

VOLUME 95
NUMBER 11

MAY 27, 2026

THE NORTHEAST NEWS



YOUR NORTHEAST NEWS TEAM

Published biweekly by a registered Missouri Non-Profit Corporation, Historic Northeast Media, Inc., dba the Northeast News. © 2026

- www.northeastnews.net
- All rights reserved. 816-241-0765
- northeastnewskc@gmail.com
- 2659 Independence Blvd
- Kansas City, MO 64124

-  /NortheastNewsKC
-  @NortheastNewsKC
-  @NortheastNewsKC
-  @NortheastNewsKC

Managing Editor
DORRI PARTAIN

Education Reporter
DAISY GARCIA-MONTOYA

Circulation Manager
RAYNA OLDHAM

Creative Director
BRYAN STALDER

Cover Image
BRYAN STALDER AND DORRI PARTAIN

Northeast News Mascot
INKY

The Northeast News is published biweekly by Historic Northeast Media, Inc., dba the Northeast News © 2026. All rights reserved. All copy submitted to the Northeast News becomes the sole property of Historic Northeast Media, Inc., dba the Northeast News, and is protected by U.S. and State of Missouri copyright laws. The Northeast News reserves the right to refuse and/or edit any copy and/or content, including advertising, which may be deemed questionable or inappropriate in the eyes of the editor-in-chief, managing editor or the board of directors of Historic Northeast Media Inc. Reproduction of any portion of the Northeast News without express written consent is strictly forbidden and is punishable under the laws of the U.S. and the State of Missouri. Opinions published herein do not necessarily reflect the views of the board of directors of Historic Northeast Media, Inc. Alternate opinions are always welcome and will be published in The Northeast News upon approval of the editor-in-chief or the board of directors of Historic Northeast Media, Inc. Mail subscriptions to The Northeast News are available. The Northeast News is a biweekly community newspaper, carrier-delivered to homes within the boundaries of what is generally considered as "Historic Northeast" Kansas City, Mo., serving the ZIP codes 64120, 64123, 64124, 64125, 64126 and 64127. Historic Northeast Media, Inc., dba The Northeast News, reserves the right to refuse service to anyone.



Dear Northeast News Readers,

There is an incredible lineup of local events heading our way! From the fantastic music at Manor Fest KC, to the delicious traditions of the NEKC Chamber of Commerce International Taste and Tour, and the vibrant heritage at the Sugar Creek Slavic Fest, our community is buzzing with arts and culture.

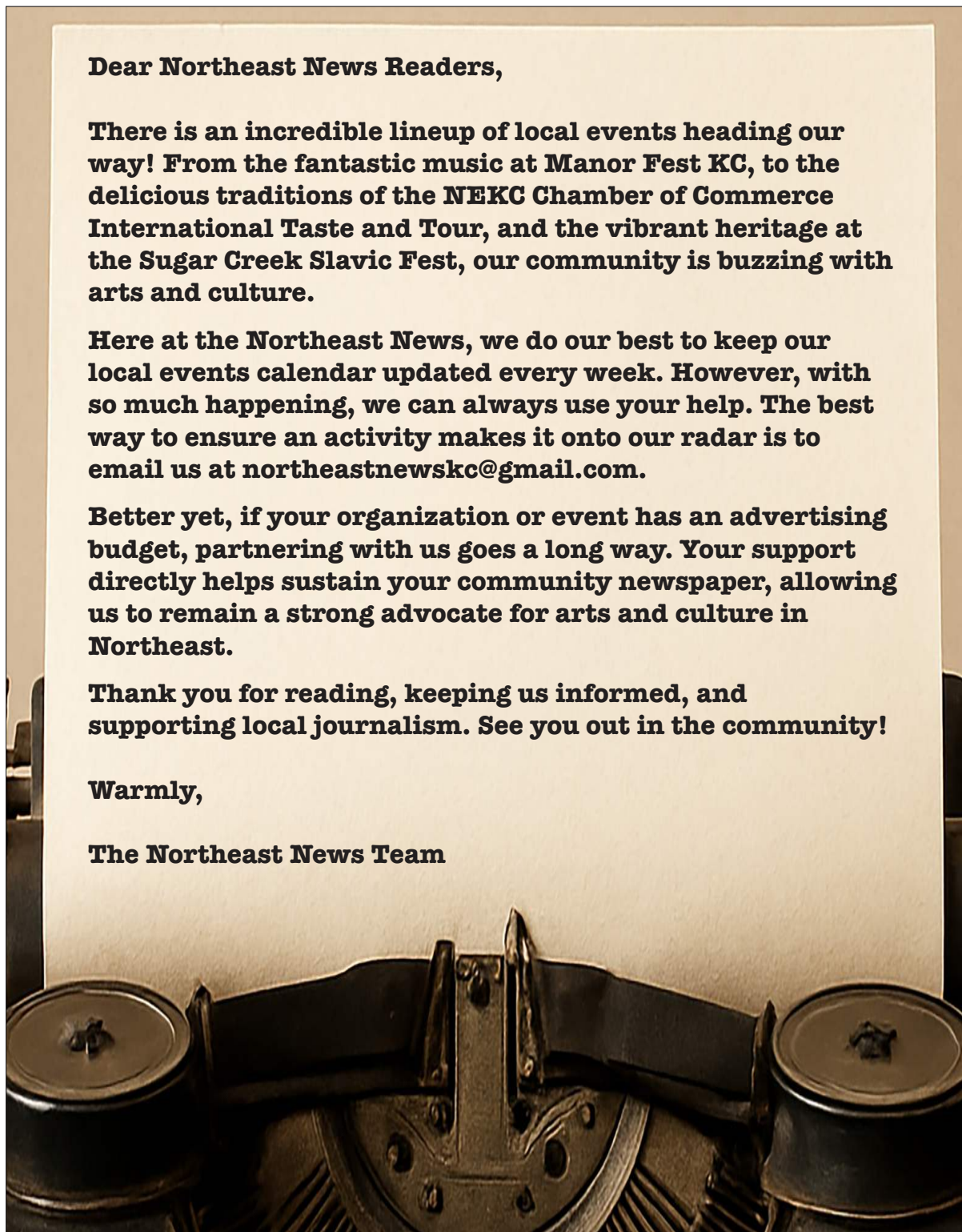
Here at the Northeast News, we do our best to keep our local events calendar updated every week. However, with so much happening, we can always use your help. The best way to ensure an activity makes it onto our radar is to email us at northeastnewskc@gmail.com.

