



# WHISPERING HILLS

HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

## *President's Message*

The long hot days of summer are transitioning to cooling temperatures, which allow us to get out and enjoy the splendid sight of trees changing colors and enjoy seasonal celebrations like Thanksgiving for the adults and Halloween for the young.

Maybe you're planning a drive in the countryside or to a winery to enjoy the vibrant colors that surround you. But even if you aren't, the variety of trees in our own subdivision is a beautiful sight to see.

We have much to be thankful for and we all need to take a moment and reflect on the many blessings we enjoy, living in a free country with family and friends.

If you haven't spent time with your neighbor lately, a cool night on the patio over a cup of coffee or glass of wine is a great way to get reacquainted. I am always amazed to find out how many people live most of their lives within the confines of home, missing out on camaraderie, and so much that's going on. Don't be one of them - get out and meet your neighbors.

Fall is a wonderful time for sports enthusiasts, with the baseball season moving into the divisional play-offs and the football season just getting started.

# FALL 2014

So if you're looking for something to do with a neighbor or friend, St. Louisans have a couple of great teams and sports venues to enjoy. If you don't want to spend the money or time to actually go to a game, you can invite a friend to your home – or why not the clubhouse with its big screen TV? – to watch a game or two with you.

And let's not forget that this is a great time for kids too! They'll love playing in that pile of leaves you've just spent two hours raking up, or splashing in the outdoor pool, while you soak up the late summer sun in one of those comfortable lounges. If the kids are too small for that, you can relax under the pines, while they enjoy our wonderful playground with swings, slides and other rides. And if they are older you can drop them off at the tennis or volley ball courts where they can expend all that energy that they are famous for.

The Whispering Hills Subdivision is a beautiful community and you should be proud to be part of it. The amenities provided by our recreational facilities are among the best and you should make every effort to use them as often as possible. Thank you all for being such good neighbors!

*John Schembri*

*President and Trustee*

[www.whisperinghillssubdivision.com](http://www.whisperinghillssubdivision.com)

# WHISPERING HILLS NEIGHBORS

## University-Bound Son

*...of Glenn Cheng and Elizabeth O'Brien*

Our son, David Cheng graduated from Parkway North High School in May and will be attending Loyola University in Chicago this fall.



*Best Wishes for Success, David!*

## And the Award goes to...

Lauren Mullikin (daughter of Celia), winner of the Global Scholar award at Bradley University.

*Well Done, Lauren!*

## First Grandchild

*...for Cheri Connely*

My granddaughter was born on May 7. She was 7 lbs. 6 oz. and was 21 1/2 inches long. Her name is Milly Ray. The proud parents are my daughter, Sheena and Brian Mullhall. We are so grateful and truly blessed, for she is our little Angel!



*Beautiful, Grandma!*

Feel free to send us news of you or your family that you'd like to see in the next newsletter – graduations, weddings, travel, births, retirement, etc. These can be emailed anytime to Michelle Hardin @ [whisperinghillsneighborhood@gmail.com](mailto:whisperinghillsneighborhood@gmail.com).

# WHISPERING HILLS EVENTS



*Wednesday, September 17, 2014*

## ADOPT-A-DOG!

8 WEEK OLD PUPPIES - DACHSHUND MIX MOTHER AND UNKNOWN FATHER  
Held in Clubhouse 4-6 pm



*Friday, September 19, 2014*

## FLU SHOT CLINIC HOSTED BY WALGREENS

RSVP TO 434-5400  
Held in Clubhouse 3-6 pm



*Saturday, October 11, 2014*

## ELECTRONIC & METAL RECYCLING

Held in Clubhouse Parking Lot from 8-10 am



*Thursday, November 13, 2014*

## PRE-BLACK FRIDAY SHOPPING EXTRAVAGANZA

18-22 VENDORS WILL BE PRESENT TO SHARE PRODUCT  
AND INFORMATION ABOUT SERVICES THEY PROVIDE.  
Held in Clubhouse 6:30 - 8:30 pm

SEPTEMBER 2014						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				
September Holidays Labor Day - 1						

OCTOBER 2014						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	
October Holidays Columbus Day comes - 13 Halloween - 31						

NOVEMBER 2014						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						
November Holidays Daylight Savings Time Ends - 2 Veterans Day - 11 Thanksgiving - 27						

# WHISPERING HILLS NEIGHBORS

## ROBERT SCHEINKMAN'S FREE ROSE OF SHARON OFFER



I have Rose of Sharon plants free to our neighbors. They're at least "\$7-size." They grow beautifully at the corners of property or as hedges, and are in their flowery glory during our long falls.

Fall is the opportune time to transplant and homeowners can choose from the blue or the white variety.

Take one or more, FREE, as desired to grow in your yard. I'll dig them up. If you want one or more to be dug and planted, I'll arrange that for you with my gardening handyman.

