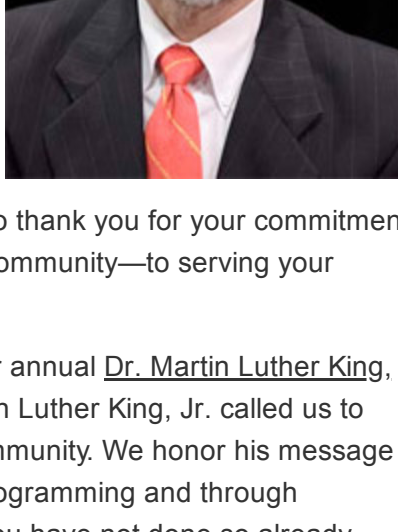




Letter from the Chancellor

Happy New Year!

As 2019 gets underway, we turn our sights to the hopes and dreams of a new year. Often times these hopes and dreams are of a personal nature. As I wish you the best in pursuing your personal goals in 2019, I also thank you for your commitment to the hopes and dreams of our community—to serving your friends and neighbors.



On January 21st, UMSL hosts our annual [Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Observance](#). Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. called us to dream of a better society and community. We honor his message and legacy every year through programming and through coordinating [a day of service](#). If you have not done so already, please consider taking a moment to set a resolution or a goal for 2019 around how you can help build a better community. We welcome you to join us on January 21st for our program (admission is free) to honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., or to take part in a service project in our great community.

We look forward to a great 2019 together!

Tom George, Chancellor, University of Missouri - St. Louis



Nursing students educate at elementary schools in ongoing service learning program

Each semester about 48 College of Nursing seniors taking pediatric or psychiatric nursing break into teams to design and teach instructive lessons and games at Barack Obama and Jefferson elementary schools. This program started in 2014 when UMSL faculty member Kathy Hodgson heard from her colleague Sheila Grigsby that Barack Obama Elementary needed some help. Hodgson got in contact with the school's counselor, Laverne Ferguson (BSW 1992), and asked what they needed.

"Basically," she said, "We need whatever you want to offer," Hodgson recalled. "I started taking my pediatrics students there to do physical health classes and my psych students there doing self-esteem, anti-bullying. Two or three years later, we started helping with Red Ribbon Week. It's drug education, so that kind of crosses pediatrics and psych, so whatever class I would be teaching in October, I would take that group of students there to do drug education."

Last year, school counselor Susan Grimes reached out and asked if the program could expand to Jefferson Elementary, and Hodgson was happy to oblige. She views the relationship as mutually beneficial and good for the community at large. [Click here](#) to read more.



Photo from St. Louis American - Bridges O'Neil

Local schools named to 2018 America's Healthiest Schools list

With the new year off the ground, many have made resolutions to be healthier in 2019. Area schools and youth have been hard at work setting a good example on improving health. The Alliance for a Healthier Generation named 19 schools in Missouri as members of the America's Healthiest Schools list in 2018. [Four of Missouri's award-winning schools are in the Normandy Schools Collaborative](#) and one in the Ferguson-Florissant School District. Across the country 461 schools received the distinction. The local schools where all a part of the Healthy Schools Healthy Communities initiative supported by the Missouri Foundation for Health.



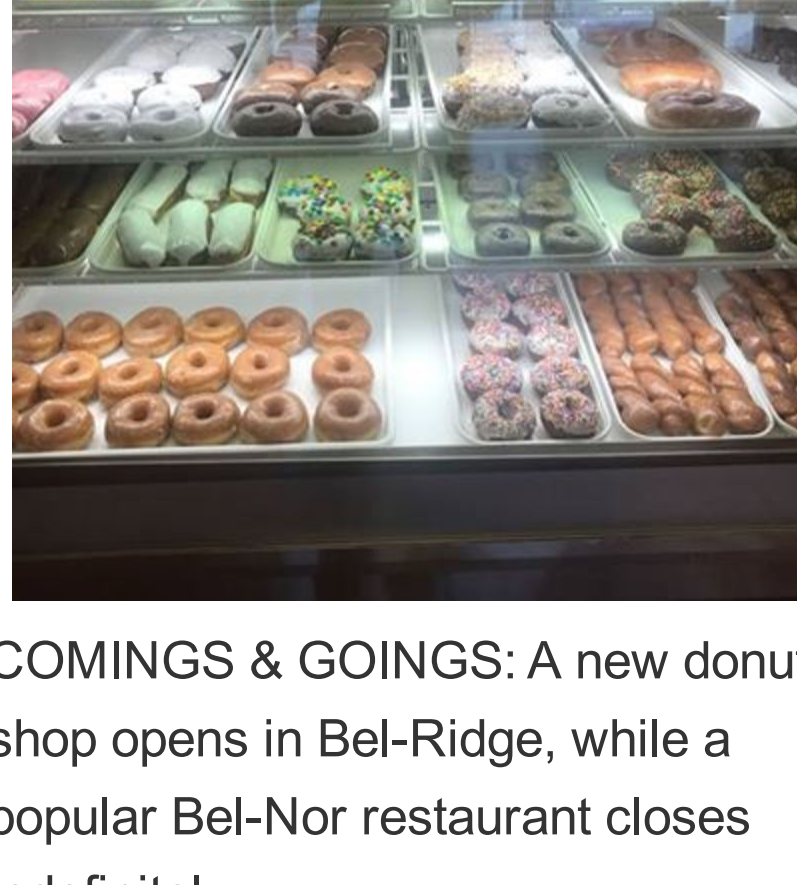
Freshman legislators visit UMSL on statewide tour

