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Dear friends, neighbors and community members,

The final days of summer are upon us and fall is right around the corner. Students are back and we are settling into a new academic year at UMSL and getting used to the sights and sounds of construction on campus as we continue to Transform UMSL.

This month, we are also excited to share good news about our community partners. First, the St. Louis Anchor Action Network led by UMSL has new financial backing from the James S. McDonnell Foundation to continue to strengthen our community and improve economic opportunities in north St. Louis County and City. To add to that announcement, you will see in our newsletter this month that local schools are being recognized as they provide resources and new opportunities for area youngsters. These activities bode well for all of us in the region.

This September, we also commemorate the date of the university's founding on September 15, 1963. We invite all UMSL students, alumni, employees and friends to join us we celebrate [Red & Gold Day](#) on the 15th and show your UMSL pride. This is one of the first of several anniversary events that we will host throughout the academic year. We hope you will join us!

Gratefully forward,

Kristin Sobolik

UMSL Community Connection newsletter

Received this as a forward?
[Click here](#) to subscribe.

UMSL Community Card

[Register](#) for a community card to receive benefits and discounts at UMSL events and facilities.

UMSL Careers

[Click here](#) to learn about job opportunities at UMSL. Check back regularly for new listings.

UMSL Contracts

Interested in bidding on projects at UMSL?
[Procurement Bids](#)
[Construction Bids](#)

Community Connect

[Click here](#) to learn about UMSL resources, services and programs available to the community.

STL Community LAB

Chancellor
University of Missouri–St.
Louis



[Click here](#) to learn about
community development
trainings and programs.

Events & Resources



James S. McDonnell Foundation awards \$2.4 million grant to help St. Louis Anchor Action Network expand its impact

A group of leading St. Louis institutions and employers came together in 2021 to establish the [St. Louis Anchor Action Network](#) (STLAAN) with a shared commitment to try to address longstanding economic and spatial inequities in the region. Its members have set a focus on increasing employment opportunities for residents and expanding contracts with local business owners in 22 ZIP codes that have suffered from decades of disinvestment.

Over the past two years, the STLAAN – co-led by the [University of Missouri–St. Louis](#) and [Edward Jones](#) – has engaged with community members to develop an action plan, held career and hiring expos to assist dozens of applicants in getting jobs and has helped connect small businesses with network members to bid on contracts, including through the creation of a searchable community business tool.

The [James S. McDonnell Foundation](#) is making an investment that will allow the STLAAN to build on those early successes and widen its impact. The foundation has awarded the University of Missouri–St. Louis and the STLAAN a \$2.4 million grant over the next three years that will allow for additional staffing and programming to support network members. This



**UMSL 60th anniversary
RED & GOLD day**
Friday, Sept. 15, 2023

We're celebrating UMSL's
60th anniversary with a sea
of **Red & Gold** on
September 15 and we want
YOU to be a part of it!

Whether you're a student,
faculty, alum, neighbor or
friend, UMSL wants to
celebrate with you. We are so
proud of our UMSL
community and want to
celebrate the university
together, no matter where
you are. With more than
112,000 alums worldwide we
are sure to make a local
impact on this day! Don't
miss out.

Be sure to snap a picture and
post your "Happy Birthday"
message with the hashtag
#UMSL60 on your favorite
social media platform. For
more information, click [here](#).

investment comes on the heels of the James S. McDonnell Foundation's announcement that it will be focusing on shared prosperity and quality of life in St. Louis. [Read more.](#)



Missouri Good Neighbor Week September 28th – October 4th

Signed into law in 2022, Missouri Good Neighbor Week encourages citizens of Missouri to “participate in events and activities to establish connections with their neighbors.” In 2023 the goal is to document 15,000 acts of neighbor-ing in the state of Missouri. There is also an opportunity to honor Missouri’s most engaged neighbors through county-level and state-wide awards. Good neighbors make great neighbors, built one act of neighbor-ing at a time. [Learn more.](#)

