

November volunteer of the month



Corey Dye

When you ask people how they successfully quit smoking, they will probably say they did it with help. For more than 700 local residents, that assistance has been available from the Smoking Cessation Program at the Columbia/Boone County Department of Public Health and Human Services.

Volunteers like Corey Dye are specifically trained to counsel people in cessation and provide ways of coping with addiction.

Dye's supervisor, Carolyn Davidson, says that the time Dye gave to the program had a measurable impact on the community.

"Corey selflessly donated one day per week during summer semester 2009 and met with clients who wanted help in quitting smoking. He enabled our program to offer additional hours and serve a larger number of citizens," Davidson said.

Dye is studying chemistry and hopes to work in pediatric medicine, so his volunteer work with the Smoking Cessation Program seemed a good way to get involved with an important health issue. His training emphasized counseling; it taught him to "help people identify what their smoking triggers are and come up with creative ways to avoid them." Dye says that his sessions with program participants would last 30 to 45 minutes, and participants would also be given smoking patches.

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

—Submitted by volunteer Sarah G. Madden

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 or 75 percent depending on the household. Scholarships can be used for recreational classes and programs, outdoor pool passes and ARC memberships.

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

Boards & commissions

The City is accepting applications for the following boards and commissions:

- Community Services Advisory Commission
- Firefighters Retirement Board
- Police Retirement Board
- Sustainable Farms Board
- Public Communications Resource Advisory Committee
- Special Business District

Application deadline is noon, Dec. 4. Applications and current vacancies are available online at www.GoColumbiaMo.com or at the City Clerk's Office. Call 874-7208 for information and requirements.

Help your neighbors in need! Donate to utility assistance

CASH and HELP

Can you imagine choosing between buying food and paying your utility bill? It is not an easy choice for many Columbians. You can help by filling out the contribution slip on this month's utility bill return envelope for the CASH and HELP programs or filling out the online form. 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. There are many times when the money for these programs runs out on the first week of the month. By giving a little extra, to one or both programs, you can help someone in the community.

• 573-874-7380

• www.GoColumbiaMo.com/Finance/Forms/cash-help.php

Donations to the program are tax deductible. All money donated to the program goes to help those in need.

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City of Columbia
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(573) 874-7111 • www.GoColumbiaMo.com

MAYOR
Darwin Hindman

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

First Ward	Paul Sturtz
Second Ward	Jason Thornhill
Third Ward	Karl Skala
Fourth Ward	Jerry Wade
Fifth Ward	Laura Nauser
Sixth Ward	Barbara Hoppe
City Manager	Bill Watkins



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CITY SOURCE

www.GoColumbiaMo.com



Your source for City news and information



City Hall progress update

On Sept. 23, City Council members and the local media got their first look at the interior of the new City Hall addition. Under construction since May 2008, the new facility will add 72,000 square feet of office and public space, plus an outdoor plaza and streetscape with public art.

The addition includes a new Council chamber, Council offices and first-floor meeting rooms. The second floor includes offices for the mayor, city clerk, city administration, Law Department and Information Technologies. Public Works will be on the third floor, and Water & Light will occupy the fourth floor. Finance, Planning and Protective Inspection will be on the fifth floor. Print and Mail Services, City Channel and Information Technologies helpdesk personnel will be housed in the basement.

When the addition opens around the end of March 2010, staff in the existing Daniel Boone Building – except those in Utility Customer Services and Treasury Management – will move to the new addition while the old structure is gutted and renovated. Old windows will be replaced, including those that were bricked up years ago, and a color coating will be applied to match the red brick color of the addition.

The building design has been submitted to the U.S. Green Building Council for LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) certification that the project was designed to improve performance in energy savings, water efficiency, CO2 emissions reduction, indoor environmental quality, stewardship of resources and more. The City Hall project is expected to receive a silver level of certification. Work on the entire project is expected to be complete by the end of 2010.



Did you know?

