2011 YEAR IN REVIEW
Kansas City, Missouri Parks and Recreation
Dear Friends of Parks and Recreation,

2011 was an exciting year of change and accomplishment. The election of a new Mayor and Council in March led to the appointment of a new Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners—President Jean Paul Charaund, McClain Bryant, Allen Dillingham, Aimee Gromowsky and David Mecklenburg—in July. Our entire department has enjoyed getting to know our new leadership, educating them on the extent of Kansas City Parks and Recreation, and gaining fresh insight from new perspectives.

I would like to extend a special "thank you" to our previous Board of Commissioners. It is their commitment and vision that, together with our staff’s expertise, enabled our department to be recognized as one of four finalists for the National Recreation and Park Association’s prestigious 2011 Gold Medal Award. Although we did not take the top honor, I am very proud that KC Parks is considered one of the nation’s elite agencies.

Another exciting honor for our department came in June as the KC Parks Dragon Boat Racing Team "Blazing Paddles", were crowned champions of the Business Division in the Dragon Boat Festival & Races on Brush Creek. It was a well deserved and thrilling win that is testament to our department’s teamwork and talent.

As you read about all our achievements in this Year in Review, please take note of the photographs featured throughout. Our inaugural photography contest and exhibit was yet another 2011 success. We are very pleased to have our events, amenities and landmarks documented in such a professional manner.

Thank you for your ongoing support. I look forward to an all-star year in 2012!

Sincerely,
Mark L. McHenry, Director
CONNECTIONS

KC Parks unites communities via our boulevards and parkway system; we link our residents to nature with our trails; and neighborhoods come together through our community center programs. All of these connections aid in our mission to improve the quality of life for all Kansas City area residents.

Trail Expansions
On June 4, in celebration of National Trails Day, KC Parks and the EarthRiders Trails Association (ERTA) opened an additional 1.75 mile segment of single track mountain bike and hiking trails in Swope Park. This addition brings the total ERTA Swope Trails system to 8.5 miles.

On the same day, a ribbon cutting was held in partnership with Platte County and the City’s Public Works Department for the opening of a new trailhead and section of the Line Creek Trail.

Other KC Parks trails that were expanded or added in 2011 include: Blue River Trail from Alex George Lake to I-435; Indian Creek Trail from Lydia Avenue to the Blue River; and Phase I of the Cleaver II Trail project from Chelsea to the Brush Creek Trail.

Shoal Creek Parkway
June 16 marked the opening of the Shoal Creek Parkway expansion from 96th Street west to I-435 in the Northland. A $10 million public/private partnership funded improvements to this 1-mile long east-west transportation corridor.

The Shoal Creek Parkway is now fully developed as a landscaped four-lane divided roadway with median, parkway lighting, sidewalks, and a 10’ wide shared use path. This capital investment not only dramatically improves safety but also provides a backbone on which future residential, commercial and recreational systems can flourish.

This extension expands the total number of parkways located north of river to 13 miles.

Snack Backpack Program
KC Parks was one of 30 parks and recreation agencies chosen by the National Recreation and Park Association to receive a $50,000 grant to support the new Snack Backpack Program in Kansas City, Missouri.

The program provided weekly backpacks of food for 100 qualified children to take home for the weekend to combat hunger during the summer. Harvesters provided the food, and KC Parks provided the backpacks and volunteers to pack them with food.

Backpacks were distributed at participating KC Parks community centers on Friday to kids who brought them back on Monday to start the process again. Each backpack contained enough nutritious food for four complete meals.

We Are the Future: West Side Health and Fitness Coalition
A partnership between the Tony Aguire Community Center and the west side based social service agency, the Guadalupe Center, is reshaping bodies and attitudes toward healthy eating and physical activity.

Professional instructors lead Guadalupe students in nutrition education classes and alternative exercise opportunities such as Brazilian Martial Arts, Hip Hop and Zumba at the Tony Aguire Community Center.

Funded by the Healthcare Foundation of Greater Kansas City, the West Side Health and Fitness Coalition teaches kids and families to be fit and have fun, thereby building a healthy foundation for future generations.
Our improvements enhance the livability of Kansas City by providing benefits such as beauty and aesthetics, recreation, leisure, entertainment, and physical activity as well as opportunities for social interaction.