Better yet, if your organization or event has an advertising budget, partnering with us goes a long way. Your support directly helps sustain your community newspaper, allowing us to remain a strong advocate for arts and culture in Northeast.

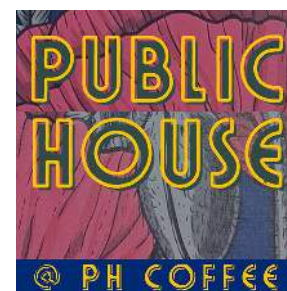
Thank you for reading, keeping us informed, and supporting local journalism. See you out in the community!

Warmly,

The Northeast News Team



The Northeast News is sustained through our advertisers, community support, and donations, including In-Kind Donations from the businesses listed below:





Historic Northeasters of all ages are invited to create their own chalk masterpiece during the 19th annual Chalk Walk event on Saturday, May 30. **File photo**

Dorri Partain Managing Editor

From toddler scribbles to full-blown multicolor masterpieces, Chalk Walk—a community art event—returns for its 19th year from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, May 30.

The concrete area around The Concourse fountain is open for anyone to come and draw or doodle, while designated spaces along the sidewalk perimeter are reserved to registered artists or groups. Registration is free and includes a new box of KOSS professional artist's pastel chalk while supplies last. Artists should register in advance as there may be limited spaces available the day of the event and may choose from three space sizes up to 8 by 8 ft on a first come, first served basis.

Registered artists are required to submit a

sketch or photo of their design to participate. Thanks to partnerships with Price Chopper, Peter Mays kielbasa, Eleos Coffee House, Urban Produce Push and other sponsors, registered artists will also be provided with lunch and beverages.

Presented by Northeast Arts KC, this annual art display will feature the popular Chalk Cow, local art vendors, live music, and local food vendor, The Tamale Kitchen.

Rebecca Koop, treasurer for Northeast Arts, said that activities for this year's event include an e-bike "petting zoo" where attendees can take a free spin around the Concourse and learn more about this alternate transportation option courtesy of BikeKC and Mid-America Regional Council's Way To Go program from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm and the

Kansas City Fire Department will bring a pumper truck for photo opportunities. From 1 to 3 pm, Joseph Warren and the Wanderlust Revival will perform and the fountains will be available all day for a splashing good time.

According to its website, Chalk Walk celebrates the wealth of culture and diversity in Kansas City's Urban Core. Proceeds raised by this festival benefit the non-profit organization that provides arts and culture programs to people living in the Historic Northeast Neighborhood and the Greater KC Metropolitan area.

For artist registration or vendor space information, visit northeastartskc.org. This event is scheduled rain or shine, with the exception of thunderstorms or severe weather.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Wednesday, May 27- Community Open House, Riverfront Rail Crossing Elimination Study, 4:30 to 6:00 p.m., Garrison Community Center, 1124 E. 5th St. Port KC is gathering community input to evaluate Infrastructure options to enhance the safety and reliability of travel (vehicles, bikes, pedestrians) between Berkley Riverfront Park and the Columbus Park neighborhood.

Thursday, May 28- Manor Fest KC at PH Coffee. Read our story on page 10 for more details.

Saturday, May 30- 19th Annual Chalk Walk, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., The Concourse (200 Benton Blvd.) This annual rain or shine event puts the spotlight on art created with chalk. Art opportunities for all ages, including the Chalk Cow. Live music, art vendors and food trucks; visit www.northeastskc.org to sign up in advance or more information.

Monday, June 1- Children's Storytime at PH Coffee, 10 a.m., PH Coffee, 2200 Lexington Ave. Come for a fun story then stay and play in the kid's area- a great opportunity for moms to get out, grab a coffee and chat with other moms. Every Monday at 10 am, for other PH Coffee events, visit www.ph.coffee

Tuesday, June 2- Teen Juice & Paint, 5:30 to 7 p.m., North-East Branch Library, 6000 Wilson Ave. Come enjoy a juicy beverage and learn new painting techniques, for ages 13 to 18. Free.

Friday, June 5- Northeast High Alumni Fish Fry, 5 to 8 p.m. Moretina's Caddy Shack, 700 E. 3rd St. This fundraiser for the school's Alumni Association offers three pieces of Lufti's fried fish, fries, coleslaw and roll for \$12. Come support viking alumni and their scholarship programs.

KICKIN' IT

SLAVIC STYLE

**THE 40TH ANNUAL
SUGAR CREEK SLAVIC FESTIVAL**

JUNE 12 - 13, 2026 • SLAVICFEST.COM

Third District Park Announced as Site for Outdoor Skating Rink

Dorri Partain
Managing Editor

Representatives from Kansas City Parks and Recreation, City Council, and Mayor Quinton Lucas grabbed shovels and broke ground on Thursday, May 21, to announce the construction of a new amenity for Kansas City youth—an outdoor roller rink.

Grading and other site work has already begun at Blues Park, located at 2000 Prospect Avenue, in Kansas City's Third District. Just minutes away from the Historic Jazz District and Historic Northeast, this green space will be transformed as shown in plans developed by DRAW Architecture and Urban Design with construction by Gunter Construction.

According to an announcement from James Wang, Deputy Director of the Parks department, the finished rink will be a 16,000-square-foot outdoor roller rink facility that includes a parking lot with 18-20 stalls, spectator stands, and 8-foot wide side-walks. An outdoor restroom was built last summer in preparation for these new

amenities.

"We're really excited," said Wang, "this is going to be our second skating rink in our system. The one we have now is in Holmes Park (725 E. 70th St.) but this one will be a lot better."

Melissa Patterson Hazley, City Council Third District-At-Large, spoke about new opportunities for recreation this project will bring.

