

CITY SOURCE



Your source for City news and information



Fire Prevention Week

October 4-10 is Fire Prevention Week! This year's theme is "Stay Fire Smart – Don't Get Burned." The focus for fire service will be to prevent burn injuries and promote burn awareness.



Each year in the United States almost 2,900 men, women and children die in fires; 84 percent of these deaths occur in the home. Someone is injured in a home fire every 39 minutes and an average of eight deaths occur daily.

In the coming weeks, check the City's Web site for more information and prevention tips and how you can become involved in Fire Prevention Week. For more information, visit www.GoColumbiaMo.com and navigate to the Columbia Fire Department's home page or visit www.FirePreventionWeek.org.

Easy ways to finance energy efficiency

Looking to save money on your utility bill but not sure how to pay for energy-efficient improvements? Both Columbia Water & Light and the federal government can help.

Columbia Water & Light

Rebates: High efficiency air conditioners plus additional money for improvements that make your home Energy Star qualified are available through the Home Performance program.

Loans: Apply for a low-interest loan for adding insulation and an efficient heating and cooling system. The loan program covers additional items (windows, doors and air sealing) when you participate in the Home Performance with Energy Star program.



Federal Government

Tax credits are available at 30 percent of the cost of high efficiency heating and cooling equipment, windows, doors and insulation up to \$1,500 for 2009 and 2010.

Let us be your energy efficiency partner!

- 874-7325
- GoColumbiaMo.com
- search words: rebate, loan, home performance

September volunteer of the month



Michelle Sisson-White helps Kayla Timbrook (left) construct Columbia Audubon Society birdhouses for their Silver Award Project.

A wonderful way to mark the seasons in Columbia is through the changing colors and textures in the landscaped beds at intersections and rights of way. The work in these Adopt-A-Spot beautification sites is done by volunteer gardeners. Michele Sisson-White and the Girl Scouts she leads have logged more than 670 hours to the Adopt-A-Spot program over the last five years.

Sisson-White is the troop leader for Girl Scout troops 773, 475 and 229. She says that when looking for volunteer activities for the girls, "this seemed like a natural fit; the girls really have a heart for service, and I like exposing them to different ways to give back to the community."

Debra Hardin, Volunteer Services program assistant, says their flowerbed is always "groomed and beautiful... adding a wonderful appeal to this intersection."

According to Sisson-White, girls in her troops work together to create their vision for the flowerbed, which is located at the southwest corner of Range Line and Big Bear.

"I think the bed gets a little better every year," she said.

Sisson-White has volunteered with the Girl Scouts for 20 years. She also volunteers for First Night, and along with her Girl Scouts, participates in the annual litter pickup event Cleanup Columbia and helps with the Stream Extravaganza.

To learn about City volunteer programs, contact the Office of Volunteer Services at 874-7499 or visit www.GoColumbiaMo.com.

—Written by volunteer Sarah G. Madden

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City of Columbia
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(573) 874-7111 • www.GoColumbiaMo.com

MAYOR
Darwin Hindman

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

- | | |
|-------------|-----------------|
| First Ward | Paul Sturtz |
| Second Ward | Jason Thornhill |
| Third Ward | Karl Skala |
| Fourth Ward | Jerry Wade |
| Fifth Ward | Laura Nauser |
| Sixth Ward | Barbara Hoppe |

City Manager Bill Watkins



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your donation helps...

"Share the Light"



Since 2001, hundreds of Columbia utility customers have supported "Share the Light," a program that helps fund six areas of city services. This month, you have the opportunity to give a gift that will make a difference in your community. You will find a donation form on your remittance envelope or sign up online at www.GoColumbiaMo.com.

- Public Art
- Public Health
- Crime Prevention
- Community Beautification
- Youth Recreation Scholarships
- Fire Prevention & Education

More than \$132,000 has been donated to the program over the last nine years. Those funds have allowed the City to do many things that would otherwise not be possible. Share the Light funds support the work of volunteers who beautify intersections and assist the Columbia Police Department, teach young children the importance of dental hygiene and fire safety, allow children from low-income households to participate in recreational activities and support cultural activities.

The City welcomes new donors and thanks those who have supported Share the Light in the past. To learn more, visit the City's Web site or call 874-7504.