- [Register your Act of Neighboring.](#)
- [Nominate your Most Engaged Neighbor.](#)



Jennings KART team races to future

The St. Louis American, Alvin A. Reid, August 26, 2023

Jennings has entered a driven team of STEM students and racing enthusiasts in the Jr. 500 KART event at World Wide Technology Raceway since its inaugural year in 2007, and this year's, which was all girls, competed on Friday night, August 25, 2023. The Jr. 500 is held as part of the Bommarito 500 Indy Car race weekend, with the nationally televised race at WWT



2023 STLAAN Fall Career & Hiring Event

Thursday, Sept. 14, 2023
2:00 – 7:00 PM
Online or In-Person at
Delmar DivINe
5501 Delmar Blvd., 63112

Attendees at this career expo and hiring event will have the opportunity to speak with leading employers about current job opportunities. They will also be able to take part in hiring skills training sessions. Talent specialists will assist participants with resume review, interview prep and tips, or LinkedIn profile creation and networking. Partners participating in this event include:

- University of Missouri–St. Louis
- Edward Jones
- Washington University
- Saint Louis University
- SSM Health
- Federal Reserve Bank
- BJC HealthCare
- St. Louis Community College

To learn more and register, click [here.](#)



Ferguson Concert Series
featuring **That 80's Band**
Friday, Sept. 15, 2023
7:00 PM

Raceway on Sunday August 27. Pictured are Saniyah Franklin (driver 2), Elexia Allen, Jahnya Watkins (driver 1), and Kayden Walker, who attend Jennings College Prep Academy. Their STEM teacher is Kim Govert.



Beyond the Backpack event prepares students for school year

Community Impact Network News, August 28, 2023

Two weeks before the beginning of the school year in the Normandy Schools Collaborative, more than 1,000 students got a jump start at preparing for the school year. Beyond Housing's annual Beyond the Backpack event took place Aug. 5, providing a one-stop shop for students back-to-school needs. NSC students received school supplies, backpacks, physicals, haircuts and tennis shoes. In collaboration with [Sneakers With Soul](#), the provider of the tennis shoes, approximately 1,400 footwear items were given out to students.... The event has grown in scope over the years, giving more and more students a head start on preparing for school. Name-brand sneakers like these can cost more than \$65 and if a family has multiple children, that cost alone can be extreme. As a result of Beyond the Backpack, families can use that money on other household needs. [Read more.](#)

- 3,000 people attended the event
 - 1,600 backpacks full of school supplies given away
 - 1,400 shoes given away
 - \$45,600 raised in sponsorships and individual donations
 - Over 100 students received physicals, healthcare screenings and dental screenings from Affinia Healthcare
 - 75 haircuts from eight barbers
-

Plaza 501
501 S. Florissant Rd.

This FREE live concert featuring That 80's Band is sure to be a good time. Attendees should bring their own lawn chairs. Coolers are welcome (no glass) and food will be available for purchase.



The Page Brewfest Festival and Walk/Run

Saturday, Sept. 30, 2023
11:30 AM – 4:00 PM
6755 Page Avenue

Beyond Housing is hosting The Page Brewfest Walk/Run as part of The Page Brewfest Festival. Everyone is welcome to join a FREE 1 mile run or 5K through the 24:1 Community. The route will start at The Page (at the corner of Page and Ferguson Ave.) and follow through Pagedale where participants can see some of the exciting things happening in the community like Carter Commons. After the run, everyone is invited to attend The Page Brewfest, an amazing celebration of beer and art. For more information and to register to run, click [here.](#)



STEAM Academy at McCluer South-Berkeley rated among the best high schools in Missouri

Ferguson-Florissant School District update, August 30, 2023

U.S. News & World Report has named STEAM Academy at McCluer South-Berkeley High School in Ferguson-Florissant School District as one of the best high schools in America.... The high school finished in the top 35% of high schools nationally. "Being recognized as one of the top high schools in the country is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our students, teachers, and staff," said Superintendent Dr. Joseph Davis. "We are extremely proud of the commitment to excellence that is demonstrated every day. This achievement reflects our ongoing efforts to provide a rigorous and innovative education that prepares our students for success in college and beyond. We will continue to strive for excellence and provide our students with the skills and knowledge they need to thrive in a rapidly changing world."

