

CITYSOURCE

Your source for city news and information

April Showers Bring the Fun of Volunteer Hours

Contribute to your community this Spring and discover the joy volunteerism brings by choosing to participate in one of the following volunteer activities. Call the Office of Volunteer Services at 874-7499 to register or visit www.GoColumbiaMo.com

Plant Trees along Hinkson Creek April 5

Join the City of Columbia for a 1,000 tree planting project on Saturday, April 5! The tree planting will take place along the Hinkson Creek near the intersection of Scott Boulevard and Vawter School Road in southwest Columbia.

There will be tasks for any age and opportunities for family and friends to work together. The planting will begin at 8 a.m. and be done by early afternoon.

Park Patrol Training April 17

Park Patrol volunteers help keep our trails one of Columbia's jewels by serving as friendly faces to trail users, keeping an eye out for suspicious behavior, and making sure the trails are clean and in good repair.

The first Park Patrol training for 2003 will be held on Thursday, April 17 from 6 to 8 p.m. at City Hall. Volunteers must be 18 years of age and undergo a criminal background check.

Did you know?

Community Line

By dialing the city of Columbia's Community Line at 874-7650 (TTY 874-7697), message 752, you can learn about current volunteer opportunities.

On the Web

Downtown parking meters are enforced from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday, except for holidays. Additional parking information can be found on the Public Works Department's Parking Utility pages at www.GoColumbiaMo.com

Cleanup Columbia April 12

Lend a hand to keep our community clean by participating in Cleanup Columbia 2003.

Volunteer groups register through the City's Office of Volunteer Services and then pick up trash at their assigned location on the morning of April 12. After the pickup, all volunteers are invited to lunch at Twin Lakes Recreation Area.

Cleanup Columbia is possible due to the support of sponsors including APAC-Central Missouri Division, Atkins, the Columbia Daily Tribune, KOMU TV 8 and 102.3 BXR.

To learn more about the event, contact the Office of Volunteer Services at 874-7499 or visit us on the web at www.GocolumbiaMo.com Deadline to register is April 4.

The Power of Trees



Did you know that with well placed shade trees you can save up to 30% on your summer cooling bills? Sign up for the Tree Power program and you can find out the best place for shade trees in your yard. After your evaluation, you will receive a coupon for a free shade tree.

This program is available to Columbia Water & Light electric customers only. Call 874-7325 or visit www.GoColumbiaMo.com

Give Your Paycheck a Boost

Are you eligible for some tax credits? Check out the following to find out.

Missouri Tax Relief Credit

If you paid real estate taxes or rent last year you might qualify for a \$750 tax credit from the State of Missouri!

- 65 or older?
- Under 65 and 100% disabled?
- A U.S. veteran who is 100% disabled as a result of military service?
- Are you 60 or older and a surviving spouse receiving social security payments?

If you could answered 'yes' to one of the questions above and your income is \$25,000 or less for a single person or \$27,000 or less for a married couple filing a combined return then you might be eligible!

See your Missouri tax booklet for more details. If you need assistance contact the Missouri Department of Revenue's Tax Assistance Center at 884-6851. Persons 55 and older can also get assistance from the Boone County Council on Aging, 443-1111.



CITY SOURCE is published by the City of Columbia as a public service to the residents of Columbia, Missouri. The City of Columbia does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, marital status, handicap, familial status, or sexual orientation.

Mayor: Darwin Hindman. City Council Members: First Ward, Almeta Crayton; Second Ward, Chris Janku; Third Ward, Bob Hutton; Fourth Ward, Jim Loveless; Fifth Ward, John John; Sixth Ward, John Coffman. City Manager: Raymond A. Beck

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Council Action

The Council on Jan. 6:

- Accepted a donation from Jim and Billie Silvey for the purchase of a police motorcycle and equipment for the Police Department. The \$16,500 gift will provide for two motorcycles and two traffic officers.
- Amended Chapter 19 of the City Code as it relates to military leave. The effect of the change is to not count the employee's normal week-end days off as military leave.

The Council on Jan. 21:

- Authorized an agreement with the Boone County Historical Society for caretaking services at Nifong Park. The agreement authorizes the city to pay the society \$12,000 for a caretaker for Nifong Park and the Maplewood Home.
- Called for a municipal election to be held April 8 to elect Council members for Ward 2 and Ward 6.

The Council on Feb. 3:

- Amended Chapter 29 of the City Code relating to on-site automobile and bicycle parking. The changes allow for deferral of some of the required parking in some of the planned districts.

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.

Board Vacancies

The City is accepting applications for the following Boards. Applications and current vacancies are on the City's Web site at www.GoColumbiaMo.com on the City Council page. Call 874-7208 for information and specific requirements.