Gifts to Share the Light can be made on a one-time or monthly basis for the amount selected by the donor with a minimum gift of \$1. Donors can select the funding areas they wish to support including:

COLT Bridge over Highway 63



(left to right) Kevin Keith, chief engineer, Missouri Department of Transportation, Councilwoman Laura Nauser and Senator Kit Bond inspect the details of the new COLT bridge design at the groundbreaking event.

Motorists traveling on Highway 63 north of Columbia will soon have a safer route. Construction of the COLT railroad bridge over Highway 63 will begin in August and is expected to take 15 months to complete. The bridge will be located east of the existing tracks.

The bid for the project was awarded to Emery Sapp and Sons for \$3.8 million. Federal funds will be used to build the COLT bridge. Senator Kit Bond secured \$950,000 and Representative Kenny Hulshof obtained \$475,000 for the project. The rest of the money needed for the bridge was awarded to the City of Columbia through the Missouri Department of Transportation with American Recovery and Reinvestment funds.

Did you know?

The Columbia/Boone County Office of Emergency Management has informational downloads available focusing on what to do before, during and after a disaster. Access these booklets at www.GoColumbiaMo.com/EM.



Be prepared for a disaster

Whether it's a house fire, tornado, flood or terrorist attack, a disaster can strike at any time, anywhere. While many disasters cannot be avoided, being prepared can make a major difference. September is National Preparedness Month, a time in which federal, state and local agencies encourage residents to have a disaster plan.

Having an emergency supply kit, establishing a shelter and knowing where to meet members of your family or co-workers are ways the Columbia/Boone County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) encourages residents to prepare for disasters. Being prepared also includes keeping your home ready.

The Columbia Fire Department recommends installing and maintaining working smoke alarms in your home, making and practicing a family fire escape plan and knowing the local emergency number to call after you have exited the home. To prevent a fire, don't leave items cooking on the stove unattended, keep matches and lighters away from children, use caution when smoking and discarding smoking materials, use caution when using portable heating devices and don't overload electrical outlets.

Preparedness also includes protecting your home from burglaries. The Columbia Police Department recommends keeping all doors and windows closed and securely fastened, locking the door to an attached garage, using timers on lights, radios and TVs, and keeping the perimeter of your home well lit.

With flu season just around the corner, the Columbia/Boone County Department of Public Health and Human Services encourages everyone to protect themselves by washing their hands thoroughly and frequently with hot, soapy water, covering a cough and/or sneeze with a sleeve or a tissue and staying home when sick. Being vaccinated also helps prevent the spread of the flu. The Health Department will begin providing flu shots for residents in October.

For more information, contact the Office of Emergency Management at 874-7400, Columbia Police at 874-7652, Columbia Fire at 874-7391 or the Health Department at 874-7355.



Fire Station Number 9 at 201 Blueridge Road as seen on July 31.

Fire Station Number 9

Construction of Columbia Fire Station Number 9, located at the intersection of Blueridge Road and Providence Road, continues. The station is being constructed with funds approved by voters in 2005, which extended the ¼ cent capital improvement sales tax. The building design and construction meets LEED standards. The general contractor for the building is Little Dixie Construction of Columbia. The building will also have a Percent for Art component. Substantial completion is expected in late October with the fire station becoming operational by the end of the year. To follow construction progress and to learn more about the building, visit www.GoColumbiaMo.com and navigate to the Fire Department home page.

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 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.

Boards and commissions

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

- Cultural Affairs Commission
- Substance Abuse Advisory Commission
- Community Development Commission

Application deadline is noon, Oct. 9. Applications and current vacancies are available online at www.GoColumbiaMo.com or at the City Clerk's Office. Call 874-7208 for information and requirements.

Bow hunting

As part of the City's deer management program, bow hunting will be permitted on designated City property Sept. 15 – Nov. 13 and Nov. 25 – Jan. 15.

To obtain a permit, hunters attended a mandatory City orientation. Hunters must carry their permit while hunting on City property, display a designated parking permit in their vehicle and follow Missouri Department of Conservation hunting regulations.

For information, including a list of City property open to bow hunting, call Parks and Recreation at 874-7460, or visit the City's Web site at www.GoColumbiaMo.com on the Parks and Recreation page.

