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The magazine for our city's guests and surrounding area

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Welcome!

CITY OF Springfield

Greetings!

On behalf of the City of Springfield it is my honor and distinct pleasure to welcome you to our city. Springfield is situated in the heart of Ozark Mountain Country and is one of the fastest growing cities in the Midwest. It is a region blessed with much natural beauty, offering large lakes and beautiful streams with a wide variety of water recreation activities.

We are confident that your visit to Springfield will be rewarding. We urge you to take advantage of the many opportunities available, such as:

Birthplace of Route 66. Springfield is officially recognized as the birthplace of what became known as the iconic "Mother Road." It was on April 30, 1926 at Park Central Square where officials first proposed U.S. 66 as the name of the new Chicago-to-Los Angeles highway. Route 66 meandered across Springfield from Kearney to Glenstone to St. Louis Street, through Park Central Square to Olive and College Streets, then headed west along what is now Chestnut Expressway. The Birthplace of Route 66 Roadside Park is located near the intersection of College Street and Fort Avenue. Stop in at the Route 66 Springfield Visitor Center at 815 E. St. Louis Street to learn about other stops in town that will give you a glimpse of Route 66's heyday. If you happen to be in town in August, the annual Birthplace of Route 66 Festival, featuring a car and motorcycle show, parade, drive-in movie and concert, is a great event for any Route 66 enthusiast or lover of Americana.

Jordan Valley Park, features the Jordan Valley Ice Park, a multi-purpose facility featuring two NHL-size ice sheets and an adjacent 12-acre park with a fountain and water feature designed to evoke an Ozarks stream. In addition, the Springfield Cardinals, the Double A affiliate of the St. Louis Cardinals, play at nearby Hammons Field. A short walk on the new Jordan Creek Greenway or a drive on new Streetscapes links the Jordan Valley development to our traditional downtown area.

Downtown. Our downtown area features a variety of restaurants in all price and taste ranges, art galleries, the historic Landers Theatre, built in 1909 and renovated in its baroque Renaissance/Napoleon architecture and décor, and the renovated historic Gillioz Theater. Downtown and Jordan Valley also are close to several of the City's most popular venues, such as the hands-on Discovery Center, a children's science museum, the Walnut Street Historic District and the Juanita K. Hammons Hall for the Performing Arts at Missouri State University.

Other attractions. Springfield is home to many area attractions such as the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame, Wilson's Creek National Battlefield (Civil War), Dickerson Park Zoo, and nine public and private golf courses. You might also enjoy visiting our Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden, complete with a traditional tea hut. Springfield is the headquarters of Bass Pro Shops' Outdoor World, billed as the "World's Most Spectacular Sporting Goods Store," with its four-story waterfall, giant aquariums, nature center and taxidermy studio.

We are truly proud of our City and the many opportunities available to our visitors. On behalf of the City of Springfield, we welcome you and look forward to sharing with you the hospitality of the "Queen City of the Ozarks".

Sincerely,

Ken McClure
Mayor, City of Springfield

ABOUT SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI

Springfield sits atop a plateau of the oldest mountain range in the country – the Ozark Mountains. Surrounded by rolling hills, the city offers the best in metropolitan and outdoor adventure, making it a perfect family destination. Springfield is rich with interesting and entertaining attractions, approximately 5,800 hotel rooms, more than 1,100 dining options and a variety of shopping and cultural activities.

Population: Springfield is the third-largest city in Missouri and the largest Springfield in the nation. The U.S. Census Bureau estimates the population within city limits is about 160,000. The estimated Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is more than 440,000.

Weather: The average annual precipitation in Springfield is 43 inches including 20 inches of snow. The average low and high temperatures for each season are: Spring: 44-67° F; Summer: 65-88° F; Fall: 46-69° F; Winter: 24-45° F.

SPRINGFIELD HAS IT ALL!

Large churches in Springfield...

(all below are in Springfield, unless otherwise noted)

Second Baptist Church
3111 E. Battlefield Rd.

First Baptist Church
525 South Ave.

Ridgecrest Baptist Church
2210 W. Republic Rd.

Crossway Baptist Church
2900 N. Barnes

James River Assembly
6100 N. 19th St. Ozark, MO

Central Assembly of God Church
1301 N. Boonville Ave.

North Point Church
3402 W Norton Rd.

Schweitzer United Methodist
2747 E. Sunshine

Wesley United Methodist Church
922 Republic Rd.

First & Calvary Presbyterian Church
820 E. Cherry

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church
3555 S. Fremont Ave.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic
2200 W. Republic Rd

Messiah Lutheran Church
925 E Seminole

Christ Episcopal Church
601 E Walnut St.

Hope Church
2121 S Blackman Rd.

WELCOME TO SPRINGFIELD

Vol. 21 No. 4
September/October 2020

The magazine for the Queen City of the Ozarks, Nixa, Ozark and Republic.

Published by
Welcome Publications, Inc.
P.O. Box 14504
Springfield, MO 65814
417-830-5477

Welcome to Springfield is published bi-monthly and distributed in the finer hotels and motels and other locations to benefit Springfield's guests and visitors and help make their stay as enjoyable and rewarding as possible.

Advertising information: The best way to make a real impression on the over 30,000 people staying overnight in Springfield's motel and hotel rooms every week is to have your advertising message on the pages of Welcome to Springfield. Please call 417-830-5477 for rates and specifications.

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Publisher . . . . . Sharon K. Ladd
Founder . . . . . John C. Ford
Design & Production . . . . . Jeanne Simpson, Design of the Times
Web Design . . . . . Sami Ditmars
Printer . . . . . Kopco, Inc.
Accounting . . . . . Marvin L. Miller, CPA
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The Queen City of the Ozarks stands out among the rest

by Mike Schilling

As the third largest city in the state, Springfield is a vibrant and vigorous regional center of activity for commerce, recreation, live entertainment and the arts in southwest Missouri.

It's little wonder, then, that this city of nearly 160,000 people boasts the nickname "Queen City of the Ozarks," a characterization found as early as 1876, in a December issue of the *Springfield-Patriot Advertiser*.

"Springfield sits quietly, peacefully, and prosperously on the summit of the Ozarks, as a royal diadem on the brow of a queen."

In a book titled "*Seeing the Middle West*," written in 1923, author John T. Faris observed, "Springfield, standing in all of the splendor of a queen amidst its spacious orchards of stately fruit trees, has been fittingly designated the Queen City."

Today, this city on historic Route 66 lives up to the name with a wealth of varied points of interest and activities for the enjoyment of our visitors from near and far.

The city was established near a spring in what is now the downtown. That point of origin is marked by Founders Park, also not far from Jordan Creek, an area that has been redeveloped into Jordan Valley Park, with landscaped green space and a water feature. In addition, it is the site of Mediacom Ice Park, an indoor facility for skating year around and the home of Missouri State University hockey team play.

Just east of the park is Hammons Field, where the Springfield Cardinals baseball team plays its Texas League opponents. It is the place where you can enjoy watching players who hope to one day be in the big league ranks.

The city's several colleges give it a youthful feel, and are also a source of sports entertainment, led by Missouri State University, Drury University and Evangel University. The JQH Arena on the Missouri State campus is not only the home of basketball action, but a place to see major music shows (Elton John, Carrie Underwood and The Eagles, among them) and other events, such as professional bull riding.

Not far away is the Juanita K Hammons Hall for the Performing Arts where you can see concerts, touring Broadway shows and other acts. (Bob Dylan, the late George Carlin and Bonne Raitt have been on the stage there.)

Prominent venues in the downtown area are the historic Shrine Mosque (Dylan and Willie Nelson have performed there), and the historic Gillioz Theater (John Prine, Lyle Lovett and John Hiatt have played there.)

Other performing arts in the downtown area are based in the Landers Theatre. The Springfield Regional Opera House, the Springfield Symphony Orchestra and Springfield Ballet, also grace the city's performing arts choices.

Speaking of downtown, it is the hub of nightlife with its many restaurants, music clubs and a movie theatre complex. You'll find the place abuzz on weekend nights, and many nights in between. And in the daytime you can find some unique retail shops and merchandise that might pique your interest.

East of the downtown is the Walnut Street Historic District, where one can see many historic homes that have been renovated, and get a bite to eat.

Uptown is the Commercial Street Historic District, where the locals advise doing the "C-Street Stroll" to "catch the vibe of this eclectic artisan, entertainment and shopping destination."

The most visible attraction is the historic Jefferson Avenue Footbridge, the longest railroad pedestrian bridge in the nation. It was built in 1902 and remodeled a few years ago. The bridge is a signature of the importance of the Frisco Railroad (now Burlington Northern Santa Fe) operations in the city's history. Dozens of trains a day still pass underneath the footbridge.

Another historic point of interest is Wilson's Creek National Battlefield about 10 miles southwest of the city. It is the site of the first major Civil War conflict west of the Mississippi River, and it took place Aug. 10, 1861.

Springfield is also home to the Pythian Castle, which was opened as an orphanage in 1913 by the Knights of Pythias and later owned by the government for more than 50 years. It is located at 1451 East Pythian Street.

The Queen City of the Ozarks is also near Fantastic Caverns, a comfortable place to be in winter and summer and see the wondrous, water-formed stalactites and stalagmites of many hues and shapes. Fantastic Caverns, an ancient underground river, is the only ride-through cave in the country.

If you like museums, there are the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame and Springfield Art Museum.

