



CLARKSON VALLEY

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION FOR
THE RESIDENTS OF CLARKSON VALLEY

June 2017

Living



MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS
The Grieshaber Family

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This newsletter should be considered "unofficial communication" and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the City of Clarkson Valley. An official position of the City shall only be communicated in letter form using City letterhead.

n2 PUBLISHING www.n2pub.com
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- 811** Call Before You Dig
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Clarkson Valley Living's Trusted Vendor List

"If a business is listed here, we have met with each owner face-to-face and determined that they are a great fit as a partner in the publication and for the community." ~ Chris and Deanna Ley, your CVL publishers



This section has been created to give you easier access when searching for a trusted neighborhood vendor to use. Take a minute to familiarize yourself with the businesses sponsoring your Clarkson Valley Living newsletter.

These local businesses are proud to partner with you and make this newsletter possible. Please support these businesses and thank them for supporting Clarkson Valley!

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Coffee Break

Useful Tips

- A rolled up ball of aluminum foil will reduce static cling in the dryer.
- Use a slice of white bread (with the crusts cut off) to gently rub scuffs, fingerprints and other marks off non washable wallpapers and non glossy painted surfaces.
- Use packing peanuts instead of gravel in the bottom of flowerpots to provide drainage and make the container lighter.
- Use lemon juice to dissolve soap scum and hard water deposits, or mix it with baking soda for a paste to clean brass and copper.

Sudoku

						2	1	
5	1	3						9
9		8	4	5				
			1				4	7
6		5	8		7			
	3							2
	9	6	3					
		1		6	9			
								3

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusive.

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P T Q C I P L K F N Y L W C L
S I Y N M N N F I G O G K Q O
I O G A F I T T R E Z N F S V
C N C E R C A O P B S U H W U
L O X P W O U S N Q G S K V N
E X S V B N L E M O N A D E T
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Summer Fun!

Search the puzzle for themed words. Words may be horizontal, vertical, diagonal, forward and backward.

- BADMINTON
- BASEBALL
- BIKE
- BOATING
- CAMPING
- FISHING
- ICE CREAM
- LEMONADE
- PICNIC
- PLAYGROUND
- POOL
- POPSICLE
- SPRINKLER
- SUNGLASSES
- SURF
- SWIM
- VACATION
- VOLLEYBALL



Clarkson Valley Mayor's Corner



Mayor Scott Douglass

ALL ABOUT CITY TAXES

With 2017 being a year for Real Estate reassessment, you should have received your new property assessment. So, I thought a review of what, how, why, how much you pay your City would be appropriate. Cities exist by state law to provide services desired by its' citizens not appropriate at the state/federal levels. Where does the money to provide City services (fiscal year 2016-2017 calls for expenses of \$886,591) come from? The detailed 2016-17 budget can be found on our web page www.clarksonvalley.org.

A look at the primary revenue sources show: County sales tax (44%); Real Estate (14%); Utilities/franchise (13%); Traffic fines (11%); State gasoline (8%). The formulas used to calculate the amount to be distributed to us are established either by state statues or by a previous citizen vote.

Let's look at Real Estate. Your tax is composed of many governmental entities (be sure to take a detailed look at your statement): Rockwood School District, Fire District, Metropolitan Zoo, County services, etc. and Clarkson Valley. The residential real estate rate for Clarkson Valley is \$0.129 per \$100 assessed valuation. For a home assessed at \$500,000 located in Clarkson Valley, the tax would be \$122.55. I looked at cities around us - an example Chesterfield. For the same home assessment in Chesterfield, the tax would be \$57 a year - a difference of \$65.55 more.

But what about other City taxes? Percentage of your bill added to your total bill:

Water	5%	5%	7%	5%	0% (Chesterfield)
Telephone	5%	5%	7%	5%	0% (Ballwin)
Gas	5%	5%	7%	5%	0% (Ellisville)
Electric	5%	5%	7%	5%	2% (Wildwood)
Cable	5%	5%	5%	5%	5% (Clarkson Valley)

As you can see, the total percentage applicable to Clarkson Valley is considerable less - you pay less. This is as it should be. Chesterfield and the other municipalities shown above have maintenance requirements for streets, buildings, etc. Clarkson Valley owns nothing, i.e. no streets to repair, no buildings to maintain, etc. This means you and your neighbor can decide about your street. Your reassessment statement that you received has an estimated tax bill giving you the opportunity to review before the rates are finalized.

If you don't like what you see, you have the opportunity to voice your concerns and/or objections to the appropriate organization. If you feel your assessment is not correct, the Board of Equalization will hear your appeal before July 10.

What about what we spend? Here's a brief look at 2016-17 budget expenses. Of the \$886,591, \$430,702 was for police (48%); sanitation \$123,255 (14%). These two make up 62% of all expenses. This is as it should be, two of the basic services the City provides. Looking forward to next year's budget, the Council has authorized a Police Contract with the City of Chesterfield reducing our expenses from \$430,702 to \$407,107 - a contract effective July 1, 2017 to July 1, 2022. This immediate saving of \$23,595 in year one will provide us with protection from increases for the next five years.

