesses that showed off Florissant's tight knit community and small-town vibe.

This technically demanding course raced through one of the St. Louis regions most nostalgic locales and went past some noteworthy local historic landmarks and restaurants & bars including: Made. by Lia, the Old Town Wedding Chapel, Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Henke's Tavern, Catering to You Old Town Kitchen, VFW Post 4105, Smoke n' Sip, Bunker's Tavern, Red Oven Wood Fired Pizza, and Hendel's Restaurant.

The highlight of the event was in the afternoon when the kid's races started. The community came out in full support to cheer on our local youth participants. From that point on, it was non-stop action. The women's and men's pro races took place directly after. The barricades were lined with fans who never stopped cheering and ringing the cowbells. Cycling might be a new event in the City of Florissant, but the community accepted it with open arms, and it will not be a day we soon forget. We are already gearing up for next year and thinking of ways to improve and make the Tour de Florissant an even bigger success for years to come.

The 2024 American Criterium Cup (ACC) showcased the premier domestic criterium events in the United States over six months and spans from coast to coast.

USA Cycling is recognized by the United States Olympic Committee and the Union Cycliste Internationale and is the official governing body for all disciplines of competitive cycling in the United States.

