

CITYSOURCE



Your source for City news and information



The Night is Young!

First Night® Columbia in the District

Dec. 31

Entertainment from 7 p.m. — midnight

.....
Ring in the new year at mid-Missouri's premier celebration! Revelers will enjoy a spectacular variety of entertainment at 12 venues in downtown Columbia.

Young visitors can visit the "Create and Celebrate" area and participate in their own procession at 9:15 p.m. that will end with a fireworks display. At 11:30 p.m., the People's Procession will lead revelers to the finale at the Boone County Courthouse Square with a countdown and fireworks at midnight.

Admission buttons will be available Dec. 1 for \$8. Those 7 and under will be admitted free, and those purchasing a button in advance will be entered into a drawing for prizes. Admission will be \$10 at the door. For more information, visit <http://www.firstnightcolumbia.org>.

First Night Columbia is sponsored by City of Columbia, Columbia Convention and Visitors Tourism Development Program, KPLA 101.5 & KFRU 1400 Radio, KOMU-TV8, Missouri Arts Council (a state agency) and Parks and Recreation.

Gallery & Museum Guide available • • • • •

Interested in exploring Columbia's art community but don't know where to start? The latest edition of the *Gallery & Museum Guide* is now available. The guide includes a complete listing of the many museums, galleries and other visual arts opportunities in the mid-Missouri area.

This free publication is available at City Hall, the Office of Cultural Affairs in the Walton Building at 300 S. Providence Road, as well as in galleries and museums around town. You can also find an online version at www.GoColumbiaMo.com/Arts. Pick up your copy today!



Looking for great City of Columbia volunteers!

It's time to nominate deserving persons for the fifth annual Howard B. Lang Jr. Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service to the City of Columbia.

Howard Lang was Columbia mayor from 1953-57. He made a positive difference for the City. There are now hundreds of volunteers with similar spirit and dedication who make a positive difference for Columbia in their own way.

The recipient of the Lang Award will receive \$1,000 (which may be designated to a project, program or charity of her/his choice) and an engraved plaque.

Please nominate a volunteer — someone who serves to benefit the City of Columbia. This person may be a member of a City board or commission, an unpaid elected official or other City volunteer. The recipient will be chosen based on his/her impact, initiative and length of service.

Nomination forms can be found at www.GoColumbiaMo.com; search "Lang Award Nomination Form." Click, print and return to the address noted on the form. Nominations are due by Friday, Jan. 18.

If you have questions, contact Trust Specialist John Baker at 817-5027 or email jdbaker@GoColumbiaMo.com.



Become a TreeKeeper volunteer!

If you like the outdoors and want to do something hands-on to help City parks, you might be interested in joining the TreeKeepers volunteer program.

TreeKeepers start by attending a class where participants learn all about trees including identification, planting, pruning, insects, diseases and soils. The 2013 class will be held Tuesday, Feb. 19, and Thursday, Feb. 21, from 6-9 p.m. and Saturday, Feb. 23, from 9 a.m. to noon at the ARC, 1701 West Ash.

Following the coursework, participants are asked to share 36 hours of service on City of Columbia tree projects that are held Saturday mornings.

Space in the course is limited. To enroll in TreeKeepers or find out more, visit the City's website or contact Volunteer Programs at 874-7499 or volunteer@GoColumbiaMo.com.

Residential Code Enforcement Report

The City of Columbia's Office of Neighborhood Services (ONS), a division of the Community Development Department, has released information on code enforcement work that was performed during the City's 2012 fiscal year that ended Sept. 30.

During FY12, staff in ONS handled 3,709 code enforcement cases including weeds, residential property maintenance violations, trash, nuisances, inoperable or unlicensed vehicles and residential zoning violations. At the end of the fiscal year, 81 percent of those cases resulted in voluntary compliance by the property owner. Active cases will continue to be addressed by City staff until compliance is achieved.

Citizen complaints account for 39 percent of the code enforcement cases handled by ONS with the remaining 61 percent initiated by staff.

ONS is also responsible for the registration and inspection of residential rental units. The City currently has 9,149 buildings and 24,525 units registered, an increase of 556 units over the year. Staff responded to 140 complaints from tenants during FY12.