"This is a great location to have this type of amenity here. As you know, there really isn't a skating rink inside the city (urban) limits of Kansas City, so this will be a great opportunity for families around the city and the neighborhood to experience," she said, adding that she couldn't wait to return and put on her skates.

Third District Councilwoman Melissa Robinson spoke about the years-long process to provide new amenities to Blues Park and the behind-the-scenes planning taken on by Carole Green, former Parks Department employee, and Sheron Fulson, Third District PIAC Committee member.

"Sheron, your name may not be on the program (today) but



Signaling the start of construction, the May 21 groundbreaking ceremony included Sheron Fulson (PIAC Committee), Parks Director Chris Cotten, Melissa Robinson (City Council Third District), Mayor Quinton Lucas, Melissa Patterson Hazley (Third District-At-Large), project manager Keisha McCoy, and Parks Deputy Director James Wang. **Photo by Dorri Partain**

please let it be known that we appreciate all the hard work and effort that you've done to make this happen," said Robinson.

Robinson stated that this project was the latest example of "prosperity on Prospect."

"Prospect is a major corridor for the Third District, so to have these places for young people is important."

Parks Director Chris Cotten spoke about the variety of amenities the system tries to provide for Kansas City residents.

"One of the things that challenges our staff at all times is that what is recreation to one person is not recreation to another person," said Cotten. "For us to be able to continue to develop amenities for children and young adults to



Site Plan: A 16,000-square-foot outdoor roller rink is under construction in Blues park, 2000 Prospect Ave. **Courtesy of DRAW Architecture and Urban Planning, LLC.**

use, this is going to be a great project, this is going to be a safe place for kids to skate."

Mayor Quinton Lucas spoke very briefly but exuberantly about all the new projects being completed or taking shape in the city's Third District—a new grocery store, a new parking garage for the Jazz District, and now a skating rink.

"Kansas City is a great place to play.

We have pools opening soon (May 23), we have so many things happening. We are excited about our skate park here today and all the opportunities with it," Lucas said.

Project Manager Kiesha McCoy explained that the rink's construction has been designed to withstand weather elements, using post-tension concrete. The decking and railings will be fiber-

glass, and the rink is graded to be slightly higher in the center for rain damage but won't be noticeable to skaters. Upon completion, rink walls will be treated with an anti-graffiti coating.

Barring any major weather delays, McCoy said the project should be ready for skaters by mid-August.

HISTORIC NORTHEAST MEDIA IS HOSTING THREE EVENTS THIS SUMMER!

TAKE THE NEXT STEPS IN YOUR CAREER PATH!

NORTHEAST STORYTELLERS WORKSHOP

Calling all writers, authors, and illustrators: Join the team behind the Northeast News for a Storyteller's Workshop on Saturday, June 20th. This interactive workshop will offer networking, expert panels on best practices in storytelling, and resources to help you share and monetize your work. Come share your story and be a part of the voice of the Northeast!



**SATURDAY
JUNE 20**

**SATURDAY
JULY 18**

FUTURE WORKFORCE JOB FAIR
CONNECT. LEVEL UP. GET HIRED.

TRADES & CONTRACTOR EXPO
PLAN YOUR PROJECT. MEET YOUR PRO.

**SATURDAY
AUGUST 15**

SAVE THE DATES. MORE INFORMATION TO COME!

These events are supported by a grant from the Rooted Change Fund
of the Community Capital Fund

Miscommunication Closes Wrong Budd Park Playground

Dorri Partain
Managing Editor

For a short period of time, both playgrounds in Budd Park were closed due to safety conditions. Playground Closed signage appeared and fencing surrounded the north side playground, according to photos and questions posted on social media, on May 8.

This closure followed the fencing off of the playground on the southeast side of the park in August 2025. As reported in our April 29 issue, the southeast playground was closed due to safety issues, including tripping hazards on the safety surface, and was scheduled for replacement with funding in the Parks & Recreation depart-



Budd Park's southeast playground has been reopened and is safe for play as of May 13. **Photo by Dorri Partain**



Rubberized surface tiles have separated in several areas, creating tripping hazards.

Photo by Dorri Partain

ment's 2027 budget.

Following questions to the department's Public Information & Content Specialist, Toni Zibert, about the second closure, fencing was removed from the southeast playground by May 13.

On May 18, Zibert contacted The Northeast News via email and stated, "There was a slight miscom-

munication issue that caused the wrong playground to be temporarily fenced off. All barriers have been removed from the south play area and it is completely open and safe for patrons to play on! The north playground remains closed due to the safety issues - the hopes are to repair the area and have it reopened

sometime in 2027."

The surface on the north playground is different from the solid rubberized surface of the southeast playground, which is slightly damaged in spots. The surface of the north playground is composed of interlocking 2 ft. by 2 ft. rubber mats which have separated, leaving numerous gaps up

to three inches wide, which could cause an ankle-breaking fall. Zibert confirmed on May 21 that the orange plastic fencing, which has been compromised by children playing and spring-

time winds, will be replaced by stronger fencing to better secure the area. The swings at the north playground are not affected by this closure and remain accessible.

Northeast Chamber Prepares for Biannual International Taste & Tour on June 5

Bryan Stalder
Contributor

Get your appetites ready! The Northeast Kansas City Chamber of Commerce is inviting neighbors and visitors alike to explore the Historic Northeast one delicious stop at a time during its highly anticipated, biannual

International Taste & Tour.

Scheduled for Friday, June 5, this year's tour spotlights the incredible culinary diversity thriving right along the International Marketplace corridor. Food lovers can expect an immersive experience featuring authentic flavors from around

the globe, prepared by the independent small businesses that make our community unique.

The lineup for this year's tour promises an incredible mix of savory dishes, sweet treats, and bold refreshments. Featured stops include:

- Core Coffee
- Pho Bowl

- Angie's Kitchen
- Frutopia
- Taqueria Mexico
- Taqueria El Torito
- Charritos Taqueria

For long-standing local favorites, the Taste & Tour offers an annual opportunity to welcome both regular patrons and fresh faces into their dining rooms. Daniel Yuman, owner and manager

of Taqueria Mexico #2—which has been serving up authentic Mexican cuisine to the community since 1997—noted that the lively community atmosphere keeps them coming back to participate year after year.