**Hospital Hill, Blue Hills, and Jarboe Parks**
Three parks hosted celebrations in acknowledgement of major improvements that were completed in 2011.

Hospital Hill Park was officially dedicated, in partnership with Children’s Mercy Hospitals & Clinics, on May 24. The improved park features a walking trail, stretching station, canopies, picnic tables, benches and basketball court complete with gorgeous views of Kansas City’s downtown skyline.

The Blue Hills Neighborhood Association hosted a ribbon cutting on June 4 for the $500,000 of improvements to Blue Hills Park that include a half-mile walking trail, new basketball court, new lighting, bathrooms and shelter.

The West side celebrated Jarboe Park’s new state-of-the-art playground and spacious picnic area with a neighborhood pool party and picnic on June 18.

**Historic Cliff Drive Restoration**
In November, the installation of 1,200 feet of stone curbing and additional drains to re-route a natural spring that continually washed out a large section of the 4.27 mile roadway was completed.

The curbing project, valued at $650,000, also included the placement of decorative gates to help deter traffic from using Cliff Drive on the weekends when it is “car-free”. An additional $642,000 grant from the National Scenic Byways Program was awarded to improve Cliff Drive’s stone and concrete pedestrian walking trails and steps, remove overgrowth and obstacles from the many scenic vistas along the drive, and add benches, safety fencing, and directional signage to enhance the visitor experience along Cliff Drive.

Also in November, the Northeast Community Leadership Action Team unveiled “Constrained Chaos”, a sculptural bicycle rack, designed by Dick Jobe and Beth Nybeck, installed in the Concourse.

**Natural Resources Division “Park Blitzes”**
From late summer through early fall, the Natural Resources division maintenance staff conducted one park blitz in each of the three parks regions. The parks were chosen based on need for improvements and maintenance, and high citizen usage.

On July 13, shrubs were planted, trees trimmed, shelter repairs made, and ballfields upgraded in Blue Valley Park.

Tower Park followed on September 14 where trees and shrubs were trimmed, a new roof was installed on a shelter, benches replaced, and fencing/backstops and bleachers repaired at the ballfield.

At Chaumiere on October 12, trees and shrubs were trimmed, and woody vegetation and illegally dumped trash were removed.

The one-day blitzes had an immediate effect on the appearance and usability of each park; more are planned for 2012.
OPENINGS

KC Parks is proud to be involved in several significant openings that took place in 2011 including honoring our veterans with a new memorial, building a functional and decorative bridge crossing, raising the curtain on a renovated theatre, and setting up shop in a new workspace for our employees.

Missouri Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington Square
Close to 400 veterans, dignitaries and VIPs attended the dedication of the Missouri Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington Square Park on September 28.

The memorial, a public/private partnership, honors the legacy of Korean War Veterans and more than 900 from the State of Missouri who paid the supreme sacrifice by giving their lives in defense of South Korea.

The memorial is constructed of interlocking Tilt-Up concrete panels that create shade and shelter while providing transparency. The exterior walls have a rough texture provided by local aggregate present in the concrete mixture. The interior walls are highly polished concrete with plaques that include the list of Missourians, by military branches, who died in the war.

Red Bridge Boulevard
The updated bridge on Red Bridge Road was dedicated and opened on November 18.

The 18-month construction project was completed with the Capital Projects Department ahead of schedule and under budget. It improves Red Bridge Road between Holmes Road and Blue River Road by adding curbs, sidewalks and other amenities to the south Kansas City arterial.

Additionally, the project replaces the decades-old covered bridge on Red Bridge Road over the Blue River with a new structure more suited to the traffic needs of the area.

The new Red Bridge was officially lit up in a lighting ceremony held December 28. Decorative engravings and interpretive panels will be installed in 2012.

Just Off Broadway Theatre
On September 8, after almost a year of renovations, the Just Off Broadway Theatre reopened with a brand new season of performing arts from some of the best talent in Kansas City.

The enhanced theatre, located in Penn Valley Park, features an eye-catching new front façade, a greatly enlarged lobby with box office and concession area, “equity” standard dressing rooms, a production office, increased storage and work areas, all new HVAC and a new rehearsal and multipurpose meeting space, the Penn Valley Room.

The theatre building is owned by Kansas City Parks and Recreation and operated by the Just Off Broadway Theatre Association.

