

CITYSOURCE

Your source for city news and information

Columbia Parks and Recreation

CALENDAR

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

DECEMBER

- 5 Christmas Concert, Parkade Center east side, 601 Business Loop 70W, 1-2 p.m.
- 6 Santa's Drop and Shop, ARC, 6-9 p.m., \$12
- 7 Christmas at Maplewood, Nifong Park, 1-4 p.m., \$5, call 443-8936 to pre-register
- 11 50+ Bake and Craft Sale, 8 a.m., Parkade Center
- 13 Santa Hotline, children ages 3-10 can call the North Pole from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- 19 50+ Christmas Dance, Parkade Center, 7-10 p.m., \$3
- 19 Holiday Lighting Contest deadline. Call 874-7460 to register.
- 22 Holiday Lights and Sights Tour, ARC, 6:15-7:30 p.m. or 7:45-9 p.m., \$5 adults, \$3 children 12 and under
- 25 ARC closed
- 31 First Night 2004, Downtown Columbia, 6 p.m. to midnight (5K Run 4 p.m.), \$7

JANUARY

- 2 Private tournament reservations at L.A. Nickell and Lake of the Woods golf courses begin

Council Action

The Council on Sept. 15:

- Adopted the fiscal year 2004 budget. The budget of \$237,170,292 is a 3.7 percent increase over the amended fiscal year 2003 budget.
- Amended Chapter 4 of the City Code pertaining to alcoholic beverages. The bill was amended to match a current change in state law which expands Sunday liquor sales to begin at 9 a.m. instead of 11 a.m.
- Authorized an agreement with the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission for Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) planning grants. This is an annual renewal of an ongoing grant program. The proposed contracts provide for \$123,000 in FHWA and \$28,000 in FTA funds.
- Authorized an electric energy sales agreement with Ameren Energy Marketing Company. The 3.5 year contract is for the purchase of capacity and energy around-the-clock. The contract begins June 1, 2004, and runs to Dec. 31, 2007.

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.

Holiday schedule

City offices will be closed Thursday, December 25, in observance of Christmas Day. Residential refuse and blue bag collection will be delayed for the remainder of the week. Also, the landfill will be closed. City buses will not operate and parking meters will not be enforced.

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 and other Parks and Recreation programs. Call 874-7460 for more information or find the application form at www.GoColumbiaMo.com on the Parks and Recreation page.

Coming Soon! On-line Activity Registration

The Columbia Parks and Recreation Department will soon offer on-line registration for classes and activities. This feature will make it convenient to register for most programs offered through the department. A search feature will make it easy to select an age-appropriate activity for you or your family. Once your on-line household application has been approved, you can register and pay for the activities when it is most convenient for you. Registration will be a few clicks away! www.GoColumbiaMo.com, click on Parks and Recreation.



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- Fourth WardJim Loveless
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- City ManagerRaymond A. Beck
- City of Columbia701 E. Broadway
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Celebrate the New Year with friends and family at First Night 2004, December 31, 2003! Entertainment includes more than 60 performances plus activities and art at 12 locations in downtown Columbia. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Entertainment begins at 6 p.m.

Visit several locations to enjoy great entertainment, including rhythm & blues, jazz, Klezmer, bluegrass, Irish, puppetry, storytelling, ragtime, gospel, poetry, fiddling, magic, and juggling. A venue is planned just for teens!

Make a mask, crown or noisemaker at the children's art area, participate in the Boone Hospital 5K run/walk at 4 p.m., carry a giant puppet in the procession, or ride on a carriage.

A children's procession at 8:45 will end with a fireworks display. At 11:30, the people's procession will lead revelers to the finale at Courthouse Square with entertainment and fireworks at midnight.

Admission buttons are \$7 for those seven years and older. Buy your button early and enter a drawing for prizes at Parks and Recreation, Streetside Records and Gerbes Supermarkets beginning December 17. For information or to volunteer call 874-7460 or visit www.firstnight.missouri.org. Volunteers receive free admission.

First Night is sponsored by Boone Hospital Center, 102.3 BXR Radio, City of Columbia, Columbia Convention and Visitors Bureau, Columbia Daily Tribune, Missouri Arts Council (a state agency), and KOMU-TV8.

Above left: The people's procession. Photo by Kay Allen. Bottom left: A young entertainer juggles fire on Courthouse Square. Photo by Hack's Custom Photography.



