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SATURDAY, APRIL 6

- 7:30a.m. Hot Air Balloon Tether Rides Missouri's National Veterans Memorial -Sponsored by The Bank of Missouri.
- 10:00a.m. American Tractor Museum One of the top six agricultural museums in the U.S. (ENDS AT 2P.M.)
- 10:00a.m. Perry County Sundial Unveiling Perry County Courthouse
- 11:00a.m. Sky Dome Planetarium Perry Park Center (Five shows Last show starts at 4p.m.)
 - Noon Hemman Winery Eclipse Wine Release
- 2:00p.m. Warehouse Eclipse Foam Party The Warehouse Entertainment District (ENDS AT 5P.M.)
- 5:00p.m. Cruise In Downtown Perryville
- 6:30p.m. Live Music by BAT OUT OF HELL at the Downtown Perryville Plaza (ENDS AT 8:00p.m.)
- 7:30p.m. Balloon Glow Show Missouri's National Veterans Memorial Sponsored by The Bank of Missouri
 - (WEATHER PERMITTING)
- 9:00p.m. Live Music by BIG LOVE at the Downtown Perryville Plaza (ENDS AT 11:00p.m.)

SUNDAY, APRIL 7

VISIT OUR MUSEUMS

- Missouri's National Veterans Memorial Exact Full Size Replica of the D.C. Vietnam Memorial
- Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal National Shrine Attend Mass/Tour the Church & Grounds
- Perry County Museum: 10a.m. 2p.m.
- Perry County Military History Museum: 10a.m. 2p.m.
- Lutheran Heritage Center and Museum Altenburg, Missouri: 10a.m. 4p.m.
- Faherty House Perryville's oldest residential home: 10a.m. 2p.m.
- Catholic Heritage Center and Museum Apple Creek, Missouri: 10a.m. 2p.m.

VISIT OUR NATURAL AREAS

- Tower Rock Natural Area
- Ball Mill Resurgence Natural Area
- Old Appleton Bridge
- Noon Hemman Winery Eclipse Wine Release
- 6:00p.m. 5K Glow Run/Walk Perryville Optimist Club Downtown Perryville
- 6:00p.m. Silent Disco The Warehouse Entertainment District

MONDAY, APRIL 8

Eclipse Viewing Sites

- Perryville City Park Takes Group Reservations
- Bank of Missouri Soccer Complex 1.5 miles of 1-55
- Perryville Regional Airport -Geared to pilots
- Lutheran Heritage Center and Museum -Altenburg, Missouri
- Hemman Winery Brazeau, Missouri
- Old Appleton Bridge Old Appleton, Missouri











For more information contact Trish@perryvillemo.com

PERRYVILLE TO LEARN ABOUT BALLOONING IN FIRST EVENT

BY JUSTIN HOTOP

jhotop@perryvillenews.com

Perryville residents will have the opportunity to view the Missouri National Veterans Memorial from a different point of view during Solarfest.

People will have the pleasure of seeing a balloon show and tether rides starting at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 6th at the MNVM grounds. There will also by a Balloon Glow Show Saturday, April 6th at 7:30 p.m. There will be 6 balloons, with one honoring POW/MIAs named Freedom Flight IV.

Visitors are welcome to approach the balloons, pilots, and chase team crew members and ask questions about piloting and what the job entails in being a chase team for the balloon teams.

This will be the first time Perryville has ever hosted a balloon continued on



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the wrong bank holds you back.

The right bank pushes you







show.

Barb Fricke, a Perryville native and graduate of St. Vincent High School will help give tether rides for about 90 minutes as long as the weather permits. The tether rides are about 5-6 minutes and take people about 50 feet in the air. Fricke is an acclaimed hot air and gas balloon pilot who has achieved many accolades and awards in the sport.

"Tethered balloon rides means the balloon will be tied off to three lines to keep it in a large area where we will be at the Missouri's National Veterans Memorial," Fricke said. "We have planned this for early morning, since that is when the winds are usually at the calmest. We would like winds under 5 knots, otherwise, it gets too hard to control the balloon and can become too dangerous and we do not want any problems Teather rides are usually for kids, but we have been known to take adults. We can do 3 kids at a time. If we start doing adults, then the number does down, it all related to total weight in the basket and what the balloon can lift without overheating the balloon envelope, which degrades the fabric and takes life off the balloon."