KC Parks Central Region Maintenance Facility
All KC Parks employees celebrated the opening of the department’s new Central Region (D2) Maintenance Facility with a ribbon cutting on April 27.

KC Parks purchased the former Capital Electric building located in the West Bottoms at 1520 West Ninth Street in 2010. The building has about 28,000 square feet and sits on four acres.

After renovations, the Central Region staff was able to move from the historic stone building at 39th Street and Gillham Road, and into the new facility in early Spring. Street Tree Services and the Bush Creek Maintenance divisions also moved their offices into the new facility.
COMING SOON

Groundwork was laid and ground broken for several new major projects that will come to fruition in 2012. Our coming attractions include an outdoor aquatics center in south Kansas City, transformation of an eyesore intersection in the Northeast, and enhancement of a historic park in the urban core.

Longview Tract Outdoor Aquatics Center
Beginning Memorial Day weekend of 2012, area residents will have a brand new aquatics center in which to cool off.

Local officials formally broke ground for the $7 million facility on July 18. The new outdoor aquatics center is located on the site of the former YMCA and current Longview Tract park and spraygrounds at 7101 Longview Road in southeast Kansas City.

Plans for the expanded aquatics facility include a zero entry pool, six-lane lap pool, a 462-foot long lazy river, plunge area and swirl bowl slide pool. Grass and concrete deck areas, a bathhouse and concession stands are also included in the plans.

Several phases of improvements had previously been made to the 19.5-acre Longview Tract including a playground, multi-use sports fields, concession stands, walking trails, picnic facilities and a parking lot.

9th & VanBrunt Athletic Fields
A groundbreaking was held on March 14 for site improvements to a 12-acre property located in historic Northeast Kansas City. The site, located at the intersection of 9th & VanBrunt, previously housed the headquarters for the Area Transportation Authority.

Project amenities include grading and landscaping as well as construction of a new parking lot, an event plaza with outdoor amphitheatre, concession building with restrooms, walking trail, two practice soccer fields, and one competitive all-weather sports turf soccer field with stadium lights.

Decorative lights will also be placed along the 1/2 mile walking trail and a sound and visual barrier will be built alongside the railroad tracks.

Plans are to have the new and improved green space open by the summer of 2012.

Spring Valley Park Improvements
On May 13, a groundbreaking commenced improvements to Spring Valley Park and the adjacent Crews Square at East 27th Street & Woodland Avenue.

The project provides for a major renovation to the park including construction of a 5,000 linear foot walking trail, new football field, upgrades to two baseball fields, installation of a new playground and five park benches. In addition, the 2-acre Spring Valley Lake will be completely restored through dredging, bank stabilization and new walkways.

George Kessler and the Park Board decided in 1901 that the attractiveness of the area including the springs, knolls, glens, trees and a rock quarry would make a good property to add to the Kansas City park system.

The update retains the original materials and features that give Spring Valley Park and Crews Square their distinct ambience. A dedication will be held in the spring of 2012.
Weekends
Car Free Weekends on Cliff Drive
February 5
Breakfast with the Beasts at Lakeside Nature Center
March 12
Brookside St. Pat’s Warm-Up Parade
March 14
Groundbreaking for 9th & Van Brunt Site Improvements
March 17
St. Patrick’s Day Parade on Broadway
March 25-27
Flower, Lawn & Garden and Home Show
April 2
Rock the Parkway Half Marathon on Ward Parkway
Project Blue River Rescue in Swope Park
Ethnic Enrichment Commission Diplomatic Ball
April 12
Fountain Day at Firefighters Memorial Fountain
April 16
Earth Walk in Theis Park
April 23-24
Chalk Walk in the Historic Northeast
April 27
KC Parks Employee Departmental Service Awards Breakfast
Ribbon Cutting for new Parks Central Maintenance Facility
April 30
Arbor Day Tree Plantings in Loose Park and Union Cemetery
May-October
KC Organics and Natural Market in Minor Park (Saturdays)
Downtown Farmers Market in Ilus Davis Park (Thursdays)
May-June
Crowned in Glory Exhibit at
Bruce R. Watkins Cultural Heritage Center
May 7
Mayor’s Inauguration Celebration at Starlight Theatre
May 8
Mother’s Day for Mother Earth in Theis Park
May 13
Groundbreaking for Spring Valley Park and Crews Square Improvements
May 14
Celebrate Urban Birds at Lakeside Nature Center
May 19 & 26
Thimble Thursday Concerts in Garment Park
May 24
Ribbon Cutting for Hospital Hill Park Improvements
May 26
Clips of Faith Beer and Film Tour in Theis Park
May 28
Major Pools & Spraygrounds Open for Season
May 28-29
Jiggler Jam Festival at Crown Center and Grand Boulevard
May 29
Memorial Day Observances at National World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial and Union Cemetery
June 2, 9, 16 & 23
Thimble Thursday Concerts in Garment Park
June 3
Jazzoo at the Kansas City Zoo
June 4
Ribbon Cutting for Swope Trails Expansion
Ribbon Cutting for Blue Hills Park Improvements
Ribbon Cutting for Line Creek Trail Extension
June 5
Rose Day at Laura Conyers Smith Rose Garden in Loose Park
Cancer Survivors Rally in Bloch Cancer Survivors Park
June 8
Rob Dyrdek Skate Board Pro Tour: Penn Valley Skatepark Plaza Expansion Announcement
June 10-12
KC Wide Open Disc Golf Championships
June 11
Mayor’s Night Hoops Tip Off at Southeast Community Center
June 14
Junior Pools Open for the Season
June 14-July 3
Heart of America Shakespeare Festival in Southmoreland Park
June 16
Ribbon Cutting for Shoal Creek Parkway Expansion