Enough about the numbers - this City is a great place to live because of you, the citizen:

- Beautiful neighborhoods. With a minimum lot size of 1 acre, the beauty not only comes from the homes, but the well-manicured properties as well.
- Safety, secure, safe neighborhoods
- Privacy, with green space
- Peaceful, quiet and tranquil
- Responsible citizens

Have a great summer!!



from me to you
GREAT STUFF
Is Happening In Clarkson Valley Living!

Hello, you fabulous residents, you! Awesome things are happening here in *Clarkson Valley Living!* Not only is the publication growing in content thanks to the addition some new articles, but we are adding new business partners with each publication, too!

As you know, this publication wouldn't be possible without the generous monthly support of our stupendous business partners who sponsor it through their advertising. I have met with each of these business owners personally, and I recommend them to my own friends and family - that's how much I believe in the quality of work they do and the service they provide. I take great pride in the businesses we recommend to you, the amazing residents of Clarkson Valley. All I ask is return is that, should you need one of their products or services, you give them a chance to earn your business.

Another exciting change is that Chris, my husband and Co-Publisher, has actually taken a position with a start-up that he helped to create back when we lived in Colorado (before our N2 days). While he will still be helping out behind the scenes with the publication and attending the events, I will be taking over the day-to-day operation of the publication while he puts his time,

energy and effort into this new position. It's a fun time in the Ley household, for sure!

Speaking of team changes, please help me welcome Lisa Nicholson to the *CVL* Team! Lisa will be working side-by-side with me to find quality businesses to support the publication while I also work with Kristy Howard (the hardest working Content Manager in all of N2 Publishing) to grow the content inside of the publication. We have a lot of great articles we can add, and with your help, we can make that happen!

On a side note - if you are resident and own a business, reach out to me to be featured in the **Resident Business Guide**. It's a free listing, and a great way to let your fellow neighbors what you do!

We hope your summer is off to a great start! Keep that camera handy as you do fun things these next few months, and send any pics our way to put in our **"Fun In The Sun"** feature. Until next time!

Deanna Ley, Publisher
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Deanna.Ley@N2Pub.com

Your Clarkson Valley Living Team

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RESIDENT ARTICLE CONTRIBUTORS



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WANT TO JOIN THE TEAM?

We are always looking for volunteers who want to be a part of making *Clarkson Valley Living* the best it can be for the community. We are looking for Resident Article Contributors and Junior Writers (kids who want to get involved!) to join the team. Email Deanna.Ley@N2Pub.com for more info!



Clarkson Valley Recycling Results through April 2017
April recycling tonnage: 18.17
YTD tonnage: 82.06

News You Can Use

Want To Be The First To Know?
Get Connected Here!



Do you own a private plane, a fancy sports car or classic car? ...or do you know someone who does?
Do you have a connection at Spirit of St. Louis airport?

If so, please let us know! We are in the process of planning a metro-wide event for all of our N2 neighborhoods and business partners called **Wing & Wheels**. There are a lot more details to come next month, but in the meantime, please reach out to me at Deanna.Ley@N2Pub.com.

Want To Win A Gift Card To Walnut Grill?



We are giving away several gift cards to Walnut Grill! All you need to do is email Deanna the name of a local business or two (or 12) that you have used in the past to be entered into our monthly **REFERRAL GIVEAWAY!** We are

always looking for great businesses to partner with us in the publication, and companies you already work with are a great place for use to start! Email the name of any great local businesses to Deanna.Ley@N2Pub.com.

We Need Your Pictures And Stories!



Hey, Clarkson Valley! We are always looking for stories and pics to add to the publication. Here's a sampling of what we are looking for:

- Generation Conversation** – A fun way to share a generational chat between a grandparent and grandchild.
- Living Spaces** – Spotlights a home remodel or favorite room (professional photos taken by CVL's photographer).
- Meet Your Neighbors** – Need to update your family photos? What better way to do so than through this article! (Free photo shoot and print included.)
- Outdoor Oasis** – Spotlights your outdoor living space or yard project



WELCOME

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- Williams Auto Detail

If you have any great businesses that you have worked with that you want to introduce to your neighbors, email their info to Deanna at Deanna.Ley@N2Pub.com.

Help Support Clarkson Valley's YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS!

Please reach out to the following Clarkson Valley teens if you are in need of a Helping Hand. If you have an entrepreneurial teenager who would like to be featured, please contact Clarkson Valley resident Carol Rosa at rosafab5@sbcglobal.net with their (or your) contact info, age/grade and services offered.