Other points of interest are the Discovery Center, Dickerson Park Zoo, Bass Pro Shops Outdoor World and the Battlefield Mall shopping center. ■

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Attractions

Dickerson Park Zoo 833-1570
History Museum
on the Square 831-1976
RT 66 Car Museum. 861-8004
Sports Hall of Fame 889-3100
Springfield Art Museum. 837-5700

Entertainment

1984 Arcade. 831-3665
Meyer Communications 862-3751
Onward Acres LLC 323-2704
Pythian Castle 865-1464
Rumors Cabaret 886-8284
Springfield's Incredible Pizza. . 501-0826
Springfield Little Theatre 869-1334
Swing Right Golf 882-1222

Information

Springfield Convention
& Visitors Bureau 800-678-8767

Restaurants & More

417 Tap House 942-0958
Archie's Italian Eatery 720-1763
Bellacino's Pizza & Grinders . . 881-8556
. 720-4414
Café Cusco 868-8088
Cielito Lindo Mexican 886-3320
. 886-7676
Classic Rock Coffee 343-2244
. 647-2233
Cows Pajamas. 249-1110
Davalon 569-4478
Earth's Harvest. 631-8774
El Maguey Mexcian 865-1453
Gailey's Breakfast Café. 866-5500
Godfathers Pizza . Ingram Mill 881-7777
. . . . . Nixa 725-4933
. . . . . Battlefield 877-8787
. . . . . Ozark 581-9292
Golden Corral . . . . . Primrose 883-6767
. . . . . Branson 336-6297
Houlihan's . . . . . South 883-3434
. . . . . North 862-7777
Leong's Asian Diner 887-7500
London Calling. 380-7943
Not'Cho Ordinary Taco 399-1101
Olive Branch 241-6608
Spring Creek Tea Room. 582-1331
Springfield's Incredible Pizza. . 501-0826
Super Sport Bar 350-1425
Taj Mahal Indian 719-4573
Van Gogh's Eeterie. 380-7698
Wheelhouse 379-6891
. 430-0400

Shopping/Services

400 South Avenue Antiques . . 507-4111
Chabom Teas + Spices 380-7698
CStreet Market. 812-5545
Glenstone Cottage Antiques . . 576-0795
Keller Williams/Trey Watson . . 773-4023
Merry Moore Boutique 844-0603
My Movers 882-6683
Patricia's Store 881-8444
Spring Creek Antiques 581-5914

Experience the haunted Pythian Castle

by Meredith Tatum

Pythian Castle, one of Springfield's most unique venues, also has a claim to fame in the paranormal world: it's a certified haunted castle.

The history begins in 1909 when Springfield competed among seven other cities to be the place where the Knights of Pythias would construct the "Pythian Home," a place where members of this fraternal order could retire with their families. The first floor holds a grand foyer, meeting room, ballroom, dining hall, and sitting parlors. The second floor has dual staircases on either wall and was designed with dormitory style rooms for children and bedrooms for adults. This floor also has a theater with original ticket booth, seats, upper projection and lighting room as well as changing rooms backstage.

The castle operated as a meeting hall until 1942, when the United States Military commandeered the facility to use it in conjunction with an adjacent hospital that housed injured U.S. troops. However, German and Italian prisoners of war were also assigned to the castle during WWII for medical treatment and as laborers. Some of these prisoners were kept in the detached powerhouse and laundry room behind the castle.

After the war was over, the castle remained U.S. property until it was sold in 1993 to a private owner. In the hands of this new owner, the castle was renovated in some areas and transformed into an event venue, playing host to weddings, proms and corporate parties as well as monthly murder mystery dinners.

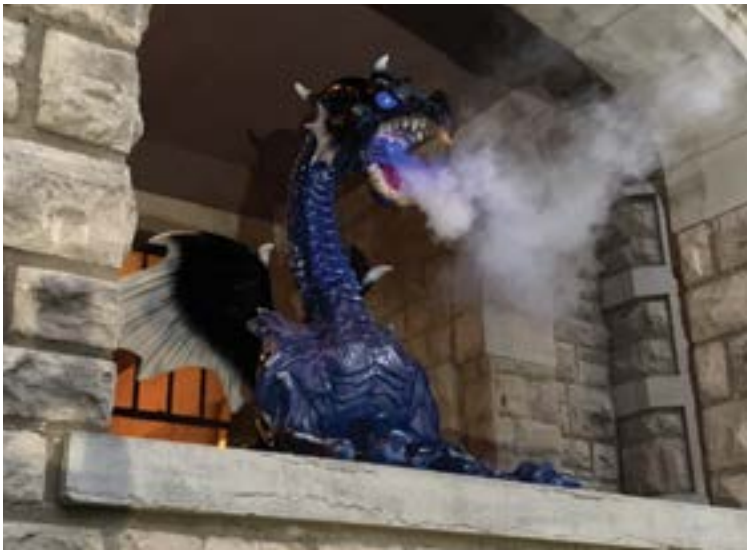
But the castle's storied history has not been forgotten. In 2011, the castle was explored by TV show, Ghost Lab, where it was confirmed the the property is haunted with spirits from it's past proprietors. In 2017 TV show, Ghost Adventures, also came and used paranormal techniques to assess the castle, confirming the same.

The castle offers weekly Ghost Tours on Tuesday and Friday at 8pm year-round where photos are encouraged. More ghostly tours are offered during the spooky fall season. Guests may walk away with photos containing "orbs," which are the ghosts or spirits themselves.

Ghost investigations are also offered quarterly for those wanting to practice their paranormal skills. Public investigations start at $75 per person and are scheduled from 7pm to 3am, and include a midnight snack. And, if you are brave enough, you can try an escape room at this haunted castle.

You must attend an event to visit the castle so check out the website for dates and times to see what you can experience at Pythian Castle. Online ordering discounts.

Pythian Castle is located at 1451 E Pythian St, Springfield, MO and can be reached at 417-865-1464, and online at https://pythiancastle.com. ■



DISCOVER your new favorite

Restaurant guide

The listings of restaurants and entertainment on these pages are recommended by this publication and include our advertisers. The information includes basic details about each location including address, phone number, hours and a brief description of the type of food. It is strongly suggested that you phone to confirm hours and make reservations.

417 Taphouse Springfield, MO

431 S. Jefferson, Ste. 160 in the Wilhoit Plaza, 942-0958. 417 Taphouse is the area's first pour your own draft beer experience. Come try your hand at pouring the perfect pint from one of the 16 self-serve taps, or hit up the full service bar for other options. Find an interesting pairing with kitchen specialties like hand cut curly fries covered with various toppings or chicken & waffles. Challenge your friends to a game of Mario Kart, skee ball, shuffleboard, or any of the other games available. Stop in today to have an experience like no other in town. 417tap.com

Archie's Italian Eatery

1410 E. Republic Rd, 417-720-1763. If you're looking for several pastas in a gluten free option, Archie's is the place for you. To include fettuccini, spaghetti, and linguini. Also providing several vegetarian options, including items for vegans. To include all noodles, marinara sauce, Italian bread, and spaghetti squash with beetballs. The Italian dishes are old world authentic dishes. Their Italian bread is made fresh from scratch daily. They also have several options for fresh homemade dessert to include Tiramisu, Italian Wedding Cake, Carrot Cake, Crème Brule, and Cannolli dip. Old world authentic dishes and atmosphere! Online ordering and delivery available. archiesitalian.com

Bellacino's Pizza & Grinders

856 S Glenstone Ave, 417-881-8556 and 4560 S Campbell Ave Ste 136, 417-720-4414. Welcome to Bellacino's Pizza and Grinders! Bellacino's is the home of the Oven Baked Grinder! At Bellacino's "Fresh" is no gimmick. We bake our bread from scratch every day in each of our over 70 locations nationwide! All of our grinders, pizzas, salads and appetizers are made to order. Try any of our delicious items today! We have been using the same scrumptious "Grampa Sam" bread recipe since 1959! Bellacino's is proud to state "Toasted Schmoasted... We're Oven Baked, Never Frozen!"

Classic Rock Coffee Co.

1530 E St Louis at the Route 66 Food Truck Park, 417-343-2244 and 1230 US Hwy 60 in Republic, 417-647-2233. These two Classic Rock Coffee locations are family owned and operated and we take pride in both our product and service. Our award winning coffees are made from beans that are locally roasted right here in Springfield. We serve hot and iced lattes, and frappes in more flavors than you can imagine, and have the largest amount of sugar free options in town. But, we're so much more than coffee. We also offer smoothies, high quality protein shakes, hand crafted energy drinks, flavored lemonades, cinnamon rolls, and the best customer service around! Come experience the Route 66 Food Truck Park or if you're staying in, we deliver through DoorDash, Grubhub and Postmates. Our Coffee Rocks!

Cafe Cusco

234 E. Commercial, 868-8088. After hiking the Inca Trails with his best friend from Lima, Chef Joe Gidman decided to bring Peruvian cuisine to Springfield. Inside one of the city's oldest buildings on Historic Commercial Street, Café Cusco is a delight to the eyes and taste buds. Offering a wide variety including many gluten free, vegan/vegetarian options, Cusco has been heralded a "Gem of Springfield" and a favorite among locals. $$ Lunch/ Dinner, family friendly, and full service bar. Enjoy our happy hour, Sun-Thur 3-5:30pm and Friday & Sat in our lounge from 8-10pm. Buen Provecho! Discover Peru! www.cafecusco.com

Cielito Lindo Restaurante Mexicano

2953 S National, 886-3320 and 3530 S Campbell, 886-7676. Cielito Lindo's claim to fame is that it's been feeding Springfieldians for over 20 years. What makes the restaurant different from other, newer Mexican options? The food is more fresh, more authentic, customers feel more at home. Sure, you can get Mexican food anywhere, but a fresh, cheesy chile relleno and delicious made-in-house chorizo? Cielito Lindo, a Springfield favorite, has you covered. Don't forget the pico de gallo and white cheese dip. If you're looking for excellent customer service, you must visit Cielito Lindo today!

Welcome to Springfield

The Cow's Pajamas

1530 E St Louis at the Route 66 Food Truck Park,, 417-249-1110. The Cow's Pajamas offers hand-crafted frozen desserts, including ice cream, sorbets, and ice-cream sandwiches, all served from our one-of-a-kind tricycle! Beat the summer heat with a deliciously cold treat that you can enjoy at the park or at home!

Davalon Signature Cuisine

1530 E St Louis at the Route 66 Food Truck Park, 417-569-4478. We are an Asian Fusion food truck. With 17 years of chef experience working at Ocean Zen you can expect a mix of Korean, Japanese & Chinese! We will keep some items more traditional, but the rest will have a pleasant TWIST! Make sure to check in on our Facebook... We will be running Twisted features once in a while to keep things fun! Need catering for a corporate event, party, family get-together, holiday or even your wedding? Give a ring and we can help!