- Board of Adjustment (1 vacancy)
- Airport Advisory Board (2 vacancies)

Columbia Parks and Recreation CALENDAR

Visit www.GoColumbiaMo.com and click on Parks and Recreation or call 874-7460.

A P R I L

2 **Registration begins for spring/summer programs.** New registration procedure this year! Sign-up for CAMP ADVENTURE only at the ARC, 1701 W Ash beginning at 6 a.m. All other registrations will be taken at either the ARC or at the Parks and Recreation office at 1 S. 7th Street. Look for the Leisure Times activity guide in the Tribune on Wednesday, April 2 or pick-up a copy at the Parks and Recreation office at 1 S. 7th Street, at the library, at local grocery stores or online at www.GoColumbiaMo.com and go to the Parks and Recreation page. Registration forms available at the ARC, downtown or on-line. Call 874-7460 for more information.

5 **Volunteer for the Special Olympics Area Spring Games** held at UMC Stankowski Field. Call 874-7312 to volunteer. Games begin at 8am.

18 **Trivia Night, 7 - 10 p.m., \$150 per team, 10 rounds of 10 questions plus silent auction.** Proceeds benefit Special Olympics of Mo. Sponsored by Columbia Police and Parks and Recreation Depts. To sign up your team or for more information call 874-7312. Location: Cosmo Community Ctr, 1715 Burlington.

24 **Tons of Trucks, Rainbow Softball Complex lot (Cosmo Park), 1615 Business Loop 70 W, 3-7 p.m., Free!** Sit in and climb on Tons of Trucks!

27 **Earth Day 2003** & the Community Volunteer Fair, Peace Park on Elm St. between 6th and 8th Streets, 12 a.m. - 7 p.m. Rain Date May 4. Free.

New! Sign up now for youth and adult tennis lessons and league play for spring, summer and fall seasons. For more information call Lindsay Gibson at 442-1412.

Parks and Recreation Programs Registration Begins April 2

Registration begins for Columbia Parks and Recreation spring/summer programs on April 2. New registration procedure this year! Sign-up for CAMP ADVENTURE only at the ARC, 1701 W. Ash beginning at 6 a.m. All other registrations will be taken at either the ARC or at the downtown office at 1 S. 7th Street such as swimming lessons, classes for all ages (dance, tae kwon do, acting, self-improvement and more), tennis & golf lessons. Look for the Leisure Times activity guide in the Tribune on Wednesday, April 2 or pick-up a copy at the Parks and Recreation office at 1 S. 7th Street, at the library, at local grocery stores or online at www.GoColumbiaMo.com and go to the Parks and Recreation page. Registration forms available at the ARC, downtown or on-line. Call 874-7460 for more information.

Columbia/Boone County Health Dept. Celebrates National Public Health Week

The week of April 7-13, is the annual observance of National Public Health Week (NPHW). The Health Department will celebrate by hosting a series of events and activities throughout the month that will be enjoyable and informative for Columbia's residents.

National Public Health Week is an opportunity to recognize the contributions of public health to the nation's well-being, such as making sure residents have clean drinking water, preventing thousands of cases of communicable disease each year and encouraging citizens to make healthy lifestyle choices.

This year's theme is "Getting in Shape for the Future: Healthy Eating and Active Living." The goal during April is to educate community members about the health risks associated with this fast-growing epidemic and to present communities and individuals with ways to "shape up their future."

Approximately two-thirds of all American adults are overweight or obese. The proportion of children who are overweight has tripled since 1980. This epidemic is not limited to any particular age, race, ethnic group or gender. For further information about events/activities, please call 874-6345.

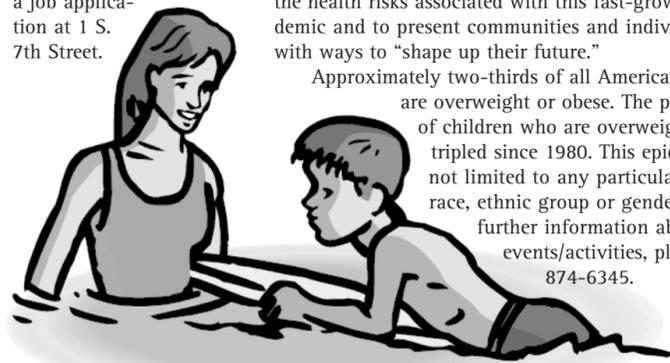
Youth Recreation Scholarships

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.

Summer Job Opportunities

Parks and Recreation is now accepting applications for summer employment. Job opportunities include: pool managers and assistants, lifeguards, swim instructors, cashiers, concession staff and camp staff. Lifeguard training is offered in March, April and May. Teens must be at least 15 years of age. Volunteer opportunities are also available.

Visit our web site, www.GoColumbiaMo.com, call 874-7235, or pick up a job application at 1 S. 7th Street.





