



Christmas In Old Town Florissant – Saturday, Dec. 5th 2:00 – 4:30pm with Christmas Tree Lighting at 5:00pm



Mark December 5th on your calendar. This is the date for the annual "Christmas in Old Town Florissant". The festivities begin at 2:00 P.M. in the City Hall Council Chambers with seasonal Music throughout and ends with The Tree Lighting ceremony.

Santa and Mrs. Claus will be at City Hall from 2:15 4:00 and welcomes all children to visit him. (There is a charge to have your picture taken with Santa).

While waiting to tell all your Christmas wishes to the Big Man, you can:

- Make a craft (sponsored by the St. Louis County Library)
- Decorate a cookie donated by Helfer's
- Have your face painted by the Valley of Flowers Queen and her maids
- Let Cookie the Clown make your very own balloon sculpture
- Listen to a Christmas story by the Storyteller Carol Brady
- Florissant's Police Canine Officer will be there with their mascot Eddie.
- And of course have cookies and cocoa.

We want to also thank the Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri who will help out during the festivities.

Don't forget that shops will be open all along rue St. Francois so be sure to visit: Stems Florist, Sandie's Interiors, Florissant Old Town Marketplace "Children's Boutique", Korte's Frames and Gifts, Dooley's Florist and Gifts, City Diner, Helfer's Deli, Old Town Donuts and Hendel's Market Café. They and many others will also be open for your Christmas Shopping pleasure.

Enjoy all of the activities and events just before the highlight of the evening, when Mayor Schneider flips the switch to light up Florissant's Christmas Tree on the front grounds of City Hall, you'll enjoy a fine performance given by the "Men of Harmony."

Three Days of Christmas Celebrations at St. Ferdinand Shrine

This year for the first time – St. Ferdinand Shrine is planning three full days of Celebrating

Christmas. The celebration includes, day and night time tours of St. Ferdinand Shrine, viewing beautiful Christmas decorations made by local merchants, a Christmas Concert, the Shrine decorated as in the 1880's including the appearance of people of the 1880's and the townspeople of that period. Presently we are working on having carriage rides and other activities.

The schedule of the weekend is as follows:

Friday night December 11th: Visit the Schoolhouse – which opens at 6:00 pm. There will be decorations to view, decorations to purchase, food – sausage, cheese, cracker, drinks wine, soft drinks. Night time tours begin at 6:30pm. The tours will introduce to the way of life in Florissant in the 1880's. This is our first time for night time tours and it promises to be a beautiful experience. The outside of the Shrine Grounds will be beautifully decorated. Tickets for this night time event will be \$10.00 per person.

On Saturday December 12th the Schoolhouse will open at 1pm. Tours of the Shrine will continue all day and this tour will also depict life in the 1880's. The Schoolhouse will be beautifully decorated, there will be decorations for you to purchase and Cookies and Punch will be served. The cost for the Saturday event is \$5.00.

Sunday December 13th is the culmination of the week-end with our annual Christmas Concert beginning at 3pm. The concert features the choirs of St. Ferdinand Parish with their wonderful reenactment of the



Christmas Story, and the combined choirs of Florissant Valley Baptist Church, Ferguson Baptist Church, Florissant Presbyterian Church, St. Sabina Parish. The Church will be beautifully decorated in the style of 1880's. After the Concert there will be a reception for everyone in the Schoolhouse Hall. There is no charge for the Concert.

Come join us – just think you will get great decorating ideas, purchase decorated wreaths or Christmas trees, food and drink, grounds decorated with luminary bags, a fire pit, night and day tours of the Shrine and everything ending with a resounding Christmas Concert.

Save the Date... Valley of Flowers Festival



Valley of Flowers Celebrates... "The World of Entertainment" May 6th through 8th, 2016

The list below highlights ways that YOU can be part of the 2016 Valley of Flowers Festival!

- Candidates are needed for the 2016 Valley of Flowers Queen and Court selection:
- Candidates must be a resident of the City of Florissant. Contact the Valley of Flowers for qualifications.
- Parade Units are needed for the Parade on Sunday May 8, 2016:
- Motorized, Walking, and Marching Units are welcome. Contact the Valley of Flowers for Parade Rules
- Sponsors are needed to support the Festival:

(Contributions are needed by March 1, 2016 in order to be included in printed material. Contact Valley of Flowers for Sponsorship benefits.

Valley of Flowers is a non-profit 501(c) 3 organization.)

- Fleur di Lis Level - \$1,000.00
- Rose Level - \$500.00
- Daisy Level - \$250.00
- Friends of the Festival - \$100.00
- Eagan Center Booths: (Applications are needed no later than April 4, 2016)
- Eagan Center Food Booth: \$100.00
- Eagan Center Crafter Booth: \$75.00
- Eagan Center Informational Booth: \$100.00 for two days
- Off Site Booths: \$50.00 plus 5% of gross- permits are through Valley of Flowers

To become a participant contact:

Valley of Flowers
601 St. Charles St., Florissant, MO 63031

Phone: 314-837-0033

Fax: 314-837-5504

Valley-of-flowers@sbcglobal.net

www.florissantvalleyofflowers.com



Remembering a Dear Friend to Florissant Patrick "Gene" Click



Patrick Gene Click, Sr. passed away on October 18, 2015. He was a veteran of the United States Navy for 10 years and was at the point of the US military spear during the Cuban Missile Crisis naval blockade in 1962. Petty Officer Click was assigned to The Destroyer USS Beale which dropped warning depth charges on Soviet Submarine B-59 (which had Nuclear weapons) to force it to the surface and rout it back to Russia. In 1975 he

and his wife Lora founded Click Heating & Cooling Company. In 2014 both Patrick and Lora were named Business Persons of the Year for the Greater North County Chamber of Commerce, an active member for 40 years with the Florissant Rotary Club, a Paul Harris Fellow and a member of numerous other organizations in the City of Florissant where he shared his time and talents. Patrick was a kind, generous and thoughtful person and he will be missed in the Florissant Community.

Florissant Commemorates the Passing of Former Councilman John Grib



Former Councilman John A. Grib, Sr. passed away suddenly on October 20, 2015. Councilman Grib was respected for his dedication to Florissant. A retired educator, Professor John was known for addressing issues that were presented to him in an analytical and professional manner. He served on the Florissant Planning and Zoning Commission for 20 years before being elected to serve as Councilman for Ward 2 from 2008 to 2014.

He was a trustee of the Knights of Columbus council 2951 and an active member of the Old Town Partners, Inc., the St. Ferdinand Parish Men's Club and served as a member of the Planning and Zoning Commission for 20 years. With a combined 26 years of service very few individuals gave more of their time to advance the progress of Florissant than John A. Grib.

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.

Seasonal Employment with the City of Florissant

The City of Florissant is currently accepting applications for 2016 seasonal employment. The application process closes March 1, 2016 when the selection process begins.

Applications and an informational booklet listing positions, age requirements and qualifications for each position are available at the Human Resources Department located in the Florissant Government Building, 1055 rue St. Francois, Florissant, MO 63031.

