

Support A Charity and Earn Prizes Too!

by Stephanie Greene

Do you have the urge to do something good for the community? Have you been feeling guilty since last year about missing out on the charity campaign drive? Were you incredibly jealous when your co-worker won Cardinals tickets or dinner with Mr. Dooley?

There's good news and more good news. This fall, you too will have the opportunity to contribute a portion of your paycheck to a host of charities that will benefit greatly from your generosity. There's more! On top of contributing to these charities, you'll also be in the running for some wonderful prizes. Why wouldn't you want to take part?

"I give to the Backstoppers through the County Charity Campaign. It gives me a great feeling to know that I'm helping the families of police

officers and firefighters whose lives are lost in the line of duty. As if that weren't enough, though, last year I got to have dinner with Charlie Dooley at Ruth's Chris steakhouse. So, sometimes charitable giving can be good for the stomach as well as the soul," said DAVID TRUMAN (Pros Atty).

In 2007, the St. Louis County Charity Drive raised more than \$147,000 to be contributed to numerous charities. The Backstoppers organization received the most contributions with more than \$59,000. Other Charity Drive organizations include the United Way, Arts & Education, Earth Share, William L. Clay, Community Health Charities, the Weinman Shelter and TASK.

Prizes such as a free PTO day will be awarded. "I donate every year to the Charity campaign drive because it is important to

help out in some small way. Hey, it's like a "membership" in this life stating that I put my money where my mouth is. This year I won a free day off from work. WOW! That was wonderful," said JOANNE GLADNEY (PInG).

Additional details will be coming soon on how you can take part in the St. Louis County Charity Drive. You don't want to miss out on this great opportunity to support local charities and win prizes while doing so.

"Prior to my good fortune in last year's campaign, I was one of those who said "I never win anything, why bother." I am now living proof of the adage "anything is possible" or perhaps "you cannot win unless your slip is in the pot." I encourage everyone to participate in this good cause and you never know," says DAVID EVANS (PW), winner of a big screen TV.



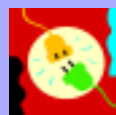
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County Insider

Senior Olympics Offers Fitness and Fun



At least three St. Louis County staff members were part of a group of more than 1,500 participants who took part in the 2007 St. Louis Senior Olympics. **DR. MICHAEL RAILEY (DOH)**, **DAN TKACZ (DOH)** and **DIANNE WATKINS (DOH)**, took part in the events held on May 25-28, 2007 at the Jewish Community Center.

For Railey and Tkacz, this has become an annual event, while this was the first time Watkins had participated.



All three Department of Health staff members placed in several events throughout the Senior Olympics. Such events included the running and standing Long Jumps, Power Walk, Race Walk and the 200 meter dash.

The St. Louis Senior Olympics has been taking place for more than 27 years and has grown from 400 to more than 1,500

participants competing in more than 60 different events. The Senior Olympics involves men and women ages 50 and older and emphasizes the very positive elements of fitness and quality of life.

The St. Louis games are a qualifying site for the Missouri State Senior Games which in turn

provide competitors to the National Senior Games. The 2007 National Senior Games, held in Louisville, Kentucky, will engage more than 12,000 athletes nationwide.

St. Louis County staff members who participated encourage all individuals who are 50 or older to join them in participating in the 2008 St. Louis Senior Olympics. For more information, call Dianne Watkins at 615-8003.

Medical Reserve Corps

Do you know a registered nurse who would like to volunteer for public health emergencies? The Saint Louis County Department of Health is looking for volunteer registered nurses to work in Point of Dispensing sites during public health emergencies. The specific knowledge and skills of nurses will be badly needed if there is a bioterrorism attack or a pandemic influenza outbreak.

The Medical Reserve Corps is a national program with a local community-based emphasis. Its mission is to support community efforts to identify and manage local medical and health volunteers during emergencies. The terrorism attacks of September 11, 2001, demonstrated the need to organize health and medical volunteers so that local communities are ready in advance to respond to emergencies.

In Saint Louis County, recruitment will start with registered nurses and will formally begin on September 24, 2007. Department of Health RNs and nurses already working in hospitals will not be recruited because of the critical role they play in public health emergencies at all times.

