



Voluntary Action Center

the heart of service in Boone County

NEWSLETTER



800 North Providence Road

573.874.2273

www.vacmo.org

April – May 2009

Join us for the 8th Annual

Spring into Action

Dinner, Awards Ceremony, Auction

With the arrival of spring, friends of the Voluntary Action Center are preparing to *Spring Into Action* on behalf of our services and programs.

The Club at Old Hawthorne

6221 West Broadway

Tuesday, May 26

5:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Join us for an evening of awards and a live auction while enjoying a wonderful dinner and great company. This year Bob Duncan will receive the *Hazel Riback Award* for service to the Voluntary Action Center, Bo Fraser and Lynda Baumgartner will each receive the *Outstanding Community Service Award*, and David & Jackie Pittman and Gordon & Bonnie Burnam will each receive the *Heart of VAC Award*. We are honored to have the opportunity to recognize such deserving people in our community.

In addition to honoring these wonderful people, guests will have the opportunity to support VAC's services by bidding on auction items donated by local businesses.

Old Hawthorne is the place to be on May 26! The food will be delicious, the auction fun, and seven remarkable people will be honored for their generosity, service, leadership, and involvement in our local community. For more information, to purchase tickets, or to discuss corporate sponsorship options, call the Voluntary Action Center at 874-2273.

Upcoming VAC Events and Programs



Earth Day & Volunteer Fair

Sunday, April 19
Noon - 7:00 p.m.
Peace Park
(Rain Date: April 26)

Celebrate the Earth at this free annual public festival. Festival attendees will enjoy music and dancing, visit non-profit and vendor booths, participate in kid's activities, and have access to information on living green. The Festival is also a Community Volunteer Fair, coordinated in conjunction with VAC. All community groups in search of volunteers are encouraged to participate. Bring your family and enjoy this community celebration! For booth reservations or to volunteer, call 874-3932 or visit www.columbiaearthday.org.

Lunch in the Park



For the ninth year, this program will provide a free nutritious lunch and entertainment for youth ages 18 and under over the summer. Lunch will be served at Douglass Park, Monday through Friday, from June 15 to August 21 (except July 3) from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. This program is sponsored by the Columbia/Boone County Health Department, City of Columbia Parks and Recreation, and the Voluntary Action Center. No reservations are needed to receive a lunch – just come to the park! For information, to help serve lunch, or to provide educational or entertainment programs for the children, call VAC at 874-2273.



MIZZOU



RECYCLES

This community rummage sale at MU's Memorial Stadium sells gently used and new items donated by MU's students as they move out of the residence halls, fraternities and sororities. Rather than dumping these unwanted but useable items in the landfill, these donated items will be priced to sell, with proceeds benefiting area non-profit agencies, including VAC. This event requires the help of hundreds of volunteers to collect and prepare items for the sale, so MU has come up with a creative way to split the proceeds. Every volunteer will be asked to select an agency to whom they will donate their volunteer hours. At the end of the sale, the hours for each agency will be counted, and the proceeds will be split up accordingly. Last year, VAC staff, board members, and volunteers donated 147.5 hours to the sale, and in return, VAC received \$1,992.59 to support our services. Help VAC raise even more this year by donating a few hours of your time – call us at 874-2273! Visit www.cf.missouri.edu/tigertreasures for information about the sale.

Tiger Treasures Rummage Sale

Saturday, May 30

VAC Summer Fan Program

To provide heat relief this summer, VAC will be distributing fans to low-income households with young children, pregnant women, elderly persons or disabled persons. Anyone in need of a fan should visit the VAC office for assistance after May 18. For more information, contact VAC at 874-2273.



All of the services that VAC provides to low-income persons, including the fan program, rely entirely on donations, so new fans or cash gifts to purchase fans or provide other services would be greatly appreciated. The KOMU-8 Fan Club will be assisting with fan collection again this year. Thank You to the Fan Club for supporting this program!

VAC Events Celebrating Volunteerism



The Eighth Annual Columbia Daily Tribune / Voluntary Action Center

HERO Awards Reception

Thursday, April 23, 4:00 p.m.
Stoney Creek Inn

The 2009 Columbia Daily Tribune HERO Awards Reception will recognize local volunteers for their outstanding contributions to our community. Individuals and local agencies have nominated a total of 14 adults, 3 youth and 10 groups of volunteers for the awards, and a panel of community leaders lead by Lynn Hostetler will select the winners.

At the reception, all the nominees will be recognized for their service, and the winners in each of the three categories will be announced. Every nominee will receive a keepsake award and each winner will receive a \$500.00 check for the organization where they volunteer their time.

