

Public Assembly

Every day, millions of people wake up, go to work or school, and take part in social events. But sometimes the unexpected happens: an earthquake, a fire, a chemical spill, an act of terrorism or some other disaster. Routines change drastically, and people are suddenly aware of how fragile their lives and routines can be. Each disaster can have lasting effects - people may be seriously injured or killed, and devastating and costly property damage can occur.

People entering any public assembly building, such as a restaurant, theater, church, nightclub or bar, need to be prepared in case of an emergency. **Should you enter?**

Take a good look. Does the building appear to be in a condition that makes you feel comfortable?

Before you enter have a communication plan. Identify a relative or friend beforehand to contact in case of emergency and you are separated from family or friends.

Plan a meeting place. Pick a meeting place outside to meet family or friends with whom you are attending the function.

When you enter, locate exits immediately. When you enter a building look for all available exits. Always be prepared to use the exit closest to you.

Check for clear exit paths. Make sure aisles are wide enough and not obstructed by chairs or furniture. Check to make sure your exit door is not blocked or chained.

Do you feel safe? Does the building appear to be overcrowded? If you do not feel safe in the building, leave immediately.

During an emergency react immediately. If an alarm sounds, you see smoke or fire, or other unusual disturbances immediately exit the building in an orderly fashion. Use your closest exit.

Get out, stay out! Once you have escaped, stay out.

Council Action

The Council on March 17:

- Authorized construction of the Downtown Improvement Project. The current budget includes \$95,000 to begin implementation of Phase I of the overall downtown improvement master plan. The first phase provides for the installation of new benches, trash receptacles, bicycle racks and the design of a downtown signage system.
- Authorized an agreement with Boone County for animal control services. The Boone County Commission contracts annually with the city of Columbia for animal control services. The contract amount for calendar year 2003 is \$125,300.
- Amended Chapter 14 of the City Code relating to speed restrictions on Route AC. The ordinance sets the speed limit on Route AC (Grindstone Parkway) to 35 miles per hour from Providence Road to 520 feet east of the center line of Buttonwood Drive and to 50 miles per hour from 520 feet east of the center line of Buttonwood Drive to Bluff Creek Road.
- Authorized an agreement with the Housing Authority of the city of Columbia for acquisition of vacant lots for affordable housing and to administer a tenant-based rental assistance program. The 2002 Amended HOME Action Plan approved by the City Council on Feb. 17 allocates \$307,500 of HOME funds to the Columbia Housing Authority for this purpose.

This is just a brief look at the Council's actions. Complete minutes are available at the City Clerk's Office, 701 E. Broadway, the Columbia Public Library or on the Internet at www.GoColumbiaMo.com on the City Council page.

City Council Elections

On April 8 Second Ward Councilperson Chris Janku was reelected to another term. Also, Brian Ash was elected to serve as Sixth Ward Councilperson. Both were sworn in during a Special Council meeting on April 14.

Youth Recreation Scholarships

Columbia Parks and Recreation offers scholarships for youth through the Youth Enrichment Services (YES) program. Scholarships can be used for the ARC. Call 874-7460 for more information or find the application form on-line at www.GoColumbiaMo.com on the Parks and Recreation page.

CITYSOURCE

www.GoColumbiaMo.com vol. 8 no. 6 June 2003

Your source for city news and information

Opportunities to Volunteer in the Homeland Security Effort

Homeland security - a term we hear often followed by a question of "What do I do about it?" The City of Columbia recently received two grants from the State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) to create more awareness and opportunity for citizen involvement in this issue.

With the help of a SEMA grant, the city will create a Citizen Corps program. Citizen Corps focuses on opportunities for people across the country to participate in a range of measures to make their families, homes and communities safer from the threats of terrorism, crime and disasters of all kinds. The four component programs of Citizen Corps include Neighborhood Watch, Volunteers in Police Service, Medical Reserve Corps and Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT).

The Columbia Fire Department received nearly \$5,000 to create a CERT program. CERT provides emergency preparedness and basic response training to citizens. When emergencies happen, CERT members can give critical support to first responders, provide immediate assistance to victims, and organize spontaneous volunteers at a disaster site.

If you are interested in volunteering for Citizen Corps or CERT, call 874-7499 or e-mail volunteer@GoColumbiaMo.com.

A Note from the Columbia/Boone County Office of Emergency Management

The Columbia/Boone County Office of Emergency Management would like to relay the following information regarding state homeland security.