In short, when the air inside the balloon is heated, the molecules in the air begin to move around and spread out, and the air becomes less dense. The surrounding, colder air falls beneath the hot air. This forces the warm air upward, which pushes the balloon up with it. Once the air inside the balloon cools it becomes more dense and forces the balloon to go back down.

Once it gets dark enough, at about 7:30 p.m. that night, the balloons will glow. This is an educational display to inspire and educate the public about the science behind ballooning.

"This isn't a big balloon show that you might see in other big cities," Perry County Heritage Tourism Director Trish Erzfeld said. "This is more about the education of the balloons and a new experience that people may not have seen before. If the community loves it, then we might look at this as a something we can do again down the road."

SUNDIAL PLAQUE MISSOURI DE UNVEILED

BY JUSTIN HOTOP

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A monument on the Perry County Courthouse lawn will be getting an addition.

There was a eclipse sundial constructed near the courthouse to commemorate the first solar eclipse in August 2017. There was a plaque placed on the sundial to celebrate the event.

There will be a similar event this time around as well. A second plaque will be placed on the sundial and a small ceremony will be held with an unveiling Sat-

urday, April 6th at 10 a.m. at the Perry County Courthouse.

"There will be two plaques on the sundial," Perry County Heritage

Tourism Director Trish Erzfeld said. "We had the sundial designed in such a way to hold two plaques in part because we knew this second one was coming. Perry County is one of very few locations in the United States to experience two total solar eclipses. This is very rare and we wanted something to remember it by."

Sundials have been used for centuries and is a device that tells the time of day) when direct sunlight shines by the apparent position of the Sun in the sky. In the narrowest sense of the word, it consists of a flat plate (the dial) and a gnomon, which casts a shadow onto the dial. As the Sun appears to move through the sky, the shadow aligns with different hour-lines, which are marked on the dial to indicate the time of day. The style is the time-telling edge of the gnomon, though a single point or nodus may be used. The gnomon casts a broad shadow; the shadow of the style shows the time. The gnomon may be



a rod, wire, or elaborately decorated metal casting. The style must be parallel to the axis of the Earth's rotation for the sundial to be accurate throughout the year. The style's angle from horizontal is equal to the sundial's geographical latitude.

There have been attempts around the country to tell time using sundials during an eclipse as well.

Once the second plaque is added and unveiled, the monument will be considered complete.

ATTENDEES CAN LEARN ABOUT CONSTELLATIONS DURING SPECIAL EVENT

BY JUSTIN HOTOP

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Not only can people learn about the total solar eclipse during Solarfest, they can also learn about other planetary phenomenon.

The Sky Dome Planetarium will host several shows during Solarfest at the Perry Park Center gym on April 6. The Planetarium will host five 45-minute shows starting at 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m. and 4 p.m.

There is a limit of 75 people per show at \$3 per ticket.

"It's geared toward a younger audience," Perry Coun-

ty Heritage Tourism Director Trish Erzfeld said. "But, I'm sure everyone that goes and sees a show will come out of

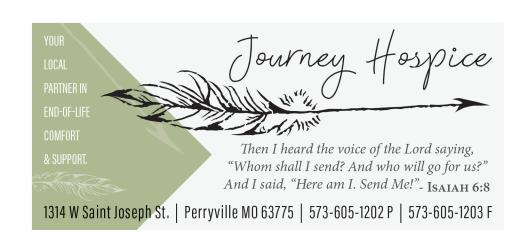
there learning something new."

The shows are centered around the night sky in the Northern Hemisphere and people can learn more about constellations and star gazing on this side of the world. A presenter with the use of a digital planetarium projector and a laser pointer, will guide people through the stars of the Northern Hemisphere exactly as they appear on the day of the presentation.

Attendees will learn how to identify every planet in our solar system in dramatic "flights" towards each world. They will be introduced to Greek mythological characters and see how these heroes of the past can be found in the stars. They will witness the night sky in different seasons and from different global per-

spectives. It has delighted students in thousands of schools throughout the country and we are confident that you will be thrilled by the excitement and enchantment this program offers. All presentations are tailored for K-8 age groups and the company does similar presentations to schools throughout the country.