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(mom, Rachel)

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Email: joylinkline3@yahoo.com

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meet your neighbors

Photography By **Kim Eichelberger**, Co-Owner of **Eichelberger Photography**, Article written by **Jamie Grieshaber** & Sponsored by **Kehrs Mill Dental Arts**

the Grieshaber Family

Dave, Jamie, Kylie, Weston & Theo



We are the Grieshabers. Dave and I, Jamie, with children Kylie (6), Weston (4.5) and Theo (20 months) live on Blue Roan Ct. in Kehr's Mill Trails with our 9-year-old dog, Mulligan. Dave and I are both from Florissant. We actually grew up 5 miles apart and I always knew him as my older brother's friend who would come raid our garage of car cleaner and tire shine. My brother did not "allow us" to date in high school. I ran into Dave several times throughout my college years while visiting home, and left him my number multiple times, but he never called!! It was not until I returned to St. Louis to complete my Master's at SLU when I ran into him DJ'ing my cousin's wedding. With the blessing of my entire family, we finally connected! We went on our first date the following Tuesday and the rest is history.

Dave and I were married on Valentine's day in 2009. Our first house together was a historical home in Maplewood that we renovated our first year of marriage. What an awesome adventure and accomplishment that was. Our daughter, Kylie, decided her birthday would be exactly 2 years after we were married on Valentine's Day in 2011. We have since celebrated many anniversaries with a vibrant, kind, creative young lady. Weston came pretty quickly on to the scene in September of 2012 and our sweet Maplewood home started feeling a bit small for our growing family. He is a funny, athletic, intelligent, and "all boy".

We lived in Kirkwood for two years before landing in Kehrs Mill Trails. There is a neat story behind our current home: I used to dog sit for the previous owners as I met them through my college roommate. It was her older brothers house. When I would stay here for weekends at a time, Dave would come by when we were dating and we would talk about having a home like this "someday". While in our Kirkwood home, Dave sent me



a Zillow link while I was at work. I typically ignored his link-sharing, but decided to open this one. There was something so familiar about the house I was looking at. I called him and told him I thought that was THE house I used to dog sit for that we dreamed about so long ago. He did not believe me; rather he just thought it was a similar house in the same neighborhood. My old college roommate confirmed it was her brother's house on the market! We immediately let her brother know we were more than interested! From there, everything snowballed.

Dave worked countless hours in our Kirkwood home to get it market-ready, including renovating a bathroom. On the 2nd day our home was on the market, our realtor texted us {while we were in church} that we had an offer! We could not quit smiling. Shortly thereafter, I found out I was pregnant! We moved into our dream home early January 2015. Our family helped moved us in and we slyly told them to put the crib in one of the rooms with a glider. At one point, my brother casually said, "this sure looks like a nursery", to which I got a wide grin on my face and we formally announced...The roller coaster of an adventure continues. Theo aka "Teddy" was born in September 2015, 3 years and 4 days after Weston. He is a joy-filled, dancing, animated, sweet little guy.

We now have 3 lively kiddos, that all love adventure, chaos and fun. Our family rules are to be kind, have fun, and get messy, including puddle jumping, fort building, and getting Legos everywhere! Kylie does gymnastics, Weston plays soccer, and Theo does "freestyle dancing".

As a family, we enjoy hiking through the neighborhood creek, golf carting around to see neighbors, visiting Central Park, and swimming a neighbor's pools!!! Our favorite restaurants we frequent are Red Robin, PM BBQ, and El Maguey, but when we eat in, we enjoy taco nights and green monster ice cream (spinach, yogurt, and bananas)! We are in that stage where we have Moana, Trolls, Sing, and Go Noodle on the TV. Can't wait for movies! Since Dave is a DJ, we have lots of great mixes to dance to. We listen to Christian music and Kids Bop (another phase parents must go through!). Our family is excited to vacation at Port St. Joe, FLA, this summer!



We attend St. Louis Family Church and are seeking ways to get our kids volunteering. We have started with picking up litter when we see it and doing one good deed a day. Just the other day, Kylie helped a worm out of the road after a rainstorm!!!

We can't believe we are living our dream! We love our neighbors, the wildlife, the lakes, the hikes, and the quiet! We have a forever home in a beautiful neighborhood and we continue to love every season and memory we have in this home.

The Grieshaber family's photos were taken by Clarkson Valley Living's Meet Your Neighbors photographer Kim Eichelberger, who co-owns and operates

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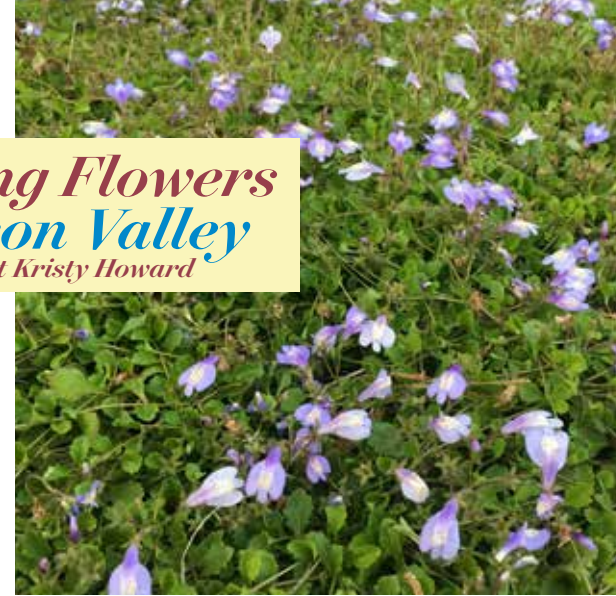
outdoor oasis

