



November is Family Stories Month!

Each November, the City of Independence Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Department kicks off the holiday shopping season with the 41st Annual Best Little Arts and Craft Show at the Roger T. Sermon Center. Many vendors have come and gone over the years but several consistently return. Alice Jacobs and Sue Sterling are two wonderful ladies who have been in the show since the very beginning. Alice sells hand embroidered tea towels, baby blankets and bibs, pillows, and micro mitts. Sue sells hand crocheted and knitted items. The show also has a few other longtime vendors such as Becky Arnzen and Sharon Morlang. Becky sells floral, seasonal and wood décor. Sharon sells Autumn and Christmas items, Chiefs snowmen and floral décor. All four vendors have booth spaces in the gymnasium. Uniquely crafted pieces bring customers back each year. This show is not one to miss!

Thank you to all our vendors who help make the Best Little Arts and Craft Show possible. Learn more about the Best Little Arts and Craft Show below.

For the latest information on events, rescheduling, or cancelations, be sure to follow the [PRT Facebook page](#). You will find great information and details on our other pages too!

- [George Owens Nature Park](#)
- [Independence Uptown Market](#)

You can find a calendar of these events on the [City's website here](#).



We're Open!

NATIONAL
FRONTIER TRAILS
MUSEUM

National Frontier Trails Museum Re-Opens!

The wait is over – the National Frontier Trails Museum is OPEN! The move to the Truman Memorial Building prepared the way for the Missouri Model Railroad Museum to move into the former Waggoner-Gates Flour Mill. The National Frontier Trails Museum will begin with an introductory video before guests make their way along the trail of artifacts and exhibits, and end at the museum giftshop. Our location and layout aren't the only new thing, the price of admission is new too – it's FREE! Doors open to the public Wednesday, November 1, 2023, at 10 AM.

Hours of operation are:

Mondays & Wednesdays 10 AM – 6PM

Tuesdays & Thursdays 10 AM – 7 PM

Fridays & Saturdays 10 AM – 5 PM

Closed on Sundays.

The last tour each day begins one hour before the scheduled closing time, so please plan accordingly. Tours outside of scheduled hours are available by appointment.

Read more about our grand re-opening [here](#).

TODDLER TOWN

TUESDAYS/THURSDAYS | \$2/child
OCTOBER THROUGH MARCH

10AM-12PM



INDEPENDENCE
★PARKS ★RECREATION ★TOURISM★



CITYTHEATRE
of Independence

11/3 | 7:30PM
11/4 | 7:30PM
11/5 | 2PM



The
Musical Comedy
MURDERS
of 1940

11/10 | 7:30PM
11/11 | 7:30PM
11/12 | 2PM

Join us for a side-splitting murder mystery at the Roger T. Sermon Center's Powerhouse Theatre! The City Theatre of Independence presents The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940! Shows are Friday, November 3, at 7:30 PM; Saturday, November 4, at 7:30 PM; Sunday, November 5, at 2 PM; Friday, November 10, at 7:30 PM; Saturday, November 11, at 7:30 PM; and Sunday, November 12, at 2 PM. Ticket pricing varies.

Spirit of Independence

Fall Concert

Sunday, November 5 | 4PM
at the Truman Memorial Building


INDEPENDENCE
*PARKS *RECREATION *TOURISM*

The Best Little Arts & Crafts Show

at the Roger T Sermon Community Center

November 17 | 10AM-7PM
November 18 | 10AM-6PM

The Annual Best Little Arts and Craft Show at the Roger T. Sermon Center is right around the corner! Get a jump start on your holiday shopping with over 100 local vendors selling homemade crafts. Doors open Friday, November 17, from 10 AM to 7 PM, and Saturday, November 18, from 10 AM to 6 PM for our FREE event.

PURCHASE & DECORATE WOODEN HOLIDAY SWEATERS



Get creative and decorate a sweater for the holidays

We're decorating the trails at George Owens Nature Park with your help! Holiday wooden sweaters go on sale Wednesday, November 1. The wooden cutouts are \$20 each and benefit the Truman Heritage Habitat for Humanity. You can pick up your cutout at the Independence (505 N. Dodgion) and Blue Springs (1219 NW 7 Highway) Truman Heritage Habitat for Humanity locations. Holiday sweaters will be on display at George Owens Nature Park from December 7, 2023 thru February 1, 2024.

