



Two 'Green' Events Set for April HHW Collection April 4



Workers will sort paint and other hazardous waste products collected at the HHW April 4. Volunteers will help unload vehicles for residents.

Now is the time to get ready for the annual free Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Mobile Collection, which is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 4 on the Independence Square.

The event will be in the large parking lot bordered by Walnut, Liberty, Kansas and Osage, one block south of the Independence Square.

This collection is free to residents. Proof of residency, such as a driver's license or City utility bill, is required.

A typical home can have a vast array of hazardous products used for cleaning, painting, beautifying and disinfecting the house, yard and garage. Products labeled as flammable, toxic, corrosive, or reactive are household hazardous

See HHW Collection, Page 4

Electronics Recycling April 18

The City of Independence Public Works Department plans to sponsor an Electronics Recycling Collection Event. The Saturday, April 18 event will give Independence residents the opportunity to safely dispose of computers, televisions, and other electronics.

Public Works Administrator Dan McGraw said studies show the average home has at least one outdated and unused computer.

"With the upcoming conversion from analog to digital television, and the growing amount of outdated electronics equipment, we believe the public will turn out to support this effort," McGraw said. "It has also been proven that hosting an electronics recycling event can reduce illegal dumping."

The City is partnering with The Surplus Exchange, a not-for-profit based in Kansas City. The Surplus Exchange,

which has 25 years of experience in recycling and re-use, is a certified electronics recycler.

The Electronics Recycling Collection Event is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the large parking lot bordered by Walnut, Liberty, Kansas and Osage, one block south of the Independence Square. No proof of residency is required to dispose of used consumer electronics at this event. It is open to the public.

See Electronics Recycling, Page 2



Mayor Don Reimal's State of the City



CityConnect

Mayor Don Reimal delivered his annual State of the City address at the Chamber of Commerce February monthly luncheon at Ophelia's Restaurant, 206 N. Main. Go to City7.TV to view a video of Mayor Reimal's remarks.

Palmer Center To Mark 5 Years

For the past five years the Palmer Center has become an important part of the Independence community, serving thousands of older adults through programs and services. Current programs include a daily lunch program, fitness programs, health awareness presentations, dances, music classes, crafts, day trips and many other innovative classes.

Parks and Recreation Director Eric Urfer said the Palmer Center, a Place for Healthy Aging, located at 218A N. Pleasant St. on the south end of the former

See Palmer Center, Page 3

Answer to Last Month's Discover Independence...Where Is It?

Answer to February: The Vaile Mansion, 1500 N. Liberty St.

The City of Independence is home to numerous historic sites and buildings. These great places to visit in your home town will be featured in photographs several times in the coming months in "Where Is It?"

We challenge you to find and explore a piece of what makes Independence special.

Look for a new photo in April.



CityScene is published monthly by the City Manager's Office, 111 East Maple Street, Independence, Missouri 64050. Editor: Irene Baltrusaitis, Communications Director, 325-7019. The City's webpage address is www.independencemo.org

Recycling Centers

The City operates two recycling centers. Items accepted at the centers include paper, cardboard, paperboard, steel and aluminum cans, plastic, toner cartridges and dry cell batteries. The recycling centers and their operation days and times are:

35th Street Recycling Center
13600 E. 35th Street
 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Fridays
 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saturdays

Vista Avenue Recycling Center
875 Vista Avenue
 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sundays
 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Mondays

City 7 to Air Documentary on Water Infrastructures

A 90-minute documentary "Liquid Assets: The Story of Our Water Infrastructure," produced by Penn State Public Broadcasting, will be aired starting May 1 on City 7.

The film highlights the essential role water infrastructure plays in protecting public health, promoting economic prosperity, and ensuring good quality of life.

Liquid Assets shares the story of the United States' infrastructure systems: drinking water, wastewater, and storm water. It addresses the history, engineering, and political and economic challenges



associated with water infrastructure by highlighting the stories of cities and towns that are dealing with these issues.

"We have good health in this country, in part, because we have clean water," Sharon Roy, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, said. "We shouldn't forget that, or take it for granted."

"We have about 2 million miles of pipe in this nation," Steve Allbee, of the EPA, said. "If you look at what we're spending now and the additional investment requirements over the next 20 years, there's a \$540 billion difference."

Electronics Recycling

From Page 1

There will be a sliding scale of fees for disposing of the electronic equipment. The fees allow Surplus Exchange to pay its staff to transport the recyclable equipment to the de-manufacturer. Fees are as follows:

- Computer Monitors - \$16
- Televisions:
 - 19" or smaller \$16
 - 20" or larger \$21
 - Consoles \$31
- Stereos, small faxes, VCRs and scanners \$6
- Desktop printers and large fax machines and scanners \$11
- Large printers \$26
- Computers, keyboards, mice FREE
- Personal printers FREE

- Cell phones, pagers FREE
- Hand-held games, CD players FREE

Hot Line Directory

Barking Dogs	325-7213
Crime Stoppers Tips	474-8477
Drop-Off Trash	325-7623
Drugs	325-6272
Graffiti	325-7824
Neighborhood Watch	325-7643
Potholes	325-7624
Report Power Outage	325-7550
Street Lights	325-7535
Storm Water Pollution	325-7727



Watch City 7 TV
 City of Independence
 Government Access Television

City Council
 6 p.m. Mondays*
 10 a.m. Tuesdays
 7 p.m. Wednesdays
 2 p.m. Sundays

Planning Commission
 6:30 p.m. 2nd & 4th Tuesdays*
 10 a.m. Wednesdays
 7 p.m. Thursdays

For more information:
www.City7.TV
 *Denotes live meeting, all others are rebroadcasts.