Beautiful Spring Flowers Around Clarkson Valley

Photos by Dunhill resident Kristy Howard



spring assortment in Dunhill



flowering groundcover



purple irises pop in a yard on Jennycliffe Lane



This is a freshly-planted flower box by Judy Emmendor. The plant in center that has not yet bloomed is a full-sun impatiens called SunPatiens.



lovely mix of spring flowers at the home of Shel and Pat Chesky

delicious dish

From the Kitchen of Morgan Howard & Sponsored by Just Around The Corner Flooring



Refreshing Smoothie Bowl



Would you like to have a favorite family recipe featured in Clarkson Valley Living? Simply email Kristy Howard at Kristy.Howard@N2Pub.com to have your recipe featured in the next available issue.

3 Steps for a JAW-DROPPING Spring Landscape



1. CLEAN THE BEDS.

The beds should be free of weeds, leaves, and debris before raking them smooth.

2. DIG A CRISP SHOVEL EDGE.

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peonies are bountiful in Clarkson Valley

I bet we can all agree that Clarkson Valley in the springtime is one of the best times of year! I had a great time walking around the neighborhoods and talking with fellow neighbors about their yards in full bloom. Thank you to all the residents who allowed me to photograph your colorful and gorgeous flowers!



Do you have an amazing outdoor oasis or do you know someone in your neighborhood who does? Share your outdoor space or nominate a neighbor's yard for spotlighting by emailing Kristy at Kristy.Howard@N2Pub.com.

I am a freshman in college and doing my best to eat healthy and avoid the "freshman 15"! I went to Jamba Juice, and their "energy" bowls and smoothie bowls are amazing!

I decided to try making one on my own, and everyone loved it! It is super healthy, makes a great snack and can be customized. My 11-year-old brother and his friends even gave it the thumbs up! If you make it so it includes fruit, milk, granola, vegetables, and protein powder you basically have your four food groups for a refreshing, complete meal!

INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup frozen or fresh blueberries
- 1 cup frozen or fresh strawberries
- 1 cup milk
- Ice to thicken
- 1 scoop of vanilla whey protein powder
- (You can always blend in kale or spinach with the smoothie for a vegetable)

TOPPINGS (CUSTOMIZE AS YOU WISH)

- Sliced bananas
- Sliced strawberries
- Drizzled honey
- Coconut

OTHER TOPPING IDEAS:

- Granola
- Slivered almonds
- Sliced kiwi

Feel free to mix and match...the possibilities are endless!

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Dress to Match the Couch

Have you ever dreamed of hanging a beautiful picture of your family in your living room that looks just as nice as (or better than!) that piece of designer artwork you've got on the wall now?

If so, you're in luck! Not only is it possible, but it's actually oh-so-simple, and here are 5 super easy tips for making it happen!



1) Consider the color scheme of the rooms where you'd like to hang your portraits and choose your family's wardrobe accordingly. If the rooms are decorated in cool colors, your family should dress in cool colors as well.

2) Accent colors can help your portrait "POP!" Don't be afraid to add an accent color to your family's wardrobe to add interest to your new photographic wall art.

3) Try to match your clothing choices with the "feel" of the rooms where the portraits will hang. For example, a photo of the whole family in blue jeans will look out-of-place in a formal living room adorned with luxurious fabrics and gilded accents, but might look great hanging in a casual breakfast room. A beautiful, stately living room or study requires a portrait with more formal attire: an expertly tailored suit for him and a gorgeous cocktail dress or one-of-a-kind evening gown for her would do the trick.

4) Choose the right display to fit your home's "vibe." A casual space might call for a canvas gallery wrap or a cute barn-wood frame, while a

formal living room usually requires a museum-quality print in a beautiful statement frame.

5) Choose the right size. Do NOT make the mistake of hanging a too-small photograph on your wall or choosing a wimpy frame that does not strike a balance with the woodwork and furniture in your home. Too-small photo displays look unbalanced within your room and... [gasp!]...cheap! For a very large display area, groupings of three to five photographs work well to fill the space gracefully.

If this all seems a bit overwhelming, DON'T PANIC! There are curated services that can help take ALL the work out of this process, and guarantee you the stunning result you've been dreaming of!

Eichelberger Photography offers in-home design and style consultations, professional personal shopping for your entire family prior to your portrait experience, professional hair & makeup styling, in-home ordering, complete framing and finishing options, even installation!

Call 636-734-1486 to set up a consultation with Kim Eichelberger, who will show you just how simple, fun, and stress-free it can be to decorate your home with your family's portraits for a beautiful, personal touch.