Keys to the City

Join the City of Columbia for the fall "Keys to the City" event!

- Tuesday, October 27
- Reichmann Indoor Pavilion at Stephens Lake Park, 2300 E. Walnut
- 5-7 p.m. – City Council Office Hours and City Services Information Fair
- 7-8:30 p.m. – Neighborhood Congress on planning issues that affect our city

Learn more at www.GoColumbiaMo.com or by calling 874-7504.

Flu clinics

The Columbia/Boone County Department of Public Health and Human Services will offer flu clinics this fall. We are in daily contact with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) regarding both the seasonal influenza vaccine and a possible H1N1 vaccine. When the vaccines become available to us, we will alert the public through the news media, our Web site, various newsletters like this one and our Facebook and Twitter pages with regards to when and where both seasonal and H1N1 vaccines will be available.

In the meantime, you can protect yourself and your family from disease, especially influenza, through common sense and proven, disease-fighting methods:

- Wash hands thoroughly and frequently with hot, soapy water. If water is not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze. A tissue is best, but if one is not available, use the crook of your elbow, not your hands.
- Keep hands away from your eyes, nose and mouth. Hands are often covered in germs.
- Stay home if you're sick.

For more information regarding flu vaccines, please contact the health department at (573) 874-7355 or visit us online at www.GoColumbiaMo.com.

Parks making use of solar power



The Parks and Recreation Department recently installed two solar-powered scoreboards on the football/lacrosse fields in Cosmo Park. The scoreboards are the third solar-powered initiative in the parks - the first being the solar-powered parking lot lights in the east parking lot at Stephens Lake Park. The second was solar-powered parking lot lights at the parking lot expansion project at the Activity and Recreation Center (ARC).

"By using solar power for the scoreboards, we were able to avoid trenching up the fields to lay the conduit needed for conventional lighting and saved the cost of a monthly utility bill. We try to incorporate 'green' initiatives whenever it makes sense to do so," explained Park Services Manager Mike Griggs.

The installation of the two new scoreboards was a cooperative project between the Columbia Youth Football League (CYFL) and Parks and Recreation. The CYFL paid for the scoreboards and the Parks and Recreation Department purchased the solar panels and provided the labor for the installation. The scoreboards will be operational for the 2009 fall football season.

PARKS & RECREATION

CALENDAR

Register online!
www.GoColumbiaMo.com

Call 874-7460 for more information.

October 11

One Sky – One World Day,
Cosmo-Bethel Park, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., free

October 21

Family Fun Fest: Percussion is Phun,
Flat Branch Park, free

October 26

Holiday Toy Drive kicks off, through Dec. 18

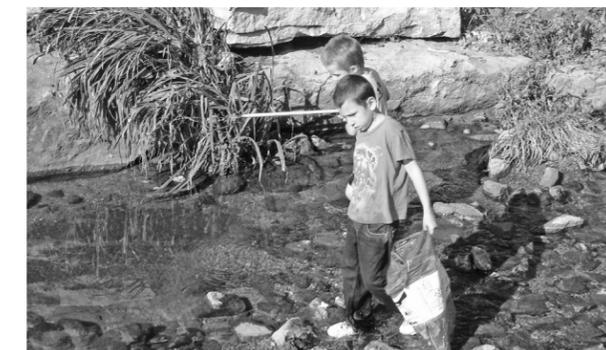
October 31

Halloween Tiger Night of Fun,
Hearnes Center, 5-7 p.m., free

cut along line



Hinkson Clean Sweep — Oct. 17



Help prevent pollution in your neighborhood and in our local waters by joining us for the **Hinkson Clean Sweep 2009** Saturday, Oct. 17, 10 a.m. to noon.

It's a morning to get a little wet, have fun outside and clean our streams and creeks. Anyone can participate. All supplies will be handed out at the stream cleanup areas. Wear old shoes that can get wet and be ready to have fun.

An online registration form and additional details can be found at www.GoColumbiaMo.com or by calling the **Office of Volunteer Services at 874-7499**.

The Hinkson Clean Sweep is sponsored by the City of Columbia Public Works Department, Boone County Public Works, Hinkson Creek Restoration Project, Sierra Club Water Sentinels, Sierra Club Osage Group and the Missouri Department of Conservation Stream Team.