SPECIAL EVENTS
June 18  
Ribbon Cutting for Jarboe Park Improvements  
BUGS! at Lakeside Nature Center  
Urban American Outdoors Fishing Derby at Spring Valley  
Celebration & Family Day at Ivanhoe Park  

June 19  
City of Fountains Bike Tour beginning and ending at Washington Square Park  

June 25  
Dragon Boat Festival & Races on Brush Creek  

June 26  
Children’s TLC Duck Derby on Brush Creek  

July 1  
Mayor’s Night Kicks Tournament Kick-Off in Swope Park  
July 1-31  
National Parks and Recreation Month  

July 1  
Ribbon Cutting for Front Street Improvement Project  

July 8, 15, 22 & 30  
Children’s Film Festival in Hyde Park  

July 9  
Party in the Park at Swope Park  
Rededication of Loose Flagpole in Swope Park  

July 12-15  
Employee Appreciation Ice Cream Socials  

July 13  
Blue Valley Park Blitz  

July 17  
Celebration of Life & Spirit in Hospital Hill Park  

July 18  
Groundbreaking for Longview Tract Aquatics Center  

July 23  
“Make A Splash” AquaZumbathon at Swope Park Pool  

July 30  
Pass Holder Appreciation Beach Bash at The Springs  

August 7  
Buggin’ the Fishes at Lakeside Nature Center  

August 12  
Groundbreaking for the Missouri Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington Square Park  

August 13  
Spoke Pony Showdown 3/6 at Camp Lake of the Woods  

August 19-21  
Ethnic Enrichment Festival in Swope Park  

August 20  
“In the Pink of the Evening” Concert at the Collonade  

August 21  
Mayor’s Night Kicks Final at Community America Ballpark  

September 2-4  
KC Irish Fest in Washington Square Park  

September 2-October 16  
IOU/USA art installation in Penn Valley Park  

September 8  
Reopening of Just Off Broadway Theatre in Penn Valley Park  

September 9  
Kansas City Chiefs Red Friday  

September 10  
Dippin’ Dogs Swim Party at The Springs  

September 11  
Concert in the Rose Garden at Loose Park  
Picnic on the Prairie at Lakeside Nature Center  
Dedication of Benches at Enshriners Memorial Plaza  

September 14  
Tower Park Blitz  

September 17  
KC Zoo Run/Walk: Run for the Polar Bears  

September 22  
KC Green Fair in Ilus Davis Park  

September 23-24  
Wonders of Outdoor Wildlife at Camp Lake of the Woods  

September 28  
Dedication of the Missouri Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington Square Park  

October 1-2  
KC Indian Art Market in Frank Vaydik Park  

October 1-10  
University of Kansas Cancer Center Pink Fountains  

October 6  
Wine & Roses Garden Party in Loose Park Rose Garden  

October 7-8  
Magic Woods at Lakeside Nature Center  
Minor Park Open Tennis Tournament  

