

# CITY SOURCE

Your source for City news and information



**Red traffic signals...that is.** Starting in August 2009, photo enforcement cameras at two local intersections will capture information that results in traffic citations for drivers who run red lights. Signs will be posted at these intersections, warning drivers that photo enforcement is in use.

The photo-enforced intersections are at Broadway and Providence Road and at Stadium Boulevard and Worley Street. Plans call for a total of 16 cameras at various intersections in the coming months.

The fine and cost for a single offense will be \$120, if the violation is paid through the Traffic Violations Bureau. An individual may plead guilty or plead not guilty and request a trial. Pursuant to city ordinances, a red light violation is punished by a fine of not less than \$1 nor more than \$500; or imprisonment for no more than three months; or by both a fine and imprisonment.

The cameras will only capture images of vehicles and drivers who run red lights. Drivers will be able to view the images before deciding whether to plead guilty or not guilty in Municipal Court. State law requires the court to report all convictions of moving violations to the Missouri Department of Revenue.



For more information, contact the Columbia Police Department at 573-874-7652 or check out [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com).

## 32nd Annual Heritage Festival & Craft Show

Listen, learn and see history come alive at the 32nd annual Heritage Festival & Craft Show at historic Nifong Park. The Festival will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sept. 19-20 and offers entertainment and fun for all ages.

Enjoy music and dancing on three stages. Featured entertainers include the Haskell Indian Nations Dancers, Professor Farquar's Medicine Man Show, Branson Variety Show Performers – Clay Cooper, Johnny Lonestar & Matt Gumm; along with a variety of music - Western Swing, Bluegrass, Cajun, Blues, Folk, Traditional, Cowboy Music & Poetry and a Fiddlers Competition.

Visitors can experience "living history" by strolling through a replica Lewis & Clark outpost, an 1859 town and a lost arts area with traditional artisans. A large contemporary handmade craft area will also be featured.

From 8 to 9:30 p.m. on Sept. 19, the Mid-Missouri Organization of Storytellers will sponsor ghost stories. The Heritage Festival will also feature numerous children's activities in the Fun for Young'uns Area.

The Heritage Festival is coordinated and sponsored by Columbia Parks and Recreation. Call 874-7460 for more information about the festival or for craft booth space, or visit [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com).

## Did You Know?

You can receive health updates and event notifications by following the Columbia/Boone County Department of Public Health and Human Services on Twitter and Facebook. Visit <http://gocolumbiamo.com/Health/index.php> for details.



## Be a community leader

The City is accepting applications for the following boards and commissions:

- Convention and Visitors Advisory Board
- New Century Fund Board
- Personnel Advisory Board
- Internet Citizens Advisory Group

Application deadline is noon, Sept. 4. Applications and current vacancies are available online at [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com) or at the City Clerk's Office. Call 874-7208 for information and requirements.



## Labor Day holiday

City offices will be closed Monday, Sept. 7, in observance of Labor Day. The regular City Council meeting will be held Tuesday, Sept. 8, at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Residential refuse and curbside recycling collection will not be made Sept. 7 and will be delayed one day throughout the week. Contact the Solid Waste Division at 874-6291 if you have questions. Also, City buses will not operate, the landfill will be closed and parking meters will not be enforced.

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

MAYOR  
Darwin Hindman

## CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

- |                     |                 |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| <i>First Ward</i>   | Paul Sturtz     |
| <i>Second Ward</i>  | Jason Thornhill |
| <i>Third Ward</i>   | Karl Skala      |
| <i>Fourth Ward</i>  | Jerry Wade      |
| <i>Fifth Ward</i>   | Laura Nauser    |
| <i>Sixth Ward</i>   | Barbara Hoppe   |
| <i>City Manager</i> | Bill Watkins    |



## Volunteer of the Month—Brent Lowenberg



Brent Lowenberg, long-term city volunteer

Photo courtesy of the Columbia Daily Tribune.

Columbians honor the community's diversity each year at the Columbia Values Diversity Celebration (CVDC). But Brent Lowenberg plans, organizes and donates for months in advance to help make the celebration a reality.

