

Help your fellow Columbians through CASH and HELP

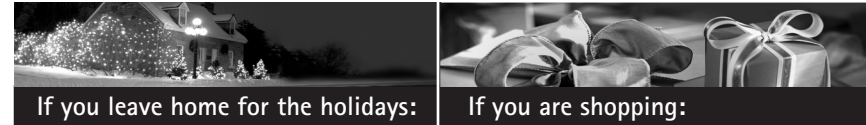
Everyone feels the pinch of increased prices, but people with low incomes or fixed incomes are hit harder. Can you imagine choosing between buying food and paying your utility bill?

You can help by filling out the contribution slip on this month's utility bill return envelope for the CASH and HELP programs. These programs were established to help seniors, the disabled and families with children pay their utility bills.

Both the CASH and HELP programs have had additional requests over the last year. Some requests have not been met. By giving a little extra, you can help someone in our community.

Holiday safety reminders

The Columbia Police Department's Community Services Unit would like to extend the warmest holiday greetings. We would also like to remind you that criminals will not hesitate to take advantage of you during this time of year. Please read the following suggestions for keeping safe this holiday season.



If you leave home for the holidays:

- Suspend mail & newspapers.
- Close window blinds & shades.
- Put your lights on a timer.
- Lock your doors and windows.
- Leave a radio or television on.
- Ask the Police for a "watch in passing."

If you are shopping:

- Park in a well-lit area.
- Keep your vehicle doors locked.
- Don't leave packages in plain sight.
- Shop in groups.
- Carry your credit cards or money in a front pocket; leave your purse at home.

For more safety tips or if you have questions, contact Sgt. John White at 874-7606.

New purpose to old buildings

The Daniel Boone Building has stood at 701 East Broadway since 1917. Originally a hotel and tavern, this venerable building is undergoing a three-phase project to expand and renovate City Hall. The soon-to-be completed Phase 1 features lobby renovations and new offices for Utility Customer Services, including a canopied, drive-thru area for utility customers, and temporary offices for the Finance Department.

Phase 2 involves demolishing the current utility services "annex" at 8th and Broadway followed by construction of a five-story addition on the east side of the Daniel Boone building. Scheduled for completion by late 2009, plans include City Hall Plaza, which will feature public space and a "Percent for Art" project.

Phase 3 will include complete interior renovation of the Daniel Boone building, plus energy-efficient windows, a new reflective roof and an exterior facade compatible with the new addition. Work will take about one year.

A series of bond issues will allow funding of the project without raising taxes. When completed, City offices currently housed in rental spaces throughout downtown will move back into the City Hall complex, achieving a goal to centralize City services in an easily accessible cluster of recycled, historic buildings that also includes the recently renovated Howard and Gentry buildings.

A Phase 1 open house will occur in November or December. Details of the open house and addition renovation updates will soon be posted at www.GoColumbiaMo.com.

COLUMBIA REGIONAL Airport **573.874.7508**
www.GoColumbiaMo.com
 (Search: GoAirport)

- Daily round-trip flights to Kansas City
- US Airways & Midwest Airlines codeshares
- Free parking
- Shorter check-in lines

*NEW Skyline Cafe' Restaurant
 now open for breakfast & lunch in the main terminal*

Youth recreation scholarships

Columbia Parks and Recreation offers youth financial assistance scholarships for Columbia residents through the Youth Enrichment Services (YES) program. The program is open to those between 3 and 17 who meet the income/household criteria established by the USDA's free and reduced lunch program.

Financial assistance is available for 50 percent or 75 percent depending on the household. Scholarships can be used for recreational classes & programs, outdoor pool passes and ARC memberships.

For more information, call 874-7460. Application forms can be obtained at www.GoColumbiaMo.com.

