



Nall Gift to Create Waterfall at Stephens Lake Park

Russ and Mary Nall remembered the City of Columbia Parks & Recreation Department in their will, leaving a \$50,000 gift for a park project. Their gift will be used to create a waterfall that will flow into the north side of Stephens Lake—a feature of the park that will be enjoyed by visitors for many years.

Gifts to making improvements to our park systems leave a lasting legacy for Columbia residents and visitors. To find out more about how your gift can make a difference, contact the Columbia Trust at 874-7504.

Rabies Prevention

In May, the Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services issued a Health Advisory on animal rabies in Missouri. At that time 18 animals had tested positive for rabies, compared to six animals for the same time period last year. The cases include bats, skunks and a horse.

The Columbia/Boone County Health Department's Division of Animal Control, which provides services such as control of animals running at large, investigation of bite and cruelty incidents, and assistance in locating lost animals, reminds citizens of one of its little known services—confiscation of wild animals (i.e. bats, raccoons, skunks) found in the living quarters of homes.

Animal Control Officers will come to any Boone County home at any time, day or night, to confiscate the animal and determine if rabies testing is necessary. One method used to determine if an animal needs to be tested is to find out if it has made contact with people or pets in the home.

Prevention is the best way to keep you and your pets safe from rabies:

Keep pet shots up-to-date; observe leash laws.

- Don't leave dogs chained alone in the yard—if attacked by a rabid animal, they can't escape.
- Don't make your house or yard attractive to wildlife—feed pets indoors, and keep garbage cans closed tightly.
- Seal basement, porch, and attic openings; and cap chimneys with screens.
- No matter how cute, avoid contact with wild or unfamiliar animals. Don't touch a wild animal even if it's dead.
- Report strays or animals acting strangely or sick to Animal Control.

Confiscation of wild animals in your home is a free service. Call Animal Control at 449-1888 any time.

Something's Missing

at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial at Battle Park

In May 1939, the City of Columbia unanimously awarded a contract for the construction of a new sewage disposal plant. It was constructed at a site on Flat Branch Creek near the old city landfill. In April 1940, the sewage disposal plant was completed. The Flat Branch Wastewater Treatment Plant provided sewage treatment for Columbia until 1983 when it was de-commissioned, mostly demolished and all sewage flow diverted to the present Columbia Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant. Although de-commissioned, the Flat Branch Plant digester facility remained intact. The digesters had been used for the decomposition of wastewater sludge prior to ultimate disposal. In 1993, the City of Columbia opened the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Garden at Battle Park on the site of the old Flat Branch Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The City of Columbia was awarded a Save America's Treasures Grant from the National Park Service in 2004, to assist in the restoration of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial. The Public Works Department Sewer Utility has now removed the old digesters to make way for a new interpretive shelter.

The digesters contained approximately 297,259 gallons each of digested solids containing various types and amounts of materials such as sewage sludge, rags, grit, grease, sand, stones, plastics, and other debris that find their way into the sanitary sewer system and digester tanks.

Beginning in November 2004, the metal roofs on the digesters were cut into pieces with torches, removed with a boom truck and hauled away as scrap in city dump trucks. Pumps and mixers were lowered into the digesters to mix the contents. The contents were diluted with sewage from a nearby manhole, pumped back into the manhole and conveyed to the Columbia Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant for treatment and disposal. A contractor was hired in February 2005, to demolish the brick and concrete walls and grade the site.

July Volunteer of the Month: Dave Blankenship

By Isaac Larson

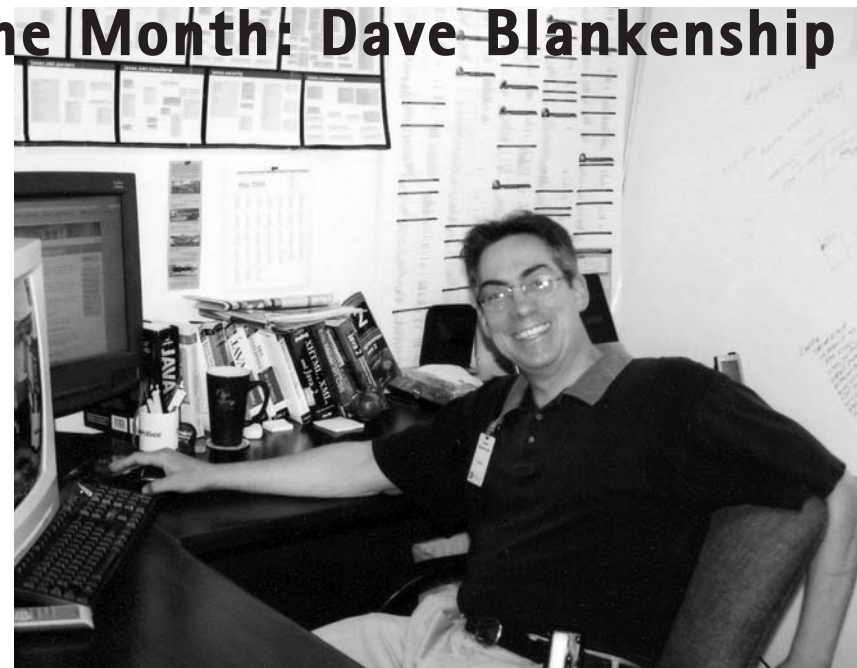
When disaster strikes, proper preparation and organization can save lives. And thanks to the efforts of volunteer Dave Blankenship, mid-Missouri is better prepared to meet disaster head on. Dave serves as the Communications and Information Chief for the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC), a grassroots volunteer group of health care professionals who assist the community during emergencies.

