Shine On, Harvest Moon!

Farm stands and the full harvest moon are markers of the turn of the year. Fold in a Friday the 13th, and you’ve got magic!

Magic is what you’ll find at Circle’s Harvest Moon Trivia Night on Friday, September 13! Registration is now open for this popular event. Besides 10 rounds of challenging trivia, a couple of features are new this year. First, we’ve moved! This year’s event will take place at Andre’s West in Fenton (211 S. Old Highway 141), giving your team plenty of space to play. Other big news is that your admission price of $30 includes an OPEN BAR!

Plan to join us on Friday, September 13 for Harvest Moon Trivia.

Choose a favorite beer, wine, well drink or soft drink to compliment your own trivia table snacks!

Bring your sharpest cronies to fly through rounds of easy and not-so-easy trivia questions on topics as far-ranging as fruits of the harvest to superstitions to local lore to so much more!

Plan to join us on Friday, September 13 for Harvest Moon Trivia. All proceeds benefit Circle’s food pantry. A registration form is within this newsletter, or register yourself, a table or a sponsorship (each of which includes a table for 10!) today at circleofconcern.org/events.
Garden For Good

Gardeners are patient people. It can feel like forever from the time a tiny seed or plant becomes a perfectly ripe tomato, but patience makes the time pass.

About six years have passed since Parkway Southwest Middle School first broke ground on a new community garden and their plans to share fresh produce with Circle. Since that time, the program has grown to provide hundreds of pounds of produce to offer variety and wholesome foods to Circle clients. During the school year, the fruits and vegetables are used by the school cafeteria or are devoured out-of-hand by students eager to taste their first home-grown strawberry! More than just a place to grow food, the garden is used by various classes for focused learning – by home economics classes, as a science lab, by shop classes to build raised bed and bird houses and as an outdoor classroom, thanks to the ring of the tree trunk stools.

Many thanks to the students and faculty of Southwest Middle, community volunteers who support the students during the summer, Gateway Greening and, especially, to Greenscape Gardens Nursery that generously provides any supplies needed in the garden. You all are truly gardening for good!

Above & Beyond

High praise and big thanks to all who made our two big summer food drives possible – the Letter Carriers “Stamp Out Hunger” drive in May and the June drive at Walmart-Highlands. Special recognition to drive coordinators (Scott Reichter, Steve Ernst, Lynn & Guy Freese, Sally & Jim Allen, Cathy Stamm and Steve Comfort), our friends at the Ballwin and Valley Park post offices and everyone at Walmart-Highland.

Drives like these are sometimes at the mercy of the weather, and this year, rain impacted the amount of food collected at both drives. Many thanks to all our volunteers who braved rain and storms this year to help us keep enough food on the shelves through the summer!

Holiday Adoption—one of Circle’s favorite programs—is gearing up, and we’ll need you! If you sponsored a family in the past, watch for a letter about the schedule for this year’s event. If you are new to Holiday Adoption, check out circleofconcern.org for more information!
“I used to go to Circle.”

The man whispered this to one of our staff members after she gave a talk to a community group. He then said that he’s doing fine now and that he donates to give back. This is maybe the second most common thing people say to us when we’re out and about, behind “There’s a food pantry in West County?” Each time we hear it, it reminds us that our clients are our neighbors, that an unforeseen circumstance can cause a family to lose everything and that we’re grateful that, with your help, we are here for our community when needed. Thank you.

Before Sunset...

A reminder - the statute establishing the Missouri Food Pantry Tax Credit is set to sunset on December 31 of this year, and we can’t predict if it will be reinstated. That means that any gifts of food and/or money to Circle you make this year still qualify for this valuable 50 percent tax credit program. Please plan to give generously this year before the calendar turns to 2020!

Many thanks...

to Ava and her mom, valued volunteers and members of the National Charity League. After spending volunteer hours at Circle, Ava launched a food drive, resulting in a donation of 75 boxes of cereal. Thank you, Ava!
We share many donations with our clients:
- Food, Canned and Packaged
- Fresh Garden Produce
- Dry Pet Food, Litter
- New School Supplies
- New Blankets, Hats, Gloves

Donations are accepted:
Mon, Tue, Fri .................. 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Wednesday .................. 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Thursday ..................... 9 a.m. - noon
Saturday ...................... 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Register for Trivia!
circleofconcern.org/EVENTS

Important Dates:

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<td>August 26</td>
<td>Circle Board Meeting 5:30 p.m. at Circle</td>
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<td>August 31</td>
<td>Circle closed for Labor Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 2</td>
<td>Harvest Moon Trivia Night at Andre’s West, Fenton</td>
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<td>October 31</td>
<td>Holiday Adoption Sponsor Commitments Due</td>
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