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 (573) 874-7111
www.GoColumbiaMo.com

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 Darwin Hindman

City Council Members:
First Ward
 Almeta Crayton

Second Ward
 Chris Janku

Third Ward
 Karl Skala

Fourth Ward
 Jerry Wade

Fifth Ward
 Laura Nauser

Sixth Ward
 Barbara Hoppe

City Manager
 Bill Watkins

CITYSOURCE

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❖ Your source for City news and information ❖

Celebrate 2008

Ring in the New Year at mid-Missouri's premier celebration that marks the passage of time through the arts! Revelers can travel from one location to the next enjoying more than 70 performances, dancing, activities and art for all ages at 15 venues in downtown Columbia and Stephens College. A 5K run begins at 4 p.m.

Young revelers can visit the "Create and Celebrate" area and participate in their own procession at 9:15 p.m. that will end with a bubblewrap jump and fireworks display. At 11:30 p.m., two People's Processions will lead revelers to the finale at Courthouse Square with entertainment, a pyroball countdown and spectacular fireworks at midnight.

Admission buttons purchased prior to the event are \$8 for those 8 years and older, \$10 at the door. Buttons will be available Dec. 1 online at <http://firstnight.missouri.org> or Dec. 12 at the Columbia Parks and Recreation office at #1 South 7th Street, the ARC, Streetside Records and Gerbes supermarkets. Volunteers receive free admission (874-7499). Call 874-7460 or visit the Web site for information.

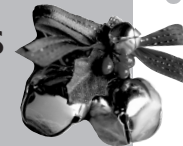
First Night Columbia is sponsored by Boone Hospital Center, 102.3 BXR & KFRU 1400 Radio, City of Columbia, Columbia Convention and Visitor's Tourism Development Program, Columbia Daily Tribune, KOMU-TV8 & CW, Missouri Arts Council (a state agency), Stephens College and U.S. Cellular.

Celebrating New Year's Eve in the District

Enjoy more than 70 performances & activities at 15 venues downtown & Stephens College. Doors open at 6pm, Monday, December 31, 2007

Artwork by Dennis Murphy

Christmas holiday



City offices will be closed Tuesday, Dec. 25, in observance of Christmas.

Residential refuse and curbside recycling collection will not be made that day and will be delayed one day the remainder of the week. Contact the Solid Waste Division at 874-6291 if you have questions. Also, City buses will not operate, the landfill will be closed and parking meters will not be enforced.

Winter weather safety and awareness

BEFORE WINTER STORM Have a disaster plan and prepare a supplies kit for your home and car. Include a first-aid kit, canned foods and can opener, bottled water, battery-operated radio, flashlight, protective clothing and blankets. In case of a power outage, have an emergency heat source: fireplace, wood stove or space heater.

DURING WINTER STORM Stay indoors and dress warmly. Eat regularly to provide the body with energy for producing its own heat. Also, drink lots of water. If you must go outside, wear layered clothing, mittens and a hat. Watch for signs of hypothermia and frostbite. Always change wet clothing to prevent the loss of body heat. If you must drive, carry a cell phone, keep the gas tank full and let someone know where you're going. If your car gets stuck, don't wander off; it's best to wait for help.

AFTER WINTER STORM Avoid driving until conditions have improved. Avoid overexertion! Heart attacks from shoveling snow are the leading cause of deaths during the winter. Check on neighbors, especially the elderly. An excellent resource on this topic is the National Weather Service (NWS) Web site: www.nws.noaa.gov/om/winter/index.shtml.

Volunteer of the month

Written by Lauren Kilberg, *volunteer*

The City of Columbia recognizes Trish Wallace as December's volunteer of the month for her service to the Columbia Parks and Recreation's adapted sports program.

Wallace is a hardworking mother of three, one of which has Down syndrome. When not volunteering, she works as an occupational therapist for Columbia Public Schools.

The adapted sports program provides adaptive recreational sports opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities. Wallace has been volunteering for the program six years -- coaching softball and basketball.