**12633 WHISPERING HILLS LANE, 314-434-2348**

# WHISPERING HILLS NEIGHBORS IN BURANO, ITALY



*Celia Mullikin and daughters, Lauren and Jenny*

# WHISPERING HILLS NEIGHBORS IN EPHESUS, TURKEY



# Celia's Travel Tips for Overseas

1. Always make a copy of your passport before you leave.
2. It is not necessary to exchange dollars to euros before you go. You get a better rate at an ATM over there!
3. Book train tickets and tours in the states to get a better rate.
4. Always notify your bank or credit card company to let them know that you will be out of the country during specified dates.
5. Stop the paper and mail before a long trip and notify one of your neighbors that you will be out of town so that they may keep a watchful eye.
6. Dress in layers! Many countries are chilly in the morning and evening, but hot in the middle of the day.
7. When visiting *certain* cathedrals or places of worship in Europe, shoulders and knees need to be covered.
8. On cruise ships, internet access can be quite costly. Wait until you are at port to find a restaurant or cafe with free wifi (with purchase of food or drink).
9. On long flights, keep hydrated; drink lots of water and get up and move every few hours.
10. Stay healthy! Never drink the local water even if they tell you it's treated and fine. You may have an allergic reaction to the water treatment chemicals (like someone I know).



11. Gentlemen: find a place other than the back pocket of your slacks for your wallet. Don't be pickpocketed (like someone I know).
12. Lastly, but most importantly - relax, have fun, and take lots of pictures to share with your friends and neighbors!



# Squirrels & Oak Galls

Q

I have a 40 foot Pin Oak tree in our front yard that is full of growths that look like knotty wood balls.

The squirrels are chewing on the balls and causing them to crumble all over our street and yard, as well as wads of stems and leaves.

The squirrels have cut down so many of these just this week that I filled up a 1/4 of an 50 gallon trash can within two days. I don't know if this is doing permanent damage to my tree. Does anybody have any suggestions to remedy this?



A

What you've described is gall damage and it is cosmetic but not lethal and no control is necessary or practical.

Tiny insects known as gallflies or minute non-stinging wasps lay their eggs in the twigs.

The larvae of the insect cause the mutation (gall) to form and live there for about 2 years. No one knows why the squirrels are eating the galls other than they serve as food until the acorns mature. Generally, there is nothing one can do to control these galls.

Unless other problems start to manifest themselves – premature leaf drop, discoloration or attack by other foliage destroying insects – you can sit back and enjoy one of the small wonders of Mother Nature.



In the fall, rake up and destroy all the fallen leaf litter to help break the cycle of infestation.

Oak galls have occurred in pin oaks for the past 15-20 years. However, recently several opportunists are taking advantage of the situation and going door-to-door selling a drastic pruning and pesticide injection program to "save" your trees. The pesticide they inject into the Pin Oaks is extremely toxic to birds and mammals and will do no good in controlling the galls at this time of the year.

Most professional arborists will not recommend control measures unless the gall population is extreme. There is a systemic insecticide that reduces gall populations, but it has to be in the tree as the leaves are expanding in the spring and applied for three consecutive years.

# Managing Lawn Mushrooms

**Have** you ever walked outside after a rainy night to find that your lawn has sprouted mushrooms? Rainfall and increased humidity in late summer and early fall serve as an open invitation for mushrooms to cause a ruckus on otherwise tame lawns. The good news: most will pack up and leave without any damage to the surrounding grass.

**Mushrooms** are fungi that feed off decomposing and decaying matter like old tree stumps, animal waste, time worn mulch and forgotten construction debris.

**This** essentially means you cannot permanently eradicate mushrooms without excavating the lawn. This is also why you shouldn't try to combat mushrooms with fungicide, as the actual fungus in this case is located underground. Altering the conditions of your lawn will help prevent mushrooms from appearing by following these simple steps:

1. **Rake up and remove the mushrooms.** Only experts can distinguish between edible and poisonous mushrooms, so this is particularly beneficial if you have young children or pets.
2. **Reduce irrigation.** In St. Louis, mushrooms thrive on over-watering, heavy rainfall and poor drainage. This is why people with new sod, which requires frequent watering, often encounter sudden mushroom growth in their lawns.
3. **Remove pet waste** and rotten plant debris. Exhausting all of the food sources for fungus off the surface of your lawn will hamper its chances of growing in the future.
4. **Raking up thatch** will help eliminate any decomposing materials on the surface and allow the soil to breathe.
5. **Aeration improves drainage** and allows air to penetrate the subsurface and circulate deep in compacted soil. Mushrooms, while unsightly, are easy to manage with the right lawn care plan.