CVDC recognizes the contributions different cultures add to the community and celebrates the life and teaching of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Lowenberg has volunteered on the CVDC planning committee for three years. What makes his work stand out is the coordination and review of the student essay program. After reading 400-500 submitted essays from Columbia's children and youth, Lowenberg narrows them to entries for review by a committee.

Staff supervisor Steve Hollis says, "It's really not an easy decision." Lowenberg's volunteer work is especially helpful because some of the essay reviews had previously been done by paid temporary staff. Ultimately, 40-50 essays are published in a booklet that is shared at the celebration.

Hollis says, "Lowenberg is as busy in retirement as he was working full-time at the Department of Social Services. He dedicates his entire life to helping others, and he has continued to do so in retirement with no obligation to do so."

Hollis estimated that Lowenberg donates at least 60 hours towards CVDC annually. He is also the treasurer for the Columbia Interfaith Council.

To learn about City volunteer programs, contact the Office of Volunteer Services at 874-7499 or visit [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com).

Submitted by volunteer Sarah G. Madden

## Teen Garage Band Bash

Columbia Parks and Recreation, Public Works and the Youth Community Coalition are planning the 5th annual Back to School Garage Band Bash! It will be held Sept. 4 from 7-10 p.m. on top of the parking garage at the corner of Sixth and Cherry. Teen bands from around the area will be jamming throughout the evening. Admission is \$2 per person. **Anyone in a local teen band, who is interested in performing, should contact Erin at 874-6341.**

## Arrival of fall visitors is a great benefit to Columbia

As the weather cools down this fall, Columbia will heat back up as college students return and thousands of people arrive to attend everything from festivals to football games. Though the influx can be overwhelming at times, it's important to remember the positive impact visitors have on the city as a whole.

Columbia's fall festivals are a huge draw, bringing in people from all over the nation to attend events such as the Heritage Festival and the Roots 'n Blues 'n BBQ Festival. The season wouldn't be complete without a crisp day at Memorial Stadium and tens of thousands of people would agree. According to the University of Missouri, in fiscal year 2007 over one million visitors spent \$18.8 million at MU athletic events, generating just under \$1.4 million in state sales tax revenue. In addition, visitors to these popular events stay in Columbia hotels, dine in Columbia restaurants and shop at Columbia stores. Whether families of current students or decades-long fans, attendees of athletic events do more than just cheer while they're in Columbia.

## Budget Hearings

The City Council will hear public comment on the proposed FY 2010 budget during regular Council meetings on: Monday, Aug. 17; Tuesday, Sept. 8; and Monday, Sept. 21. Citizens are encouraged to view the budget at City Hall, at the Columbia Public Library or online at [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com).

Time to hear public comments are planned near the start of each of these Council meetings. Council meetings are held in the City Council Chamber, 4th Floor, Daniel Boone Building, 701 E. Broadway. Council members will consider these comments and other information before approving the budget in September.

## Upgrading water mains



Employees from Columbia Water & Light tie a service line to the new water main serving Ridgeway school. Part of the 2008 water bond funds were set aside to upgrade water mains serving schools to commercial standards. Water Distribution will continue working on the school water main upgrades this summer.

## Columbia Transit is a safe, reliable way to get to school

Columbia Transit offers students a safe, reliable, money-saving commute option to school or sports practice. Save gas, avoid parking hassles, reduce traffic congestion, improve the environment and allow yourself extra time to get to work. Fares for Columbia Transit are just 50 cents for students or \$1 for adults. Save more by purchasing weekly or monthly FastPasses at the Wabash Station. The following schools have bus stops located within one block of the school:

<b>Elementary:</b>	Field, Paxton-Keeley, West Boulevard, Benton, Grant, Lee, Ridgeway, Blue Ridge and Gentry
<b>Junior High:</b>	West, Jefferson and Oakland
<b>High School:</b>	Hickman, Rock Bridge and Douglass
<b>Others:</b>	Columbia Catholic, Columbia Independent School, Columbia College, University of Missouri (inc. campus shuttles), Moberly Area Community College, Stephens College, Cosmetology Concepts Institute, Columbia Montessori and Children's House Montessori

City buses are equipped with bicycle racks. There is no charge to use them, but they are offered on a space-available basis. Each bus can accommodate two bicycles. Bikes are not allowed inside the bus.

