

# CITYSOURCE

[www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com)



Your source for City news and information



## Parks and Recreation presents last Family Fun Fest of 2012

Columbia Parks and Recreation is teaming up with the City's Office of Cultural Affairs to present the last Family Fun Fest event of 2012. It will be held from 6-8 p.m. Sept. 19 with the theme of Creative Kids.

Kids will enjoy participatory art activities and family-friendly performances of music, dance and theater. Entertainment for the entire family will also feature face painting and guaranteed fun for all ages. Family Fun Fests are free.

Family Fun Fests are sponsored by the Convention & Visitors Bureau, KPLA 101.5 Radio, KOMU 8, EntPro Entertainment and Columbia Home magazine.

## 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Heritage Festival & Craft Show

Take a step back in time at the 35<sup>th</sup> annual Heritage Festival & Craft Show at historic Nifong Park. Columbia Parks and Recreation will hold the festival from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 15-16. Heritage Festival has no admission charge and offers entertainment and fun for all ages.

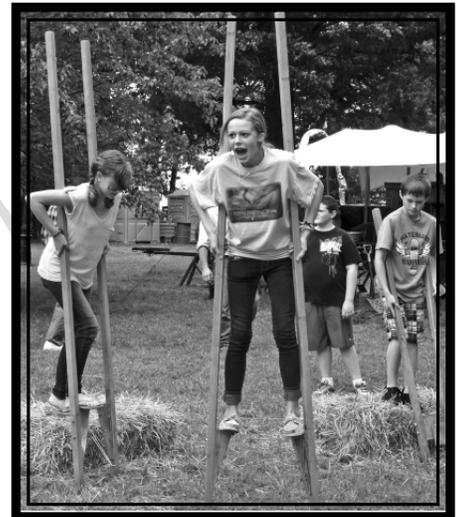
Attendees will enjoy music and dancing on two stages. Featured entertainers include the Haskell Indian Nations Dancers, Professor Farquar's Medicine Man Show and "Two Crows" Mountain Man along with a variety of music, including bluegrass, folk, German and Cajun.

Visitors can experience "living history" by strolling through a replica Lewis & Clark outpost, cowboy and prospector camps, and a lost arts area with traditional artisans. A large contemporary handmade craft area will also be featured.

From 8-9:30 p.m. Sept. 15, the Mid-Missouri Organization of Storytellers will sponsor ghost stories. The Heritage Festival will also feature numerous children's activities in the Fun for Young'uns Area.

The Heritage Festival is coordinated by Columbia Parks and Recreation and sponsored by the Columbia Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Columbia Daily Tribune, KFRU and KPLA 101.5.

Call 874-7460 for more information about the festival, or visit [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com).



## Traffic Box Art

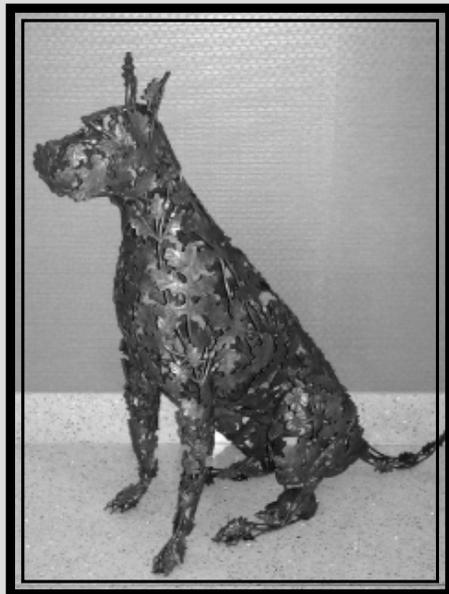
The corner of 6<sup>th</sup> and Walnut is now a little brighter. On June 29, artist Andrew Glenn installed the latest piece of traffic box art, making it the fifth traffic signal box to become a work of art in downtown Columbia. The goal of the Traffic Box Art program is to decrease instances of graffiti while contributing to the uniqueness of the downtown streetscape.

Glenn's installation method was a bit different than the other four boxes. He created a vinyl wrap that was placed on the box with adhesive rather than using paint. Be sure to look closely at the intricate design to see different methods of transportation on each side of the box!

