

On Dec. 17, 1892 Columbia voters decided 677-14 in favor of switching from gas street lights to electric ones. After the lighting ceremony for the new electric lights the Missouri Statesman reported that "the light is a glorious success; it is an everlasting monument to the town's fidelity and enterprise." In 1903, voters again went to the polls about street lighting. It was decided that the three streetlights on Broadway should be on all night.



### New Transportation Opportunities for Columbia Area

With the opening of Columbia Transload Incorporated (CTI), mid-Missouri businesses have more options for transporting commodities. CTI is a transfer/warehouse facility that brings together the cost-effectiveness of shipping by rail and the flexibility of trucking. The facility is a privately owned business that partners with the Norfolk Southern and city-owned COLT railroad.

CTI allows customers to bring in large loads via rail and store them at the facility or ship them directly to their facility by truck. The warehouse is located on the north side of Columbia with direct rail access and four truck bays. Commodities can be stored short or long term, either outside in a secure area or in the environmentally controlled warehouse. Large capacity fork lifts and a 30 ton capacity overhead crane help with moving large shipments. With the opening of a warehouse/transfer facility, the COLT railroad can continue to grow by offering rail shipment to customers not directly located on the rail line.

### April 2004 Volunteer of the Month

Article by volunteer Sara Rechten



We honor Allene Bledsoe as the April Volunteer of the Month. Allene is active in Columbia Parks & Recreation's Older American Klub.

Allene became involved in OAK in 1982 when she joined the Singles Club. After retirement she was elected to the OAK council and has served as secretary, vice president, and her current role as president. Allene said, "My favorite thing about OAK is how pleasant working with such a friendly group of people is."

OAK activities, designed to provide activities for people over fifty, takes place at the Community Center in the Parkade Plaza at 601 Business Loop West. Ceramics, painting classes, dances, potluck dinners, weekly Bingo, billiards, aerobics, different clubs and bands are all part of the programs offered. "The Parks & Rec. staff is so pleasant and enjoyable to be around," said Allene.

The City of Columbia thanks Ms. Bledsoe for her involvement.

For volunteer opportunities with the City of Columbia, call 874-7499 or email [Volunteer@GoColumbiaMO.com](mailto:Volunteer@GoColumbiaMO.com).

## Art at the ARC

Visitors to the Activity and Recreation Center (ARC) can enjoy a new work of art thanks to the family of the late Don Bartlett. Bertrice Bartlett donated a small bronze sculpture titled "Basketball Players" to the city after using the ARC and realizing the obvious connection to the theme of her husband's work. The four figures depicted jumping for a basketball are installed on the second floor of the ARC overlooking the basketball courts. The sculpture fits well, not only in the current setting, but also with the city's philosophy of placing art in and around city buildings for the benefit of the general public. For more information about the city's public art collection, contact the Office of Cultural Affairs, 874-7512, [oca@GoColumbiaMo.com](mailto:oca@GoColumbiaMo.com).

### Festival Artists Needed!

Visual, performing and literary artists are needed for the 13<sup>th</sup> annual Columbia Festival of the Arts, September 25-26. If you're interested in performing or exhibiting at the Festival or you wish to submit art work for the official Commemorative Poster, contact the Office of Cultural Affairs: 874-6386 (TTY 874-7488), [festival@GoColumbiaMo.com](mailto:festival@GoColumbiaMo.com).

### Supporting the Arts

Each year the city supports local arts programming. Funded projects focus on presentation of visual, performing and literary arts and related educational offerings. To qualify, arts organizations must have 501(c)3 status. Applications are due May 7 by 5 p.m. For information about eligibility or for an application, contact the Office of Cultural Affairs, 874-6386 (TTY 874-7488). An online application form is available on the Cultural Affairs page at (GoWord: [GoArtsFunding](http://GoArtsFunding)).

### Solid Waste Division at Your Service!

Residential services offered by the Public Works Solid Waste Division and Volunteer Program during April are listed below:

The Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility reopens on April 3. Take household cleaners, paints, solvents, automotive materials, poisons and lawn care to the facility at 1313 Lakeview (one block north of the Business Loop and west of the City Power Plant). The facility is open 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the first and third Saturdays, April through November.

April curbside bag deliveries include yard waste bags (April 5-9); black trash bags (April 12-16); and blue recycling bags (April 19-23). Watch for your bags on your regular refuse collection day.

On April 10 and 24, visit the Capen Park mulch site (off Rock Quarry) and Parkside mulch site (off Creasy Springs) for a "Free Mulch Giveaway", while supplies last. An on-site loader will be available between 7 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Spring compost workshops begin in April. Plan to attend a compost workshop and learn to compost grass cuttings, weeds and leaves. For schedules, call the Public Works Volunteer Assistant at 874-6271 or view the Public Works Department calendar at [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com) "GoPublicWorks".