Before your children take transit, ride with them a few times so they are familiar with the route, the stops and know what is expected of transit users. Children should review basic safety rules with a teacher or their parents before taking public transit alone. All buses are equipped with security cameras.

City buses run from 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Wednesday; 6:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday; and 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Saturday.

Visit [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com) (search GoBus) to find the closest Columbia Transit bus stop near your home, a detailed map and schedule or stop by the Wabash Station to pick up a map and schedule. To speak with a Columbia Transit representative, call (573) 874-7282.

## PARKS & RECREATION CALENDAR

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

Call 874-7460 for more information.

### September 4

Teen Garage Band Bash, Parking Garage at Sixth and Cherry, 7-10 p.m., \$2 per person

### September 7

Last day for Albert-Oakland Family Aquatic Center

### September 8

Pooch Plunge, Albert-Oakland Family Aquatic Center, 5:30-7 p.m. for dogs 25 lbs. and less, 7:15-8:45 p.m. for dogs over 25 lbs., \$4 per dog

### September 11

U.S. Cellular Movies in the Park: Jungle Book, 7:45 p.m., Flat Branch Park \$1 per person, 12 and under free

### September 14

Registration begins for adult mid-winter volleyball

### September 14

Registration begins for adult basketball

### September 16

Family Fun Fest: Creative Kids, Flat Branch Park, 6-8 p.m., free

### September 19-20

32nd Annual Heritage Festival and Craft Show, Nifong Park, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., free

cut along line

## Errand bikes help businesses ‘get about’ Columbia

After only a few weeks, employees at Ninth Street Video have found a list of reasons to use a free errand bike provided by GetAbout Columbia. From trips to the bank to a copy run, pedaling the errand bike has helped everyone at Ninth Street Video spend more time on tasks, and less time searching for a parking space.

Area businesses can sign up for an errand bike through GetAbout Columbia. The program provides a free bike, helmet, locks, lights, rear racks and cargo bags—all at no cost to the business.

Ninth Street Video owner Janet Marsh uses the errand bike for short trips during the day. During the evening, her employees often use the bike to pick up dinner.

“It’s really great getting on the bike when the weather is nice,” Marsh said. “And it’s helped us save time.”

The goal of the Errand Bikes Program is to cut down on short car trips around town and demonstrate how easy it can be to use a bicycle instead. Employees at participating businesses can check out the bike for errands and off-site meetings. Employers have the option to offer employees extended checkout for personal use for up to 48 hours. An errand bike is provided to businesses for 30 to 60 days, depending on demand. Businesses do not incur any costs for the program but need to provide proper insurance documentation to participate.

For more information, call the GetAbout Columbia office at (573) 442-7189.



## Youth Recreation Scholarships

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

Financial assistance is available for 50 or 75% 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](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com).

## Creative Kids Family Fun Fest

Don’t miss the next installment of Parks and Recreation’s Family Fun Fest, Sept. 16 from 6-8 p.m. in Flat Branch Park. The event will take the theme of children’s art and feature participatory art activities and displays, strolling performances and two stages with live music, theater, puppetry and storytelling. The free, non-ticketed event is a collaboration of Parks and Recreation and the City’s Office of Cultural Affairs (OCA), and is funded, in part, by the Missouri Arts Council, a state agency.

The full series of Family Fun Fests events are held the third Wednesday of the month through October. They are free and sponsored by Parks and Recreation, the Convention & Visitors Bureau, KPLA 101.5 Radio, KOMU 8 and Home & Lifestyle Magazine.

For more information about the Creative Kids event, contact the OCA at (573) 874-6386 or [oca@GoColumbiaMo.com](mailto:oca@GoColumbiaMo.com).