October 8  
Harvest Festival at Shoal Creek Living History Museum  
Rhythm & Ribs at 18th & Vine  

October 12  
Chaufmiere Park Blitz  

October 15  
City of Fountains Kansas City Marathon  

October 22  
WaterFire Kansas City on Brush Creek  

October 24  
Green Exposures Photography Exhibit Opening & Reception  

November 5  
The Wilderness Run at Shoal Creek Living History Museum  

November 6  
The Cliffhanger Run on Cliff Drive in Kessler Park  

November 11  
Veterans Day Observances at National World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial, Missouri Korean War Veterans Memorial, Vietnam Veterans Memorial & Black Veterans Memorial  

November 12  
Turkey Bowl at Line Creek Ice Arena  

November 18  
Ribbon Cutting for the Opening of Red Bridge  

December 2  
Senior Holiday Luncheon at Tony Aguirre Community Center  
Santa’s Wonderland in Gillham Park  

December 3  
Santa’s Wonderland in Penguin Park  
A Visit from St. Nicholas at Shoal Creek Living History Museum  

December 4  
Santa’s Wonderland at Longview Tract  

December 9, 10, 11, 16 &17  
Mayor’s Holiday Parties at Community Centers  

December 10  
Kris Kringle 5K Run in Swope Park  
Holidazzle at Bruce R. Watkins Cultural Heritage Center  

December 14  
KC Parks Employee Breakfast & City Service Awards  

December 17  
Skate with Santa at Line Creek Ice Arena  

December 28  
Lighting Ceremony for Red Bridge
**COMPLETED PROJECTS**

**Park Renovation & Improvements**
- 12th St. Streetscape Improvements Phase I - from The Paseo to Virginia Ashland Square Park
- Blue Hills Park Improvements
- Hospital Hill Park Improvements
- Ivanhoe Park Improvements
- Longview Tract Site and Buildings Package
- Loose Park Pavilion Restoration
- Spring Valley Park Improvements

**Playgrounds, Spraygrounds & Pools**
- Ashland Pool Liner
- Blue Valley Park Sprayground
- Jarboe Park Playground
- Lykins Square Sprayground
- Spring Valley Park Playground
- Swope Park Pool Improvements
- Swope Park Pool Roof & Window Replacement

**Trails**
- Blue River Trail-Alex George Lake to I-435
- Cleaver II Trail-Chelsea to Brush Creek Trails
- Fairfield Park Trail
- Indian Creek Trail-Lydia Avenue to the Blue River
- Parade Park - Walking/Running Track
- Swope Park Cross Country Course
- Town Fork Greenway Trail - 57th Street to 58th & Agnes

**Planning & Master Plans**
- Blue River Channel Native Plantings at Byram’s Ford Independence and Benton Intersection
- Lakewood Greenway Study
- Making Grand Boulevard “Grand”
- Roanoke Park Master Plan
- West Pennway Streetscape Plan

**Monuments & Fountains Conservation**
- Adam & Eve Fountains
- Bernard Powell Memorial Fountain
- Children’s Fountain
- Cliff Drive Interpretation Panels
- Delbert Haff Memorial
- J. C. Nichols Fountain
- John F. Kennedy Memorial
- Main & Concord Monument Marker Restoration
- Rev. John W. Williams Memorial
- Santa Fe Trail Stone Monument Signs and Stone Markers
- Scout Medallions
- Seahorse/Meyer Circle Fountain
- Swope Memorial Golf Course Dedicatory Plaque
- Statue of Liberty
- The Scout
- Women’s Leadership Fountain
- William Royster Memorial
Parking Lot Improvements
Bruce R. Watkins Cultural Heritage Center
Brush Creek Community Center
Line Creek Community Center
PACCAR Parking Lot & Drive
Penn Road (Penn Valley Park)
KC Zoo Parking Lot and Drive
Shoal Creek Golf Course
Water Works Park

Facility Maintenance & Repairs
Central Region Maintenance Facility
Security and Fire Alarm Systems
Bruce R. Watkins Cultural Heritage Center Sound and Video System
Chouteau Park Slide Repair
Cliff Drive Restoration-Phase 3
Colonnade Roof Repair
Gregg Klice Community Center Improvements
Grove Park Restroom
Hillcrest Community Center Water Proofing
Lakewood Greenway Bridge
Meyer and Indiana Curb Inlet Improvement
Plaza Tennis Center Locker Room, Fire & Security System
Pleasant Valley Culvert Repair
Shoal Creek Living History Museum Jail Renovations
Tiffany Springs Park - Batting Cages Replacement
Woodbrooke Park Slope Stabilization