Study Circles Program Returns

"I had a great experience. Listening to the personal experiences and points of view of those in my group helped me to gain new perspectives and a greater sensitivity. I urge people to participate."

- Mayor Darwin Hindman, Study Circle Participant

"The dialogue program is extraordinary and rich... I have told several of my friends about it in hopes of stimulating others to participate."

- Elizabeth Kerry, Study Circle Participant

The City of Columbia's Human Rights Commission announces Spring Round 2003 of "LET'S TALK, COLUMBIA!" This Weekend Series will be May 3, 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m., and May 4, 1:30 p.m. - 5 p.m., at Unity Center of Columbia.

"LET'S TALK, COLUMBIA!" participants engage in small-group, democratic dialogue guided by trained volunteer facilitators. Using a guide "Toward a More Perfect Union in an Age of Diversity," participants explore issues at the heart of many community concerns - difference and diversity, personal and national identity, and current and historical relations among different groups of people.

Call 874-7488 (V/TTY) to receive a registration form, or print it off the city's Web site at www.GoColumbiaMo.com, (select "LET'S TALK, COLUMBIA!"). Space is limited, so don't miss the April 11 registration deadline. Questions? Call 874-7488 (V/TTY), or e-mail hrc@GoColumbiaMo.com

Community Storm Water Project Workshop

The Community Stormwater Project is sponsoring an educational workshop, "Creating a Livable Community: A Vision for Storm Water Control" April 26 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Boone County Government Building, County Commission Chambers.

The program features Tom Schueler, founder and director of The Center for Watershed Protection (www.cwp.org). Mr. Schueler is a practicing engineer who has authored several widely-used references, including The Practice of Watershed Protection, Rapid Watershed Planning Handbook, Better Site Design, and Design of Stormwater Wetland Systems. His sense of humor has entertained and informed audiences nationwide on watershed issues.

Additional speakers will discuss conservation developments, stream buffers, urban revitalization, and watershed planning.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information, please call 884-3242 or visit our website at www.GoColumbiaMo.com

Public Works Announcements

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility Re-Opens April 5

Take household cleaners, paints, solvents, automotive materials, poisons and lawn care to the Columbia Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility, 1313 Lakeview (one block north of the Business Loop and west of the City Power Plant). The facility is open 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. on the first and third Saturdays, April through November. For more information, call Columbia Public Works 874-6291 or visit the website at www.GoColumbiaMo.com

Roll-off and Commercial Waste Collection Service
Are you planning to remodel your home this Spring or perhaps you are a business owner or contractor who needs to dispose of commercial waste? Whether your job is big or small, Columbia Public Works has a wide selection of roll-off containers and construction dumpsters to meet your needs.

Street Sweeping Scheduled . . .

The street sweeping schedule and map are now available on the City's web site. Visit www.GoColumbiaMo.com and select Public Works Department, then Streets and Sidewalks.

Spring Compost Workshops in April!

Plan to attend a compost workshop this spring and learn to compost grass cuttings, weeds and leaves. For more information or to get on the mailing list for workshop schedules, call the Public Works Volunteer Coordinator at 874-6271 or E-mail us at pw-volunteer@GoColumbiaMo.com

April Bag Delivery Schedule

April 7-11Yard Waste Bags

April 14-18Black Trash Bags

April 21-25Blue Recycling Bags

2002 Crime Statistics

The Columbia Police Department has released its 2002 Uniform Crime Report. This includes all of the Part I (serious) Crime categories. The overall crime index shows an approximate 1.5 percent reduction from 2001.

Violent crimes were down approximately 7 percent. This category includes homicide, rape, robbery and assaults. Property crimes were down approximately 1 percent. This category includes burglary, larceny and auto theft.

The homicide rate dropped from 4 in 2001 to 2 in 2002.

The robbery rate dropped from 140 in 2001 to 90 in 2002. You may recall that our 2001 rate tied our record high for robberies in Columbia. We attribute this reduction to aggressive enforcement, prevention and community involvement. The Columbia Police Department's Community Services Unit provided security inspections and training materials to every convenience store in Columbia in 2002.

The burglary rate continued to drop in 2002. This has been a trend for the last several years. We believe this reduction is due to an active neighborhood watch program and the community taking part in crime prevention efforts.

Columbia did see an increase in rape, assault, and auto theft.

It should be noted that the "clearance rate" or solved crime rate is significantly higher in Columbia than the national average in every crime category.

When the Columbia Police Department is successful, it is because the community is involved. Thank you for your continued involvement and support.

Your Home Day 2003 Is Coming

Planning has begun for the 2003 installment of "Your Home Day." Due to the success of last year's event, Community Development is again working with local neighborhood associations to bring a comprehensive housing fair to our city. Topics that "Your Home Day" will focus on include housing maintenance and repair, assistance in filling out City home improvement applications, and neighborhood safety issues. Anyone interested is invited to attend.