U.S. News & World Report ranks high schools on six factors based on how students demonstrated outstanding outcomes above expectations including college readiness, graduation rate, number of students taking AP courses and state assessment performance. Read more about the rankings [here](#).



The State of Voting in the 24:1

Thursday, October 5, 2023
6:00 – 7:30 PM
Beyond Housing
Headquarters
6506 Wright Way, 63121

The State of Voting in the 24:1 is an information session to discuss issues on the ballot for the 24:1 Community during the upcoming November election as well as the state of voting rights in the 24:1. The event will conclude with a community discussion about how residents can get involved and help to improve their communities by getting out to vote and advocating for a more equitable voting system. Dinner will be served.



North County Inc. Golf Tournament

Monday, October 16, 2023
10:00 AM registration & lunch
11:00 AM Shotgun Start
Glen Echo Country Club
3401 Lucas and Hunt Rd.

Join NCI for their annual North County Golf Tournament. There will be on-course refreshments and



UMSL preparing to celebrate 60th anniversary while recommitting to its mission of education, service

Chancellor Kristin Sobolik used her annual [State of the University Address](#) to preview some of the many ways the University of Missouri–St. Louis community will be celebrating its 60th anniversary during the new academic year. Speaking at the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center, Sobolik highlighted [Red and Gold Day](#) on Sept. 15 – when alumni, students, faculty and staff are encouraged to don their school colors to help commemorate the date of the university’s founding in 1963. She also encouraged community members to nominate successful alumni for recognition in the ongoing [60 for 60 Alumni](#) series and to pitch in to help UMSL meet its goal of performing [60,000 hours of community service](#) as part of the festivities.

But her address also served as an opportunity to recommit the university to the role it has played throughout its 60-year history. “Since our university’s founding 60 years ago, our mission has been to serve the St. Louis region, the state of Missouri and beyond by increasing educational access and opportunity while engaging in innovative research, driving economic growth and enhancing community development,” Sobolik said from the stage in the Anheuser-Busch Performance Hall. “UMSL’s mission is the same now as it was 60 years ago as we continue to align with the needs of the region and state to transform lives through higher education.”

Because those needs evolve, it’s critical for the university to adapt. Sobolik highlighted some of the changes underway as part of the \$100 million [Transform UMSL](#) initiative that is positioning the university to serve the St. Louis region and state in the years ahead. [Read more.](#)

snacks. Awards reception and dinner after play. For more information and to register, click [here](#).



The UMSL Touhill Performing Arts Center Presents:

[Arianna String Quartet: Beethoven Celebration](#)
Friday, Sept. 15, 2023
7:30 PM

[Jazz Triple Play with Marion Meadows, Alex Bugnon, and Norman Brown](#)
Saturday, Sept. 23, 2023
7:00 PM

[Chinese Folk Music and Dance: A Tribute to the 2023 Mid-Autumn Festival](#)
Saturday, Sept. 23, 2023
8:00 PM

[Saint Louis Ballet: Giselle](#)
October 6-8, 2023

The Touhill Performing Arts Center at UMSL has an exciting line up of concerts and performances for the community to enjoy. For tickets and other information for these and other upcoming events, click [here](#).

Share with Us

We'd love to hear your questions and comments about UMSL and stories about great things happening in our communities. Your thoughts will help shape content covered in future newsletters to be pertinent to you and your neighbors. Leave any suggestions, questions, or stories [here](#). Thank you!

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St. Louis, MO | 63121

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