Tennis Court Resurfacing
Minor Park Tennis Courts
Plaza Tennis Courts

Acquisition
50 year lease for school property at Jarboe Park
93 acre parcel in the Little Blue Valley-east side of Noland Road

Major Projects
Enshriners Plaza - flagpole, walk, planting and memorial benches
Just Off Broadway Theatre Renovation
Missouri Korean War Veterans Memorial
Sea Lion Exhibit Pool Restoration
Shoal Creek Parkway - from 96th Street to I-435
**Facts & Figures**

**Participation**
- Total Participation: 4,069,608
- Youth Participation: 1,227,862
  - All facilities and programs
- Customer Participation: 501,569
  - Community Centers
- Customer Participation: 198,894
  - Pools/Spraygrounds
- Customer Participation: 1,438,479
  - Athletic facilities and programs

**Marketing and Events**
- Facebook Fans: 1,367
- Newsletter Distribution: 7,456
- Number of Events: 211
- Event Attendance: 744,330

**Shelter Houses**
- Reservations: 794
- Attendance: 41,075

**Volunteers**
- Number of Volunteers: 10,647
- Volunteer hours: 1,063,306
- Estimated value of volunteers: $21,531,952

**Attendance**
- Golf Courses: 138,141
- Lakeside Nature Center: 34,069
- Loose Park Garden Center: 13,942

**Natural Resources**
- Trees trimmed: 6,541
- Trees removed: 1,770
- Stumps removed: 1,518
- Total acreage mowed: 56,324
- Cubic feet of snow removed: 8,340,000

**Requests Resolved**
- Graffiti incidents removed: 1,670
- Citizen 311 Action Center: 4,289

**Maintenance Hours Worked**
- Athletic field: 3,082
- Landscape: 25,616
- Park facility repairs: 11,214
- Special event preparation: 3,118
- Litter/trash removal: 34,064
ACCOLADES

American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration
Finalist: National Gold Medal Award

American Royal Parade
1st Place, Float: Ethnic Enrichment Commission

Arbor Day Foundation
Tree City USA: City of Kansas City, Missouri-23 years

Bank of America
Local Hero Award: Bill Feehrer, Conservation Corps Crew

City of Kansas City, Missouri: Rich Noll Pacesetter Award
Henry Cooper, South Region Park Maintenance Worker

Concrete Promotion Group
Overall Concrete Division-Excellence in Concrete Award:
Polar Bear Passage at the KC Zoo

Environmental Management Commission
Environmental Achievement Award: Lakeside Nature Center

Federal Executive Board Public Service Recognition Week
Distinguished Leadership Award: Sherry VanWinkle, CIO

Greater Kansas City Area Chamber of Commerce
ACE Award: Kevin Evans, North Region Park Maintenance Area Superintendent

Historic Kansas City Foundation
Preservation Award: Roanoke Park Conservancy

Ingram’s Magazine: Best of Business Awards
Best Charitable Event-Silver: Jazzoo
Best Theater-Silver: Starlight Theatre
Best Family Outing-Gold: Kansas City Zoo
Best Museum-Silver: National WWI Museum at Liberty Memorial
Best Performing Arts Venue-Gold: Starlight Theatre

Kansas City Convention & Visitors Association: Visitors’ Choice
Favorite Fountain: JC Nichols Memorial Fountain
Favorite Performing Arts Venue: Starlight Theatre
Favorite Kid’s Attraction: Kansas City Zoo
Favorite Concert/Live Music Venue: Starlight Theatre
Favorite Museum: National WWII Museum at Liberty Memorial
Favorite Arts Performance: “Jitterbug Mia!” at Starlight Theatre

KC Government Contracting & Procurement Forum
Outstanding Advocate: Denise Phillips, Contract Administrator

Missouri Park and Recreation Association
Citizen Award: KC Friends of the Zoo
State-Public Official Achievement Award: Representative Chris Molendrop

Northland Neighborhoods Inc.
Rich Noll Excellence in Government Service Award:
Mark L. McHenry, Director