Earth's Harvest

1530 E St Louis at the Route 66 Food Truck Park, 417-983-2300. As the only 100% plant based restaurant in Springfield, Earth's Harvest is a food truck that provides unique options for vegans and vegetarians, as well as items suitable for individuals on a gluten-free diet. Offering comfort foods like BBQ sandwiches, frizzled portobello mushrooms, cinnamon rolls, & soft serve ice cream, the menu (with pick-up options) is available at www.earthsharvest.net or delivery from DoorDash. Follow us on facebook/earthsharvestsgf for news and deals!"

631 North Glenstone, corner of Chestnut Expressway & Glenstone, 865-1453. Very convenient to all hotels in the center of Springfield. Authentic Mexican cuisine , full service bar, fresh air patio, Happy Hour Margarita specials, very enjoyable combination dinners offered at "Springfield Visitor Special" prices. Open seven days a week from 11 a.m.; Monday-Saturday until 10 p.m.; Sunday until 9 p.m. Buenos Dias!

Gailey's Breakfast Café is a quaint diner full of history in downtown Springfield just south of the square. A favorite among locals and tourists alike, Gailey's has been serving patrons since original owners Joe and Buelah opened the corner fountain drugstore in 1942. Today Gailey's is known for their #1 Breakfast but also offers a wide variety of dinner options, as well as a full bar with drafts and a great selection of cocktails. Open 7 days a week with late hours Wed-Sat until 10pm and live music on weekends.

Four locations to serve you: 1832 S Ingram Mill in Springfield, 881-7777; 1890 Deffer Dr. in Nixa, 725-4933; 510 E South St. in Ozark, 581-9292; and 5453 Highway FF in Battlefield, 877-8787. Serving the original family-style pizza, piled high with real cheese and fresh ingredients on quality dough done right. Now serving every day buffet, with pizza, salad and desserts for under $9! Nixa and Ozark have lunch and dinner buffets, and Battlefield and Springfield serve their buffet at lunch only. Order online and see our menu at godfathers.com.

2020 E Primrose in Springfield and 3551 Shepherd of the Hills Expwy. in Branson. Golden Corral's legendary, endless buffet features an abundant variety of delicious familiar favorites and continuous new menu offerings for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Golden Corral's legendary, endless dinner buffet features an enormous variety with 15 proteins including USDA, grilled to order sirloin steaks, pork, seafood, shrimp, and chicken. We are especially proud to serve USDA sirloin, aged and hand-cut daily by our in-restaurant butchers. The endless lunch buffet features a wide variety of home-style classics like our pot roast simmered for 12-hours, made-from-scratch meatloaf, crispy fried chicken, creamy mac and cheese, made-from-scratch mashed potatoes, beloved Bourbon Street Chicken, so many fresh salad choices and dozens of other items. Our endless breakfast buffet features made-to-order omelets, fluffy pancakes, hot-off-the griddle sausage and bacon, fruit, French toast, pastries and much more. Our bakery and dessert buffet are filled with freshly baked breads, like our famous yeast rolls, homemade cakes and pies, delicious cookies, brownies, pastries, and ice cream.

Two great locations in Springfield, 2110 S. Republic Rd, at intersection of James River and S. Glenstone 417-883-3434 & 2431 N. Glenstone, corner of Kearney and Glenstone in the Double Tree Hotel, 417-862-7777. For premium quality and style; fare that's at times familiar and other times adventurous and a laid-back modern setting, Houlihan's is a true original. Whether you're looking for a great meal for lunch or dinner, or just a place to unwind with the best Springfield happy hour, Houlihan's restaurant provides a great dining experience. Drink up their happy hour specials, check out their current happenings or just find your favorite item on the menu. Come see us and see what all the fuss is about. www.houlihans.com

2850 S. Campbell Ave, 417-877-3030. Located in south Springfield, Incredible Pizza Company offers a wide range of foods in their all-you-can-eat buffet that is sure to satisfy every craving! Enjoy their fresh salad bar, hot dogs, tacos, pasta, soups, home-style foods, desserts, and of course, their famous hand-made pizza. Want a certain type of pizza? Ask and they'll make it fresh, just for you! After you're done eating, hang out for a while and play games that are fun for all ages! Incredible Pizza also offers its pizza and buffet items to go. Open Sun-Thurs 11am-9pm, Fri 11am-10pm, Sat 10:30am-10pm.

1540 W Republic Rd., 417-887-7500. Welcome to Leong's Asian Diner, the place where east meets west! Our mission is to offer favorites from the original Leong's Tea House alongside new interpretations of hearty dishes from traditional continental cuisine, and to serve our guests in an upscale and comfortable diner atmosphere for reasonable prices. Springfield-style cashew chicken comes with a well-documented story. In the 1970s, David Leong's dish had become such a part of the Springfield culinary scene that there were literally hundreds of restaurants serving their version of this ubiquitous dish—and still do today. At Leong's Asian Diner, guests can comfortably enjoy hearty and delicious fare that reflects our pledge: to honor culinary traditions from both hemispheres and to deliver cuisine in new and exciting ways, all without having to break the bank! Come in, sit a spell, and let us take care of you! We promise you'll be back to try our many menu offerings and daily specials! If you need to book a business meeting or party, give us a call.

1530 E St Louis at the Route 66 Food Truck Park, 417-380-7943. London Calling Pasty Company serves the great British comfort food known as The Pasty (pass-tee) as well as a variety of hand-made British foods like Shepherd's Pies, traditional Sausage Rolls and Banoffee Pies. Our products are freshly made and hot out of the oven, ready to grab and go. You can also purchase them to 'take & bake' in the comfort of your own home. Come visit us and you can eat on an authentic Double Decker Bus to complete the British experience.

1530 E St Louis at the Route 66 Food Truck Park, 417-399-1101. A fan favorite and award-winning food truck. Not'Cho Ordinary Taco offers a unique and creative blend of cuisines served up in the most delicious tacos you'll ever taste! Ingredients are locally sourced and prepared fresh daily. Regular menu items range from $6 to $12, along with daily and weekly chef's specials. Call ahead your order, order through grubhub or enjoy a night out at Springfield's one of a kind Route 66 Food Truck Park. Peace, Love, Tacos!

1530 E St Louis at the Route 66 Food Truck Park, 417-241-6608. The Olive Branch is a Mediterranean kitchen on wheels where we pull from all regions of the Mediterranean to bring you all our favorites with our own midwest flair. Everything is made right there on the truck and we use nothing but fresh ingredients in order to deliver the freshest meal you can get anywhere.

Spring Creek Antiques & Tea Room

107 S 3rd St, Ozark, 417-582-1331. Open with the same owners since 1998! What a delightful tea room nestled in an antique mall wonderland. Browse the many booths of antiques, shabby chic, re-purposed, vintage, retro and much more as you wait for your table. Spring Creek Tea Room offers a creation of unique food choices of soups, sandwiches, salads, quiche (Friday only), decadent desserts, teas and coffees! Elegant lunchtime and shopping experience all under one roof! Please call or go online for hours. Their strawberry soup is amazing and the desserts are legendary!

Super Sport BAR

1530 E St Louis at the Route 66 Food Truck Park, 417-350-1425. The Super Sport Bar located inside the Route 66 Food Truck Park offers your favorite cold beers, wines and seltzers. While enjoying your favorite food truck meals, visit the air-conditioned bar. Sit in our 74 truck bed dining booth. Our inside dining area provides a great place to relax and enjoy your evening. Daily drink specials. Open 7 days a week.

See more information about Rt 66 Food Truck Park on the back cover of this magazine. So many delicious options to choose from in one location!

TAJ MAHAL Indian Restaurant

1250 E. Republic Rd., 417-719-4573. Everything on the menu is made from scratch. They serve all dishes mild, but all entrées can be prepared with a range of spicy heat. You can ask for mild, medium or hot. People like the restaurant's buffet, because they're able to sample different dishes. The most popular dish, the chicken tikka masala, starts with chicken breast marinated in spices and yogurt. Like a lot of Indian food, the popular dish is cooked in a clay oven called a tandoor. For those of you unfamiliar with Indian cuisine, all items are described in simple English terms. In case you need further assistance, please ask our manager. We are delighted to assist.,For the best dining experience, every dish is individually prepared to ensure freshness and quality. Now, please settle back, relax and enjoy a most pleasurable dining experience.

the WHEELHOUSE STREET FARE

1530 E St Louis at the Route 66 Food Truck Park, 417-379-6891. We are family owned and have been in Springfield for almost nine years! The Wheelhouse serves delicious fusion dishes using high quality ingredients. We focus on fusion food with fresh and bright flavors! Our menu is house crafted from quality produce, meat, and spices. We pay attention to the dietary needs of many and offer options for vegetarians, vegans, meat eaters, and gluten free. In town for a while? Be sure to visit our second location featuring a full menu and bar in the lobby of the VIB Hotel at 1845 East Sunshine, 417-430-0400.

VanGogh's EETERIE

334 E Commercial Street, 417-380-7698. Van Gogh's Eeterie is Springfield's only restaurant specializing in Indo-Dutch cuisine and traditional dishes from the Netherlands. Offering breakfast and lunch throughout the week and dinner on the weekends. A contemporary Western European atmosphere inspired by Dutch Artists. Handmade stroopwafels, large crepe-like pancakes and many other treats will bring you instantly from Springfield to Amsterdam. This charming eaterie is located in Springfield's Historic District in the heart of Commercial Street. Hours are Tues-Thur 10am-9pm; Fri-Sat 8am-9pm; and Sun 8am-2pm. Follow us on facebook/VanGoghsEeterie!

Say you saw it in WELCOME TO SPRINGFIELD

See you 'shroom!

