

Columbia Parks and Recreation will roll out another series of movies in the park this summer as the Outdoor Cinema Series returns! All movies will be shown at Stephens Lake Park, moving from the original site of Flat Branch Park.

The movies are shown on a giant inflatable screen and resemble a drive-in without cars. Bring your blanket or low lawn chair and head out for a night of entertainment under the stars!

**Scheduled movies:**

**Friday, May 9, 8:45 p.m. – Bee Movie (PG):** Follow the adventures of Barry B. Benson, a bee who has just graduated from college and is disillusioned at his career choice: making honey.

**Friday June 13, 9 p.m. – The Birds (PG-13):** On this Friday the 13th, don't miss one of Alfred Hitchcock's masterpieces!

**Friday, July 11, 9 p.m. – Some Like it Hot (PG):** This classic comedy whirls through the flamboyant settings of Chicago and Miami Beach in 1929.

**Friday, August 8, 8:45 p.m. – Enchanted (PG):** A classic Disney fairytale collides with modern-day New York City in a story about a fairytale princess who is sent to our world by an evil queen.

There are no rain dates for the movies. The cost is \$3 per person; children 6 and under are free. The Outdoor Cinema Series is sponsored by Flat Branch Pub and Brewing and US Cellular, and presented by Columbia Parks and Recreation, Columbia Daily Tribune, the Convention & Visitors Bureau and Ragtag Cinema.

**Cut cooling bills by 5 percent**

Signing up for Load Management is the simple way to save money this summer. When you sign up, a radio-controlled switch is put on your outside air-conditioning unit. The switch allows Water and Light to control the amount of electricity being demanded during hot afternoons by rotating the number of air conditioners running at one time. This helps the utility control peak electric costs so the savings is passed along to you. As a customer, you shouldn't notice any difference in how cool your house is, just a 5 percent savings on your summer bill.



*Sign up today!* 874-7325  
www.GoColumbiaMo.com

**Moving? Disconnect your utilities!**

Spring is a transition time for many in Columbia. If you are moving this spring, don't forget to disconnect your City of Columbia utility account. It is important to notify us so your final bill will accurately reflect your usage.

Utility Customer Service  
Finance Department  
www.GoColumbiaMo.com  
874-7380



**Volunteers keep parks and trails safe**

Spring is here and Park Patrol volunteers are out and about patrolling the City's trails and parks. Volunteers monitor trails and parks during daylight hours, helping keep them clean, safe and in good repair, while serving as ambassadors for other users. Volunteers are also asked to look for suspicious activity and, through their presence, discourage criminal behavior. Not only do Park Patrol volunteers make a difference, they get to enjoy the outdoors while doing it!

In 2007, 56 Park Patrol volunteers gave nearly 4,000 hours of service to Columbia's parks and trails. Park Patrol volunteers must be 18 years, agree to a background check and attend a training session. The program, established in 1997, is a cooperative effort between the City's Parks & Recreation Department, Police Department, Office of Volunteer Services and US Cellular. To learn more about Park Patrol, contact the Office of Volunteer Services at 874-7499 or visit the City's Web site at www.GoColumbiaMo.com.

**Bike, Walk & Wheel Week Events at Columbia Transit**

**Your Bike is Your Ticket**

Bring your bike and you ride **FREE** to any destination on the city bus routes. (**Valid week of May 3-9 only** on a space available basis, bikes are not allowed inside the bus.) There's never a charge to use the bike racks!

**Try Transit Thursday!**

Haven't tried Transit before? Here's your opportunity to try Columbia Transit for **FREE**. On **Thursday, May 8th**, Columbia Transit will be offering free transportation to everyone... Anywhere Columbia Transit goes. *One day only, so don't miss it!*



**Columbia Transit**  
Wabash Station  
126 North Tenth Street  
573-874-7282  
www.GoColumbiaMo.com

**Household Hazardous Waste Facility**

Open first and third Saturdays April through November, 1313 Lakeview, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., a convenient way to safely dispose of gas, oil, paint, cleaning products, auto batteries, antifreeze free of oil, solvents and pesticides no longer needed.



**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 percent 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.

**Board and commission openings**

The City is accepting applications for the following boards and commissions. Applications and current vacancies are on the City's Web site at www.GoColumbiaMo.com on the City Council page. Call 874-7208 for information and specific requirements. Application deadline for the following is noon, May 9.

- Housing Authority Board
- Parks & Recreation Commission
- Board of Plumbing Examiners
- Environment & Energy Commission
- Disabilities Commission
- Board of Mechanical Examiners

**Community Line**

By dialing the city of Columbia's Community Line at 874-7650 (TTY users dial 874-7697), message 434, you can learn about tours of the Fire Department and Police Department.

