

CityScene



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www.independencemo.org
City of Independence, MO

Farmers' Market Offers Fresh Food Options

Food can be more than mere sustenance. Farmers' markets are a readily accessible opportunity for nurturing happiness, health and your community.

The Independence Farmers' and Crafters' Market sells fresh fruits and vegetables, baked goods, jams/jellies and farm-fresh eggs, in addition to hand-crafted items. The vendors display their wares at the corner of Walnut St. and Liberty St., just south of The Square, from 6 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Wednesdays and Saturdays through the end of October.

When you check out the Market, you can:

Taste real flavors and enjoy the season. The fruits and vegetables you buy at the farmers' market are the freshest and tastiest available because the food is in season. You can look forward to asparagus in spring, sweet corn in summer, and pumpkins in autumn. As the seasons change, so does your food.

The Farmers' and Crafters' Market opens at 6 a.m. on Wednesdays and on Saturdays through October.



Support local farmers. Buying direct from farmers gives them a better return for their produce and

helps them thrive in today's economy. Supporting local farmers also allows you to know where your food comes from. Meeting and talking to farmers is a great opportunity to learn about the foods you eat.

Get more bang for your buck. Buyers can use their SNAP benefits (Food Stamps/EBT) at the Independence Farmers' and Crafters' Market on all of the fresh produce available.

means when you spend \$5 of your SNAP benefits on produce, you get five "free" dollars to spend as well.

Encounter people of the past. Meet pioneering people from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. every Saturday through October 29 at the Market. Bring the family to see history come to life, and create memories to last a lifetime.

Purchasing local produce is more than just making a healthy choice. You're supporting local farmers, helping the environment, and being an active part of your community.

For more information on the Farmers' Market, visit www.independencemofarmersmarket.com or contact the Independence Health Department at (816) 325-7185.

Tourism Sites Need Your Help

If you enjoy meeting and greeting visitors to Independence, the City of Independence Tourism Division wants to talk to you! There is a big need to increase our group of volunteers.

There are opportunities for volunteer cashiers and tour guides at our Historical Sites, including the Vaile Mansion, Bingham-Waggoner Estate and the Chicago Alton Depot. We also need volunteers to help visitors at the Visitor Experience Center on The Square, as well as to give tours at the historic Jackson County Courthouse.

Training, resource material and internet access will be available for assisting guests with activities and events both in Independence and the Greater Kansas City area. Days and hours are flexible. If you are looking for a way to experience history and meet new friends, we have a place for you!

Contact Gary Sheridan at (816) 325-7890 or send an e-mail to rsheridan@indepmo.org to learn how you can become a member of the Tourism Volunteer or Visitor Experience Center teams.



Volunteers like Mildred Harder help visitors to Independence plan their day.



Heritage Festival September 24

Join the fun and celebrate culture and heritage at this year's annual Heritage Festival from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, September 24 at Hill Park, 2201 S. Maywood Ave.

Cultures and history of the many citizens of Independence will be highlighted at the Festival. They will be showcased through live stage entertainment, food vendors, merchandise booths and children's activities. The annual Ted Stillwell Heritage Award will be presented to an outstanding citizen. This event is coordinated through the efforts



Children demonstrated traditional Latin dancing at the 2015 Festival.

of the Independence Human Relations Commission, City of Independence and LINC.

During the Festival, donations will be accepted for the Blue Ridge Baptist Church Food Pantry. All attendees are invited to bring non-perishable food items or monetary donations to help this cause.

In addition, the Festival team is pleased to announce the third annual skateboard competition. This will be sponsored by Diverse Skateboards and is open to all skill levels. The competition will begin when the Festival opens at 11 a.m.

For more information, please visit the City's website at www.independencemo.org.



Festival visitors will hear music from groups like the Dixie Duo.

Profile: Independence Heritage Commission

Established by the City Council in 1973, the Independence Heritage Commission leads public outreach and education efforts, such as the celebration of National Historic Preservation Month in May, discusses policy issues, and reviews requests from property owners to make alterations to historically designated buildings.

The Commission reviews proposed demolition of any building located within a Heritage District and also makes recommendations on properties nominated for the National Register of Historic Places. The Historic Preservation Manager serves as their liaison with City staff.

The Heritage Commission is made up of nine members who live or work in Independence. Two members are representatives from the Truman Presidential Library and Museum and the Harry S Truman National Historic Site, administered by the National Park Service.

The remaining members are appointed by the City Council and include

professionals in fields like architecture and engineering, citizens who own historic properties, and laypersons who have an interest in our local history and historic architecture.

In addition to attending monthly meetings, the Commissioners are also required to annually participate in continuing education opportunities focusing on historic preservation.

The Heritage Commission holds meetings at 6 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month in the City Council Chambers on the first floor of City Hall, 111 E. Maple. Members of the public are always welcome and invited to attend.

