Public Information Office
602 S Main Street
Joplin, Missouri 64801
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City Update – May 2, 2023

View PowerPoint slides

Believe it or not – school will be out before we know it. Now is the time to start looking for different activities and events that will be fun for the kids this summer, as well as the adults.

Be sure to keep an eye on Joplin Parks and Recreation's Facebook page and website. Their staff does an excellent job of posting news about their upcoming leagues, programs, and other entertaining activities. Just go to joplinmo.org/parks or their Facebook page at Joplin Parks and Recreation to learn more.

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Saturday, May 13 - that's the day for the City-wide Iris Gardens Tour. The tour is a self–guided tour from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Those interested in the event should start by going to the Joplin History and Mineral Museum, located in Schifferdecker Park, and picking up a printed map of participating locations that have Iris in their flower beds.
The Iris is the official City Flower, and many residents have planted Iris Gardens through the years. It should be a fun time to get out and see these flowers as well as enjoy Joplin in its Sesquicentennial Year.

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Iconic Joplin! For those who may have heard this phrase but weren't sure what it meant, I'm here to explain.

Iconic Joplin is an official event of Joplin's 150th Birthday Celebration. The parent organization of this event is Landmark Builds! which partnered with host organizations: The Creative Learning Alliance, Joplin History and Mineral Museum, and Joplin Public Library to offer Iconic Joplin as an opportunity for area youth to learn more about Joplin history while being VERY CREATIVE with Lego bricks.

Teams of youth, ages 12 to 16, were challenged to recreate local landmarks from LEGO bricks. This also included historical research to learn more about their featured landmark. There are six landmarks including Crystal Cave, Bonnie and Clyde Hideout, Grand Falls, Joplin Union Depot, Joplin Public Library, and Olivia Apartments.

There is a vote for the People's Choice Award for these six landmarks. They are currently displayed at Spiva Center for the Arts in the Cornell Arts and Entertainment Complex until May 13. They'll then move to the Chrisman Building at 5th and Main Street. The deadline for online voting is June 1. If unable to get to these locations, the public can also check out one-minute videos about each landmark and vote for their favorite by visiting https://tally.so/r/3q4lK7. There is also a QR code that viewers can scan with their smartphones.

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Just a quick reminder - the Joplin Recycling Center will host a **FREE Tire Collection Event on Saturday, May 13 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Center.** Automotive passenger tires, with or without rims, will be accepted with a ten-tire per household limit.

This drop-off event is available to residents of Joplin and counties of Jasper, Newton, McDonald, Barton and Vernon Counties. The Center is located at 1310 West A Street**.** This collection is funded by the City of Joplin as a community service to help beautify our communities.

For more information, contact the Joplin Recycling Center at 417-624-0820, ext. 1501.

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There are different days or weeks throughout the year that are designated to recognize various organizations, careers, or even a common initiative, and Next Week is one we should all celebrate! It's Local Government Week. This week recognizes the many ways local government impacts each of us in Joplin, Jasper County and Newton County. Working together, cities, counties and schools are the backbone of our community.

Missouri celebrates Local Government Week from May 7 – 13 and there are many ways local government serves the community, and it couldn't be done without the hundreds of volunteers who serve on boards, commissions, and task forces, as well as our elected City and County officials. This is also time to recognize the many who work in local government agencies, including here at the City of Joplin, Joplin Schools, other cities and school districts and both Jasper and Newton Counties.

This year's theme does a nice job summing it up -

All Day. Every Day. Local Government Works for You.

So ..... thank you all who have a role in this field.

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I encourage everyone to watch for more announcements on the City's website and Joplin's Facebook page. Thank you.