

FESTUS FOCUS

City of Festus
(636) 937-4694

Festus Focus is also available at
www.CityofFestus.org

August 1, 2016



On The Ballot

Residents will see this proposition in August on the ballot and may wonder why there is a tax question? Vehicle owners currently pay taxes after they buy a vehicle when they go to get their tags purchased or transferred. In 2012 the Missouri State Supreme Court ruled that taxes could not be collected by the counties or cities when the vehicle, which might be a car, truck, trailer, RV, outboard motor, or the like, is bought outside of the State of Missouri. The legislature passed a bill that allows cities like Festus to continue to collect those funds temporarily, but that they must put the question on the ballot by 2018 (which was extended from 2016 this year) about whether to continue to collect those taxes, of which Festus receives an estimated \$59,000 a year. The question you will see on the ballot is this:

Shall the City of Festus, Missouri, continue applying and collecting the local sales tax on the titling of motor vehicles, trailers, boats, and outboard motors that were purchased from a source other than a licensed Missouri dealer? Rejection of this measure will result in a reduction of local revenue to provide for vital services for the City of Festus, Missouri, and it will place Missouri dealers of motor vehicles, outboard motors, boats, and trailers at a competitive disadvantage to non-Missouri dealers of motor vehicles, outboard motors, boats, and trailers.

In fact, you will see the question twice: Once for the city and again for the county. Read your ballot carefully and make sure you get out to vote on August 2.

ON YOUR WATER BILL THIS MONTH

You will see a new fee on your bill this month **only**. They are annual connection fees that are assessed by the Dept of Natural Resources every year. The average resident will pay a Water Primacy fee of \$2.76 and \$0.80 for the State Sewer fee. Commercial and larger meters pay more.



MISSOURI
DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES



Thanks to all of those who came out to our first Community Workshop meeting for the Comprehensive Plan. We had lots of good ideas come from an engaged and thoughtful group. We'll have another meeting in a couple of months. And thanks again to Festus Schools for letting us use the Middle School Multi-purpose room.



Library Fun

Check out a Telescope!

Our partnership with the St. Louis Astronomical Society has been so successful that we have added two more telescopes to our circulating collection for a total of three telescopes. Our telescopes check out for a one week period on adult cards. Library staff will show you the basics and the scope is so easy to use that you'll be viewing planets before you know it!

Baby Lap Time – Sat. Aug. 13 & 27, 9:30am

Join us for stories, songs and games promoting early literacy skills for babies and toddlers.

Story Time

Join us every Thursday morning at 10:30 as we present stories, songs, and activities for children ages 2 and up.



Coming Soon: Cruise on Main

The annual Cruise on Main will be held Saturday, September 17th from 6-8pm. More information will be available next month. Is your cruiser washed, shined, and ready to turn heads?



Coming Soon:

It's time to start cleaning closets, basements, and attics, because the West City Trash & Treasure Expo will be Saturday, Oct 8 with a rain date of Saturday, Oct 22. Shopping will be 8am - 1pm. Set up is 6:30a - 8am. This year's expo will be on the parking lot at the ball field complex in West City Park. See you there!



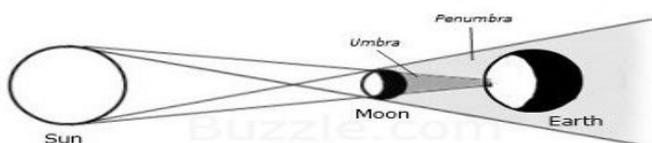
West City Trash & Treasure Expo



Eclipse Causes and Definitions

What causes a solar eclipse? The first fact to understand about solar eclipses is that they occur because of a remarkable cosmic coincidence: the Sun is just about the same apparent size in our sky as the Moon. While the Sun is actually about 400 times larger in diameter than the Moon, the Moon is also about 400 times closer than the Sun. Therefore, the Sun and the Moon appear to be about the same size in our sky. This single fact explains why we see total solar eclipses - the Moon has an apparent size that just barely covers the Sun completely, yet is not too large that the Sun's atmosphere, its corona, is eclipsed as well. We on Earth occupy a celestial sweet spot to witness this sight. When you read about eclipses, the terms umbra and penumbra are frequently mentioned. These are the two types of shadow cast by the Moon. The umbra is the inner shadow. If you stand inside the path of the umbra, the Sun will be completely blocked in eclipse. The penumbra is the outer shadow. If you are outside the path of the umbra but inside the broader eclipse area, you will only see the Sun partially eclipsed. --Barb

Total Solar Eclipse



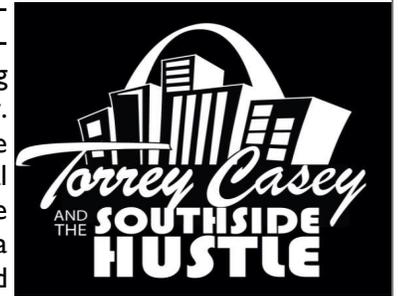
Blues/Funk Fest

Dig out your Mardi Gras beads and your dancin' shoes and get ready for a great night of music and fun as the 2016



Blues/Funk Fest kicks off at 6pm on Saturday, August 13! The opening act, Fanfare, plays a variety of styles of music with a great deal of, well...FANFARE! Fanfare features the lead vocalist Kittie Moller

whose vocals will capture and enthrall you. What they play will take you all over the sound spectrum with music that includes Motown, R&B, Classic Rock, Disco, Pop, Country, Standards & Jazz, Big Band and music of today. Torrey Casey and the Southside Hustle, is a local band that brings soul groove to venues across the area and has an old school sound with a new school feel. Kids



of all ages can enjoy the Tekno Bubble Bus from 7:30-10:30. After the sun goes down the bubbles will glow in the dark!



This free event is sponsored by The Tourism Commission, Friends of the Festus Parks, and the Festus Park Board. Coolers are not allowed at this event. The Friends will be working at the beer tent to

help raise money for playground equipment shade covers.

Upcoming Events

September: Twin City Days (8th-10th), Cruise on Main (17th), Traditional Music Festival (24th-25th)

October: West City Trash & Treasure Expo (8th)

November: Twin City Christmas Parade (28th), Santa House opens (29th)

December: Winter Fest (3rd), Santa House (1st, 3rd, 6th, 8th, 10th, 13th, 15th, and 17th)

- **Council Meetings** -- August 10 and 24 at 7pm
- **Park Board** -- August 25 at 6pm
- **P & Z Meeting** -- August 18 at 6:30 pm
- **Library Board** -- August 4 at 6pm
- **Court in Session** -- August 9 and 30 at 6pm
- **Board of Adjustment** -- August 8 at 7pm