



Responding to the storm

A special thank you to our Independence Power and Light Department crews for their hard work following the July 10 storm. Crews worked diligently for nearly 48 hours to restore power to customers across the City.



IndepWorks.com is a free website with information and resources.

Looking for a change? Independence Works is a great place to start

In July 2018, Mayor Weir launched the Independence Works 2025 effort of which a key part was the development of the IndepWorks.com. Visitors are asked to take a brief quiz which helps identify resources that may be most relevant to them. Once the quiz is complete, an individualized list is created to help you find a new job, additional training and more.

"Workforce Development is a key part of Independence for All and this website is just one way we are addressing this ongoing need in our community," Mayor Eileen Weir said.

In addition to the website, the Mayor formed a cabinet of key areas working on workforce development in our community including: education, workforce training and support, social services and faith, industry employers and entrepreneurs. These cabinet members are working together to bring new ideas as we continue to move the City forward. You can learn more about this effort at indep.us/indepworks2025.

False Alarm Reduction Program Update

One year ago, the Independence Police Department began the False Alarm Reduction Program, in which we reminded the public about the required business and residential alarm permit process and notified them of the alarm program changes. The changes consisted of us moving to a third-party vendor named CryWolf to manage alarm registration and billing for false alarms. Prior to this change, we realized that the police department was responding to an average of 15 false alarms per day. We want to report the successes that we've seen so far in the program's first year of implementation.

From January through March of 2018, there were 1,106 false alarms. From January through March of 2019, there were 1,051 false alarms. This is a 4.97% decrease. In May of 2018, which was two months prior to the programs start date, there were 458 false alarms. In May of 2019, we had 347. This represents a 24.24% decrease. We hope to see these numbers continue to decrease to reduce the amount of time our police officers spend responding to false alarms, which will reduce their response time to more urgent calls for service.

We also want to use this opportunity to remind the public about this program and the city ordinance requirements. All alarm users in the City of Independence are required to register with the program under the city ordinance. This includes all private and business locations. Registration is free but there are fines for failure to register and renew, as well as a graduated penalty for repeat false alarms.

Citizens and businesses with alarms can register online at crywolfservices.com/independencemo and can call (855) 732-9029 with any questions about the program. The website will also contain helpful tips on how to reduce a majority of false alarms that are preventable with proper operation.

Having fun with City of Independence Parks|Recreation|Tourism Department

A variety of programs and activities are available throughout the community through our Parks|Recreation|Tourism Department. Here are a few to keep an eye on for in August.

Nature Story Time, Thursdays, 10 & 11 AM

Time for great stories and outside adventures for youth, ages 3-8 years old, and their adult. Each event takes place at George Owens Nature Park, 1601 S. Speck Rd. For more information call (816) 325-7115.

- Aug. 15: Make Bee Bread
- Aug. 22: Make a Bird Book
- Aug. 29: Make a Trip to Nature's Grocery Store

Toddler Town on Tour - Wednesdays, 9-11 AM

Join us as we explore various playgrounds throughout Independence and work on an outdoor craft or activity. Ages 2-9 years old. Parents are required to stay with their children. For more information call (816) 325-7115.

- Aug. 14: Fairmount Park - 300 N. Home Ave.
- Aug. 21: McCoy Park - 800 N. Bess Truman Pkwy.
- Aug. 28: Country Club Park - 2930 S. Norton Ave.



Questions? Concerns? Contact us at mlewis@indepmo.org.

August Events -

Farmers' Market - Wednesdays & Saturdays, 7 AM - 1 PM

The Farmers' Market at the Independence Uptown Market, 211 W. Truman Rd., is open on Wednesdays and Saturdays from June - Oct. Market hours are from 7 a.m. - 1 p.m. Local farmers and growers offer fresh seasonal fruits and vegetables, jams and jellies, honey and much more. There is also a wide array of crafts.



SantaCaliGon Days Festival

The 47th annual SantaCaliGon Days Festival returns to the historic Independence Square this Labor Day Weekend. Grab the family and join more than 300,000 festival-goers Aug. 30 through Sept. 2 at the region's largest and longest-standing four-day festival.

2019 Festival Hours

Friday, Aug. 30 - Noon to 11 p.m.
Saturday, Aug. 31 - 10 a.m. to 11 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 1 - 10 a.m. to 11 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 2 - 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Live Music

Main stage entertainment to be announced. Keep an eye on SantaCaliGon.com for details.

Carnival

Wade Shows presents excitement and thrills beginning at 5 p.m. the Thursday before the festival.

Hundreds of Booths

Shop and explore at 500 arts, crafts, food and commercial booths.

Main Street 1849

Step back in time with period-accurate activities and entertainment on Main Street.

SantaCaliGon.com

Share your story!

We are collecting the stories of our citizens as part of the new brand rollout. From walks with Truman around the square, to how you are making the most of Independence today - share your story with us. Learn more about the City's brand and submit your story at indep.us/OurBrand.

Important Numbers

- Adopt-a-Street 325-7602
- Barking Dogs 325-7213
- Building Permits 325-7401
- Business Licenses 325-7079
- Crime Stoppers Tips 474-8477
- Drop-Off Depot/Trash 325-7600
- Drugs 325-6272
- Graffiti 257-7824
- Municipal Court 325-7230
- Neighborhood Watch 325-7643
- Park Vandalism 325-7208
- Police Non-Emergency 325-7300
- Fire Non-Emergency 325-7123
- Potholes 325-7624
- Report Power Outage 325-7550
- Street Lights 325-7535
- Stormwater Pollution 325-7727
- Utilities Customer Service 325-7930
- Weeds, Trash 325-7193

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