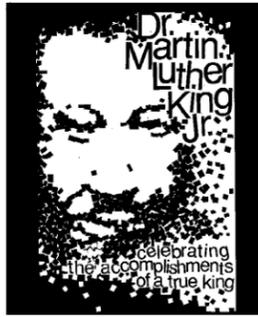
YOUR NEIGHBORS NEED YOU

By giving a little extra, you can help someone in our community a great deal.

Imagine having to choose between food and warmth this winter. 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. These programs were established to help seniors, the disabled and families with children pay their utility bills. CASH (Citizens Assisting Seniors and Handicapped) and HELP (Heat Energy and Light Program) applicants are carefully screened by a social worker before being given assistance.



Leave a legacy to your community through the Columbia Trust. Whether you are looking to make a cash donation today, or planning the future of your estate, the City of Columbia provides many opportunities for you to make a difference. The Columbia Trust can facilitate a gift that would add or improve a park, support our fire fighters or police officers, allow a child to attend a swimming class, and more. To learn more about the Columbia Trust, call 874-7504.



Columbia Values Diversity Celebration

An Annual Celebration of the Life and Teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The 11th Annual *Columbia Values Diversity Celebration* is scheduled for January 15 from 7 a.m.-8:45 a.m. at

the Holiday Inn Select Expo Center. The Celebration brings people together from throughout our community to share breakfast followed by a special program honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the presentation of the annual "Columbia Values Diversity Awards."

An original theatrical program of music and drama will be presented that will challenge and inspire while celebrating the strength of diversity in our community. This is a perfect opportunity for families to celebrate diversity together.

Early pre-registration is required and strongly encouraged. The cost is \$12/adult, \$10/child and includes breakfast. A limited number of scholarships will be available upon request.

Registration forms are available after November 17. Please e-mail the Office of Community Services at OCS@GoColumbiaMo.com or call (573) 874-7488 (v/tty) to be added to the mailing list or receive the registration form by e-mail. For more information, you may also visit Community Services at www.GoColumbiaMo.com.

The celebration is designed to be accessible to all. Please call 874-7488 (v/tty) for accommodations related to disability.

Air Service Update - Columbia Regional Airport

On November 1, a major change in commercial air service occurred when American Airlines reduced its hub operations in St. Louis from 417 daily departures to 207. The ripple effect of this change will significantly affect Mid-Missouri travelers. Every AmericanConnection city, including Columbia Regional Airport, is seeing a reduction in connecting departures. Columbia will decrease its daily round trips from five to two. Other midwestern airports lost as many as seven and eight departures and four cities lost all AmericanConnection service. Trans States Airlines, Inc., the operator of

AmericanConnection, indicated that if bookings warrant, an additional round trip might be added. Meanwhile, the target round trip ticket price for Columbia-St. Louis when connecting with American flights in St. Louis is still \$60-69 and will remain at that figure through this transition period.

Flight Schedule Beginning in November

FLIGHT	DEPARTS	ARRIVES
5482	COU 6:10 am	STL 6:55 am
5522	STL 1:56 pm	COU 2:43 pm
5523	COU 3:07 pm	STL 3:52 pm
5485	STL 7:37 pm	COU 8:25 pm

Cigarette Litter Harms Our Streams

They're small and unassuming. You see them flying out of car windows every day. You don't even notice when they're stomped out on the ground anymore because they're everywhere - and they're causing significant harm to our streams, lakes and rivers. They're cigarette butts.

Every year over 4.5 trillion cigarette butts are tossed directly into the environment. They have been the leading item found in coastal cleanup projects accounting for almost one in every five items found. While the wrapping is made of paper, which is biodegradable, the filters themselves are not. They are made of cellulose acetate, which is a form of plastic that does not degrade. Cigarettes contain some 3,900 chemicals, many of which are hazardous to our health, much less the health of much smaller aquatic life. The butts act as filters that soak up these chemicals, making them a small poisonous capsule. When these "capsules" are carelessly discarded on the street, they end up in storm drains and float their way into our streams.

What can you do?

- Use your car's ashtray.
- Carry a butt container. Empty it when you get home. (Empty film canisters make great bins.)
- If you manage/own a business, provide a receptacle outside.
- Organize a stream or roadside clean up.