"The purpose of that is when you go home and look up into the sky at the different constellations, it's the same sky that you looked at during the show," Erzfeld said. "It's not like we are in Australia or something like that."



HEMMAN WINERY TO RELEASE LIMITED EDITION WINE FOR ECLIPSE

BY JUSTIN HOTOP

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Once it's gone, it will never be coming back.

Hemman Winery will have a special wine release for the total solar eclipse this year.

"We did the same thing the first time around in 2017 and it went over really well," owner Bonnie Hemman said. "We made it again for this eclipse and we won't make it again."

The wine is a vintage age and is called "Totality," Hemman hopes it goes over well again in 2024.

"The label is very neat and has the date of the eclipse on it," she said. "I guess you could call it a collector's item. I'm hoping people drink it and enjoy it."

Hemman said that she wanted to have something "unique and different to offer the people of the area for the eclipse. It worked as in 2017, as the wine was noted in an article in the *Los Angeles Times* and NBC News called Hemman for a story this time around.

"I guess the wine is really popular," she said.

In 2017, people lined up about one hour in advance to buy a bottle.

"I was selling out in about 45 minutes," she said. "That took us by complete surprise, so this time we made more. Who knows how it goes over this time. However, we are prepared."

Hemman said they produced three times as much wine as in 2017 and they have produced approximately 1,000 bottles. The wine will have a limit sold over the Saturday, Sunday, and Monday of the eclipse. Each customer is only allowed to buy three bottles.

"We will only allow so many to be sold each day," Hemman said. "The perfect scenario is that we will have just enough. I don't like turning people away and we had to do that last time. Hopefully, that won't happen this time because we did make more. However, you never know."

Hemman Winery is one of the viewing sites for the eclipse that are scattered across Perry County. Hemman said the experience is a "Big deal" for the community as a whole.

"It's a God-given beauty," she said. "A lot of people are charging a lot of money to sit and view the eclipse at their businesses. I'm not doing that. I didn't make the sun or moon and I'm not in charge of the alignment. There's no cover charge to sit at the winery and see it. It's a really cool thing and everybody should be able to enjoy it."



PERRYVILLE TO HOLD FIRST FOAM PARTY

BY JUSTIN HOTOP

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Much like the total solar eclipse is a once (or twice) in-a-lifetime event, Perryville will host several events that the area has never seen before one of those is a Foam Party. The event will be hosted in the Warehouse Entertainment District on April 6 from 2-5 p.m. What exactly is a foam party?

A foam party is just that - a party surrounded by foam! When throwing a foam party, a foam machine will fill a space, in this case the Warehouse District, with millions of tiny

bubbles, creating an impressive mountain of cool, clean, and refreshing foam that all your guests can play in.

"We are going to clear out the outdoor area around the Warehouse and the people jump in and you play in it and throw it. It's just a bunch of fun," event organizer Carisa Stark said.

Stark has been to several foam parties in the past, including at resorts and other places, where they are very popular.

"We were discussing different party ideas to entertain families and their kids," Stark said.
"I've been to several parties like this and my kids have been to the





Hangout in Gulf Shores and the kids absolutely love it. I thought it would be fun to bring something like that to Perryville."

Along with the foam, there will be plenty of music during the event to dance to and sing along with.

Stark said the outdoor event will be free to all those willing to participate.

"Anyone that wants to join in is welcome," she said.

Stark hopes to see dozens, if not hundreds, of people having fun over the course of the three hours. If it is successful enough, Stark hasn't

ruled out bringing it back on a more regular basis.

"We will have to see how it goes," she said.

Stark believes that events like the eclipse warrant special events such as the foam party that are able to bring people together.

"The eclipse is a natural phenomenon and in our case we get to see two of them so close together," Stark said. "It should be a celebration."





ECLIPSE CRUISE-IN PUMPS UP THE VOLUME

BY JUSTIN HOTOP

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What would the eclipse weekend in Perryville be without a Cruise-In? Not one that Perryville would want to have.

The city will host a special Cruise-In on Saturday, April 6 at 5 p.m.

Cruise-In brings in hundreds of classic car enthusiasts that bring along vintage rides to help celebrate the eclipse. There will be several food trucks, much like other events on the Downtown Square. The Dunkin Criuser Mobile will also be in town to debut a new energy drink.

"We wanted to have a Cruise-In, but pump up the volume on it," Perry County Tourism Director Trish Erzfeld said.