After recruitment and training, volunteer RNs will be asked to participate in exercises and public health emergencies under the direction of the Saint Louis County Department of Health.

For more information, please call **SARALOU HENDRICKSON (DOH)** at 314-615-1635 or e-mail her at shendrickson@stlouisco.com.

Election Board Names New Director

The St. Louis County Board of Election Commissioners has hired **JOSEPH E. DONAHUE** as the Democratic Director of Elections.

Prior to joining the election office on Aug. 13, Mr. Donahue served as Director of the St. Louis County Metropolitan Education and Training Center (MET) in Wellston for 6 years. The MET Center is a County-affiliated effort that offers skill based training from the St. Louis Community College, the Special School District, the St. Louis School District, and Better Family Life, a St. Louis based job training agency.

Donahue was also a Director of the Hazelwood School District for 28 years. He and his wife, Carole, are residents of Florissant.

County Health Department Honored for Innovative Program

The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) has awarded the Saint Louis County Department of Health a Model Practice Award for its Public Health Liaison Program. **JOHN ANTHONY** (DOH) and **MICHAEL WILLIAMS** (DOH) received the award on behalf of the department during ceremonies at the NACCHO national meeting on July 12, 2007, in Columbus, Ohio.

The Public Health Liaison Program has noticeably improved communicable disease reporting and emergency preparedness in the region. It was initiated in 2006 as a means of enhancing the working relationship between the Department of Health and area hospitals. As part of the program, public health staff members are assigned to individual hospitals and those staff members develop close working relationships with each facility. Daily visits and familiarity with key hospital staff results in the rapid reporting of infectious diseases, early identification of outbreaks, and enhanced coordination during emergencies.

In the past, communication between the Department of Health and area hospitals relied on telephone and electronic means with little direct, face-to-face contact. The program has dramatically improved on that model by establishing clear and open lines of communication.

"The presence of Liaison staff in the hospitals has resulted in improved knowledge of each of our roles and responsibilities, and created the personal and professional relationships that are so necessary in emergencies," said Dr. **DOLORES GUNN** (DOH), Director of the Saint Louis County Department of Health.

The President of NACCHO, Bobby Pestronk, also had words of praise for the program, saying that the "St. Louis County Health Department ... joins a special group of health departments that exemplify the forward-thinking, proactive attitude of our nation's public health system."

MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY

Dear Friends:



When I was a young boy growing up in St. Louis County, it seemed that neighbors were more willing to sacrifice time and resources to help one another than in today's fast-paced society. I know we are all terribly busy today and our world has changed since the 1950's, but I truly believe that it is more important than ever that we stay strong as a community and take care of each other.

This October 27, 2007, is national **Make a Difference Day** and I am asking County employees to help me in making a difference in our community. On that day, people across the country will be volunteering in a variety of ways to help their neighbors and their communities. Saint Louis County will be making a difference in the lives of older county residents through our *Home Sweet Home* program. We need volunteers to help older neighbors with weatherizing their homes, yard work, minor home repairs, grocery shopping, visiting. A few hours of your time can make all the difference in the world to an older person struggling to be independent, warm and safe.

If you would like to volunteer on Saturday, October 27th, please call **RICK LEE** (DHS) at 615-4426.

If you know an older person who would like some help, please call **SUSAN SCHAFERS** (DHS) at 615-4018.

I will be participating in this event and I hope that many of you will join me!

Sincerely,

Charlie A. Dooley
County Executive

*For more
information, see
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Connections,
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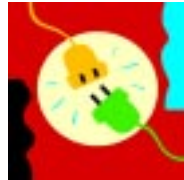
Award Winning Photo

BILL COATNEY (Rev) recently received an Honorable Mention in the 2007 Photographic Society of America International Exhibition for his "Northern Shovelers Taking Flight" photo shown at right. His "Peregrine and Prey" and "Egret Rising" were also accepted into the catalog, another noteworthy achievement. Visit <http://www.psaexhibition.com/> to view these and other fine photos.