- It is highly unlikely that we would have a nation-wide red level alert. The purpose of a red alert is to cause maximum effort to disrupt and prevent a terrorist attack based upon credible intelligence.
- There are no known active terrorist targets in the state of Missouri.
- There always has been and always will be the need to be aware of domestic terrorist groups, though they have not been recently active.
- It is believed that any current terrorist event that is related to the war would occur in the early days and be less probable as the war is continued.
- We are encouraged to be ever vigilant, report suspicious activity, but go about our daily routine and lifestyle.

Joint Communications Observes 25 years

In April, Public Safety Joint Communications (also known as Joint Communications or 9-1-1) observed 25 years of service to the citizens of Columbia/Boone County.

Joint Communications provides emergency dispatch service for emergency responders in Columbia and Boone County.


The 9-1-1 system was first considered by the City in 1970 and in 1972 the system went on line for Columbia prefixes only.

In 1977, a Public Safety Joint Communications Advisory Board was created and on Dec. 5, 1977, new employees were chosen from various communications, radio and public service backgrounds and began training for the Joint Center. Equipment was consolidated and relocated in the basement of the Police/Fire building at 600 E. Walnut.

On Jan. 3, 1978 at 11:05 p.m. Joint Communications went on line as one of the first civilian joint communications centers in the state. Since that first day there have been many enhancements to the 9-1-1 system to provide the best service possible.


If you would like a tour or other information about Joint Communications, please call 874-7400 Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



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MayorDarwin Hindman
 City Council Members:
 First WardAlmeta Crayton
 Second WardChris Janku
 Third WardBob Hutton
 Fourth WardJim Loveless
 Fifth WardJohn John
 Sixth WardBrian Ash
 City ManagerRaymond A. Beck

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Columbia Parks and Recreation
CALENDAR

Visit the Parks and Recreation page at www.GoColumbiaMo.com for information and registration or call 874-7460.

JUNE

- 7 Opening Day for Lake of the Woods Pool, Pirates' Landing at Twin Lakes & Douglass Family Aquatic Center
- 7 13th Annual Rottman Memorial Kids' Fishing Clinic, 8am - 12pm, Twin Lakes, Free
- 9-10 John William Boone Rag Time & Early Music Festival, Downtown
- 10 Tee Up the Summer - Junior Golf Program begins (pre-register by May 31)
- 13 Father-Daughter Dance, ARC, 6:30 - 8:30pm, pre-register
- 14 Juneteenth Celebration, Douglass Park, 1 - 8pm
- 14-15 Francis Hagan Match Play Championship, Lake of the Woods Golf Course, registration forms at either course or on the web
- 16 Free Lunch in the Park, Douglass Park Shelter, Mon - Fri, 11:30am - 1pm (ends Aug. 15, excludes July 4)
- 19 Family Night, Douglass Family Aquatic Center, \$1, 7:15 - 8:15pm
- 20 Teen Night, Oakland Family Aquatic Center, 8:30 - 10:30pm, ages 11 - 15, \$1
- 21-22 Francis Hagan Match Play Championship, Lake of the Woods Golf Course
- 28 Mudstock, a mud obstacle course, Twin Lakes Recreation Area, 12pm - 3pm
- 28 Columbia Youth Triathlon & 5K Run, 8am, \$20, ages 8 - 17, Wilson's Beach Club



Pool Hours

ARC
1701 W Ash, 874-7700
Recreational Swimming:
Mon/Wed/Fri 3 - 9pm
Tues/Thurs 3 - 6pm
Sat/Sun noon - 7:30pm
Daily Admission: \$3 youth, \$5 adults

Douglass Family Aquatic Center
Douglass Park
400 N. Providence Road, 442-5019
Open daily, 1 - 7pm beginning June 7

Lake of the Woods Pool
6700 St. Charles Road, 474-7878
Opening Day June 7
Mon - Fri noon - 5:30pm
Sat/Sun noon - 6pm

Oakland Family Aquatic Center (left)
Albert-Oakland Park
1900 Blue Ridge Road, 474-5331
Opening Day May 24
May 24 - 26, 31 - June 6, noon - 6pm
Beginning June 7:
Mon - Fri noon - 8pm
Sat 10am - 6pm, Sun noon - 6pm

Pirates' Landing
Twin Lakes Recreation Area
2500 Chapel Hill Road, 445-8839
Opening Day June 7
Little Mates Cove
Mon - Fri 10am - 8pm
Sat 10am - 6pm, Sun noon - 6pm
Beach/Lake
Mon - Fri 10am - 6pm
Sat/Sun noon - 6pm

Stephens Lake
Closed for construction.

