

Wind Energy

On November 9, 2006, the City of Columbia signed an agreement with Associated Electric Cooperative for the purchase of wind energy. The wind farm being constructed in Northwest Missouri will consist of 27 two-megawatt units. Columbia has agreed to purchase the output from three of the units in 2007.



left: Workers prepare to hoist the nacelle of turbine #27, one of Columbia's designated turbines. below: Representatives from Columbia Water & Light, Associated Electric, and Wind Capital Group join Mayor Darwin Hindman and City Manager Bill Watkins at the signing ceremony.



Super Saver loans for energy efficiency improvements

It is worth your time to check out the Columbia Water and Light Super Saver Loan program! You can spread out the cost of the new equipment over time, receive low interest financing, save money on your utility bills and you might even be eligible for a federal tax credit!

- Upgrade to a more energy efficient cooling and heating system
- Replace a window air conditioner with a central unit
- Install a heat pump
- Add insulation
- Change to a solar or high efficiency water heater

Call 874-7325 for more information!

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](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com) then typing in GoYes at the GoWord prompt.

Restoring your power

What do tree limbs, lightning, ice, and squirrels all have in common? All of them can cause a power outage. When there are problems with the electric system, Columbia Water and Light makes every effort to restore your power as soon as possible.

Usually in cases where Mother Nature causes problems with the electric system, there can be multiple outages across town. When this happens, Columbia Water and Light will repair main distribution lines before feeder lines to individual customers. By prioritizing restoration efforts, the utility can restore power to a greater number of people first. Some customers, like hospitals, are also at the top of the restoration priority list due to the critical nature of their business.

Another factor in restoring power is the extent of the damage. Sometimes repairs are as easy as replacing a fuse, other times a whole line needs to be replaced. Since no two outages are the same, it is often hard to estimate how long an outage will last.

Columbia Water and Light encourages you to call 874-2555 during an outage so we can quickly locate where the problem is occurring and send crews out right away. Any detailed information you can supply to the utility about the outage is very beneficial in the trouble-shooting process.

Power & water outages 875-2555

During large outages, your call might be handled by an automatic phone system. If you reach the automatic system, you will be instructed to enter the 10 digit phone number associated with your utility account. If your customer information on file is correct, the automatic system will either let you know the problem has been reported or will log your power outage report and dispatch a crew. This automatic phone system is most efficient if the correct phone number is on file with your account. To update your utility account and streamline your power outage reports, please call Utility Customer Service at 874-7380 or e-mail your current information to [UCS @ GoColumbiaMo.com](mailto:UCS@GoColumbiaMo.com).

Council Action

- The Council on Oct. 2:
- Authorized an agreement with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services for the regional public health emergency planning and preparedness program. The \$197,344 provides funding for regional emergency preparedness activities related specifically to public health needs. The contract period is Sept. 1, 2006, through Aug. 31, 2007.
  - Authorized an airline airport agreement with Air Midwest, Inc., for commercial air service at Columbia Regional Airport. The agreement covers the two-year contract period the Department of Transportation has established through the Essential Air Service Program.

- The Council on Oct. 16:
- Authorized a cooperative agreement with the Missouri Department of Conservation for a Tree Resource Improvement and Maintenance (TRIM) grant in the amount of \$7,547 for advanced arborist training for Parks and Recreation employees. The goal of this grant is to provide advanced arborist training for both the Parks and Recreation Department forestry staff and local members of the Central Missouri Community Forestry Council.
  - Accepted a grant from the Missouri Department of Transportation - Highway Safety Division for DWI enforcement. The grant, in the amount of \$12,025, will fund overtime for "off duty" officers to conduct special traffic enforcement identifying and apprehending DWI violators. The grant period is Oct. 1, 2006, through Sept. 30, 2007.

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](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com) on the City Council page.

Columbia Regional Airport (COU)

- Did you know . . .
- COU now has service to both St. Louis (STL) and Kansas City (MCI) airports provided by US AIRWAYS EXPRESS.
  - \$59 (plus fees and taxes) one-way walk-up fares are guaranteed through March 2007.
  - Airline reservations can be made by contacting US Airways, your local travel agency, or by using Internet travel sites such as Travelocity, Expedia or Orbitz. Visit the airport website at [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com) (search: Airport).
  - The airline serving Columbia Regional has interline ticketing and interline baggage agreements with most major airlines, except Southwest.
  - You often can fly out through one airport (either STL or MCI) and return using the other airport—and maximize your connection opportunities!