To learn more, please visit the City of Columbia's Community Storm Water Project web page at www.GoColumbiaMo.com or call 884-3242 to request an orientation packet or slide show presentation.

Watch for Bag Deliveries in December!

December 8-12 Black Trash Bags
December 15-19 Blue Recycling Bags

Did You Know?

Community Line]

By dialing the city of Columbia's Community Line at 874-7650 (TTY 874-7697), message 552, you can learn about brush and leaf collection.

On the Web

To find out more about volunteering with the **Strategic National Stockpile Program** managed by the Columbia/Boone County Health Department go to www.GoColumbiaMo.com

Substance Abuse Prevention Information

On-line resources, information and interactive activities for parents, children, youth, and young adults as well as links to local, state, federal and health resources available at www.GoColumbiaMo.com, search for "GoPrevention."

Winter Driving

Did you know that the Snow Removal Priority map can be found on the City's web site? View the map on the Street Division's web page at www.GoColumbiaMo.com. Plan now for a safe commute to make your drive stress free! When the snow falls, find out which streets have been designated first priority for snow removal and incorporate these streets into your daily commute plan. The map will also be printed in the January issue of *City Source*.

In many areas of the city, riding the city bus is an option. Bus routes and schedules can be found on Columbia Transit's web page at www.GoColumbiaMo.com. If you don't need to travel, avoid the snow and ice and keep warm at home.

Holiday Happenings

Santa's Drop and Shop

Saturday, December 6, 6-9 p.m.
\$12 first child, \$10 additional children
Drop your children (6-10 yrs) off at the ARC for Christmas crafts, swimming, movies and snacks while you do your holiday shopping. Call 874-7460 to register.

Christmas at Maplewood

Sunday, December 7, 1-4 p.m.
Celebrate "Christmas Past" with a guided tour of the historical Maplewood Home at Nifong Park. Call 443-8936 to make your reservation.

Santa Hotline

Children between the ages of 3-10 can call the North Pole from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on December 13: 874-7473, 499-0916, 874-6335.

2003 Holiday Lighting Contest

Prizes are awarded based on originality, artistic quality, use of material, creative use of space, and aesthetics. Registration deadline is December 19. Call 874-7460 to enter.

Holiday Lights and Sights Tour

December 22, 6:15-7:30 p.m. or 7:45-9 p.m.
\$5 for adults, \$3 for children 12-under
Tour Columbia's best decorated yards and neighborhoods from the comfort of Parks & Recreation's mini busses. Tours begin at the ARC. Call 874-7460 to register by December 17.

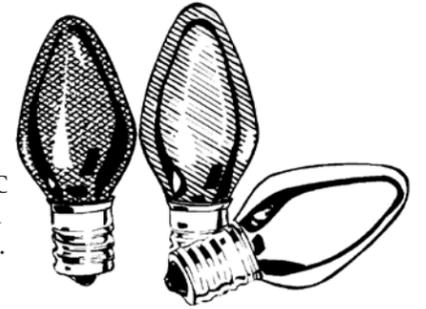
Volunteer of the Month

Aparna Pendurthi began volunteer work for Public Works as a Household Hazardous Waste volunteer. She soon developed an interest in research for the Eco-teacher quarterly newsletter which we fill with instructional information for educators about waste reduction and recycling.

Pendurthi's assistance enabled the efficient delivery of the newsletter. Besides environmental conservation, the newsletter also conveys information about grants, upcoming events and presentation ideas.

For two years, Pendurthi participated in the seasonal Fall Festival of the Arts, the Downtown Twilight Festivals, the Use Less Stuff holiday campaign, and booth sat as a representative of Public Works in trade shows. She shared her knowledge of recycling, helped children make flowers from recycled materials and distributed pamphlets.

Although the City of Columbia lost a great volunteer, we thank the college-bound Aparna for her help. We wish her well in her pursuit of a medical career.



Christmas Tree-Cycling Begins December 26th!

Christmas trees will be collected curbside December 26 through January 31 on regular refuse days. Trees must be free of tinsel, plastic tree bags, ornaments, and tree stands. After January 31, trees must be cut in 4-foot lengths. Christmas trees may also be taken to the Capen Park Mulch Site (south of Stadium Blvd., off Rock Quarry Road) or the Parkside Drive Mulch site (off Creasy Springs Road). Thank you for recycling.