You only need one ticket when flying from Columbia Regional Airport! One ticket will take you from Columbia to your final destination (with a stop at Memphis International Airport). For more information on how to book tickets, visit the Web site at www.FlyMidMo.com and select COU as your airport code.

Online Utility Services, NO Waiting!

GoColumbiaMo.com is the fastest, most convenient way to start new service, terminate your service or transfer your service to a new location. Already a customer? You can check your account, pay your bill or even e-mail a question. No access to a computer, no problem. You can still access your account, check your balance and due date and even pay your bill. Just call 874-7694. First-time users will need to have their social security number on file at Utility Customer Service, know their account number and set up a PIN. Questions? Call customer service at 874-7380.

Budget

FY 2010 budgeted expenses adopted by the City Council on Sept. 21 are, overall, about three percent lower than costs budgeted in FY 2009. Savings and rate and fee increases still were needed to preserve core City services. Highlights are listed below. For more information, see the FY 2010 City budget online at GoColumbiaMo.com.

To improve capacity to resolve code enforcement complaints, some employees now housed in the Health, Public Works, Police and Public Communications departments will merge into a new Neighborhood Services office.

The budget includes a new Office of Sustainability, partially funded over three years with federal Energy Stimulus Block Grant funds. A sustainability manager will implement plans to reach energy reduction goals and achieve savings for the City organization and other parts of the community.

City utility customers can expect residential rate increases for water, sewer and electric services. The average monthly increase for a residential customer is projected at \$8.70 and is right at the average monthly increase experienced over the last three fiscal years.

The budget includes more than \$798,000 in fee and user charge increases for some health, recreation, planning and development services. City employee base pay was preserved, but some benefits were pared, and there are no pay raises.

The City's fiscal year starts Oct. 1 and ends Sept. 30.

Super Saver Loans for energy-efficient improvements

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

- * upgrade to a more energy-efficient cooling and heating system
- * install a heat pump
- * add insulation

- 874-7325
- GoColumbiaMo.com



Christmas holiday

City offices will be closed Friday, Dec. 25, in observance of Christmas. Residential refuse and curbside recycling collection will not be made that day and will be delayed until Saturday. 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.

Lang Volunteer Award

In 2010, the City of Columbia and the New Century Fund will again recognize an outstanding volunteer for his/her contribution to city government with the Howard B. Lang Jr. Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service.

The award is made possible by Leo Hill, a past city manager who worked with Howard Lang when he served as mayor of Columbia. Hill wished to honor Lang for his service to the City through this award.

Ed Kaiser, a longtime volunteer with the Columbia Public Works and the Columbia Police Department received the award in 2009.

Nominees may take on any volunteer role that benefits the City: a board, commission or task force member, elected official or volunteer with any of Columbia's City departments. The recipient will be chosen based on his/her impact, initiative and length of service. Nominations will be accepted through Jan. 8, 2010. The recipient will be honored at the citywide spring volunteer reception.

Application forms and other details will be posted on the City's Web site at www.GoColumbiaMo.com. You may also learn more by contacting the Office of Volunteer Services at 874-7499.

Holiday happenings

Columbia Parks and Recreation is offering several special events to celebrate the season. Contact 874-7460 or check www.GoColumbiaMo.com for more information.

CITY KWANZAA CELEBRATION

Saturday, Dec. 5, 2-5 p.m.
Douglass High School
Celebrate this African-American holiday based around developing positive families and communities. There will be community awards, entertainment and a holiday feast. This event is free.

SANTA HOTLINE

Saturday, Dec. 5, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Children age 3-10 can call the North Pole from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and personally speak with Santa, Mrs. Claus or one of the many elves. Call 874-7473 or 874-6335 only on this date!

SANTA'S SPLASH AND DASH

Friday, Dec. 11, 4-9:30 p.m.
Drop your children (ages 6-10) off at the ARC Water Zone for some Christmas crafts, swimming, movies and snacks while you do your holiday shopping. Pre-registration is required. You may drop off and pick up your child at anytime during this event. Space is limited. Price is \$20 first child, \$15 per additional child.