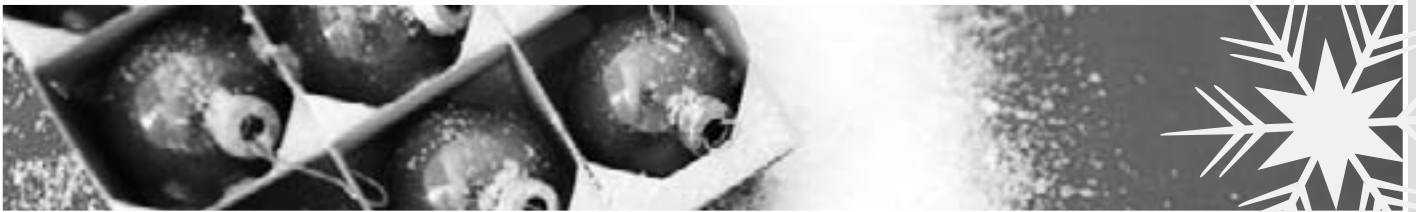
ONS is committed to supporting quality residential life in Columbia. Residents with concerns or questions about code violations or rental compliance are welcome to contact the office through the City's website at www.GoColumbiaMo.com or by calling 817-5050.

Share the Light

Columbia residents are known for their generosity. As Dec. 31 approaches, many will consider charitable end-of-year gifts. Why not give this season to Share the Light? Share the Light helps fund City of Columbia programs and projects that are above and beyond what is usually thought of as routine City services.

Share the Light donations are designated to one of six giving areas: public art, community beautification, youth recreation scholarships, health and dental care, fire prevention and education, and crime prevention and education. Every dollar goes directly to improve the quality of life in the community in your chosen giving area.

If you still have a Share the Light envelope from a previous utility bill, simply mark your choices on the perforated flap. Specify as a one-time gift or on a monthly basis gift, and the amount you wish to donate. Your future utility bills will reflect the amount added for this purpose. If you no longer have the envelope, email your giving intention to ucs@GoColumbiaMo.com (include your name, address and account number), call Columbia Water & Light at 874-7380 or visit Water & Light at 701 E. Broadway.



Managing diabetes through the holidays

Diabetes shouldn't stop you from enjoying the holidays. With some planning, a little work and these tips from Columbia/Boone County Public Health and Human Services, you can manage your diabetes and enjoy the holiday season.

PARTY TIME

Before the party, eat a healthy snack to avoid overeating and, for your contribution, take a nutritious dish that you know you'll enjoy. You don't have to give up all of your holiday favorites if you make healthy choices and limit portion sizes. If you're at a buffet, fix your plate and move to a room away from the food. Focus on friends, family and activities instead of food. Take a walk after a meal, or join in the dancing at a party.

TRAVEL TIME

Leaving home to visit friends and family means changing routines, which can affect blood glucose (sugar) levels, so check it more often than usual. Be aware of time zone changes so you'll know when to take medication. Pack twice the amount of diabetes supplies you expect to need, in case of travel delays and carry medical identification that says you have diabetes.

While traveling, reduce your risk for blood clots by moving around every hour or two. If you're flying, place all diabetes supplies in carry-on luggage and keep medications and snacks at your seat for easy access; don't store them in overhead bins. Have all syringes and insulin delivery systems clearly marked with the pharmaceutical preprinted label that identifies the medications; keep it in the original pharmacy labeled packaging. When drawing up your dose of insulin, don't inject air into the bottle (the air on the plane will probably be pressurized).

Buses change schedule when extreme weather strikes

During extreme weather conditions (heavy ice or snow), Columbia Transit buses operate on the weather emergency schedule. Buses depart from the Wabash Station on the hour and from scheduled time points on the half hour.

Buses will follow regular routes unless a street becomes totally impassable. Riders should allow more time for trips to be completed. Columbia Transit will not cancel service unless major city streets are completely impassable.