Pitch Magazine “Best of Kansas City”
Best Comeback: Roanoke Park

Professional Golfers Association- Midwest Section
Golfers of the Year: Matt Roberts, Swope Memorial GC
Merchandiser of the Year-Public: Brett Plymell, Shoal Creek GC

Society for Friendship with China
Dragon Partner Award

Southtown Council
New Construction Award: Polar Bear Passage at the KC Zoo

United States Tennis Association: Heart of America District
Facility of the Year-Minor Park Tennis Courts
Member Organization of the Year: Plaza Tennis Center (PTC)
Junior Tournament of the Year: USTA MO Valley Futures at PTC
Family of the Year: Evin and Ann Neilson, PTC General Manager
Outstanding Contributor to High Performance Coaching:
the Randi, KC United Tennis/PTC Operators

EMPLOYEE SERVICE

Employee Service Awards
30 Years: City of Kansas City, MO
Keith Ross
Natural Resources Division-South Region
Theresa Brucks
Natural Resources Division-Tree Service

Employee Service Awards
30 Years: Parks & Recreation
Holly Weddington
Community Services-Community Centers
Nathaniel Logan
Natural Resources Division-Loose Park Gardens

Quality Circle:
Supervisor of the Year
April McCravy
Brush Creek Maintenance Superintendent