"I really like how they're doing the Taste & Tour," Yuman shared in a past inter-

view regarding their recurring participation. "We always say yes; it's always a good environment, it's good for the City. There's a good amount of people and [we] see new faces. It's nice to talk and be a part of the community."

Continued on
page 11

Navigating a Nonprofit Administrative Dissolution

Dr. Adrienne B. Haynes, Esq., Contributor

The decision to start a not for profit corporation is most often inspired by charitable purpose and public benefit. A nonprofit entity focuses on business activities that are centered on religious, charitable, scientific, testing for public safety, literary, educational or other specified purposes. Formalizing these efforts by filing an entity and scheduling regular reviews to ensure compliance is a responsible step for a nonprofit leader and Board. When this is not prioritized, it can result in an administrative dissolution, which results in no longer being able to legally conduct business in the State.

To remain in good standing, a nonprofit leadership team must prioritize timely responses to required State

and Federal filings, including annual registration reports and the IRS annual information report on Form 990. The entity's attorney and the registered agent on file with the State or IRS will receive the notice and reminders, and these dates should also be calendared so that the necessary information is on hand to prepare a response. Maintaining up to date contact information for these notices is especially important for nonprofit organizations such as neighborhood associations that frequently have leadership changes. If a for profit or nonprofit corporation is or has been administratively dissolved, this can result in personal liability for organizers who continue without an entity, reputational damage, and loss of funding.

To seek reinstatement of the entity, an application package must be com-

pleted and accepted by the Missouri Secretary of State. This will often require the submission of any outstanding annual reports and a certificate of tax clearance. A certificate of tax clearance is issued by the Department of Revenue upon written request, and must state that the corporation has no taxes due and owing. If a corporation has outstanding tax obligations, the balances must be resolved before a clearance letter can be issued.

If a nonprofit entity has been administratively dissolved, the limited liability shield and indemnification protections for its Board members will be at risk. If the administrative dissolution is not rescinded, the organization will need to take the additional steps necessary to wind down. According to Missouri law, a dissolved corporation must carry on only to handle lia-

bility mitigation and asset disposition. These activities may include tasks such as notices to funders, clients, and community members; facilitated disposition of assets; and the appropriate winding down notices filed with the Secretary of State.

Running an organization or a business does not mean you have to have it all figured out. If you're doing it well, it means you have a network of advisors that can help you with compliance, foresight, and governance. This article is

only an overview of nonprofit legal considerations and is not intended to cover every legal right or obligation, consideration, exception, or restriction. These strategies and decisions are complex and should be well researched and discussed with a legal professional before being made.

The next business law workshop, Start-up Law- Preparing to Open Your Business, will be hosted on Wednesday, June 10th from 12-1 pm on Zoom. Almost all business decisions have legal con-

sequences. Understanding where the laws apply to your business operations can help you make confident decisions, protect your rights, minimize risk and save money. This workshop will offer an overview of business law hot topics, including choice of entity, managing contractual obligations, and compliance. To register for free and see the full list of virtual and in person events, please visit <https://showmenetwork.org/calendar/>

Thanks for reading! My name is Dr. Adrienne B. Haynes and I'm an entrepreneur and attorney based here in Kansas City. My law firm, SEED Law, has been partnering with business owners across the Northeast and the city for almost 11 years. I loved living in the Northeast and I was fortunate to serve as an Entrepreneur in Residence for the Kauffman Foundation in 2017. Together with a dedicated group of Northeast residents and leaders, we explored a community designed innovation district pilot program. I was able to present this work during a TEDxUMKC Talk on Community Innovation Design in 2020. If you have questions, please reach out directly at adrienne@seed.legal.



Dr. Adrienne B. Haynes, Esq.



EXPLORE • DISCOVER

The NEKC Chamber of Commerce International Taste & Tour, Friday

The International Taste & Tour will be on Friday, June 5 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., beginning at the American Sons of Columbus, 2415 Independence Ave., where guests will park and board a trolley for the journey through five continents – all without leaving the neighborhood – along Independence Avenue.

All of the restaurants included on this tour are members of the Northeast Kansas City Chamber of Commerce. Thank you for your continued support.



CORE COFFEE
546 OLIVE ST.

LOVE POTION MATCHA



PHO BOWL
1447 INDEPENDENCE BLVD
SPRING ROLLS



ANGIE'S INTERNATIONAL KITCHEN
@ NEKC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
2657 INDEPENDENCE BLVD
MEAT PIES W/VEGGIES



FRUTOPIA PALETERIA
3737 INDEPENDENCE AVE
FROZEN TREATS



TAQUERIA MEXICO 2
5920 INDEPENDENCE AVE
CHICKEN OR BEEF ENCHILADAS



This information is provided for you through the Independence Avenue CID (Community Improvement District) the Northeast Kansas City Chamber Of C

EVER • EXPERIENCE



ay, June 5, 2026



EXPLORE THE INTERNATIONAL MARKETPLACE!



FOUR CORNERS COMMUNITY CALL



Last week's Independence Avenue Community Improvement District 4-Corners Community Call was at Mercado Fresco located at 5901 Independence Ave.

JOIN US THIS FRIDAY AT 3PM FOR OUR 4 CORNERS COMMUNITY CALL

**T&N Auto
5618 Independence Ave.**



**CHARRITOS TAQUERIA
3831 INDEPENDENCE AVE
CARNE ASADA TACOS**



**TAQUERIA EL TORITO
6126 INDEPENDENCE AVE
TACOS AL PASTOR**



**SOMALI MALL
INDEPENDENCE AVE & OLIVE ST
SHOPPING**



RESERVE YOUR TICKETS NOW!



PH Coffee to host trio of local acts during Manor Fest weekend two



Maddie Lai

Among the featured performers is Maddie Lai, an Overland Park-based singer-songwriter known for blending original material with carefully selected covers. Lai has performed throughout the metro at community events, concerts and festivals, including Mireya Ramos' "Ladies Rock!" concert in 2023 and the Plaza Art Fair in 2022.

A former Art As Mentorship student, Lai has also spent the last four years teaching private music lessons while continuing to develop her own songwriting voice. Her performances are often marked by intimate storytelling, soft yet expressive vocals and emotionally reflective lyrics exploring themes of hardship, hope and uncertainty.