Parking is FREE.

Christmas Tree Recycling – December 26 through January 31

Christmas trees will be collected curbside December 26 through January 31 on regular refuse days. Trees must be free of tinsel, plastic tree bags, ornaments, and tree stands. After January 31, trees must be cut in 4-foot lengths. Christmas trees may also be taken to the Capen Park Mulch Site (south of Stadium Blvd, off Rock Quarry Road) or the Parkside Drive Mulch Site (off Creasy Springs Road). Thank you for recycling.

On the Web


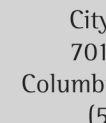

Register for Parks & Recreation classes online? Go to [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com) and enter the GoWord: GoRecreationRegistration. Follow the step-by-step instructions. Registration has never been easier!

Holiday schedule

City offices will be closed Monday, January 1 in Observance of New Year's Day and on Monday, January 15 in observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr., holiday.

Residential refuse and blue bag collection will not be made on those holidays, but will be delayed one day throughout the week. Also, the landfill will be closed.

City buses will not operate on January 1 or January 15.

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	City of Columbia 701 E. Broadway Columbia, MO 65201 (573) 874-7111 <a href="http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com">www.GoColumbiaMo.com</a>	City Council Members: First Ward Almeta Crayton  Second Ward Chris Janku  Third Ward Bob Hutton  Fourth Ward Jim Loveless  Fifth Ward Laura Nauser  Sixth Ward Barbara Hoppe
	Printed on recycled paper	City Manager Bill Watkins



Winter weather safety & awareness

Before a winter storm: Have a disaster plan and prepare a supplies kit for your home and car. Include a first-aid kit, canned foods and can opener, bottled water, battery-operated radio, flashlight, protective clothing, and blankets. In case of power outage, have an emergency heat source: fireplace, wood stove, space heater.

During a winter storm: Stay indoors and dress warmly. Eat regularly – to provide the body with energy for producing its own heat. Also, drink lots of water. If you must go outside, wear layered clothing, mittens and a hat. Watch for signs of hypothermia and frostbite. Always change wet clothing to prevent the loss of body heat. If you must drive, carry a cell phone, keep the gas tank full, and let someone know where you're going. If your car gets stuck, don't wander off; it's best to wait for help.

After a winter storm: Avoid driving until conditions have improved. Avoid overexertion! Heart attacks from shoveling snow are the leading cause of deaths during the winter. Remember to check on neighbors, especially the elderly, to make sure they're okay.

An excellent resource on this topic is the National Weather Service (NWS) website: [www.nws.noaa.gov/om/winter/index.shtml](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/winter/index.shtml).

Winter driving

When the weather gets bad, accidents do happen. Please follow these tips to keep you and your car safe.

- SLOW DOWN! This is the biggest cause of weather related crashes. When streets are slippery it takes longer to stop.

- Leave at least five car lengths between you and the car in front of you. This could keep you from hitting the car in front of you.

Hypothermia...Protecting yourself from dangerously cold temperatures

In Missouri, 416 people have died from the cold since 1979. When exposed to cold temperatures, your body loses heat faster than it can be produced. Hypothermia occurs at very cold temperatures, but can occur at cool temperatures (above 40°F) if a person becomes chilled from rain, sweat, or submersion in cold water.

Anyone—at any age or physical condition—can be a hypothermia victim.

**Warning signs include:**  
**Adults:** shivering/exhaustion, confusion/fumbling hands, memory loss/slurred speech and drowsiness.

