



Voluntary Action Center

the Heart of Service in Boone County

NEWSLETTER



403A Vandiver Dr. (573) 874-2273 www.vacmo.org June-July 2011



Summer Programs



Christmas in July July 28

Tis the season! The Voluntary Action Center is celebrating Christmas in July on Thursday, July 28 at Missouri United Methodist Church. This annual event raises money for VAC's programs and provides a picnic for low-income families in Boone County. Santa arrives at 5:30 p.m. A great meal and festive fun will be had by all!

Supporting this event with the purchase of a \$10 ticket provides a meal and holiday cheer to a low-income person in Boone County and enters the donor into a drawing for fabulous prizes. This year's grand prize is a 2011-2012 season Columbia Entertainment Company pass for two.

For more information, please contact Ron Schmidt at (573) 874-2273, ext. 203 or projdir@vacmo.org.



Lunch In The Park June 13 to August 12 at Douglass Park

The Voluntary Action Center, the Columbia/Boone County Health Department, and Columbia Parks and Recreation will once again offer this program that provides nutritious lunches to children, as well as educational programming, during the lunch hour. For more information, please contact VAC at (573) 874-2273.

Urgent Call for Fans



The Voluntary Action Center is collecting new fans, used fans in good condition, and donations to purchase fans to help low-income families in Boone County stay cool during the hot summer months. Fans will be distributed on a priority basis, with preference being given to senior citizens, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, and families with infants and small children. **Last year, VAC gave out a record 336 fans. At present, VAC is ahead of last year's record pace.**

New fan donations and/or financial contributions to the Voluntary Action Center's Summer Fan Program, which began in 1989, may be mailed or brought to the VAC office at 403A Vandiver, which is next door to the License Bureau. **For each \$10 donation, VAC is able to purchase a \$15 fan from Home Depot.**

For more information, please contact Ron Schmidt at (573) 874-2273, ext. 203 or projdir@vacmo.org.

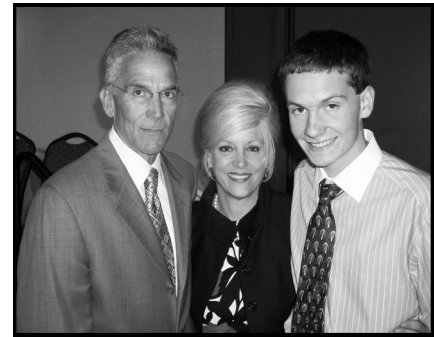
Spring Into Action a Huge Success



On May 24, The Bank of Missouri presented the Voluntary Action Center's 10th Annual Spring Into Action, and what an evening it was! **Mike and Rockie Alden (Outstanding Community Service Award), Harlan, Harlan & Still (Hazel Riback Award for Outstanding Service to VAC),**

and **Brent Beshore (Heart of VAC Award)** were honored for all the great work they do.

In addition, nearly \$40,000 was raised to help VAC continue assisting Boone County's low-income citizens get out of and stay out of poverty. This was only possible through the generous support and efforts of the following businesses and individuals:



**Mike, Rockie,
and Jake Alden**

Presenting Sponsor

The Bank of Missouri

Orchid Sponsors

The Family of Hazel Riback, Missouri Orthopaedic Institute

Rose Sponsors

Boone County National Bank, Commerce Bank, Gary and Sherry Forsee, Kilgore's Medical Pharmacy, Landmark Bank, Mizzou Sports Properties, Don and Audrey Walsworth

Tulip Sponsors

Break Time, Dave Griggs Flooring America, Dan Knight, Naught-Naught Agency, Stuart and Cathy Scroggs, Shelter Insurance, State Farm Insurance



**Russell Still, Tim Harlan,
and Vicky Riback Wilson**

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MU Athletic Department,
University Club

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Larry and Terri Atterberry

Emcee

Joe Moseley



Brent Beshore

Hero Award Winners Honored

More than 240 people gathered at the Stoney Creek Inn on April 12 for the 10th Annual Hero Awards, presented by the Columbia Daily Tribune, Landmark Bank, and the Voluntary Action Center. The seven award winners and the additional 29 nominees were honored during this reception.