PH Coffee previously praised Lai following an earlier appearance at the café, describing her as "a fantastic lyricist, musician and vocalist" whose warm tone and storytelling ability connected deeply with audiences.

Maddie Lai, Photo by Daisy Bee

Bryan Stalder Contributor

Kansas City's annual Manor Fest has returned for its eighth year this month, bringing dozens of local bands to venues across the metro — and one of the featured stops during weekend two will be PH Coffee (2200 Lexington Ave.) in the Historic Northeast.

The neighborhood coffee shop announced it will host performances by local artists Maddie Lai, Jacob E.Chord Grüp

and Henry Scamurra on May 28 as part of the multi-night music festival. The showcase adds another live music event to the growing list of community-centered gatherings regularly hosted at PH Coffee, which has become a popular meeting space for residents, artists and musicians in the Northeast.

Organized by Manor Records Foundation, Manor Fest spans two weekends and features approximately 60 bands performing

at 20 venues throughout Kansas City. Since launching in 2018, the festival has developed a reputation for highlighting independent and emerging local musicians while also drawing audiences into neighborhood businesses, coffee shops, bars and creative spaces that help support Kansas City's arts scene year-round.

Festival organizers say the event is designed not only to celebrate local music, but also to encourage audiences to explore

neighborhood venues and community spaces throughout Kansas City. Proceeds from wristband sales help support local musicians and independent music initiatives through the foundation's programming.

Manor Fest weekend two runs May 27–30 at venues across the metro, including PH Coffee's May 28 showcase in the Historic Northeast.

Wristbands and festival information are available at www.manorrecords.com



Jacob E.Chord Grüp

Also taking the stage is Jacob E.Chord Grüp, which blends psychedelic rock, ambient folk and experimental indie influences into a sound that is both atmospheric and improvisational. Known for genre-bending performances and layered instrumentation, their music moves between dreamy, meditative passages and energetic psychedelic rock, helping make a distinctive presence in the city's independent music scene.

Jacob E. Chord, Photo by @blu_cowdin



Henry Scamurra

Rounding out the lineup is Henry Scamurra, a saxophonist who brings a modern jazz sound rooted in improvisation, collaboration and expressive composition. Known for blending contemporary jazz influences with experimental elements, Scamurra has become part of a new generation of Kansas City musicians helping carry the city's jazz tradition forward through original music and live performance.

Henry Scamurra, Photo by Austin Glasco

Samuel U. Rodgers Health Center Honors Regional Leaders at Inaugural Gala

**Bryan Stalder
Contributor**

Samuel U. Rodgers Health Center hosted its inaugural Heart of the Community Awards Gala on Wednesday, May 20, at the College Basketball Experience, 1401 Grand Boulevard. This event brought together civic, faith, and medical professionals from across the metropolitan area to recognize nine individuals who contribute to health equity, public service, and local advocacy.

The gala benefits the health center's ongoing community outreach, health education programs, and patient care services. Founded in 1968 by Dr. Samuel U. Rodgers, the center currently serves more than 21,700 patients

annually throughout the region.

The event highlighted a diverse group of regional leaders recognized for their work in community development, public health, and civic engagement:

- Joseph Thomas — Business entrepreneur and community advocate.

- Dr. Emanuel Cleaver III — Senior Pastor of St. James United Methodist Church.

- Dr. Vincent Key — Orthopedic surgeon and sports medicine specialist with The University of Kansas Health System.

- Sandra Olivas — Community Development Director at First Federal Bank.

- Melesa Johnson — Jackson County Prosecutor.

- Mayor Christal Wat-

son — Mayor of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas.

Among the night's honorees were three prominent figures representing organizations and initiatives based in the Historic Northeast neighborhoods:

- **Annette Campbell, MPA, BSN, RN**
Senior Advisor for Community Health Programs, Kansas City University

Campbell was recognized for her role in bridging clinical education and public health within the community. Based at KCU's Northeast campus, she oversees community health programming that facilitates preventative care, health screenings, and neigh-

borhood wellness initiatives.

- **Leo Prieto**
Chief Community Impact Officer, Guadalupe Centers

Prieto was honored for his leadership in expanding social services and cultural advocacy through the Guadalupe Centers' Northeast operations. His work centers on managing community impact programs that support family stability, educational access, and neighborhood equity.

- **Bobbi Baker**
CEO, Northeast Kansas City Chamber of Commerce

Baker received recognition for her work driving economic development and supporting small businesses within the neighborhood. As CEO of the chamber,



Bobbi Baker
CEO, NEKC Chamber
Photo submitted

she oversees commercial revitalization efforts and advocacy projects along the Independence Avenue corridor.

The gala serves as a primary fundraising and awareness vehicle for the Samuel U. Rodgers Health Center, ensuring the con-

tinuation of mobile medical services and subsidized care for uninsured residents. Organizers stated that partnerships highlighted during the event will help guide the health center's collaborative outreach strategies heading into the summer and fall.

International Taste and Tour *Continued from page 6*

The tour also highlights newer neighborhood anchors that have quickly woven themselves into the local fabric. Angeline Hoff, owner of Angie's International Kitchen, which brings traditional African cuisine to 3537 Independence Ave., noted how much she appreciates the global perspective the event brings right to the storefronts of

Northeast.

"I enjoyed the people from different places," Hoff said. "We serve in Missouri and the Northeast and can tell about how we started. It's amazing; other people can see our area and [taste] our food."

Whether you are looking to bite into a traditional taco at Charritos Taqueria, sample something

sweet from Frutopia, grab a refreshing brew from Core Coffee, or try the comforting broths of Pho Bowl, this event stands as a masterclass in local flavor.

Don't miss out on this self-guided culinary journey through our neighborhood. Tickets can be purchased directly through the Northeast Kansas City Chamber

of Commerce website at nekcchamber.com, or by calling the Chamber office at (816) 231-3312. Grab yours early to secure your spot on the tour!

Guests will board the trolley at the American Sons Of Columbus, 2415 Independence Blvd, and embark on the International Taste & Tour.