The city will host a seasonal job fair on Monday, Dec. 28th, 1-3 p.m. at the Eagan Center. Come in anytime between these hours and meet with our supervisors about a summer job.

If you have any questions, please contact the City of Florissant Human Resources Department at 839-7623.



Leadership & Members of Your City Council

Council President
Ward 3
Joseph Eagan
314-395-6838
ward3@florissantmo.com

Council Vice President
Ward 7
Jackie Bond Pagano
314-837-1315
ward7@florissantmo.com

Ward 1
Tim Lee
314-837-8875
ward1@florissantmo.com

Ward 2
Tim Jones
314-220-8227
ward2@florissantmo.com

Ward 4
Jeff Caputa
314-239-1568
ward4@florissantmo.com

Ward 5
Keith Schildroth
314-839-2927
ward5@florissantmo.com

Ward 6
Gerard Henke
314-831-1180
ward6@florissantmo.com

Ward 8
Mark Schmidt
314-838-7410
ward8@florissantmo.com

Ward 9
Tommy Siam
314-757-2594
ward9@florissantmo.com



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Greetings Florissant Friends,

We hope that everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving Holiday and had the chance to enjoy preparing and sharing a feast and spend quality time with family and friends.

On behalf of the City Council, the Administration and I, we would like to THANK YOU for supporting Proposition S to give Florissant the additional revenue needed to maintain and improve our streets. We appreciate the special efforts of the Florissant For Safe Streets committee which was made up of Police Chief Timothy Lowery and Council VP Jackie Pagano as Co-Chairpersons, Mayor Emeritus Robert Lowery and Grace Zykan as Honorary Co-Chairpersons, Councilman Keith Schildroth as Secretary and John Caravelli and Howard Nimmons as Treasurers. We are also grateful to all who contributed funds or time to help Proposition S pass.

We are very pleased that more than 2/3 of the voters overwhelmingly approved Prop S. I am honored to serve a community of honorable people working so hard for the present and future progress of our beautiful City of Florissant. At a time when our State is facing a transportation infrastructure funding crisis it is encouraging to see that our residents are willing to provide Florissant with the revenue needed to provide safe and well maintained streets. These funds will be placed in a separate account and by Ordinance and Joint Resolution will only be used for street improvements and maintenance.

Our 18th Annual Fall Festival last October was the best one yet with help from the outstanding weather the entire weekend. A special thanks to all of the volunteers including Old Town Partners, the Missouri Arts Council, and the Regional Arts Commission, our Parks and Recreation and Theatre Departments, Public Works and Police for everything they did to make the Fall Festival unforgettable. Thousands of people spent their day on rue St. Francois enjoying an array of arts and crafts, booths, food and beverages with plenty of music and other entertainment.

The City of Florissant partnered with KMOV, Channel 4 and its Great Day St. Louis morning show during the week of October 5 leading up to the Sunday, October 11 Fall Festival. Each morning, Great Day St. Louis produced a feature about Florissant, including such famous local establishments as Old Town Donuts and a behind-the-scenes look at Hendel's Café.

Mayor Schneider narrated a segment using the lives of those honored in our St. Francois Street Walk Through History to give a brief summary of our 229 year history. Great Day St. Louis also did a segment on 98-year-old tennis player Charlie Dyall in reference to the City's new state of the art post tension concrete tennis courts at New Florissant Road and Washington Street. Florissant Civic Center Theatre director Gary Gaydos talked about the upcoming, 28th season of the St. Louis Family Theatre series produced at the Civic Center Theatre, while Fall Festival co-chairs Karen Goodwin and Diana Weidinger told the Channel 4 audience about the festival itself.

The Great Day St. Louis week of highlights concluded Friday, October 9 with the public invited

to sample food and beverages and get a closer look at some of the classic cars that were showcased at the festival. Co-hosts Claire Kellett, Kent Ehrhardt and Matt Chambers did a 'live' show on the front lawn of Florissant's City Hall.

Another popular Food Truck Knight to benefit TEAM was held at the Knights grounds Friday evening Oct. 9 as another addition to the Fall Festival Weekend.

At another first for the Fall Festival Weekend hundreds of runners and walkers turned out on an outstanding autumn day to participate in the 2nd Annual "Race to the Shrine" on Saturday, October 10 at the Old St. Ferdinand Shrine in historic Old Town Florissant. The "Race to the Shrine" benefits multiple programs locally in the Florissant area.

We hosted three Halloween events; another sell out youth Halloween Costume Party D.A.R.E. event for 5th through 8th grade students at the JFK Center on October 23, a Senior Halloween bash on October 30th at the Eagan Center and then the actual Halloween evening party for Florissant resident children 12 and under at the Eagan Center Saturday evening Oct 31.

Our covered Ice Rink is open for our 43rd season of skating. There will be three resident appreciation free skate sessions this season on New Year's Eve December 31, Martin Luther King Day January 19, and Presidents Day February 16. These free sessions for residents will be from 2:00 to 4:00 PM. On Friday March 6 there will be a Party on the Ice D.A.R.E. event for 5th thru 8th grade at the Ice Rink from 6:30-9:00 PM.

The holiday season has started and is in full swing. I wanted to let you know that the police department has once again started extra patrols in the shopping centers. We want everyone to feel safe as you complete your holiday shopping in our city. I encourage each and every one of you that if you suspect any suspicious criminal activity to please call the police department immediately.

The Veteran's Day Parade was held on Sunday, November the 8th from St. Ferdinand Shrine up St. Francois, Down St. Catherine to the Eagan Center for a Veterans program and gathering after the parade. Congratulations to this year's Veteran of the Year and former member of the City Council Mr. Pat Stinnett who was honored for his exemplary service to our nation in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War and his continued service to the USO and to Veteran organizations.

On Saturday, December the 5th Old Town Partners and the City of Florissant will be hosting "Christmas in Old Town" from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the Florissant City Council Chambers. There will be light refreshments and snacks to enjoy. Santa Claus will be there and fun activities are planned like face painting, a clown making balloon animals, music, storytelling, and children's crafts. A children's boutique will feature inexpensive Christmas gifts for under \$3.

Many retail shops and restaurants will be open in Old Town so you can enjoy dining, shopping and the holiday festivities. At 5:30 p.m. the Valley of Flowers Queen and Court and I will greet the gathering on the City Hall balcony and the Valley of Flowers Queen her court

will lead us in a few Carols before Queen Courtney Neisler switches on the Christmas lights!

The famous Project Lift-Off DARE holiday party for 5th to 8th graders will be held on the same evening December 5th right after the Christmas Tree Lighting but at the James J. Eagan Center from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm. The entire center except for the Theater will be available for the youth to enjoy.

Once again our Senior Office will be busy during this holiday season setting up wonderful Christmas trips for our seniors. If you are a senior and are interested in learning more about upcoming trips please call the Senior Coordinator Peggy Hogan at 314-839-7604.

