

# CityScene



June 2014  
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www.independencemo.org  
City of Independence, MO

## Truman Awards Recognition Held May 10

The Harry S. Truman Award for Public Service was presented to Congressman Emanuel Cleaver, II May 10 on the steps of the Harry S. Truman Library & Museum, 500 W. U.S. Highway 24. The public was invited to the ceremony and reception, which was held in the lobby immediately following the ceremony.

Congressman Cleaver represents the 5th Congressional District of Missouri. First elected to Congress in 2004, he is completing his fourth term in Congress and has been appointed to the Financial Services Committee. Cleaver served for three terms on the City Council of Kansas City, MO and was elected the City's first African-American Mayor in 1991.

During his eight years as Mayor, he distinguished himself as an economic development activist and a

redevelopment craftsman, believing that a strong Kansas City supports a strong metropolitan area.

In addition to the Public Service Award presentation to Congressman Cleaver, the Missouri Mavericks organization was awarded the Harry S. Truman Special Recognition Award, which is



**Congressman Emanuel Cleaver II received the 2014 Harry S. Truman Award for Public Service from Mayor Eileen Weir.**



given to a person or organization to recognize a special or unique contribution to our community.

Since its inception, the Mavericks hockey franchise has received overwhelming support from the residents of Independence and gained fans from surrounding communities.



**Brent Thiessen, President of the Missouri Mavericks, accepted the 2014 Truman Special Recognition Award from Mayor Eileen Weir.**

The Mavericks have become involved in the community by devoting countless hours to community groups such as Habitat for Humanity, the Community Services League, the Rainbow Center, and the Down Syndrome Foundation.

Last year alone, the Mavericks raised more than \$1 million dollars in donations for local charities.

The Harry S. Truman Public Service Award Commission makes the selection each year. This award, the highest honor bestowed by the City on a civilian, was presented for the first time in 1974 when Dr. Henry Kissinger attended the ceremony to accept the first Truman statuette.

## Follow These Summer Garage and Yard Sale Guidelines

It's that time of year when you or your neighbors may make the decision to clear out household clutter with a garage or yard sale.

Please keep these regulations in mind as you make your plans:

- No permit is required to hold a sale, but you are limited to no more than two sales per calendar year.
- A sale may not be longer than three consecutive days.

- A garage or yard sale may not be used to sell items purchased for resale.

- No signs, flyers, directions, etc. may be placed in any street right-of-way or on any public property including street signs and posts, traffic signs, or on any public utility pole.

- Any sign properly placed on private property must be removed on or before the last day of the sale. The person conducting the sale is responsible for remov-

ing the signs.

If you and your neighbors decide to hold a group of sales on the same day, keep safety in mind when planning your event.

The Fire Department recommends keeping streets clear for emergency vehicles, so if your neighborhood is planning a large garage sale event, call (816) 325-7123 to notify the Fire Department in advance.

## Enjoy Your Summer With These Independence Events



The Spirit of Independence will live in Independence on Friday, July 4! The children's parade will feature decorated bikes, wagons and scooters and children of all ages dressed up for the celebration of America's birthday.

The parade starts lining up at 9:30 a.m. in the parking lot at 23rd St. and Main, then will head north on Main, ending up on The Square. Special treats will be available for the kids.

That evening at 7:30 p.m., enjoy a free concert by the George Dyer Band at the Community of Christ Auditorium, 1001 W. Walnut. At 8:30 p.m., the sounds of the "Spirit of Independence" band free concert will fill the air, followed by the traditional fireworks display at the Mormon Visitors Center, 437 W. Walnut. Parking is limited, so come early with your blankets or chairs and claim your spot on the lawn!

Two different puppet shows are on tap for the hot days of summer at the Puppetry Arts Institute, 11025 E. Winner Road. Tickets are \$5, and include a tour of the museum. On Wednesday, July 9, it's "Good Night Irene" with Independence Puppeteer and Storyteller Anitra Steele at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. This puppet show is especially for children two to six years old.

