

**Special Thanks:
Fund Raising Committee
Ray Beck and Hank Waters, Co-Chairs**

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Barbara Hoppe
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Sean Spence
Greg Steinhoff
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Karen Taylor

and

All contributors who gave generously to this project



**Dedication of
Darwin and Axie Hindman
Discovery Garden**

October 16, 2012



From time to time, special people cross our paths, lift our spirits and inspire us like few others. Darwin and Axie Hindman are two such people. This garden honors their contributions to our community and reminds us that the dreams and passion of individual citizens can blossom, endure and define Columbia.

Darwin, Columbia's longest serving mayor (1995–2010), believes the primary role of government is to "ensure as many people as possible have satisfactory lives." This guiding principle has allowed him to see beyond the needs of competing short-term interests and use his unique leadership skills to cheerfully cajole and persuade decision-makers to act in the broader interests of all Columbians, including those without power or position.

Darwin dreams big dreams and has never tired in his drive to make them materialize. To this end, he has been a tireless and effective advocate for economic, cultural, educational and recreational opportunities in Columbia and beyond. His vision of a beautiful, walk-able and bike-able, tree-filled city has become a general community value. He is a nationally recognized leader in the areas of parks, trails, accessibility, active living and sustainable economic development.

Many people believe Columbia got "two for the price of one" by electing Darwin mayor. Devoted to making Columbia the best possible place to live, work and play, Axie has been Darwin's ever-supportive political partner, confidante and wife. During his term of service, she attended almost every public event, ground-breaking and official dedication with him or for him. She worked tirelessly and provided leadership in the areas of women's health, cultural arts and historic preservation.

Darwin's and Axie's contagious enthusiasm for life, learning, community and nature, along with their utter transparency and honesty, inspire and motivate us all. Beautiful, livable communities don't happen by accident. They happen because of people like the Hindmans.

Please enjoy the garden. Its creativity, color and diversity are a fitting metaphor for lives well lived. Thank you Darwin and Axie Hindman!

~ Text provided by the Fund Raising Committee

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Funds for the Darwin and Axie Hindman Discovery Garden were raised privately. Efforts were led by former City Manager Ray Beck and *Columbia Daily Tribune* Publisher Emeritus Hank Waters. More than \$70,000 was raised, exceeding initial goals. The Garden was planned and will be maintained by Columbia Parks and Recreation staff.

## Darwin and Axie Hindman Discovery Garden

Stephens Lake Park

Dedication Ceremony

5:30 pm, October 16, 2012

Welcome ~ Master of Ceremonies, Vicki Russell, Publisher, *Columbia Daily Tribune*

Remarks ~ Hank Waters and Ray Beck, Fund Raising Committee Co-Chairs

Remarks ~ City of Columbia Councilwoman Barbara Hoppe, Ward 6

Remarks ~ Mike Hood, Director, Columbia Parks and Recreation

Remarks ~ Ellen Thomas, representing the Hindman family

Remarks ~ Ann K. Covington, Chief Justice, Missouri Supreme Court, Retired

Remarks ~ Darwin and Axie Hindman

Ribbon Cutting ~ Columbia Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors

### City Council

Bob McDavid, Mayor

Fred Schmidt

Michael Trapp

Gary Kespohl

Daryl Dudley

Helen Anthony

Barbara Hoppe

Mike Matthes, City Manager

Mike Hood, Parks and Recreation Director

### Columbia Parks and Recreation Commission

Marin Blevins, Sue Davis, Terry Kloeppel, Bill Pauls,

Dan Devine, Meredith Donaldson, Linda Hutton