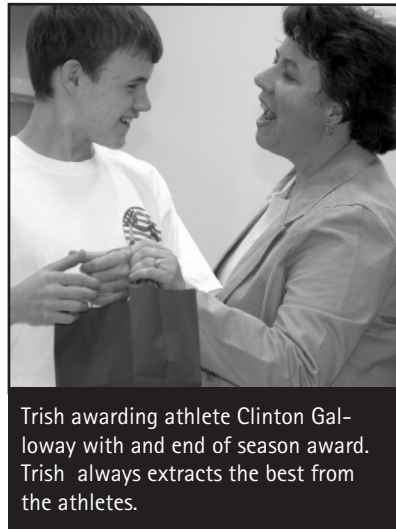
"Finding the 'Trish's' of the world is not always easy," says volunteer supervisor Jody Crane. "Trish has a remarkable understanding and patience with kids who have developmental disabilities."

Coaching brings a big time commitment that Wallace is more than willing to make. Often her role as volunteer requires chaperoning tournament trips.

"With the stresses of working full time, raising a family and the challenges that accompany a child with special needs, Trish still makes time to volunteer," says Crane.

Her involvement with the program has positively benefitted not only the participants but the community as well.

To learn more about the City's volunteer program, contact the Office of Volunteer Services at 874-7499 or visit www.GoColumbiaMo.com.



Trish awarding athlete Clinton Galoway with an end of season award. Trish always extracts the best from the athletes.



View of Wabash Station's East side

Wabash renovations complete

The historic Wabash Station has been completely renovated thanks in part to a grant from the federal government. Senator Kit Bond was in Columbia this fall for the ribbon cutting ceremony to highlight the expansion of the station. Local artists David Spear and Don Asbee created artwork, which is on display in the lobby and outside the facility, as part of the City's Percent for Art project. The Wabash Station is located at 126 N. 10th St.

Super Saver Loans for energy-efficient improvements

Get a low-interest loan from Columbia Water & Light and make energy saving improvements to your home.

- ✓ upgrade to a more energy-efficient cooling and heating system
- ✓ replace a window air conditioner with a central unit
- ✓ install a heat pump
- ✓ add insulation



874-7325
GoColumbiaMo.com

Boards and commissions openings

The City is accepting applications for the following boards and commissions. Applications and vacancies are on the City's Web site at www.GoColumbiaMo.com on the City Council page. Call 874-7208 for information and requirements. Application deadline for the following is noon, Dec. 7.

- Community Services Advisory Commission
- Finance Advisory and Audit Committee
- Firefighters Retirement Board
- Police Retirement Board
- Sustainable Farms Board
- Special Business District Board

**City of Columbia
Solid Waste Division
(573) 874-6291**

**Christmas Tree Recycling begins
December 26th**

watch for your bags coming soon!

Bag Deliveries
Black Trash Bags
December 3-7

Blue Recycling Bags
December 10-14

**Compost for Sale:
Every Wednesday
from 1-5 p.m.
at the city
compost facility,
5700 Peabody Rd.
474-9145**

TreeKeepers class starts January 17

TreeKeepers, a volunteer program offered by Columbia Parks & Recreation and the Office of Volunteer Services, will begin its 11th year in January.

TreeKeepers participants begin with a six-week class on tree care and maintenance. Volunteers are asked to give 36 hours of service to City tree projects.

Classes will be held on six consecutive Thursdays from 6-8:30 p.m. at the ARC, 1701 West Ash St., beginning Jan. 17. Classes are taught by City of Columbia and Missouri Department of Conservation staff and faculty from the University of Missouri.

To learn more about TreeKeepers, contact the City's Office of Volunteer Services at 874-7499 or volunteer@GoColumbiaMo.com.



TreeKeeper Brenda Peculis plants a viburnum at Again Street Park on September 22 as part of a streambank stabilization project.

