

THE
2011

Outstanding
Local Government
Achievement Awards

ANNOUNCING





Left to right: Dennis Riggs, Director, HEC-TV and Charlie A. Dooley, County Executive, St. Louis County.

As the region's education, arts, and cultural television station, HEC-TV brings the work of local artists, teachers, scientists, and cultural organizations to our region, the state and the nation.

HEC-TV is the primary source for exposure to, and information about, our area's vibrant cultural landscape. In 2010, it won the Mid-America Emmy—Station of Excellence—award and is nominated for 24 Emmy awards this year. All four of HEC's serial programs: State of the Arts, I Love Jazz, Behind the Minds, and Impact, received nominations.

The station receives major funding from the St. Louis County Cable Television Education Commission and is programmed by a consortium of 11 colleges and universities and 62 cooperating school districts in Greater St. Louis.

The channel reaches 633,000 subscribing households daily throughout St. Louis city and county. Its programming is also available to viewers and students statewide, nationally, and internationally through live simultaneous 24/7 Internet streaming and I-Tunes U site.

OLGA 2011

Exemplary Accomplishment
by a Local Government
Jurisdiction, Agency or
Individual

Higher Education Channel
Television



Left to right: Alan Dunstan, Chairman, Madison County Board, Mark Latham, City Manager, City of Highland and Steve Ehlmann, County Executive, St. Charles County.

OLGA 2011

Exemplary Accomplishment
by a Local Government
Jurisdiction, Agency or
Individual

City of Highland
Fiber to the Premise Project

The city of Highland, Illinois recently completed the first phase of the Fiber-to-the-Premise Project that will allow local businesses and residents to receive internet, telephone and television services via fiber optics as opposed to traditional co-axial cable.

In 2007, City Manager Mark Latham envisioned what a fiber optic network could do for the city of Highland, IL. Past professional experience had given Mr. Latham knowledge of the opportunities that improved high-speed connectivity could offer to the community he now serves.

Highland is the first municipality in the state of Illinois and one of only a few throughout the U.S. that have implemented such an initiative. They did so without government money, which is an exceptional accomplishment for a rural community of just under 10,000 residents. Having fiber installed in the community has given Highland a greater chance at economic growth and has raised the values of its homes and businesses.

Also notable is the strong desire of the elected officials of Highland to recognize their city manager's dedication to Highland in getting this project done. It is a testament to all the officials in Highland about how communities can benefit when we all work together.

OLGA 2011

Successful Intergovernmental Collaboration

Tri-City Regional Port District— "America's Central Port" Redevelopment of the Charles Melvin Price Support Center



Left to right: Alan Dunstan, Chairman, Madison County Board and Dennis Wilmsmeyer, Executive Director, Tri-City Regional Port District.

In 1995 the Department of Defense recommended closing the Charles Melvin Price Support Center as part of the Base Realignment and Closure. The closure and redevelopment strategy created by the region stressed keeping the property together as one parcel of land. The Tri-City Regional Port District was selected as the single lead, local agency to facilitate the transfer of the base, to plan for and manage its redevelopment.

The subsequent, collaborative efforts of the Tri-City Regional Port District, Congressman Jerry Costello, the Madison County Board Chairman and the mayors of Granite City, Madison and Venice, along with other regional and community leaders resulted in an overall strategy and plan to deal with the closure, reuse and redevelopment of the former 840-acre army base.

Today, a new state-of-the-art manufacturing facility, a U.S. Army Reserve Training and Meeting Center, the third largest ethanol manufacturing plant in the U.S., and the Arch-Medical Air Helicopter Emergency Ambulance Service currently call Charles Melvin Price Support Center their home.

A 2007 economic impact analysis of the Tri-City Regional Port district concluded that the Port District was responsible for approximately 1,647 jobs in Madison County, a total labor compensation of \$66 million annually, generated \$10 million annually in state and local tax revenue with a total economic impact of \$500 million.