## New Art for City Hall

Don't be alarmed when you exit the elevators on the third floor of City Hall. The two Great Danes gazing at the crow near the ceiling are the new bronze sculptures by artist Chris Morrey. It took Morrey over a year to complete this public art project, which was installed at the end of May outside Public Works' offices.

Morrey used his signature bronze dogwood flowers and leaves to reflect nature in the sculptures. This new work is part of the City's Percent for Art program, which allows for one percent of the cost of new city construction or renovation to be used for site-specific art.



## Get Some ZZZs

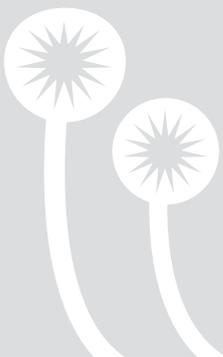
Insufficient sleep is associated with a number of chronic diseases and conditions, such as diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, obesity and depression. The Columbia/Boone County Department of Public Health and Human Services reminds parents and students that adequate sleep each night is vital to daytime success.

Sleep deprivation can cause daytime sleepiness, sluggishness and difficulty concentrating or making decisions. Teens and young adults who do not get enough sleep are at risk for automobile crashes; poor grades and school performance; depressed moods; and problems with friends, fellow students and adult relationships.

Public Health and Human Services offers the following tips to avoid the effects of sleep deprivation:

- Avoid stimulants like caffeine and nicotine late in the day. The stimulating effects of caffeine in coffee, colas, teas and chocolate can take as long as eight hours to fully wear off.
- Have a good sleeping environment. Get rid of anything that might distract you from sleep, such as noises or bright lights.
- Stick to a sleep schedule. Go to bed and wake up at the same time each day, even on the weekends.
- See your health provider if you continue to have trouble sleeping.

For more information on leading a healthy life, find the health department on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/CoMoHealthDept>.



## Window air conditioner exchange for income-qualified customers

To help you save energy and money, Columbia Water & Light and the Voluntary Action Center are offering the Air Conditioner Exchange program, and you might qualify.

### **Below are the eligibility requirements for the Air Conditioner Exchange program:**

- Be a current Columbia Water & Light electric customer
- Have an older, less-efficient and/or broken window unit to exchange
- Have an annual income of less than 200 percent of the poverty level

If you meet the above criteria and want a new window air conditioning unit, please call the Voluntary Action Center. There are a limited number of units to exchange so it is important to call before bringing in an older unit to exchange.

### **You must bring in the following items along with your older air conditioner to participate:**

- Proof of your current physical Boone County address (IDs or leases will not be accepted.)
- Identification for everyone at your address (originals...no copies)
- Proof of all income for everyone at your address (including food stamps and TANF)
- Current utility bill for your address

### **Please call before bringing your older unit in to confirm eligibility and availability!**

Voluntary Action Center • 573-874-2273 • 403A Vandiver Drive, Columbia, Missouri

## Unite 4 Health Community Garden

Community members gathered on a warm June afternoon to celebrate a successful public-private partnership making more fresh fruits and vegetables available for residents in central Columbia. The Unite 4 Health Community Garden, now in its second growing season, celebrated its success with a ribbon cutting ceremony June 14.

Several partners joined in the effort to turn unused space into a productive garden, bringing neighbors together, improving the soil and adding beauty to the area.

### **They include:**

- City of Columbia Public Works (which owns the site)
- Columbia/Boone County Department of Health and Human Services
- Community Garden Coalition
- Columbia Water & Light Department
- PedNet (through its Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation)
- MU Extension
- Columbia Center for Urban Agriculture

In addition to growing food in their individual plots, gardeners help maintain fruit trees and berry bushes and raise vegetables for Boone County's WIC (Women, Infants and Children) education and nutrition program.

The garden also serves as a valuable educational resource—for growing food in an urban setting and for how to best manage and use stormwater. Mike Heimos, stormwater educator for the City, built a rainwater collection system at the garden. Future plans include installing rain gardens on both sides of the garden. Interested in getting your own garden plot or just lending a hand?