The event will do just that with a pair of special bands that will perform Saturday, April 7th. The live music will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Perryville Downtown Plaza with two high profile cover

bands.

Since 2014, Big Love has been bringing the enduring music of Fleetwood Mac to the Midwest and beyond. Hailing from St. Louis, Big Love features some of the area's top musicians dedicated to providing audiences with an authentic musical experience.

Bat Out of Hell. performing at 6:30 p.m., is one of the newest acts in the tribute category, but every member has been a long-time contributor to St. Louis' overall music scene. Bat Out of Hell boasts a lineup loaded with talent, and both male and female lead vocals and four-part harmony (which is sort of a requirement for Meat Loaf songs). In addition to Meat Loaf's hits (and a full performance of the debut album!), Bat Out of

Hell also pays tribute to Jim Steinman (the mind behind the voice) by performing some of his female-fronted songs (Bonnie Tyler, Celine Dion). But beware! If you go to see this band, you will wake up the next morning with sore

feet from dancing, and a scratchy throat from singing along at full bore.

The other is out of a similar vein.

From the blues influence of founder Peter Green to the emotional contributions of Lindsey Buckingham and Stevie Nicks, Big Love which will take the stage at 9 p.m. takes you on a musical journey celebrating all eras of Fleetwood Mac. Enjoy hits such as Go Your Own Way, Don't Stop, Gypsy, Everywhere, Black Magic Woman, Say You Love Me, Rhiannon, Landslide, Dreams, The Chain, and more with Big Love.

"They are one of the best cover bands in St. Louis," Robynne Duvall said.

OPTIMIST CLUB TO HOST 5K GLOW RUN/WALK DURING ECLIPSE

BY JUSTIN HOTOP

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Brandy Balsman of the Perryville Optimist Club has never ran in a 5K, but she will be in charge of a special one during the eclipse. Balsman is the organizer of the 5K Glow Run/Walk on Sunday, April 7 at 6 p.m. that will wind through the streets of Perryville.

"They've had one of these during the last eclipse and it just went over so well," Balsman said. "I think it's a nice addition to the festivities. This is a good activity for family and youth-oriented organizations."

The route will start out at the Perryville Warehouse Entertainment District and Balsman hopes to see plenty of groups running or walking the streets of Perryville in celebration of the eclipse.

This isn't an ordinary 5K as there will be a "glow" aspect to this event. As part of registration, people will receive a glow "swag pack," that runners can wear as they run through the streets. Balsman also encourages people to bring their own glow attire, whether that's bright shirts or other accessories.

"We want this to be as family friendly as we can make it," she said.

To that degree, people can sign up on the events Facebook page with a link to be able to register. Registration comes with the glow pack and kids 12 and under are free. Balsman hopes to have between 100-150 people in the event. If a person registered before March 22, they will also get a shirt.

"People can have an event that every member of their family can participate in and it doesn't feel like you're breaking the bank," Balsman said.

The 5K will be in tandem with the Silent Disco that will also be held in the Warehouse District. After runners finish with the 5K, they can continue the party at the Warehouse. A silent disco or silent rave is an event where people dance to music listened to on wireless headphones.

Most 5Ks are ran during daylight hours and while people won't be running in complete darkness, Balsman said that there are certain precautions that will be taken to make sure people are

safe running or walking in the evening hours.

"We've worked with the city and there will be a lot of things we do to make sure everyone is safe," Balsman said. "We will have volunteers at stations throughout the run. In terms of daylight, it won't be too terribly dark and most of our streets are well lit. We will make it as safe as possible."

Balsman said the eclipse is meant to be fun, much like her Glow Run.

"The eclipse is just another thing that brings people together for a good time, and showcases Perryville," Balsman said.





PERRYVILLE TO HOST FIRST SILENT DISCO

BY JUSTIN HOTOP

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Perryville will be introduced to a whole new dance craze during the Solarfest. In partnership with 5K Glow Run earlier in the day, people can participate in the first ever silent disco at 6 p.m. on April 7 at the Warehouse District.

After runners finish with the 5K, they can continue the party at the Warehouse. A silent disco or silent rave is an event where people dance to music listened to on wireless headphones. Rather than using a speaker system, music is broadcast via a radio transmitter with the signal being picked up by wireless headphone receivers worn by the participants. Those without the headphones hear no music, giving the effect of a room full of people dancing to nothing.

