Council Action

The Council on September 5:

- Authorized construction of a 36-inch well field supply main from the McBaine Water Treatment Plant to Star School Road. This work will provide an additional feed from the well field to the water treatment plant, improve raw water intake capacity and serve as a redundant supply to improve reliability of service. The cost estimate is \$2.3 million with funding from the voter-approved 2003 water ballot issue.
- Authorized construction of a fenced dog park in the Garth Nature Area. Estimated cost is \$14,400 with funding provided by the Parks Sales Tax, Annual Park Improvement Funds. The project will probably begin spring 2007.

The Council on September 18:

- Authorized acceptance of a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency/Department of Homeland Security for fire prevention and safety programs. The \$131,233 in grant monies will be used for procurement of supplies and services necessary for program implementation of the Campus Awareness Program, including special events "Fire Factor" and "Fire Attack Challenge," and the Knox Key Box Program.
- Adopted the fiscal year 2007 budget. The total budget is \$345,025,290.

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 Web at www.GoColumbiaMo.com on the City Council page.

Flyalot

Whether you're traveling for business or for the holidays, you can get there from here! US Airways Express offers daily round trip flights from Columbia Regional Airport to St. Louis and Kansas City (\$59 one way fares). Enjoy the convenience of interline ticketing agreements with most major airlines, and full interline baggage agreements with most major airlines allow your bags to be checked through to their final destination. You can make reserva-

- Calling US Airways at 800-428-4322
- Visiting their website at www.usairways.com
- Contacting your local travel agency
- Using Internet travel sites such as Travelocity, Expedia, or Orbitz

To learn more, visit Columbia Regional Airport's website at www. GoColumbiaMo.com (search: airport); and don't forget, at Columbia Regional "Parking is Free"!

COLUMBIA

Columbia Trust



The City of Columbia has a number of ways that you can leave a lasting legacy in your community. There are opportunities to financially support nearly every area of our community, from parks to health and public safety to public art. There are many ways to make a difference.

To learn more about opportunities to support the City of Columbia with your gift, contact the Columbia Trust at 874-7504 or columbiatrust@ GoColumbiaMo.com.

Columbia Transit Tips for Winter Ridina

- Dress in layers.
- Allow extra time to reach the bus stop. Snow or ice on the sidewalk may slow you down; besides, you have all those extra layers of clothing to struggle into before you leave
- If you want something hot to drink at the bus stop, keep it small. Remember, drinks are not allowed on the bus.

Find up-to-date information on bus lineup and passenger boarding at Wabash station on Community Line (#717), on the Columbia Transit Web site www.GoColumbiaMo.com and at the station, 874-7282. Columbia Transit appreciates your patience during the station's renovation.

Holiday schedule

City offices will be closed Monday, December 25, in observance of Christmas Day and Monday, January 1, in Observance of New

Residential refuse and blue bag collection will not be made and the landfill will be closed on December 25 and January 1.

City buses will not operate on December 25 and January 1.

Mayor

First Ward

Almeta Crayton

Second Ward

Chris Janku

Third Ward

Bob Hutton

Fourth Ward

Jim Loveless

Darwin Hindman

City Council Members:



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Fifth Ward Laura Nauser Sixth Ward

Printed on recycled paper

City Manager Bill Watkins

Barbara Hoppe

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Citizens Assisting Seniors and Handicapped

Heat Energy and Light Program

Neighbors Need

imagine choosing between buying food or paying your utility bill? 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. Both the CASH and HELP programs have had additional requests over the last year, and some requests for assistance have not been met. By giving a little extra, to one or both programs, you can help someone in our community a great deal.

Holiday safety reminders

The Columbia Police Department's Community Services Unit extends the warmest of Holiday Greetings. We would also like to remind everyone that criminals will not hesitate to take advantage of you during this time of the year. Please take a few minutes to go over some of our suggestions for keeping you and your family safe this holiday season.

If you leave home for the holidays:

- Stop mail and newspaper deliveries
- Close blinds and window shades
- Put your lights on timers
- Lock your doors and windows
- Leave a radio or television on
- Ask the Columbia Police Department for a "watch in passing"

If you are shopping:

- Park only under a light or in a well-lit parking lot
- Keep your doors locked
- Don't leave packages visible; lock in trunk
- Shop in groups, not alone
- Use ATM only in an open business or bank
- Carry credit cards or money in front pocket; leave purse at home.

If you have any questions, please contact the Community Services Unit at 874-7606. Have a safe, fun and happy holiday season.

