

**ANNOUNCING**

THE  
**2010**

Outstanding  
Local Government  
Achievement Awards



OLGA OLGA OLGA OLGA OLGA



Chief Gregory Brown.

## OLGA 2010

Exemplary Accomplishment  
by a Local Government  
Jurisdiction, Agency or  
Individual

Eureka Fire Protection District  
Chief Gregory Brown

As fire chief since 1995, Brown has accepted leadership roles in regional public safety far beyond his responsibilities with the Eureka Fire Protection District. For nine years, he was the secretary of the Greater St. Louis Area Fire Chiefs Association, that sets training and hiring standards for those wanting to become local firefighters. Chief Brown's leadership helped unify these standards among the region's fire service agencies.

Since 2003 he has been the Missouri Fire Mutual Aide Region "C" Coordinator, a position that involves dispatching local fire resources to incidents throughout the region, the state, and the nation, including the tornado in Caruthersville, MO the building collapse in Clinton, MO, and Hurricane Katrina. He also reached out to the Illinois Mutual Aide Box Alarm Service and created the first collaboration between Missouri and Illinois for sharing emergency resources in a major disaster.

Beyond the fire service, Chief Brown has volunteered as one of the two co-chairs for the St. Louis Area Regional Response System's Advisory Council. Under his leadership, several programs went from conceptual ideas to significant regional projects that are improving the response capabilities of the entire St. Louis region. They include the St. Louis Heavy Rescue Task Force, the Regional Incident Support Teams, The St. Louis Regional Emergency Resource Coordination Plan and the St. Louis Regional Interoperable Communications Program.



Left to right: University City Mayor Shelley Welsch and Eric Friedman, CALOP chairperson.

## OLGA 2010

Exemplary Accomplishment  
by a Local Government  
Jurisdiction, Agency or  
Individual

The Commission for Access and Local  
Original Programming (CALOP)  
City of University City

The Commission for Access and Local Original Programming (CALOP) supports University City, its citizens and the region through grants to local film and video producers to provide cultural, historical and community enrichment and development. The program is funded by a \$1 monthly fee on Charter and AT&T cable subscribers in University City.

CALOP awards grants, usually in the \$5,000 to \$10,000 range, within a budget of about \$80,000 per year. The films range from a profile of Johnny Johnson, the famous rock-n-roll pianist and cohort of Chuck Berry, to a video about River Des Peres called "A Sewer Runs Through It." Other topics include a history of University City, a film about the importance of early childhood education and a film about brick as one of the defining characteristics of St. Louis housing.

Two grants started an after-school program at University City High School that has become a video/media class. A short film produced by the program was aired as part of the St. Louis Filmmakers Festival at the Tivoli Theatre.

The films produced are shown on HEC-TV and Charter Cable and are available at the University City Public Library. This program provides a great opportunity for both young and experienced film-makers and supports the "creative class" as well as the film and video economy of the region.



Left to right: Mark Kern, Chairman, St. Clair County Board, Douglas J. Harms, and Ed Hillhouse, East-West Gateway Executive Director.

## OLGA 2010

Exemplary Accomplishment  
by a Local Government  
Jurisdiction, Agency or  
Individual

City Administrator, City of Des Peres  
Douglas J. Harms

Doug Harms has been the city administrator in Des Peres for 25 years, by itself a major achievement of longevity and endurance.

The redevelopment of West County Center, the construction of the Des Peres community center and the redevelopment along Manchester Road west of I-270 were all the result of his thoughtful guidance and committed leadership.

Harms' accomplishments also have impacts throughout the region. He was active in the effort to approve the half-cent capital improvement sales tax for cities in St. Louis County. Harms has been involved in addressing fair sales taxation and equitable tax distribution in St. Louis County since the late 1970s. He was a key player in the creation of the current St. Louis sales tax sharing program and acted as a consensus-builder between point-of-sale and pool cities from the program's inception.

Harms was active in the establishment of the St. Louis Area Insurance Trust, which serves as a model for local government cooperation. In 2007, as chairman of the committee to develop a voluntary health program, he used the insurance trust concept to develop a self-insured health program for 14 cities and 1,800 employees in St. Louis County.

Harms was one of the first appointments to the County Emergency Communications Commission. He has worked tirelessly to find a way to fund the local system and due to his efforts, that communications system is on its way to becoming a reality.

## OLGA 2010

Successful  
Intergovernmental  
Collaboration

St. Clair Co. Circuit Clerk, St. Clair  
Co. Data Processing Dept., IL  
Secretary of State and MO Dept.  
of Revenue

## Bi-State DUI Data- Sharing Initiative



Left to right: Brendan Kelly, St. Clair Circuit Clerk,  
David Lang, St. Clair Data Processing Department, and  
Bruce Tanner of the Illinois Secretary of State's office.