Newly elected members of the Missouri House of Representatives and Missouri State Senate have been getting a crash course on the broader state, visiting various businesses, colleges, charter schools, prisons and other notable buildings and attractions.

The two-week bus tour made a brief stop at the University of Missouri–St. Louis (in early December), and a group of 64 freshman legislators had a chance to see and learn about some of the more recent changes to the nearly 500-acre campus...

Kevin Windham Jr., who just won election to represent the 85th House District and is a graduate of the University's [Neighborhood Leadership Fellows](#) program, has been a more frequent visitor to campus throughout his life, even attending some classes with his mother as a kid while she was earning her degree.

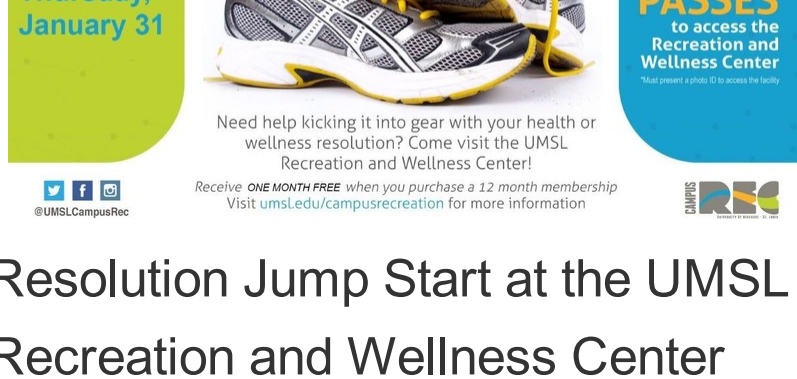
"It's a full-circle experience being here," Windham said. "I was just telling some of my bus mates how the Normandy School District gave a gift to the university, and that's how it began. My family has always been in the area. Knowing UMSL is a staple in the community, I've always tried to make it a big deal to come back." [Click here](#) to read more.



COMINGS & GOINGS: A new donut shop opens in Bel-Ridge, while a popular Bel-Nor restaurant closes indefinitely

Looking for a yummy breakfast treat, cup of coffee, or light lunch options. **JMC Donuts Shop & Coffee recently opened** at 8624 Natural Bridge. Their hours are from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. This is a welcome new establishment in the community, already frequented by UMSL faculty, staff and students.

While it's great to see a new shop open, the community is unfortunately saying goodbye to the **Breakaway Cafe** at 8418 Natural Bridge, a Bel-Nor mainstay. The Breakaway Cafe **closed in late December**. *River Front Times* writer Cheryl Baehr posted an announcement on January 4, 2019 that the Breakaway Cafe had closed. [Click here](#) to read more.



Resolution Jump Start at the UMSL Recreation and Wellness Center

Looking to get fit in 2019? Are you or someone you know thinking about becoming a member of the UMSL Recreation and Wellness Center? Has your membership expired, and you need some motivation to come back? Well, here's your opportunity-- Individuals can **visit the RWC 10 Times for FREE during the month of January!**

Also, if it is time to renew your membership or you want to go ahead and purchase for the year, you can take advantage of the Resolution Jump Start discount. If you purchase a 12 month membership (paid in full) you will receive one of those months for FREE. All other promotions and discounts apply.

Visitors must present a valid photo ID in the Triton Trading Post for each visit. Children under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

Questions? Contact Emily Davidson at davidsonneb@umsl.edu.

Questions, Comments or Share a Community Story?

We'd love to hear from you about how we can improve our communication with the community and hear your questions and comments about UMSL and neighboring communities. We also welcome stories about great things happening in our communities. Your thoughts will help shape content covered in future newsletters to be pertinent to you and your neighbors. Leave any suggestions, questions, or stories [here](#).

Thank you!

UMSL Community Connection

[Sign up for this monthly newsletter!](#)

UMSL Calendars

Interested in events on campus?

[Campus Calendar](#)

[Athletics](#)

[Performances](#)

UMSL Careers

Interested in a job at UMSL?

[Open Positions](#)

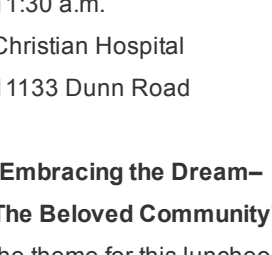
UMSL Contracts

Interested in bidding on projects at UMSL?