File Photo





File Photo

Sugar Creek Slavic Fest Celebrates 40 Years in 2026

**Bryan Stalder
Contributor**

The Sugar Creek Slavic Fest will mark a major milestone in 2026 as the beloved community celebration returns for its 40th year from June 12-13. What began as a local gathering to honor and preserve Slavic heritage has grown into one of the region's most anticipated cultural festivals, drawing thousands of visitors each year to celebrate food, music, dance, and tradition.

For four decades, this festival has served as a vibrant showcase of Slavic culture while bringing together families, neighbors, and visitors from across the Kansas City area and beyond. The anniversary celebration promises to honor that history while continuing tra-

ditions that have made this event a staple in the community.

Rooted in heritage and community pride, Sugar Creek Slavic Fest highlights the customs and contributions of the region's Slavic communities, including those with ancestry from Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Ukraine, Croatia, Serbia, and other parts of Central and Eastern Europe. Through cultural performances, traditional cuisine and community engagement, the festival has helped preserve these traditions for younger generations while inviting everyone to learn and participate.

Food remains one of the festival's biggest draws. Visitors can expect authentic dishes, from sarma (cabbage rolls), to pierogi, and

even kielbasa sandwiches; these foods reflect generations of family recipes. The aromas of traditional cooking often fill the air, creating a welcoming atmosphere that feels both festive and familiar. These culinary offerings are more than just meals—they are an expression of culture and a way for families to share their stories.

Music and dance also play a central role in the celebration. Live performances typically bring energetic rhythms and colorful presentations to the stage, with traditional ensembles and community groups showcasing folk songs and dances passed down through generations. The lively atmosphere encourages festivalgoers to gather, dance,

and enjoy performances that reflect the spirit of Slavic heritage.

Over the years, Sugar Creek Slavic Fest has grown not only in size but in significance. It has become a gathering place where neighbors reconnect, families create memories, and new residents discover the cultural richness of the area. For longtime attendees, the festival is a reminder of shared history and community roots. For first-time visitors, it offers an opportunity to experience something new and meaningful.

The 40th anniversary provides an especially important opportunity to reflect on the festival's impact. Since its early years, the event has relied on volunteers, community leaders, sponsors,

and local organizations to bring it to life. Their dedication has helped ensure the festival remains accessible, family-friendly, and true to its mission of celebrating heritage and community.

In addition to entertainment and food, the festival traditionally includes activities for all ages. Families often find opportunities for children to participate in games or cultural experiences, making it a welcoming environment for multigenerational attendance. The inclusive nature of the event has helped it thrive across decades, adapting to changing times while maintaining its cultural foundation.

For Sugar Creek and the surrounding region, Slavic Fest is more than just an annual event—it is a tra-

dition that reflects the community's diversity, resilience, and shared appreciation for cultural heritage. Its 40th year stands as a testament to the festival's lasting appeal and the generations who have helped sustain it.

As the milestone approaches, excitement continues to build for another year of celebration. In 2026, Sugar Creek Slavic Fest will not only honor its past but look ahead to the future, continuing its legacy as a cornerstone of community life and cultural pride.

Residents and visitors alike are invited to join the celebration and be part of this historic 40th anniversary event. Visit slavicfest.com for a full calendar of the events planned for this year's event.

The 7:15 from Hot Springs

Historical fiction written by Bryan Stalder

Kansas City, Summer 1933

The morning air was already heavy with the scent of coal smoke and river damp as Matthew Orr stepped off the streetcar. He had caught the line near his quaint bungalow on Van Brunt Boulevard, a home that felt solid and honest compared to the frantic energy of the city's core. As the streetcar rattled away, the sparks from the overhead wires hissed in the early light—a sharp, electric sound that always reminded him of the unpredictable energy of Kansas City.

It was slightly before 7:00 a.m. The sun, up since before five, was already baking the pavement surrounding the train depot. As Matthew walked toward the grand, colonnaded entrance of Union Station, he passed a newsboy, shouting about the previous night's baseball scores, and a pair of pigeons fighting over a discarded bit of pastry near a baggage cart. He walked past a black Plymouth parked near the curb. A man sat behind the wheel, his profile framed by the window. He was a handsome fellow with strikingly red hair and blue eyes that stared forward with an unsettling, sober discipline. A thin, jagged scar traced the left side of his head. Matthew lingered on him briefly because he had seen enough men in doorways and dark cars during the Black and Tan War in Ireland to know when a man was waiting for blood. Now in the U.S., Orr was an immigrant who had traded the terror of the Irish War of Independence for the relative peace of the American Midwest, and his Protestant faith anchored him in a quiet reverence for the sanctity of life.

Inside, the Great Hall was a cathedral of marble and transit. Matthew stood beneath the massive chandeliers, feeling small but secure. He was there for Jessie. His wife, Jessie El-



vira Tuttle—a Kansas-born drama teacher with a spirit far more expansive than the prairies of her youth—was returning from St. Louis. She had spent the week assisting a Shakespearean repertory troupe, lending her sharp eye for stagecraft to a production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Matthew had missed the sound of her voice, which always seemed to fill their home far more effectively than the furniture could.

He unfolded his newspaper, his eyes skimming over headlines that made the world feel precarious. He read of the "Campaign against the Un-German Spirit," where pro-Nazi students in Berlin had burned tens of thousands of books by Einstein and Hemingway. Further down, a dispatch noted Mahatma Gandhi's slow physical recovery following his twenty-day hunger strike to protest the mistreatment of the Untouchables. Most unsettling were the reports of anarchist unrest in Spain; bombings in Barcelona and general strikes had left the country paralyzed and

bloodied.

He felt a brief, fluttering gratitude for the Atlantic Ocean. He was forty-seven now, his days of dreaming of glory long buried in the Irish soil he'd left behind in 1926.

Movement on the platform level caught his eye. A group of men in dark suits and fedoras were moving with a rigid, professional synchronized gait. They weren't railroad men; they had the squared shoulders and low-brimmed stares of men who carried authority in their holsters. In the center of the phalanx was a man in a light suit, his wrists bound in steel. This was the 7:15 arrival from Hot Springs, Arkansas.

