

CityScene



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www.independencemo.org
City of Independence, MO

Celebrate July 4th In Independence

Make plans now to be at the 10th annual Independence Day Celebration for an evening of music and fireworks. The fireworks display and patriotic music by the Spirit of Independence Concert Band will be Saturday, July 4 at the Mormon Visitors Center, 937 W. Walnut. The Spirit of Independence Concert Band will play throughout the evening and during the fireworks display, which begins at dark.

The schedule is as follows:

- 8 p.m. Gates Open
- 8:30 p.m. Spirit of Independence Band
- 9:30 p.m. Fireworks Display.

There is limited parking. People are encouraged to bring blankets or lawn chairs for the lawn viewing area. Families may also bring food and beverages for the lawn viewing area. No alcohol, open flames or personal fireworks are allowed. Portable toilets and trash bins are available.

The annual Independence Day Celebration is sponsored by the City, the Mormon Visitors Center and Harry S. Truman Library and Museum. In the event of inclement weather, a rain date will be announced.

Fire Department Offers Fireworks Safety Tips

This year for the first time, the purchase and discharge of consumer grade fireworks will be permitted this July 4th holiday within the city limits of Independence.

The City Council in January approved an ordinance allowing anyone 16 and older to use and/or possess consumer grade fireworks between the hours of 10 a.m. and 11 p.m. from Friday, July 3 and Sunday, July 5; and from 10 a.m. to midnight Saturday, July 4. Fireworks can be sold beginning Tuesday, June 23 until noon Sunday, July 5.

And, to prepare and help insure a safe "Independence Celebration," Fire Chief

See Firework Safety Tips, Page 4

Former President Clinton Receives 2009 Truman Award



Mayor Don Reimal presented the Harry S. Truman Award for Public Service May 6 (top picture, from left) to former President Bill Clinton. Following his speech, President Clinton greeted and signed autographs for some attending the event at the Truman Presidential Museum & Library.

CityConnect

Go to City7.TV to view Harry S. Truman Award for Public Service program.



Sport Stacking Program, Activities Available

The sport of stacking plastic cups has quickly become a sport embraced by many physical education programs.

Made popular by summer campers, cup stacking has been credited with the ability to enhance rudimentary motor skills such as hand-eye coordination, dexterity as well as quickness and concentration.

In the fast moving game teams or individuals go head-to-head in stacking exercises – creating stacking routines into varied pyramid– stacking upstack and downstack into pre-determined sequences formations using plastic cups.

The sequences are usually pyramid–like formations of three, six, or 10 cups that are quickly stacked and collapsed in a speed race against the clock and the opponent.

The Independence Parks and Recreations Department has been instrumental in promoting and teaching sport stacking to potential players of all ages. On a Saturday morning a school bus from a local charter school pulled up to the Truman Memorial Building and off jumped a load of elementary and middle school students eager to learn the sport of sport stacking.

The anxious students quickly learned the sport and were soon competing in stacking routines.

“You don’t need to convince kids about participating in sport stacking, they just love it” Kristin Zimmerman, the Parks and Recreation instructor for sport stacking, said.

Sport stacking was also introduced to the seniors at Palmer Center. The members aged 50+ found the sport to be exciting as well as entertaining.

“The participants loved the fact that they’d learned a sport that was fun while enhancing their dexterity, hand-eye coordination, and concentration,” Zimmerman said.



“Many of them were curious and wanted to conquer the sport because it was frequently talked about by their grandchildren,” she said.

The value of sport stacking was studied in university study by Dr. Brian Udermann, currently at the University of Wisconsin-Lacrosse. The study found that sport stacking improves hand-eye coordination and reaction time, develops bilateral proficiency on both sides of the body. The sequencing and patterning elements of sport stacking assist in enhancing reading and math skills.

For more information on sport stacking tournaments or activities call (816) 325-7843.

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Electric Rate Increase Coming This Summer

The second phase of the City Council approved electric rate increase takes effect July 1. The increase applies to electrical energy used after that date. This is the second of a five-part increase and is set at 5 percent.

The increase is to help offset rising maintenance and material costs and affects all customers of the utility.

“Utilities, like everyone else, are facing ever increasing costs,” Power & Light Director Leon Daggett said.