Fees, excluding ARC:
2 years & under, free
3 - 15 years, \$2
16 and older, \$3.25
Fees reduced to \$1.75 after 6pm for ages 3 and older
Pass books are available for purchase.
Visit the Parks and Recreation page at www.GoColumbiaMo.com for information or call 874-7460.

Message from the Solid Waste Division

Reminder! Refuse collection will be on the *Summer Schedule* from May 27 through September 12. All waste must be curbside by 7 a.m. the day of collection or no earlier than 4 p.m. the day before collection.

Moving? Columbia residents may arrange pick up of bulky items such as furniture or carpet on their regular collection day. To learn what items can be picked up FREE, call the Public Works Solid Waste Division at 874-6291.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility, 1313 Lakeview, is open to Columbia residents the first and third Saturdays of the month, April through November, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. To learn more, call 874-6291 or visit the Public Works Department web page at www.GoColumbiaMo.com



Lunch in the Park

Food That's In When School Is Out!

Before we know it, summer will be here, and that means children out of school and having fun!

Unfortunately it also means financial hardship for families that depend on meals provided through the National School Lunch Program during the school year. During the summer, children may not have access to nutritious meals.

The Lunch in the Park program can help fill this gap. This program is available to children up to age 18. The Columbia/Boone County Health Department, along with the Parks and Recreation Department and the Voluntary Action Center, is sponsoring this program for the 3rd year. Lunch in the Park takes place at Douglass Park Shelter every Monday through Friday (except July 4), June 16 through August 15 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. To learn more about this program, contact the Health Department at 874-7356.



June Volunteer of the Month

"Columbia is a good size city but keeps a sense of community among the people who live here. Being a volunteer makes me feel I am a part of the community," says Sally Shahid.

Our June honoree, Sally, is a City TreeKeeper who has donated more than 62 volunteer hours on city projects over the past year. Since the 1997 inception of the TreeKeeper program, volunteers have provided more than \$30,000 in labor to the city.

Sally enjoys weekend volunteer work that takes her outside far away from her workday cubicle. She appreciates learning about Columbia's parks history from the friendly Parks & Recreation staff. Taking part in the visionary work that keeps Columbia a pleasant community inspires Sally to stay active in volunteer service.

The City of Columbia extends our thanks to Sally. To learn more about volunteer opportunities visit www.GoColumbiaMo.com or email volunteer@GoColumbiaMo.com

April was Fair Housing Month

Mayor Darwin Hindman issued a proclamation declaring the month of April as "Fair Housing Month". Representatives of the Columbia Human Rights Commission, the Missouri Commission on Human Rights and the Columbia Board of Realtors were in attendance along with city staff, and community citizens.

In April, the nation observed the 35th anniversary of the passage of the federal Fair Housing Act, the groundbreaking legislation that affirms the right of every American to obtain the housing of their choice without being limited by race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability or familial status.

The Code of Ordinances of the city of Columbia prohibits discrimination in the sale or rental of housing based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, marital status, handicap, sexual orientation or familial status.

For more information about fair housing, please contact the Columbia Human Rights Commission at 874-7488 (V/TTY) or the Missouri Commission on Human Rights at: (573) 751-3325 (voice) or (573) 526-5091 (TTY).

Volunteering Keeps Kids Busy This Summer

This summer, the City's Office of Volunteer Services will sponsor Youth In Action, a volunteer program for kids 12 - 15 years old. Through Youth In Action, participants will have the opportunity to volunteer in a number of structured, supervised activities. Activities will be held on evenings and weekends and will include assisting at special events as well as community agencies.

The Office of Volunteer Services has teamed up with the Voluntary Action Center to publish a directory of summer youth opportunities. The directory is a great tool for kids who want to set their own volunteer schedule.

To learn more about Youth In Action or to receive a directory, call 874-7499 or e-mail volunteer@GoColumbiaMo.com

Martin Luther King Memorial Restoration Project Reaches Milestone

The campaign to raise \$100,000 to restore the Martin Luther King Memorial Gardens has reached its halfway mark. Over \$50,000 has been raised for the project that will repair the Memorial and create an endowment for future maintenance. Special thanks to Commerce Bank, the William T. Kemper Foundation, Boone Electric Community Trust, the MU Athletic Department and Boone County National Bank for their significant contributions to the campaign.

To learn more about the campaign or find out how you can make a tax deductible contribution, contact the City of Columbia New Century Fund at 874-7504 or www.NewCenturyFund.org