StoryTime Puppets from University City, MO will be coming to town on Saturday, July 26 for two performances of the Aesop fable, "The Lion & The Mouse." This story is performed with hand puppets, and has a moral lesson presented in a lively style. Performances will be at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. For reservations for either puppet show, contact the Puppetry Arts Institute at (816) 833-9777.

Come back to the Bingham-Waggoner Estate, 313 W. Pacific, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, July 12 for the 27th Annual Bingham-Waggoner Antique and Craft Fair. More than 100 antique dealers and crafters will set up shop on the beautiful grounds of the Estate. The Fair has free admittance, and the "Spirit of Independence" band will perform at



**The 27th Annual Bingham-Waggoner Antique and Craft Fair will be held Saturday, July 12.**

noon. Take a leisurely stroll through the booths, and enjoy lunch on the go with Polish sausages, hot dogs, hamburgers and "walking tacos" available for purchase. For information, call (816) 461-3491 or go to [www.bwestate.org](http://www.bwestate.org).

Summer is a busy time on the Historic Independence Square. The free Moonlight Movies return at 9 p.m. each Thursday night in the Pharaoh Theatre parking lot (corner of Maple and Liberty). You can bring your own chairs or rent one for just \$1. Inclement weather changes the movie date to the following Sunday.

Hot Dog! It's time for the 5th Annual Hot Dog Eating Contest to benefit Boys & Girls Clubs. Starting at 7 p.m. on Thursday, July 17, bring the whole family to watch the action and compete for prizes and fun at the Pharaoh Theatre parking lot on The Square.

The Dog Days of summer continue on The Square Friday and Saturday, July 18 and 19. Bring the pooch for dog-friendly shopping at a Sidewalk Sale from 8 a.m. to noon. The sale continues inside until 6 p.m. so shoppers can take advantage of offered discounts on selected items.

While you shop, take a photo with your pet at a notable landmark or Square business and post it to The Square's Facebook page for a chance to win a gift certificate. For information about this event, check out [www.theindependencesquare.com](http://www.theindependencesquare.com).

For a complete schedule of tourism events during July, go to [www.visitindependence.com](http://www.visitindependence.com) or call Independence Tourism at (816) 325-7111.

## Check Permit Requirements Before Starting Your Home Improvement Project

It's the time of year for planning your next construction project. A new deck, fence, room addition, remodel or new storage building can be expensive, especially when installed by a construction professional. Before spending any money, it is important to know whether a permit is required.

The Community Development Department is available to assist with determining whether a building permit is required, as well as the appropriate location and any construction standards which may apply.

A building permit is required for any fence taller than 6'. All fences must be constructed of permanent fencing materials such as wood, vinyl, iron, or coated chain link. No more than two types of fencing materials may be used.

A building permit is required for all decks and for sheds or storage buildings larger than 120 sq. ft.

Sheds or storage buildings must be

built at least 5' from all property lines and at least 10' from the principal building. Decks are considered part of the principal structure and must meet the same setbacks.

If your plans are to remodel a room in your home, the extent of the remodel determines if a permit is required. If you plan to add a room to your house, a building permit will be required.

Room addition permits will also need to have drawings showing the room addition and setbacks from property lines. If the room addition includes a bedroom, there are additional requirements.

For more information or to find the permit forms, please visit the City's website at [www.independencemo.org/ComDev/Forms.aspx](http://www.independencemo.org/ComDev/Forms.aspx) or contact the Building Inspections division at (816) 325-7401.

And always, when preparing to start your project, call 1-800-DIG-RITE before you dig.



# Independence Selected for Championship Events

The City of Independence has been selected as the host site for large championship events to be held in the next two years. These events will not only bring thousands of spectators to town, but also bring revenues into the city.

The Independent Senior Softball Association and 3v3 Soccer will be hosted this summer in Independence.

Independence will also serve as the official host of the 2015 and 2016 NAIA Women's Division 1 Basketball National Championships, with assistance from William Woods University (Mo.). The

championship events will be held at the Events Center in March of 2015 and 2016. The NAIA has sponsored the 32-team championship tournament since 1981.