Visit [comogardens.org](http://comogardens.org) for more information.



**Helping with the planting**

## Energy efficiency programs

Columbia Water & Light encourages the efficient use of electricity because it can make a big difference for all of us. For you, the immediate benefit is saving money and having a more comfortable home. For the utility, research has shown that it is cheaper for us to “buy” efficiency than it is to produce electricity. This helps your rates stay low. **Energy efficiency is good for you and it’s good for Columbia.**

### Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Rebates & Loans

This program takes a whole-house approach to make your home more comfortable and to save you money on your utility bills. A certified contractor uses a scientific approach to evaluate your home. Making all the suggested energy-efficiency upgrades can make your home ENERGY STAR certified. This program provides the most energy savings so Columbia Water & Light offers rebates up to \$1,200 and low-interest financing to help you make the suggested improvements.

### Air Conditioner/Heat Pump Rebates

Customers installing a high-efficiency air conditioner and/or an air source heat pump can receive a rebate ranging from \$50 to \$1,600.

### Free Energy Audits

Sign up and one of our staff members will review your account and make a home visit to help you determine ways to save electricity and water. Many of the tips our specialists recommend are easy do-it-yourself projects.

### Tree Power

Columbia Water & Light will have a specialist evaluate your home to determine where and what type of trees to plant for maximum energy savings. Upon completion of the review, you will receive a coupon for a free 6-foot to 10-foot shade tree. There is a limit of one tree per electric meter.

### Reduced Heat Pump Rate

Electric customers with heat pumps that meet the utility’s specifications are eligible for a reduced electric rate October through May.

ColumbiaPowerPartners.com  
info@ColumbiaPowerPartners.com  
573-874-7325



## Peak Warnings—

Why we need your help?

Peak electrical demand occurs during the hottest days of summer when electric consumption is critically high. To meet the demand, Columbia Water & Light sometimes needs to buy power from the wholesale electric market where the prices can be very high. Lowering Columbia’s electric demand from 2 p.m.-8 p.m. can help the utility save money, which helps keep your electric rates low.

### During hot summer afternoons:

- Set thermostats up one or two degrees.
- Avoid heating the kitchen – barbecue, use the microwave or prepare a cool meal.
- Change the air conditioning/ furnace filter.
- Leave window shades that receive direct sunlight down during the day.
- Make sure all storm windows and fireplace dampers are closed.

### Postpone until after 8 p.m.:

- The use of major electric appliances
- Doing laundry
- Using automatic dishwashers and dehumidifiers

Thank you for your help.  
Columbia Water & Light



# Columbia Imagined

The Plan for How We Live & Grow

[www.columbiaimagined.com](http://www.columbiaimagined.com)

## Phase 5 – How to Get There?

Cities have long been compared to living organisms -- they change over time based on resources, constraints and opportunities. City planning helps guide how a city's growth and development meet the needs and desires of the community in light of these factors.

Development of Columbia's new comprehensive plan is in its fifth phase. The Comprehensive Plan Task Force and Planning and Zoning Commission are working with City staff to analyze more than 1,500 sources of public input on how the City should grow and develop in the future. This information will form the basis of a plan that describes the expectations of the community and explains "how to get there." The draft plan will be available for additional public review, comment and input this fall before being considered by the Planning and Zoning Commission and finally the City Council.

For information about upcoming meetings and other ways to get involved, stay in the loop through email, the Web, Twitter or Facebook:

- [www.GoColumbiaMo.com/Web\\_Mail/](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com/Web_Mail/)
- [www.columbiaimagined.com](http://www.columbiaimagined.com)
- <http://twitter.com/comoimagined>
- [www.facebook.com/ColumbiaImagined](http://www.facebook.com/ColumbiaImagined)

## Labor Day holiday

City offices will be closed Monday, Sept. 3, in observance of Labor Day. The regular City Council meeting will be held Tuesday, Sept. 4. Residential refuse and curbside recycling collection will not be made Sept. 3 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.

## PARKS & RECREATION CALENDAR

Call 874-7460 for more information.