Moya Jones
Wins Puzzler



Department Connections



MOYA JONES (PW), an Office Services Representative, won the Retirement & Benefits Challenge. She said she and her co-worker, **ALBERTA ESTES** (PW) knew most of the answers and used the intranet to find the answers to the tough ones.

Moya works in the basement of the Justice Center and said she knew something was up when we arrived to celebrate with her. "No one comes here by accident," she said.

Moya won a gift certificate to Dierbergs and was pleased to have won.

Parks & Recreation

Congratulations to **GLADYS LEWIS** who is now working as the Secretary to the County Executive, **CHARLIE A. DOOLEY**.

Congratulations to **JIM WORTON**, Manager of the Museum of Transportation, who was selected to serve on the Open Space Council Board of Directors.

Exciting News! The Parks & Recreation Department had its first St. Louis County Citizen complete the 30/30 Hikes Program. Larry Henderson from St. Ann, MO, seen here with **MAGGIE KENNY**,



Larry Henderson, 30/30 Hike Program, and Maggie Kenny (P&R)

Recreation Supervisor at Affton Community Center, was presented with a patch for completing the program. Mr. Henderson said, "It was a great program and

I enjoyed visiting a lot of Parks that I had not been to, especially Bee Tree Park." St. Louis County Parks started the New 30/30 Hikes Program to help citizens fight obesity and encourage parents and leaders to instill a lifestyle of exercise and good health in children. To find out more about the 30/30 Hikes Program or other St. Louis County Parks Programs, visit: www.stlouisco.com/parks.

What's Up With That? If you have ever visited a public pond, lake or park and had to deal with geese, then you will understand the problem at Queeny Park's corporate picnic site.

Geese droppings are a health issue and the public complained about aggressive geese during mating and hatching seasons.

ADAM MCGRAW, site coordinator, tried different ways to repel the geese without success. A park patron mentioned that wild coyotes were killing the geese in remote areas and suggested displaying stuffed coyotes. Adam brought this idea to his supervisor, **MIKE LUEDDE** who agreed it was worth trying.

A local taxidermist donated two mounts and to everyone's surprise, the method worked. **YVETTE SAGGIO** at Greensfelder Park made several wood cutouts and painted them in different ways. They mounted the cutouts on metal stakes and even made one swivel for realism. The cutouts worked, but only for a while. You see, geese are smart. They caught on that these coyotes were not moving, so they came back. We found we had to remove the cutout coyotes and place them in different areas. As a result, the public seems to be aware of the geese and our efforts to control them. This idea was featured on Channel 2's - "What's Up With That", by Paul Shankman. Ms. Saggio and Mr. McGraw were both interviewed.

Human Services

Volunteers needed for home repair / maintenance program for low income seniors. The Department of Human Services' County Older Resident Programs (CORP) is looking for both skilled and community volunteers to assist with various facets of home repair and maintenance (yard/debris clean up,

painting, carpentry, concrete, etc.) for a new program called Home Sweet Home. The goal of the program is to enable low-income senior citizens to remain living independently in their own home, in a safe and healthful environment, for as long as possible.

Volunteers must enjoy working with older adults and have their own transportation. Home repair volunteers should have their own equipment and experience in their skill or trade. Time commitment and work locations may be flexible to accommodate the individual's schedule and preferences. Volunteer opportunities also will be available for corporate and youth volunteer groups looking for one-time or occasional projects. Volunteer interviews will be conducted at one of the County Government Centers, community sites, or may be held on-site for businesses and other groups. For additional information, please call **ELLEN SHERMAN** at 314-615-4559 or **SUSAN SCHAFERS** at 314-615-4018.

Police

On Saturday, June 30th, St. Louis County police officers began 24-hour full service police

protection in the City of Clarkson Valley. The elected officials of the City of Clarkson Valley voted unanimously to contract with the County Police Department. The City of Clarkson Valley is the 17th city in which the County Police Department has a contractual responsibility and commitment to be the exclusive provider of professional police service.

Governor Matt Blunt appointed Captain **KENNETH GREGORY**, St. Louis County and Municipal Police Academy, to the Police Officer Standard and Training (POST) Commission.