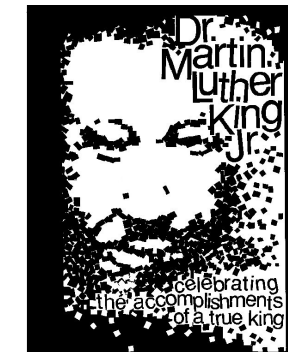
Diversity celebration

Register now for the annual Columbia Values Diversity Celebration, scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 17, from 7 - 8:45 a.m. at the Holiday Inn Select Expo Center. Preregistration is required; the deadline is 5 p.m., Jan. 11.

The cost is \$13 per person and \$11 for children under 12. Scholarships are available upon request. Please call the Office of Community Services at 874-7488 (V) or 874-7356 (TTY) for registration information. A registration form is available on the City's Web site at www.GoColumbiaMo.com.

This year's theme is "The Garden of Humanity: Cultivating a Community of Diversity." A breakfast and live music will be followed by the presentation of the Columbia Values Diversity Awards. The highlight of the event will be an original artistic program honoring the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The celebration is designed to be accessible to all. Please call 874-7488 (V) or 874-7356 (TTY) for more information or accommodations related to disability.



City Hall art

The City Hall renovation and expansion project has been designated for Percent for Art, the program that places site-specific public art in eligible City buildings and facilities. As a result, artist Howard Meehan of New Mexico was selected for the project. Meehan is creating designs that will enhance the public spaces of the overall project, including an associated streetscape and plaza that will be paired with the buildings.

Local artists will be represented in the final buildings, with future commissions for interior art planned as open to local artists only. To be considered, visual artists residing in mid-Missouri should contact the City's Office of Cultural Affairs (OCA) and provide full contact information: name, mailing address, zip code, phone number and email. Reach the OCA at oca@GoColumbiaMo.com, 573-874-7681 (fax) or 573-874-6386 (phone).

- Register online! www.GoColumbiaMo.com
- Call 874-7460 for more information.

Columbia Parks & Recreation CALENDAR December

- 1 City Kwanzaa Celebration, Douglass High School Gym, 2-5 p.m., Free
- 7 Holiday Concert, Parkade Center, 12:45 p.m., Free
- 7 Visit with Santa, Paquin Tower, call to arrange your group visit at 874-7473
- 7 OAK/50+ Holiday Dance, Parkade Center (east side), 601 Bus Loop 70W, 7-10 p.m., \$3
- 8 Santa Hotline, children ages 3-10 can call the North Pole between 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- 12 New Leisure Times guide is published, registration begins for winter classes
- 19 Holiday Sights and Lights Tours, meet at the ARC, 6:15-7:30 p.m. or 7:45-9 p.m., \$5 for adults, \$3 for kids 12 and under, preregister
- 31 Boone Hospital First Night 5K Run/Walk, Flat Branch Park, 4 p.m., \$20 preregistration fee, \$25 day of run for adults; \$12 preregistration and \$15 day of run for 12 and under
- 31 First Night 2008, *The District* and Stephens College, 6:30 p.m.-midnight, admission button is \$8 for ages 8 and over; \$10 at door



Holiday toys for Columbia's youth

Columbia Parks and Recreation is teaming up with the Neighborhood Resource Center for the annual Toys for Columbia's Youth toy drive.

While you are out shopping this holiday season, please pick up an extra toy for a low-income boy or girl. Toys can be dropped off at the Armory Sports Center (701 E. Ash) or the downtown Parks and Recreation office (#1 South Seventh St.).

Monetary donations are also being accepted at the Parks and Recreation office, in the form of cash, check or Visa/ MasterCard. Donors will receive a letter of acknowledgement for tax deduction purposes. The monetary donations will be used to buy additional toys.

In 2006, more than 225 children were served by the program; each received at least three toys. This year, donations will be accepted until Dec. 19.

For more information about being a donor or a recipient, please call Parks and Recreation at 874-7460.