**May holiday schedule**

City offices will be closed Monday, May 26, in observance of Memorial Day. Residential refuse and curbside recycling collection will not be made this day and will be delayed one day the remainder of 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 on these holidays.

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**Mayor**  
Darwin Hindman

**City Council Members:**  
**First Ward**  
Almeta Crayton

**Second Ward**  
Chris Janku

**Third Ward**  
Karl Skala

**Fourth Ward**  
Jerry Wade

**Fifth Ward**  
Laura Nauser

**Sixth Ward**  
Barbara Hoppe

**City Manager**  
Bill Watkins

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**CITYSOURCE**

Your source for City news and information

**Bike, Walk & Wheel Week**



**7th Annual Mayor's Challenge**  
COLUMBIA, MO • MAY 3-10, 2008

Mark your calendars for **May 3-10! The 7th Annual Mayor's Challenge: Bike, Walk & Wheel Week is an opportunity to build physical activity into daily routines, and to identify safety issues that need to be addressed to make Columbia a more walkable, bikeable, wheelchair-friendly city.**

**Events for the week include:**

- Saturday, May 3:** Kickoff Celebration, Flat Branch Park, 1 p.m.
- Sunday, May 4:** Cycle-Recycle, Columbia/Boone County Health Department, 1 p.m.
- Monday, May 5:** Skate Party, Empire Roller Rink, 6:30 p.m.; Basic Bicycle Maintenance & Commuting Tips Class, PedNet Office, 6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 6:** Mayor's Council on Physical Fitness and Health Spring Health and Fitness Expo, Activity & Recreation Center (ARC), 5:30 p.m.; Mayor's Fitness Awards, ARC, 7:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, May 7:** GetAbout Columbia Open House, 4 p.m.
- Thursday, May 8:** PedNet Scavenger Hunt, Grill One 5, 6 p.m.
- Friday, May 9:** Breakfast Station Day throughout Columbia, 7 a.m.
- Saturday, May 10:** Mother's Day Weekend Bike Ride, leaving from Twin Lake Shelter at 11 a.m.

Check the PedNet Coalition's Web site at www.pednet.org for more information regarding all events. Please plan to support these events and bike, walk or wheel to your destinations throughout the week of May 3-10. If you have questions, contact Chris Walthall, coordinator, at chris@pednet.org or (573) 999-2814.

**Walk a Hound, Lose a Pound**

Help a shelter dog get some much needed exercise and fresh air while walking for better health! Columbia Parks and Recreation is offering the Walk a Hound, Lose a Pound program for the second year.

Friendly, adoptable dogs from Central Missouri Humane Society and Columbia Second Chance will be available for exercise walks on Bear Creek Trail. Those who participate in the program will receive a T-shirt and be given the option to participate in a study of the benefits of dog walking. Leashes and dog treats will be provided...just bring your walking shoes!

Upcoming sessions are: Saturdays, May 3-24; Saturdays, June 7-28; and Saturdays, July 12-Aug. 8. Times are 8 a.m., 9 a.m. or 10 a.m. The fee is \$10 per session; participants may choose one time slot or all three. Those 17 and under must be accompanied by an adult. When registering, please specify preference of size and activity level of dog.

Walk a Hound, Lose a Pound is sponsored by Columbia Parks and Recreation, the UMC Research Center for Human-Animal Interaction, Columbia Second Chance, the Mo. Department of Health and Senior Services, MU College of Veterinary Medicine and the Central Missouri Humane Society.

To register, call Parks and Recreation at 874-7460 or visit www.GoColumbiaMo.com.



## Water system improvements

Columbia Water & Light is finishing some large-scale projects that will ensure high quality water is reliably delivered to you. Funding for these projects was accomplished through voter approved bond financing in 2003.

The first phase of the water system upgrades was to increase the pumping capacity of the water treatment plant from 24 million gallons a day to 32. A second 36-inch line was installed to bring the additional water to Columbia. It also can serve as a backup line if something happens to the other water transmission line from the plant.

Once water is delivered to the Columbia system, it is important to make sure there is adequate pressure. Good water pressure aids fire fighting efforts and keeps property insurance rates in check. In an effort to distribute water more effectively on the north side of Columbia, a new pumping station is being constructed off of I-70 Drive Northeast. The water line across I-70 has been installed and the building is expected to be completed this summer.