Missourians are routinely among drivers charged with driving under the influence in St. Clair County Illinois. Repeat DUI offenders have occasionally received a more lenient sentence because prior records in another state are not easily available, readily-shared or user-friendly. This initiative has closed the legal and technology information gap.

Prior to this initiative, sharing of records was difficult and complicated. Today, when a DUI case is first initiated in the St. Clair County Circuit Clerk's case management system, that driver's record is now pulled from both the databases of the Missouri Department of Revenue and the Illinois Secretary of State's offices using an automated paperless process.

The information in the databases can be electronically converted into a

standardized form regardless of whether the information is provided by Missouri or Illinois and then made available in a digital format in the court's case management system.

Having this information available in a timely, usable format allows prosecutors and other court officials to ensure a just and expedited disposition of DUI cases and also ensures that repeat offenders are not treated as first-time offenders due to the lack of availability of information regarding previous charges across state lines.

There is no other county in the state of Illinois or Missouri that combines driver information from more than one state into a simplified, automated paperless system.



Left to right, first row: Doug King, East Side, Conn Roden, Franklin Co., Chae Li Yong, Madison Co., Toni Carona, Madison Co., Allison Tucker, St. Charles Co. Second row left to right: Ed Hillhouse, East-West Gateway Executive Director, Barb Holt, St. Clair Co., Dennis Diehl, Jefferson Co., Melba Moore, City of St. Louis, John Anthony, St. Louis Co., Mike Pate, Monroe Co., and Mark Kern, Chairman, St. Clair County Board.

## OLGA 2010

Successful  
Intergovernmental  
Collaboration

City of St. Louis Dept. of Health,  
East Side Health Dist., Franklin Co.  
Dept. of Health, Jefferson Co.  
Health Dept., Madison Co Health  
Dept., Monroe Co. Health Dept.,  
St. Charles Co. Dept., of Community  
Health and the Environment,  
St. Clair Co. Health Dept., and  
St. Louis Co Dept. of Health

# St. Louis Gateway ESSENCE

Public health agencies rely on surveillance to detect disease activity in the community. Once an outbreak or epidemic is discovered, public health departments implement control measures to stop its spread and prevent more illness. Without good surveillance and public health information sharing, public health professionals only learn of a serious outbreak after it is entrenched and spreading.

In late 2004, local public health departments relied on traditional disease reporting systems. These systems usually created a lag of several weeks allowing the disease to spread before a real problem was identified. Reporting was done with manual log sheets at many different locations creating delays and an incomplete data picture. None of these systems could analyze health information across county or state lines.

The public health departments with assistance from STARRS created a working group in 2005 that included public health professionals from around the region and the state. In 2006 the committee recommended a move to “ESSENCE, an Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community Based Epidemics.”

This region is only the second bi-state Essence installation in the country. Gateway Essence receives REAL TIME electronic reports of illness from emergency departments as patients come in. The system categorizes chief complaints and can be analyzed within a matter of minutes. All regional hospital emergency departments are now participating along with urgent care centers in Illinois. The state health departments have also cooperated in enabling the implementation of the system.



Left to right: Nancy Smith of the Missouri Farmers Union, Mildred Mattfeldt-Beman of St. Louis University, Superintendent Linda Henke, and Randy Wood of Sappington Farmers Market.

## OLGA 2010

Successful  
Public/Private or  
Public/Non-profit  
Venture

Maplewood Richmond Heights  
School Dist., St Louis University,  
Sappington Farmers' Market,  
Missouri Farmers Union  
Healthy Eating  
with Local  
Produce Program

More than a third of all American children ages 6-19 are overweight or obese and the Maplewood Richmond Heights School District along with their partners at St. Louis University, Sappington Farmers' Market and the Missouri Farmers Union set out to change the statistic.

Today, food from local farms organized by the Missouri Farmers Union is delivered by the Sappington Farmers Market to a new food center at St. Louis University where dieticians and chefs clean and prepare healthy foods for delivery to the cafeterias supported by the Maplewood Richmond Heights School District.

The program replaces processed and canned ingredients served to Kindergarden through 12th grade students in the school district with locally grown or produced foods. The goal by the end of the three-year program is to replace at least 20 percent of the menu with healthy locally grown food and to develop a model that can be used for other school districts.

In addition, this program provides local

farmers with a guaranteed buyer for certain produce, provides SLU students with knowledge and experience and has created learning opportunities for Maplewood Richmond Heights School District parents and students.

New programs have been implemented to teach good nutrition concepts and the importance of building a local foods economy, including Meet the Farmers, teaching students about Seed-to-Table concepts, Guest Chefs, inviting local chefs to come to school and expose students to new foods and Team Food, a SLU summer program for high school students to learn healthy culinary skills and then work with Maplewood Richmond Heights staff throughout the year.