Don't forget about this year's Senior New Year's Eve party. This is one of the most popular events and it always sells out quick. This year theme is A Night to Remember. The party will be on Thursday, December 31 at the James J. Eagan Center from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Our notorious Countdown to 12:00 "Noon" was once lampooned in good hearted fashion on the "Tonight Show" by host Jay Leno. Music will be provided by the St. Charles Municipal Band an outstanding 18-piece orchestra.

This holiday season our Florissant Civic Center Theatre will have some wonderful holiday shows for everyone to enjoy. On December 4 welcome back hometown favorite Derek Anthony for a one night show Derek Anthony Homecoming Showcase that starts at 7:30 p.m. On December 6 St. Louis Brass Band presents "Holiday Spectacular" playing at 2:30 p.m.

On December 12 at 8:00 p.m. Florissant Fine Arts Council presents Ryan & Ryan "Music for Mavericks". The Northwinds Concert Band presents "Hometown Holiday Special" on December 13 at 8:00 p.m. and on December 20 starting at 2:00 p.m. the Florissant Fine Arts Council presents "A Christmas Carol". For more information and reservations call 314-921-5678 or www.florissantmo.com.

I would like to commend Finance Director Randy McDaniel, all of our Department heads for working together in preparing the FY2016 budget. I would also like to commend the City Council and the members of the Administration for working together to craft a prudent financial plan for the 2016 Florissant Budget. This budget contains a blueprint to continue to operate the city in a professional manner and with the same high level of programs and services that our residents expect. One of my goals with this budget, as with my past budgets, is to anticipate expenditures for the next fiscal year so as to reduce the need for supplemental appropriations. There will always be economic challenges and your City Council and Administration will continue to strive for progress.

We have had economic success which was highlighted in 2015 with the opening of a very popular Culvers Restaurant which set attendance records and a Wal-Mart Superstore opening without any public assistance from the City of Florissant. As Mayor I will insist that we will continue to do our part in bringing new businesses to the area to continue to achieve encouraging levels of retail and commercial investment to our beautiful city.



In preparation for your holidays please reflect on the blessings of liberty that were obtained in large measure by a desperate but determined Continental Army that crossed the Delaware River with General Washington on Christmas Eve, 1776. Please say a prayer of thanks now for the sacrifice of our military around the world and our police and firefighters here at home. On behalf of Police Chief Lowery and the members of our award winning Police Department, all of our devoted Department heads and wonderful employees in all of our departments, the Administration, Judge Boyle and the Florissant City Council I would like to wish you and your family a wonderful and safe Holiday Season and a Happy New Year.

Sincerely,
Mayor Thomas P. Schneider

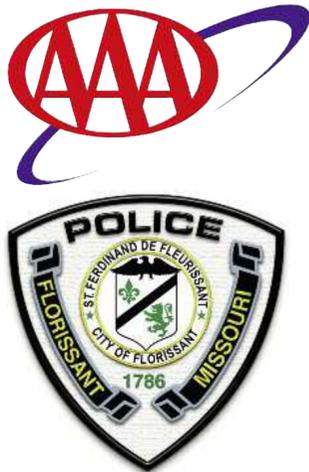
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Florissant Police and AAA Offer Winter Weather Driving Tips



full to avoid gas line freeze-up.

- If possible, avoid using your parking brake in cold, rainy and snowy weather.
- Do not use cruise control when driving on any slippery surface (wet, ice, sand).
- Always look and steer where you want to go.
- Use your seat belt every time you get into your vehicle.

Tips for long-distance winter trips:

- Watch weather reports prior to a long-distance drive or before driving in isolated areas. Delay trips when especially bad weather is expected. If you must leave, let others know your route, destination and estimated time of arrival.
- Always make sure your vehicle is in peak operating condition by having it inspected by an AAA Approved Auto Repair facility.
- Keep at least half a tank of gasoline in your vehicle at all times.
- Pack a cellular telephone with your local AAA's telephone number, plus blankets, gloves, hats, food, water and any needed medication in your vehicle.



- If you become snow-bound, stay with your vehicle. It provides temporary shelter and makes it easier for rescuers to locate you. Don't try to walk in a severe storm. It's easy to lose sight of your vehicle in blowing snow and become lost.
- Don't over exert yourself if you try to push or dig your vehicle out of the snow.

- Tie a brightly colored cloth to the antenna or place a cloth at the top of a rolled up window to signal distress. At night, keep the dome light on if possible. It only uses a small amount of electricity and will make it easier for rescuers to find you.
- Make sure the exhaust pipe isn't clogged with snow, ice or mud. A blocked exhaust could cause

provide the longer distance needed if you have to stop.

- Know your brakes. Whether you have antilock brakes or not, the best way to stop is threshold braking. Keep the heel of your foot on the floor and use the ball of your foot to apply firm, steady pressure on the brake pedal.
- Don't stop if you can avoid it. There's a big difference in the



deadly carbon monoxide gas to leak into the passenger compartment with the engine running.

- Use whatever is available to insulate your body from the cold. This could include floor mats, newspapers or paper maps.
- If possible run the engine and heater just long enough to remove the chill and to conserve gasoline.

Tips for driving in the snow:

- Accelerate and decelerate slowly. Applying the gas slowly to accelerate is the best method for regaining traction and avoiding skids. Don't try to get moving in a hurry. And take time to slow down for a stoplight. Remember: It takes longer to slow down on icy roads.
- Drive slowly. Everything takes longer on snow-covered roads. Accelerating, stopping, and turning - nothing happens as quickly as on dry pavement. Give yourself time to maneuver by driving slowly.
- The normal dry pavement following distance of three to four seconds should be increased to eight to ten seconds. This increased margin of safety will

amount of inertia it takes to start moving from a full stop versus how much it takes to get moving while still rolling. If you can slow down enough to keep rolling until a traffic light changes, do it.

- Don't power up hills. Applying extra gas on snow-covered roads just starts your wheels spinning. Try to get a little inertia going before you reach the hill and let that inertia carry you to the top. As you reach the crest of the hill, reduce your speed and proceed downhill as slowly as possible.
- Stay home. If you really don't have to go out, don't. Even if you can drive well in the snow, not everyone else can. Don't tempt fate: If you don't have somewhere you have to be, watch the snow from indoors.

Information provide in this article taken from the AAA website at; www.aaa.com

With the winter months fast approaching we at the Florissant Police Department would like our citizens to take a few minutes to review their winter driving habits. As we all know hazardous driving conditions due to rain, sleet and snow can result in hazardous highway conditions. Here are some tips from the American Automobile Association, AAA.

Severe weather can be both frightening and dangerous for automobile travel. Motorists should know the safety rules for dealing with winter road emergencies. AAA reminds motorists to be cautious while driving in adverse weather. For more information on winter driving, the association offers the How to Go on Ice and Snow brochure, available through most AAA offices. Contact your local AAA representative for more information.