Attendees will enjoy appetizers, dessert and musical entertainment. Join us at this outstanding event and help us recognize these wonderful volunteers who do so much for our community.

Make your reservations through the Voluntary Action Center, at 874-2273, by April 15.

2009 HERO Award Nominees

Adult

Liz Bolin
Meghan Buchert
Gary Duncan
Joyce Hulett
Ron Jenks
Laura Jost
Margaret Klug
Max Lewis
Tom Masters
Paul Moessner



Adult Continued

Norma Smith
Demetria Stephens
William Taylor
Jane Williams

Youth

Zeb Charlton
Karis Ann Crosby
Andrea Steinbach

Group

Aktion Club
Alpha Delta Pi
Columbia Builds Youth
Delta Tau Delta
Huhman & Burks
Lenoir Retirement Center Volunteers
LFCS Foster Parents
SCORE
SNAP
Tuesday Regulars

Boone County Agency Volunteer Impact



VAC recently completed an informal survey of local agencies, to assess the contributions of volunteers to Boone County in 2008.

A total of 120 agencies reported...

90,616 volunteers donated a total of **2,739,848** hours in 2008, for an estimated economic impact of **\$53,454,429.60** to these agencies and Boone County!

These agencies could not have completed all the vital work they do in the community without the help and time of these wonderful volunteers.

Thank you Boone County Volunteers!

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Visit VAC's website and blog (www.vacmo.org) for even more information about our programs.

Community Events Celebrating Volunteerism



National Volunteer Week *April 19-25*

The theme this year is “Celebrating People in Action,” to honor those who dedicate their time to taking action and solving problems in their communities. National Volunteer Week began in 1974 as an annual celebration of service and volunteering. This special week celebrates the many extraordinary things that volunteers can accomplish through their service. Celebrate volunteerism this week by joining in! Find a service project, volunteer in your neighborhood, or honor volunteers at your organization. For more ideas and additional information, visit www.pointsoflight.org.

Partners in Education Week *May 7-14*



Through Partners in Education (PIE), local schools and businesses come together to mutually share resources. These collaborations benefit both parties, strengthening school programs, improving student achievement, and enhancing economic growth in the community. PIE week celebrates these partnerships with a kick-off ceremony on May 7 at 6 p.m. at the Courthouse Square, activities throughout the week, and a partner celebration on May 14. For more information, call 214-3960 or visit www.columbia.k12.mo.us. VAC is proud to be a 15 year participant in the Partner in Education program.

Cleanup Columbia *Saturday, April 25*

The 12th annual Cleanup Columbia is a great opportunity to help the environment and make our city look better. Volunteers will pick up litter at designated locations throughout the city in the morning, then lunch will be provided at Twin Lakes Recreation Area. Groups and people of all ages are welcome. For more information or to register, call the City Office of Volunteer Services at 874-7499.



Youth Volunteer Opportunities

The **Directory of Summer Youth Volunteer Opportunities** lists organizations that need youth volunteers over the summer. It will be available at VAC, the City of Columbia Office of Volunteer Services and the Earth Day/Community Volunteer Fair. The full Directory is also available online at www.gocolumbiamo.com/Volunteer/Youth/youthdir.php.

The **Youth in Action Summer Volunteering Program** provides summer volunteer projects for youth ages 12 to 15. Projects can last for a day, half day or several days throughout the summer. Visit www.gocolumbiamo.com/Volunteer/Youth or contact the City Office of Volunteer Services at 874-7499 for information.

The first ever **Columbia Youth Service Day** will be held on Saturday, April 18. The kickoff will be at Flat Branch Park at 9 a.m., with service projects following. All projects will end at noon, just in time for participants to celebrate their efforts at the Festapalooza youth festival (see page 5 of this newsletter for more information on the festival). Contact Leigh Britt, volunteer@gocolumbiamo.com or 874-7504 to get involved.



Global Youth Service Day will be held this year on April 24-26. It is an annual event that highlights and celebrates the ongoing contributions of youth to their communities through volunteer service and service learning. On this day, millions of youth around the world will organize community service projects to address the needs of their local communities. This celebration of youth service promotes civic engagement, and educates the public, the media, and elected officials about the impact youth can have, and the role they can play as community leaders. Visit the website at www.gysd.org.

Upcoming Community Events

Tons of Trucks

Thursday, April 2
4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Rainbow Softball Center



Trucks and vehicles of all shapes and sizes will be on display for attendees to admire, sit in and climb on. Sit in the driver's seat of a fire truck, see the inside of a police car, and climb in the back of a dump truck at this family event.