Holiday Happenings

There is a growing

number of people in

our community who

have to choose be-

tween food and the

other basic necessi-

ties in life. Can you

Holiday Visit to Maplewood

Saturday, December 2, 1-4 p.m., Nifong Park Fee: \$5 adults, \$2.50 for children 5 and younger. Make your reservation by calling 443-8936.

City Kwanzaa Celebration

Saturday, December 2, 2-5 p.m., Douglass High School Gym Free

Visit with Santa

Friday, December 8 Santa and Mrs. Claus will visit the Paguin **Tower Recreation** Facility. To schedule a visit, please call 874-7473.

Santa Hotline

Saturday, December 9 Children between ages 3-10 can call the North Pole from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. at 874-7473 or 874-6335.

Holiday Lights and Sights Tours

Wednesday, Dec. 20 Tour I: 6:15-7:30 p.m. Tour II: 7:45-9 p.m. Fee: \$5 for adults, \$3 for children 12 and under.Call 874-7460 to register.



above: Volunteer of the Month Ian White gives advice to a member of his team during the Show-Me State Games.

Howard & Gentry Building re-dedication

The Howard and Gentry municipal buildings will be rededicated Friday, December 1 at 5:30 p.m. This follows the completion of extensive renovation. The Howard and Gentry Buildings are located at 600 East Broadway and 1 South 7th Street, respectively.

In 1977, the Howard Building was named for Robert L. Howard, a lawyer, law school professor and promoter of civic improvements who helped to draft and shepherd passage of Columbia's Home Rule Charter in 1949. The building was completed in 1932 and served as Columbia's City Hall until the early 1970s when City administrative offices moved to the Daniel Boone Building.

The Gentry Building was constructed in 1906 as a post office, a purpose it served until 1936 when it was sold to the City to operate as a library. Since that time it has seen many occupants: Columbia Public Library (1938–1970); Columbia Water & Light Department (1971–1976); Columbia Parks & Recreation and Human Resources (1976–present). On Oct. 29, 1977, the former post office building was dedicated in honor of Ann Hawkins Gentry who served as Postmistress from 1838 to 1865.

The Howard Building houses city offices for Municipal Court, City Prosecutor, Human Resources, Employee Health and Parking. The Gentry Building is home to the Parks and Recreation Department, the Office of Cultural Affairs, and the Office of Volunteer Services.

December Volunteer of the Month

By volunteer Nancy Summers

Ian White, December Volunteer of the Month, moved to Columbia for a job at the University. He has made a tremendous commitment to Columbia's youth in many programs with the Parks & Recreation Department, including the Blue Thunder Track Club. Blue Thunder is a track club for youngsters aged 3–14 who are taught running, jumping, throwing and team skills during one-hour sessions held twice weekly from April through July.

Ian says, "These programs serve as a great source of self-esteem for the kids—self-esteem through personal achievement, positive encouragement, good health, and by forming friendships. These kids will then contribute to their community and beyond. First and foremost, for me, volunteering has been about creating opportunities for the kids. It's never easy. The trick is remembering what the most important things are and making sure that we give the best of our time and energy to those things."

Camren Cross, Recreation Specialist with the Columbia Parks & Recreation Department says, "Ian is simply awesome. SIMPLY AWESOME."

For volunteer opportunities with the City of Columbia, see our website at www.GoColumbiaMo.com or call 874-7499.

Imagine Columbia's Future

BIG (big idea-gathering) meetings Come and share YOUR vision!

BIG Meeting #1

Tuesday, November 28 6:30–8:30 p.m. Kimball Ballroom, Lela Raney Wood Hall Stephens College 6 North College Avenue

BIG Meeting #2

Thursday, November 30 6:30–8:30 p.m. Performing Arts Auditorium Rockbridge High School 4303 South Providence

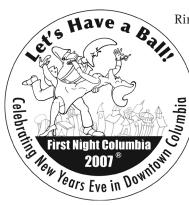
Do you have ideas about Columbia's future? What is YOUR vision? YOU are invited to a BIG idea-gathering meeting to share ideas you hold for the future of Columbia. The BIG meetings are where the VISION action begins! Hundreds of Citizens will share ideas with the help of trained discussion leaders in an atmosphere that is productive, safe and fun. The meeting should last about two hours.

People will talk about what matters to them. They will discover shared goals and make plans to reach them. The final product is a community vision of Columbia for the next five, ten or even 15 years. This is important for our community because Columbia continues to grow and change. Without a vision, we risk going in directions that don't make sense for us. That could result in lost opportunities for all of us. Other cities have used it to turn around general decline and to get control of their futures. They've established core values that mark them in unique ways.