### SEPTEMBER

- |       |   |
|-------|---|
| 3     | Albert-Oakland Family Aquatic Center closes for summer  |
| 4     | Pooch Plunge, Albert-Oakland Family Aquatic Center, 6-7:30 p.m., \$4 per dog, must pre-register |
| 6     | Stephens Lake Park Amphitheater Concert Series, Norm Ruebling Band, 7-9 p.m., free              |
| 15-16 | 35th Annual Heritage Festival and Craft Show, Nifong Park, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., free                 |
| 19    | Family Fun Fest: Creative Kids, Flat Branch Park, 6-8 p.m., free                                |

## WEB DID YOU KNOW?

The City's website was recently redesigned to be more user-friendly.

- Home page content has been tabbed to provide a neat and tidy appearance and easy access to the most used city services.
- A full mobile website option is provided; mobile users may switch between the full and mobile versions.
- New navigation features include an A-Z City Services Directory, allowing users to browse by category and full site map option. Items that are trending in a category or the A-Z list are highlighted.



# Volunteer of the Month—Joy Rushing



Joy Rushing

Joy Rushing retired early from a job she enjoyed so she would have more time to volunteer. This petite lady with an infectious smile has a big enthusiasm for volunteering.

After moving to Columbia, Rushing noticed an ad for the Columbia Hospitality Corps and started greeting and talking to visitors at the Lake of the Woods Visitors Center.

She then joined Columbia Aquat-Restoration Project because she wanted to learn about caring for

wetlands. Rushing also serves on the City of Columbia's Personnel Advisory Board that assists the Human Resources Department and reviews policies and appeals.

Through the years, serving the homeless and abused has been her passion. She previously prosecuted domestic violence cases in municipal court. Now she volunteers at the Mid-Missouri Assistance League and Altrusa to help women and children and at church helping the homeless. She also serves on a committee that is looking for a new day center for the Columbia Interfaith Resource Center to better help the homeless.

Volunteering at KOPN, Rushing changes pace with a ragtime show Sundays 5-7 a.m. and a country show Mondays 3-5 p.m.

Rushing encourages people to volunteer. "Try different things until you find a good fit," she advises. "The beauty of volunteering is you can say, 'This doesn't work for me,' and try something new. With so many volunteering opportunities, everyone can find something they enjoy."

To learn more about volunteering with the City, contact Volunteer Programs at 874-7499 or [volunteer@GoColumbiaMo.com](mailto:volunteer@GoColumbiaMo.com).

*Written by volunteer Theresa Nelson*

## Boards & Commissions

The City is accepting applications for the following:

**Application deadline: Sept. 7 at noon—**

- City of Columbia New Century Fund Inc. Board
- Convention and Visitors Advisory Board
- Personnel Advisory Board

**Application deadline: Oct. 5 at noon—**

- Board of Adjustment
- Citizens Police Review Board
- Columbia Community Development Commission
- Commission on Cultural Affairs
- Internet Citizens Advisory Group
- Substance Abuse Advisory Commission

Applications and current vacancies for City boards and commissions are available online at [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com) or at the City Clerk's Office. Call 874-7208 for information.

CITY SOURCE is published by the City of Columbia as a public service to the residents of Columbia, Missouri.

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City of Columbia  
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(573) 874-7111 • [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com)

MAYOR  
Bob McDavid

### CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

<i>First Ward</i>	Fred Schmidt
<i>Second Ward</i>	Michael Trapp
<i>Third Ward</i>	Gary Kespohl
<i>Fourth Ward</i>	Daryl Dudley
<i>Fifth Ward</i>	Helen Anthony
<i>Sixth Ward</i>	Barbara Hoppe
<i>City Manager</i>	Mike Matthes



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## Online Utility Services, NO Waiting!



**GoColumbiaMo.com** is the fastest, most convenient way to start new service, terminate your service or transfer your service to a new location. Already a customer? You can check your account, pay your bill or even email a question. No access to a computer, no problem. You can still access your account, check your balance and due date and even pay your bill. **Just call 874-7694.** First-time users will need to have their social security number on file at Utility Customer Service, know their account number and set up a PIN.

**Questions? Call customer service at 874-7380.**