If you are interested in learning more about the Heritage Commission and upcoming events they are sponsoring, check out the website at: www.independencemo.org/ComDev/HistoricPreservation. If you are interested in serving on the Heritage Commission, please visit www.independencemo.org/cityclerk/Application_Info or contact the City Clerk's office at (816) 325-7010.

EcoFest a Hit With 320 Visitors

The weather was perfect for the 9th Annual EcoFest on June 4, when more than 100 volunteers welcomed 320 visitors to Waterfall Park. The annual water quality event gave kids and residents the opportunity to learn about aquifers, conservation, watersheds, pollution, recycling, stream bank erosion, native plants, cloth grocery bags vs. plastic, energy-saving light bulbs, rain barrels, and rain gardens.

Before the festival, a design contest determined the artwork for the 2016 EcoFest T-shirts presented to attendees. The winning art work was submitted by fifth-grader Kay Zibung from Thomas Hart Benton Elementary. Entries from other students were on display throughout the park during the event.

Festival goers visited information booths, participated in activities featuring various water quality-related topics, and enjoyed entertainment and music about the environment and recycling.

Displays were provided by various City departments and local groups including Stone Lion Puppet Theatre, Beautification Commission, Habitat for Humanity KC ReStore, Missouri Master Naturalists, Missouri Stream Teams, Truman Heritage Habitat for Humanity, Lakeside Nature Center, Little Blue River Watershed Coalition, Mo. Dept. of Conservation, Mo. Dept. of Natural Resources, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, and Geological Survey (USGS).

Volunteers were from the Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS), Burns & McDonnell, and City employees. Corporate sponsors included: HDR, Burns & McDonnell and Tenaska Power Services Company as Watershed Sponsors; Pyramid Excavation and Construction, Inc. as a Major River Sponsor.

See you next year and remember... "It's All About Water!"



WPC Director Dick Champion recognizes T-shirt design contest winner Kay Zibung.

End of Summer Sizzles With Family Fun and Special Events

It's time again for the annual Santa-Cali-Gon Days Festival! Sponsored by the Independence Chamber of Commerce, the 44th annual event opens at noon on **Friday, September 2**. Attendees



will enjoy the giant Arts and Crafts tents, festival food, carnival, and free entertainment, including an appearance by up-and-coming country music performer and Independence native Jason Pritchett on the main stage Saturday night.

The Festival runs through Labor Day weekend, closing up at 5 p.m. on Monday, September 5. Visit www.santacaligon.com for more information about the entertainment schedule and hours of operation.

In September, the Powerhouse Theatre inside the Sermon Center, 201 N. Dodgion (Noland and Truman Roads) will present *Crimes of the Heart*, by Beth Henley, directed by Julie McDaniel. Performances are at 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, **September 8, 9, and 10** (dinner theatre on September 10; \$26); 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, **September 16 and 17**; closing with a 2 p.m. matinee on **Sunday, September 18**. Call (816) 325-7367 to reserve your seat. General admission tickets are \$12; adults 60+ \$11.

CRIMES OF THE HEART

The play, a tragic comedy about three sisters surviving crisis after crisis, won the Pulitzer Prize for drama in 1981. The scene is Hazlehurst, Mississippi, where the sisters have gathered to await news of their dying grandfather. Their troubles, while serious, are consistently hilarious and highlighted by a priggish cousin and an awkward young lawyer.

For information about all productions, go to www.citytheatreofindependence.org.

If you're planning to get that basement or garage cleaned out before fall, now is the time. The Drop-Off Depot will be open from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. **Saturday, September 10**. You may take trash, brush, tree limbs, major appliances, batteries, lawn mowers and tires for safe disposal. No grass or leaves are accepted. Fees vary; see box on Page 4 for details. Take Truman Road east approximately one mile

past M-291, then north on Vista Avenue.

There's still time to retrace the steps of the pioneers. You can meet pioneering people on The Square every **Saturday in September** (except Labor

Day weekend). Catch a free covered wagon ride to the National Frontier Trails Museum (NFTM) on the hour and return to The Square on the half hour between 10 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. and again between 1 and 4 p.m.

The Independence Uncorked Winefest is one of the largest Missouri wine festivals in the state. Representatives of wineries from all over Missouri will welcome you to the grounds of the historic Bingham-Wagoner Estate, 313 W. Pacific from 1 to 6



p.m. on **Saturday, September 10**. (Rain or shine.) This annual celebration of all things wine will feature not only wine, but art, music, food booths and wine classes.

Bring your lawn chairs, relax and enjoy the entertainment. Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Eastern Independence, proceeds will benefit various local charities. Tickets are \$25 in advance or \$35 at the door, and each includes a wine glass and wine bag. To purchase tickets, go to www.IndependenceUncorked.com.

On **Tuesday, September 13**, take a trip back in time and hear the story of an American family who crossed the distance of time and space to achieve their dreams in the American West. This lecture starts at 7 p.m. at the National Frontier Trails Museum, 318 W. Pacific, and is presented by historian and documentarian Audrey Kalavoda. Tickets are \$5 per person.