## *Vg... Slugs*

*Slugs.* They'll eat your vegetables, fruits, flowers, and greenery. Slugs can eat foliage faster than the plant grows, effectively killing it or making it more susceptible to disease and environmental conditions. Did you have a slug problem this year? Don't give up, even if your attempts at slug prevention fell short. You'll need to decide whether to sacrifice some plants, kill the poor little guys with slug bait (organic or chemical), or repel them from your plants using organic methods. Next year why not try one of these products?

## *Organic Baits*

Two of the best organic snail and slug bait products on the market are Sluggo and Escar-Go (cute, huh?) which contain iron phosphate. They are safe to use around pets, humans, fish, birds, beneficial insects, and mammals.



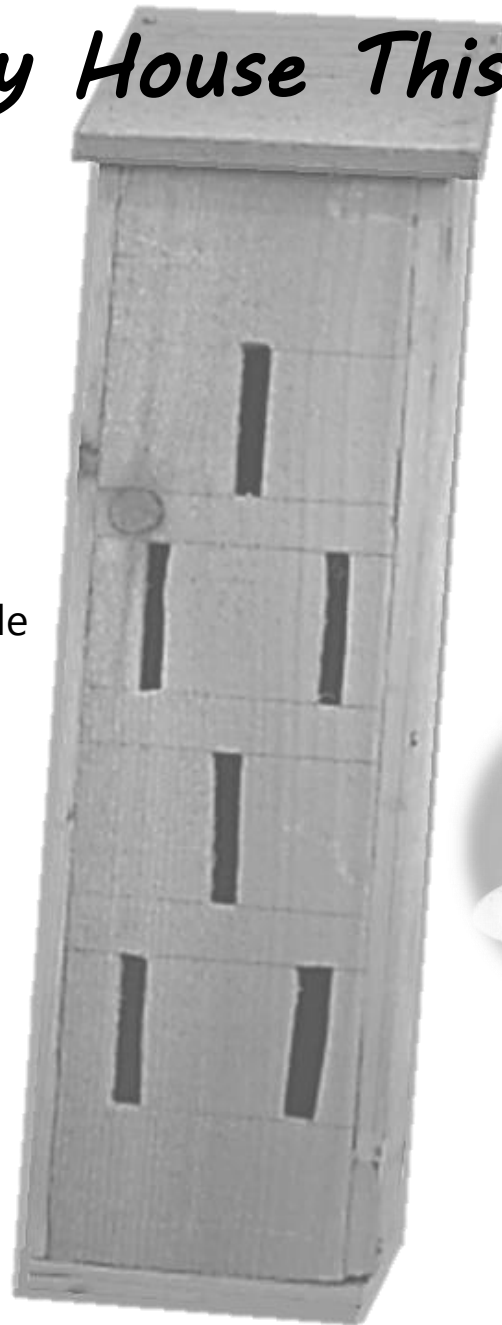
Slugs belong to the mollusc family, just like their tasty relatives - oysters, squid and clams.

For other organisms, including earthworms and certain ground beetles, no harmful effects are known. You can also safely use iron phosphate around ornamentals, lawns, gardens up to day of harvest.

# *Build a Butterfly House This Winter*

Where do butterflies go when it rains or is cold? Some, like the monarch, migrate, but most find a hollow log or crevice to hide in. Why not make it easier on butterflies you attract to your garden? Make them a place to hide during inclement weather! This butterfly house requires only two cedar planks:

5/8" x 4" x 6' and  
5/8" x 6" x 6'





# 30 Second Mysteries



## Case # 1

A masked man is attacked by a gang of five men who shoot at him, then quickly flee. The man survives the attack, but the gang returns again and again until their time is up and they leave. The masked man moves to a new location hoping for better luck, but another gang attacks him and so he goes back to his original spot, hoping for a reprieve. Unfortunately, the next night a different gang of men attack him and again he must fight to protect his spot.

*The mystery: Who is the masked man and why does he keep getting attacked?*

### 4 Clues

- The man was doing his job when the gangs attacked him.
- The gangs that attack him don't fire guns.
- The man is often attacked three times or more in a single night all within 60 minutes.
- The man is goal oriented and wears a mask as part of his profession.

## Case # 2

A single man is found dead, face down in the snow, far from his home. There are no tracks around him, nor is there any sign of a struggle or evidence of a wound. Hundreds of people witnessed his death but only he could have prevented it.

*The mystery: Who was the man and what was he doing when he met with his untimely death?*

### 4 Clues

- The man paid to be where he was at and didn't have any known enemies.
- The man was dressed warmly at the time of his death, but wasn't wearing shoes.
- The man was preparing to engage in an athletic activity when he came to his sudden death.
- The man's final act was a desperate grasp for his chair.



# 30 Second Mysteries



## Case # 3

Although he is not now in the military, this man has awakened each morning since the early 1960s and put on a uniform to go to work. He is admired by many of his countrymen and has a black beard. He lives on an island, loves baseball and always sports a black beard.