AAA recommends the following winter driving tips:

- Avoid driving while you're fatigued. Getting the proper amount of rest before taking on winter weather tasks reduces driving risks.
- Never warm up a vehicle in an enclosed area, such as a garage.
- Make certain your tires are properly inflated.
- Never mix radial tires with other tire types.
- Keep your gas tank at least half

Florissant Police Department to Offer C.E.R.T. Training

The Florissant Police Department will host another C.E.R.T. training course beginning Wednesday, February 17, 2016. C.E.R.T. is an acronym that stands for Community Emergency Response Team. Participants will meet one day a week for eight weeks. Class times will be from 6:30 P.M. until 9:30 P.M. The goal is for citizens to be trained in basic response skills. C.E.R.T. members are then integrated into the emergency capability for their area.



If a natural or man-made disastrous event overwhelms or delays the community's professional response, C.E.R.T. members can assist others by applying

ing the basic response and organizational skills that they learned during training. These skills can help save and sustain lives fol-

lowing a disaster until help arrives. C.E.R.T. skills also apply to daily emergencies.

The Police Department is currently accepting reservations, as seating is limited to 24 participants, for this C.E.R.T. class. Applications will be accepted on a first come first served basis. Applications can be picked up at the Florissant Police Department or by visiting the police depart-

ment's website and download the application at; www.florissantmo.com/police

For more information contact Officer Craig DeHart at 314-830-6042 or at cdehart@florissantmo.com. Completed applications may be dropped off or mailed to: Florissant Police Department Public Information Unit 1700 North Highway 67 Florissant, MO 63033

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

Florissant Police Department Has Openings in Their Explorer Program

The Florissant Police Department is currently looking for additional members for their Explorer Program. The Explorers is a group of 14-21 year old young adults who are interested in law enforcement as a career. As a former Florissant Police Explorer, Chief Timothy J. Lowery can certainly attest to the benefits of the Explorer Program.

The Florissant Explorers meet twice a month on the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 7pm at the Florissant Police Department. At the meetings, the Explorers train and discuss various law enforcement related topics. The Explorers also are requested to assist the Florissant Police Department during com-



munity events, and they are given the opportunity to ride along with Florissant Police Officers after they meet certain conditions. There is no cost to be a Florissant Police Explorer. Each applicant must complete the application process and submit to a background check.

If any young adult is interested in joining the Florissant Explorers to learn more about law enforcement as a career, please contact Officer Jenna Carlson jcarlson@florissantmo.com or Officer Nick Osmer nosmer@florissantmo.com you can read more about the Explorer program on the Florissant Police Department's website, www.florissantmo.com/police.

Safety tips for Holiday Shopping



Shopping in Stores

- Do not buy more than you can carry. Plan ahead by taking a friend with you or ask a store employee to help you carry your packages to the car.
- Save all receipts. Print and save all confirmations from your online purchases. Start a file folder to keep all receipts together and to help you verify credit card or bank statements as they come in.
- Consider alternate options to pay for your merchandise, such as onetime or multi-use disposable credit cards or money orders, at online stores and auction sites.
- Wait until asked before taking out your credit card or checkbook. A thief could look over your shoulder to get your account information.
- Walking to and From Your Car
 - Deter pickpockets. Carry your purse close to your body or your wallet inside a coat or front trouser pocket.
 - Have your keys in hand when approaching your vehicle. Check the back seat and around the car before getting in.
 - Do not leave packages visible in your car windows. Lock them in the trunk or, if possible, take them directly home.
 - Shopping with Small Children
 - If you are shopping with children, make a plan in case you are separated from each other.

- Select a central meeting place.
- Teach them to know they can ask store personnel or store security employees if they need help.

Shopping Online

- Before surfing the Internet, secure your personal computers by updating your security software. Everyone's computer should have anti-virus, anti-spyware, and anti-spam software, as well as a good firewall installed.
- Keep your personal information private and your password secure. Do not respond to requests to "verify" your password or credit card information unless you initiated the contact. Legitimate businesses will not contact you in this manner.
- Beware of "bargains" from companies with whom you are unfamiliar—if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is!
- Use secure websites for purchases. Look for the icon of a locked padlock at the bottom of the screen or "https" in the URL address.
- Shop with companies you know and trust. Check for background information if you plan to buy from a new or unfamiliar company.

To find more useful shopping tips and personal safety information, visit the National Crime Prevention Council's website: www.npc.org

**The contents of this article are taken from the National Crime Prevention Council's Website.*

Officer John Stanczak Retires

Chief Tim Lowery and the entire Florissant Police Department wishes to congratulate and thank Officer John Stanczak for his many years of service. Officer Stanczak retired from the Florissant Police Department November 1st, 2015 after thirty four years of service to the Florissant community. Prior to coming to the Florissant Police Department in March of 1981, Officer Stanczak worked as a police officer for several years in Kirkwood. Officer Stanczak spent most of his career as a Patrol Officer and was a most recently our prisoner conveyance Officer. Officer Stanczak also served as one of the department's firearms instructors.



with his family and friends now that he is retired. Thanks, Officer Stanczak, for your decades of dedication to Florissant!

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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, 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.**

DECEMBER

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

**Florissant Fine Arts Council presents:*

Ryan & Ryan "Music For Mavericks"

From Tulsa, OK
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.
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 this acclaimed wind ensemble presents 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

From New Hampshire
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



JANUARY

Next Generation Theatre Company presents:

The Wizard Of Oz

Jan. 8 - 7:00 p.m. Jan. 9 - 2:00 p.m. Jan. 9 - 7:00 p.m.

Come join Dorothy Gale as she is transported out of Kansas and into a magical world of imagination. Accompanied by her trusty friends the Scarecrow, the Tinman, the Cowardly Lion and Toto, she embarks on a thrilling adventure down that infamous yellow brick road. Complete with beautiful melodies, stunning dances and adorable Munchkins, The Wizard of Oz is sure to put a smile on everyone's face!

ADMISSION: \$15.00 in Advance Adults; \$18.00 Adults at the Door; \$12.00 Students; \$10.00 Children 12 & under
Information and reservations 314-921-5678 or www.FlorissantMO.com



Hawthorne Players Auditions:

Our Town

Jan. 10
For additional information go to www.hawthorneplayers.com

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

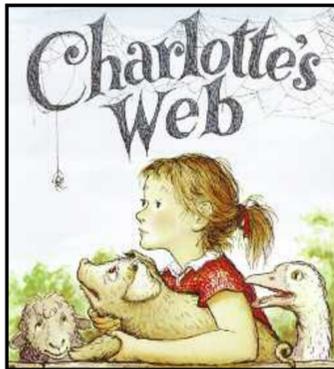
Charlotte's Web

From TheatreworksUSA, New York, NY

Jan. 15 - 7:30 p.m.
Jan. 16 - 2:00 p.m.
Jan. 17 - 2:00 p.m.

Theatreworks' production of Charlotte's Web is based on E.B. White's loving story of the friendship between a pig named Wilbur and a little gray spider named Charlotte. This treasured tale, featuring mad-cap and endearing farm animals, explores bravery, selfless love, and the true meaning of friendship.