OLGA 2011

Successful Intergovernmental
Collaboration

St. Louis Image Consortium 2010



Left to right: Charlie A. Dooley, County Executive, St. Louis County and Andy Wagner, GIS Coordinator City of Maryland Heights.

The St Louis Image Consortium 2010 was an exemplary collaborative effort to acquire high-resolution aerial photography by pooling resources, reducing costs and streamlining contract negotiations.

The 15 entities that formed the Consortium are the city of Chesterfield, the city of Clayton, the city of Creve Coeur, the city of Hazelwood, the city of Maplewood, the city of Maryland Heights, the city of Richmond Heights, the city of Shrewsbury, the city of Webster Groves, Forest Park Forever, Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District, the Regional Housing and Community Development Alliance, St. Louis County, U.S. Geological Survey/National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency and Washington University.

High-resolution aerial photography is the base layer for many Geographic Information Systems applications on which local governments rely—to track changes in our built and natural environments.

Imagery is such a valuable tool for understanding our surroundings that local governments typically budget for the acquisition of new aerial photos every two to three years. It is often the most expensive recurring purchase for a GIS department. In 2009, the combined forces of fiscal need, opportunity and leadership, brought positive change to the region.

Members of the 2010 Consortium realized significant savings by working together, by covering a larger area with a single flight, by ensuring more purchasing power and less administrative overhead and by cost-sharing based on how many members were interested in the same area. Citizens, units of government, academic institutions and not-for-profit organizations are all reaping the benefits of this effort. St Louis Image Consortium 2010 laid the foundation for future collaborative projects.



Left to right: Sheriff Dan Kelley, Monroe County, Steve Wightman, Wightman Pharmacy, Mayor Pro Tem Charlie Metzger, City of Waterloo, Grant Evitts, Illinois-American Water Company, Chief Jim Trantham, City of Waterloo Police Dept. and Delbert Wittenauer, Monroe County Chairman.

OLGA 2011

Successful
Public/Private or
Public/Non-profit
Venture

Prescription Drug Collection Box

The Prescription Drug Collection Box is a joint effort to do our region's part to reduce the amount of prescription drug traces found in our nation's water systems and landfills. An Associated Press investigation unveiled that a vast array of pharmaceuticals are found in the nation's water supply. Other studies indicate that 41 percent of teens believe that prescription drugs are safer to use than illicit drugs.

The Prescription Drug Collection Box provides a camera monitored pharmaceutical box in the lobby of the Waterloo Police Department where citizens can drop-off their unwanted prescription drugs 24 hours a day. These unwanted prescription drugs are collected and sorted by Wightman Pharmacy, a fourth generation family-

owned business in Waterloo, to be recycled for use in disadvantaged countries, or to be safely incinerated.

The Prescription Drug Collection Box helps keep our region's environment, our water supply and our rivers cleaner and safer and prevents access to unused prescription medications. This partnership is the first of its kind in Southwest Illinois and has garnered interest from local governments and health agencies for implementation in other communities around the region.

As of Sept. 20, 2011, the Prescription Drug Collection Box collected over 350 pounds of unwanted pharmaceuticals.



Left to right: John Griesheimer, Franklin County Presiding Commissioner, Ben Brown, Sullivan/Cuba Historical Society, Franklin County Commissioner Terry Wilson, Mark Houseman, Washington Historical Society and Gregg Wehmeier, Franklin County American Legion Posts.

OLGA 2011

Successful
Public/Private or
Public/Non-profit
Venture

Franklin County Veterans Hall of Honor

There is no greater commitment that one makes for our country than to serve in our armed forces. Throughout our nation's history the citizens of Franklin County have answered the call to serve, fight and die for our country.

Four years ago, Franklin County Commissioner Terry Wilson set out to ensure that the veterans of Franklin County would be honored and remembered through an educational memorial, a permanent military museum and a veterans' archive that would be open to the public.