*The mystery: Who is this man and what does he do for a living?*

4 Clues

- He is often seen wearing a green military cap.
- He was once exiled from his country but returned to overthrow the government.
- The island on which he lives is famous for rum and cigars.
- The presence of missiles on the island was once his greatest bane.

## Case # 4

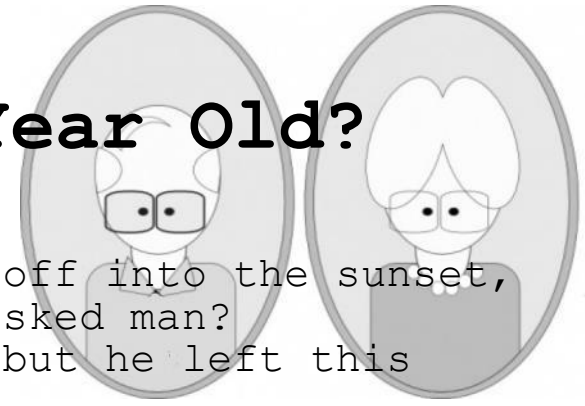
A 12 year old girl cowers in a large room, in a far corner – alone. She is so nervous she suddenly gets up to leave, but she's stopped by a woman clad in a uniform - who soon abandons her in another room, closing the door firmly behind her. The girl's fear increases, but she obeys the woman's instructions to stay. All of a sudden a man in a mask approaches her from behind, holding a sharp metal object. He instructs her: "relax." He is here to "take her pain away." Her eyes clench shut and ...

*The mystery: Where is the 12 year old girl and what is the man with the sharp object going to do?*

4 Clues

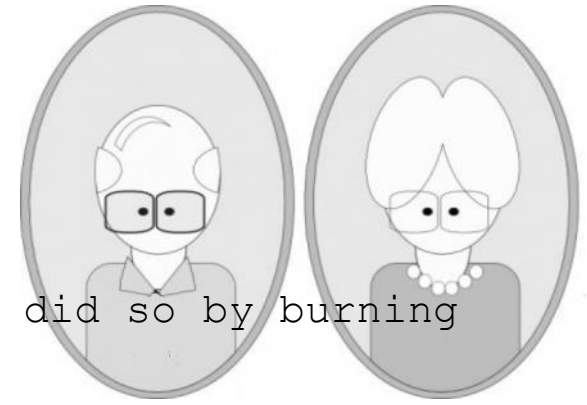
- The girl avoided this building in the past.
- Although she was afraid, her mother brought her here to stop the pain.
- The girl heard buzzing in her ears while the man worked.
- Although the man took something away, he replaced it filler.

# Are You Smarter Than A 60 Year Old?



1. After the Lone Ranger saved the day and rode off into the sunset, the grateful citizens would ask, who was that masked man? Invariably, someone would answer, I don't know, but he left this behind. What did he leave behind?\_\_\_\_\_.
2. When the Beatles first came to the U.S. In early 1964, we all watched them on The \_\_\_\_\_ Show.
3. 'Get your kicks, \_\_\_\_\_.'
4. 'The story you are about to see is true. The names have been changed to \_\_\_\_\_.'
5. 'In the jungle, the mighty jungle, \_\_\_\_\_.'
6. After the Twist, The Mashed Potato, and the Watusi, we 'danced' under a stick that was lowered as low as we could go in a dance called the '\_\_\_\_\_.'
7. Nestlé's makes the very best... \_\_\_\_\_.'
8. Satchmo was America's 'Ambassador of Goodwill.' Our parents shared this great jazz trumpet player with us. His name was \_\_\_\_\_.
9. What takes a licking and keeps on ticking? \_\_\_\_\_.
10. Red Skeleton's hobo character was named \_\_\_\_\_ and Red always ended his television show by saying, 'Good Night, and '\_\_\_\_\_...'

# Are You Sure You're Smarter Than a 60 Year Old?



11. Some Americans who protested the Vietnam War did so by burning their (2 things)...
12. The car with the engine in the back and the trunk in the front had 2 nicknames...
13. In 1971, singer Don MacLean sang a song about "the day the music died." This poignant song was a tribute to whom?
14. We can remember the first satellite placed into orbit. The Russians did it. Its name?
15. What was a huge fad of the late 50's and 60's, cost \$1.98, and was made, originally, of bamboo, then later, plastic tubing?
16. What does "L.S./M.F.T."?
17. "Hey Kids! What time is it!?"
18. "Who knows what secrets lie in the hearts of men?"
19. There was a song that came out in the 60's that was "a grave yard smash." Its name?
20. Alka Seltzer used a "boy with a tablet on his head" as its logo/representative. What was the boy's name?