In the earliest days of silent discos, before 2005, music was transmitted on a single channel. Later a second and a third channel were introduced, transmitting different music.

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Silent discos are popular at music festivals as they allow dancing to continue past noise curfews. Similar events are "mobile clubbing" gatherings, where a group of people dance to the music on their personal music players.

A series of silent discos taking place in cathedrals and historic buildings around the UK and Europe was organized in 2024. A DJ will be set up and there will

be cool party lights where people will be wear-

ing headphones and jam out to one of three

tunes being piped into the headphones.

There will be 300 headphones available for people to check in and out

"The city has recently purchased 40 light up tiles and we will have glow necklaces," Perry County Heritage Tourism Director Trish Erzfeld said. "There will be a lot of glow going on.

It should be fun for everybody. Before anyone says they think it's weird or out of the ordinary, I challenge them to try it before they say they don't like it."





First State



SAFETY FIRST WHEN VIEWING ECLIPSE

BY JUSTIN HOTOP

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To safely view the 2024 Total Solar Eclipse, a person can purchase glasses from several locations around Perryville.

Or...

They can use the glasses already provided for them.

For the last several months, a large, oversized version of the solar viewing glasses have been on display in front of the Perry Park Center for the special occasion.

"I've talked to several people so far and they think they are very cool," Perry County Heritage Tourism Director Trish Erzfeld said.

Probably the coolest part about the glasses is that they actually work and are not just a piece of art.

"They are certified safe for solar viewing and it's just a cool and educational way to view the upcoming eclipse," Erzfeld said. "We hope to see people and kids use them when the time comes."

The glasses will stay at the Perry Park Center until the eclipse is concluded, in part because the Park Center is one of several viewing sights around town. After that, the glasses will become a permanent part of the sculpture exhibit.

Erzfeld noted that the next eclipse viewing for the state of Missouri will be June 2178. She also re-

iterated the fact that people should not view the eclipse until totality and use properly ISO rated eye protection (not sunglasses). Without protection, human eyes can be permanently damaged if any part of the Sun's disk is visible.







HEAR THE ECLIPSE APRIL 8 IN PERRYVILLE

BY JUSTIN HOTOP

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While most people in Perryville will be looking toward the sky on Monday, April 8 to see the total solar eclipse, another group will experience the celestial event in another way: They will be able to listen to it through a device developed at Harvard University.

The Hear The Eclipse event will be held from 10 am- 3 pm at City Park. The event is hosted by Perryville Fire Department, Perry County Heritage Tourism, Perry County Eclipse Task Force, Perry County School District 32, and Warren Audio and Visual. The event is made possible through a partner-ship with researchers from Harvard University.

"Researchers at Harvard developed a solar sonification prototype for the 2019 south American solar eclipse," said Trish Erzfeld, executive director of Perry County Heritage Tourism and the go-to person for everything eclipse in this area. "This LightSound device allows people with visual impairments including blindness and low vision to 'hear' the eclipse through speakers."

The LightSound works by converting light intensity to sound. As the moon moves in front of the sun, the musical tone changes as the light intensity decreases; as the eclipse reaches totality (which will last nearly 4 minutes in Perryville beginning at 1:58 pm), the sound will represent darkness and the tone will change as the light intensi-

ty decreases as the moon moves past the sun. The LightSound will be broadcast

over a sound system at intervals leading up to and during totality. A limited number of LightSound devices with headphones will be available for the vision-impaired who would like to experience the tones throughout the eclipse. You can learn more about the LightSound project by visiting the website.

"It's the first time that anyone in the United States that is visually impaired will have an opportunity to experience a total solar eclipse this way," Erzfeld said.

In 2019, there were 20 of these devices in Argentina and in 2023 there were a few more devices as part of the Annular Eclipse in 2023 in the United States. Perryville is the only location in Missouri within the path to have this device. The hope is to have 750 devices across the path of the eclipse this time.

"Perryville was fortunate to receive a few of these cutting edge devices, Erzfeld said. "Mike Warren of Warren Audio and Visual has provided the sound system that will broadcast the eclipse sonification. Everyone who has worked on this event hopes to help our visitors create memories of a lifetime."

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