DAILY HAPPY HOUR & HALF PRICED WINE BOTTLE TUESDAYS

sign up for our email club at houlihans.com to receive:

- $10 welcome email offer
- FREE entrée on your birthday
- exclusive access behind the scenes at Houlihan's
- lots of other swag

HOULIHAN'S RESTAURANT + BAR

Two Great Springfield Locations!
2431 N. Glenstone Ave.
417.862.7777

2110 E. Republic Rd.
417.883.3434

Experience authentic Mexican flavor served with pride at El Maguey

by Mike Schilling

If you want to experience authentic Mexican flavor (rather than a Texas dish with a Mexican name) then head to El Maguey, where they pride themselves in what they serve, as well as how they serve it, with delicious food and exceptional service.

Before you even begin your meal, you will get a taste of what is so unique about El Maguey. They offer complimentary chips and two types of salsa, mild and hot, both of which are made fresh from scratch. Their mild sauce is delicious, but if you want to add a little extra "zing in your zanger," then try the hot sauce. After taking a bite, it stares up at you from its cream-colored bowl like a single dark eye that seems to bear the expression of a bandit challenging you to a draw.

"I dare you to reach for your drink," it says with its peppery glare. But go ahead. Cool your mouth because you're going to want more. Its fresh flavor with just the right amount of spicyness, sets it above the appetizers of other Mexican restaurants. El Maguey's queso dip is also made from scratch, so if you are in the mood for something a bit more mild, then you can still be assured that you are beginning your dining experience with fresh food.

Don't worry about leaving El Maguey hungry, because the portions are large enough to make you thankful for the extra holes in your belt. They also have a kid's menu and a vegetarian menu. With more than 30 combination items on the menu, including favorites like tamales made from scratch and chimichangas, lots of dinner items and many other Mexican specialties you are sure to leave on a full stomach.

However, the hardest part may be choosing from among so many fresh and delicious choices, and you can count on excellent suggestions from your waitress.

The staff at El Maguey exemplifies the definition of service. Some have even said that it's the staff that truly makes El Maguey stand apart from the competition. They seem to genuinely love serving their guests, as if they were an honored guest in their own home. To become a guest at El Maguey, go to 631 N. Glenstone Avenue, the very convenient corner of Glenstone and Chestnut Expressway. To make reservations call 417-865-1453. ■

Archie's
Italian Eatery

Offering old world authentic Italian cuisine

Gluten-free and vegetarian options
Pasta | Salads | Sandwiches
Soup | Appetizers
Bread made from scratch daily
Fresh homemade desserts

417-720-1763 • archiesitalian.com
1410 E Republic Road • Springfield, MO
archiesitalian archies italian eatery
Online ordering: toasttab.com/archiesitalian
DELIVERY: CarGo • PostMates • GrubHub • DoorDash • Uber Eats

Two Springfield Houlihan's take casual dining to a new level

by Mike Schilling

With an air of sophistication that includes stylish rectangular interior design, the two Houlihan's locations in Springfield have upped the ante when it comes to the casual dining experience.

Basically, were' just taking casual dining to the next level," said Kevin Longley, general manager of Houlihan's at Doubletree, on the corner of Kearney and Glenstone. "We're a hip, contemporary, tres chic restaurant and bar."

The second operation is called Houlihan's South, on Republic Road a little west of Glenstone.

The two locations boast a full menu of eclectic dining choices for lunch , dinner and award winning happy hour. Looking to eat light? Celebrating a cheat day? Craving comfort food? Whatever your food mood or lifestyle needs, Houlihan's dinner menu is flexible, with bold flavors, lighter bites, classics, organic and vegetarian-friendly options and even dishes made with gluten-free ingredients. They're all made from scratch and cooked fresh from quality ingredients. Houlihan's seasonal menu specials pack a delicious punch, with flavor inspirations from around the world.

Houlihan's also helps diners stick to wellness goals by offering vegetarian, gluten free and portion-controlled options.

When the temperature is warm, enjoy your meal outdoors on the patio, but when it starts to get cold outside, head indoors, where the warm ambience of sunset hue indirect lighting invites you to stay for awhile and relax as you enjoy your trip to Springfield.

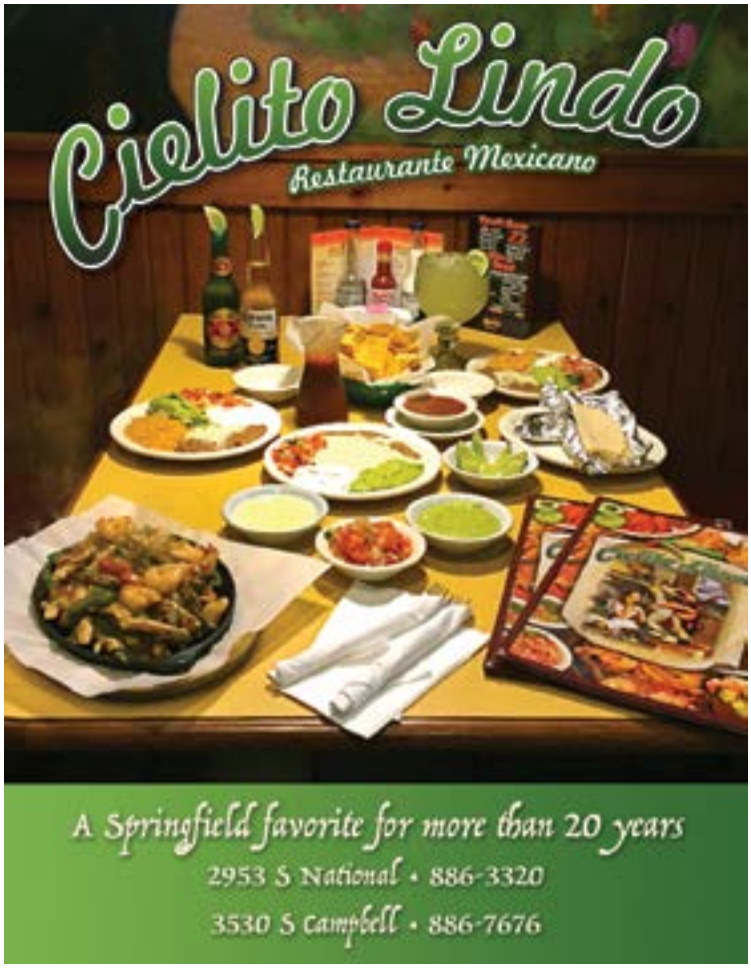
Both locations feature great patio seating, and a two-way fireplace in the lounge. The South location also has a large fire pit on the patio for those cooler spring/fall evenings. The South location has been certified as built to LEED Gold energy efficiency standards, with sustainability features, such as, solar panels on the roof for electricity generation, a geothermal HVAC system and more. Both locations recycle and compost, as well as use biodegradable to-go packaging.

Houlihan's is cool and sophisticated, but don't let that make you think that it's not also a great place to catch the game. The chill-out atmosphere is perfect for relaxing and having a few drinks with friends as your favorite teams play on television. And as you are making plans for the day, remember: Houlihan's features an award winning happy hour with hand crafted cocktails , extensive wine list and craft beer selection. If you're looking to try something new and noteworthy, check out Houlihan's half price wine bottles every Tuesday Night at both Springfield locations.

The commitment to preparing everything fresh extends past the kitchen and into the bar; that is why they don't use any mixers. All drinks are prepared right in front of you.

Houlihan's at Doubletree Hotel, 2431 North Glenstone. For more information, call 417-862-7777. Hours there are 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 11 a.m. to midnight on Friday and Saturday, and 10:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. on Sunday.

Houlihan's South, 2110 E. Republic Road. For more information, call 417-883-3434. Hours are 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 11 a.m. to midnight Friday and Saturday, and 10:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. on Sunday. ■



Great food, great fun, INCREDIBLE memories await you at Incredible Pizza

Rick and Cheryl Barsness, founders of Incredible Pizza Company, met at Cheryl's first job in Grand Forks, North Dakota. They married and moved to Victoria, Texas where they owned 12 pizza restaurants and had 5 children. Rick attended a pizza show every year and after stumbling upon a video game convention, he proposed the idea of adding games to his pizza restaurants. Soon after, a giant hole was knocked into the wall and a game room was added, holding 10-15 games. Seeing the success of the game room filled Rick and Cheryl with a desire to add rides and activities.

After realizing Incredible Pizza's potential, the couple decided on a 150+ item, all-American buffet. It features tacos, hot dogs, soups, home-style foods, pasta, a salad bar, dessert bar, and of course, hand-made pizza. When families are finished eating they can enjoy the fairgrounds, just like Rick and Cheryl did growing up. With 6 activities, 30 games, and a giant prize counter, Incredible Pizza Company offers all the fun your family could ever want.

Incredible Pizza has continued to grow not only in the number of locations but also in its number of activities and games. Our incredible fairgrounds is where you can find all of our games come to life! It's completely indoors, temperature-controlled, and operated by trained entertainment staff. With activities like Go Karts, Laser Tag, Beat Saber, Bumper Cars, Lost in Space, and a Spring Town Trampoline Park, you'll never run out of things to do at Incredible Pizza!

Incredible Pizza is open Sunday through Thursday from 11am-9pm, Friday from 11am-10pm, and Saturday from 10:30am-10pm. Come on in and experience the #1 Family Entertainment Center in the world.

Whether you come for the buffet, the games, or both, Incredible Pizza creates a warm and welcoming environment that is sure to bring your family and friends together. Incredible Pizza is located at 2850 S. Campbell Avenue. Visit our website at incrediblepizza.com or give us a call at 417-887-3030. ■

El Maguey
MEXICAN RESTAURANT
631 NORTH GLENSTONE AVENUE
417.865.1453 | elmagueyspg.com

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MARGARITA SPECIALS
20 oz. $4.50
One coupon per table. Valid for lunch & dinner.
Expires 10-31-20
WTS

Birthplace of Route 66 Food Truck Park

by Meredith Tatum

What started out as a car lot selling work-trucks with a mechanic garage inside, is now Springfield's newest Food Truck Park on Route 66.

Located at 1530 E St Louis St, right on Route 66, the Food Truck Park has taken on the historical significance of the location. Before starting this new venture, the owner, Kirk, took the drive across Route 66 himself from Chicago to Santa Monica. One thing that Kirk came across on his drive were 11 statues originally called "Muffler Man Giants." Kirk found someone that knows how to recreate these statues and had him make one that was holding two spatulas and had a chef's hat on. Kirk named him "Carl" and he is the perfect symbol for the Food Truck Park, celebrating the past and welcoming the present.