Employee Retirements
George Biswell, 21 years and 2 months
Lafayette Bush, 31 years and 6 days
Harold Ervins, 22 years and 6 months
Karen Kline, 28 years and 1 month
Odie Moore, 14 years
The Ali Kemp Educational Foundation
Bass Pro, Wonders of Wildlife
Black Archives of Mid-America Inc.
Blue River Relief
Blue River Watershed Assn.
Blue Valley Neighborhood Assn.
R.A. Bloch Cancer Foundation
Boys & Girls Clubs
Boy Scout Troop 260/Cub Scout Pack 260
Broadway/Westport Council
Brookside Business Assn.
Brookside Roller Hockey
Brookside Soccer
Brush Creek Community Partners
Budd Park Committee
Center for Equitable Education
Center School District
Center Planning
Chaumiere Neighborhood Assn.
Children’s Mercy Family Health Partners
Children’s Mercy Hospital
City of Fountains Foundation
Clay County Parks and Recreation
Clay County Veterans Memorial Committee
Clay-Platte Baseball League
Cliff Drive Scenic Byway Corridor Management Committee
Countryide Homeowners Assn.
Developmental Disability Services of Jackson County-EDAS
Dogpark Improvement Group
Downtown Council
DST Realty/State Street Bank
Earth Riders Trail Association
Economic Development Corporation
The Enshriners
Ethnic Enrichment Commission
FBI KC Citizen Academy Alumni Assn.
Federal Reserve Bank
First Tee of Greater KC
Friends of Amity Woods Nature Park
Friends of Bruce R. Watkins Cultural Heritage Center
Friends of the Fountains
Friends of Lakeside Nature Center
Friends of the Zoo
Friends of Riverfront Park
Full Employment Council
Garden Center Association
Garrison Community Center Youth Advisory Board
Gillham Road Advisory Committee
City of Gladstone Parks and Recreation
Golden Oaks Neighborhood Assn.
Gracemor Randolph Neighborhood Assn.
GreenWorks of Kansas City Guadalupe Center Inc.
Heart of America Council/Boy Scouts
Heart of America Shakespeare Festival
Hickman Mills School District
Hispanic Football Soccer Assn.
Historical Society of New Santa Fe Trailside Center
Home Builders Assn. of Greater Kansas City
Hyde Park Neighborhood Assn.
Jackson County Parks and Recreation
Jazz District Redevelopment Corp.
Just Off-Broadway Theater
Kansan City Art Institute
Kansas City Bicycle Club
Kansas City Community Gardens
Kansas City Convention & Visitors Association
Kansas City Cricket Club
Kansas City Design Center
Kansas City Flying Disc Club
Kansas City Metro Jr. Golf Club
Kansas City, Missouri Police Department
Kansas City, Missouri School District
Kansas City Museum at Corinthian Hall
Kansas City Northern Railroad
Kansas City Organics & Natural Market
Kansas City Pop Warner Football
Kansas City River Trails Inc.
Kansas City Rose Society
Kansas City Rugby
Kansas City United Tennis
Kansas City WildLands
KC North Community Center Advisory Board
KCWE Channel 29
KPRS Hot 103 JAMZ
William T. Kemper Foundation, Commerce Bank Trustee
Kessler Society of Kansas City
Liberty Memorial Association
Lykins Neighborhood Assn.
MainCor
Marlborough Neighborhood Assn.
Mattie Rhoades Center
Mid-America Regional Council
Mid-Continent Public Library
Mill Creek Park Association
Missouri Department of Conservation
Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Missouri Department of Transportation
Missouri Korean War Veterans Memorial Committee
Missouri Master Gardeners
Missouri Master Naturalists
Missouri Parks & Recreation Assn.
Monnett Battle of Westport Fund
National Center for Indigenous American Cultures at Line Creek Inc.
National Park Service
National Recreation & Parks Assn.
National Sports Center for the Disabled
Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art
Noble Homes Assn.
North Kansas City Area Baseball Assn.
North Kansas City School District
North Suburban Youth Football League
Northeast Arts KC
Northeast Community Leadership Action Team
Northeast Inter Soccer League Boosters
Northern Knights
Northland Community Alliance
Northland Girls Softball
Northland Neighborhoods Inc.
Northland Regional Chamber of Commerce
Northland Rugby Football Club
Northland Sports Alliance dba SPCAA
On Goal/Sporting KC
Optimist Athletic Association
Park Hill School District
Paseo West Neighborhood
Pendleton Heights Neighborhood Assn.
Penn Valley Park Conservancy
Platte County Convention & Visitors Bureau
Platte County Parks and Recreation
Platte County Parks Partners
Platte County Trails Coordination Committee
Plaza Rotary Club
Port Authority of KCMO
Roanoke Park Conservancy
Rockhill Homes Association
Ronald McDonald House Charities
Scarritt Renaissance Neighborhood Assn.
Sheffield Neighborhood Assn.
Shoal Creek Association
Skywalk Memorial Foundation
The Sierra Club
Sister City Association of KC
Society for Friendship with China
South Kansas City Chamber of Commerce
SE Community Center Advisory Board
Southern Communities Coalition
South Suburban Junior Football League
Southtown Council
Starlight Theatre Assn.
StoneLion Puppet Theatre
Tiffany Springs Parks Partners
3 - Trails CID
3 & 2 Baseball
Tony Aguirre Community Center Advisory Committee
University of MO, Kansas City Union Broadcasting
Union Cemetery Historical Society
Union Station Kansas City Inc.
University of Kansas Cancer Center
Frank and Ann Uryasz USA Swimming
US Army Corp of Engineers
US Fish & Wildlife Service
Verona Hills Homes Assn.
Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 317
Vivion Road Gang
Waldo Area Business Assn.
Waldo Tower Historic Society
Ward Family Foundation
Ward Parkway Homes Assn.
West Plaza Neighborhood Assn.
Westport-Roanoke Neighborhood Assn.
The Whole Person
Winnwood-Sunnybrook Neighborhood Assn.
Wornall Homestead Homes Assn.

CITY OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI OFFICIALS

Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners
David Mecklenburg; Aimée Gromowsky; Jean Paul Chauroand, President; McClain Bryant and Allen Dillingham

Mayor
Sylvester “Sly” James

City Council
First District
Scott Wagner, Dick Davis
Second District
Ed Ford, Russ Johnson
Third District
Melba Curls, Jermaine Reed
Fourth District
Jim Glover, Jan Marcason
Fifth District
Cindy Circo, Michael Brooks
Sixth District
Scott Taylor, John A. Sharp

Previous Mayor
(thru April 2011)
Mark Funkhouser

Previous Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners
(thru July 25, 2011)
John Fierro, President
Tyrone Aiken
Daniel Morton
Aggie Stackhaus
Ajamu K. Webster
The photographs in the Green Exposures exhibit, held October-December 2011 at the Central Library, were chosen from entries in a 14 month-long photography contest. The goal of the contest was to capture fresh new scenes to use in promoting the city’s parks and recreational amenities. In addition to the contest, three local photographer--Eric Bowers, David Remley and Bruce Mathews--were commissioned to provide their images as well.

The ten photographs below are the winning submissions. They, along with the commissioned images, are highlighted and credited in this publication.