We hope you will attend as Your idea could be the one that unlocks an opportunity or solves a problem. The only way that your ideas matter is if you participate. You are the expert if you live, work, play, shop or seek services in Columbia.

"Let's Have a Ball" First Night Columbia®

The District & Stephens College Campus December 31, 2006
Entertainment begins at 6:30 p.m.



Ring in the New Year at this celebration that marks the passage of time through the

arts! Revelers can travel from one location to another, enjoying more than 70 performances, activities and art for all ages that will transform 16 locations in downtown Columbia and Stephens College into a cultural spectacle. New this year will be the addition of a ballroom at Stephens College where you can dance the night away!

Young revelers can visit the "Create and Celebrate" area and participate in their own pro-

cession at 9:15 p.m. which will end with a bubblewrap jump and fireworks display. At 11:30 p.m., two People's Processions will lead revelers to the finale at Courthouse Square with entertainment, a pyroball countdown and spectacular fireworks at midnight.

Admission buttons are \$8 for those eight and older and will be \$10 at the door. Buttons will be available December 1 at www.firstnightmissouri.org or December 15 at the Columbia Parks and Recreation office at #1 South 7th Street, the ARC, Streetside Records and Gerbes Supermarkets. Call 874-7460 or visit the Web site for information.



above: TreeKeepers Jerolyn Byrne and Amy Jungclaus plant a tree in Forum Nature Area in March 2006.

2007 TreeKeepers class begins January 16, 2007

TreeKeepers, a volunteer program offered by Columbia Parks & Recreation and the Office of Volunteer Services, will begin its 10th year in January.

TreeKeepers is a six-week class on tree care and maintenance. In exchange for classroom experience, volunteers are asked to give 36 hours of service to City tree projects in parks and along trails and streets. Volunteer projects are held on Saturday mornings.

Classes will be held on six consecutive Tuesdays from 6–8:30 p.m. at the ARC, 1701 West Ash Street beginning January 16. Classes are taught by City of Columbia and Missouri Department of Conservation staff and faculty at the University of Missouri.

Since the program began in 1998, more than 210 people have volunteered with the TreeKeepers program, logging more than 5,100 hours valued at nearly \$93,000.

To learn more about TreeKeepers or to register for the 2007 class, contact the City's Office of Volunteer Services at 874-7499 or volunteer@GoColumbiaMo.com.

Savings with a twist

Compact fluorescent bulbs

By replacing the five most frequently used lights in your home with ENERGY STAR qualified bulbs, you can save more than \$60 a year in energy costs.

ENERGY STAR qualified bulbs use up to 75% less energy and last up to 10 times longer.

Save even more! Until December 31, 2006, while supplies last, you can get a \$2 instant rebate on ENERGY STAR qualified bulbs at Hy-Vee grocers and Westlake Hardware stores in Columbia. Limit 6 bulbs per customer per visit.

For more information visit GoColumbiaMo.com

Columbia Parks & Recreation

Register online! www.GoColumbiaMo.com
 (GoWord: GoRecreationRegistration)
 Call 874-7460 for more information.

December

- 1 Holiday Concert, Parkade Center, 1 p.m. Free
- Singles Mixer, Riechmann Pavilion at Stephens Lake Park, 8–11 p.m., \$7
- **2 Holiday Visit to Maplewood,** Nifong Park, 1–4 p.m., \$5 for adults, \$2.50 for children 5 and younger, pre-register
- **2 City Kwanzaa Celebration,** Douglass High School Gym, 2–5 p.m., Free
- **8 Visit with Santa,** Paquin Tower, call to arrange your group visit at 874-7473
- **9** Santa Hotline, children ages 3–10 can call the North Pole between 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. only
- 13 New Leisure Times guide is published; registration begins for winter classes
- **OAK/50+ Holiday Dance,** Parkade Center (east side), 601 Bus Loop 70W, 7–10 p.m., \$3
- 20 Holiday Sights and Lights Tours, meet at the ARC, 6:15–7:30 p.m. or 7:45–9 p.m., \$5 for adults, \$3 for kids 12 and under, preregister by calling 874–7460.
- 31 Boone Hospital First Night 5K Run/Walk, Flat Branch Park, 4 p.m., \$16 pre-registration fee, \$20 day of run
- 31 First Night 2007, The District and Stephens College, 6:30 p.m.-midnight, admission button is \$8 for ages 8 and over