Upgrading water mains in Columbia is an ongoing effort of the utilities. The water division staff carefully tracks water main breaks and priorities are set for replacements accordingly. In fiscal year 2007 almost 7,000 feet of water mains were replaced. Sometimes water main breaks are not due to the age of the pipe but the amount of clay in our soil. Changes in the moisture level or dramatic temperature fluctuations can cause the soil to shift which can break lines. The water division makes every effort to keep service disruptions to a minimum by quickly repairing any breaks and continually upgrading the distribution system.

### Report a water leak

If you notice water pooling on a street or in a right-of-way area, it could be a water main break. Please notify us right away so we can investigate the source and make repairs if needed.

Online form:  
www.GoColumbiaMo.com  
Phone:  
874-6229



See where it takes you.

A recent survey indicates 85 percent of Columbians consider health, exercise and recreation important reasons for being active and finding ways to travel other than in cars. GetAbout Columbia is a program designed to help you do just that—by encouraging the whole community to get walking, get biking and get more out of life. May and June offer many weekend biking activities for the whole family.

#### Guided Rides\*

##### May 10- Mother's Day Ride

Join a special ride and lunch in the park with free flowers for mom!  
Meeting place: Twin Lakes Recreation Area, 2500 Chapel Hill Road

##### May 24- Shopping Center Ride

Learn how to ride safely to major retail centers in Columbia.  
Meeting place: Walt's Bicycle Shop parking lot, 1217 Rogers St.

##### June 11- MKT Discovery Ride

Are Columbia trailheads a mystery to you? Unlock the secrets to access points along the MKT Trail.  
Meeting place: Flat Branch Park (corner of Fourth and Cherry streets)

##### June 21- Country Ride

Feel the fresh breeze on your face as you take in a leisurely 30-mile ride on country roads. Pack a lunch or bring cash for the lunch stop at Catfish Corner restaurant.  
Meeting place: Walt's Bicycle Shop parking lot, 1217 Rogers St.

\*Please note: unless otherwise stated, guided rides are about 10 to 15 miles and are family-friendly. Trailers and tagalongs are welcome, but smaller bikers must be training-wheel-free. Don't have a bike? Walt's Bike Shop will provide a limited number of loaner bikes. For meeting times, contact Robert Johnson at the GetAbout Columbia office, (573) 442-7189, ext. 28, or e-mail robert@pednet.org.

For more information about GetAbout Columbia, visit the Web site at www.getaboutcolumbia.com or stop by the office at 101 N. Seventh St.



Remember, a soil test will help you understand what plants your lawn requires. For more information, contact the City of Columbia Public Works Department at (573) 874-7250.

## It's spring lawn cleanup time!

The following are lawn tips to help you, your city and the environment:

- Yard waste deposited in the street affects the efficiency of the city's street sweepers. Keep yard waste out of gutters and streets.
- Grass clippings and yard waste are collected weekly when placed with your regular refuse pickup. Use the clear yard waste bags.
- Leave grass clippings on your lawn. They distribute nutrients back to the soil which reduce the need for fertilizer.
- When blowing grass clippings off sidewalks and driveways, always blow them back into the yard, never into the street. Clippings may clog storm drains and affect water quality.

Need to soil test your lawn?

- Test your soil to determine individual lawn fertilizer needs.
- Know the square footage of your lawn and calculate the amount of fertilizer needed. Use only that amount.
- Keep fertilizer off paved surfaces. Rain can wash the fertilizer into our streams.
- It is best to apply fertilizer when the soils are moist and then water lightly. This will help the fertilizer move into the root zone where it is available to the plants.
- Choose fertilizer with low phosphorus values since many Boone County soils are naturally high in phosphorus.
- Use the minimal amount of fertilizer necessary and apply it in small, frequent applications. An application of 2 pounds of fertilizer five times a year is better than 5 pounds of fertilizer twice a year.
- Calibrate your fertilizer spreader to be sure you know exactly how much material is being discharged.
- Go to <http://soilplantlab.missouri.edu/soil/> for more information on soil testing.
- Take soil test samples to the MU Extension Office at 1012 N. Route UU or to Munford Hall on the MU campus.

## National Telecommunications Week is April 13-19

Since 1991, during the second full week of April, public safety agencies nationwide have recognized the pivotal role played by dispatchers, communications operators, radio control personnel -- those who use telephones, radios, computers and technical skill to provide support to law enforcement, fire services, emergency medical services and other governmental field personnel.

The Columbia/Boone County Public Safety Joint Communications (PSJC) Center celebrates National Telecommunications Week by naming an "Operator of the Year," "Employee of the Year" and a "Call of the Year" to formally recognize communications operators' outstanding performance.