The winner in the **Group Category** was the **Fairview Church of Christ**. This group works with people in need in a variety of capacities. They perform hundreds of hours of service every year for neighbors who can use anything from yard work to a full home renovation.

The winner in the **Youth Category** was the **Benton K-Kids**. This talented group of fourth and fifth graders gives up their recess time several times a month to help others. Just a few of their projects include helping at the Food Bank, making cards for kids at MU Children's Hospital, and supporting Children's Miracle Network.

The winner in the **Individual Category** was **Chuck Everitt**. For almost four decades his passion has helped drive the success of the Columbia Youth Football League. His annual golf tournament has raised thousands of dollars so every young man that wants to play football will have that opportunity. According to Michele Spry, "Chuck always taught the kids the balance of life and sportsmanship and what it means to be a team player."

The **Outstanding Volunteer in Education or Literacy** was **Melinda Elmore**. For years, Melinda has volunteered for the Southern Boone Public Schools, especially helping those students most at risk in improving their literacy. Her compassion and soft-spoken manner has truly made a difference in the lives of hundreds of kids.

The **Outstanding Community Protection Volunteer** was **Richard Gray**. When the Neighborhood Watch program separated from the Police Department, it was Richard's leadership that enabled a smooth transition. Over time, Richard has helped create a website, organized membership rosters, and worked tirelessly to improve the organization.

The **Health Care Volunteer of the Year** was **Jean Finn**. For the past four years, Jean has played the piano three times a week at Lenoir Woods. She also plays a couple of times a month at two other nursing homes. By sharing her talents, Jean brings joy, inspiration, and happiness to many seniors each and every week.

Finally, the **Lifetime Achievement Award** was presented to **Dean Berry**. In 1992, Dean created the Columbia Youth Basketball Association. He single-handedly recruited coaches, referees, board members, and playing space. From 50 kids the first year, CYBA has grown to 1,000 players. He has always insisted that the purpose of the league is to teach sportsmanship, teamwork, and the game of basketball.



Agency Spotlight



Columbia Vet Center

**4040 N. Rangeline Road, Suite 105
Columbia, MO 65202**

Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Phone: (573) 814-6206

Fax: (573) 814-2608

The Vet Center Program was established by Congress in 1979 because many Vietnam era veterans were still experiencing readjustment problems. In April of 1991, in response to the Persian Gulf War, Congress extended the eligibility to veterans who served during other periods after the Vietnam era. Then in 2003, it extended services to families of service members who have died of any cause while on active duty. **The main goal of the Vet Center Program is to provide counseling, outreach, and referral services to eligible veterans.**

Columbia's Vet Center is now open to serve veterans and their families. It is located at 4040 N. Rangeline, Suite 105, and its office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Vet Center welcomes home war veterans by providing quality readjustment counseling in a caring manner. Columbia Vet Center staff understand and appreciate veterans' war experiences while assisting them and their family members towards a successful post-war adjustment in or near their community. The Vet Center offers:

- individual and group counseling for veterans and their families
- family and marriage counseling for military related issues
- bereavement counseling for families who experience an active duty death
- military sexual trauma assessment and referral
- substance abuse assessment and referral
- VBA benefits explanation and referral
- screening and referral for medical issues including TBI and depression

The Vet Center is absolutely free and the services are a lifetime benefit paid for in advance through service to our country. War veterans of all eras and their families are eligible for these free services. Also eligible are veterans of both sexes and all eras who experience military sexual trauma during their service regardless of whether their service was in a war zone and family members of those who die while on active duty. If you would like more information, call (573) 814-6206 or visit www.vetcenter.va.gov.

Community Events

Art in the Park is Saturday, June 4 and Sunday, June 5. This is the oldest and largest fine arts festival in Missouri, featuring over 100 visual artists from across the United States. This year's festival is in Stephens Lake Park. For more information, visit www.artinthepark.missouri.org.

