



## 2012 City budget poses challenges and opportunities

**W**ith sales tax revenue growth at about 1% for the year, the Rolla City Council is conducting monthly budget workshops to discuss a \$500,000 projected budget shortfall for 2012. The budget shortfall is in the General Revenue Fund, which funds among other things, public safety, legal, finance and administration. Although other funds within the City are holding their own, (i.e., sewer and environmental services), we are not permitted to transfer funds from one account to another without an ordinance change and in some cases without voter approval.

Sales tax revenue growth, which averaged 5%-6% between 1992-2006, has averaged less than 1% the last five years. That said, I believe there are many positive signs that our community is holding its own through one of the nation's worst recessions since the 1930s. With record enrollment at Missouri S&T, numerous multi-million

dollar building investments on that campus, continued expansion of the Innovation Park, and the expansion of healthcare, retail and the dining industry, there are still many things to celebrate this year - not least of which is our City's Sesquicentennial Celebration (150th Birthday).

Not unlike thousands of communities throughout the country facing challenging budget times, the Rolla community will need to continue to pull together, support our local businesses and economy, and find ways to maximize the strengths that make us the regional hub of South Central Missouri: education, transportation, technology, retail, dining, arts, culture and health care.

If we focus on our strengths, approach our budget wisely and work together as a community, I am confident 2012 will be a productive and memorable year.

Sincerely,  
**Bill Jenks, III, Mayor**

### *Upcoming Events* July 2011

- 5 - City Council Mtg. (6:30 p.m.)
  - 17 - Grandparent's Day Special at SplashZone (364-8222)
  - 18 - City Council Mtg. (6:30 p.m.)
- ### Aug. 2011

- 1 - City Council Mtg. (6:30 p.m.)
  - 14 - Mother's Day Special at SplashZone (364-8222)
  - 15 - City Council Mtg.
- ### Sept. 2011

- 5 - City Hall closed for Labor Day
- 5 - Environmental Service closed for Labor Day; Monday's trash picked up Tues.; Tuesday's trash picked up Wed.

- 6 - City Council Mtg. (6:30 p.m.)
- 10 - Canine Plunge at SplashZone (noon-3 p.m.); early registration required (364-8222)

- 19 - City Council Mtg. (6:30 p.m.)
- 24 - Celebration of Nations (11 a.m.- 5 p.m.)

### Oct. 2011

- 1 - City-wide Clean Up (items to curb by 6 a.m.); residential only
- 3 - City Council Mtg. (6:30 p.m.)
- 8 - Downtown Autumn Arts Festival (9 a.m.-4 p.m.)
- 17 - City Council Mtg. (6:30 p.m.)



## Rolla youth celebrate 150th Anniversary

**H**undreds of citizens attended the Rolla Sesquicentennial (150th) Celebration held on Saturday, June 4, 2011 in downtown Rolla. The day kicked off with "A Walk Through" history, followed by the Rolla Sesquicentennial Parade, Sesquicentennial Ceremony, his-

toric re-enactments, pioneer displays and artisans, and the commemoration of the 150th birthday of the old Phelps County Courthouse. **Pictured above are members of Rolla Cub Scout Pack 85, Chartered with St. Patrick's Church.**

## Sat., Sept. 24

### 2nd Annual Celebration of Nations

(11 a.m. - 5 p.m.)

Parade of Nations

International Idol

International Arts, Crafts  
and Food

341-6237

# Home Repair Grant Program offered to residents

The City of Rolla is pleased to announce a Home Repair Grant program offered to qualified Rolla homeowners to make up to \$20,000 in repairs and improvements to their homes in areas such as furnace, air conditioning, weatherization improvements, roofing, electrical, ADA accessibility improvements and flooring.

The Meramec Community Enhancement Corporation's (MCEC), that works in partnership with the Meramec Regional Planning Commission, has been awarded a grant for housing renovation projects

in the region by the Missouri Housing Development Corporation. Since Rolla is Downtown Revitalization Economic Assistance Missouri community (D.R.E.A.M), \$150,000 has been set aside to improve housing within the city limits of Rolla.