[Procurement Bids](#)

[Construction Bids](#)

Upcoming Events



Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebrations

January 18, 2019
11:30 a.m.

Christian Hospital
11133 Dunn Road

"**Embracing the Dream—The Beloved Community**" is the theme for this luncheon event. [Click here](#) for more info or to purchase tickets.

January 21, 2019
10 a.m. - noon

UMSL Touhill
Performing Arts Center

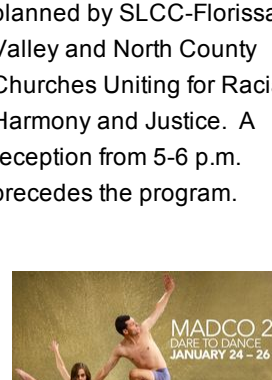
This year, attendees to the annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Celebration at UMSL will be treated to a morning of inspirational presentations by **Bree Newsome**, filmmaker, musician, and activist;

Justin Andrews, KMOV reporter; **Brian Owens**, soloist, and St. Louis Symphony artist in residence; and, the **St. Louis Children's Choirs**. This event, sponsored by the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at UMSL, is a **free, open to the public**; however RSVP is strongly encouraged. [Click here](#) for more information and to register.

January 22, 2019
5 to 7 p.m.

St. Louis Community College at Florissant Valley
Terry M. Fischer Theatre
3400 Pershall Road

"**Standing for Truth, Knowledge and Unconditional Love**" is the theme for this celebration planned by SLCC-Florissant Valley and North County Churches Uniting for Racial Harmony and Justice. A reception from 5-6 p.m. precedes the program.



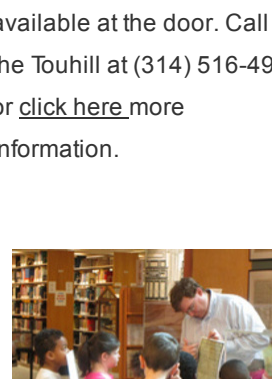
MADCO 2 "Dare to Dance"

January 24-26, 2019
7:00 p.m.

UMSL Touhill
Performing Arts Center

MADCO 2 presents "DARE TO DANCE" a choreographic opportunity! This will be 3 awesome nights of dance featuring MADCO 2 and national dance artists.

Tickets are \$15 and will be available at the door. Call the Touhill at (314) 516-4949 or [click here](#) more information.



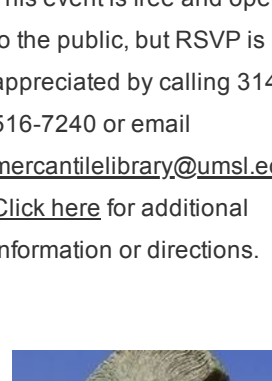
Mercantile Library Family Day

January 27, 2019
1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

UMSL St. Louis Mercantile Library - Level 1

Come for a day of fun and learning about Newspaper history with hands-on activities for all ages in the special exhibition "Headlines of History"!

This event is free and open to the public, but RSVP is appreciated by calling 314-516-7240 or email mercantilelibrary@umsl.edu. [Click here](#) for additional information or directions.



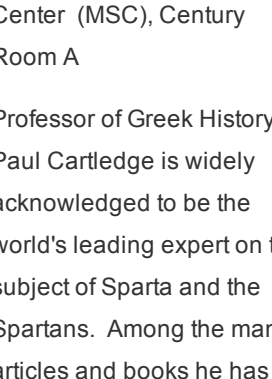
"The Ancient Spartans – A Very Peculiar Society?" the Dr. Nicholas Matsakis Memorial Lecture by Prof. Paul Cartledge, University of Cambridge

February 5, 2019
7:00 p.m. reception followed by lecture at 7:30 p.m.

UMSL Millennium Student Center (MSC), Century Room A

Professor of Greek History Paul Cartledge is widely acknowledged to be the world's leading expert on the subject of Sparta and the Spartans. Among the many articles and books he has written and edited are *Spartan Reflections*, *Sparta and Lakonia*, *Hellenistic and Roman Sparta*, and *The Greeks: A Portrait of Self and Others*. He is academic consultant to the BBC and PBS for the series, *The Greeks: Crucible of Civilization*.

This event is free and open to the public.



Balanchine's Rubies and other Love Stories presented by Saint Louis Ballet

February 15-16, 2019
8:00 p.m.

UMSL Touhill
Performing Arts Center

For the very first time, Saint Louis presents one of George Balanchine's iconic ballets - Rubies. The ruby red costumes and romantic nature of the ballet are well suited to Valentine's weekend. Rubies is set to music by Igor Stravinsky and is the "jazziest", most accessible, and most often performed of Balanchine's "jewel" ballets.

Ticket prices range from \$34 to \$59. Call the Touhill at (314) 516-4949 or [click here](#) more information.