Detective Sherlock Holmes gazed around the cluttered dingy flat. The aging famous columnist Max Worthington had been fatally stabbed! – and his agent, Roger, had called the police when Max failed to submit his column to the newspaper.

Max's body was draped over his manual typewriter. Detective Holmes glanced at the paper in the typewriter. It appeared to be the writer's column. The victim's head rested on the keyboard and had apparently hit random keys causing the last line of the article to be followed by "49t34 w5qgg3e j3."

The detective was surprised to see that Max had used a typewriter rather than pen his columns by hand. Roger, Max's agent, explained that Max found it therapeutic to pound the keys on his typewriter.

From a list of acquaintances provided by Max's agent, the detective questioned the following people:

Marisa had been separated from Max, her husband, for the last year and a half. Although initially the split had been amicable, lately things had gotten nasty about the latest division of their assets. Max was willing to give Marisa the mansion and a generous lump sum payment, but wanted to draw the line at the excessive alimony being demanded by Marisa's lawyer. Marisa was living in the mansion and had a generous pre-alimony settlement and an extremely attractive new boyfriend.

## Sherlock Holmes Solves The Typing Riddle

Jillian was Max's current girlfriend. She definitely was a looker and by all appearances was extremely high maintenance. She was also the spring in this May/December romance.

Although crying, she was devastatingly attractive in her designer dress. She had a Gucci bag, wore emerald and diamond jewelry and on her wrist a new Rolex. The detective suspected her grief was for the loss of her "grave train" and not for the deceased.

Max's brother, Gerald, had been dating Marisa when Max had stolen her away. Gerald still held a grudge and blatantly told the detective that "he was glad his brother was dead and good riddance". He hinted that he might try to win Marisa back, now that his brother was dead.

After a brief investigation, Detective Sherlock knew the identity of the murderer and an arrest was made. Whom did he arrest?

**See Last Page for Answer**

# Why *are* there four seasons on Earth?

If the Earth's axis was *perpendicular* to its orbital plane, there would be *no seasons*. And the lengths of day and night would be quite constant in any given location – every day of the year!

The Earth's seasons are caused by a combination of two factors:

- the Earth's axial tilt - and -
- its distance from the Sun during the orbital period

The planet is *tilted* with a *constant*  $23.5^\circ$  offset of its axis from a direction perpendicular to the Earth's *orbital plane*.

This puts a different Hemisphere towards the Sun at different times of the year – which is the single, most contributing factor to our seasons.

When the Earth is at a certain place in its orbit, the Northern Hemisphere is tilted toward the Sun and experiences summer (and of course, the southern Hemisphere is tilted away from the Sun and is in winter).

Six months later, when the Earth is on the *opposite* side of the Sun, the Hemispheres, due to the tilt of the axis from the orbital plane, experience the opposite seasons.

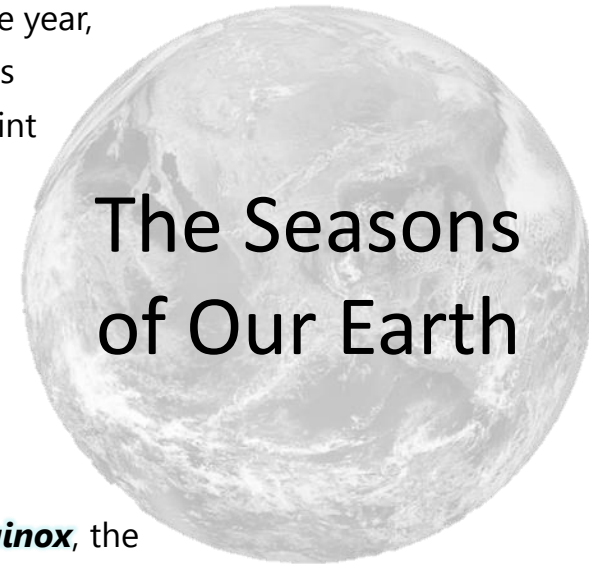
It's common now to refer to the Equinoxes and Solstices by the months in which they occur instead of by seasons, since seasons are opposite in the Northern and Southern Hemispheres during these events.

On the **September Equinox**, the Sun rises exactly due east and sets exactly due west. The **December Solstice** is the darkest day of the year, when the Sun reaches its most southern point in the sky at noon.

After this date, the days start getting "longer," i.e., the amount of daylight begins to increase.