"It is a chance to help ourselves and our community," Dave says of his work with the MRC. "Should the worst-case scenario occur, our area could be in trouble. The Medical Reserve Corps is a way for regular citizens like me to help."

The MRC was founded in the spring of 2004 when the Columbia/Boone County Health Department received a grant. Among Dave's many contributions was the installation of the MRC Web site, mrc.missouri.org.

"The Web site shows that Dave brings an expertise that is vital to our program," says Frank Barfield, MRC project coordinator. "Also, his enthusiasm is unbelievable. He is really dedicated to the MRC and the community."

The City of Columbia wishes to thank Dave for all his hard work and dedication. To learn more about City of Columbia volunteer opportunities call 874-7499 or e-mail to volunteer@gocolumbiamo.com.



Council Action


The Council on May 2:

- Amended Chapter 22 of the City Code and the city of Columbia Food Code to require a routine maintenance schedule for grease traps or interceptors connected to the sanitary sewer system. Cleaning records will be checked by the Health Department during periodic inspections. Authorized an agreement with Threesixty Architecture relating to the renovation and interior redesign of the Wabash Station Refurbishment Project (Phase I). This will include an expansion of the building to the east and a large outdoor covered passenger waiting area. The contract amount of \$511,145 will be paid from a Federal Transit Administration Section 5309 Capital Grant.


The Council on May 16:

- Authorized grant agreements with the Mid-Missouri Solid Waste Management District. Four separate grants totaling \$68,666 were received. The city is required to match at least 25 percent of the total project costs for each grant. The grants will be used to purchase: compactors and balers to place at businesses for the commercial recycling program; a load leveler for the fiber sort line at the material recovery facility; a professionally made Mr. Bag-It costume for the mascot; and bagging equipment for compost and crushed glass.
- Authorized an agreement with J.W. Broadcasting LLC for funding the annual July 4th celebration. The city's Fiscal Year 2005 budget includes \$5,000 to assist with the purchase of fireworks for the "Fire In The Sky" celebration.

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.

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Fourth Ward Jim Loveless	Fifth Ward Laura Nauser
Sixth Ward Brian Ash	City Manager Raymond A. Beck

STATE

2005 of the

2005

CITY

Annual Programs & Priorities

by Raymond A. Beck,
City Manager

Editor's note: the complete text of the State of the City address is available on the City's web site, www.GoColumbiaMo.com and at the Columbia Public Library.

Utility Check-off Program and Trust funds.

Columbia continues to have high national rankings. Comments made by residents at City Council and other public meetings, along with communications received testify to the excellent quality of life of our city. The Citizen Survey shows 84% of our residents indicated satisfaction with the quality of life. The areas of primary concern continued to be traffic management and street thoroughfare maintenance which

are similar to results of our previous survey.

Columbia residents have much to be grateful for. We celebrate diversity. We have a strong economy with low unemployment. We enjoy many major family events including Show-Me State Games (largest state games in the country), sporting events, Memorial Day Weekend, cultural and social events and more. We have great educational and medical facilities and are an important regional center for employment, shopping, social services, entertainment, recreation, cultural and other events.

My highest priority is maintaining and enhancing City services, programs and projects that help make our city one of the top places to live, work and raise a family.

I extend my thanks to our professional city staff and residents who have and are serving our city, particularly those who volunteered to serve as Mayor and City Councilpersons, serve on Boards and Commissions and on various task forces.