Riders can find out if Columbia Transit is on the weather emergency schedule by listening to local radio stations, calling the customer service line at 874-7282, following @Columbia_MO_Bus on Twitter, or liking Columbia Transit at www.facebook.com/ColumbiaTransit.

The designated weather emergency schedule time points for each route can be found at www.GoColumbiaMo.com/PublicWorks/Transportation. When possible, Columbia Transit will give at least a one-hour notice before changing to or from the weather emergency schedule.

Volunteers Needed to Shovel Snow for Seniors

During the winter, many seniors in the community are in need of snow shoveling. For years, the Boone County Council on Aging (BCCA) has paired volunteers with local seniors to provide service that helps them remain independent and live with dignity.

Prompt snow removal for some seniors ensures meals can be delivered and in-home services can be provided. The removal of snow also allows seniors to safely travel from home to medical appointments.

This year, BCCA needs more volunteers to assist seniors with snow shoveling. When it snows, volunteers shovel a path up sidewalks and porches. The BCCA strives to pair volunteers with a senior in their area. If you are a senior who needs assistance or a volunteer willing to help with snow shoveling, please call BCCA at 443-1111.

Winter/Holiday Safety

The holidays are a time for celebration, and that means more cooking, home decorating, entertaining and an increased risk of fire due to heating equipment.

HOLIDAY DECORATING

- Choose holiday decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- Keep lit candles away from decorations and other things that can burn.
- Use lights appropriately. Some are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Connect no more than three strands of mini-light sets and a maximum of 50 bulbs for screw-in bulbs. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of LED strands to connect.
- Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- Keep decorations away from windows and doors.

HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING

- Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan.
- Keep children and pets away from lit candles.
- Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.
- Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop.
- Ask smokers to smoke outside. Remind smokers to keep their smoking materials with them so young children do not touch them.
- Provide large, deep ashtrays for smokers. Wet cigarette butts with water before discarding.

Source: NFPA's Fire Analysis and Research Division

Red Box Program reduces harmful waste, protects City refuse workers

Every day, City refuse employees work to keep the community clean. Are you doing your part to keep those workers safe? Residents who incorrectly dispose of syringes, needles and lancets (also called “sharps”) in household trash put refuse collectors in serious danger of accidental needle sticks and contamination.

The Columbia/Boone County Department of Public Health and Human Services offers a free, confidential service to aid in proper disposal of sharps used at home. Through its Red Box Program, Public Health and Human Services distributes free sharps disposal containers for patients to fill at home. When the container is full, participants return it to the department for proper disposal and, if they wish, get another container.

While primary users include diabetic patients, the program is open to any citizen who uses sharps at home, including those treating allergies, arthritis, cancer, diabetes, hepatitis, HIV/AIDS, infertility, migraines, multiple sclerosis, osteoporosis and psoriasis.

In addition to keeping refuse collectors safe, the Red Box Program also decreases the amount of used sharps placed in local landfills. Free red box containers are available at the Public Health and Human Services front desk, 1005 West Worley, Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

2013 Columbia Values Diversity Celebration

Register now for the 20th annual Columbia Values Diversity Celebration, scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 17, from 7 - 8:45 a.m. at the Holiday Inn Select Expo Center. Pre-registration is required by 5 p.m., Jan. 11.

The cost is \$14 per person, but scholarships are available upon request. Please call the Division of Human Services at 874-7488 for registration information. A registration form is available at www.GoColumbiaMo.com (search: Diversity Celebration).

The theme of this year’s celebration is, “The Dream Revisited.” In honor of the 20th anniversary of the Diversity Celebration, **Martin Luther King III will be the keynote speaker.** In addition, there will be live music at the breakfast followed by the presentation of the 16th annual Columbia Values Diversity Awards. Dr. Clyde Ruffin will also be doing an artistic performance titled, “The Dream Revisited.”

The celebration is designed to be accessible to all. Call 874-7488 for more information or accommodations related to disability.

PARKS & RECREATION CALENDAR

Call 874-7460 for more information.