“Our customers want to be able to ‘flip the switch’ and have the lights come on,” Daggett said.

“For them to do that, we must maintain our equipment and facilities and that is becoming more costly all the time,” he added.

Daggett also said customers have the opportunity to control how much their bill increases by controlling how much electricity they use.

“There are conservation measures that the customer can take to help reduce their usage and hold down their electricity costs,” he said.

- Some of those measures include:
- Adjusting the thermostat to reduce usage
 - Replacing incandescent lights with compact florescent lights
 - Conducting a home energy audit
 - Home weatherization
 - Buying and using Energy Star rated appliances

To learn more about ways IPL can help you reduce energy consumption and save on your electric bill, visit the Web site at www.independencemo.org/pl or call 325-7485.

Hot Line Directory



- Barking Dogs 325-7213
- Crime Stoppers Tips 474-8477
- Drop-Off Trash 325-7623
- Drugs 325-6272
- Graffiti 325-7824
- Neighborhood Watch 325-7643
- Potholes 325-7624
- Report Power Outage 325-7550
- Street Lights 325-7535
- Storm Water Pollution 325-7727



CityScene is published monthly by the City Manager’s Office, 111 East Maple Street, Independence, Missouri 64050. Editor: Irene Baltrusaitis, Communications Director, 325-7019. The City’s webpage address is www.independencemo.org

CITY COUNCIL

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|---------------------|------------|
| Mayor | |
| Don Reimal | 325-7027 |
| City Council Office | 325-7022 |
| Councilmembers | |
| Marcie Gragg | District 1 |
| Will Swoffer | District 2 |
| Myron Paris | District 3 |
| Jim Page | District 4 |
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| Lucy Young | At Large |
| City Manager | |
| Robert Heacock | 325-7170 |

FREEDOM from **SMOKING**

REGISTER TODAY! CALL 816-325-7185

INDEPENDENCE

HEALTH

DEPARTMENT

Movies, Arts & Crafts in July

Round up your crew, toss blankets and lawn chairs in the car and come to the Square for free moonlight movies every Thursday evening in July. The movies will begin at 8:30 p.m. in the west parking lot of the Pharaoh Theater, on the corner of Liberty and Maple. Movie titles will be announced at www.newindependencesquare.com.

Snacks will be available for purchase and you can rent a chair if you don't want to bother to carry your own seating.



Last year's Bingham-Waggoner Arts and Craft Fair

On Saturday, July 4, the City's free Independence Day fireworks display will begin at dark at the Independence Mormon Visitors Center, 937 W. Walnut. The Spirit of Independence Concert Band will play before and during the fireworks.

If you'd like to learn how Independence Day was celebrated along the trails, join the gallery walk at the National Frontier Trails Museum, 318 W. Pacific, at 2 p.m. Thursday afternoons in July. The program is included

The Parks and Recreation Department has planned entertainment and activities before the movies on July 9, 16 and 23. They include:

- Rain Dog performance - 6:30 p.m. Thursday, July 9
- Bongo Barry - 6:30 p.m. Thursday, July 16
- Mr. Stinky Feet - 7:30 p.m. Thursday, July 16
- Wonderscope Children's Museum of Shawnee will also provide craft activities for children from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Thursday, July 16. On that evening, the movie will begin at 9 p.m.
- Rumblejetts - 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, July 23.

All music, crafts and entertainment are free of charge. For information about Parks and Recreation events, call 325-7370. For movie titles, visit www.theindependencesquare.com.

with regular admission, which is \$5 adults, \$4.50 seniors, and \$3 ages 6-17.

The free annual Antique and Craft Fair at the Bingham-Waggoner Estate, 313 W. Pacific, is from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, July 11. More than 130 vendors from a four-state area will sell antiques and crafts on the grounds of the historic home. The Spirit of Independence Concert band will perform at noon.

Take advantage of free wagon rides being offered with paid admission during Visitor Appreciation Day from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, July 11 at the National Frontier Trails Museum. There are also two special programs planned that day: a Crazy Quilt Tote bag workshop from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., \$20 with reservations; and a 2 p.m. presentation at no extra cost on baseball legend Alexander Cartwright. For details, call 325-7575 or go to www.frontiertrailsmuseum.org.