Compost is on sale to the public, April 3 and 17, 8 a.m. to 12 noon. The Compost Facility is located at 5700 Peabody Road, Tel: 474-9145.

For more information, visit the Public Works Department web pages at [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com) (type GoPublicWorks in the Go Word search box) or call the Solid Waste Division at 874-6291.

### Council Action

*The Council on Jan. 5:*

- Amended Chapter 14 of the City Code as it relates to rocks and other material falling from trucks and trailers. The ordinance establishes a new code section that prohibits operating a motor vehicle or trailer that has rock or other material on any part of the vehicle or trailer that may reasonably be expected to fall while it is moving.
- Authorized acceptance of a domestic violence enforcement grant from the Missouri Department of Public Safety. The \$85,500 grant provides for an investigative unit that specifically deals with domestic violence against women. The period of the grant is Jan. 1, 2004 through Dec. 31, 2004.

*The Council on Jan. 20:*

- Authorized construction of improvements at Rock Quarry Park, the MKT and Indian Hills Park trails, Parks Management Center and Cosmo Park. The city's fiscal year 2004 budget includes an appropriation of \$49,000 for an Annual Park Improvement Program. Funding comes from the 1999 1/4-cent sales tax. The improvements include \$5,400 to replace flooring in a home in Rock Quarry Park; \$4,000 for trail improvements; \$4,500 for a fuel canopy at the Parks Management Center; and \$6,000 for Cosmo restroom fixtures.
- Authorized acquisition of land necessary to construct a fire station at the intersection of Blue Ridge Road and Providence Road. The site is approximately 300 feet by 200 feet.

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 on the City Council page.



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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 .....Brian Ash  
City Manager .....Raymond A. Beck

City of Columbia  
701 E. Broadway  
Columbia, MO 65201  
(573) 874-7111  
[www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com)

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### Community Line

By dialing the city of Columbia's Community Line at 874-7650 (TTY 874-7697), message 489, learn how to prepare for a tornado or major storm.



### Super Saver Loan

Need to make energy saving improvements to your home but short on cash? Consider a Super Saver Loan from Columbia Water and Light. [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com) search for "GoLoan".

## Parks and Recreation Department Hires Park Ranger

Rosana Arens joined the Columbia Parks and Recreation Department as Park Ranger in January. "We have been considering the addition of this position for several years," explains Mike Griggs, Parks Services Manager, Columbia Parks & Recreation. "Our park system has grown to the size where adding a park ranger to our staff is the next logical step."

As park ranger, Arens is charged with a wide range of duties. In a public relations role, she will provide assistance to park visitors by explaining park features and providing maps and directions. Arens also will provide training to the Park Patrol, a volunteer group that helps keep City parks and trails clean, safe, and in good repair.

In a protective role, she will explain, as well as enforce, park rules and regulations. Arens will patrol City

parks and natural areas prepared for emergency response and safety and accident prevention. Arens will begin patrol in the spring, when park usage begins to increase. She will maintain a presence in the parks on various evenings, weekends, and holidays when park use is heaviest.

"My staff and I are working closely with the Parks & Recreation department to provide training and support to the new park ranger," said Police Chief Randy Boehm. "We look forward to working with Arens in the future."

A Mokane native, Arens has lived in Columbia for 17 years. Arens' previous experience includes working as a Deputy Sheriff in Cooper County and as a Missouri State Park Ranger at Harry S. Truman State Park in Warsaw, Ha-Ha Tonka State Park, and most recently, Lake of the Ozarks State Park. Arens completed her law enforcement training at the University of Missouri. Arens' office is located at the ARC at 1701 W. Ash St.

The public is encouraged to dial 911 or the non-emergency number (442-6131) to report park violations or emergencies to Park Ranger Arens.



### Volunteer Training April 19

Park Patrol volunteers serve as extra eyes and ears on Columbia's growing trail system, reporting suspicious activity and trail damage to city staff. Park Patrol, which will begin its eighth year in May, is a great way for those who use the trails to volunteer.

The first Park Patrol volunteer training for 2004 will be Monday, April 19 from 6 to 8 p.m. at City Hall. Volunteers must be at least 18 years of age and must undergo a criminal background check.

Park Patrol is a cooperative program of the City of Columbia and US Cellular, who provides phones for volunteers to use while on duty.

To learn more about Park Patrol, call 874-7499 or e-mail [volunteer@GoColumbiaMo.com](mailto:volunteer@GoColumbiaMo.com).

### Let's Give Columbia a Spring Cleaning on April 10!



Cleanup Columbia, the annual city-wide volunteer trash pickup event, will be Saturday, April 10. This is an ideal event for families, businesses, organizations and individuals to get out and make Columbia look great!

