

CITYSOURCE

www.CoMo.gov

March 2018



Your source for City news and information



Cleanup Columbia scheduled for Saturday, April 14



Members from Minority Men's Network participated in Cleanup Columbia.

The 22nd annual Cleanup Columbia, a citywide litter control event, will be held Saturday, April 14. Volunteers are invited to spend the morning making our community look great through picking up trash along streets, trails and streams and in our parks. Individuals of all ages and abilities, and groups of all sizes and types are welcome to participate.

Volunteers will receive a t-shirt, while supplies last, and are invited to a post cleanup lunch at Twin Lakes Recreation Area, 2500 Chapel Hill Road, to celebrate their accomplishments. The City appreciates the help of our sponsors who support the event: Veterans United, Socket, KOMU TV-8, the Mid-Missouri CW, 102.3 BXR, 1400 KFRU and the Columbia Missourian.

To register or learn more, visit CoMo.gov or call Volunteer Programs at 573-874-7499.



Young Columbians joined other volunteers for Cleanup Columbia in 2017.



A large group of volunteers from Bal Sabha participated in the litter control event.

A special thanks to Willie Jones for capturing the Cleanup Columbia photos.

Register for the Fair Housing and Lending Seminar

The City of Columbia will host a FREE two-day Fair Housing and Lending Seminar on April 5-6. Experts will present information about fair housing and lending laws, discrimination and the investigation of complaints, the Missouri Human Rights Act, affirmatively furthering fair housing, the community land trust, fair lending and the community reinvestment act, and the impact of redlining and the history of fair housing and lending in Missouri.

This year, the City will also offer a small-group building inclusive communities workshop. The event includes a program fair to allow attendees to meet City staff and explore programs the City offers for improving housing and home ownership, increasing energy efficiency and environmental sustainability, and strengthening neighborhoods and our community.

For more information and to register, visit CoMo.gov and search "fair housing seminar."

Molly's Miles walk/run scheduled for April 7



Participants running in last year's Molly's Miles 5K.
© Jonathan Asher Photography

On Saturday, April 7, families, friends, co-workers, and supporters of law enforcement officers statewide will gather together again at the Molly Bowden Memorial Park, 900 W. Nifong Blvd., to walk and run in memory of those who have died in the line of duty, and to honor their surviving families.

Molly's Miles is a family-friendly walk/run in its second year; all proceeds from the event benefit the Missouri Chapter of Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S.). Last year, the event set record for a first-year race with over 900 participants in the 5K. This year, the event will also include a 10K, as well as a Virtual Run option for those who are unable to attend in person. Registration for the 5K is \$30 for adults and \$20 for kids (12 and under). Registration for the 10K is \$35 for adults. Registration for the Virtual Run is \$20. Prices will increase \$5 after the first 500 registrants.

Participants in the 5K and 10K will receive a shirt, a finisher medal, chip timing and live results. Shirts are only guaranteed to those who register by March 20.

The event is named in memory of fallen Columbia Police Officer Molly Suzanne Thomas Bowden. To register or for more information, visit MollysMilesRun.com.

Opportunities to recycle and reduce waste

As spring arrives, the City of Columbia will offer more ways for you to recycle and reduce the waste that is sent to our landfill. Volunteers play an important role in these activities—if you are interested in joining us please contact volunteer@CoMo.gov or 573-874-6271.

- Household Hazardous Waste Collection opens April 7 and continues the first and third Saturday of the month through November, from 8 a.m. to noon at the Grissum Building, 1313 Lakeview. Drop off unwanted paint, household cleaners, motor oil, batteries and much more for safe disposal. Volunteers are instrumental in the success of this program and assist by greeting the public, directing traffic and consolidating paint.



Columbia residents attend a Compost Workshop to learn the why, what and how of home composting.

- Learn to compost. Composting improves soil quality, helps with healthy plant growth, reduces use of fertilizers and pesticides and improves water quality while protecting the environment by diverting organics from the landfill. Learn the why, what and how of home composting at a City of Columbia free Compost Workshop. Two workshops led by experienced volunteers will be offered Sunday, April 22 at the Earth Day Celebration in Peace Park, 401 S. Ninth St. For a complete workshop schedule and registration form search "workshops" at CoMo.gov.

Progress As Promised: Flat Branch Park expansion



The City has completed important steps in the possible expansion of Flat Branch Park and roadway improvements at Providence Road near Broadway.

The site adjacent to Flat Branch Park at 32 S. Providence Road has been restored and prepared for future park expansion. Parks and Recreation staff completed analysis of the site and conducted hazardous materials clean-up and removal. This work was performed in cooperation with the Historic Preservation Commission, which reviewed and removed items of value from the building on the site. Demolition and clean-up of the building on site was completed in January.

The park expansion project has a working name of Founder's Park, as the City of Columbia originated in that particular area. The park is being planned to commemorate the City's bicentennial celebration.

The second phase of the project is unfunded at this time, but may include amenities such as a pedestrian bridge, fountain and walkways. It may also include the construction of the Columbia West Gateway Plaza as part of the Downtown Community Improvement District's Gateways project.

Street Talk—Extreme temperatures lead to potholes

The Eiffel Tower, made of iron, is 984 feet tall but can shrink 6 inches during a cold winter before returning to its full height in summer. Pavement isn't much different—it expands and contracts during extreme hot and cold spells. This can cause some pavements to crack or open up seams allowing water under the roadway that freezes and further weakens the pavement. This typically results in a pothole in winter or spring (or a pavement buckle later in the summer). If you see a pothole, please call the City of Columbia Contact Center at 573-874-CITY (2489) to report the issue. The City responds to road hazards as soon as possible either with a short-term or long-term fix and/or warning signs if the fix will take 24 hours or longer. If the hazard is on a state or county maintained road, the City will notify them as well. Don't assume someone else has reported a pothole because it may have just occurred. Chances are you will be the first to call.



