Where the past meets the future



Submitted photo

The St. Charles County Parks Department is opening its newest park on July 30, with a dedication ceremony to honor former property owner Benjamin Oglesby, for whom the park is named. Oglesby Park will be located at 2801 West Meyer Road near Foristell and is the park system's 18th open park.

St. Charles County Parks Department to open Oglesby Park, named for a former slave who owned a farm on the park's location near

By Brett Auten

Barbara Love can hardly wait.

"I am counting down the days and the minutes," Love said from her home in Wentzville.

Love is the great, great granddaughter of Benjamin Oglesby, one of the most inspiring stories in St. Charles County lore and Oglesby's life and memory will be at the forefront when the St. Charles County Parks Department opens its newest park on July 30.

Celebrating its 25th anniversary this year, the St. Charles County Parks Department is opening its newest park on July 30, with a dedication ceremony to honor former property owner Benjamin Oglesby, for whom the park is named. Oglesby Park will be located at 2801 West Meyer Road near Foristell and is the park system's 18th open park.

Oglesby was born a slave in 1825 in Bedford, Virginia, and was brought to Missouri in 1837 at the age of 12. He worked on a farm near present-day I-70 and Highway W in the Foristell/Wentzville area. In 1864, at the age of 39, Oglesby fled captivity and enlisted in the Union Army in St. Charles. His wife and

children remained in captivity while he went through basic training in St. Louis to eventually fight for their freedom. Oglesby was assigned to the 56th United States Colored Infantry and was honorably discharged in 1865.

After the Civil War, according to the 1870 census, Oglesby, his wife, Martha and their six children – Medora, Samuel, Oskar, Bell, Albert, and Charlie – worked on a farm in Hickory Grove Township in Warren County. In 1871, he purchased 146 acres of land

See 'FUTURE' page 2

Around Town



Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish hosted a Quilts of Valor event. **Pg.3**

Recycle Works Central collects household hazardous waste from St. Charles County residents. **Pg.6**

Healthy Living

Alzheimer's Association invites St. Charles County residents to join 2022 Walk to End Alzheimer's. Pg.3

Features



Recipe, Movie & Sudoku. **Pg. F-1**

CLASSIFIEDS AND HOME & GARDEN. Pg. F-2/F-3

Moore On Life, Yeggs & Crossword. **Pg. F-4**

Weather



FRIDAY Sunny 90/69



SATURDAY Partly Cloudy 93/72



SUNDAY Partly Cloudy 93/72

Second annual St. Charles Jewish Festival to celebrate diversity

The second annual St. Charles Jewish Festival will take place on Aug. 14 from 11 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. outside the Foundry Art Centre and will showcase and celebrate the local Jewish community, as well as bring the sights and sounds of Jewish life from around the world to St. Charles.

The festival is organized by the Chabad Jewish Center of St. Charles County and its St. Charles Jewish Family Network, which serves the estimated 6,000 Jews who live in St. Charles County.

Attendees will have the opportunity to enjoy live Jewish music and kosher food, and learn about Jewish culture and traditions in a fun and meaningful way. Admission, music, and family activities are free. Food will be for sale.

"We're gearing up for an extra fun and joyful experience for all, with a special track for young families," said Bassy Landa, who, together with her husband Rabbi Chaim Landa, directs the Chabad Jewish Center of St. Charles County. "After all, that's our motto — Jewish. Done Joyfully! — and we're preparing to double, and possibly triple, last year's 1,200-person attendance."

Drawing on the teachings and inspiration of the Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson, the most influential rabbi in modern history, the festival will focus on the themes of joy, gratitude and positivity.

Participants will enjoy world-class live Jewish music, with the festival's lineup anchored by 8th Day, a popular and groundbreaking Chassidic band. The West-Coastbased pop rock Jewish group is acclaimed for bringing a genuinely Jewish twist to the genre, and has been entertaining sellout crowds across the world since 2004.