Celebrate Tourism 'Opening Day' at Historic Sites

April 1 is opening day for the 1859 Jail and Marshal's Home, 217 N. Main; Bingham-Waggoner Estate, 313 W. Pacific; and Vaile Mansion, 1500 N. Liberty.

For only \$12, enjoy the beauty and colorful stories presented at these attractions. For another \$4, you can add admission to the National Frontier Trails Museum, (NFTM) 318 W. Pacific. Finish the day with a covered wagon ride with Pioneer Trails Adventures, which also begins regular hours in April.

The NFTM is offering a "Blazing the Way West" gallery walk at 2 p.m. every Thursday in April free with paid admission: \$5 adults, \$4.50 seniors, \$3 ages 6-17 and under 6 free.

On Saturday, April 18 from 10 a.m. to noon, artist Sarah Poff presents "Pow Wow Art." She will teach an arts and craft workshop for children at the NFTM focusing on American Indians. Cost is \$10.

Clint Winn portrays the infamous outlaw Cole Younger at 2 p.m. Saturday, April 18 at the NFTM. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for children ages 6-16 and includes museum admission.

April 30 marks the first "Evening Wagon Ride and Swales Walk" of the year at 6:30 p.m. at the NFTM. The cost is \$12 adults, \$10 children 6-12. Call 325-7575 for reservations (required). This activity will be offered again on the last Thursday of each month May through September.

Visitors and residents can also see the

1879 Chicago & Alton Depot, located at the far end of the NFTM parking lot. One of the few two-story railroad depots still standing in the Midwest, the depot was moved to the NFTM campus and totally restored inside and out. Artifacts, railroad equipment and the living quarters of the station master on the upper level are explained in guided tours.

Another bonus for railroad aficionados at the Depot is an 80-volume library of books relating to railroads. Individuals are welcome to use the books while visiting or to check out the books, join the Friends of the Chicago & Alton Depot organization.

Depot volunteer Dorothy Francis has organized a full slate of monthly exhibits for the 2009 season including: April, "Memorabilia of Hotels on Kansas City's Downtown Baltimore Street;" May, "Antique Tiffin Glassware;" June, "Wedding Dresses;" July, "Political Campaign Memorabilia;" August, "Asian Fans;" September, "Artistry in Wood: Relief Carving;" and October, "Birds of



From left: 1859 Jail and Marshall's Home, Vaile Mansion and Bingham-Waggoner Estate

a Feather: A Collection of Owls."

The Friends have also created a presentation which they are offering after April 1 to service and civic groups. Call John Thornton at 252-2104 to book a presentation. Thornton can also answer questions from those who wish to become volunteer guides at the Depot.

Changing monthly exhibits are also planned at the Bingham-Waggoner Estate, across the street from the NFTM. The displays set for 2009 are: April, "Chip Off the Old Block;" May, "Tied to Mother's Apron Strings;" June, "An Eclectic Collection;" July, "Beatles Revisited;" August, "Serving Treasures from the Past;" September, "Creative Stitchery;" and October, "Dollstones." These special exhibits are free with regular admission.

The Vaile Mansion has temporary exhibits which run for several months. For themes, go to www.vailemansion.org.

Palmer Center

From Page 1

Palmer Junior High School, was made possible through a park sales tax renewal program approved by Independence voters in August 2002.

The Catherine J.A. Curtis Dining Hall at Palmer Center is named in honor of Mrs. Curtis' early efforts to start the City's Nutrition Site program in the 1970s and her commitment to improve the quality of life for Independence seniors. Catherine Curtis was a long-time advocate for seniors in Independence. She served on the Nutrition Site Committee, Palmer Center Advisory Council, MARC, Silver Haired Legislature and several political commissions.

The Palmer Center was dedicated March 19, 2004 and opened for full service April 5, 2004.

"We are very fortunate that our city leadership knows the importance of providing services to older adults and has supported our growth," Vicki Hon, Recreation Program and Facilities supervisor for the Palmer Center, said.

"It has been very rewarding to offer crucial services and enjoyable programs to older adults in the community, which we would not be able to do without the many



partnerships we have with other city departments and agencies in the area."

The public is invited to the five-year anniversary party scheduled for 12:30 p.m. Thursday,

April 2 at the Palmer Center. Cake and punch will be served to celebrate the anniversary.

For more information on the services and programs provided at the Palmer Center call 816-325-6200 or visit the Web site at <http://www.independencemo.org/parksandrec/Palmer.aspx>.

HHW Collection From Page 1

wastes.