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generation conversation

A Conversation Between Granddaughter Chelsea & Her Yea-Yia Suzy

Article written by resident Chelsea Plunkett and her Yea-Yia & Sponsored by Darnell Construction

Yea-Yia Suzy interviewing her granddaughter Chelsea:

What's one way you think the world will be different when you're my age?

I think when I am your age the world will have flying cars.

What makes you happy?

Orange Leaf really makes me happy :}

What kind of chores do you do at home? What are you saving money to buy?

One thing I have to do is to make my bed and clean my room. I just save my money for no reason because I don't want to waste my money!



Meet Chelsea Plunkett (called "Brown Eyed Beauty" by her grandma whom she calls Yea-Yia) of Forest Hills and daughter of Mark and Courtney Plunkett. Chelsea is 9 and is in 3rd grade at St. Clare of Assisi. Chelsea's Yea-Yia is Suzy Schriever and lives in Wildwood's Highland Summit. They love spending time together! Here's their Generation Conversation:

What's your favorite thing to do with me?

Playing the game Battleship.

How many grandchildren do you think you'll have when you're my age?

I think I will have 3 children and they will each have 3 children so I will have 9 grandchildren!

If you could change one thing about the world, what would it be?

I would hope every homeless person would have a home.



Generation Conversation is a way for a grandparent and grandchild to learn more about each other, and how the world has both changed and stayed the same. To be featured, email Kristy.Howard@N2Pub.com.

Granddaughter Chelsea interviewing her Yea-Yia Suzy:

When you were my age, what did you want to be when you grew up?

I really wanted to be a teacher. My sister and I played school on our back porch.

What's one way the world was different when you were my age?

There were no computers, iPads or any technical devices.

Is there a story behind the name I call you? What is it?

Yes. My favorite restaurant is YiaYia's. I decided to have YiaYia be my grandmother name (and no, I am not Greek!!). After your older sister was born she called me Yea Yia, and it stuck. Sometimes it is shortened to Yea, and I pretend you are cheering for me.

What's your favorite memory of your own grandfather or grandmother?

My Grandfather owned a wholesale candy company and I could always count on having a Tootsie Roll Pop of any flavor when I was at their house. Chocolate was my favorite followed by orange! My grandmother always drove a big town car but she was

a busy lady and drove pretty fast. We didn't wear seatbelts back then and whenever she would hit the brakes unexpectedly she would throw her arm over my chest and yell, "Whoa Nelly!"

What were you scared of when you were little and when did you stop being afraid?

I was afraid of the scary noises in our attic when I played up there.

How did you meet my Papa?

Papa and I started dating our senior year of high school. We were married after college and we have been married for 47 years.

What was my mom like when she was my age? Do I remind you of her in any ways?

The thing I remember about your mother at your age is that she was always busy. In fact, she still is, just in a much different way.

What do you like most about being a grandma?

One of the things I like most about being a grandmother is enjoying the wide range of personalities that span all six grandkids.

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6	4	5	8	2	7	3	9	1
1	3	7	5	9	4	6	2	8
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making a difference
meet **ERIC VERHULST**,
President Of The FHCC Charitable Foundation

Article written by **Kristy Howard** & Sponsored by **Allen Roofing & Siding**



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Eric Verhulst

Forest Hills Country Club (FHCC), a vibrant Club in the heart of Clarkson Valley, has been around for over 50 years. Regardless of membership or not, many may not be aware of the charitable impact this Club is making for those in need. FHCC has had a charitable foundation from its onset, but it was very small. Recently, under the leadership of Eric Verhulst, President of the Forest Hills Charitable Foundation, he and the Club felt the need to broaden their scope of charitable giving to have a greater impact throughout our community and beyond.

Eric and his team, Tom Hartnagel, V.P. of the Foundation, Fred Salerno, Secretary, and committee members, Mike Flavin, Karen Vangyia, and Tom Dean put their heads together and came up with an amazing vision that became a reality this past January, the First Annual FHCC Charity Gala. The theme for the first Gala was "Meet me in St. Louis," based on the 1904 World's Fair. This event was a huge undertaking involving much coordination, and the team worried that it might not turn out as they envisioned. Due to exhaustive and passionate work of many people, the event raised \$72,000+ going to 21 different charities!

Member Fred Salerno of Clarkson Valley was instrumental in getting the word out to members about the First Annual Charitable Gala. He spent countless hours reaching out to people by phone to promote interest in attending the event. Members could choose a charity they are passionate about and "purchase" a table where they were able to invite other members, or non-members to represent the charity with them. With Mr. Salerno's hard work, 230+ people were in attendance! Each charity was encouraged to provide up to 3 auction items where 100% of the proceeds went directly to the charity. The amount of donations for the auction far exceeded all expectations, totaling 82 items, 12 of which were donated by FHCC. Proceeds from the table sales and auction items went to the charities represented, with 2 charities receiving \$15,000 dollars each in a grand prize drawing at the end of the evening. The top winners were Make a Wish Missouri and the St. Louis Scott Gallagher Foundation. Four CPA volunteers worked tirelessly throughout the evening, crunching numbers, so the charities could actually leave that night knowing what monetary donations they received!