Recycling Centers

The City operates two recycling centers. Items accepted at the centers include paper, cardboard, paperboard, steel and aluminum cans, plastic, toner cartridges and dry cell batteries. The recycling centers and their operation days and times are:

35th Street Recycling Center

13600 E. 35th Street

10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Fridays

8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saturdays

Vista Avenue

Recycling Center

875 Vista Avenue

8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sundays

10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Mondays



8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Second Saturday Of Each Month

March thru November!

875 Vista Avenue

325-7623

Truman Road

East of M-291,

One Mile North

On Vista Avenue

Next to Animal Shelter

Trash: Cars, \$10;

Vehicles Larger Than Car, \$15;

Trailers 8 Feet or Longer, \$25

Brush: Limbs, Firewood, Bushes,

Stumps. No Leaves or Grass: \$10

per load

Major Appliances: \$15 Each

Batteries & Lawnmowers:

Free

Tires: Car, \$1; Mounted Car, \$3;

Truck, \$4; Mounted Truck, \$10;

Farm/Tractor, \$15

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



Utility Bill Payment Options

The City of Independence offers many convenient options for paying utility bills.

To pay by phone call 325-SERV

You will need to have your Account Access Code and your utility account number in order to pay by phone.

To pay online go to:

www.independencemo.org

NOTE: There is a \$1 per month discount offered to residential customers age 62 or older on their sewer bill if they receive Social Security payments (or similar retirement benefits) and their sewer usage is 100 to 400 cubic feet per month. Call 325-7930 for more information.

Fireworks Safety Tips From Page 1

Sandra Schiess says the Fire Department will provide information on its Web site <http://www.independencemo.org/fire/>, hand out brochures, and broadcast safety messages on City 7, the City’s government access television station, regarding the proper use of fireworks.

“Fireworks can put individuals and property at risk,” Chief Schiess said. “Therefore, we would like to remind everyone that if basic storage and use rules are followed fireworks can be a safe experience. The Fire Department is committed to protecting our community during the Independence Day Celebration. But we cannot do it alone, so we are asking for your help to spread the word about firework safety.”

Chief Schiess offered the following tips for a safe July 4th holiday season:

- Purchase and use only consumer fireworks (1.4G rated fireworks)
- Keep any stock or storage of fireworks away from the shooting area, any crowd or building
- Understand all manufacturer’s instructions before discharging fireworks
- Discharge fireworks only on a level and clean surface that has been cleared of all combustibles such as dead grass or leaves
- Wear snug fitting clothing and safety glasses while discharging fireworks
- Secure fireworks according to manufacturer’s instructions before attempting

to discharge

- Stand clear of any possible path of fireworks when lighting the fuse
- Be prepared for fireworks to misfire or have an unplanned reaction during discharge
- Have a fire extinguisher or water source such as a garden hose ready to use in the case of an emergency
- Immediately discard any fireworks that fail to ignite on the first attempt - never try to relight them
- Discard used or malfunctioning fireworks safely by soaking the fireworks in water until completely saturated. **DO NOT REMOVE** from the water. They must remain wet. You should contact the Bureau of Fire Prevention at 325-7121 for further disposal information. **DO NOT** dispose of fireworks in the trash.

Use of Fireworks in Independence

- All fireworks purchased through approved vendors inside the City will be screened and approved prior to sale. Citizens should be aware that some fireworks purchased outside of the City may be illegal to discharge in Independence
- Possession, discharge, storage, or handling of bottle rockets, aerial missiles and similar devices, sparkler bombs, or any altered or combined fireworks is not permitted in Independence
- Children under the age of 16 must be supervised by an adult

IShare
UTILITY ASSISTANCE
254-4100



United Way



2-1-1
Get Help. Give Help.

Watch City Meetings On Streaming Video

City Council meetings and study sessions are available as live and archived streaming video on the City’s Web site, 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 do not have a computer but would like to purchase a copy of a Council meeting call 325-7019.



Watch City 7 TV
 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
 6:30 p.m. 2nd & 4th Tuesdays*
 10 a.m. Wednesdays
 7 p.m. Thursdays

For more information:
www.City7.TV
 *Denotes live meeting, all others are rebroadcasts.



Movie Night

POWERED BY:

IPL Independence
 Power & Light

PLATINUM RELIABILITY AWARD WINNER