Throughout April you'll see a banner in front of the center on Seventh Street commemorating Telecommunications Week; inside the facility, PSJC user agencies (local police, firefighters, emergency medical personnel and others) will be expressing their appreciation to the 30 operators who dispatched some 56,000 calls in 2007.

On average, a citizen will call for emergency assistance at least twice during a lifetime. Those who provide this help that can be counted on every day, at any hour, will be acknowledged April 13-19. Members of the community are encouraged to stop in and tell the PSJC team you're glad they're at your service.



## Volunteer of the month

Written by Lauren Kilberg, *volunteer*



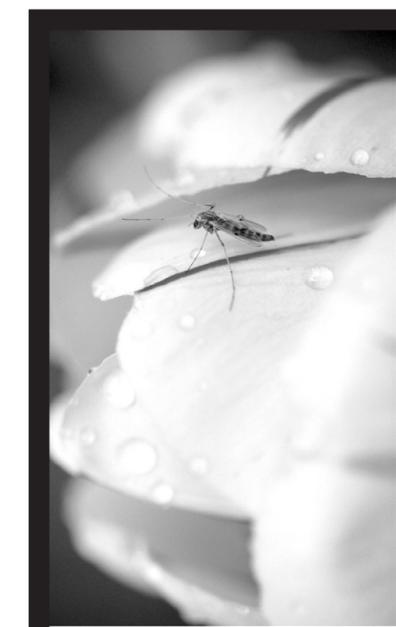
Since March 2004, Barb Melson has been an active volunteer with the Adopt-a-Spot Beautification program. The program aims to improve Columbia's appearance through the beautification of road medians and street intersections. Adopters spend many hours annually maintaining, watering, mulching and planting their beds.

Melson's bed is in the median of Park de Ville Drive, just north of Broadway. Melson, along with her husband Bob, has dedicated approximately 300 hours toward her spot. When asked about the rewards of her volunteer experience, Melson said, "As we work, people are always stopping and thanking us for the beautiful flow-

ers and work we do to help their neighborhood look nice." Melson's volunteer efforts have not been limited to the Adopt-a-Spot program. "Over the years, I have volunteered with Meals on Wheels, Girl Scouts, Boone Hospital Center and as my girls were growing up, Columbia Public Schools," she said.

The hard work and dedication Melson puts into her spot has not only directly impacted those living in the surrounding neighborhood, but those who pass through the intersection daily. The City of Columbia extends thanks to the Melsons for their help with city beautification.

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



### Springtime: A good time to fight West Nile virus

While cleaning the inside of your home this spring, remember it's a good time to clean the outside, as well. This can make a big difference in protecting your community from West Nile virus (WNV).

WNV is often spread by mosquitoes and flares up in the summer and fall. In 2007, Boone County had nine confirmed cases of WNV.

#### Here's what you can do:

- *Dispose of old tires, bottles, cans, plastic containers, or anything else that can hold stagnant water and harbor mosquito larvae.*
- *Organize a neighborhood cleanup day.*
- *Drill holes in the bottom of outside recycling bins.*
- *Keep roof gutters clean and flowing properly.*
- *Keep children's wading pools upside down when not in use.*
- *Change the water in birdbaths weekly.*
- *Wear insect repellent with DEET as protection against mosquito bites.*

It is also important to be on the lookout for symptoms of WNV, which include headache, skin rash, swollen lymph glands, neck stiffness, fever, disorientation, coma and paralysis.

For more information about West Nile virus, visit [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com).

Columbia Parks & Recreation  
CALENDAR

Register online! [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com)  
Call 874-7460 for more information.

## May

- **3** **MLB Pitch, Hit and Run**, Oakland Park Ballfield, Time TBA, Free
- **3-10** **Mayor's Challenge: Bike, Walk and Wheel Week**
- **6** **Paquin Art Show**, Paquin Tower, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Free
- **9** **Outdoor Cinema Series: The Bee Movie**, 8:45 p.m., Stephens Lake Park, \$3 per person, 6 and under free
- **9** **Whiff and Giggle Golf**, L.A. Nickell, 5 p.m. shotgun start, \$40 per couple
- **10** **Hershey Track and Field**, Rock Bridge High School Track, 9 a.m., Free
- **16** **OAK/50+ May Dance**, Stephens Lake Activity Center, 7-10 p.m., \$3
- **17** **Kids Bicycle Safety Challenge**, Site TBA, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Free
- **24** **Oakland Family Aquatic Center open**