The First Annual FHCC Charity Gala would not have been such a huge success without the generosity of vendors stepping up to donate products and services at the event. These vendors include Ronocco, Glazer's, PFG (Performance Food Group), Constellation Brands, AlSCO, and Grey Eagle Distributors. FHCC's Chef Lute

gave the guests the "wow" factor with his amazing food talents. It was so impressive how the entire staff at FHCC embraced this event, spending countless unpaid hours to ensure its success.

Many of the residents may not know that three 501c3 organizations have roots right here in Clarkson Valley. Play Differently, founded by resident Terri Desloge and featured in our February issue, provides sensory and motor stimulation for children with special needs while giving the parents a respite. The Akin Foundation, featured in the April issue, was founded by Justin and Kristin Akin in honor of their two sons, Matthew and Andrew. Tom Hartnagel and Eric Verhulst are an integral part of Angels' Arms, with Tom serving on the Board now and since its inception, and Eric serving as the President of the Board. Angels' Arms provides loving and supportive homes for foster children with the intent of keeping foster siblings together until a "forever home" is found.

If you are not a member and have an interest in being a part of this amazing annual event, please talk to a member of FHCC that you may know or that lives nearby.



Do you have a fun or interesting hobby, collection or talent or do you volunteer for a great organization? If so, please contact Kristy at [Kristy](mailto:Kristy.Howard@N2Pub.com), Howard@N2Pub.com to set up a time for your interview.



resident
business beat

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materials were on the roof he was taught how to install the roof. As with many young people he was a musician in high school and had the dream of carrying that career throughout his life. As maturity took over, he began Allen Roofing in 1972. Over the last 45 years, Allen Roofing & Siding has expanded to 3 office locations, Ellisville, St. Peters and Caseyville, Illinois. Along with the additional locations, Allen Roofing & Siding now includes Siding, Guttering and Tuckpointing.

Allen Roofing & Siding is renovating their existing office space and showroom at the 525 Old State Road location in Ellisville. Lee wants to provide an improved working environment for his employees. The showroom will assist the customer in coordinating their exterior renovation products and color selections to get a better idea of what their finished project will look like. The project started 2 years ago with architecture drawings, surveys, and engineering plans working with the City of Ellisville to have a state of the art facility. The building is now under roof and beginning to take shape. They expect completion by the end of this year.

Within the last 20 years, Lee partnered with his friend Mike Beck to begin Beck/Allen Cabinetry. Beck/Allen has two office showroom locations, one in Chesterfield off of Spirit of St. Louis Boulevard and a showroom off of Page Avenue in Maryland Heights. Lee contributes the key to the success of Beck/Allen Cabinetry to Mike Beck's creative design work and knowledge of the cabinet business. Lee provides his business acumen to the partnership!



Lee and Tracy

ALLEN ROOFING & SIDING Tracy & Lee Allen

Article sponsored by John Lancia - Weiss Insurance



Lee and crew

Lee has spent all of his life in West County long before it was labeled "Fashionable West County." A 1968 graduate of Lafayette High School, Lee has never lived anywhere other than The Clarkson Valley, West County area. In 1997 when Tracy and Lee married they lived in Wildwood the first 10 years; the 2nd 10 years have been in Clarkson Valley.

Why Clarkson Valley? Location, Location, Location! They love it because it provides easy access to all of their roofing company locations and the cabinet company, too. They travel a lot, too, so being 22 miles away from the airport is very convenient. Plus, there's good food & shopping close by. It's a great place to live!

Lee's business is primarily construction as it pertains to roofing, siding, guttering and tuckpointing. In 1964 at the age of 14, he worked as a roofer's helper carrying the material from the ground to the roof. When enough

Clarkson Valley Living is proud to have Allen Roofing & Siding as a business partner in the publication. They sponsor the "Making a Difference" article each month. Please take a look at their ad on page 24, as well as their listing in the Resident Business Guide on page 41 for their contact info.



Are you a Clarkson Valley resident who owns your own business? We'd love to feature your business for free in our Resident Business Beat section. Please contact Deanna at Deanna.Ley@N2Pub.com.

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meet Asher Waitkus

amazing athlete

Article written by Kristy Howard & Sponsored by Ries Orthodontics
Clarkson Valley's Multi-Talented Athlete!

"Play to win, but be a good sport."

Meet Asher Waitkus, a 10-year-old 4th grader at St. Clare of Assisi, an all-around athlete who plays baseball, basketball, and soccer. Thanks to the dedication from his parents, Jeff and Kristina Waitkus of Westhampton, Asher has been able to start playing sports at the age of 3. He has two brothers, Eli (12), and Grayson (7) who cheer him on!

Since age 3, he has been playing baseball and now plays for the Chesterfield Orioles as catcher, pitcher, and first base. Asher loves the position of catcher because it is the hardest position on the field physically, and he likes that his coaches can count on him to do his job, no matter what the temperature.