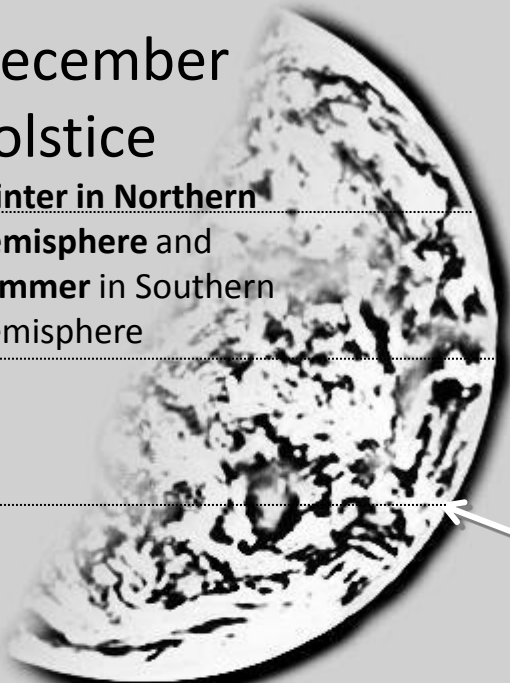
On the **March Equinox**, the Sun rises exactly due east and sets exactly due west.

On the **June Solstice**, we enjoy the most daylight of the calendar year. The Sun reaches its most northern point in the sky at local noon. After this date, the days start getting "shorter," i.e., the length of daylight starts to decrease.