Come back to the Museum on **Thursday, September 15** to go "behind the scenes" with *A New Museum in an Old Building* special tour. During the tour you will learn about past, present and future plans for the Trails Museum. Tickets are \$5 per person; reservations required. Call (816) 325-7575.

The National Frontier Trails Museum, will also host a free Brown Bag lunch lecture on **Friday, September 16**. Bring your lunch at noon, and learn about the

Santa Fe Trail from the perspective of Mexican merchants who interacted with the pioneers.

Enjoy a late summer evening at George Owens Nature Park, 1601 S. Speck Road, with the Full Moon Hike at 7:30 p.m. on **Friday, September 16**. Reserve your place by 5 p.m. the day before the hike by calling (816) 325-7115, as space is limited. Remember your binoculars and wear sturdy shoes, but leave strollers and light-up shoes at home.

Be prepared for an emergency by attending one of the free classes being offered by the Offices of Emergency Preparedness of Eastern Jackson County. Classes are held the third Saturday of the month at the FEMA Storm Shelter, located behind Fire Station #1 at 950 N. Spring Street. On **Saturday, September 17**, the topic will be *72 Hour Kits*. From 10 a.m. to noon, learn the basics about taking care of your family should a disaster strike. Questions? Call (816) 325-7167.

On **Saturday, September 24**, Puppetry Arts Institute presents "The Three Billy Goats Gruff Meet the Mysterious Creature," with performances at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. at 11025 E. Winner Road in Independence. The mysterious creature may be as mean as the troll, but can he trick the goats? Admission is \$6 per person, and may be purchased at the door; however, reservations are requested, as seating is limited. To reserve seats, call (816) 833-9777.



As the kids are now into back-to-school mode, bring them to the National Frontier Trails Museum, 318 W. Pacific. At 6 p.m. on **Thursday, September 29**, they can learn about the Santa Fe Trail in an hour-long program which includes a wagon tour to the swales (ruts) created in the 1830s. (Weather permitting.) In addition, they will receive an insightful tour of the Santa Fe exhibit gallery of the Museum. Tickets are \$16 per adult, \$10 for children ages 6-17. Advance reservations required; call (816) 325-7575

For more September activities, see the Calendar of Events at www.independencemo.org or call Tourism at (816) 325-7111.

Directory

CityScene is published monthly by the City Manager's Office, 111 East Maple Street, Independence, Missouri 64050. For information call 325-7170. Web-site address is 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 (816) 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.

Saturday, August 13

875 Vista Avenue

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

- Trash:** Cars, \$11; Trucks, Vans, SUVs, or Trailers Less than 8' - \$16; Trailers 8' or Longer - \$26
- Brush:** Limbs, Firewood, Bushes, Stumps. No Leaves or Grass: All vehicles and trailers, \$11/load
- Major Appliances:** \$15 Each
- Batteries; Lawnmowers:** Free
- Tires:** Car, \$2; Mounted Car, \$4; Truck, \$5; Mounted Truck, \$11; Farm/Tractor, \$16

Next Drop-Off Saturday, September 10

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

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.

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 (816) 325-7762.

CITY COUNCIL

- Mayor**
Eileen Weir (816) 325-7027
- City Council Office** (816) 325-7022
www.independencemo.org/citycouncil
- Councilmembers**
- John Perkins District 1
- Curt Dougherty District 2
- Scott Roberson District 3
- Tom Van Camp District 4
- Karen DeLuccie At-Large
- Chris Whiting At-Large
- City Manager**
John Pinch (816) 325-7170

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!



The Mile Starts Here 2.0

Everyone is welcome. See you there!

Sept. 7 - 9 a.m. Mile Walk
Waterfall Park, 4501 S. Bass Pro Dr.
Meet in the parking lot near the playground.

Sept. 8 - 6 p.m. Hero's Walk on The Square 112 W. Lexington Ave.
Meet at the Historic Truman Courthouse.

Sept. 16 - 7:30 p.m. Full Moon Hike
George Owens 1601 S. Speck Rd.
Meet at the main pavilion near the parking lot at the Nature Center. Starts when the moon comes out. Reserve your spot by 5 p.m. the day before by calling (816) 325-7115.

Sept. 27 - 9 a.m. Yoga in the Park
Rotary Park 10615 E. 24th St. S.
Meet near the playground.



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 operates the two City recycling centers. Items accepted include paper, cardboard, steel & aluminum cans, plastic, glass bottles, electronics, appliances, computers, televisions, lawn and garden equipment and batteries.

FEES: Non flat-screen TVs 26" or less are \$30; TVs larger than 27" are \$50. All sizes of LED, LCD and Plasma flat-screen TVs are \$10. Any items containing Freon, including air conditioners, refrigerators, freezers, dehumidifiers, etc., are \$10 each. Non flat-screen computer monitors are \$5 each, unless a computer CPU is left at the same time, then it is free. All other items are free of charge.