For the past four years, he has also played basketball and soccer. Asher's basketball career of 4 years has placed him on the A-League CYC Basketball and Soccer for St. Clare Cougars where is the point and shooting guard. He loves having the basketball in his hands to try and make a play or get his team-mates to get a good shot. Asher especially loves the pressure of shooting free throws with little time left and when the game is on the line. His favorite moment was a surprise visit to his basketball team's practice by the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest chairman where he informed Asher he had won the District competition and awarded him his trophy in front of his teammates. Topping that off was a hard-fought win over a rival CYC Basketball team the very next day that came down to the wire with Asher hitting free throws to seal the win!

Asher is also on the AJAX Americans in select soccer, where he is a midfielder and left wingback. He likes to show his speed in tracking down the other team's offensive stars as they make their runs.

Asher still finds time to do normal outdoor kid-stuff such as riding his scooter, roller blades, playing with his brothers and his retriever-mix dog, Duke. He also loves cooking shows and has mastered the breakfast burrito. Asher eventually wants to play college basketball and go further possibly!

Advice to other kids: "Get outside and enjoy the outdoors on the nice days! Play to win, but be a good sport. Relax in the evening and watch The Flash."



Call athletes of all ages! Do you play a sport you are passionate about? Whether it's football, cheerleading, skateboarding, skiing, soccer or any sport in between, we want your story! Just email Kristy at Kristy.Howard@N2Pub.com to be featured.



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From its award-winning kitchen with quartz countertops, stainless-steel professional appliances, glass subway tile backsplash, sunroom and deck addition and its glamorous master suite with new wood floors, double sink, and whirlpool tub to the awesome lower level with custom wrap-around bar, game room, 2 spacious bedrooms, 2 full baths and wine room, this property won't disappoint. In addition to all of that, walk out to your own private entertainment oasis with a salt-water pool with gorgeous views. It's an easy walk or golf cart ride to the Forest Hills Clubhouse. This house is Country Club Estates living at its finest!

This property is listed at \$949,000.

Featured by Jeff Lottmann
Lottmann Realty Group at RE/MAX Suburban
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We've featured some great homes in Clarkson Valley and would love to share yours as well. Have you recently remodeled, redecorated or built on an addition, a man cave or a new wine cellar? Simply contact Kristy at Kristy.Howard@N2Pub.com to be featured.



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precious pets



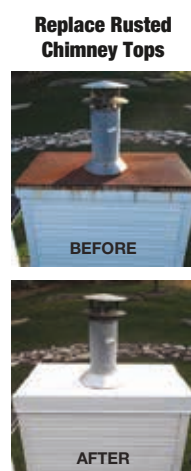
When asked if I can do any tricks, I say, "Yes, I've mastered the trick of staying alive!" I've had Shar-Pei fever multiple times, eye surgery, numerous spider bites on my tushie (yes, the vet had to shave my butt and yes, I looked like a baboon), and despite taking my meds every month, I STILL got heartworm. Oh, and let's not forget that time I got hit by a car! My mom, in her pink floral PJs and camo coat, took me out to potty on a rainy morning. But see, there was this squirrel. And I couldn't resist! I started chasing the squirrel, and then mom started chasing me. She yelled, "Louie, you're going to get hit by a car!" How did she know? Boy, moms are smart. It was your classic hit and run - the car hit me and I ran home!

I used to fear death, but not anymore! I'm Super Lou! My mom, dad, and sisters love me the way I am; they spoil me A TON. I get to go on long walks, hunt for frogs, and pick out my own treats at the pet store! I go to doggy daycare every week and always get to share my birthday cake with my bow wow buddies! I sure am a lucky dog!



Do you have a pet and would like to share his/her story? Dogs, cats, horses, fish and any other types of animals are welcome! Email Kristy Howard at Kristy.Howard@N2Pub.com to have them featured in an upcoming issue.

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meet LOUIE the Shar-Pei

Article written by Louie himself, with a little help from his human mom Manda Riggio & Sponsored by English Sweep

Woof, ciao, ni hǎo, and hello! My name is Luigi Muscolo Riggio, but I go by "Louie". As you may have guessed, my humans are Italian. However, I am not. I'm a Chinese Shar-Pei. You know, one of those unique dogs with all the wrinkles?

I came to the neighborhood about three years ago, when I was three months old. My human family had met (and fallen in love with) my litter mate, Rocco Rugoso Mossotti. Rocco was adopted by one of their family members. When they saw my adorable picture, how could they resist? They drove to Arkansas to get me. I was stoked! I was pumped! I was... throwing up during the car ride home. My dear new fam thought it was from all the excitement, but no. I knew what I'd done. That red plastic cup from the farm didn't even taste good! Within 24 hours, I was in the hospital waiting to see if I needed surgery. That was only the beginning.



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Colleen Lawler

COLLEEN LAWLER & THE IRVINE TEAM

KEEPING THE HEART IN REAL ESTATE!

I recently had the pleasure of sitting down with Colleen Lawler to discuss her Real Estate career. Little did I know that I would also learn some great lessons about life and business as she shared with me the road she has traveled.