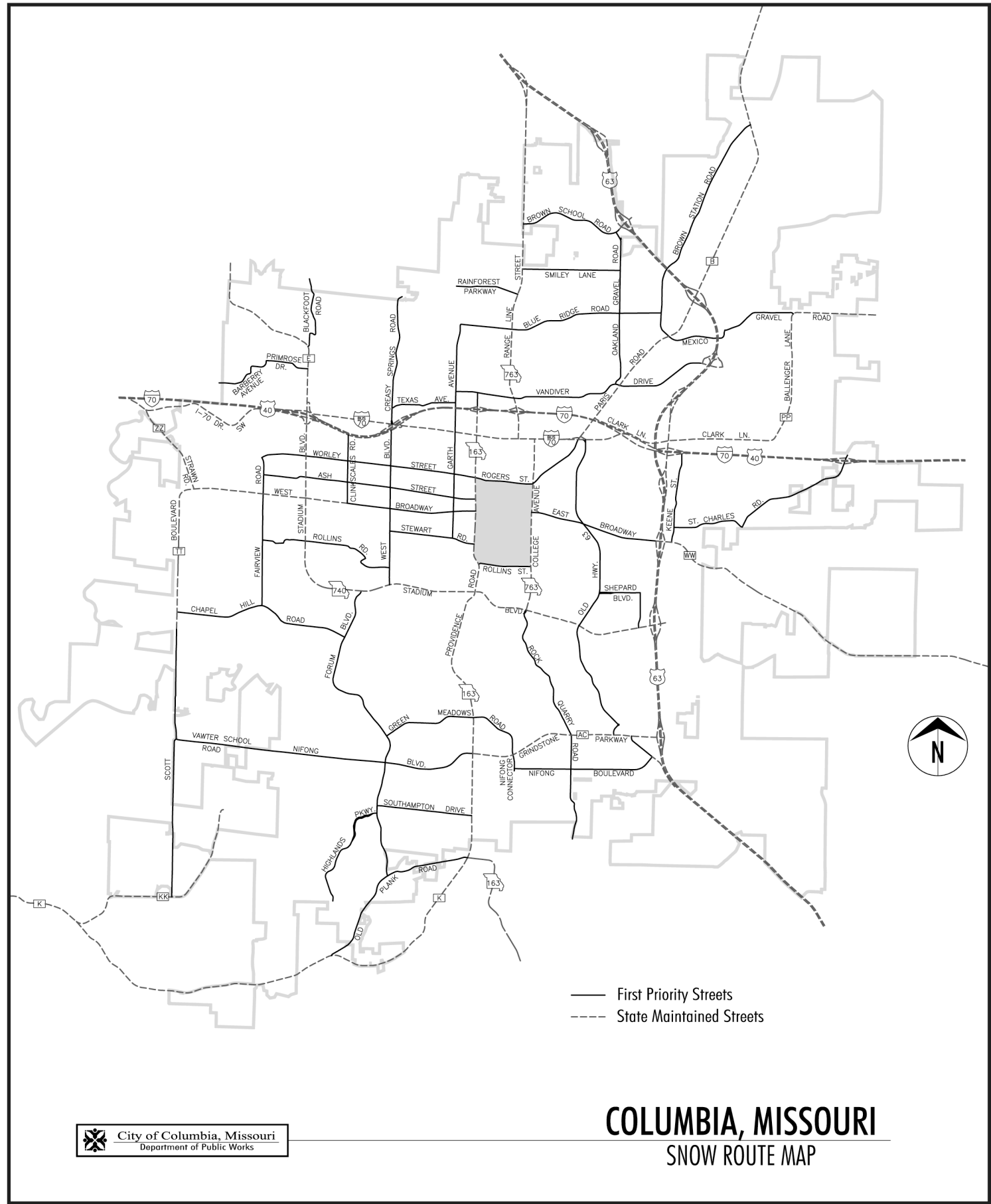
**Infants:** bright red, cold skin, very low energy. If you suspect hypothermia, take the person's temperature. If below 95°, get medical attention immediately.

If medical care is not available get victim into a warm room or shelter, remove wet clothing, warm center of body first. Keep the victim dry; wrap in a warm blanket, including the head and neck.

- Be prepared to stop. Look ahead for problems and be prepared to stop if necessary.

- If you have an accident, contact the Columbia Police Department immediately. If your vehicle is in a dangerous position, move to a safe area.

Hopefully this winter driving season will be a smooth one for you and your family. If you have questions, contact the Community Services Unit at 874-7606.



## Let's Have a Ball at First Night Columbia®

The District & Stephens College  
December 31, 2006  
Doors open at 6 p.m.

Don't miss First Night, Columbia's New Year's Eve celebration, on December 31! Revelers can travel from one location to another, enjoying more than 70 performances, activities and art for all ages that will transform 15 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!

Entertainment will include magic, country, orchestra, Cajun, dancing, rock, children's performers, bluegrass, Irish, storytelling, folk, film, rhythm & blues, and more. A venue is planned just for teens!

Young revelers can visit the "Create and Celebrate" area and participate in their own procession at 9:15 p.m. which will end with a bubble-wrap jump and fireworks. At 11:30 p.m., two People's Processions will lead revelers to the finale at Courthouse Square with entertainment, a pyroball drop and spectacular fireworks at midnight.