ADMISSION: \$7.00 to all.
Group rates available
Information and reservations: 314-921-5678
 or www.FlorissantMO.com



**Florissant Fine Arts Council presents:*

The Baldknobbers Jamboree

From Branson
Jan. 16 - 8:00 p.m.

The Branson family entertainment phenomenon began over 55 years ago in 1959 when the four Mabe brothers, known as the Baldknobbers, began entertaining visitors on the Branson Lakefront. Joined by a cast of dynamic singers, musicians, comedians and entertainers, the second and third generations of the Mabe family perform your favorite country classics, hot new country hits and lots of side-splitting comedy.

ADMISSION: \$28.00 Adults; \$26.00 Seniors/Students; group rates available
 Information and reservations: 314-921-5678 or www.FlorissantMO.com



Alpha Players present:

Good People

Jan. 29 - 7:30 p.m. Jan. 30 - 7:30 p.m. Feb. 5 - 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 6 - 7:30 p.m. Feb. 7 - 2:00 p.m.

Margie Walsh can't catch a break. Let go from her job at the Dollar Store, Margie feels that South Boston is providing her the same level of opportunity it always has: none. Wry, rough around the edges and ready to make a change, she seeks out the one who got away - both from "Southie" and from her. Instead, she finds herself in the burbs, in the home of a doctor and out of her element, facing the question - is opportunity granted or earned? Nominated for a 2011 Tony Award for Best Play, Good People takes an affectionate look at the 'haves' and 'have nots' through the eyes of characters who won't be ignored.

ADMISSION: \$18.00 Adults; \$16.00 Seniors/Students; \$10.00 Children 12 & under
 Information and reservations: 314-921-5678 or www.FlorissantMO.com

Alpha Players Auditions:

Dearly Departed

Jan. 31
For additional information go to www.alphaplayers.org

FEBRUARY

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

Seussical The Musical

From TheatreworksUSA, NY, NY

Feb. 12 - 7:30 p.m. Feb. 13 - 2:00 p.m. Feb. 14 - 2:00 p.m.

The Cat in the Hat is the host and emcee (and all-around mischief-maker) in this romp through the Seuss classics. When the good-natured elephant Horton hears a small cry for help coming from a speck of dust, he promises to rescue and guard it because "a person's a person, no matter how small." Dr. Seuss's beloved characters find themselves intertwined in an incredible crazy-quilt adventure, in which the power of imagination and a miraculous "think" save the day!

ADMISSION: \$7.00 to all; group rates available
Information and reservations: 314-921-5678
 or www.FlorissantMO.com



McCluer High School presents:

Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella

Feb. 24 - 7:00 p.m.
Feb. 25 - 7:00 p.m.
Feb. 26 - 7:00 p.m.
Feb. 27 - 7:00 p.m.

Left to the devices of her evil step-mother and stepsisters, Cinderella manages to rise above everything to make all of her dreams come true.

ADMISSION: \$6.00 in advance; \$8.00 at the door
Information and reservations: 314-921-5678 or www.FlorissantMO.com



**Florissant Fine Arts Council presents:*

The Lady with All the Answers

From Omaha, NE



Feb. 28 - 2:00 p.m.
 "Dear Ann Landers"...For decades renowned advice columnist Ann Landers answered countless letters from lovelorn teens, confused couples and a multitude of others in need of advice. Landers regaled her readers with direct, insightful and often humorously honest responses. In this play we learn as much about ourselves as we do about the wise, funny, no-nonsense woman whose daily dialogue with America helped shape the social and sexual landscapes of the last half-century.
ADMISSION: \$28.00 Adults; \$26.00 Seniors/Students; group rates available
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"

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



Check Out These End-of-Year Investment Tips

Who knows where the time goes? Although 2015 is almost in the books, you can still make some year-end investment and financial moves that may help you get off to a good start in 2016. Here are a few suggestions:

- **Boost your 401(k) contributions.** Ask your employer if you still have time to add more to your 401(k) before the year ends. If not, at least increase your contributions in 2016, especially if your salary goes up.
- **Consider "tax-loss" selling.** We experienced considerable turbulence in the financial markets this past year, so you may own some investments that have lost value. Generally speaking, it's a good idea to hold these investments if they still meet your needs, but if you do decide to sell them, you can use the loss to offset capital gains taxes on investments you've sold that have appreciated. If the loss from the sale was greater than your combined long- and short-term capital gains, you can deduct up to \$3,000 against other income. And if your losses exceed your capital gains by more than \$3,000, you can carry the remaining losses forward to future tax years.
- **Review your asset allocation.** Make sure your asset allocation - that is, your investment mix - is still appropriate for your time horizon and goals. You might consider being a bit more aggressive if you're not meeting your financial targets, or more conservative if you're getting closer to retirement. If you want greater diversification, you might think about adding an asset class that tends to react to market conditions differently from your existing investments. Diversifying your portfolio may help reduce the impact of volatility; however, diversification, by itself, can't guarantee a profit or protect against loss. If you do need to adjust, or "rebalance," you can do so fairly easily in tax-deferred accounts, such as your IRA or 401(k) - but for those investments held in a taxable account, you should talk to your tax advisor on how to manage the tax consequences of rebalancing.
- **Evaluate your insurance situation.** This past year, did you undergo any changes in your personal life, such as marriage, divorce or the addition of a new child? If so, review your life and disability insurance to make sure they are sufficient for your needs, and list the proper beneficiaries on all insurance policies.
- **Start an emergency fund.** If you don't already have one, start an emergency fund before the year is out. Ideally, you'd like to have between six and 12 months' worth of living expenses in such a fund; without it, you might be forced to dip into your long-term investments to pay for unexpected costs, such as a new furnace, a major car repair or a big medical bill. For this fund, you're less interested in return than in preservation of principal, so put your money in a low-risk, liquid account.

Making these moves can help you close out 2015 on a positive note - and ring in the new year with greater confidence in your financial future.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

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Ring in 2016

Looking for something to do on New Year's Eve but you'd rather not 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, 2015 through December 28, 2015. Call the Senior Office, 839-7605, for more information. Bring your camera!



St. Patrick's Celebration!



GET YOUR GREEN ON and join us for our St. Patrick's Celebration! Beautiful, talented, Irish Dancers from O'Faolain Academy of Irish Dance will entertain us! Corned Beef and Cabbage will be served, attendance prizes will be given away, chances will be sold for a Pot of Gold and gift baskets. We'll top off the day with Bingo!

WHEN: Thursday, March 10, 2016

TIME: 10:00am - 2:00pm

WHERE: James J. Eagan Center

TICKETS: \$10.00 - includes admission, lunch, entertainment, attendance prizes & Bingo.

Tickets will be sold to Florissant Residents only in the Senior Office in Florissant City Hall from February 16 through March 7, 2016.