There are currently nine food trucks on the lot and a diner-like seating area and full bar in what was the mechanic's garage. Food trucks include: **The Wheelhouse** – an original St Louis Street food truck – featuring items like nachos, burritos, quesadillas and vegan cauliflower; **London Calling** features pasties like their traditional "Oggie" filled with steak, onion, potatoes and rutabaga, others include "Tikka," "Bangers and Mash," "Bombay" and "Bacon Cheeseburger;" **Not'cho Ordinary Taco**, featuring different flavored tacos like "cordon bleu," "po boy" and "cheesesteak;" the **Olive Branch** has different Mediterranean options like choosing between a pita and bowl and adding protein and toppings; **Classic Rock** features they're excellent coffee but also has a great sandwich called "The War Pig," cinnamon rolls and protein shakes; **Davalon** has hibachi or teriyaki bowls, dogs, wings and bulgogi cheesesteak potstickers for an eclectic Asian menu; **Earth's Harvest** is a 100% plant-based food truck that features vegetarian options like "squash croquettes" and "roasted parmesan cauliflower." A new addition is **The Cow's Pajamas** – offering hand-crafted frozen desserts, including ice cream, sorbets, and ice-cream sandwiches, all served on a one-of-a-kind tricycle!

And don't forget the bar inside! They can make any drink you'd like and also have a menu of cocktails as well as beer and wine. It's the perfect place to spend an afternoon in the summer and immerse yourself in the history of Route 66.

Route 66 Food Truck Park is located at 1530 E St Louis St. For hours of each different food truck, check out their social media pages. Hours range from 11am to 8pm for the different trucks. ■

Leong's Asian Diner, home of the original Springfield style cashew chicken

by Meredith Tatum

Springfield may not make it into the headlines often, but it is famous for one thing both nationally and globally: Cashew Chicken—Springfield style.

At Leong's Asian Diner, on West Republic, the legacy continues as Springfield's original cashew chicken is served daily, and the tradition lives on.

Most Springfieldians embrace the Leong story as a Springfield classic, heralding it as one of those "American dream" tales we all love.

In 1940 David Leong, who passed away in July 2020 at the age of 99, emigrated from Guangdong, China. He served in World War II, and afterwards cooked his way through Philadelphia, New Orleans, Pensacola, and finally made one last move to Springfield, where, little did he know, he'd strike gold. Leong worked the kitchen at a couple of different supper clubs after arriving in Springfield. One of them, The Grove, was where Leong started serving Chinese-inspired dishes, and began to experiment with the dish that would become cashew chicken.

Deciding to open his own restaurant was the next step, and in 1963 Leong's Tea House was born. The 350-seat white tablecloth restaurant, did exceedingly well, serving cashew chicken and Leong's famous egg rolls. With the success of the Tea House, other restaurants followed suit, trying to hold their own while the taste took off around the city for Leong's creation.

The Tea House was more than a 30-year success. It ensured that cashew chicken became a staple in Springfield cuisine. Cashew chicken is a mix of here and there, of two cultures. At its base is the American Midwestern and Southern affinity for fried chicken, but infused with Chinese flavors. The chicken is served on a bed of fried rice with Chinese oyster sauce and cashews.

Today there are more than 70 Chinese restaurants in a town of 157,000, serving cashew chicken. It's the norm; it's a staple; and one Leong is at it again.

From 1997 to 2010, Springfield went without a Leong-owned restaurant. Locals missed their original Chinese restaurateurs. In 2010, Leong's Asian Diner opened its doors, and since then, the restaurant has experienced great success!

The "diner" stars Leong's son, Chef Wing Yee, and features lunch, dinner, and take-out menus offering the regulars: cashew chicken, along with it's variants; sweet and sour chicken, and general chicken. There are other Chinese dishes as well, but the menu also has other items to please the masses, including: Caesar salad, Angus beef and Swiss sandwiches, fries, mac and cheese, and even pizza for the kids. A full service bar is available, with a four-page wine and beer list, including seven different kinds of sake. All the offerings any great restaurant could need, making business boom—Leong style.

Leong's Asian Diner is located at 1540 W. Republic Street and is open from 11 am-10 pm Mon- Sat, and 11 am-8 pm Sun. To check on other events at Leong's Asian Diner, visit their website at leongsasiandiner.com, or call 887-7500.

Make sure to complete your Springfield experience with tradition, at Leong's Asian Diner. ■

Experience Chabom Teas & Spices on Commercial Street

by Meredith Tatum

Upon entrance, the senses are assaulted kindly with the deep smell of sage, cardamom, cinnamon, and other scents, ever changing as you move up and down the aisles.

These fragrances create a kind of warmth throughout the store; perfectly welcome as we enter the winter months. A hot cup of tea procured from the selection only adds to the comfort as you browse through the store.

"We wanted people to be able to experience high quality ingredients and experiment with them, without being bound to a massive quantity," Joe Gidman says.

Gidman and his mother Claire are the owners of the city-renowned Peruvian restaurant Cafe Cusco, and have recently opened a bulk tea and spice shop down the street, fondly named Chabom.

"'Cha' means tea, and 'bom' means good in Portuguese. The whole word 'chabom' also means tea tray in Japanese," Gidman explains.

Aptly named, and completely true to its word, the shop has 86 different loose leaf teas, and hundreds of different cooking elements including spices, salts and sugars.

A great perk of coming in to choose from their teas is being able to taste before you buy.

"We wanted people to experience what they're considering buying, so customers can bring a jar of loose leaf tea to the front and we'll make them a hot or cold cup of it for two dollars. We have a variety of sweeteners and different kinds of cream, frothed to perfection, for you to choose from to add to your cup," Gidman says.

He recalls sitting as a child in his grandmother's kitchen as she cooked and cooked all day long for his large family, "she always had hot tea, always; usually chamomile. So I grew up drinking tea," Gidman says.

Cafe Cusco has now moved to solely using Chabom's spices, which gives us hope that maybe, with careful selection from the store, we too could create such great food.

An employee is there to aid in selection and point you in the right direction for the dish you're wanting to make.

An additional perk in the store is the "Spice Rack Refill." You simply bring the jars from your spice rack that are empty, and the store will fill the jars for you with their stock. All you pay for is the weight of the spice in the jar; a low cost and tasty way to replenish your everyday kitchen stash.

Chabom also carries gift items like tea pots, tea accessories, gluten-free and vegan baked goods, boxed teas from England, China and Japan that aren't commonly seen, as well as tea cookies and shortbreads.

On another note, the store also works with a local herbalist who's created bath and body products that are "food grade," which means you could actually eat the products.

Gidman swears by them, saying that with dry skin in the winter, the best way to combat it is to use natural products that encourage the skin to re-moisture itself.

Chabom also offers candles that are scented with essential oils and are soy based so that they create a burn that doesn't offend anyone with allergies.

Chabom is the only store of its kind in Springfield, and is well worth the visit. Stop in for a cup of warmth this winter and see what delicious goodies you can cook up with the help of their vast spice collection, as well as pick up a few gifts on your way!

Chabom is located at 209 E Commercial St. and can be reached at 417-719-4311, and online at www.chabomteaspice.com. The store is open Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. ■

Experience a taste of Europe at Van Gogh's Eeterie

by Meredith Tatum; photo by Paige Muller

Artistic and modern yet cozy, Van Gogh's Eeterie is the newest brainchild of Joe and Claire Gidman, co-owners of the much-applauded Cafe Cusco. Gidman is tackling another of his favorite regions, this time one that's in Europe instead of South America.

"There were three exchange students from Rotterdam at my university and we became very good friends," said Gidman, "and then I actually went to their university in Holland and studied for a year."

Gidman explained that Rotterdam, a city of South Holland, is a very modern, contemporary and international, and is what the decor in Van Gogh's is reflective of. This contemporary style is airy, light, happy. And so is the food.

"One of the things that I loved about being in the Netherlands was of course the Dutch pancake. It's very, very different from an American pancake," said Gidman. "I really loved more of the savory options and they were kind of taken aback by these fluffy, sweet breakfast things that we have. In Holland, the pancake is something that you would eat for lunch or dinner."

Lucky for us, Van Gogh has an extensive Dutch pancake list, available all day. The savory menu includes options like "Sunflowers" made with scrambled eggs, sunflower pesto, bacon, skillet chips and cheese, and the "Rotterdam" made with shwarma beef, lettuce, cucumber, creamy garlic dill and curry ketchup. On the sweet side are options like the "Pirates of the Caribbean," made with brandy-fired raisins, banana, cinnamon and caramel.

Breakfast options include the "Brexit," a traditional English breakfast, complete with all of the components: eggs, bacon, smoked sausage, skillet chips, fried tomato, sauteed mushroom, baked beans and toast.

Lunch items include appetizers like "Dutch Fries - Pataje," which are crispy, gold potatoes served with pickled onions, frites sauce, curry ketchup and peanut sauce, "Edam Brandy and Cheese Dip Kaasdoop," which is Edam cheese melted with milk and brandy, served with bread and vegetables. There are also a selection of Dutch cheese boards, salads, soups and sandwiches.

Dinner entree options include delicious treats like "Kerrie Kip," made with chicken, peppers and pineapple in a lemon curry coconut sauce over rice and simple greens, and "Van Gogh's Ear," made with orechiette pasta, broccoli, smoked sausage, tossed in lemon garlic and anchovy sauce with aged cheese.

The drink menu includes the first kombucha bar in a restaurant in Springfield and is accompanied by optional natural syrups that can be added to make your kombucha really "pop." A selection of European wines are available, as well as beers are Dutch, Belgian or from White River Brewing Company which resides on Commercial street as well.