"Shakshuka" — the area's newest Jewish music group — will bring its eclectic mix of musical favorites to the festival. The band is a group of old and new friends who play a mix of Jewish and Israeli music, "adding new spice, fragrance, and taste to familiar tunes."

Attendees will receive a "passport," which will enable

them to take a trip around the Jewish world without ever leaving St. Charles County, as they'll encounter characters dressed in costume representing Jewish communities from across the globe — including Europe, North and East Africa, Asia and more — who will share the history of Jewish life and culture, and stamp visitors' passports.

Renowned children's entertainer Bobby DooWah will perform, and children will also have the opportunity to enjoy the Bubble Bus — a festival favorite that will bring the joys of bubble-making to the day's festivities.

Talk show host, acclaimed foodie, and self-proclaimed "lover of matzo ball soup" John Carney will lead a team of local volunteers who will be grilling up a massive St. Charles kosher cookout that will be available for purchase. Driving in from the South, Holy Smokes — a kosher Nashville BBQ food truck — will bring its unique fusion of Tennessee BBQ, Middle eastern favorites, and Jewish deli classics. There will also be a 'tasting kit' featuring Jewish cuisine from around the

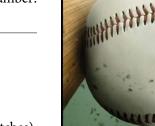
Attendees will also be invited to make their imprint on Jewish life in St. Charles County, as a repurposed shipping container will be converted into a sukkah the greenery-topped hut used in the celebration of the Jewish autumn holiday of Sukkot. Led by nationally recognized local artist Zach Smithey, the sukkah will be decorated inside and out by festival attendees, and after the festival it will be transported to the property of the future home of Chabad's Jewish Community Center in O'Fallon, where it will headline the holiday's observance this fall.

Festival partners include: Wright Construction Services, Inc.;, Super Cubes LLC; Jewish Federation of St. Louis; OPO Startups; First State Bank; City of Saint Charles; City of O'Fallon; City of St. Peters; Greater St. Charles County Chamber of Commerce; O'Fallon Chamber of Commerce & Industries; The Chamber: Cottleville - Weldon Spring; WSCC Chamber of Com-

For more information and to secure your FREE ticket, visit: www. Jewish St Charles. org/Festival







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Pre-sale tickets on sale for first ever 'Witches in Cottleville' event benefiting local nonprofits

Mark your calendars for Oct. 8 when witches will descend on historic Cottleville for a frightening evening of entertainment, food, cocktails and shopping. The first ever "Witches in Cottleville" runs from 4 p.m. to 11 p.m. and features a costume contest, music, dancing and more with proceeds benefiting the Cottleville Weldon Spring Chamber of Commerce and area nonprofits. The 21-and-ovefr ladies-only event will be held rain or shine. Prizes awarded for best individual costume, best group costume (group size of two-to-six witches), best hat and best broom.

A limited number of tickets (\$50) will be available for pre-sale, with up to \$1,500 of the proceeds going to two local nonprofits - Marcy's Project and Yuppy Puppy Forever Pet Rescue. General admission tickets (\$40) go on sale Thursday, July 14 at 9 a.m. All ticket-holders receive a t-shirt and swag bag. Leave pets and coolers at home, please.

St. Charles County Election Authority advises voters about polling location changes

With the release of the 2022 legislative redistricting map, the St. Charles County Election Authority advises residents that many voters across the county have new polling locations assigned to them. The change begins with the Aug. 2 Primary Election.

"This redistricting means approximately 45% of households, or about 130,000 St. Charles County voters, will vote at a new polling location," says Director of Elections Kurt Bahr. "I encourage all voters to confirm their polling place before the upcoming election to ensure they are able to complete the process efficiently on election day."

Voters can verify their polling location by visiting sccmo.org/PollingPlaceSearch. To register to vote or confirm registration for the August election, visit sos. mo.gov/elections/goVoteMissouri/register by July 6.