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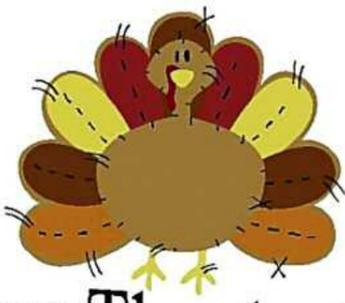
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Free Tax Preparation

The City of Florissant Senior Office is pleased to offer Senior Citizens 60 and over with a total income of \$53,000.00 or less, the opportunity to have their Federal, State or Property Tax Credit (Circuit Breaker) prepared FREE by trained AARP volunteers. All returns will be completed at the JFK Center located at 315 Howdershell in Koch Park. You MUST have an appointment, no walk-ins will be accepted. Call the Senior Office at 839-7605 to make an appointment starting January 19, 2016. *****DID YOU KNOW?***** Even if you are not required to fill out a Federal or State Return, you may still be eligible for the Property Tax Credit (Circuit Breaker) and receive a refund from the State of Missouri. Call the Senior Office, 839-7605, for more information.



St. Ferdinand Thanksgiving Day Dinner



Happy Thanksgiving

Come one, Come all! Don't sit home alone on Thanksgiving Day! Join friends and neighbors for a wonderful FREE Thanksgiving Dinner served by volunteers from many area churches in the community. Dinner will be served from 11:30am until 3:00pm on

Thanksgiving Day, November 26, 2015 at St. Ferdinand Church, 1765 Charbonier Road, Florissant, MO 63031. Maybe you would be interested in volunteering for this wonderful event. For more information, please call St. Ferdinand Parish at 837-3165.

Flashback Friday Dance!

The Temptations, Frank Sinatra, Alan Jackson, Louis Armstrong, Michael Jackson, Johnny Mathis - Hear All Your Favorites Performed By The Scott Laytham & Karl Holmes Duo at the Flashback Friday Dance!



You must see it and hear it to believe it! Karl "Trickee" Holmes is one of the best vocal impressionists in the county and they will be performing at the Eagan Center. Don't miss the fun. Dance the night away or sit back and watch the amazing performance!

WHEN: Friday Night, February 19, 2016

TIME: 7:00pm - 10:00pm

TICKETS: Residents AND Non-residents: \$8.00 if purchased prior to the dance in the Senior Office in Florissant City Hall or \$10.00 at the door the night of the performance.

Call the Senior Office, 839-7605 for more information.

SENIOR CITIZEN TRIPS

History Museum & Bixby's Restaurant

Take a guided tour through the 6,000 square-foot exhibition, "A Walk in 1875 St. Louis" that explores the collective life of 1875 St. Louis through photographs, artifacts, news, writings and first-hand accounts of the day. Then enjoy an outstanding lunch overlooking the Golf Course in Forest Park, at the Acclaimed Bixby's Restaurant in the History Museum.

WHEN: Thursday, February 4, 2016

TIME: 9:15 am - 2:15pm

COST: \$30.00 - includes transportation, tour and lunch.

TICKETS: Ticket sales begin on Tuesday, January 5, 2016 in the SENIOR OFFICE in Florissant City Hall from 8:00am - 5:00pm for RESIDENTS ONLY with a current resident card. If there are tickets remaining, tickets will be sold to residents AND non-residents starting Wednesday, January 6, 2016 in the Senior Office in Florissant City Hall. Call the Senior Office at 839-7605, for ticket availability.

Hollywood Casino

Enjoy the Lights, the Sounds, and the Thrill of Gambling at Hollywood Casino and lunch at the "Eat-up Buffet!"

WHEN: Thursday, February 11, 2016

TIME: 9:30am - 2:30pm

COST: \$21.00 includes transportation and lunch at Hollywood's Eat-up Buffet!

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, January 14, 2016. If there are tickets remaining, tickets will go on sale in the Senior Office in Florissant City Hall on Friday, January 15, 2016, to all Senior Citizens - residents AND non-residents. Non-resident cost is \$23.00. Call the Senior Office at 839-7605 for ticket availability.

Shriner's Circus & Stefanina's

Feel like a kid again at the Circus! Knucklehead the Clown will escort our Florissant Senior Citizens to our seats! Enjoy the crazy antics of the hilarious clowns as they jump & tumble under the "Big Top". Listen to the ROAR of the magnificent but treacherous tigers. Watch the elephants as they trumpet around the "Three Rings". Then enjoy a delicious lunch at Stefanina's Pizzeria & Restaurant, THE place to go for GREAT pizza and Italian Food!

WHEN: Friday, March 18, 2016

TIME: 9:00am - 3:00pm

COST: \$26.00 - includes transportation, circus, and lunch at Stefanina's

TICKETS: Ticket sales begin on Tuesday, February 2, 2016 in the SENIOR OFFICE in Florissant City Hall from 8:00am - 5:00pm for RESIDENTS ONLY with a current resident card. If there are tickets remaining, tickets will be sold to residents AND non-residents starting Wednesday, February 3, 2016 in the Senior Office in Florissant City Hall. Call the Senior Office, 839-7605, for ticket availability.

Tour of the Hill & Lunch at Favazza's

Take a tour of one of St. Louis's most storied neighborhoods - THE HILL - by experienced tour guide & Hill native, JOE DEGREEGORGIO. See how homemade ravioli is made at Mama Toscano's. Check out the Chocolate Factory and Italian Bakery and then listen to a concert at the local cultural landmark, St. Ambrose Church. You may even play a little Bocce Ball! Of course we'll stop at one of the local favorites for lunch - Favazza's Restaurant.

WHEN: Thursday, April 14, 2016

TIME: 9:15am - 3:00pm

COST: \$38.00, includes transportation, tour of The Hill and lunch at Favazza's Restaurant

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, March 3, 2016. If there are tickets remaining, tickets will go on sale in the Senior Office in Florissant City Hall on Friday, March 4, 2016 to all Senior Citizens - residents AND non-residents. Non-resident cost is \$40.00 Call the Senior Office at 839-7605 for ticket availability.

Sound of Music at the Fox Theatre & Zia's on the Hill

The Hills are Alive! THE SOUND OF MUSIC is coming to the Fox! Maria & the Von Trapp Family will once again thrill audiences with songs including "My Favorite Things," "Do-Re-Mi," "Climb Ev'ry Mountain," and "Edelweiss." After the show, we'll enjoy a Classic Italian Dinner at the Famous Restaurant on the Hill - ZIA'S!

WHEN: Thursday, May 5, 2016

TIME: 12:00noon - 6:00pm

COST: \$56.00, includes transportation, Sound of Music Production and Dinner at Zia's

TICKETS: Ticket sales begin on Tuesday, March 8, 2016 in the SENIOR OFFICE in Florissant City Hall from 8:00am - 5:00pm for RESIDENTS ONLY with a current resident card. If there are tickets remaining, tickets will be sold to residents AND non-residents starting Wednesday, March 9, 2016 in the Senior Office in Florissant City Hall. Call the Senior Office, 839-7605, for ticket availability.

SENIORS EVENTS SCHEDULE

DECEMBER

31 - Senior Citizen New Year's Eve Party, 10:00am - 2:00pm. Tickets sold in the Senior Office from November 16 - December 28.