To amass the needed information and support, Commissioner Wilson collaborated with six Franklin County Veterans of Foreign War Posts, eight American Legion Posts, the Franklin County Historical Society and local historical societies.

The effort produced the Franklin County Veterans Hall of Honor, which was dedicated May 21, 2011 at the Franklin County Historic Courthouse.

The Hall of Honor houses memorabilia from our nation's conflicts and the names and military histories of veterans who were born, served or are buried in Franklin County from the Revolutionary War to the current conflicts in the Middle East.

The Franklin County Veterans Hall of Honor serves as a valuable educational resource, tourist destination, and family history resource for its community and guests. This collaboration was one of the most extensive in Franklin County history that will touch many future generations.

OLGA 2011

Successful
Public/Private or
Public/Non-profit
Venture

6 North



Left to right: Randy Rhoads, VP, McCormack Baron Salazar, Pamela Perlmutter, Development and PR. Director, Paraquad, Mayor Francis G. Slay, City of St. Louis, and Angela Conley, Executive Director, City of St. Louis Affordable Housing Commission.

The 6 North award honors a St. Louis based partnership that created an award winning development that serves as an international model for affordable home and community design. The 6 North apartments incorporate Universal Design and create an urban, mixed-income community where everyone can live regardless of age or physical ability.

At 6 North this is achieved by ensuring accessibility in the entire building. This partnership is one of the nation's first examples of a multi-family, residential building featuring 100 percent Universal design.

McCormack Baron Salazar provided strong commitment to creating a great urban development.

The Affordable Housing Commission provided significant contributions from its trust fund and required that all of its projects incorporate universal design.

Paraquad, led by the vision and commitment of Max and Colleen Starkloff, tirelessly advocated to ensure access to quality housing in this project and for all citizens in our region.

The partners recognized that 6 North could demonstrate to our region, and to the nation, that there is a viable market for residential/mixed-use and mixed-income multifamily inclusive housing and that it played a part in redeveloping one of our city's historic districts.



Left to right: Captain Kenneth Kegel, STLMPD, 4th District, Rachel Smith, Public Affairs Chief Prosecutor, City of St. Louis Circuit Attorney's Office, Mike Petetit, Chair, LSRC-Safety Committee, Police Chief Daniel Isom, STLMPD..

OLGA 2011

Successful
Public/Private or
Public/Non-profit Venture

Lafayette Square Neighborhood Ownership Model

In December 2009, the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department responded to a request by the residents of the Lafayette Square neighborhood just south of downtown St. Louis to partner to find ways to create a safer neighborhood. These efforts have continued over the past several years and have expanded to include the Circuit Attorney's Office.

The product of this effort is the Neighborhood Ownership Model, an effort to reduce crime and involve residents and police together in the crime fighting efforts around prevention, reporting, apprehension and prosecution.

The Lafayette Square Neighborhood Ownership Model uses crime prevention tools like citizen mobile patrols trained by the police department, victim support teams, impact statements, court appearances and testimony by neighbors and officers, computer databases, surveillance

cameras, and a police substation supported by neighborhood residents and a dedicated community liaison police officer to reduce crime in their neighborhood. These efforts delivered a substantial reduction of crime in Lafayette Square. When the Lafayette Square Neighborhood Reduction Model was instituted in 2010, the neighborhood ranked as the 27th safest neighborhood in St. Louis City and now it stands at 9th, which is a remarkable transformation.

The message is out: Lafayette Square will stand together as community and do everything in its power to prosecute those who commit crimes within its borders with strong support from the police department and the circuit attorney's office. Now, the Bevo Mill, Dutchtown, Penrose and O'Fallon neighborhoods are implementing their own neighborhood ownership models to stand together against crime.



Left to right: Alderman Steve Conway, City of St. Louis, Rachel Witt, Executive Director, South Grand Community Improvement District, Alderwoman Jennifer Florida, City of St. Louis and Mayor Francis G. Slay, City of St. Louis.

