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NEWSLETTER / NEWS RELEASE
From the Office of the Mayor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MAY 8, 2023

THE 61ST ANNUAL VALLEY OF FLOWERS FESTIVAL WAS A HUGE SUCCESS AS THE CITY CELEBRATES THE FIRST MAJOR EVENT OF THE SPRING



Congratulations to the 2023 Valley of Flowers Queen Caylee Moore. Also, congratulations to First Runner-Up Laura Westberg, Special Maids Lily Scanlon, Grace Gitau and Margaret Houston.

The stormy weather that was forecasted for the weekend held off and the weekend was excellent. Large crowds came out to enjoy food, entertainment, tons of activities for kids and carnival rides at the 61st annual Valley of Flowers Festival. The festival started on May 5th and ended on May 7th with the traditional parade and the crowning of the 2023 Queen and her Court. This year's theme was "The Kentucky Derby".

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The Grand Marshal this year was Lora Click, who was originally from the bluegrass state of Kentucky, was a perfect fit for this year's theme of the Kentucky Derby. She has been active part of the Florissant community for over forty years. Lora and her husband Pat opened Click Heating & Cooling in 1976 in Old Town. Lora says, "The city of Florissant is a wonderful community in which to live, to work and to raise a family." She has two children, Mary, and Patrick and six grandchildren. She has and continues to give so much to the Florissant community.

Activities during the rest of the three-day festivities were geared to appeal to all ages. At the James J. Eagan Center fair-goers found culturally diverse performances, a vendor/craft fair, a pretty baby photo contest, and children's activities. Musical entertainment was provided on both Friday and Saturday that started with the band Array Band on Friday, May 5th. On Saturday, May 6th, Soulard Band performed followed by the band Trilogy and to close the day out Power Play performed.

Carnival games and rides for families were featured at the Duchesne Home Association Grounds. To maintain a family friendly and neighborhood atmosphere, the Knights will once again require that anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Also, this year was a new layout for rides and ticket booths.

Other events included the Old Town Partners Classic Car Show, a Volksmarch, and a chance to visit the Historic Log Cabin at Tower Court Park on Washington St. at South New Florissant Rd.

The 2nd Annual Washers Tourney was a huge success that was held on Saturday, May 6th at the James J. Eagan Center. Thank you to everyone that came out to participate. Also, on that same day and at JJE, the popular Touch-A-Truck was held.

Mayor Lowery would like to thank all the families that came out to enjoy the 61st annual Valley of Flowers festival, all the city staff that worked behind the scenes, and all the sponsors/vendors/organizations. A special thank you to the Florissant Valley of Flowers Committee for all of their hard work in planning the event and for providing a wonderful weekend of family entertainment with many great events and activities that were enjoyed by everyone.

Planning for the 2024 Valley of Flowers Festival will be starting soon. Stay tuned. For information on the Valley of Flowers Festival, call 314-837-0033 or visit www.florissantvalleyofflowers.com.

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