



Dear friends, neighbors and community partners,

Spring is in the air! March is always such a great month at UMSL with people out and about on campus, and this year it's even better with new construction underway. We are excited about other major investments taking place in the community and highlight a few of these in our newsletter this month—from new housing in Pagedale to new initiatives in the local schools. We are also very pleased to announce that UMSL is once again serving as a St. Louis County Board of Elections polling place for the general election on April 2nd and will serve as an absentee voting location starting March 21st. Any registered voter in St. Louis County will be able to vote on campus again this year.

There are lots of other activities taking place in and around UMSL in the weeks ahead from community lectures to concerts to farmers markets. Be sure to check out the [UMSL events calendar](#) regularly to keep up-to-date on campus opportunities. I look forward to enjoying these events with you!

Gratefully forward,

Kristin Sobolik
Chancellor
University of Missouri–St.
Louis



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

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

Events & Resources



\$12 Million Project Brings 36 New Affordable Homes To Pagedale

Beyond Housing news

Housing construction rarely starts in winter. But general contractor Roanoke Construction and the rest of the team behind Pagedale Town Center Homes were so eager to get started on the \$12 million project that they jumped into action.... The timeline is just one more in a long list of unique characteristics for the project to build 36 new single-family affordable homes.... They're scheduled to be complete in early 2025.... Pagedale Mayor Faye Millet couldn't be more delighted that construction is underway.

...

This is the 20th low-income housing tax credit project Beyond Housing has completed since 1988. Kevin Buchek, President of Roanoke Construction, worked on many of those with Beyond Housing at a previous employer. "This is the first of what we hope will be many partnerships between Roanoke and Beyond Housing," he said. "It is a natural collaboration as both companies are headquartered in the 24:1 footprint and both are focused on building and developing quality affordable housing." Buchek grew up in Bel-Nor and located Roanoke's headquarters in Normandy because he wants to see the 24:1 Community thrive. He's also very committed to a high standard for minority- and women-owned business participation, currently projected at 22% and 7%, respectively. [Read more.](#)



College of Optometry Student Services Partners with Vendors in Anchor Action Network Footprint

The network seeks to advance equity for St. Louis people and places that have faced decades of disinvestment.

Chock-full of fresh, organic ingredients like beet root, carrot and kale, the brightly colored cold-pressed juices formed a veritable rainbow on a table in the Optometry Student Lounge for the UMSL College of Optometry "Welcome Back Wellness" event. It featured Brandace Johnson of B Juiced, which operates a brick-and-mortar location just down the road from the university in Ferguson. The organic cold-pressed juice company was a member of the third cohort of UMSL's Anchor Accelerator, which supports diverse founders from underrepresented communities through a non-dilutive \$50,000 capital injection. The event was organized by Jacqueline McNair, director of the college's Student Services, and Linda Stein, student service coordinator, as a way to start students off with a healthy new year while also supporting vendors in UMSL's own community. [Read more.](#)

Community Gathering and BBQ

Epworth Street Outreach Community Gathering and BBQ

Tuesday, March 19, 2024
4:00 - 7:00 p.m.
7520 Natural Bridge Rd.

Join Epworth to enjoy free food, prizes, and games, and guided tours while learning about community resources. Call 314-952-8689 or click [here](#) for more information.

VOTE FOR YOUR FUTURE
UMSL is a polling place this spring, for early voting and for Election Day!
No excuse is needed to vote early.
Any registered voter in St. Louis County may vote at the UMSL location.
When:
March 21 - 29 (Weekdays, 8am to 4:30pm)
March 23 & March 30 (Saturday, 9am - 1pm)
April 1 (Monday, 8am to 5pm)
April 2 (Tuesday, Election Day, 6am to 7pm)
Where:
Millennium Student Center
Quiet Lounge (3rd Floor)
17 Arnold Grobman Drive
St. Louis MO 63121
UMSL

St. Louis County Board of Elections Polling Place at UMSL

Tuesday, April 2, 2024
6:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
UMSL Millennium Student Center
17 Arnold Grobman Dr.

St. Louis County residents will be able to cast their votes on the University of Missouri–St. Louis campus for the April general elections. UMSL will also serve as a satellite site for in-person absentee voting in the lead up to the election. In-person absentee voting will be on the third floor of the MSC.