Water Pollution Control Director Dick Champion said these chemical-based products from a single home may seem insignificant; but when millions of people use similar products, the combined effect becomes a major problem when they are handled, stored and disposed of improperly.

The health and safety of people, animals, the community and environment, are endangered when these products are discarded in the trash or poured down sinks or into street storm drains.

“It’s your home, make it safe,” Champion said. “Clean out the garage, cabinets, and basement.”

Products which will be accepted at the HHW Collection are: batteries; paint and paint products (including aerosol cans), varnish, stripper, thinner/turpentine; fluorescent light bulbs; garden and yard products (herbicides, pesticides, sprays, rat poison, and weed killers); automotive fluids, such as antifreeze and used motor oil; household cleaners (drain, toilet, oven); kerosene; mercury thermometers; unused, unwanted medicines, etc. If you are uncertain whether a particular waste will be accepted, call WPC at 325-7711.

The HHW Collection will not accept electronics, appliances, trash, yard waste, medical waste, tires, asbestos, radioactive waste, pressurized gas cylinders or commercial waste. The City Public Works Department will host an electronics recycling event April 18.

A mercury thermometer exchange program is included in the HHW event. Mercury is a highly toxic substance that poses a threat to humans and animals. One gram per year of mercury is enough to contaminate all of the fish in a 20-acre lake.

A typical mercury thermometer contains 0.7 grams of mercury but larger thermometers can have as much as 3 grams.

An estimated 17 tons of mercury are discarded annually in municipal solid waste and thermometers are the largest single source of that waste.

To eliminate the risk of mercury exposure, avoid purchasing products containing mercury and safely dispose of mercury fever thermometers by bringing them to the collection. Each household bringing a mercury thermometer will receive a free

digital thermometer.

The Independence Police Department will be onsite with certified explosive ordnance officers to collect and dispose of old or unwanted ammunition, explosives, firearms, fireworks, etc. Contact the IPD at 325-7280 for more information about this type of disposal.

An express lane for cars with a limited number of products should speed up the delivery and unloading process. Volunteers will help unload vehicles. No walk ups will be allowed.

To transport and deliver to the site, tightly secure all container lids. Bring in original containers, if possible. Don’t mix different or unknown substances. If containers are leaking, wrap in plastic and pack in a larger container/box with absorbent material, such as cat litter. To pack items, use sturdy tubs or boxes and surround them with newspaper. Keep chemicals away from children and pets while transporting by using the car trunk, or rear of the station wagon or truck bed.

Other cities will host collection events later this year. They are: Blue Springs – April 18; KCMO Northland (ABOP) – May 2; Harrisonville – May 16; Lone Jack – May 30 (ABOP); Gladstone – June 6 (ABOP); KCMO Central – June 20 (ABOP); Grain Valley – June 27 (ABOP); Belton – August 1; Platte County – August 15 (ABOP); Cass County – September 12 (ABOP); Kearney – September 26 (ABOP); Riverside – October 10; and Liberty – October 24. Antifreeze, batteries, oil and paint only will be collected at ABOP events. For more information call 784-2080.

During the rest of the year, residents can take HHW products to the Kansas City facility, 4707 Deramus, by calling 784-2080 and making an appointment. Days of operation are Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. The facility is closed Sunday and Monday. The service is free.

The Lee’s Summit facility, 2101 S.E. Hamblin Rd., is open the first Saturday of the month April through November and is limited to 100 pounds per visit. Appointments are required and can be made by calling 969-1805.

For more information about the City’s HHW Disposal Program or the April mobile collection, call WPC at 325-7711 or visit www.independencemo.org/wpc.

printed on recycled paper

Watch City Meetings On Streaming Video

City Council meetings and study sessions are available as live and archived streaming video on the City’s Web site, www.independencemo.org

Each live City 7 TV broadcast is available online during the 6 p.m. Monday City Council meetings. An archive of the program is available on the site the next morning for viewing 24 hours a day. Archived videos are available for a few months following their posting. If you do not have a computer but would like to purchase a copy of a Council meeting call 325-7019.

CITY COUNCIL

Mayor	
Don Reimal	325-7027
City Council Office	325-7022
Councilmembers	
Marcie Gragg	District 1
Will Swoffer	District 2
Myron Paris	District 3
Jim Page	District 4
Jim Schultz	At Large
Lucy Young	At Large
City Manager	
Robert Heacock	325-7170

FLASH! City Drop-Off Depot

8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Second Saturday Of Each Month
March thru November!

875 Vista Avenue
325-7623

Truman Road
East of M-291,
One Mile North
On Vista Avenue
Next to Animal Shelter



- Trash: Cars, \$10;
- Vehicles Larger Than Car, \$15;
- Trailers 8 Feet or Longer, \$25
- Brush: Limbs, Firewood, Bushes, Stumps. No Leaves or Grass: \$10 per load
- Major Appliances: \$15 Each
- Batteries & Lawnmowers: Free
- Tires: Car, \$1; mounted Car, \$3; Truck, \$4; Mounted Truck, \$10;
- Farm/Tractor, \$15

Residential vehicles only, no commercial. No vehicles larger than a pick-up truck. Proof of residency required.