



# City of Herculaneum

## January 2022 Newsletter

### *Fifty Years of Incorporation*



*The Herculaneum Board of Aldermen meets on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month in the Board of Aldermen Chambers at 7:00 PM.  
www.cityofherculaneum.gov City Hall: 636 475-4447*

#### FIFTY YEARS OF INCORPORATION IN HERCULANEUM

The City of Herculaneum turns 50 years old in 2022! Although the town of Herculaneum was founded in 1808 by Moses Austin and Samuel Hammond, incorporation of the town did not occur until January 7, 1972.

Prior to World War II, there had been talks about incorporating the town of Herculaneum, but talks were put on hold due to the war. In the late 1940s and throughout the 1950s the idea of incorporation was a topic of discussion. Despite the regular discussion regarding incorporation, there was never a serious attempt to proceed with the legal steps necessary. Most of the public services had always been provided by the St. Joseph Lead Company and the town residents were happy with that arrangement.

In the late 1960s there was a move by the Jefferson County Water District #7 to annex the Herculaneum area and annexation petitions were also being circulated by Festus and Pevely. A group of concerned citizens, known as the Herculaneum Citizens Improvement Association, fought the sale of the local Lead Belt Water Company to Water District #7 and the annexation attempts by Festus and Pevely.

In 1968 an incorporation committee was organized and in 1970 a petition drive to incorporate Herculaneum was held.

Several roadblocks to incorporation from the Jefferson County courts occurred in the early 1970s. An interesting quirk in the incorporation of Herculaneum was that old circuit court records showed that Herculaneum had actually been incorporated on July 27, 1819. However Herculaneum was never incorporated under modern law and had never carried on the functions of a city.

Citing the old circuit court records, the improvement association began the process of trying to "re-incorporate" an existing city and not trying to incorporate a new city.

On January 7, 1972, the Jefferson County Circuit Court notified the Herculaneum Citizens Improvement Association that the 1819 incorporation was being re-activated and that the town of Herculaneum could officially function as a city.

The first municipal election in Herculaneum was held on April 4, 1972 to elect a board of trustees and the first municipal meeting was held on April 9, 1972.



**HERCULANEUM CITY HALL  
WILL BE CLOSED ON  
MONDAY, JANUARY 18**

Herculaneum City Hall will be closed on Monday, January 17 in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

City hall will reopen on Tuesday, January 18 at 8:30 pm.



**MARTIN LUTHER  
KING JR. DAY**

I HAVE A DREAM

#### OUTDOOR LIGHTING AND DECORATION CONTEST WINNERS ANNOUNCED

The Herculaneum Historical Society announces the 1st, 2nd & 3rd place winners of the 22nd Annual Outdoor Lighting and Decoration Contest.

First Place: John Pasha, 100 East Drive

Second Place: Kelsey Viviano, 307 Living Stone Way

Third Place: Keith and Sharon Wallman, 1509 Scenic Drive

The Herculaneum Historical Society thanks everyone who entered the contest.

The 23rd Annual Contest will be held again next December

#### JEFFERSON COUNTY WELLNESS WALK PROGRAM - JOACHIM LOOP TRAIL

The Jefferson County Wellness Walk Program is a new initiative which will partner with local parks to encourage different types of physical activity and emotional health. There are numerous parks throughout the county, most have some type of walking path. The Wellness Walk compliments existing walking trails/paths at local parks by posting signs throughout the path and suggesting different exercises to increase physical activity and activities to improve mindfulness.

When you are walking the trails and come across a wellness walk sign, read the prompt, complete the action, and scan the code for examples. Be sure to take a photo and post it using the hashtag #jeffcowellnesswalk



Twelve signs have been installed along the Joachim Loop Trail in the Herculaneum City Park, 776 Joachim Avenue.

Thank you to Dunklin R-5 Assistant Superintendent Joe Willis for securing the signs for the city of Herculaneum.