## Safe Food Preservation

Enjoying a jar of garden green beans in the dead of winter is quite a treat, but it’s important to remember that home canning must be done properly to yield a safe product. Improper preparation of food during the canning process can cause serious health risks, including botulism.

### Safe canning practices include:

- carefully selecting and washing fresh food,
- peeling some fresh foods,
- hot packing many foods,
- adding acids (lemon juice or vinegar) to some foods,
- using acceptable jars and self-sealing lids,
- processing jars in boiling-water or a pressure canner for the correct period of time.

Home canning can be a safe and economical way to enjoy healthy foods year-round. The Columbia/Boone County Department of Public Health and Human Services recommends that home canners follow detailed instructions provided by the National Center for Home Food Preservation at <http://www.uga.edu/nchfp/>.

### Dealing with the Heat and Humidity:

Heat-related illness accounts for nearly 700 deaths each year in the United States. In addition to drinking plenty of water, it’s important to remember the following tips:

- wear light-weight, light-colored clothing
- try to stay in an air conditioned area
- if you are outside, avoid strenuous activity and take frequent breaks
- avoid beverages that contain alcohol and/or caffeine

Heat stroke is the most serious heat-related disorder and can cause death or permanent disability if emergency treatment is not given. Symptoms include:

- Hot, dry skin (no sweating)
- Chills
- Throbbing headache
- High body temperature
- Confusion/dizziness
- Slurred speech

If you suspect someone is suffering from heat stroke, call 911 immediately. Try to move the patient to a cool shaded area and spraying, sponging or showering them with water.

For more information on heat-related illness and a complete list of cooling centers available in Columbia, visit the City’s Web site at [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com) or call 874-7355.



## Fun Places to Cool Off

Even after the outdoor pools close for the season, Parks and Recreation provides fun places for citizens to cool off. The spraygrounds at Flat Branch Park, 400 Locust Street, and the spraygrounds and swimming beach at Stephens Lake Park, 100 Old 63 North, will remain open through September.

The spraygrounds use re-circulated chlorinated water to run a variety of spray features, such as, spray rings, water columns, stream jets, geysers and bubblers. At Stephens Lake Park, an unguarded swimming area and sand beach is provided in a designated area on the west side of the lake. These water features at Flat Branch Park and Stephens Lake Park were constructed with funding support from the Park Sales Tax and are open to the public with no admission cost.

## Peak Warnings

### Why we need your help

Peak electrical demand occurs during the hottest days of summer when electric consumption is critically high. At these times, wholesale electric prices can be very expensive. Lowering electric demand during these times saves Columbia Water & Light money, which helps keep your electric rates low.

### During hot summer afternoons:

- Set thermostats up one or two degrees.
- Avoid heating the kitchen – barbecue, use the microwave or prepare a cool meal.
- Change the air conditioning/furnace filter.
- Leave window shades that receive direct sunlight down during the day.
- Make sure all storm windows and fireplace dampers are closed.

### Postpone until after 8 p.m.:

- The use of major electric appliances
- Doing laundry
- Using automatic dishwashers and dehumidifiers

Thank you for your help.



## Enjoy the comfort of an Energy Star home

### What is Home Performance?

Columbia Water & Light is working with local contractors to bring you a comprehensive approach to energy efficiency. The Home Performance program is a whole house approach. A specially trained contractor will assess how improvements to all these components can work together to provide:

- Lower utility bills
- Fewer drafts
- Consistent temperature distribution
- Better humidity control
- Proper ventilation

### Common Recommendations

Your Home Performance contractor will develop a specific plan for your home after a detailed analysis. Some commonly recommended efficiency improvements include:

- Sealing air leaks and adding insulation
- Improving heating and cooling system
- Sealing ductwork
- Upgrading lighting and appliances

### Rebates & Financing

Columbia Water & Light is offering qualified electric customers rebates up to \$1,000 for home improvements and up to \$1,600 for high-efficiency air conditioners or heat pumps. The low-interest loan program has also been expanded to help finance efficiency upgrades that might be suggested during a Home Performance evaluation. For new homes that meet the guidelines of the Home Performance program, Columbia Water & Light is offering a \$1,000 rebate.