JANUARY

1 - City Offices Closed - New Year's Day Holiday

5 - Ticket sales begin in Senior Office from 8:00am-5:00pm - History Museum & Bixby's

14 - Silver Words Club Mtg, JFK, 1:30, Bingo, Ticket Sales - Hollywood Casino

18 - City Offices Closed - Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday

19 - Tax Appointments begin, call 839-7605

FEBRUARY

Tickets for February 19th Dance available in the Senior Office in City Hall throughout February

2 - Ticket sales begin in the Senior Office from 8:00 am- 5:00pm for the Shriner's Circus & Stefanina's

4 - TRIP: History Museum & Bixby's

11 - SILVER WORDS TRIP: Hollywood Casino

15 - City Offices Closed - President's Day

16 - Ticket Sales begin in Senior Office for St. Patrick's Party (March 10)

19 - DANCE: Eagan Center, 7-10pm, SCOTT LAYTHAM & KARL HOLMES!

MARCH

3 - Silver Words Club Mtg, Dining Center, 1:30, Ticket Sales - Tour of the Hill & Favazza's

7 - Reservations taken for Attorney General Speaker Series on March 31st - 839-7605

8 - Ticket sales begin in Senior Office from 8:00am-5:00pm for Sound of Music & Zia's

10 - St. Patrick's Party & Bingo, Eagan Center, 10am-2pm, Corned Beef Lunch, Irish Dancers, Bingo

18 - TRIP: Shriner's Circus & Stefanina's

25 - City Offices Closed - Good Friday

31 - SPEAKER SERIES: Tom Durkin from Attorney General's Office, 1:00pm, Nature Lodge

Volunteer with Your Heart in 2016 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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Winter Weather is On the Way Let's Work Together!



Winter weather is coming and we all must deal with it. Parts of the U.S. are already experiencing snow and power outages. Some forecasters are predicting a worse winter than last year ... with colder temperatures, more snow and more ice. The City of Florissant is prepared to fight these storms as always ... yet we could still use your help. The single best way for you to help is to make sure your snow plows can make it down your street. If we can't make it down your street ... you guessed it ... we can't salt or plow your street ... then you're upset along with us. Last year our trucks broke several vehicle side mirrors trying to get down streets. So in an effort to reduce accidents and continue to provide salt/snow plowing service, please help us out by doing the following:

- When snow or ice is forecasted, please move your vehicles off the street and into the carport, garage, or driveway.
- If you can't move your vehicle off the street, move it to the even numbered side of the street.

- If your street is numbered consecutively, move your vehicle to a location where there is plenty of room for a truck and 10 foot plow blade to pass.
- Do not park directly opposite another vehicle on the street!
- Courts and cul-de-sacs are always a problem...especially the ones with islands...again, do whatever you must to allow room for our trucks to salt and plow. If need be, move your vehicle to a side street.
- Another help you may want to follow throughout the year is to pull your driver's side mirror in so there's a couple extra inches of passing room.

With your help we can provide the salting and snow plowing services you've come to love and expect ... in a more timely manner ... without having to tow your vehicle out of the way. Working together we can get the job done.

For more information or to report any street problems, you can contact the Florissant Street Department at 314-839-7652.

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. According to The American Society of Otolaryngology, dry air can make people more susceptible to infection. Dry air also aggravates allergy and asthma symptoms.

- **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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Cold Weather Tips for Your Pets

1. Take your dog outside only for as long as it takes to relieve him or herself. Small, shorthaired breeds such as Chihuahuas and terriers suffer from the cold despite their seemingly warm fur coats.
2. Dogs frequently lose their scent in snow and ice. More dogs are lost during the winter than during any other season.
3. Thoroughly wipe off your dog's legs and stomach when he or she comes in out of the rain, snow, or ice. Check your dogs foot pads, which may be bleeding from snow or ice encrusted in them. He or she may also pick up salt and other



chemicals on their feet accidentally. As we all know dogs lick their feet and these chemicals could hurt your pet if swallowed.

4. Antifreeze, even in very tiny doses, is a lethal poison for dogs and cats. But because of its sweet taste, animals are attracted to it. Be sure clean up spills thoroughly.

5. By law, all dogs must have a sturdy well built shelter available at all times. In the winter, but sure to pack your dogs shelter with straw to help hold in the heat and keep your animal dry. Water will freeze quickly, be sure to maintain your dogs water bowl so it will not freeze over.

Pet Toxins



We as adults try and keep our kids safe, but have you ever thought that as a Pet Parent there are things in and around your home that can unintentionally poison your dog or cat? No matter how careful we try to be, our pets can still be exposed to potentially life threatening substances. Here is a small but common list of items that can be harmful to a pet:

| Household Items | Human Foods |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Antifreeze | Avocados |
| Bleach | Cheewing Gum |
| Detergents | Chocolate |
| Disinfectants | Grapes |
| Garden Fertilizers | Onions |
| Insecticides | Raisins |
| Paint Thinner | Plants |
| Rodenticides | Lilies |
| Pool Chemicals | Foxglove |
| | Tulips |
| | Aloe Vera |

Another item not on this list but needs to be highlighted is Human Medications. Human medications are atop the list of most ingested toxins by pets. Keep all medicines, prescription and nonprescription, out of reach of any pet.

The ASPCA Poison Control Center can provide you with a much more thorough list should you feel it necessary. This list is to provide you with a few general considerations. The size and age of your pet should be taken into account when deciding the severity of the risk these substances present. If you witness your pet ingesting or being exposed to any of these, call your veterinarian or the ASPCA's Animal Poison Control Center at 888-426-4435 immediately.

A friendly reminder, that all dogs and cats must be registered thru the City of Florissant per city ordinance. To obtain a city pet license, please bring current rabies vaccinations to the Health Department at #1 St. Ferdinand Park Dr. Florissant, MO 63031. Please call 314-839-7654 with any questions.

Green Like Me

Once again the Florissant Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) enjoyed another beautiful autumn day at the Florissant Fall Festival. The EQC's booth was visited by festival goers interested in all subjects environmental and ecological. We were able to answer questions in a variety of subjects including, Cool City Business, West Lake Landfill, birding, recycling, and this year's very popular project "Milkweed for Monarchs" initiative. Monarch butterflies, famous for their yearly migration between Mexico and Canada, are important participants in pollinating plants in our ecosystem. Yet, their population has declined 90 percent over the last two decades. Female monarchs depend on milkweed to lay their eggs and feed their caterpillar larvae. Only milkweeds play host and food source to monarch caterpillars enabling the monarch population to grow. During the Valley of Flowers and the Fall Festival, the EQC passed out milkweed seed, with information on planting and companion plants, therefore encouraging environmentally friendly gardening. A visit from our Mayor, Thomas Schneider, and a plug on Florissant Cable was much appreciated. The EQC was allowed to promote the commission, our purpose and our projects, notably "Cool City Businesses" and "Milkweed for Monarchs."