Be aware of utility scams

The City of Columbia is often made aware of scam phone calls that go out to customers, demanding payment for a delinquent balance and threatening immediate shut-off if payment is not made right away. Sometimes these scams target residential customers; other times the focus is on local businesses. Utility Customer Service (UCS) would like to remind customers that no one from the City will ever demand immediate payment over the phone. Likewise, UCS employees will never ask for a credit card number over the phone. Customers are notified of a past due balance by mail, by automated phone call, and possibly by text message or email. Customers who receive these fraudulent phone calls are encouraged to notify the police by calling the non-emergency number (311) and to let UCS know as well.

Parks & Recreation Calendar

Call 573-874-7460 for more information.

APRIL

- 7** Kite Flying Day, Douglass Park, 12-2 p.m., **FREE**
- 14** International Day, Norma Sutherland Smith Park, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., **FREE**
- 21** Columbia Youth Intro to Track and Field, Hickman High School Track, 1:30 p.m. check in, \$5
- 21** Kite Flying Day, Indian Hills Park, 12-2 p.m., **FREE**
- 22** Earth Day, Peace Park, 12-7 p.m., **FREE**
- 22** Yappy Hour, Twin Lakes Recreation Area, 3-6 p.m., \$15 per dog and person, \$5 for person not bringing a dog
- 25** Tons of Trucks, Target parking lot at Columbia Mall, 4-7 p.m., **FREE**
- 28** MLB Pitch, Hit and Run, Albert-Oakland Park, 9:30 a.m. check in, **FREE**
- 28** MLB Jr. Home Run Derby, Albert-Oakland Park, 1 p.m. check in, **FREE**

National Public Health Week

Each year during the first week in April, the Columbia/Boone County Department of Public Health and Human Services celebrates National Public Health Week. Residents are encouraged to take action every day in order to build a healthier community.

It's easy to begin a path toward a healthier lifestyle by:

- Eating healthier meals
- Exercising more often
- Stopping smoking/tobacco consumption
- Getting routine health screenings and immunizations
- Practicing good hygiene to limit the spread of germs

Begin your journey toward health today. Visit the National Public Health Week website at nphw.org for more information.



**National
Public Health
Week**

AN INITIATIVE OF THE AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

Volunteer of the Month—Jo Morrow



Jo Morrow

As she was reading the news four years ago, Jo Morrow saw an ad that the Special Olympics needed volunteers for its summer program. She eagerly volunteered and never looked back. Morrow has been volunteering with Special Olympics in track and field, basketball, golf and softball. Although Morrow already plays golf, she's learning the rest as she goes.

"I enjoy showing up and the athletes recognize me," Morrow said. "I seem to have some of the same athletes for different sports; it's always nice to see a friendly face."

Morrow is finishing up a PhD and working while she finds time to volunteer.

"I don't have to think about work or school, it's a nice de-stressor," Morrow said.

Not only has the volunteering been fun, but Morrow sees more and more athletes each year. She is currently coaching a basketball skills team, which started with about eight athletes, but that number has doubled.

Morrow has been a consistent volunteer for Special Olympics, making her viable to the program.

"Jo has also always volunteered or stepped in where she hadn't originally planned to volunteer. If I need help, she's the one I call," Special Olympics Coordinator Jessica Sida said. "Not to mention, our athletes love her."

For Morrow, the most rewarding part of volunteering is the excitement on the athlete's faces.

"It's exciting to see someone make a basket for the first time or sink a putt from a distance," Morrow said. "Everyone cheers for one another, and it's just really inspiring."

Written by volunteer Laura Davis

Municipal election to be held April 3

A municipal election is scheduled for April 3 for Ward 2 and Ward 6.

Registered voters can view their polling location by visiting the Boone County Clerk's website at showmeboone.com/clerk.

Residents can also register to vote, change their address or request an absentee ballot on the site.



Code Corner – Nuisance vehicles



Chapter 11 of City of Columbia Code of Ordinances regulates dismantled, inoperable, junk-filled and unlicensed vehicles. Nuisance vehicles like these hurt a neighborhood and may

encourage other code violations or criminal activity.

When a violation of a nuisance vehicle is identified, the property owner has 30 days to comply before the violation is abated or case is referred to Municipal Court.

The Office of Neighborhood Services (ONS) handles nuisance vehicle cases and other residential code enforcement issues. If you have an issue where ONS can help, please call them at 573-817-5050.

Boards & Commissions

The City is accepting applications for the following:

Application deadline April 6 at 5 p.m.

- Board of Adjustment
- Downtown Columbia Leadership Council
- Planning and Zoning Commission

Applications and information about current vacancies are available online at CoMo.gov or at the City Clerk's Office. Call 573-874-7208 for more information.

Contact Center Connection

Did you know you can call one number and receive information about trash collection, transit services, reporting a pothole, street light issues and Columbia events? Call 573-874-CITY (2489) today for City of Columbia information!



The City does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, marital status, disability, familial status, sexual orientation or gender identity.

City of Columbia
701 E. Broadway • Columbia, Mo 65205
573-874-CITY (2489) • CoMo.gov

MAYOR
Brian Treece

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

First Ward	Clyde Ruffin
Second Ward	Michael Trapp
Third Ward	Karl Skala
Fourth Ward	Ian Thomas
Fifth Ward	Matt Pitzer
Sixth Ward	Betsy Peters
City Manager	Mike Matthes



Printed on recycled paper