See our Web site for a list of Home Performance contractors or contact us.

- 874-7325
- [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com)
- [wmail@GoColumbiaMo.com](mailto:wmail@GoColumbiaMo.com)



## Waste is hazardous to your household



Did you know Columbia has a household hazardous waste program to dispose of chemicals? Pouring chemicals down the drain, dumping them on the ground or putting them in the trash is dangerous and harmful to the environment. The City’s Household Hazardous Waste Facility is open to area residents for safely disposing hazardous waste, such as oil, paint, cleaning products, antifreeze, florescent bulbs, batteries and household chemicals, free of charge. Since 1991, the facility has provided a sustainable solution to keep more than 1,110 tons of chemicals out of the landfill and streams.

The facility is located at 1313 Lakeview, one block west of the City power plant just off Business Loop 70, and is open the first & third Saturdays, April through November, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information, contact the Solid Waste Division at (573) 874-6291 or go online to [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com) (search: HHW). You can do your part to keep these chemicals from getting into the waste stream and polluting the environment!

## Water System Update

In August, Columbia’s water system will switch to the chloramine disinfection method. The exact date will be determined by equipment delivery and installation. The chloramine disinfection method slows the chemical reaction between the chlorine and organic material in the water, which causes the formation of trihalomethanes. Research by the University of Missouri’s Water Resources Research Center shows that using chloramine as a secondary disinfectant may lower the level of trihalomethanes by up to 50 percent.

Chloraminated water is safe for drinking, bathing, cooking, gardening and other household tasks. As with chlorine, the chloramine should be removed from the water when used in kidney dialysis machines. Patients undergoing dialysis should check with their doctors about the dialysis filtering method. Chloramine must also be removed before using the water in fish tanks. Products for chloramine removal are available through aquarium supply stores.

A letter with more detailed information was sent to water customers in July. If you would like another copy of the letter or need more information, please contact us or consult our Web site. An informational video will also be available on the Internet.

[GoColumbiaMo.com](http://GoColumbiaMo.com) • 874-7325 • [wmail@GoColumbiaMo.com](mailto:wmail@GoColumbiaMo.com)

## School Immunizations

As students return to school this month, the Columbia/Boone County Department of Public Health and Human Services reminds parents that children must be up-to-date on their immunizations. Immunizations are available at the Health Department, located at 1005 West Worley, Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. on a walk-in basis. Immunizations are \$10 per visit, regardless of the number of shots given. The following vaccinations may be required.

VACCINATIONS	ENTERING KINDERGARTEN	ENTERING JUNIOR HIGH	ENTERING COLLEGE
Meningococcal .....			X (Meningococcal vaccine is \$15)
Varicella .....	X		
MMR .....	X		
Polio .....	X		
DTap/Tdap .....	X		X

Updated immunization records must be shown before vaccinations can be completed. For more information, please contact the Health Department at (573) 874-6374. \*Meningococcal information in the July issue was incorrect.

## School Resource Officers

The Columbia Police Department is looking forward to another successful year as a partner with the Columbia Public School District through the School Resource Officer (SRO) Program. The SRO Program is designed to improve relationships between law enforcement and today’s youth by promoting a better understanding of an officer’s role in the community through educating students, parents, school personnel and the community as a whole.



There are three components of the SRO program. Officers present programs to students and school employees, act as advisors to students and enforce the law. The goal is to bridge the gap between police officers and students by giving them a chance to interact in a positive way.

The CPD currently has eight SROs. Officer Kevin Keith will be assigned to Hickman High School, Officer Wendy Stokes to Rock Bridge High School, Officer Melvin Buckner to Jefferson Junior High School, Officer Linda Fincham to Oakland Junior High School, Officer John Warner to West Junior High School, Officer Stephanie Drouin to Gentry Middle School, Officer Brian Grove to Lange Middle School and Officer Rob Hardt to Smithon Middle School.