



FESTUS FOCUS

City of Festus
(636) 937-4694

Festus Focus also available at
www.cityoffestus.org!

April 1, 2013

Find the Most Up to Date Information at www.cityoffestus.org.

SPRING IS IN THE AIR

As spring sets in and the flowers are in bloom and the grass returns to green and starts to grow, please keep in mind that it is a violation of city code to let your grass or weeds get over 10 inches in height. Also, it is an ordinance violation to push your grass clippings, weeds, leaves, etc. into the city storm drain or on streets or sidewalks. If the storm drains become clogged then the water overflows creating a whole new set of problems. Let's work together to keep our city beautiful. Remember that you do have curb side yard waste pickup once a month and that you must put your yard waste in a brown yard waste bag or can—plastic is not acceptable.



FESTUS WARD MAP CHANGES

You may have already received your card from Jefferson County on where you will be voting for the April election. The Festus City Council approved on November 28, 2012 to redistrict it's four wards. Therefore, some residents are now in a different ward than they were previously. To see what ward you are now in you can go to www.cityoffestus.org, then click on Municipal Code and Digital Maps, then click on Ward Map. The polling places are listed below:

- Ward I Festus KC Hall
- Ward II Festus City Hall
- Ward III Festus Public Library
- Ward IV (1) Festus Middle School
- Ward IV (2) Faith Baptist Church

April 2, 2013 Election

You will see an issue on the ballot in April called the Festus Use Tax. This is in response to a Missouri Supreme Court decision in 2012 not allowing cities or counties to collect sales tax on cars, boats, trailers, and the like when licensing if they are bought out of state if the local government entity does not have a local use tax.

The Use Tax would allow Festus to collect on out of state purchases the 2% sales tax it currently charges at local retail stores.

The eliminated tax decreases Festus general revenue up to an estimated \$50,000 a year and should not be considered an additional levy but one that was paid prior to the Supreme Court decision.

Being a tax issue it is required to be voted on by residents. The April election is Tuesday, April 2, 2013.

USED BOOK SALE

The Friends of the Festus Public Library will sponsor their semi-annual "Used Book Sale" on Friday, April 26 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday, April 27 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Hard back and paperback books will be available. Many are like new. The event will take place in the conference room of the Festus Library—400 W. Main Street. Everyone is invited to attend this fundraiser. For more information call Festus Library at 937-2017.

**ZUMBA IN THE PARK:**

Dates: April 17th through May 22

Time: Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Place: Sunset Park Band Stand

Instructors: Mandi, Sheree and Melissa from Total Body Fitness

ZUMBA AND YOGA IN THE PARK are free classes sponsored by the Friends of the Festus Parks. Everyone is welcome. As with all exercise programs, it is recommended to consult a physician before beginning any new exercise program. Personal waivers must be signed at the beginning of the session so please arrive early. For questions contact Michelle Guidicy at 636-937-4694 or michelle.guidicy@cityoffestus.org.

YOGA IN THE PARK:

Dates: April 18th through May 23

Time: **Thursday** evenings from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. (moved from Tuesday to Thursday)

Place: Sunset Park Band Stand

Instructor: Donna Allen Freese of The Zen Zoo Fitness Studio



Get Ready for the 25th Anniversary of the Firecracker Festival

It's hard to believe that it's been 25 years since the first Firecracker Festival. This festival has grown over the years and now draws an annual estimated crowd of 5,000 to 10,000. This year on Friday night the Tumbleweed Band will perform and on Saturday night the SMASH Band. Watch in the next couple of issues of the Festus Focus and on our website www.cityoffestus.org for more details.

**News Updates**

Council Meetings— April 10 & 24 at 7pm.

Park Board— April 25 at 6pm

Planning & Zoning Meeting— April 18 at 6:30

Library Board— April 4 at 7pm

Municipal Court— April 9, 23 & 30 at 6:00 p.m.

It's Yard Sale Season

It's that time of year when yard sales consume Saturday mornings—but did you know there were some city rules regarding yard sales? Here they are:

- ◆ Residents are allowed to have two yard sales per year
- ◆ You must get a yard sale permit at city hall or public works for \$1.00
- ◆ You are allowed to have signs—two in your yard (not to exceed 4 sq. ft.) and two directional signs on private property (not to exceed 2 sq. ft.) Signs cannot be placed on public property (street signs, posts, traffic signs or utility poles)

The City also has two message boards for placing yard sale signs, etc. on—one is at the corner of Cromwell and Hillsboro Rd. and the other is on S. Second Street behind Main Street near the Mill Street intersection.