Outdoor Movies in the Park will be held on June 10, July 8, and July 12 at Flat Branch Park. The movies being featured are Yogi Bear in June, An American Tail in July, and TBA in August. The cost will be \$2 and children 8 and under get in free. Come out to enjoy a movie on a big inflatable screen under the stars. For more information, visit www.gocolumbiamo.com.

Mid-Missouri Pride Fest is Sunday, June 12 from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the corner of 6th and Elm in downtown Columbia. This event features a resource fair, organized activities for families and children, food, entertainment, and more. Visit www.midmopride.com for more information.

The Annual Juneteenth Days are Saturday, June 18 and Sunday, June 19 from 3-8 p.m. in Douglass Park. Come celebrate African-American heritage bands, choirs, speakers, games and food. Call Bill at 874-6379 for more information.

World Refugee Day is Saturday, June 18 in the Refugee Garden at Broadway Christian Church from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. From 10 a.m.-12 p.m. there will be a Community Garden Bike Tour and from 12-2 pm there will be a community celebration featuring international food, children's activities, and entertainment.

The 5th Annual Glamour Night Summer Soiree benefitting Lutheran Family and Children's Services in Monday, June 20 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Country Club of Missouri. Tickets are \$30 and include appetizers, a signature cocktail upon arrival, and a cash bar. For more information call 573-815-9955 or visit www.lfcsmo.org.

The Canoe for Clean Water: Race, Float, and Festival will take place on the Missouri River on Saturday, June 25. There is a 50 mile race and 15 mile pleasure float. At noon, the River Fest 2011 begins with free music, information booths, food, beer gardens, and a silent auction. For more information or to register, visit www.moriver.org or call 573-256-2602.

The 59th Annual Fire in the Sky Celebration will take place Sunday, July 4 at Mizzou's Memorial Stadium. Gates open at 6:30 p.m. with entertainment starting at 7 p.m. Fireworks begin at 9:30 p.m. choreographed to music. For more information visit www.gocolumbiamo.com or call 874-7460.

Family Fun Fest: Summer Fun will be held on July 20, August 17, and September 21 from 6-8 p.m. There will be entertainment for the whole family including activities, music, bounce houses, facepainting, and more. For more information, visit www.gocolumbiamo.com.

The Voluntary Action Center Newsletter is published bimonthly by the Voluntary Action Center
403A Vandiver Dr., Columbia, MO 65202 Vol. 14 Issue 3 June-July 2011
Visit www.vacmo.org for more information about VAC's programs or to sign up for VAC's e-newsletter

EXPERIENCE THE JOY

VOLUNTEER

Columbia staff organizes volunteer activities throughout the summer; types and times of activities vary. Participants choose the opportunities in which they would like to volunteer. Scheduled projects include helping at animal shelters, community gardens, special events, and cleaning streams. For more information, call 808-2112 or email ovsinter@GoColumbiaMo.com.

Volunteering to help with the Joplin Tornado: If you have time to help with the worst Tornado disaster in our State, call the United Way's 211 (dial 211 from a land-line telephone or 800-427-4626 from a cell phone). This is the national number for volunteering or making donations for the victims in Joplin.

The Back to School Fair will need many volunteers on Saturday, August 13 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Calvary Baptist Church. Volunteers will help with registration, youth activities, school supplies, etc. Shift times will be available. Call Cindy Mustard at 449-6959 or email cindymustard2@gmail.com if you can help us get kids ready for school.

Show-Me Senior and Show-Me State Games will need many, many volunteers this summer during the weekends of June 10-12, July 22-24, and July 29-31. Contact Lisa Filbert at 884-2946 or email her at smsg@volunteer.org.

Lose the Training Wheels is a week-long (June 26-July 1) camp dedicated to teaching individuals with disabilities to ride bikes. Volunteers are asked to attend an orientation session on Sunday, June 26 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. and then to commit for at least one two-hour session each day from June 27-July 1. Volunteers must be 16 or older. For more information, contact Michelle Windmoeller at michelle@pednet.org or call 268-8816.