## December Solstice

**Winter in Northern Hemisphere and Summer in Southern Hemisphere**



Tropic of Cancer

Equator

Tropic of Capricorn

Sun appears directly overhead Tropic of Capricorn

Sun appears directly overhead Tropic of Cancer

Tropic of Cancer

Equator

Tropic of Capricorn

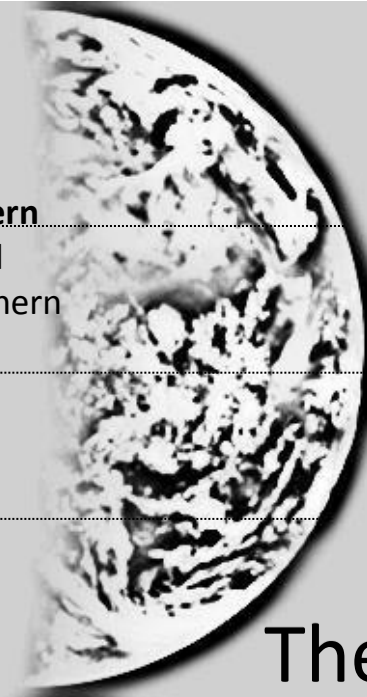
## June Solstice

**Summer in Northern Hemisphere and Winter in Southern Hemisphere**



## March Equinox

**Spring in Northern Hemisphere and Autumn in Southern Hemisphere**

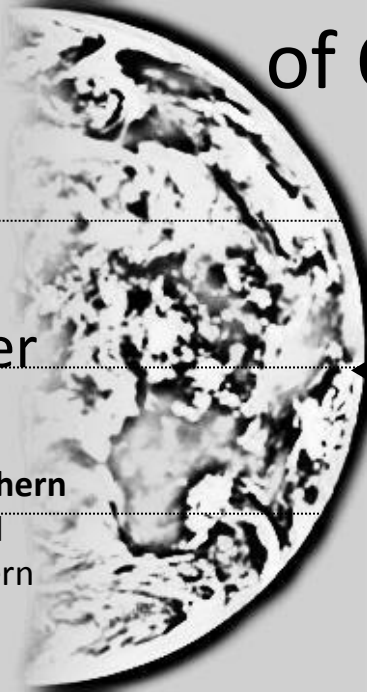


Sun appears directly overhead equator

# The Seasons of Our Earth

## September Equinox

**Autumn in Northern Hemisphere and Spring in Southern Hemisphere**

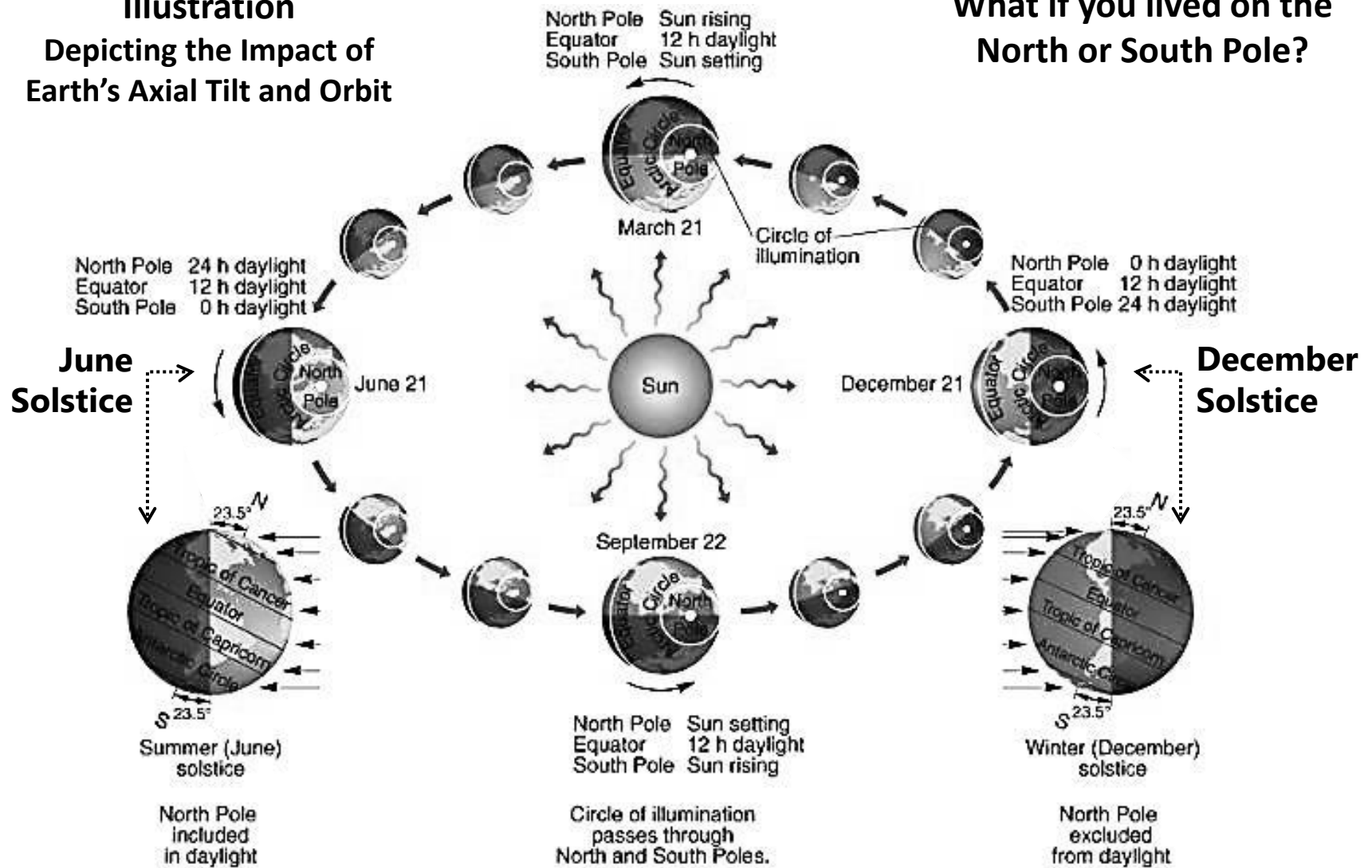


Sun appears directly overhead equator

# An "Oldie But Goodie" Illustration Depicting the Impact of Earth's Axial Tilt and Orbit

## March Equinox

What if you lived on the  
 North or South Pole?



## September Equinox

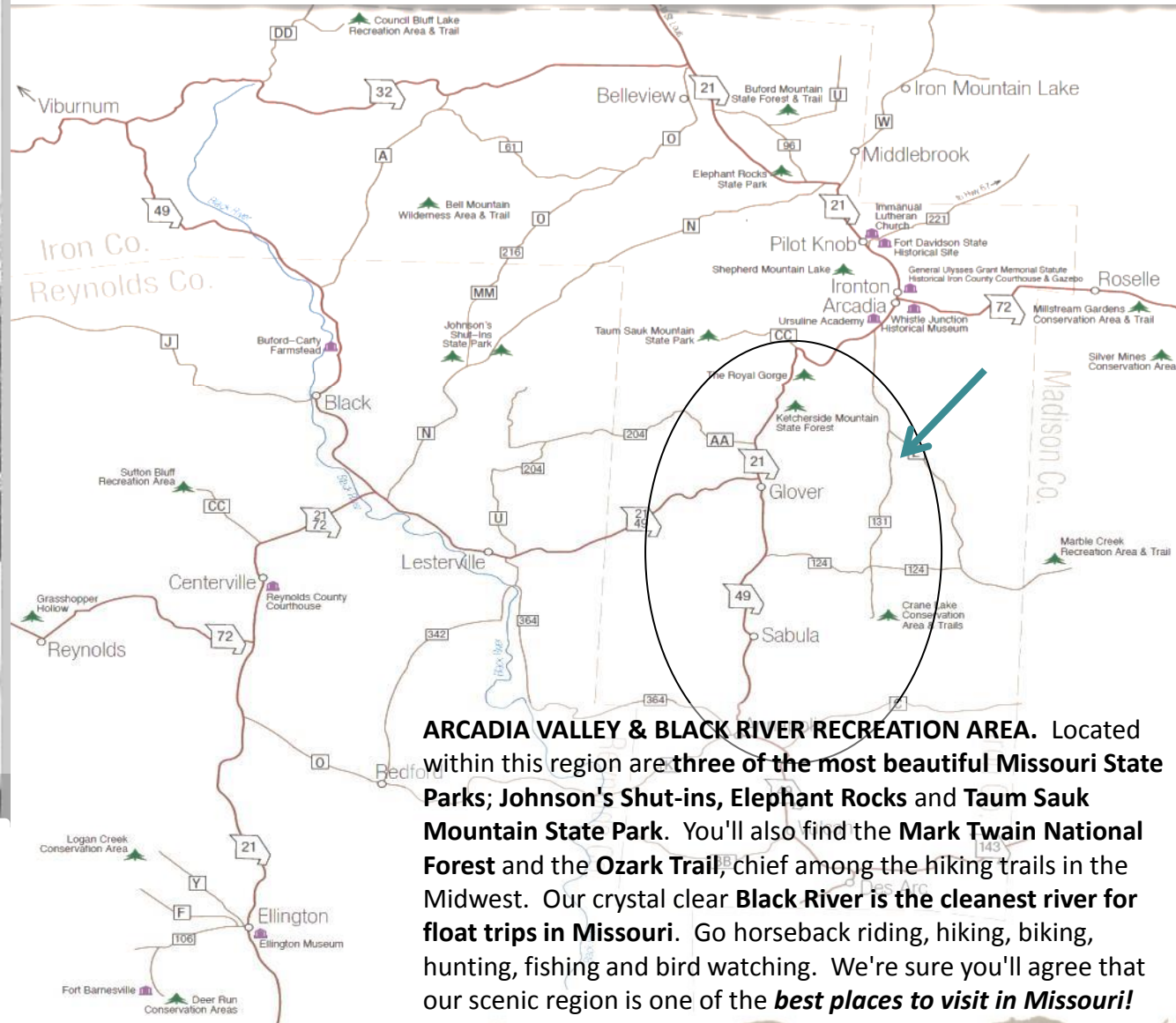
# ARCADIA VALLEY & BLACK RIVER RECREATION AREA