Programs and Priorities—2005
(Not in priority order)

Meet Transportation Needs of the City

- Present Transportation Financing plan to our voters on November ballot

[continued on inside cover]

[State of the City, continued from front page]

- Complete design and contract renovation/additions to the Wabash Station
- Complete East Broadway construction, from Old 63 to US 63
- Finalize design and development of Route 763 widening in north-central Columbia
- Complete Route 740 Corridor Study from US63 to I-70 East
- Improvements to Stadium Boulevard Corridor, I-70 to Broadway, and determine best funding alternative
- Plan for the construction of a US63/Gans Road Interchange
- Plan for an I-70/Scott Blvd interchange

Provide for Public Health and Safety Needs

- Complete renovations to Fire Stations 1 and 2 thus completing projects from last ballot issue
- Include financing additional fire station and apparatus needs on November ballot
- Purchase two new fire station sites—South and East Columbia
- Continue to place high priority on traffic safety
- Revise public health strategic plan and begin preparation for department accreditation

Provide for the Renovation and Addition to Downtown City Office Space

- Begin construction to rehabilitate the Howard and Gentry Buildings
- Set public hearing for renovation and addition to Daniel Boone Building
- Purchase remaining ground in Daniel Boone Building Block

Address Major Parks and Recreation Requirements

- Update priority capital needs for Parks and Recreation
- Work toward joint facilities for the Farmer's Market and city recreation facilities on the old Fairgrounds property
- Consider extension of 1/8% Parks Sales tax on the November ballot
- Complete purchases of property to develop a regional southeast park
- Determine the city's role and priority for the development of the Atkins/Fairground park area

- Complete Phase I and plan for Phase II development of Stephens Park project
- Complete an environmental cleanup at Flat Branch Area and construct underground walkway for MKT trail at Stewart and Providence

Growth Issues

- Continue strategy to promote orderly expansion from the inside outward
- Continue policy of voluntary annexation including improved coordination with Boone County
- Continue to recruit quality business/industry and work with partners towards construction of technology incubator, office and technology park
- Coordinate with Boone County Commission to standardize financing, development policies and standards in an expanded urbanizing area around Columbia
- Review projected land use in urbanizing area
- Plan required future roadways
- Street, sidewalks, stormwater and pedway standards

Utilities and Services

- Review and adopt master plan for wastewater collection and treatment
- Plan for additional cell at the landfill giving consideration to bio-reactor technology (accelerated decomposition of refuse)
- Develop plan for long term power supply needs, including green power
- Review and implement, where appropriate, the recommendations from the storm water task force, particularly in the Hinkson Creek basin

Communications

- Review results and implement strategies from the citizen survey as the city budget allows
- Implement on-line building permit, court fees and fines and other interactive applications on the city's web site

Summary of Major Top Priorities

- Continue providing for a financially balanced budget and one that balances the needs of all the residents of our community.

- Prioritize transportation projects and present financing plan to the voters in November.
- Prioritize public safety projects and present to the voters in November.

- Prioritize Park projects and present to the voters in November.

- Begin construction to renovate the Howard and Gentry Buildings and set public hearing for renovation and addition to Daniel Boone Building.

- Complete purchase of property for development of the southeast regional park.

- Review and adopt Master Plan update for wastewater collection and treatment.

- Work toward removing traffic congestion and increase emphasis on road maintenance.

- Develop plan for long-term power supply needs including green power.

- Add additional "cell" at the landfill giving consideration to bio-reactor technology.



National Night Out is scheduled for August 2. The Columbia Police Department

is asking Columbia Neighborhood Watch groups and Neighborhood Associations to organize block parties to send a strong message to criminals that says you won't tolerate crime on your street or in your neighborhood! Participating groups and neighborhoods are encouraged to advise the Police Department of planned activities. Police officers and firefighters are available to participate. Please call 874-7405.



Bag Deliveries Coming in August

Black Trash Bags: August 15-19
Blue Recycling Bags: August 22-26

Call the Solid Waste Division at 874-6291 or send an email to waste-mgmt@GoColumbiaMo.com



By dialing the city of Columbia's Community Line at 874-7650 (TTY 874-7697), message 817, you can learn about summer water surcharge.



Sign up or disconnect a utility account, pay your bill or review your account online at www.GoColumbiaMo.com

Easy Ways to Save This Summer from Columbia Water and Light

ELECTRICITY

- Set the thermostat no lower than 78 degrees and turn it up a few degrees when the house is unoccupied.
- Leave window shades that receive direct sunlight down during the day.
- Try to use the oven, dishwasher and other appliances that produce heat during the late evening and early morning.
- Wear comfortable, loose-fitting clothes.
- Keep fireplace chimney dampers closed.
- Maintain your heating and cooling system by replacing air filters at least four times a year.
- Insulated attics need proper ventilation so they can 'breathe'.
- Consider moving your extra refrigerator or freezer out of the garage to the basement and your appliance won't have to work so hard to stay cool.
- Don't block vents and cold air returns with furniture, drapes or rugs.
- Clean dust and lint away from appliances (heating/cooling unit, refrigerators, hot water heaters, etc.) on a regular basis so the motors run more efficiently. Either move appliances out to clean behind and below or use a special cleaning brush available at hardware stores.

WATER

Up to 60% of all water use in the summer is outdoors on landscaping. However, one of the most common problems with landscaping is over watering! By using the following water conserva-

tion techniques, you might be surprised by a better looking yard and lower water bills.

