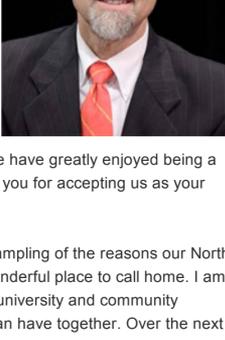


Letter from the Chancellor

Greetings!

As some of you may have heard, my wife (Barbara Harbach) and I will be retiring from UMSL on September 1st of this year. The past 16 years at the university have been a tremendous experience for us. We have greatly enjoyed being a part of your community and thank you for accepting us as your neighbor.



This newsletter highlights just a sampling of the reasons our North County community has been a wonderful place to call home. I am most excited for the future of our university and community partnerships and the impact we can have together. Over the next five months, I look forward to seeing you and continuing our work together.

Thank you,

Tom George, Chancellor, University of Missouri - St. Louis



UMSL to Restore Natural Areas

Work began last month to restore seven acres of natural area on the University of Missouri–St. Louis campus. Local contractor Native Landscape Solutions has been helping in those efforts, which were made possible through a \$30,000 grant from the Missouri Department of Conservation’s Community Conservation Grant Program.

The NLS team has been removing Amur and Japanese honeysuckle from four acres of North Campus, just west of West Drive, that borders the Audubon Bird Sanctuary. It recently began similar work on three acres of South Campus near the Campus Honors Environmental Research Project (CHERP) site. UMSL Grounds Supervisor Gregory Ward, who secured the grant with assistance from CHERP Director Jay Fish, wants to make sure the work doesn’t go unnoticed, not only on campus but in the wider community. Recently, he organized a demonstration day and workshop at the South Campus location. [Click here](#) to read more.



Ferguson-Florissant Students Learn Life Lessons from Chess

By Nick Ragone - St. Louis Post Dispatch, March 5, 2019

Now in its fourth year, Your Move Chess has helped hundreds of students in the district not only learn a new game, but build some valuable life skills along the way. The program is led by certified chess instructors at 14 elementary and middle schools in the Ferguson-Florissant district, with as many as 400 students participating each semester in programs offered before school, during the school day and after school.

A partnership of the nonprofit health system Ascension, the district and the St. Louis Chess Club, Your Move Chess was created to provide a safe and supportive environment for students to collaborate, learn and grow. Today, as the program has expanded to include new schools, we continue to see strong enthusiasm and encouraging results. A survey of participants showed 83 percent of students agreed that chess taught them they can complete difficult tasks if they work hard, and 86 percent agreed the game has made them more confident in learning difficult subject matter. A full 85 percent of students said their chess experiences inspired them to challenge themselves more in the future. [Click here](#) to read more.



Changes Coming Soon for Metro

Adapted from Metro St. Louis Website

In Fall 2018, the final draft of a new MetroBus service plan for the St. Louis region was shared for public input. Final changes to the plan were made to address feedback.

- The updated Metro Reimagined plan includes:
- Shorter waits with 13 high-frequency MetroBus routes operating every 15 minutes or better during the day – currently, there is only one route that operates 15 minutes or faster, and only three routes operating 20 minutes or faster.
- 34 local MetroBus routes operating every 30 minutes, instead of the 40-minute or 60-minute service that many of today’s routes operate
- Service added to the plan in response to customer feedback
- Introducing Wi-Fi, mobile ticketing and other new technology to improve your transit experience
- New innovative transportation options for areas where a 40-foot bus doesn’t make sense

The new plan will launch in late 2019, and there are changes in place for every MetroBus route in Missouri. [Click here](#) to read more. [Click here](#) to see a discussion on the changes on KPLR news.



Sprouting Success

Fresh Rx: Nourishing Healthy Starts is a fresh food program designed to eliminate food insecurity during pregnancy to produce better birth outcomes for both moms and babies. This innovative program provides families with weekly shares of food from local farmers and producers, in addition to cooking classes, nutrition resources and supportive services. EarthDance is excited to be one of the local farmers providing produce to pregnant moms in need.

"We find that a lot of these women are intrigued by the farmers providing their food. They actually see farmers as an extension of their social support system," said Trina Ragans, an Director of Policy & Innovation at Operation Food Search. For more information, [click here](#).