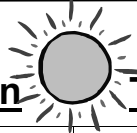
Boone County Council on Aging needs volunteers to **“make the grass greener – mow a lawn for a senior.”** If you have an hour or two a month, consider volunteering to mow the grass for a low-income senior. Contact 443-1111 or email amadi.swartz@booneaging.org for more information.

The Center Project is currently seeking energetic and creative volunteers to help plan and assist with the **Atomic Dance Party**, which will be held on June 11. For more information, contact Megan Lee at megan.lee@thecenterproject.org or 449-1188.

Columbia Center for Urban Agriculture has great volunteer opportunities for you. If you would like to participate in any of the many **urban gardens** throughout Columbia, contact Billy at 514-4174 or billyp@columbiaurban.org. Hours are from 3:30 p.m. to sunset on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

Missouri SMP, a division of the Administration on Aging, is looking for volunteers to be a **SMP Volunteer Specialist**. You will work in the community to help stop Medicare fraud and abuse that effects seniors. Training will be provided. If you want to help watch over the welfare of our seniors, contact Valery Johnson at vjohnson@goaging.org or 888-515-6565.

Komen Race for the Cure needs volunteers to hold leadership positions for the 2011 Race. Co-chairs are needed for the following committees: Overall Race, Volunteer, Fundraising, Finance, and Merchandise. Contact RaceChairKomenMidMo@gmail.com if interested.



June 2011



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thurs

Fri

Sat

			1	2	3	4
						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Art in the Park •Tiger Treasures
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Art in the Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •CPS Summer School begins 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •VAC Board Mtg. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Outdoor Movies in the Park •Show-Me State Games 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Hot Summer Nights •Show-Me State Games
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Mid-Missouri Pride Fest •Show-Me State Games 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Hot Summer Nights •Lunch in the Park begins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •BCRAA Mtg. •Flag Day •United Way Exec. Dir. Mtg. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Basic Needs Coalition Mtg. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Free Concert at Stephens Lake 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Hot Summer Nights •Juneteenth •Olivet Christian Church BBQ •World Refugee Day
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Father's Day •Hot Summer Nights •Juneteenth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Glamour Night Soiree 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Chamber Annual Mtg. •First day of Summer 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •VAC Fundraising Mtg. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The Canoe for Clean Water
26	27	28	29	30		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Lose the Training Wheels till 7/1 						



July 2011



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thurs

Fri

Sat

					1	2
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •CPS Summer School Ends 	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Independence Day •VAC Closed 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Columbia Volunteer Network Mtg. 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Outdoor Movies in the Park 	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •BCRAA Mtg. •Outdoor Movies in the Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •VAC Board Retreat 			
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Basic Needs Coalition Mtg. •Family Fun Fest 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Boone County Fair till 7/30 •Show-Me State Games 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Show-Me State Games
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Show-Me State Games 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Point in Time Count •Project Homeless Connect 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Christmas in July 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Show-Me State Games 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Show-Me State Games
31						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Show-Me State Games 						



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in Boone County

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403A Vandiver Dr.
Columbia, MO 65202**

Nonprofit Organization
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Return Service Requested

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Montgomery and Logan Park
Administrative Assistant: Judi Bloss

VAC Board Members Retiring

Brian Cottle and Jolene Schulz are retiring from the VAC Board of Directors. Their hard work and dedication was much appreciated. They will be greatly missed!



Looking Ahead...

- ◆ Last day of Lunch in the Park: 8/12
- ◆ Back to School Health Fair: 8/13
- ◆ Columbia Public Schools begin: 8/18
- ◆ MU classes begin: 8/22
- ◆ MU Volunteer Fair: 8/31



Congratulations and Farewell

Every year, VAC is pleased to have students from Rock Bridge and Hickman High Schools serve on its Board of Directors. Congratulations to Will Chann of Rock Bridge and Ryanne DeSpain of Hickman on their graduation! We wish them much success in their college careers! Chann will attend the University of Tulsa, while DeSpain will go to Louisiana State University.