The 2015 National Collegiate Roller Hockey Championships has announced the 16th Annual Championships will be held in Independence in April of 2015. The Events Center will convert both ice rinks to roller hockey rinks, bringing 60 Roller Hockey Teams from all over the United States to compete for the title of Collegiate Roller Hockey National Champion. More than 2,500 spectators are expected.

One of the nine regional contests for U.S. Figure Skating will take place in Independence in October of 2015, in preparation for the 2016 National Championships. The Southwestern Regional Figure Skating Championships will bring in skaters, families and fans from a nine-state region to the Events Center.

The ability to attract large regional and national events is an important factor for a strong economy in Independence. These groups will be warmly welcomed as the City shares its rich history with visitors from across the country.

# Sanitary Sewer Construction Projects Upgrade System

A major improvement program to the City's sanitary sewer system is underway in western Independence. Federal clean water laws determine how sewer systems operate and these laws have become stricter to protect our environment. Residents will see construction of sewer pipeline improvements in their neighborhoods throughout the next two to three years. These projects will result in a better and safer sewer system.



Independence has an agreement with the Environmental Protection Agency which requires specific improvements.

The sewer treatment plant will have equipment replaced and capacity added, and the sewer pipeline system will also have additional pipes added.

The sewer pipeline system improvements are divided into ten projects. To view a map of the sanitary sewer projects, along with the current status, go to [www.independencemo.org/publicworks/sewerprojects.aspx](http://www.independencemo.org/publicworks/sewerprojects.aspx) and click on the project's shaded area on the map.

# Protect Yourself From Summer Sunburn



It's summer, that time of year when people spend more time outside, leading to a greater chance of sunburn.

The Independence Health Department reminds you to guard against the ultraviolet radiation in

sun rays, which causes sunburns and many skin cancers. The two types that most affect people are ultraviolet A (UVA) and ultraviolet B (UVB), which can lead to sunburn, skin damage, skin aging and skin cancer.

The most important step to take is to always use sunscreen. Sunscreens may be labeled "broad-spectrum" if they provide protection against both UVA and UVB radiation. This is the best choice for full sun protection.

Also consider the sun protection factor (SPF). SPF represents protection from UVB rays only. Most sunscreens with an SPF of 15 or higher do an excellent job of protecting against UVB.

The last thing to check when buying sunscreen products is the water resistance factor. This is the amount of time a sunscreen is effective due to water exposure or sweating. If time will be spent exercising or in the water, it's worth getting a sunscreen

resistant to water and sweat. These sunscreens are not waterproof, so it is necessary to apply correctly and reapply regularly.

The Skin Cancer Foundation recommends a complete sun protection regimen that includes not only sunscreen use, but also seeking shade, covering up with light weight clothing, staying hydrated, as well as wearing wide-brimmed hats and UV-blocking sunglasses. It is best to avoid direct sunlight during the peak hours of 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Even when it's cloudy, UVA and UVB rays can penetrate and cause sunburn and skin damage.

Don't let a sunburn ruin your summer fun!



**WATER**

**DEPARTMENT**

CITY OF INDEPENDENCE

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**2013 WATER QUALITY REPORT**

The 2013 Water Quality Report is available for your review on the City's website. This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made to provide safe drinking water.

To request a paper copy of this report call (816) 325-7698

[www.independencemo.org/ccr](http://www.independencemo.org/ccr)

# Directory

CityScene is published monthly by the City Manager's Office, 111 East Maple Street, Independence, Missouri 64050. For information call 325-7019. Web-site address is [www.independencemo.org](http://www.independencemo.org). Follow us at [Twitter.com/CityofIndepMO](https://twitter.com/CityofIndepMO).



## Where To Call

The City of Independence has an automated voice-response telephone system. Call **325-7000** and say the name of the person or the department you wish to contact.