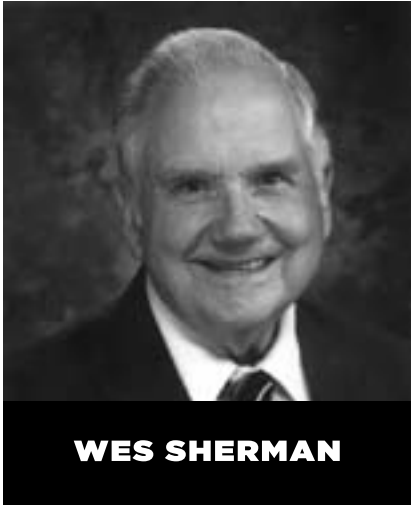
JANUARY

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|----|---|
| 7 | C.A.R.E. summer program applications available online |
| 19 | Swimming lessons start at the ARC |
| 21 | Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Candlelight Walk and Celebration, Walk begins at Douglass High School at 6:30 p.m., proceeds to Historic Second Baptist Church, 407 E. Broadway. |
| 22 | Swimming lessons start at Hickman Pool |

Snow & Ice Removal

For Columbia and much of the country, winter means the arrival of snow and ice. The removal of snow and ice from walkways and driveways is a job that most strive to make as easy as possible, and chemicals (salts) play an increasingly larger role. Many spread ice melt products liberally and might not understand the adverse affects these chemicals could have to the environment. You can do your part to help protect the water systems by following a few simple guidelines when removing snow and ice. To learn more, please visit <http://GoColumbiaMo.com/Public-Works/Streets/SnowandIceManagement.php>.

Volunteer of the Month—Wes Sherman



Sometimes a hobby turns into a great volunteer opportunity. This happened to Wes Sherman, who for the past several years has volunteered at the Columbia/Boone County Medical Reserve Corps (MRC). The MRC provides support during public health emergencies, non-emergency events and various Columbia/Boone County activities. To help MRC members communicate with each other and with emergency response groups, Ham

and VHF radios are used.

Ham radios piqued Sherman's interest when his older brother came home from World War II with an amateur radio instruction booklet. Time passed; Sherman taught engineering at Mizzou, started an investigation business and testified as an expert witness at trials. When retirement loomed, he remembered his interest in Ham radios. He obtained his license and was hooked. The City asked him to teach a class and then help with its emergency response equipment.

For the MRC, Sherman, whose call sign is WBOSE, solves Ham and VHF radio problems, participates in monthly tests with the state department, performs physical maintenance, helps update and choose new equipment and teaches classes in operating and maintaining the equipment.

Sherman says that he doesn't really think of it as volunteering, but a hobby that is both useful and fun. He says he is fortunate to be able to do something he really enjoys.

To learn more about volunteering with the City of Columbia, contact Volunteer Programs at 874-7499 or volunteer@GoColumbiaMo.com

-Written by volunteer Theresa Nelson

Holiday Hours

City offices will be closed Tuesday, Jan. 1, in observance of New Year's Day and Monday, Jan. 21, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The second regular City Council meeting in January will be held Jan. 22. Residential refuse and curbside recycling collection will not be made Jan. 1 or Jan. 21 and will be delayed one day the remainder of those weeks. Contact the Solid Waste Division at 874-6291 if you have questions. Parking meters will not be enforced and City buses will not run Jan. 1 or Jan. 21. The 107 FastCAT will run on an academic break schedule Dec. 15 to Jan. 20. For more information, visit: <http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com/PublicWorks/Transportation>.



Boards & Commissions

The City is accepting applications for the following:

Application deadline: Feb. 8 at 5 p.m.—

- Commission on Human Rights
- Public Transportation Advisory Commission
- University of Missouri Extension Council of Boone County

Applications and current vacancies for City boards and commissions are available online at www.GoColumbiaMo.com or at the City Clerk's Office. Call 874-7208 for information.

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City of Columbia

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MAYOR

Bob McDavid

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

<i>First Ward</i>	Fred Schmidt
<i>Second Ward</i>	Michael Trapp
<i>Third Ward</i>	Gary Kespohl
<i>Fourth Ward</i>	Daryl Dudley
<i>Fifth Ward</i>	Vacant
<i>Sixth Ward</i>	Barbara Hoppe
<i>City Manager</i>	Mike Matthes



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