Colonel Twardowski presented Security Officer **WADE DILLON**, Bureau of Security Services, with the Department's Purple Heart Award at the July 18, 2007 St. Louis County Police Board meeting.

Highways & Traffic / Public Works

Public Works Director **SHERYL HODGES** and **JOE HUNT**, manager of Public Works' Division of Neighborhood Services, are playing key leadership roles in St. Louis County's ongoing move to establish trash districts in unincorporated St. Louis County. Hodges, Hunt and Public Information's

DAVE WRONE serve on the County's trash district implementation core team, which is fine-tuning a recommendation from the County's Solid Waste Task Force that the districts be formed. County officials say trash districts will increase recycling, establish uniform prices and eliminate the widespread problems that come when five or six different trash companies service the same neighborhood. Hodges is leading the core group.

St. Louis County's August 2 decision to close Old Gravois Road Bridge generated an international media buzz. **GARRY W. EARLS**, Highways & Traffic's director and County Executive **CHARLIE A. DOOLEY**'s Chief Operating Officer, was quoted by the New York Times, CNN and Japan's version of PBS. The Jim Lehrer Newshour also did a segment on the closure. Local media coverage was heavy. The 82-year-old Old Gravois Road Bridge spans the Meramec River, and connects Sunset Hills to Fenton. St. Louis County, which maintains most of the bridge, decided to close it after Highways and Traffic engineers concluded that the increasingly decrepit structure couldn't safely bear passenger vehicle

traffic. The bridge remains open to bike riders, pedestrians and people in wheelchairs.

Health

Record Turnout for "Safety Town" This year, a record 630 youngsters were fitted with bicycle safety helmets at the annual Safety Town Event sponsored by the Saint Louis County Department of Health, the Saint Louis County Police Department, and the National Safety Council. It was held on June 15, 2007, at John C. Murphy Health Center.

Youngsters who ride bikes, rollerblades, or skateboards were invited to learn safe riding habits by taking a free spin through the streets of "Safety Town." In return, those attending were given a free safety helmet for participating. Employees of the Department of Health fitted the youngsters with the new helmets and offered safety tips.

A representative from the Secret Service was on hand to provide fingerprint ID cards for interested children. In addition, two bicycles and two tricycles were given away as attendance prizes.

This year's record 630 participants represented an increase of 10% over the number who attended in 2006.



Welcome

Rena Ahrens (DHS)	Lanre Jones (DHS)	Jeremy Shuman (DHS)
David Bartlett (H&T)	Colleen Kessler (PW)	Kenish Smith-Webster (DHS)
Eric Battle (DHS)	Pamela Kettler (DHS)	Myesha Tarrant (DOH)
David Blue (DHS)	Ronell Lacy (Jus Svcs)	Thomas Tevlin (PW)
Kristie Brice (Jud Admin)	Craig LeFebvre (DOH)	Lisa Thomas (Fam Ct)
Aja Buie (DHS)	Richard Litzau (H&T)	Steve Timmons (Jus Svcs)
Michael Burkemper (PW)	Courtney Loveless (DOH)	Raymond Trombley (Jud Admin)
Donald Castaldi (P&R)	Molly M. Barnes (Police)	Debra Trout (DOH)
Norma Cook (DOH)	David Makarewicz (Audit)	Debra Wagner (DOH)
Brian DeMatteis (Jus Svcs)	Sarah Medler (DOH)	Hellaryce Walker (Jus Svcs)
Timothy Dodge (Jud Admin)	Pamela Moore (DHS)	Ralph Walker (PW)
Jales Echols (DHS)	Terry Moses (PW)	Christopher Whitted (Jus Svcs)
Rasheed El-Amin (Jus Svcs)	Morhans Ngumoha (DOH)	Nicole Williams (DHS)
Elizabeth Fincher (DHS)	Robert Niemeyer (PW)	Bobie Williams (DOH)
Keith Freeman (Jus Svcs)	Antoinette Owens (Jus Svcs)	Sandra Williams (DOH)
Anthony Gallegos (H&T)	Kurtis Pointer (PW)	Jason Williams (Jus Svcs)
Robin Goede (DOH)	John Price (Jud Admin)	Stacey Wilson (DHS)
Lisa Gonzalez (DHS)	Janice Robbins (DHS)	Melissa Yarber (Jus Svcs)
Jessica Gruss (Rev)	Jackie Robinson (P&R)	
Laurie Hilliker (H&T)	Joseph Rodebaugh (DHS)	
Astrid Johnson (Jus Svcs)	Steven Ross (PW)	



Wedding

Congratulations to Residential Appraiser **LARRY HEWLETT** (Rev) on his recent marriage to Property Owner Advocate Kathie Krause.