Kite Flying Contest

Saturday, April 4 ~ Noon – 2:00 p.m.
Douglass Park Ballfield



Bring a kite and your family and enjoy this fun community kite-flying day. Compete for the Largest Flying Kite, Smallest Flying Kite, or the Highest Flyer and possibly win a prize!

The Cinderella Project

Saturday April 4
11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

The Armory, at 701 E. Ash



The Association of Textile and Apparel Management is currently collecting gently used formal gowns to redistribute at an event on April 4 to girls in Columbia who might not otherwise be able to afford going to their prom. For more information, e-mail cinderellaproj@gmail.com.

Easter Egg Hunt

Wednesday, April 8 ~ 9:00 a.m.
Paquin Tower

Preschool age children can see the Easter Bunny and hunt for candy.



Flashlight Easter Egg Hunt

Friday, April 10 ~ 7:30 p.m.
Stephens Lake Park

Children are invited to bring their flashlights and baskets to find Easter eggs in the dark.

Egg Hunt Eggstravaganza

Saturday, April 11 ~ Noon – 2:00 p.m.
Douglass Park

This event includes an egg hunt and activities for ages 12 and under.



Festapalooza

Saturday, April 18
12:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Flat Branch Park
all ages welcome



Enjoy free food, a bouncy house, games, and more. The contest *Rock the Park* will return this year, with prizes for solo artists, bands, and dancers. This event is presented by the Youth Community Coalition, Rainbow House, and Parks and Recreation in honor of child abuse prevention and alcohol awareness month. Contact Heather at 449-0182 for information or to sign up for *Rock the Park*.

The Mayor's Challenge:

Bike, Walk & Wheel Week

May 2-9



Rise to the challenge to burn more calories and less gasoline for one week in May! Attend one of the many events during the week, volunteer to help, or pledge to make an effort to get to your destinations on a bike, by foot, or in a wheelchair. The kick-off event is May 2 at Flat Branch Park. Cycle Recycle will be on May 3. Visit www.pednet.org for more information.

Neighborhood Newsletters



The Columbia Missourian has partnered with Columbia neighborhoods to offer a free new "news" product for and about local people and places. Each bi-weekly neighborhood newsletter includes human interest stories, special celebrations, noteworthy accomplishments, neighborhood announcements, and much more. Newsletters are currently available for the Bedford Walk, Douglass Park, Parkade, East Campus, Old Southwest, Benton-Stephens, Hinkson Creek, Woodridge, Stonecrest, and Village of Cherry Hill neighborhoods. The newsletters are designed to improve neighborhood communication and promote a sense of community. All newsletters are delivered by email. To sign up, visit www.columbiamissourian.com/neighborhoods.

ATTENTION ALL VOLUNTEERS!

Tons of Trucks: help direct families on April 2 from 4 – 7 p.m. Call 874-7499 to help.

Kite Flying Contest: help children fly kites from 12-2 p.m. on April 4 at Douglass Park Ballfield. Contact volunteer@GoColumbiaMo.com.

Egg Hunt Extravaganza: volunteer to help with this special event on April 11 from noon to 2:00 at Douglass Park. Contact 874-7499 or volunteer@gocolumbiamo.com.

Earth Day 2009: direct traffic, set up, clean up, or help with environmental or children's activities on Sunday, April 19 between 8 a.m. and 7 p.m. Contact Cindy Mustard, 874-2273 or dir@vacmo.org.

Bienestar Familiar: provide child care on April 13 from 5-8 p.m. for those attending the class. Future classes will be held on Mondays throughout 2009. Background check required. Call 874-7499.

Clean Up Columbia: pick up trash all over town on Saturday, April 25, then enjoy the post-cleanup celebration at noon at Twin Lakes Recreation Area. Contact volunteer@gocolumbiamo.com.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection: greet the public, direct traffic, and share information on recycling. April 4 & 18 and May 2 & 16 from 9:00 - 1:00. Contact pw-volunteer@GoColumbiaMo.com.

Family Counseling Center: help with office work, yard work, minor home repairs, and curriculum development. Contact Shauna, 443-2204 or skammerich@fccmo.org.

Grandparents and Others on Watch: help develop and present its curriculum "Creating a Community Safety Plan." Contact Dan Peek, 449-7657 or dpeek@socket.net.

Douglass Baseball League: help as a coach, assistant coach or umpire for the upcoming 2009 season. Contact 874-7499 or volunteer@GoColumbiaMo.com.