Van Gogh's Eeterie is open Mon-Thurs, 10am-9pm, Fri-Sat 8am-9pm; and Sunday from 8am-2pm. The restaurant can be reached online at www.vangoghseeterie.com, by phone at 417.344.0085 and is located at 334 E Commercial St. ■

WELCOME TO SPRINGFIELD

Sights & Attractions

Our top picks for essential Springfield experiences

Bass Pro Shops Outdoor World

1935 South Campbell, 891-5100. Visit the "grandaddy of all outdoor stores." Don't make a visit to Springfield without seeing the "Sportsman's Paradise!" basspro.com

Dickerson Park Zoo

1401 W Norton Rd; 864-1800. An up-close adventure with hundreds of animals from around the world in natural surroundings. dickersonparkzoo.org

Discovery Center

438 St. Louis Street; 862-9910. Discovery Center is an interactive hands-on center for children of all ages. Imagine, create, have fun, and learn. Traveling exhibits change through the year. discoverycenter.org

Fantastic Caverns

4872 N. Farm Road 125; I-44 & Hwy 13 N. 417-833-2010. America's Only Ride-Through cave. 50-min. guided tour follows an ancient underground riverbed filled with massive formations. fantasticcaverns.com

Hammons Field

Corner of Hammons Parkway & Trafficway, downtown Springfield. The home field of the Springfield Cardinals Double A Minor League team and the Missouri State Bears baseball team. milb.com/springfield

The History Museum on the Square

155 Park Central Square, 417-832-1200. The History Museum on the Square exhibits the history of Springfield and Greene County. historymuseumonthesquare.org

Juanita K Hammons Hall for the Performing Arts

525 S. John Q. Hammons Parkway, 836-7678. This beautiful 2,200-seat theatre on the campus of Missouri State University presents a wide variety of professional performances. HammonsHall.com

Landers Theater

311 E. Walnut; 869-1334. Home of the Springfield Little Theater, listed on the National Register of Historic Sites. The theater presents a wide range of productions with a talented pool of local people. springfieldlittletheatre.org

Missouri Sports Hall of Fame
3861 E. Stan Musial Drive; 889-3100. The museum is filled with sports memorabilia and interactive displays. You're sure to enjoy this fun-packed museum! mosportshalloffame.com

Pythian Castle
1451 E Pythian St, 417-865-1464. Historic castle offering history tours, ghost tours, escape rooms, murder mystery, clue adventures games, holiday events. Check website for schedule and to make reservations. Online ordering discounts. pythiancastle.com

Route 66 Car Museum
1634 W. College, on Route 66, 417-861-8004. Featured are 70 classic and sports cars, movie and celebrity cars. 66carmuseum.com.

Springfield Art Museum
1111 E. Brookside Dr., 417-837-5700. ENJOY, LEARN, and CREATE at the Springfield Art Museum. Get inspired by our expansive permanent collection or a featured special exhibit. sgfmuseum.org

Springfield Conservation Nature Center
4600 S. Chrisman Ave.; 888-4237. With 80 acres of hilly wilderness, the Center has three miles of woodchipped and paved hiking trails A variety of indoor educational exhibits include live animals and fish indigenous to the area. nature.mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/places/springfield-cnc

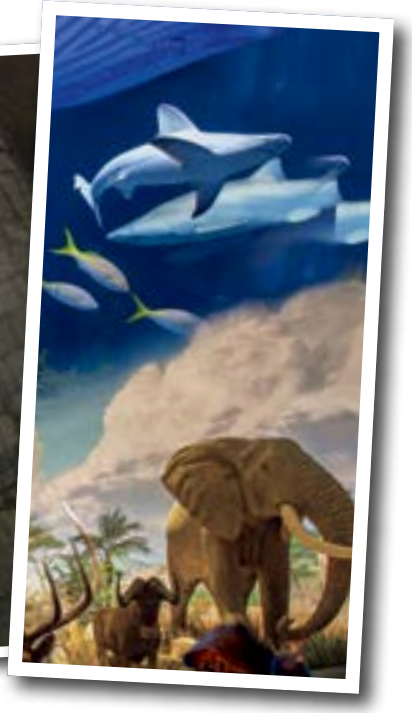
Springfield National Cemetery
1702 E. Seminole at Glenstone Avenue, 881-9499. The only place in the United States where both Union and Confederate soldiers are buried in the same cemetery. cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/springfield

Springfield's Incredible Pizza
2850 S. Campbell Ave, 417-877-3030. Voted the #1 Family Entertainment Center in the world, twice! 150+ item, all-American buffet that features a salad bar, hot dogs, tacos, pasta, soups, home-style foods, desserts, and pizza. When you're finished eating, enjoy the fairgrounds with 6 activities, over 30 games, and a giant prize counter. incrediblepizza.com

Wild Animal Safari
124 Jungle Drive, Strafford, MO; 859-5300. Take on our Wild Animal Safari from the comfort of your own vehicle, or go on our complimentary bus tour led by an Animal Safari Tour Guide. animalsafari.com/MO

Wilson's Creek National Battlefield
M and ZZ from Hwy. 60, 732-2662. Site of 1861 Civil War battle. Visitors Center with audio-visual theatre, exhibits, library. Self-guided auto tour shows significant battle sites. nps.gov/wicr

Wonders of Wildlife National Museum and Aquarium
500 W Sunshine, 888-222-6060. Aquarium adventure showcasing live fish, mammals, reptiles and birds, and an immersive wildlife museum that brings visitors eye-to-eye with the greatest collection of record-setting game animals ever assembled. wondersofwildlife.org



1451 E Pythian St
417-865-146 4
pythiancastle.com

Springfield is home to a historic castle offering history tours, ghost tours, escape rooms, murder mystery, clue adventure games, and holiday events. Must attend a scheduled event to visit the castle. Admission fee for anyone 5 and older. Each event has a scheduled start time and minimum to take place. Drop-in allowed once minimum is met and it is not sold out. Public events may be canceled during private rentals. Check website for schedule and to make reservations. Online ordering discounts.

Shopping guide

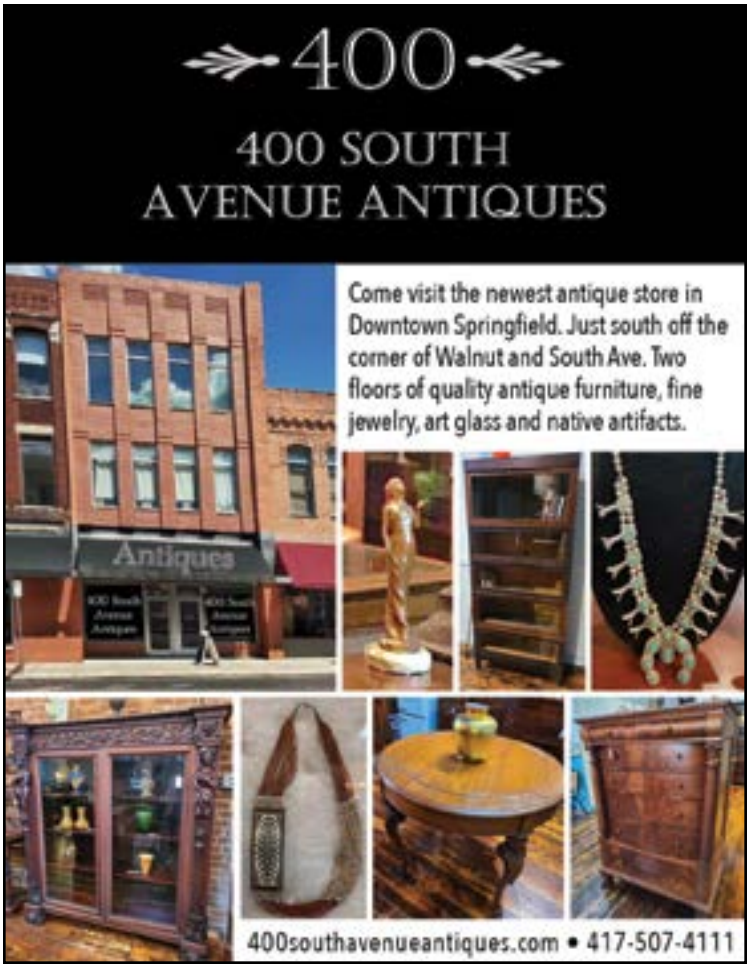
Whether you are a local or a visitor, you will discover hidden gems all over the city. If you are searching for something practical, or whimsical you're sure to find it in our locally owned shops. From decorative items for your home, to unique "hand crafted gifts, Vintage and elegant clothing, you will love the experience of shopping our beautiful "Queen City of the Ozarks".

Chabóm Teas + Spices, 209 E. Commercial St., 417-719-4311. Inspired by the Old World Portuguese tea and spice route. Chabom Teas + Spices is a unique specialty market in the Historic C Street district. This beautiful building replicating the seaport of Lisboa, offers quality bulk spices and loose leaf teas, an array of unique gifts, bath and body, candles, and a hot tea and pastry bar. Open every day at 10am tea time. Like us on Facebook! WiFi, nursing mom's safe spot, www.chabomteaspice.com

Patricia's, 1918 S. Glenstone, in the Plaza Shopping Center on the corner of Sunshine and Glenstone, where fun and fantasy meet. 881-8444. You are invited to "Flirt With Style" by visiting one of the most unique stores in Springfield. We offer lingerie, novelties, movies and toys to the discriminating visitor who is interested in successful intimate relationships and partnerships. We are open seven days a week, 9 am-10 pm Monday-Thursday, until midnight on Friday & Saturday nights, and noon to 10 pm on Sunday.

Spring Creek Antiques & Tea Room, 107 S 3rd St, Ozark, 417-581-5914. Open with the same owners since 1998! What a delightful tea room nestled in an antique mall wonderland. Browse the many booths of antiques, shabby chic, re-purposed, vintage, retro and much more as you wait for your table. Spring Creek Tea Room offers a creation of unique food choices of soups, sandwiches, salads, quiche (Friday only), decadent desserts, teas and coffees! Elegant lunchtime and shopping experience all under one roof! Please call or go online for hours. Their strawberry soup is amazing and the desserts are legendary!