UMSL Launches Degrees in Computing Technology, Entrepreneurship

The University of Missouri–St. Louis has two new degree options after the Missouri Coordinating Board for Higher Education approved the university’s plan to implement a major in computing technology and a business administration emphasis in entrepreneurship.

"We are thrilled to launch these new degrees in St. Louis to help address the region’s growing need for highly trained technology professionals and entrepreneurs," Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Kristin Sobolik said. "Our computing technology program will provide training and engagement in a specific career, which is central to local workforce development. The entrepreneurship emphasis will enhance the skillsets and mindsets of students, emphasizing pathways for them to accelerate an idea from its infancy to reality." [Click here](#) to read more.



St. Louis Zoo Seeks Companies at Vendor Fair

On April 25th from 8:00am to 11:00am, the St. Louis Zoo is hosting a vendor fair for those interested in doing business with the St. Louis Zoo. The event will be held in North County at their North Campus Administration Building 12385 North Larimore Road, St. Louis, MO 63138. [Click here](#) to see the event flyer. [Click here](#) to register for the event.

Questions, Comments or Share a Community Story?

We’d love to hear from you about how we can improve our communication with the community and hear your questions and comments about UMSL and neighboring communities. We also welcome 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!

UMSL Community Connection

[Sign up for this monthly newsletter!](#)

UMSL Calendars

Interested in events on campus?

- [Campus Calendar](#)
- [Athletics](#)
- [Performances](#)

UMSL Careers

Interested in a job at UMSL?

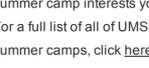
[Open Positions](#)

UMSL Contracts

Interested in bidding on projects at UMSL?

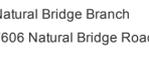
- [Procurement Bids](#)
- [Construction Bids](#)

Upcoming Events



UMSL Summer Camps

During the summer the University of Missouri–St. Louis offers a number of summer camps for students as young as 6 and as old as 22. UMSL’s summer camps offer different programs like music, writing, academics, etc..If interested, be sure to reach the registration deadline for whichever summer camp interests you. For a full list of all of UMSL’s summer camps, [click here](#).



Hip Hop Architecture Camp

(Photo by St. Louis American)

April 15, 2019- Applications due

The St. Louis County Library Natural Bridge Branch
7606 Natural Bridge Road

For youth ages 12-15, Hip Hop Architecture Camp is a free one-week intensive experience, designed to introduce under-represented youth to architecture, urban planning, creative place making and economic development through the lens of hip hop culture.

During the camp, participants will be paired with architects, urban planners, designers and hip hop artists to design a unique vision for their communities. They will also participate in an architectural design competition and a rap battle for prizes. The camp is free and lunch is provided. Interested teens will be asked to submit a short essay as part of the application process. Forty students will be selected to participate in the camp which takes place June 3 - 7, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m. Applications will be accepted through April 15 at www.hiphoparchitecture.com.

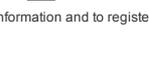
[Click here](#) to learn more.



10th Anniversary Ferguson Twilight Run

May 18, 2019

"Enjoy a USATF-certified course through Ferguson’s beautiful historic neighborhoods in the 10th annual Ferguson Twilight Run managed under Live Well Events. The 2019 event includes a 10-mile course in addition to our 5K, 10K, and 1-mile race options. All races begin and end at the Plaza at 501 (501 S. Florissant Rd., Ferguson MO 63135) with professional timing by Big River Running. The race begins with pre-race entertainment along with cheer stations and bands along the course. After race entertainment includes live music and beer tastings." [Click here](#) for more information and to register.



Coffee with Cops

The first Thursday of every month
9:00 a.m.
Natalie’s Cakes and More

Jennings precinct wants to have coffee with you. Come with your questions and meet your officers. The First Thursday of every month 9 a.m. at Natalie’s Cakes and More (6621 W Florissant Ave, Jennings, MO 63136). Enjoy free coffee and some treats. The bakery will provide some treats and coffee and the police will provide great information.

For questions call Officer Brandon McCrary (314) 503-9893