Tiger Place: play music for the residents on the piano or with your own instrument. Contact Helen Steinmann, 256-4620 or tigerplace.act@americareusa.net.

The PET Project: make parts and assemble hand-cranked wheelchairs. Flexible schedules and various jobs are available. Call Mel West or Roger Hofmeister, 886-7877.

Columbia Housing Authority: train adults on computers, assist with the food pantry, help children after school with homework or in the early evening with recreational activities, assist seniors or the disabled with light housekeeping. Contact Ron, 443-2556 ext. 1112 or rschmidt@columbiaha.com.

Community Hospice of America: seeking caring volunteers for the hospice program. Contact Dale Willis, 443-8360 or dale.willis@hospicecom.com.

Marine Parents.Com: unpack and sort donations for care packages to be sent to deployed marines on Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Contact Eric Sims, 449-2003 or eric@marineparents.com.

Youzeum: help with fundraising, events, gift shop, tours, exhibit demonstrators and more. Contact Tia Felts at 886-2006 or visit www.youzeum.org.

Boone County Council on Aging: assist seniors living in their homes with yard work and grocery shopping. Call Susan, 443-1111.

Preferred Hospice: fill one of a variety of roles helping terminally ill patients all over central Missouri. Contact Terra Welch, 499-4540 or twelch.col@preferredhospice.com.

Rainbow House Emergency Shelter: help with daily activities and general care of the children, light office work, outreach, special yard/home projects and home and general maintenance. Contact Lori Stoll, lstoll@rainbowhousecolumbia.org or 474-6600.



YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



APRIL 2009



<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thurs</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
			1 Columbia Volunteer Network	2 Tons of Trucks	3 Show-Me A Cappella Benefit Concert	4 Kite Flying Day Cinderella Project Caring for
5 Palm Sunday	6 United Way Allocation Update Session for Agencies	7	8 VAC Board Meeting Paquin Egg Hunt	9	10	11 EGGstravaganza
12 Easter	13	14 BCRAA Meeting	15 Tax Day HERO RSVP Due	16	17	18 Youth Service Day Festapalooza Black & Gold Game
19 Earth Day Festival National Volunteer week begins	20	21 RSVP Senior Prom	22 Basic Needs Mtg.	23 HERO Reception	24	25 Global Youth Service Day Clean Up Columbia
26 (Earth Day Rain Date)	27 United Way Agency Presentations	28 United Way Agency Presentations	29 Interfaith Council Mtg.	30		

MAY 2009



<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thurs</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
					1	2 Bike, Walk & Wheel week begins Speaking of Women's Health event
3 Cycle Recycle	4	5	6	7 Partners in Education week begins	8	9
10 Mother's Day	11	12 BCRAA Meeting	13 VAC Board Mtg.	14 PIE Week Partner Celebration	15 Spring into Action RSVP Due	16 MU Graduation
17	18	19	20	21	22	23 Memorial Day Air Show
24 Memorial Day Air Show	25 Memorial Day Parade VAC Closed	26 Spring Into Action	27 Interfaith Mtg. Basic Needs Mtg.	28	29	30 Tiger Treasures
31						

VOLUNTARY ACTION CENTER

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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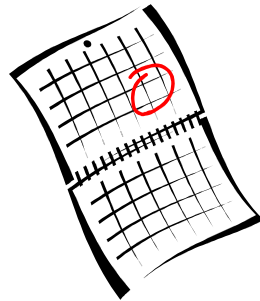
Executive Director: Cindy Mustard
Project Director: Julia Treece
Finance Admin.: Nancy Duncan
Social Worker: Christina Montgomery
Admin. Assistant: Amy Myers

VAC Publications

The *Helping Hand Catalog of Volunteer Opportunities* (free) and the *Directory of Community Services in Boone County* (\$20.00) are currently available at VAC! VAC is currently updating the *Helping Hand Catalog*, which lists local groups or agencies that utilize volunteers. To be included, please contact VAC before April 15, 2009. If you want to find somewhere to volunteer, or need social service information, call or visit VAC for a catalog or directory.



Looking Ahead to June & July



- May 31, & "Blind" Boone Ragtime & Early
- June 1 to 2 Jazz Festival
- June 6 & 7 Art in the Park
- June 15 Lunch in the Park begins
- June 8 to 10 City/County Funding Hearings
- July 14 VAC Christmas in July
- July 21 Public Hearing City/County Funding Recommendations
- July 17 to Aug 2 Show Me State Games and Senior Games

Nonprofit Organization
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