MISSOURI VACATION!

VISIT THE PEACEFUL SIDE  
OF THE OZARKS

This year, do the  
**Hwy 21 Autumn  
Foliage Drive!**

**JUST 1.5 HOURS FROM ST. LOUIS TO IRONTON.**



**ARCADIA VALLEY & BLACK RIVER RECREATION AREA.** Located within this region are **three of the most beautiful Missouri State Parks; Johnson's Shut-ins, Elephant Rocks and Taum Sauk Mountain State Park.** You'll also find the **Mark Twain National Forest** and the **Ozark Trail**, chief among the hiking trails in the Midwest. Our crystal clear **Black River** is the **cleanest river for float trips in Missouri.** Go horseback riding, hiking, biking, hunting, fishing and bird watching. We're sure you'll agree that our scenic region is one of the **best places to visit in Missouri!**

Before you know it, the busy holiday season will be upon us. Yet, autumn is the perfect prelude to the holiday season and the hibernation of winter.



It's a time to restore the soul and replenish the spirit.  
So, don your hat and gloves, layer some clothing,  
and venture into the outdoors...  
where you can quietly immerse yourself  
in the glories of nature.

### *Case # 1*

The man is a hockey goalie who is trying to keep the other teams players from making a goal in his net.

### *Case # 2*

The man was a skier who was riding a chair lift to the top of a snow peak when he lost his balance and fell to his death.

### *Case # 3*

The man is Fidel Castro, the former Communist Party leader of Cuba, who served as Prime Minister, then President, for 49 years.

### *Case # 4*

The girl is at the dentist to get her cavity filled.

## **Sherlock Holmes Case**

Detective Holmes had no choice but to arrest Roger, Max's agent. After all, Max had left behind irrefutable evidence of the murderer's identity: "49t34 w5qgg3e j3"... Max had managed to type the message after being stabbed, but his fingers were positioned one row too high on the keyboard, as he typed what was to be his final message.

Eventually Roger confessed that Max had planned to terminate their business association, and in a fit of anger, Roger had stabbed him.

Now, the famous detective was left to wonder only if Max's "error" was indeed an error. What do you think?

## **Smarter than 60 Year Old? (Page 14)**

1. A silver bullet
2. The Ed Sullivan Show
3. on Route 66."
4. protect the innocent."
5. the lion sleeps tonight."
6. Limbo
7. chocolate."
8. Louis Armstrong
9. The Timex Watch
10. Freddy, the Freeloader  
may God Bless."

## **Smarter than 60 Year Old? (Page 15)**

11. Draft cards and bras
12. Beetle and Bug
13. Buddy Holly
14. Sputnik
15. Hoola-hoop
16. Lucky Strike Means Fine Tobacco
17. "It's Howdy Doody Time!"
18. The Shadow
19. Monster Mash
20. Speedy