Continued on next page

The 7:15 from Hot Springs

Continued from previous page

"Move it along, Frank," one of the agents muttered, his voice echoing off the marble.

Matthew watched from a distance as they led the prisoner toward the parking lot. He noted the way the agents stood—stiff, scanning the perimeter, expecting a trouble they felt they could handle. He went back to his paper.

Then the world outside fractured.

It wasn't a single sound, but a rhythmic tearing—rat-tat-tat-tat—followed by the heavy, booming thud of shotguns. Inside the station, the sound was muffled by the thick stone walls, sounding more like a distant construction site than a massacre. But then came the screams.

The heavy glass doors swung open, and a man stumbled in, his hat gone and his face pale.

"They're killing them!" he shrieked. "They're all down! The agents, the prisoner—blood everywhere—in the parking lot!"

Panic rippled through the station's Great Hall. People dropped their luggage and ran; a young reporter sprinted toward the east entrance.

Matthew Orr did not move. He stood beneath the great clock, his heart hammering, a familiar, cold dread washing over him—the same dread he'd felt in Dublin when the air turned to lead. But he did not run toward the noise. He had seen what a Thompson submachine gun did to a human body, and he had no curiosity left for it.

He turned his back on the carnage outside and walked toward the gates where the St. Louis train would soon arrive. He checked his pocket watch. Jessie would be stepping off that train shortly. The world could descend into madness, but Matthew Orr would be exactly where he promised he would be. He would be the first thing she saw, standing in the quiet, waiting to lead her back to their home on Van Brunt Boulevard.

1932 Fun Fact

For tasty baked treats "To your door everyday", Kansas City residents relied on the green and yellow painted Manor Bakery wagons. In addition to fresh-baked bread, customers could choose from selections including Orange Devil Food layer cake with four layers of cake and chocolate fudge frosting priced at 58 cents or a White Pineapple layer cake, with pineapple throughout, pineapple jam filling and boiled pineapple frosting, also 58 cents. Manor Bakery operated a fleet of 86 delivery wagons in 1932, customers could request delivery by calling Valentine 6100.

Vandals Steal 15 Palm Trees, Impacting Independence Avenue Beautification Project

Bryan Stalder
Contributor

Over the past several weeks, the Independence Avenue Urban Street Ambassadors have been hard at work beautifying the Independence Avenue corridor with new landscaping installations, colorful flowers and decorative palm trees intended to brighten the community for residents, visitors and local businesses alike.

But overnight, in the early morning hours of Friday, May 22, at least 15 palm trees planted along Independence Avenue were stolen. Security cameras captured footage of a person in a white sedan stopping at Independence Avenue and Brooklyn at 12:23 a.m., removing a palm tree from a planter, placing the tree in the back seat of their vehicle, and driving away.

These trees, purchased as part of ongoing beautification efforts by the Independence Avenue Community Improvement District (CID), had recently been installed by the Urban Street Ambassadors,



Grand Theft Arbor. Person seen stealing palm trees from planters on Independence Ave. Image courtesy of Independence Ave CID

who maintain the corridor year-round through landscaping, litter removal and streetscape improvement projects.

According to CID officials, theft and vandalism have unfortunately become recurring challenges along the avenue. In previous years, vandals have destroyed flower planters and damaged landscaping projects intended to improve the corridor's appearance and create a more welcoming environment for the community.

Bobbi Baker, Manager of the CID, said the loss of the trees is especially frustrating because the landscaping was created for public enjoyment.

"It's a fairly regular occurrence for someone to rip out some

flowers, and we've had planters in the past, but it's extremely frustrating to have someone steal these trees from the community, likely to be replanted for their own benefit," Baker told Northeast News.

Community members are being asked to remain alert. Anyone who notices unusual landscaping activity involving palm trees, or individuals selling palm trees from the back of a vehicle or in an alleyway, is encouraged to contact the CID offices at (816) 231-3312.

Officials say despite the setbacks, the Urban Street Ambassadors remain committed to continuing their work to improve and maintain the corridor for the community.

Classified & Service directory

101 Contractors & Builders

MARK'S REMODELING
ROOFING, SIDING,
PLUMBING,
ELECTRICAL
SHEETROCK,
BATHROOMS
BASEMENT FINISHING
FREE ESTIMATES
816-537-3193

104 Moving & Hauling

BRUSH & TREE WORK
GARAGE/ BASEMENT
CLEANING, HAULING
SERVICE,
FREE ESTIMATES
816-965-8494

106 Plumbing Services

H & H PLUMBING
60 + YEARS IN H.N.E.
LICENSED - INSURED
GUARANTEED WORK
FREE ESTIMATES
CALL DENNIS AT:
816-231-3916

110 Electrical Construction

CUMBERFORD
CONTRACTING
RESIDENTIAL &
COMMERCIAL
LICENSED & INSURED
816-898-1236

113 Cleaning Services

CLEANING KC
HOMES AND OFFICES
FREE QUOTES
SWIFT CLEANING PROS
TEXT 816-506-6791

118 Pest Control

DON'T BE BUGGED!
ROACHES \$95
BEDBUGS \$325
AAA EXTERMINATORS
913-269-3369

150 For Sale

PREPARE for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-866-686-8347 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator- it's a power move.

166 Home Improvement

THE BATHROOM of your dreams in as little as 1 day. Limited Time Offer- \$1000 off or No Payments and No Interest for 18 months for customers who qualify. BCI Bath & Shower. Many options available. Quality materials & professional installation. Senior & Military discounts available. Call today! 1-866-460-1048

DOES YOUR BASEMENT or crawl space need some attention? Call Thrasher Foundation Repair! A permanent solution for waterproofing, failing foundations, sinking concrete and nasty crawl spaces. FREE Inspection & Same Day Estimate. \$250 off ANY project with code GET250. Call 1-855-460-1476

SunSetter- America's Number One Awning! Instant shade at the touch of a button. Transform your deck or patio into an outdoor oasis. Up to 10-year limited warranty. Call now and SAVE \$350 today! 1-844-632-2169

OLSHAN Foundation Systems. Your trusted foundation repair experts since 1933. Foundation repair. Crawl space recovery. Basement waterproofing. Water management and more. Free evaluation. Limited time up to \$250 off foundation repair. Call Olshan 1-888-437-7797

NO MORE cleaning out gutters. Guaranteed! LeafFilter is backed by a no-clog guarantee and lifetime transferrable warranty. Call today 1-844-713-4600 to schedule a FREE inspection and no obligation estimate. Get 15% off your entire order. Plus, Military & Seniors get an additional 10% off. Limited time only. Restrictions apply, see representative for warranty and offer details.