400 South Avenue Antiques, 417-507-4111. We are an antique store located in downtown Springfield Missouri on the corner of Walnut St. & South Ave. We have furniture, glassware, pottery, jewelry, and all kinds of other items. We're open every day, please come see us. Come have a look and see all we have at our store in downtown Springfield!



The Merry Moore Boutique, 400 E. Walnut St, Ste 120, 417-844-0603. Located in downtown Springfield on Historic Walnut Street, you'll find a unique women's boutique offering classy and fashionable women's clothing and accessories that are all carefully hand-picked. You can catch the owner, Hayley, on Instagram and Facebook trying on new arrivals, showing off new products, discussing upcoming events, and giving behind the scenes sneak peeks. The Merry Moore is also focused on building a community of empowered women by offering events like game nights and craft tutorials led by other local entrepreneurs. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram @themerrymoore and themerryshop.com.

Glenstone Cottage Antiques, 201 N. Glenstone , 417-576-0795. Located on the corner of Glenstone and St. Louis Street, right on Route 66. There are valuable things you can find at this antique store! If we've learned one thing, it's that antiques can play a starring role in any home. It doesn't matter whether you need a big piece — like a table or a desk — or if you find yourself looking for smaller accents for your home. Either way, Glenstone Cottage Antiques will excite that adventurous treasure hunt we all seek. If you are looking for that one-of-a-kind find, you need to take a stroll back in time here!

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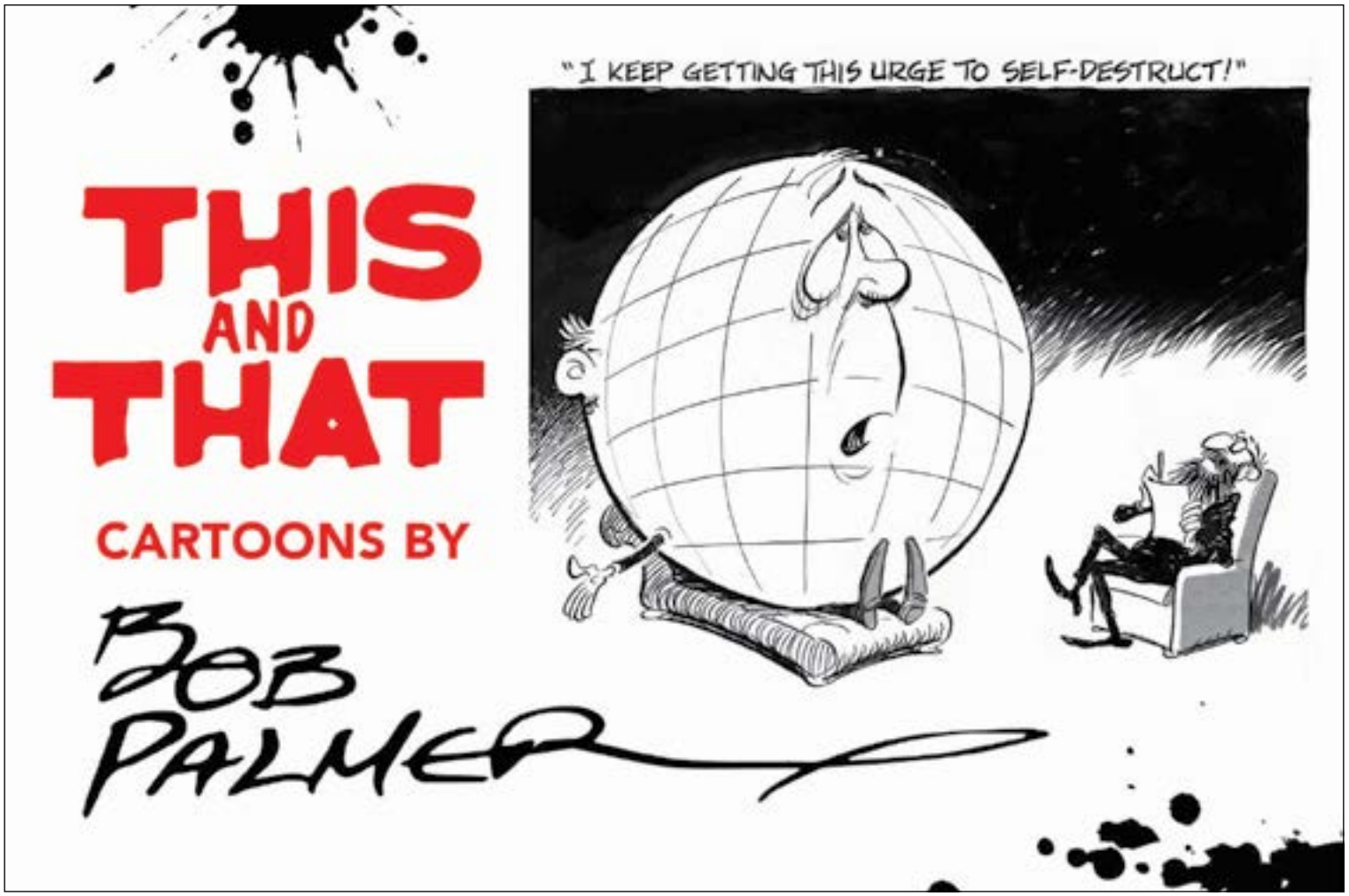

Bob Palmer cartoons at Springfield Art Museum

The Springfield Art Museum is pleased to present *This & That: Cartoons by Bob Palmer* in our Eldredge, Spratlen, and Armstrong Galleries from September 5 through November 29, 2020. Robert "Bob" Palmer was Springfield's longest-working cartoonist, creating over 10,000 political cartoons for the *Springfield News-Leader* beginning in April 1953 through July 1991. Palmer was the last local cartoonist; since his retirement, the paper has moved to syndicated cartoons. His political cartoons poked fun at everyone from Springfield City Council members to Presidents Nixon and Reagan and covered issues ranging from peace negotiations in the Middle East to Springfield's landfill concerns. Palmer began his cartooning career in 1945 working as a ghost artist on Will Eisner's comic strip *The Spirit*. He also drew political cartoons for the *New York Daily News* before moving to Springfield in 1953 to take over as in-house political cartoonist. He retired from the *Springfield News-Leader* in 1991 and passed away in 1999. In 2008, Palmer's family gifted the Museum over 1,000 original cartoons, first made for the *News-Leader*. An additional thirty cartoons were gifted in 2018. This treasure trove traces local, national, and worldwide issues covering eight U.S. presidents, seven Missouri governors, and numerous local personalities. *This & That: Cartoons by Bob Palmer* is generously underwritten by the Springfield Metropolitan Bar Foundation. For more information, please visit our website at www.sgfmuseum.org.

At the time of print, face masks are required when visiting the Museum per City of Springfield ordinance. Admission is free, donations are welcomed. ■

Bob Palmer, What people? We're discussing statistics!, December 17, 1981, ink and whiteout on paper. © Estate of Robert "Bob" Palmer. Gift of the Palmer family. Collection of the Springfield Art Museum. Published in the *Springfield Leader and Press* (later *Springfield News-Leader*).

Welcome to your new home in the Ozarks

So, you're thinking about moving to a new city? Good for you! But first, take a deep breath, because it is a big deal. Whether you're moving for a job or just looking for a fresh start, uprooting your life to relocate somewhere new is very exciting. Once you've made the decision, you're sure to have many questions:

- Where do locals hang out?
- What's the best park to sight see?
- Which parts of town do I visit first?
- What's the best "hidden gem" in the city?
- What are the local's favorite dive bars, brunch spots and locally-owned boutiques?

The Ozarks has much to offer in the way of beauty, recreation, business, and just plain feeling like home. Let us help and guide you with great connections for making that life-changing decision. "Welcome to Springfield". ■

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Sounds on the Square returns to Downtown Springfield

Free live music on Park Central Square every Thursday-Saturday from now until the first weekend of October

Park Central Square is alive with the sound of music once again! The Sounds on the Square live music series returns Aug. 20-Oct. 3 with performances Thursday afternoons as well as Friday and Saturday evenings.

"The Downtown Springfield Association is thankful to have Missouri Arts Council and the City of Springfield partner with us to alter the one-day Springfield Jazz Festival to a seven-week grassroots concert series," Rusty Worley, DSA Executive Director, said. "Through the past two decades of revitalization, we have witnessed how important the arts are in providing programming for Park Central Square. The space provides ample room for social distancing in an historical setting designed to be a place where our community comes together. The series will support local musicians and make an evening of dining and shopping Downtown even more enjoyable."

Performances from the gazebo will start at 12:15 p.m. Thursdays, and 7 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. Mabel Johnson, of the Ukeladies, kicks off the series Aug. 20, with the Layton Hollow Gals (Melinda Mullins & Betsey Mae Graves) set to light up the stage Aug. 21 and The Bridgetones Aug. 22. The rest of the schedule will be posted on the Downtown Springfield Association website, itsalldowntown.com/sounds, and on Facebook (facebook.com/downtownspringfield.

Sounds on the Square is sponsored by Missouri Arts Council and the City of Springfield. Guests are asked to maintain six feet of physical distance from other guests when possible. The City's current ordinance requires masks to be worn outside when people are unable to maintain 6 feet of distance.

DSA represents 200 small business owners, loft residents and Downtown advocates. It encourages everyone to explore new ways to support local retailers and restaurants during this crisis through online shopping, meal delivery services and visiting establishments in smaller groups. Visit itsalldowntown.com for additional information on buying local in Downtown Springfield.

The Downtown Springfield Association's mission is to cultivate and sustain a vibrant business community represented by a balance of retail, professional, service, dining and entertainment entrepreneurs. Learn more at itsalldowntown.com, or on our Facebook (facebook.com/downtownspringfield or Twitter (twitter.com/downtownsgf ■

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Go for a run while visiting Springfield

by Forest Swisher

As the weather warms and summer arrives in the Ozarks, it is the perfect time to enjoy some of the many scenic and enjoyable running trails here in town. Springfield boasts over 100 miles of trail maintained and operated by Ozark Greenways, a non-profit organization dedicated to building community through connectivity since 1991. Whether you are a seasoned runner, new to the hobby, or just looking for a fun day of light exercise, Springfield and the surrounding area have you covered.