Volunteers will work throughout the morning picking up litter in assigned areas all over Columbia. At noon, participants will come together for lunch at Twin Lakes Recreation Area, compliments of APAC-Central Missouri Division. Getting involved with Cleanup Columbia is easy. Just contact the Office of

Volunteer Services at 874-7499 or online at [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com). We'll assign you a street, park or trail that fits your needs and interests. Each volunteer or volunteer group will need to pick up their materials from City Hall on Friday, April 9 or Saturday, April 10. Registration deadline is Friday, April 9.

Other sponsors for Cleanup Columbia include KOMU-TV 8, the Columbia Daily Tribune, and BXR 102.3.

National Public Health Week (NPHW) is an opportunity to recognize the contributions of public health professionals 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.

April 5-11 is the annual observance of NPHW and this year's theme is "Eliminating Health Disparities: Communities Moving from Statistics to Solutions." Many communities all over the country are tackling these tough issues with innovative projects/interventions that others can adopt. Throughout the week the American Public Health Association (APHA) will be highlighting a variety of

## National Public Health Week 2004

these projects/interventions to inspire other people who work on health care issues and want to reduce the health disparities in their communities.

National Public Health Week 2004 sponsors include The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the Commonwealth Fund and the Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation.

For further information go to [www.apha.org/NPHW/](http://www.apha.org/NPHW/).

### New Ticket Vending Machine

Columbia Transit now has a farebook dispensing/vending machine in the Wabash Bus Station waiting room. Customers can purchase full fare monthly passes, full fare ticket books, half fare monthly passes, as well as half fare ticket books. As always, customers using discounted fares must keep in mind that they will still be required to show verifying identification to the driver when boarding the bus. This new machine has been installed to provide our customers with the option of purchasing these items after our register closes at 4:30. Please stop by the Wabash station at 126 North 10th St. and give our new vending machine a try.

## Spring Landscaping with Native Plants

Spring has sprung and we're all itching to get outside and dig in the dirt! When planning your spring planting and landscaping, consider using native plant species. Native plants are more hearty and adapted to our climate and weather conditions. They do not require as much maintenance (fertilization, pesticides and watering) as non-native species because they are accustomed to our weather conditions - be it drought or flood. Using less or no toxic garden and lawn chemicals increases the health of our streams because they will not wash off into the streets and storm drains and end up in the stream. It will also save time and money!

To learn more about native plants in Missouri, contact Nadia Navarrete with the Native Plant Society at 884-5245. For more information on how you can help your watershed, contact the Community Stormwater Project at 884-3242. Visit our website at [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com) (type GoStormWater in the GoWords search box).

**Rick Chancellor (right) won a home composter while attending a Public Works compost workshop. If you would like to begin composting, call 874-6271.**



## 7th Annual Columbia Values Diversity Awards



### Frissell, Ruffin, State Farm Win Diversity Awards; Posthumous Awards to Battle, Brooks



George Frissell, a Hickman High School teacher and Clyde Ruffin, a University of Missouri Professor and Pastor of Second Baptist Church, were named co-winners of the individual award and State Farm Insurance was the organizational winner of the 7th Annual Columbia Values Diversity Awards. Awards also were presented posthumously to Muriel Battle and George Brooks. The awards were given at the Columbia Values Diversity Celebration in January.

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.

The nomination for Frissell states, "Dr. Martin Luther King knew the importance of creating public dialogue and forming coalitions of people of many races and backgrounds. George Frissell has worked hard over the years to organize and promote activities that would increase tolerance among the diverse citizens of Columbia."

Ruffin has shown Columbia that the experience of drama can promote diversity. From 1998 to 2003, he was the creative director of the Columbia Values Diversity Celebration. He exemplifies the life and teachings of Dr. King by his commitment to both his faith and by using his talents to further the concept of diversity.

State Farm values all people and their different perspectives, skills, experiences and opinions. The company has worked to ensure that its workforce is representative of the diversity within the community and it is a place where all people, regardless of their differences, feel welcome and valued.

Battle passed away last year but her imprint on the Columbia community is permanent. In recognition of her outstanding contributions to the community, the City of Columbia named the park surrounding the Martin Luther King, Jr., Memorial



Top photo: George Frissell (c) accepts award from Mayor Darwin Hindman (l) and Senator Kit Bond. Bottom left photo: Clyde Ruffin (c) accepts award from Mayor Darwin Hindman (l) and Senator Kit Bond. Bottom right photo: Brenda Elrod-Aviles, Auto Claims Manager, State Farm Insurance Companies, (center, left), and Michael Staloch, Vice President of Operations for State Farm Insurance Companies (center, right), accept award from Mayor Darwin Hindman (l) and Senator Kit Bond.

Gardens as Battle Park. Her life was directly linked to the teachings of Dr. King and this was a fitting honor.