New Arrivals

Congratulations to **PAT CURRY** (P&R) and his wife Amy on the birth of their daughter, Miranda Rose on May 31st.

Congratulations to **ROBERT "SMITTY" SMITH** (Rev) and his wife Tanya on the birth of their daughter, Trista Marie Smith on May 10th.



16th Annual St Louis County Employees Golf Tournament

The tournament was held at Eagles Springs Golf Course in Veterans Memorial Park on August 20th. A little rain didn't slow the enthusiasm of the 201 golfers who participated. The grand attendance prize, a new set of Titleists irons, was won by **JIM HATFIELD** (Admin). Jim recently retired August 3rd from the Department of Administration, Division of Procurement, Records Management.

Other winners included:

Championship Flight - 57

Neil Stevenson (H&T)
 Dave Menderski (H&T)
 Bob Barton (H&T)
 Jim Frisby (H&T)

A Flight - 66

John Russell (H&T)
 Pat Chambers (H&T)
 Rob Kinzie (H&T)
 Ted Laramie (H&T)

B Flight - 71

Dennis Muck (P&R)
 Mike Mills (P&R)
 Craig Burgdorf (P&R)
 Jeff Bodi (P&R)

Closest to the Pin - PM

Sean Haefeli (Police)
 Jim Hatfield (Admin)
 Ryan Campbell (Police)
 Jeff Bodi (P&R)



Mark Barry (Admin), Carolyn Weingaertner (Admin), Jim Hatfield (Admin), Jeannette Zinkgraf (Admin)

Closest to the Pin - AM

Dave Menderski (H&T)
 Cindy Meyer (H&T)
 Chris Michael (PIng)
 Rick Sides (BOE)

Longest Drive

PM - Mike Youngblood (Police)
 AM - Mike Maloney (DOH)



Retirements

Susan Ashwell (Fam Ct) - 27+ yrs
 Pattie Barrow-Dunlap (H&T) - 19+ yrs
 Larry Bollinger (H&T) - 3+ yrs
 Michael Bunch (Jud Admin) - 22+ yrs
 Terry Busher (Police) - 37+ yrs
 Thomas Chronister (Police) - 38 yrs
 Ruthann DeNoyer (Rev) - 11+ yrs
 Wade Dillon (Police) - 17+ yrs
 Samuel Edwards (Jud Admin) - 16+ yrs
 Daniel Harashe (Rev) - 18+ yrs
 James Hatfield (Admin) - 7+ yrs
 Clark Heard (Rev) - 30+ yrs
 Michael Henderson (DOH) - 31+ yrs
 James Hoffman (H&T) - 34 yrs
 Mitchell Hugo (Police) - 37 yrs
 Richard Leinweber (Police) - 30+ yrs
 Gregory Myers (H&T) - 33+ yrs
 Margaret O'Neill (Jus Svc) - 31+ yrs
 Thomas Patterson (Jus Svc) - 25+ yrs
 Charles Pierceall (P&R) - 22+ yrs
 Larry Rose (Jud Admin) - 13+ yrs
 Reena Roy (Police) - 7+ yrs
 Donald Sprinz (Rev) - 25+ yrs
 Elizabeth Thomas (Admin) - 32+ yrs

2007 County Connection Soups & Stews Cookbook

It's hot outside now, but not for long! Submit your favorite soup and stew recipes by November 2nd to be included in the 2007 Soups & Stews Cookbook.



Just \$3 each or buy the whole set for \$15 while supplies last. All proceeds go to the Adopt-A-Family Project.