Prior to her career as a top Real Estate Agent in the St. Louis market, Colleen Lawler was in nursing. She calls herself an “Accidental Real Estate Agent”. This whole career started because she has always been the type of person who likes to know everything she can about what she is doing and back in 1987, she and her husband were getting ready to move so she enrolled in a real estate course at Meramec Community College.

Colleen saw that the worlds of nursing and real estate were similar to her. “I found that people are stressed when they are sick and stressed when buying or selling a home,” she said.

“Before, I would have to coordinate between lab, x-rays, surgery, PT and social workers and now, in real estate, I coordinates between inspectors, appraisers, buyer agents, lenders and title companies.”

Colleen went on, “I find myself in the middle, making sure everything comes together and my goal is to reduce the stress my clients feel.” Since she had that skill set in place already she decided to apply that to Real Estate for her career.

Her rise in real estate was anything but meteoric. “With my very first client I showed them 47 properties. They wrote an offer and couldn’t get a loan because they had a hiccup in their credit to get through. They lowered their sights a little and they got pre-approved and were able to get into their first home,” she shared.

As she continued to grow her own business, she was in the same office with Kathy Irvine. Kathy was the #1 agent with Coldwell Banker/Gundaker at the time. Over time, Colleen started helping her out, working together with different clients. Over the course of a few months, Kathy came to Colleen and they made their partnership official.

“We had a great time working together,” Colleen shared as she spoke of Kathy. “We are very different people but we worked well together and learned from each other. It was a blessing for us both as she was able to transition out of the business and I was able to walk into a team with great systems in place that I could then help grow.”

As homage to the great business and brand that Kathy Irvine had created, Colleen is proud to continue the legacy of “The Irvine Team” as the team leader.

When I asked Colleen about her team she called them the “World’s Greatest Group of People!” She has just three basic requirements for someone to be part of the team. “One, they have to be smarter than me. Two, they have to be experienced (I know my strengths and weaknesses, and I am not strong at training people who are brand new to the business) and three, they have to have GREAT BIG HEARTS. Meaning they have to care about each other, care about the team and care about our clients. All of us can learn skills and learn new technology and what



not, but by having hearts, smarts and experience, the hard work we do is that much easier.” A great life and business philosophy to be sure!

In addition to truly caring about their clients, The Irvine Team takes advantage of the latest technology to assist their clients. From syndicate sites that display in over 700 venues, to drone videos/photography and even virtual staging, Colleen and her team use both traditional and cutting edge tools to make the client experience stellar and second to none!

I asked Colleen, after all these years, what gets her excited about Real Estate every day. “It’s the people I meet!” she exclaimed. “I get to meet new people every day, I get to learn from them every day, I get to be surrounded by amazing people every day and that is what makes this a joy each and every day!”

It is a joy to sit with Colleen. The stories she shares, the joy that emits from her when she talks



about her clients and team, and, of course, her amazing attitude about life is infectious.

If you are buying or selling your home you owe it to yourself to sit with Colleen and her team to see if they are a good fit. You can be assured that they know the St. Louis market well and lead their industry because they have the skills, the technology and the hearts to set them apart!



Do you know any amazing businesses that would be great partners for this publication?

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2171 Kehrs Ridge Dr.	Kehrs Mill Estates	\$760,000	\$740,000	4/21/17	4	4.5	3683	3
2048 Kingspointe Dr.	Kingspointe	\$775,000	\$739,000	1/19/17	4	5	4510	3
10 Kehrs Mill Glen	Kehrs Mill Glen	\$699,500	\$610,000	12/8/16	5	6	4257	3
16747 Kehrs Mill Estates Dr.	Kehrs Mill Estates	\$595,000	\$580,000	11/15/16	6	4	3034	3
1 Greenbank Dr.	Forest Hills	\$575,000	\$537,500	2/10/17	3	3.5	3093	2
16720 Kehrs Grove Dr.	Kehrs Mill Estates	\$525,000	\$507,500	3/8/17	4	3.5	2911	2
2025 Kehrs Mill Rd.	Kehrs Mill Estates	\$459,900	\$445,000	4/14/17	4	3.5	4513	3
2 Clarkson Farm Dr.	Clarkson Farm Estates	\$439,900	\$430,000	12/16/16	4	4	2999	3
15973 Kettington Rd.	Westhampton	\$459,000	\$420,000	12/12/16	4	2.5	2594	2
2319 Richborough Rd.	West Hampton	\$449,900	\$420,000	3/17/17	4	2.5	2625	2
241 Fox Chapel Ln.	Forest Hills Club Estates	\$425,000	\$375,000	11/18/16	4	3	2902	2

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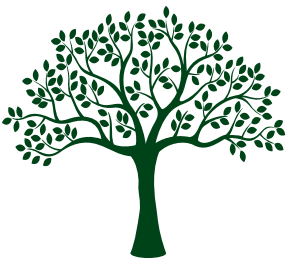
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