## SNOW REMOVAL ON CITY STREETS AND ROADWAYS



Now that the winter months are upon us, Mark Johnson, Public Works Supervisor, reminds all Herculaneum residents to refrain from parking on the city streets and roadways during days of inclement weather (snow and ice). The removal of snow from the city streets is greatly impeded when vehicles are parked on the streets and roadways.

It is extremely important that the streets be cleared for the passage of emergency vehicles, delivery trucks and the daily commutes by the residents.

The City of Herculaneum and the Public Works Department greatly appreciate your cooperation with this request.

## CITIZENS OF THE MONTH FOR 2021

Since 2008, the City of Herculaneum Board of Aldermen and Mayor have selected an individual, organization or local business as the Citizen of the Month. The recipient is asked to attend a board of aldermen meeting to be recognized. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the program was suspended from February 2020 to June 2021. The program was reinstated in July of 2021 and will continue forward.

The Citizens of the Month for July 2021 to December 2021 are as follows:

July 2021 - Austin Hill  
August 2021 - John and Tammy Moran  
September 2021 - Shawn Rakers  
October 2021 - Herculaneum Today & Tomorrow  
November 2021 - Herculaneum High School Boys Cross Country Team  
December 2021 - Jessica Shepherd Barnes

## NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT APPRECIATION DAY JANUARY 9, 2022



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS - MARCH 12, 2022 ELECTRONIC RECYCLING EVENT

The City of Herculaneum in partnership with Midwest Recycling Center will host an electronic recycling event on Saturday, March 12. The event will be held at the entrance to the Herculaneum City Park, 776 Joachim Avenue from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. The event is open to all residents of Herculaneum and the surrounding communities. More details will be published in the February and March issues of the City of Herculaneum Newsletter.

## DEADLINE TO REGISTER TO VOTE IN APRIL 5, 2022 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

Any Herculaneum resident wanting to vote in the April 5, 2022 municipal election and needing to register must do so by March 9, 2022. Residents can register to vote at Herculaneum City Hall during regular business hours. Registration also available at the Jefferson County Clerk's Office. For more information call Herculaneum City Hall at 636 475-4447.

## Space Heater

### SAFETY TIPS

When the weather turns cold, it can bring a chill into our homes. Portable space heaters have become a popular way to supplement central heating or heat one room. If you plan to use portable electric space heaters, the City of Herculaneum encourages you to follow these tips and recommendations:

#### HEATER CHECKLIST

- Purchase a heater with the seal of a qualified testing laboratory.
- Keep the heater at least 3 feet (1 meter) away from anything that can burn, including people.
- Choose a heater with a thermostat and overheat protection.
- Place the heater on a solid, flat surface.
- Make sure your heater has an auto shut-off to turn the heater off if it tips over.
- Keep space heaters out of the way of foot traffic. Never block an exit.
- Keep children away from the space heater.
- Plug the heater directly into the wall outlet. Never use an extension cord.
- Space heaters should be turned off and unplugged when you leave the room or go to bed.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO GOVERNORS DANIEL DUNKLIN AND THOMAS C. FLETCHER

Two Missouri governors with ties to Herculaneum have birthdays during the month of January.

Daniel Dunklin, the 5th governor of Missouri, was born in Greenville, South Carolina, on January 14, 1790. Dunklin served as governor from November 19, 1832, to September 30, 1836. Known as the "Father of Missouri Public Schools" Dunklin moved to Herculaneum in 1840. He died on August 25, 1844 and was buried on his family property in Herculaneum. Governor Dunklin's burial site is located at the end of Dunklin Drive in Herculaneum.

Thomas C. Fletcher, the 18th governor of Missouri, was born in Herculaneum, Missouri, on January 21, 1827. He was the first native-born governor in Missouri. Fletcher served one term as governor - January 2, 1865 to January 12, 1869. He died in Washington, DC on March 25, 1899, and is buried in Bellefontaine Cemetery in St. Louis, Missouri.