In the Downtown area, Jordan Creek offers an easy path through not one but three parks. Beginning at beautiful Jordan Valley Park, which features artwork that is a part of Sculpture Walk and daily fountains, the trail runs north to historic Silver Springs Park, home of the cultural landmark Timmons Hall, before ending at Smith Park in Midtown.

If you are looking for a longer run, check out Galloway Creek in southeast Springfield. This scenic route takes you through some of the most beautiful spots in town, running through Sequiota Park and past the popular Pet Cemetery, many sculptures, and the many charming restaurants and shops of Galloway. Village. The trail, which was the first in Missouri to be designated a National Recreation Trail by the National Park Service in 2003, also connects to the more rugged Nature Center trails and James River Water Trail, an ideal spot for canoeing, kayaking, and fishing.

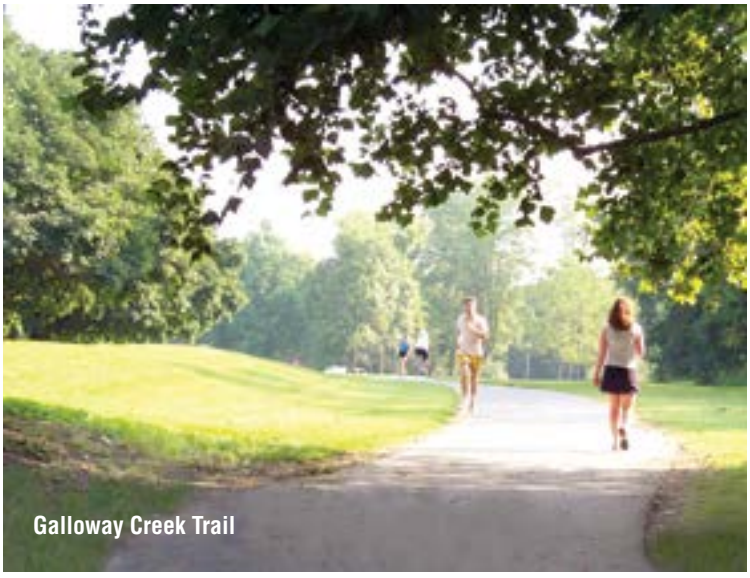
Runners and bikers alike also enjoy the 35-mile Frisco Highline Trail, which connects Springfield and Bolivar. Built on the old Frisco railroad line, the wheels of locomotives have been replaced by bicycle wheels along this historic path. Kiosks tell the story of two bank robbers escaping along the railroad in 1908 six miles in, where you can also find delis, pizzerias, and cafes to relax. Continue on, and runners will enjoy more historic spots, gorgeous meadows, and unique bridges with stunning views. Frisco Highline is perfect for training for long runs or simple, relaxing strolls.

When using Greenways trails, remember to always practice trail etiquette and safety. Trails are open from sunrise to sunset, and dogs require leashes. Remember to always scoop the poop for canine companions as well. Remember to give other runners space, and announce yourself if you feel the need to pass. Land around the trails might not be public, so stay on the trail, and always hydrate, especially on a hot day. ■

Fountains in Jordan Valley Park

Frisco Highline Trail

Running in Phelps Grove Park



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Welcome here...

We welcome you to the beautiful Ozarks, southwest Missouri, the Springfield area, and to **Welcome to Springfield Magazine**.

We are very proud to be the destination of your trip. And, while you are visiting the home of "The Mother Road", historic Route 66, we are providing this informational magazine that we hope gives you some helpful suggestions of things to do, places to eat great food, and other insights or ideas to further enjoy your stay.

Whether you are here on business, a family visit, or just touring this part of the country, we hope your stay is comfortable, profitable, and worthwhile. On behalf of the thousands of Springfield area folks in the hospitality industry, we hope you find your stay here something special and that you will look forward to coming back.

Please contact this magazine, our friends at the Convention & Visitors Bureau, or the Springfield Hotel Lodging Association if you have any challenges or questions. We can't wait for you to come back.

Sharon Ladd

Sharon Ladd, publisher

SPRINGFIELD IS RICH WITH HISTORY

Louisiana Purchase

The territory known as Missouri was included in the Louisiana Purchase of 1803. Soon after, the Delaware Native Americans received treaty land where Springfield's Sequiota Park and the antique stores of Galloway Village stand today. Missouri became a state in 1821.

Founding

In 1833, the legislature designated most of the southern portion of Missouri a single county. It was named for Revolutionary War General Nathanael Greene, largely through John Polk Campbell's campaign to honor a man he admired. Campbell was the founder of Springfield, announcing his claim in 1829. Springfield was incorporated in 1838.

Trail of Tears

In 1838, the Cherokee Native Americans were forcibly removed by the U.S. government from their homelands in Tennessee, Alabama, North Carolina and Georgia, then moved to the "Indian Territory." The move became known as the Trail of Tears due to the thousands of deaths on the journey.

The Trail of Tears traveled through the Springfield area via what is known today as the Old Wire Road. The Trail of Tears National Historic Trail auto tour route is along Interstate 44 westward to U.S. 160 (West Bypass in Springfield) and westward along U.S. 60.

Old Wire Road

The Old Wire Road, then known as the Military Road, served until the mid-1840s as a connection between Springfield and the garrison at Fort Smith, Arkansas. By 1858, the Butterfield Overland State began utilizing the road offering passage to California. Two years later, the region's first telegraph line was strung along the road and it was dubbed the Telegraph or Wire Road. The road proved vital during the Civil War. While portions of the road exist today, the most easily accessible is within Wilson's Creek National Battlefield.

The Battle of Wilson's Creek

On August 10, 1861, army units clashed near Wilson's Creek, the site of the first major battle west of the Mississippi River. The Battle of Wilson's Creek involved about 5,400 Union troops and 12,000 Confederates. The Confederates were victorious. Union troops fell back to Lebanon, then Rolla and regrouped. When they returned to Springfield, the Confederates had withdrawn. The battle led to increased military activity in Missouri and set the stage for the Battle of Pea Ridge in 1862.

The National Park Service designated Wilson's Creek National Battlefield in 1960. The 1,750-acre battlefield remains greatly unchanged and stands as one of the most historically pristine battle sites in the country.

Zagonyi's Charge

In an effort to run the Confederates out of the state, Maj. Gen. John C. Frémont headed toward Springfield in October 1861. Frémont became ill and turned his command over to Maj. Charles Zagonyi who led his troops into town, overcoming an ambush in the process and releasing Union prisoners in the first battle of Springfield. This engagement was the only Union victory in southwest Missouri. Zagonyi Park at Mount Vernon Street and Park Avenue includes a monument commemorating the battle.

The Battle of Springfield

For the two years following the Battle of Wilson's Creek, possession of the city seesawed. Then in January 1863, Confederate forces advanced toward the town square and battle ensued. As evening approached, the Confederates withdrew. The next morning, the Confederates left town. The city would stay under Union control until the end of the war. A series of markers throughout downtown Springfield highlight historic locations and details of the battle.

Springfield National Cemetery

Two years after the war ended, the Springfield National Cemetery was created. The dead of both the North and the South are interred there, though separated by a low stone wall.

"Wild Bill" Hickok Gunfight

In the wake of the Civil War, Springfield helped give birth to the Wild West era. In July 1865, the town square was the site of the nation's first recorded shootout. The incident between "Wild Bill" Hickok and David Tutt was also significant due to the incredible marksmanship exhibited by Hickok that made him known worldwide.

Arrival of the Railroad

On April 21, 1870, the St. Louis-San Francisco line rolled through Springfield, establishing a new city, North Springfield, with Commercial Street as its downtown. Commercial and industrial diversification came with the railroad and strengthened the City of Springfield when the two towns merged 17 years later in 1887. Today visitors can enjoy the view from the Jefferson Avenue Footbridge, peering below to the locomotive path still in use.

Birthplace of Route 66

Officially recognized as the birthplace of Route 66, it was in Springfield on April 30, 1926, that officials first proposed the name of the new Chicago to Los Angeles highway. In 1938, Route 66 became the first completely paved transcontinental highway in America – the "Mother Road" – stretching from the Great Lakes to the Pacific Coast.

Traces of the Mother Road are still visible in Springfield along Kearney Street, Glenstone Avenue, College and St. Louis streets and on Missouri 266 to Halltown.

When you're cruising the route, stop in at the Route 66 Tourist Information Center at 815 E. St. Louis St.

Bonnie & Clyde Kidnapping

In 1933, Springfield police officer Tom A. Persell was kidnapped by the infamous Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow and their gangster sidekick, W.D. Jones – and lived to tell the tale. Persell, on a motorcycle, pulled over a suspicious car and found himself facing a sawed-off shotgun. Bonnie and Clyde were on the lam and ordered Persell to get in the car and guide them out of town so they could dodge the cops. Six hours later, Persell was released unharmed near Joplin.

The Ozark Jubilee

The first national country music show on television was broadcast by ABC in Springfield from 1955 until 1960. The show is credited with popularizing country music and featured well-known performers, including Red Foley, Speedy Haworth, Brenda Lee, Porter Wagoner and Slim Wilson.

Springfield comes alive at night!

Springfield's reputation as a city to party in is well deserved, and there is a wide selection of nightclubs to choose from. There are happy hours at almost every restaurant in the city and many great bars. Live music is in full effect, where you can follow famous artists at the larger venues in town, as well as blooming local favorites. Springfield is developing into becoming a Music Destination with many different styles of music and it's all at your fingertips every day!

417 Taphouse, 431 S. Jefferson, Ste. 160 in the Wilhoit Plaza, 942-0958. 417 Taphouse is the area's first pour your own draft beer experience. Come try your hand at pouring the perfect pint from one of the 16 self-serve taps, or hit up the full service bar for other options. Find an interesting pairing with kitchen specialties like hand cut curly fries covered with various toppings or chicken & waffles. Challenge your friends to a game of Mario Kart, skee ball, shuffleboard, or any of the other games available. Stop in today to have an experience like no other in town. 417tap.com.

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