George Brooks, who was an educator and civic leader, passed away last year. He was a positive role model who encouraged students to pursue their dreams through education and hard work. He led by example and inspired his students and others to reach their maximum potential.



"Let's Talk, Columbia!" 2004 will be held on Saturday, May 1, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Sunday, May 2, 1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. No cost; Register by April 16. Participate in open, respectful, small-group dialogue about hard issues related to racial and other types of human diversity. For information, call 573-874-7488 (V/TTY), email: [HRC@GoColumbiaMo.com](mailto:HRC@GoColumbiaMo.com). Web Page: [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com) (GoWord: [gostudycircles](http://gostudycircles.com)).

### Summer Employment

Are you looking for a great summer job for your teen? Columbia Parks and Recreation is accepting applications for summer employment. We are looking for enthusiastic and responsible individuals who have the required skills or are willing to learn. Training is available. Job opportunities include: lifeguards, swim instructors, cashiers, concession workers, umpires, camp staff (director, assistant director, counselors), and park maintenance. Teens must be at least 15 years old. Youth 10 years and older can volunteer to assist with swim instruction. Call 874-7235 for more information or pick up a job application at Human Resources, 1 S. 7th Street, or online at [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com) (GoWord: [GoJobs](http://GoJobs.com)).

### Planning Department Continues Work on 5-Year Consolidated Plan

The City's Planning and Development Department is currently preparing the 5-Year Consolidated Community Development Plan. The Plan must be submitted to the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in order for the City to remain eligible for nearly \$1.8 million in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME funds annually. The Plan must also include provisions that would allow other organizations in the City to apply for other sources of HUD funding. HUD funding is provided for housing improvement and purchase programs, special needs housing and supportive services, public infrastructure improvements, community facility projects, public services activities, homeless shelters and supportive services, and economic development activities. All HUD activities generally must benefit lower income residents of Columbia.

The development of this plan is taking place in three stages including: (1) needs and priorities; (2) goals and measurable results, and (3) implementation strategies, including possible projects for calendar years 2005-2009. A series of public hearings before the City's Community Development Commission began in December and will continue over the next few months for citizens to offer input on the various pieces of the Consolidated Plan.

For more information, or for a schedule of when to submit comments concerning the plan, please contact the Department of Planning and Development at 874-7239, or e-mail [planning@GoColumbiaMo.com](mailto:planning@GoColumbiaMo.com).

### Memorial Gifts Remember Those You Care About



The City of Columbia offers ways that you can remember a special friend, a family member or loved one, or special occasions or accomplishments.

The Columbia Parks & Recreation Department offers Heritage/Memorial Trees that include the tree, ongoing maintenance, and a plaque for \$200. The department offers a similar program for benches that includes three lines of lettering for \$300. To learn about both programs, call the Parks Management Center at 874-7201.

Other memorial gifts include contributions for park improvements, youth recreation scholarships, fire prevention education programs, and Columbia's public art program.

To learn more about Memorial donation opportunities, contact The Columbia Trust at 874-7504.

### Columbia Parks & Recreation CALENDAR

Register online! [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com) (GoWord: [GoRecreationRegistration](http://GoRecreationRegistration))

### A P R I L

- 1 Deadline to submit CARE applications
- 7 Registration for summer classes, programs, and Camp Adventure begins. Look for the Spring issue of Leisure Times in the April 7 Columbia Daily Tribune, pick one up at 1 S. 7th St. or visit our website at [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com).
- 10 Breakfast with Peter Cotton Tail, 8:30-9:30 a.m. or 10-11 a.m., ARC, pre-register
- 15 Youth Soccer Registration begins. Call 874-4640.
- 16 50+ Monthly Dance, Parkade Center east side, 601 Bus. Loop 70W, 7-10 p.m., \$3
- 17 The Amazing Magic Show, 1-2 pm, ARC, pre-register by 4/10
- 22 Tons of Trucks, 4-7 p.m., Rainbow Softball Complex Parking Lot, Free
- 25 Earth Day, Peace Park (Rain date: May 2)  
OAK Big Bingo, Parkade Center east side, 601 Bus. Loop 70W, 6 p.m.

### Spring / Summer Program Registration Begins April 7

Registration for spring and summer programs, including Camp Adventure, begins on April 7. Look for your copy of the Leisure Times activity guide in the April 7 Columbia Daily Tribune, at the library, at the Parks and Recreation office at 1 S. 7th Street or online at [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com) (GoWord: [GoLeisureTimes](http://GoLeisureTimes)). Call 874-7460 for more information.

## Tree Power Now for Energy Savings

How would you like to reduce your summer cooling costs by up to 30%?

Contact Columbia Water and Light to schedule a free landscape audit and determine where you should plant your free shade tree!

Then all you have to do is sit back and watch your savings grow.

Call 874-7325 (electric customers only)

[www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com), search for "GoTreePower"