The site will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday from March 21 through March 29, and April 1 until 5:00 p.m. Saturdays March 23 and 30 will be from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

[Click here](#) for more information from St. Louis County Board of Elections and to see what's on the ballot.



Normandy High School Pilot Program Empowers Teens in Traffic Stops

Normandy High School High students are part of a groundbreaking pilot program by [Doc Dash](#) to ensure safety for students and law enforcement officers during traffic stops. The course equips students with the tools to communicate effectively with police officers, fostering improved relationships, mutual understanding, and trust between law enforcement and young adults.

Be sure to check out some of the news coverage:

- Fox 2: [Normandy High School pilot program empowers teens in traffic stop](#)
- St. Louis Post Dispatch: [St. Louis company trains high school students for police encounters](#)
- KSDK, 5 on Your Side: [Program teaching Missouri students how to best interact with police during traffic stops.](#)



Lambert brings billions to the St. Louis region. A new study shows just how much

St. Louis Public Radio, Eric Schmid, January 29, 2024

St. Louis' Lambert International Airport is a cornerstone of the local economy and likely to play a key role in driving future regional growth, according to [a new economic impact study](#) released today. The report by Kimley-Horn and Associates and prepared for Greater St. Louis Inc. finds the airport supports a total of 102,815 jobs and drives \$27.5 billion in economic impact. Those figures could grow to 133,501 and \$32.4 billion in 2032 respectively.... Put another way, Lambert today drives 5.5% of the St. Louis region's gross domestic product, and that could expand to 7% in the next eight years. It's a figure Rhonda Hamm-Niebruegge, the airport's director, finds staggering. [Read more.](#)



NCI 47th Annual Leadership Breakfast Friday, May 17, 2024 7:30 - 9:30 a.m.

At the North County Incorporated (NCI) Annual Breakfast, awards will be presented to those individuals who have shown a strong commitment to the North St. Louis County region through their business, civic and/or humanitarian acts. [Click here](#) for more information and to purchase tickets.



Ferguson Indoor Farmers Market

Third Saturdays of the month
November - April
9:00 a.m. - Noon
St. Stephen's Episcopal
33 N. Clay Ave., 63135

Find fresh produce all year long. Includes pay what you can for produce at the Earthdance booth.



UMSL Bridge Program: Summer Academy

Weekdays from
June 17– July 12, 2024
7:45 a.m.–Noon
Registration Deadline:
May 31, 2024

The award-winning Bridge Program at UMSL continues to provide unique and comprehensive college preparation services to students and their families. Students must have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher and be enrolled in a



Major Investments Occurring in North County

North County Inc. press release, February 29, 2024

North County Inc. (NCI) hosted its State of North County Leadership Luncheon on Feb. 22. This year's focus was on economic investment and growth in the community. More than 120 community, civic, and business leaders gathered to learn about the nearly 2.8 billion dollars in investment occurring throughout the North County area. "NCI was pleased to convene this opportunity for our amazing local economic development professionals to share details about the business, residential, public infrastructure, and workforce development investment occurring throughout the North St. Louis County community," said Rebecca Zoll, president/CEO of NCI.

[Read more.](#)

UMSL Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic & Community Development was one of the presenters and reported on the Transform UMSL initiative. "The University of Missouri–St. Louis campus is undergoing an exciting \$110 million physical transformation to establish a cohesive academic core on our North Campus in concert with a comprehensive renovation of classroom, laboratory, and community spaces to serve students for decades to come," said Dr. Christopher Spilling, professor of chemistry and vice chancellor for research and economic & community development, University of Missouri–St. Louis. "This public- and donor-funded initiative also supports our ambitious plan to establish a 35-acre North St. Louis County Business and Workforce District on our South Campus focused on enhancing workforce training and development and increasing high-paying, in-demand jobs here in north county."

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!

St. Louis metropolitan area school in grades 6-8 for the Middle School Academy or grades 9-10 for the High School Summer Academy. It is FREE to attend.

**SIGN UP DEADLINE:
May 31**

[Click here](#) to learn more and apply today.



Community Health Survey: Let your voice be heard!

The Community Health Engagement and Outreach (CHEO) division of MU Extension invites participation in a brief, anonymous (10-minute) survey. The survey is Anonymous. Responses will help prioritize areas of focus for Extension efforts.

The survey will be open until March 31. Click [here](#) to complete the survey.

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