167 Cellular Services

CONSUMER CELLULAR- the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the large carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just \$20/month. For more information, call 1-844-211-0742

502 Help Wanted

Civil Engr - WSP USA Inc. (Kansas City, MO). Dsgn all aspects of rdway systems - incl sidewalks - using OpenRoads Dsgnr & MicroStatn CONNECT Edtn, adhrng to DOT & AASHTO stndrds. Salary \$75,059.70. Stndrd corp bnfts. Reqs Bach's (or frgn equiv) in Civil Engg, Transp Engg or rlt'd fld and 1 yr exp as a Civil Engr, Cnstrctn Engr or rlt'd role. Email resume to jobs@wsp.com, Ref Job #5192.

507 Elder Care

FreedomCare. Let your loved ones care for you and get paid! Paid by Medicaid. Choose family or friends as your paid caregiver. Check your eligibility today! Call FreedomCare now! 1-844-937-4179

509 Health Care Services

PORTABLE Oxygen Concentrator May be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free Information kit! Call 844-299-5183

UP TO \$15,000.00 of GUARANTEED Life Insurance? No medical exam or health questions. Cash to help pay funeral and other fiinal expenses. Call Physicians Life Insurance Company- 844-491-2689 or visit www..Life55plus.info/Missouri

603 Wanted

We Buy Houses for Cash AS IS! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy three step process: Call, get cash offer, get paid. Get your fair cash offer today by calling Liz Buys Houses: 1-855-273-9002

800 Real Estate

RENTAL PROPERTY OWNERS- Our readers are looking to rent and stay in NE- Place your listing here- 25 words for \$15.00. Call 816-241-0765 today!



DONATE!



H&H PLUMBING & DRAIN CLEANING

- All Types of Plumbing Repair -
Residential & Commercial
Free Estimates!



- ✓ Licensed and Insured
- ✓ 62 Years Experience

**Drains Opened or
No Charge!**

Dennis Hammontree

816-231-3916

NORTHEAST REALTY CO.
5400 ST JOHN AVE
(816) 231-8442

SE HABLA ESPAÑOL
ANGELICA DE LA CRUZ
816-803-8624
AALVAREZ.NER@GMAIL.COM

TÔI NÓI TIẾNG VIỆT
NGON NGUYEN
816-824-4823
NGONNGUYEN88@YAHOO.COM

CALL FOR A NO COST MARKET PRICE ON YOUR PROPERTY!

4416 St John • \$295,000

3706 St John Ave • \$152,000 **PENDING!**

318 Barat Ave • \$99,500 **PENDING!**

302 N Wheeling Ave • \$225,000

5001 Independence Ave • \$250,000

527 Quincy Ave • \$140,000 **PENDING!**

401 N. Hardesty Ave • \$168,000

2810 Cleveland Ave (Lot for Sale) • \$34,900

521 Hardesty Ave • \$199,000

1024 Elmwood Ave • \$160,000

3926 Norledge Ave • \$320,000

PROUDLY SERVING HISTORIC NORTHEAST SINCE 1909

Help shape the future of your regional transportation system!

Share your thoughts on:

- An amendment to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), the region's five-year construction program.



- An amendment to the region's long-range metropolitan transportation plan, Connected KC 2050.

Visit marc.org/transportationinput, email transportation@marc.org or call 816-474-4240 for details.

Trash collection delayed by one day in observance of Memorial Day, May 25



Photo by Bryan Stalder

Bryan Stalder
Contributor

Memorial Day weekend has arrived — and if it feels early this year, you're not alone. The holiday falls on Monday, May 25, marking the unof-

ficial start of summer across Kansas City.

As many residents prepare for barbecues, lake trips and family gatherings, city officials are also reminding residents that curbside trash and recycling collection will

be delayed by one day next week due to the holiday schedule.

Residents with regular Wednesday pickup will instead have their trash collected Thursday, while all remaining pickup days will shift back one day

throughout the week.

Memorial Day is observed annually to honor and remember the men and women who died while serving in the United States Armed Forces.

Specializing in accident injury
MARVIN'S MIDTOWN CHIROPRACTIC CLINIC

Call our office for an appointment; We can provide transportation
(816) 756-2500

For additional information, visit:
<https://www.marvinschirokc.com/>
811 E LINWOOD BLVD

Haiku by Sam Crowley

Cardinal and mate
They are inseparable
Listen for their chirp

Poem by Kiki Swift

Wispy white seeds floating down,
Summer's snow storm swirling 'round,
Pretty starts of future trees,
Why do they always make me sneeze?

SCIMECA'S
RETAIL MARKET & DELI

GET IT DELIVERED ON THE APP!
Download Scimeca's Retail Market & Deli on the App Store and Google Play

Subs, Salads, pastas
EARN REWARDS ON DELIVERY + PICK UP ORDERS TODAY!

SHOP OUR ONLINE RETAIL MARKET

SCIMECASONLINE.COM | 1611 SWIFT AVE | NKC

ELEOS COFFEE HOUSE

3401 INDEPENDENCE AVE
TUESDAY- FRIDAY 7-2PM
SATURDAY 8-2PM

SERVING BREAKFAST AND LUNCH! LATTES, SHAKES, AND SMOOTHIES!

COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY
EVERYDAY WE'RE OPEN 10AM
816-251-3401

Poem by Bryan Stalder

Memorial Day is more than lakes, or backyard grills and summer breaks. The freedoms that we proudly share were bought by those no longer here. From distant lands, still people come to chase the hope of freedom won. So take some time this holiday to honor those who paved the way.

Visit graves where heroes lie, thank them softly as you pass by
For all we have and all we do, was made possible because they stood true.