Sets include 2002 Cookie, 2003 Cake, 2004 Appetizer, 2005 One-Dish Meals, 2006 Bread and 2007 Soups & Stews cookbooks.

The cookbooks do sell out, so reserve your set today! Contact **KATHY ELLER** (Admin) at 615-5430 or keller@stlouisco.com.



Promotions

Linda Buchanan (DOH) - Registered Nurse Supervisor	Michael Katich (H&T) - Surveyor
Timothy Burk (H&T) - Project Manager IV	Angela Kuda (P&R) - Building Maintenance Worker
Lisa Campbell (Police) - DNA technical leader	Jenelle Leighton (DOH) - Registered Nurse Supervisor
Derek Collins (DHS) - Supervisor, Workforce Development Specialist	Crystal Moore (DOH) - Secretary
Karen Cronk (Admin) - Deputy Chief Accounting Officer	Kris Mueller (H&T) - Maintenance Driver II
Freddie Davis (H&T) - Maintenance Driver I	Anne Rallo (Rev) - Abstract Coordinator
Susan Dickey (DOH) - Office Supervisor	Donald Rode (Admin) - Chief Accounting Officer
Lisa Dixon (Rev) - Office Services Specialist	Jack Smallegan (Jus Svcs) - Supervisor, Corrections
Brian Eichhorn (H&T) - Maintenance Driver II	Mark Stevens (P&R) - Building System Mechanic
Kelly Fluharty (DOH) - Health Education Coordinator	Charles Thien (H&T) - Division Manager
Patricia Gross (Admin) - Accountant III	Margaret Walsh (Police) - Biology Section Supervisor
Dina Hope (Jus Svcs) - Office Services Coordinator	Stephan Wiedemann (H&T) - Engineering Technician III
Pervis Jones (Jus Svcs) - Corrections Officer Lead	Garth Wittmann (H&T) - Surveyor



Visit The
County
Connection
online



**Contributing
Editors**

- Debbie Armstrong
- Dick Bauer
- Rick Eckhard
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- Jean Hatley
- Sue Hendricks
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- Connie McClure
- Sharon Remaklus
- Jennifer Samson
- John Shelton
- Barb Sydnor
- David Wrone
- Pam Yates

Thanks to everyone for
another great issue!

- Kathy Eller
- and
- Stephanie Greene



ID Badge Check

Think you know the County's badges on sight? See if you can match up the badge colors below with the right departments. Submit your answer to the Division of Personnel by October 5th for a chance at a prize.

Name: _____

Department: _____

Light brown with white lettering	County Executive
Burgundy with white lettering	Spirit Airport
Light brown with black lettering	Administration
Bright green with white lettering	Justice Services
Light blue with blue lettering	Parks & Recreation
Black with white lettering	County Executive
Grey with blue lettering	Revenue
Red with white lettering	Health
Orange with white lettering	Human Services
Blue with white lettering	County Counselor's Office
Green with white lettering	Public Works



Retirement & Benefits Challenge Solutions

1. If you choose the GHP PPO Select Medical plan, what major hospital group is not covered as an in-network provider? BJC Healthcare
2. List the calendar year maximum benefit payable by the Cigna Dental PPO plan. \$1,000.
3. How frequently can you receive an eye exam and materials under the EyeMed Vision Plan? Once every 12 months.
4. List the maximum annual amount that you can set aside in a pre-tax account for reimbursement for child or eldercare expenses. \$5,000.
5. The flexible spending account reimbursement plan allows you to set aside pre-tax dollars to cover what type of expenses? Medical, dental or vision plans.
6. What are the two ways that a civilian employee can qualify for full retirement benefits through the County's retirement plan? Rule of 80 and retirement age 65 with at least 3 years of credible service.
7. What portion of your salary does the County provide for basic life insurance coverage? 1 x annual salary
8. Long-term disability benefits would begin after satisfying an elimination period of how many days? 180 days
9. List the 2007 regular deferral limit for the 457 plan. \$15,500
10. What does EAP stand for? What is the cost for County employees to use this benefit? Employee Assistance Plan, \$0