Patronize our "Cool City Businesses" and become one if you recycle your business waste and use energy saving procedures. Applications are available on line when you visit our Facebook page: www.florissantenvironmentalqualitycommission.facebook.com or contact Karen Schmidt at kschmidt@florissantmo.com.



Also give us feedback as to what information you would like to have available on our webpage. Our meetings are open to the public every third Wednesday of the month at 7pm at Eagan Center. Questions are welcome.

- Cool City Businesses of Florissant
- U-Haul
 - 1800 North Highway 67
 - 314-837-2227
 - Click Heating and Cooling
 - 124 St. Francois St.
 - 314-656-7698
 - Batteries Plus Bulbs
 - 113 North Highway 67
 - 314-838-2277
 - Fashion Craft Carpet
 - 2306 US Highway 67
 - 314-838-6969
 - The Bedroom Store
 - 13225 New Halls Ferry Rd
 - 314-831-8900

A special thanks to Catherine Werner, Mayor Slay's office, for help with the "Milkweed for Monarchs".

Visit with Santa



Once again this year the Parks & Recreation Department will be hosting a visit with Santa for Florissant Residents on Saturday December 19, 9:00-10:30AM at Sunset Park Nature Lodge. Cost is either \$1 or a canned food item. Tickets may be purchased at the Eagan Center or the JFK Center.

House Decorating Contest

The youth advisory commission of the Parks & Recreation Department will be sponsoring the annual House Decoration Contest. Applications are FREE to Florissant Residents and will be available beginning Monday, November 23rd at the James J. Eagan Center, JFK Community Center and Florissant City Hall. Parks and Recreation Department prizes are awarded to the best decorated homes. Temporary yard signs acknowledging 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners will be posted. Deadline to apply is Monday, December 14th at 5:00PM. The judging will begin at 6:00PM on Wednesday, December 17th.



Snowman Building Contest



If you think you build the best snowman in your neighborhood, then we have a contest for you! From November 1 to February 14, anytime it snows, build a snowman. Take a picture of yourself and the snowman and send it to our office along with an application. Prizes will be awarded. The Youth Advisory Commission will be the judges. Only Florissant residents may enter. This is for children ages 0-15. An application may be picked up at either Center or by visiting our website. E-mail a digital photo to jsteib@florissantmo.com or send your picture with your child's name, address, phone number and age to:

Attn. Snowman Contest
JFK Community Center
315 Houdershell Rd
Florissant, MO 63031

Winter Break Camp

Come join us over winter break for some fun games and activities for ages 6-10. This camp will be similar to our Parks & Recreation Summer Playground program. You will be able to go swimming, ice skating, and much more!

Location: Eagan Center
Dates: 12/21 - 12/23 and 12/28 - 12/30
Time: 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
There will be NO CAMP 12/24, 12/25, 12/31, 1/1.
Fee: Resident \$60, Non-Res \$120.
Spots are limited so sign up early!

Project Lift Off

Is a drug free/alcohol free/tobacco free Holiday Event hosted by the Parks & Recreation Department. Come hang out for the evening and enjoy great DJ music, the game room, ice skating, swimming, basketball, and awesome door prizes.

Location: Eagan Center
Date: December 5
Time: 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.
Grades: 5th through 8th
Fee: Tickets \$6 or \$8 day of the event
Tickets will be available at JJE & JFK mid-November.
Invite all your friends, this will be a night you will never forget!

The Florissant Golf Club is Open!



Fall is upon us and the colorful foliage at Florissant Golf Club is in abundance! Come out and enjoy the fall beauty and all of the golf course renovations directed toward making Florissant Golf Club more fun and enjoyable for every level of player. Our winter rates go into effect on November 1st and will last until March 1, 2016. Take advantage of all of those nice winter days at a discounted rate!

Gift certificates are available for that golfer on your Christmas list and

can be used for golf, merchandise, or food and drink. Remember, our merchandise is priced equal to or less than all of the golf discount operations in the metropolitan area, and we are a tax free facility! If we don't have what you need in stock, we can order it for you.

If you are interested in improving your golf game contact Terry Grosch, our 4-time PGA Teacher of the Year and General Manager to get a lesson program started that will have you on your way to lower scores!

Trinity Catholic High School Receives \$2 Million Commitment from Fund Established by Roman Catholic Foundation Of Eastern Missouri



Roman Catholic Foundation
of
EASTERN MISSOURI

Fund Enabling 22 North County Students to Benefit from Catholic Education this Year, with 150 Students Expected to Benefit in Upcoming Years

Trinity Catholic High School in North St. Louis County has 22 additional students enrolled for the 2015-16 school year, thanks to the SOAR! Scholarship Fund, which was established earlier this year by the Roman Catholic Foundation of Eastern Missouri. The fund will distribute \$2 million - starting this year and spread out over the next several years - enabling approximately 150 additional students, who otherwise wouldn't have the chance, to attend Trinity Catholic.

The SOAR! (St. Louis Opportunity and Achievement Realized) Scholarship Fund provides tuition assistance to underserved students attending or who wish to attend select Catholic elementary or high schools in the City of St. Louis and North St. Louis County. Its initial assets resulted from a generous gift by the Enterprise Holdings Founder Jack C. Taylor and his family.

"We're expanding minds and changing lives at Trinity Catholic, a welcoming and caring community committed to graduating responsible citizens, who are grounded in Christian values, dedicated to service, and engaged in lifelong learning," said Trinity Catholic Principal Sister Karl Mary. "I am humbled by the generosity of Mr. Taylor, which will assure that we can continue to provide an educational experience that is exceptional, comprehensive and college preparatory."

Plans call for a significant number of additional SOAR! Scholarships to be available starting in both the 2016-17 and 2017-18 school years. All scholarships will follow the students during their high school years through graduation.

"I'm hoping and praying that the multi-year gift we received at Trinity Catholic will encourage others to invest in the education of teens," said Sr. Karl Mary, who has been involved in Catholic education for more than 35 years. "Bottom line, these scholarships will touch future generations and leave a living legacy of excellence."

Trinity Catholic High School is fully accredited by the North Central Association, Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement, an accreditation division of AdvancEd and the Committee on Accredited Schools and Colleges at the University of Missouri, Columbia. Trinity Catholic is a member of the National Catholic Education Association.

The Roman Catholic Foundation of Eastern Missouri, a 501(c)3 public charity, independent from the Archdiocese of St. Louis, inspires giving and connects donors to Catholic ministries, sustaining the local Church for future generations. Fulfilling the vision of St. Louis Archbishop Robert Carlson, the Foundation was established to sustain the local church for future generations.

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For more information regarding the SOAR! Scholarship program, please contact the Roman Catholic Foundation through Michael Weisbrod at Michael.Weisbrod@rcfstl.org.

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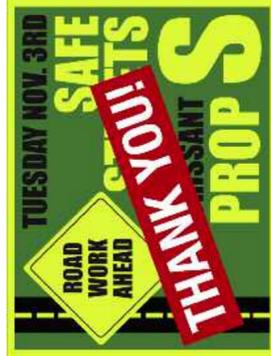
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