Do you need to water?

- Watering thoroughly, but infrequently, develops a deep root system so plants can use moisture and nutrients deep in the ground.
- Water according to moisture in the soil; not a fixed schedule.
- Lawns are dry when footprints remain in the grass long after being made.

How much should I water?

- Lawns need only one inch of water per week; approximately three times a week for 20 minutes.
- Use a tuna can or a rain gauge to accurately measure the amount of water your irrigation system delivers.
- Set a timer as a reminder to turn off the sprinkler.
- Water in the early morning from 6 a.m. to 8 a.m., avoiding windy conditions.

Other easy ways to conserve water outdoors:

- Don't irrigate the pavement; choose and adjust sprinklers to fit the lawn area.
- Mow grass to a height of 2 1/2" with a sharp blade.
- Never use a hose to rinse off pavement; sweep leaves and grass clippings.

Columbia Water and Light offers FREE water and energy audits of your home. Sign up now at www.GoColumbiaMo.com or call 874-7325.

Columbia Transit

The scent of freshly sharpened pencils fills the air as students head back to school. A Columbia Transit bus pass makes a great addition to their backpacks! A valid student ID plus \$45 buys unlimited rides throughout the fall semester. Try a monthly half-fare pass for \$10 or a weekly student bus pass for \$2.50. Purchase passes and ticket books at Wabash Station.

Teach younger children about the Safe Bus program. Children who are lost or in distress can find safety on the bus. For more information go to www.GoColumbiaMo.com or call 874-7282.

Parks and Recreation Department Honored by National Trails Organization

The Columbia Parks and Recreation Department has been selected to receive a 2005 Annual Achievement Award by the Coalition for Recreational Trails (CRT). The award is part of the CRT's Recreational Trails Program.

Specifically, the Parks and Recreation Department is being honored for its development of the MKT trailhead at Flat Branch Park. The trailhead includes bicycle racks, benches, tables and seating, a drinking fountain, sidewalks, landscaping and historical plaques. Before the site was developed, it was the home of an abandoned warehouse on contaminated soil. The MKT trailhead project is being honored as part of the awards program's construction and design category.

The CRT is a federation of national and regional trail-related organizations. Its members work to build awareness and understanding of the Recreational Trails Program, which returns federal gasoline taxes paid by off-highway recreationists to the states for trail development and maintenance.

Garage Band Bash Planned

Columbia Parks and Recreation is going to throw a "Back to School" Band Bash on top of the parking garage at the corner of 6th & Cherry Streets. The bash will be held from 7-10 p.m. August 19. Area teen bands will be jamming throughout the evening with "garage band kind of tunes."

The fee is \$2. For more information, call 874-7460 or log onto www.GoColumbiaMo.com.

Youth Recreation Scholarships

Columbia Parks and Recreation offers youth scholarships for residents through the Youth Enrichment Services (YES) program. The program is open to children 3-17 who meet income/household criteria established by the USDA's free and reduced lunch program.

Assistance is 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 then typing in GoYes at the GoWord prompt.

Columbia Parks & Recreation CALENDAR

Call 874-7460 to register, or register online! www.GoColumbiaMo.com (GoWord: GoRecreationRegistration)

August

- 5-7 Show-Me State Games**
- 12 Teen Night**, Oakland Family Aquatic Center, 8:30-10:30 p.m., ages 11-15, \$1
- 13 Flat Branch Outdoor Cinema** featuring *The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie*, 8:30 p.m.
- 14 Douglass Family Aquatic Center, Lake of the Woods Pool, Twin Lakes:** last day open
- 19 Garage Band Bash**, 7-10 p.m., Top of Parking Garage, 6th & Cherry Sts, \$2 (teen bands)
- 19 Little Mates Cove at Pirates' Landing:** last day open
- 24 Flat Branch Outdoor Cinema** featuring *Spaceballs*, 4th & Cherry Sts, 8 p.m.
- 27-28 3 Person Scramble**, L.A. Nickell & Lake of the Woods Golf Courses
- Sept. 5 Oakland Family Aquatic Center:** last day open

Parks and Recreation Fall Registration

The fall Leisure Times activity guide will be available August 10, in the Columbia Daily Tribune; at the Parks and Recreation office, 1 South 7th Street; the Daniel Boone Regional Library; and online at www.GoColumbiaMo.com.

Help Wanted!

Volunteers are needed for the 28th annual Heritage Festival, September 17-18, and the Columbia Festival of the Arts, September 24-25. Work an hour, a day or the entire weekend boothsitting for an artist, assisting with children's activities, helping at an information booth or distributing surveys. Contact the Parks and Recreation Department, 874-6397, or the Office of Cultural Affairs, 874-6386 or for more information.