Admission buttons purchased in advance are \$8 for those 8 and older and will be \$10 at the door. Buttons can be purchased beginning December 1 at <http://firstnight.missouri.org> or December 11 at the Columbia Parks and Recreation office at 1 South 7<sup>th</sup> Street, the ARC, Streetside Records and Gerbes Supermarkets. Call 874-7460 or visit the web site for information.

January 2007

Volunteer of the

month: Ken Greene

*By volunteer  
Nancy Summers*

Ken Greene, an artist, jeweler and visual art instructor at William Woods University, has been an invaluable member of the Commission on Cultural Affairs since April 2002 and served as the Executive Committee Chair for the commission for the past two years. The mission of the commission is to create an environment wherein artists and cultural organizations can thrive.

Greene has impressive knowledge of visual art, particularly in selecting artists to participate in the Columbia Festival of the Arts. On average, Greene participates in two to three committee meetings a month, providing sound advice and helping to plan and implement programs and services such as the festival's Poster Party fundraiser each year.

Greene also donates his time as a volunteer Tai Chi instructor with Parks and Recreation's Community Recreation Division (above). He teaches free classes four mornings each week at the Armory Sports Center.

We thank Ken for his generosity and time. For volunteer opportunities with the City of Columbia call the Office of Volunteer Services at 874-7499 or visit our website at [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com).



## Columbia Values Diversity celebration

Register now for the Annual Columbia Values Diversity Celebration, scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 11, 2007 from 7-8:45 a.m. at the Holiday Inn Select Expo Center. Preregistration is required and the deadline is 5 p.m., Jan. 5, 2007. The cost is \$12 per person and \$10 for children under 12. Scholarships are available upon

request. Please call the Office of Community Services at 874-7488 (V) or 874-7356 (TTY) for registration information. A registration form also is available on the City of Columbia's web site at [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com). A breakfast and live music will be followed by a special program honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the presentation of the Columbia Values Diversity Awards.

The program is entitled, "Many Cultures, One Community . . . A Vision of Harmony." The highlight of the program will be an original artistic program.

The celebration is designed to be accessible to all. Please call 874-7488 (V) or 874-7356 (TTY) for more information or accommodations related to disability.

### Related events:

*Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Annual Candlelight March and Celebration*

A Candlelight March will be held the evening of January 15 at St. Paul AME Church at 7 p.m. Please check [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com) for more details or contact Bill Thompson at 874-6379.

*Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Memorial Service*

The NAACP Annual Memorial Service will be held on January 15 at 11 a.m. at the Martin Luther King Memorial at Battle Gardens. Please watch for more information or contact Mary Ratliff at 445-3231.

## Siren project underway

Approved by voters in a November 2005 public safety ballot issue, our city's \$310,000 outdoor warning siren project is now underway. Twenty-one sirens will be replaced with new units, and some will be repositioned to make coverage more effective.

The first Wednesday of every month, Joint Communications transmits the noon-time signal that initiates the familiar siren test. Validating each siren's sounding presently requires an hour of phone calls. The new sirens, however, have a two-way reporting system that sends diagnostic information back to Joint Communications, indicating whether the system is working properly. Regular tests will continue, and the new capability will streamline the process.

Blue Valley Public Safety, which was awarded the bid by the City of Columbia, began the work of removing and replacing sirens in mid-October.

## Columbia transit: Columbia Values Diversity celebration poster project

Beginning in January, artwork from the 2007 Columbia Transit/Columbia Values Diversity Celebration Poster Project will adorn city buses. Students in grades 4-12 created posters inspired by the theme: "Many Cultures, One Community... A Vision of Harmony." Find out which buses are hosting the exhibit by clicking on the Art in Transit link on the Columbia Transit Web site.

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](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com) and at the station, 874-7282. Columbia Transit appreciates your patience during the station's renovation.

## Columbia Parks & Recreation CALENDAR

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

## January

- 8-12 Advance registration for adult winter volleyball, returning teams
- 9 Swim lessons begin, Session I, Hickman Pool
- 15 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Memorial Celebration, St. Paul AME Church, 7 p.m.
- 15-19 Open registration for adult winter volleyball, new teams
- 19 OAK/50+ Snowflake Dance, Parkade Center (east side), 601 Bus Loop 70W, 7-10 pm, \$3
- 20 Swim lessons begin, Session I, ARC



Community Line

By dialing the city of Columbia's Community Line at 874-7650 (TTY 874-7697), message 706, you can learn about bus pass information.