OLGA 2011

Leadership in
Planning and Design
Innovation Award

South Grand Great Street Initiative

The South Grand Streets Initiative is collaboration between the South Grand Community Improvement District and the city of St. Louis. The South Grand Great Streets Initiative is an example of how to plan and implement streetscape improvements at the community level.

The success of this project centered on community involvement from start to finish. Many people and organizations helped lead the design and implementation of the project, as well as generated the support from the community. The South Grand Community Improvement District joined by Alderwoman Jennifer Florida and Alderman Steve Conway worked to ensure that community members in and around South Grand

were considered and supportive of this project's street calming design and green infrastructure creation.

Changing the previous four lanes to three lanes of traffic, and forming temporary, simulation "bulb outs," the average speed of drivers was reduced. Pedestrian safety soon was improved, and that promoted the walk-ability of the district. Business owners on South Grand quickly took advantage of the increased foot traffic and the expanded sidewalks. This coming year will bring new lighting, benches, bike racks and synchronized traffic lights.

All of this will complete the project and make South Grand a shining example of a "Great" streetscape in this region.

OLGA 2011

Leadership in
Planning and
Design Innovation
Award

Gateway Bike Plan



Left to right: John Kohler, City of St. Louis Board of Public Service, Glenn Henninger, St. Louis County Department of Highways and Traffic, Todd Antoine, Deputy Director for Planning, Great Rivers Greenway and Laura Ellen, MODOT St. Louis District.

During this 16-month planning process, counties, municipalities and agencies identified a 1,000-mile bicycle network for the city of St. Louis, St. Louis County and the urbanized areas of St. Charles County. The Plan provides an on-road bicycle system of routes with connections between communities, greenways, transit and trails.

The goal was to create the bicycle component to the regional transportation network. The plan provides a system of routes that are contiguous and connected to other facilities. It is intended to improve safety for all modes of transportation through the design and

implementation of bicycle facilities and by providing educational and enforcement programs. The hope is that there will be increased support for bicycling in all levels of government—state, local, and regional.

Very few bicycle plans cover a geographic area as large, and politically complex as the Gateway Bike Plan. The plan defines a complete and connected bicycle network and offers specific action strategies and tools for local governments, regional and state agencies and interested citizens to adopt the plan.



Left to right: Charlie A. Dooley, County Executive, St. Louis County, Mark Levin, City Administrator, City of Maryland Heights and Mayor Michael Moeller, City of Maryland Heights.

OLGA 2011

Gateway Lifetime Public Service Award

Mark Levin

City Administrator
City of Maryland Heights

Mark Levin has served the public sector throughout his 40 year career.

Transplanted from Ohio, by way of Illinois, Mark came to Missouri armed with 11 years of local government experience to help grow the then newly incorporated city of Maryland Heights where he has served as city administrator for 26 years.

Mark began his career teaching junior high school social studies. In 1974, he shifted his focus, serving as Commissioner of Community and Public Relations and assistant city manager for the city of Cleveland Heights, Ohio. In the early 1980s, he served as the village manager for Park Forest South and then Bollingbrook, Illinois.

In 1985, Mark accepted an opportunity that would come to define his city management career. A newly incorporated city in St. Louis County was looking for a professional manager who could build the city

organization from the ground up. He has served the city of Maryland Heights since its incorporation.

Mark has been involved in numerous major development projects, including the Riverport Business Park and Amphitheatre, Harrah's Casino, the South Heights Tax Increment Finance District, and the new Maryland Heights Government Center.

Mark also educates the next generation of managers and public servants as an adjunct faculty member at several area universities. He takes special pride in his commitment to teaching. He also champions the city's internship program that has hosted 105 students since its inception in 1986.

Those who know him have often heard his refrain, "I live to serve," a statement that epitomizes Mark's career.