Student writing program

The Columbia Values Diversity Celebration Planning Committee is seeking student writings which reflect the spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King as his legacy is honored in the annual celebration of his life and teachings. The theme this year is "Everyone Counts!" Submissions should include the reasons why you believe everyone counts and should incorporate Dr. King's dream of peace, justice and equality for all people.

Students grades 4-12 are invited to submit an original essay, poem, song or rap. Selected entries will be chosen by an independent selection committee for publication in the 2010 Columbia Values Diversity Celebration Student Writings Booklet. This booklet will be distributed to more than 1,100 people at the annual community celebration on Jan. 14 and published on the Celebration Web site.

Submission information and guidelines are available through:

Columbia Public Schools teachers and principals grades 4-12

-Or-

City of Columbia's Office of Community Services:

Phone: (573) 874-7488 (v) or 874-7356 (tty)

E-mail: OCS@GoColumbiaMo.com

On the Web: www.GoColumbiaMo.com (Go Word: [GoDiversityCelebration](http://GoDiversityCelebration.com))

The deadline for submitting an entry is Friday, Nov. 20, 2009.

Columbia Values Diversity Awards

Help us celebrate diversity in our community by nominating an individual, family, organization or group for the 13th annual Columbia Values Diversity Awards. Show your appreciation for those who have had a significant impact in promoting diversity and cultural understanding!

These awards will be presented at the 17th annual Columbia Values Diversity Celebration on Thursday, Jan. 14, recognizing people whose work in our community exemplifies the life and teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. by fostering individual dignity, racial equality, understanding, peacemaking and solving problems through nonviolence.

Two awards will be presented: one individual/family award and one organization/group award.

The deadline for nominations is Friday, Nov. 27, 2009. Nomination forms are available by calling the Office of Community Services at (573) 874-7488 (v) or 874-7356 (tty) or on the Web at: www.GoColumbiaMo.com (Go Word: [GoDiversityCelebration](http://GoDiversityCelebration.com)).

Neighborhood Leadership Program

Do you serve as a leader in your neighborhood or have an interest in helping your neighbors work together to address common concerns? You may be interested in the Neighborhood Leadership Program designed by the City of Columbia to assist those who serve as leaders in their neighborhoods.

The Neighborhood Leadership Program will include eight sessions on topics including an overview of local government, public safety, code enforcement, the planning and development process and ideas to strengthen neighborhoods. Participants will get new ideas for their neighborhood and network with others in the community who face similar challenges. The content of the series should be helpful to those with years of experience as well as those just getting started in neighborhood efforts.

Sessions are scheduled for eight Tuesday evenings from Jan. 18 through April 20. Applications will be accepted through Dec. 1. Twenty-five applicants will be selected and will be notified of their acceptance by Jan. 1. There is a \$25 registration fee; scholarships are available. To learn more and to register, call 874-7504 or visit the City's Web site at www.GoColumbiaMo.com.

PARKS & RECREATION

CALENDAR

Register online!
www.GoColumbiaMo.com

Call 874-7460 for information

December 5

Santa Hotline, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., call 874-7473 only during this time

December 5

City Kwanzaa Celebration, Douglass High School Gym, 2-5 p.m., free

December 9

New *Leisure Times* is published

December 11

Santa's Splash and Dash, ARC, 4-9:30 p.m., pre-registration required, \$20 per child, \$15 additional child

December 31

Boone Hospital First Night 5K Run/Walk, Flat Branch Park, 4 p.m.

December 31

First Night 2010, The District and Stephens College, 6:30 p.m.-midnight, admission button is \$8 for ages 8 and over, \$10 at the door

cut along line



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 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 Street). Monetary donations are also being accepted at the Parks and Recreation office. The donations will be used to buy additional toys. Donations will be accepted until Dec. 18.

For more information, please call Parks and Recreation at 874-7460.