"Your Home Day" is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, April 5. Please contact Bill Cantin, Neighborhood Specialist, at 874-7248 or bpcantin@gocolumbiamo.com for more information. Information is also available on the City's web site at www.GoColumbiaMo.com

Request for applications for FY-2004 Community Development Block Grant funds

The City of Columbia anticipates receiving approximately \$1 million in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development early in 2004. A portion of these funds may be used by not-for-profit organizations submitting projects that are consistent with the City's 1999 - 2004 Consolidated Plan.

Funding categories include public improvements, community facilities and housing. Applications must be received by the Department of Planning and Development, 701 E. Broadway, P.O. Box 6015, Columbia, MO 65205-6015 by April 25 to be considered for funding. Applications are available at the Department of Planning and Development offices. The building is a handicap accessible facility. Any person with special needs may call 874-7239 (TTY 874-6364).

The City of Columbia does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, marital status, familial status, handicap or sexual orientation.

If you have any questions regarding the application procedure, contact Tom Lata at 874-7239 or e-mail tglata@gocolumbiamo.com



April Volunteer of the Month

by volunteer Megan Clark

With the click of a mouse, Columbians can see firsthand the volunteer work Glenn Rice has done for the city. Rice volunteered more than 70 hours over a three-week period in 2002 by offering expert assistance for the city's new Web site www.GoColumbiaMo.com

"He personally handled over 700 pages of conversion during the process and worked entirely from his own personal home computer, space and time," said his supervisor, Sam Shelby, Electronic Government Coordinator.

Rice's contribution freed Shelby's time, allowing him to work with design issues, layouts, content and graphics.

"Because the City is committed to presenting a positive image of city government, it was important to provide Columbia citizens another way to access its services and share up-to-the-minute news, events, attractions and programs," Shelby said.

For information on volunteer opportunities call the Office of Volunteer Services at 874-7499, e-mail: volunteer@GoColumbiaMo.com or visit our web site.



Award winners, Kathryn Robinson, Symone Langston-Thomas, Almata Crayton, George Frissel, Wanda Brown and Becky Williams show off their awards with special guest Rev. Bernice King (center).

Columbia Values Diversity Celebration in January. Guest speaker was Rev. Bernice King, daughter of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Awards are given to an individual/family and an organization/group who have made significant contributions in promoting appreciation for diversity and cultural understanding in Columbia.

In addition to serving on the City Council, Crayton has a long history of community involvement volunteering for civic, community and political groups. Most recently, she established the Successful Neighborhood Resource Center providing assistance to low income families and the Thanksgiving Day "Everyone Eats" program.

The Hickman High School Student Body, in the words of the nominator, is, ". . . a rich cultural mosaic that nurtures appreciation for diversity in ethnicity and culture." Among the student body's programs are an English as a Second Language Program, the Global Organization Club, an annual Multicultural Assembly, Voices (an organization that focuses on the African American experience), Minority Achievement Committee Scholars Program, and a Black History Month Celebration.

Diversity Award Winners

First Ward Councilperson Almata Crayton and the Hickman High School Student Body were named winners of the 6th Annual Columbia Values Diversity Awards. The awards were given at the 2003

Volunteer Gives in Multiple Ways



Chuck Lundquist, State Farm Insurance, is a volunteer with the Columbia Police Department's

Citizens on Patrol program. Last fall, Chuck won an internal contest with State Farm entitling him to a \$1,000 grant to the organization of his choice. He decided that the Police Department is a worthy cause for the funds, allowing them to continue programs like Citizens on Patrol, Youth Academy and Summer Camp. The New Century Fund has received the gift and will pass it on to the department to put to good use. Thanks Chuck and State Farm for your gift to the City of Columbia!

To find out more about giving to the City of Columbia, contact the Columbia Trust at 874-7504.

Festival Artists Needed!

Visual, performing and literary artists are needed for the 12th annual Columbia Festival of the Arts. Plans are underway for the weekend-long celebration of art and culture, set for September 27 and 28 on the Boone County Courthouse Square. If you are interested in performing or exhibiting at the festival or want to submit art work for the official Commemorative Poster, contact the Office of Cultural Affairs: 874-6386, (TTY 874-7488), or e-mail festival@GoColumbiaMo.com



Engine Co. No. 5 was accepted by the City of Columbia recently and is housed at Station 5 on Clark Lane at Ballenger Road. The 2002 Sutphen Quint has a 70-foot ladder truck with a rescue bucket. The purchase of this truck was made possible by funds provided by the 1/4 cent sales tax extension approved by voters in 1999. The men and women of the Columbia Fire Department appreciate citizen support in providing state of the art fire apparatus.