George Owens Nature Park Events and Activities

If you're looking for outdoor fun -- George Owens Nature Park has you covered! There are great events and activities planned throughout the month. Check them out below.

The image is a promotional poster for "Bison Day". It features a large, detailed photograph of a brown bison in a natural setting. Overlaid on the top left is the "George Owens Nature Park" logo, which includes a silhouette of a bison and a tree, with the text "ESTABLISHED 1977" and "GEORGE OWENS NATURE PARK". The words "Bison Day" are written in large, bold, white letters across the top. At the bottom, a blue banner contains the text "November 4 | 1-2PM" in white.



Learn about the Day of the Dead with Brother John!

Bring your lawn chair and sit by a roaring fire with great stories. For individuals and families of all ages.

This event will move indoors to the lodge if the weather doesn't cooperate. Call (816) 325-7115 for more information.



Independence Uptown Market Events and Activities

Independence Uptown Market has wonderful events and activities throughout November. Stop in for a visit to our many programs.



FRIDAY, NOV 17

6 PM

**114 W. Maple
(Pharaoh Cinema)**

**Santa,
Sleigh Rides,
Music, Dancers
& more**

**Guest emcee:
Matt Stewart, Fox 4**



Join us on the Historic Independence Square as we kick off the holiday season with the Annual Square Lighting! FOX 4's Matt Stewart will emcee at 6 PM at the Pharaoh Cinema on Friday, November 17.

Bring a toy or make a donation to Community Services League Christmas Store. Bins for your toy donation will be available at the Independence Uptown Market. Enjoy the sounds of Truman High School's TruTones. It wouldn't be a Square Lighting without the talents of Studio 3V dancers, and they are back this year! Santa will arrive via a horse-drawn sleigh ride.

The first 600 people will receive a light up holiday stick to take to Santa's Village after the lighting and make a craft. And speaking of Santa's Village, come meet Santa & Mrs. Claus and snap a picture immediately following at the Independence Uptown Market. While you're there, play a game, make a craft, enjoy complimentary treats all from Independence Parks, Recreation & Tourism.

Restaurants will fill up fast so make reservations today. Mark your calendar for a fun, free night sponsored by The Independence Square Association, City of Independence and Independence Parks, Recreation & Tourism.

Outdoor Weather Safety: Severe Weather, Sleet, Hail,

Freezing Rain, and Snow



November can be downright chilly with the potential for severe weather. Be weather wise and check the forecast before heading outdoors. November storms can bring snow, sleet, hail, and freezing rain to the area. Remember these helpful tips before heading outdoors:

- Know the signs and symptoms of weather-related illnesses.
 - Hypothermia symptoms
 - confusion
 - shivering
 - difficulty speaking
 - sleepiness
 - stiff muscles
- If there's Ice and Snow, Take it Slow.
- Caught outdoors in a wintery storm?
 - Find Shelter.
 - Cover exposed body parts.
 - Melt snow for drinking.
 - Exercise occasionally.
- Be sure your phone is charged before going on outdoor activities.
- Check the weather before going on outdoor activities.
- Check our [City](#) and [PRT](#) social media pages for information on severe weather updates.

December Sneak Peek



Living Windows is made possible by the Independence

Square Association

Join us on Friday, December 1, for an annual tradition -- our windows around the historic square come to life with sounds and scenes from the holidays. Enjoy the magic of feeling like you're in a scene from a holiday movie, stroll through a historic downtown and watch the windows come to life with dancers, singers, musicians, actors, and more. This happens only one night a year!

4pm – 8pm Christmas Market at Liberty Lounge – vendors & concessions in an outdoor urban park at 110 S. Liberty St, just 1/2 block south of Blue Ridge Bank.

6pm – 8pm Living Windows performances – including Kansas City Women's Chorus, talking reindeer, hand bell choir, live scenes from classic plays and movies, visits with Santa, and much more.

All roads will be closed to traffic during the performances. We will have a limited number of golf carts that will take mobility challenged guests through our streets to see the windows.

Did you know you can pay and register online?



The Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Department offers online registration for many of our facilities, activities, and programs throughout the year. Please click on the following link to access our WebTrac online registration system. It is simple, secure, and convenient. Get started here, webtrac.indepmo.org



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