- Adopt-a-Street** 325-7602
- Barking Dogs** 325-7213
- Building Permits** 325-7401
- Business Licenses** 325-7079
- Crime Stoppers Tips** 474-8477
- Drop-Off Trash** 325-7623
- Drugs** 325-6272
- Graffiti** 257-7824
- Municipal Court** 325-7230
- Neighborhood Watch** 325-7643
- Park Vandalism** 325-7208
- Police Non-Emergency** 836-3600
- Fire Non-Emergency** 325-7123
- Potholes** 325-7624
- Report Power Outage** 325-7550
- Street Lights** 325-7535
- Storm Water Pollution** 325-7727
- Utilities**
- Customer Service** 325-7930
- Pay by Phone** 325-SERV
- Payment Assistance** 254-4100
- Weeds, Trash** 325-7193

## City Drop-Off Depot

**8 a.m. to 3 p.m.**  
**Second Saturday Of Each Month**  
**March through November!**  
**875 Vista Avenue**

From M-291, take Truman Road east approximately one mile, then north on Vista Avenue.

- Trash:** Cars, \$11; Vehicles Larger Than Car, \$16; Trailers 8 Feet or Longer, \$26
- Brush:** Limbs, Firewood, Bushes, Stumps. No Leaves or Grass: \$11/load
- Major Appliances:** \$15 Each
- Batteries & Lawnmowers:** Free
- Tires:** Car, \$2; Mounted Car, \$4; Truck, \$5; Mounted Truck, \$11; Farm/Tractor, \$16

Residential vehicles only, no commercial. No vehicles larger than a pick-up truck. Proof of residency required.



- Featuring:
- Waterfall Park
  - The McCoy Mile
  - INDEPENDENCE ATHLETIC COMPLEX
  - Rotary Park
  - Missouri Conservation Trail

Join us as we walk a mile, every Wednesday at 9 am, May-Oct. Find out where and when at: [BuildingAHealthierIndependence.org](http://BuildingAHealthierIndependence.org)



Become a fan of the City of Independence at [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com). To follow the City on Twitter, go to <http://twitter.com/CityOfIndepMO> and click the follow button.



## Watch City Meetings On Streaming Video

City Council meetings and study sessions are available as live and archived streaming video on the City's website, [www.independencemo.org](http://www.independencemo.org).

Each live City 7 TV broadcast is available online during the 6 p.m. Monday City Council meetings. An archive of the program is available on the site the next morning for viewing 24 hours a day. Archived videos are available for a few months following their posting. If you would like to purchase a copy of a Council meeting call 325-7762.

## Regional Animal Shelter

21001 E. Hwy. 78, Independence

Help them find a forever home. Adopt a homeless pet.

**Noon - 8 p.m. Tuesday-Friday**  
**11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Saturday-Sunday**

Call (816) 621-7722

**Always Spay or Neuter!**



## Recycling Centers

**13600 E. 35th Street**  
 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Fridays  
 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saturdays

**875 Vista Avenue**  
 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sundays  
 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Mondays

MRC now operates the two City recycling centers. Items accepted include paper, cardboard, steel, aluminum, plastic, glass, electronics, appliances, computers, flat screen TVs, lawn and garden equipment and rechargeable batteries. A fee will be charged for non flat-screen TVs. \$15 for TVs 27" and smaller and \$35 for larger TVs. All other items are free of charge, including computer monitors.

## CITY COUNCIL

- Mayor**
- Eileen Weir 325-7027
- City Council Office** 325-7022
- [www.independencemo.org/citycouncil](http://www.independencemo.org/citycouncil)
- Councilmembers**
- Marcie Gragg District 1
- Curt Dougherty District 2
- Scott Roberson District 3
- Vacant District 4
- Karen DeLuccie At-Large
- Chris Whiting At-Large
- City Manager**
- Robert Heacock 325-7170



City of Independence

Government Access Television

**CITY COUNCIL**  
 6 p.m. Mondays\*  
 10 a.m. Tuesdays  
 7 p.m. Wednesdays  
 2 p.m. Sundays

**PLANNING COMMISSION**

6 p.m. 2nd & 4th Tuesdays\*  
 10 a.m. Wednesdays  
 7 p.m. Thursdays  
 For more information:  
[www.City7.TV](http://www.City7.TV)

\*Denotes live meeting, all others are rebroadcasts.