"Recipients of this grant program must reside in the residence where the home repairs are being completed for a period of five years to avoid having to repay the grant awarded," said John Petersen, the City's Director of Community Development. To qualify, the applicant's

home must be a single residence, owner-occupied, and located within the Rolla city limits. Up to \$20,000 can be used per home for improvements. In addition, property taxes must be paid, and current property insurance is required.

Homeowners interested in this grant program can make no more than the income requirements stated in the grant application. For more information or to request an application, please contact MRPC at [mkardon@meramecregion.org](mailto:mkardon@meramecregion.org) or at 573-265-2993.

# Sesquicentennial T-shirts & posters still available

Rolla Sesquicentennial commemorative T-shirts and posters are still available to the public for purchase (while quantities last) at Rolla City Hall, 901 N. Elm St. The T-shirts are now selling for \$10 a piece.

The 4-color, 11x17 posters are selling for \$2 each. The T-shirts and posters can be purchased at City Hall (Administration Dept.) between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

In addition to the T-shirts and posters,

the new Rolla City flags are available for purchase as well. City flags may be purchased at Rolla City Hall for \$40 each.

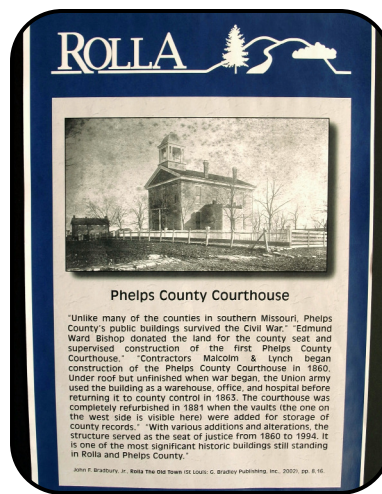
For more information, please call Scott Grahl, Communications Officer, at 426-6943 or visit [www.rollacity.org](http://www.rollacity.org).

# Historic Walking Tour exhibit on display at City Hall

The Historic Walking Tour of Rolla photographic exhibit that was part of the Rolla Sesquicentennial Celebration on June 4, is now on permanent display at Rolla City Hall, and open to the public.

The new exhibit includes 37 Historic Walking Tour of Rolla plaque replicas that are displayed along the stairway and the first and second floor lobbies of Rolla City Hall (901 N. Elm Street). The exhibit, created by Anne McClay, Project Coordinator in the City's Engineering Division, will be available to the public to view anytime during normal business hours Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. The exhibit will also be available for any school groups, historical societies or organizations who may be interested in viewing the exhibit and learning more about the rich history of Rolla and Phelps County.

The idea for the historic walking tour began as a joint project in 2008 among members of the Public Works



Department, the Rolla Area Chamber of Commerce, Phelps County Historical Society, Missouri S&T Historical Archives

Department, and other interested citizens. The purpose of the project was to create a series of historical photos that would showcase Rolla's rich history through a unique photographic exhibit that is accessible to the public.

The majority of text and copy for the inscriptions, as well as the vintage photographs, were generously provided by author and Rolla historian John F. Bradbury, Jr. who wrote *Rolla – The Old Town*. Mark Stauter, who like Bradbury is a long-time member of the Phelps County Historical Society, also provided valuable guidance, input and assistance.

If your school, club, businesses or civic group would like to schedule a group tour of the historic walking tour photographic exhibit, or take a tour of Rolla City Hall, please contact Scott Grahl, Communications Officer, at 426-6943 or [at\\_sgrahl@rollacity.org](mailto:at_sgrahl@rollacity.org).

**Rolla City Hall**  
901 North Elm St.  
Rolla, MO 65401

**Rolla City Council**

**WARD I:** William Lindgren, Jr.  
Monty Jordan  
**WARD II:** Stan Spadoni  
Greg Sawyer  
**WARD III:** Geoffrey Horning  
Gary Hicks

**WARD IV:** Don Morris  
Louis Magdits, Mayor Pro Tem  
**WARD V:** Jimmy Dale Williams  
Carrolyn Bolin  
**WARD VI:** Fran Mazanec  
Tony Bahr

**MAYOR:** Bill Jenks, III  
**CITY ADMINISTRATOR:** John Butz

**The City of Rolla newsletter is published quarterly. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Scott Grahl at (573) 426-6943 or at [sgrahl@rollacity.org](mailto:sgrahl@rollacity.org).**

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