The Healthy Eating with Local Produce Program was launched with a grant from the Missouri Foundation for Health as part Congressman Carnahan's Healthy Foods Initiative. The program has just entered its second year and is getting notice across the region and statewide.



Left to right: Pagedale Alderwoman Pauline Catmet and Chris Krehmeyer President/CEO of Beyond Housing.

## OLGA 2010

Successful Public/Private  
or Public/Non-profit  
Venture

City of Pagedale and  
Beyond Housing

## Pagedale/Beyond Housing Partnership

The City of Pagedale and Beyond Housing Partnership, began in 2002 and underscores the importance of creating solid, long-term working relationships, with ongoing community involvement. It proves that local government and community-based organizations can produce meaningful, sustainable change in some of St. Louis' most challenged communities.

Mayor Mary Carter and members of the Pagedale City Council have worked alongside Beyond Housing staff for the past nine years to address the priorities of housing stock, economic activity attraction, and building leadership capacity in the community. Together they have built support for their efforts at the local, county, state and federal levels.

The accomplishments of this partnership are impressive—85 new homes have been built and 23 foreclosed or abandoned homes have been purchased and rehabbed. Resources have been made available to homeowners to help rehab owner occupied homes. Streetscape improvements have been made with help from community volunteers. The first

grocery store in Pagedale in over 40 years has been opened in a new building in a new TIF district. A new family support center has been opened providing crucial programs and services to every segment of the community including access to technology, after school programs, adult education, a food pantry, a youth baseball league and a senior citizens service center. An Individual Development Account Matched Savings Program has been started to assist residents in breaking the cycle of poverty and saving for homeownership, small business start up and education. Leadership training for community residents has resulted in the formation of a new non-profit community organization that is supporting a community garden, family programming and youth recreation.

So by 2007, for the more than 3,600 residents of Pagedale median income had by \$3,000 annually and median house values increased by \$23,000. And now, these lessons and efforts are being expanded to 24 contiguous north county municipalities.



## OLGA 2010

Successful Public/Private  
or Public/Non-profit  
Venture

Madison County Treasurer,  
TheBANK of Edwardsville,  
Justine PETERSEN

## Micro-Loan Program



Left to right: Robert Schwartz, TheBANK of Edwardsville, Madison County Treasurer Frank Miles, and Robert Boyle, Justine PETERSEN Housing and Reinvestment Corporation.

The main objective of the Micro-Loan program is to help provide Madison County entrepreneurs who do not qualify for traditional financing, access to safe and affordable capital to start or expand their businesses. These micro-loans are a positive and prudent alternative to “pay day” or high interest credit card loans. The Madison County Treasurer’s Office and its partners, TheBANK of Edwardsville and Justine PETERSEN are committed to fostering entrepreneurship in Madison County that will lead to new economic activity, job creation and other employment opportunities.

With leadership from the Madison County Treasurer’s Office, TheBANK of Edwardsville pledged a \$45,000 donation over three years for Justin PETERSEN to create a loan loss reserve fund that enabled them to secure money from the U.S. Small Business Administration. The reserve fund serves as the foundation for a \$300,000 revolving micro-loan fund.

Justine PETERSEN has agreed to support loans to Madison County entrepreneurs.

The program is available county-wide and is designed to serve small businesses that create jobs, green businesses that are focused on environmental and social responsibility, and businesses that generate additional tax revenue for Madison County. The program is also unique, as it targets businesses with a need for loans averaging between \$5,000-\$10,000 with a term length of 72 months.

The program provides recipients with one-on-one counseling and technical assistance including credit building strategies, FDIC money smart training, business planning, assistance with financial statements and financial compliance. Programs are designed to build capacity allowing recipients to eventually borrow from traditional lenders. Two start up businesses have already begun the process with more to follow.



Left to right: Mark Kern, Chairman, St. Clair County Board, Tom Bradley, Superintendent of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial, Mayor Francis Slay, City of St. Louis, and Ed Hillhouse, East-West Gateway Executive Director.

## OLGA 2010

Leadership in  
Planning and Design  
Innovation

City of St. Louis and the  
National Park Service  
**The City +  
The Arch +  
The River  
2015**

City+Arch+River 2015 is a new private foundation that joined with the National Park Service and the city of St. Louis, to conduct an international design competition for enhancing the Arch grounds. The goal of the competition is to create better connections between downtown and the river and between Missouri and Illinois with the Arch as the centerpiece.

The 10-month design competition culminated in September 2010 with an eight-person jury selecting the winning design. Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates' plan features removing the existing garage on the north end of the grounds and replacing it with an amphitheater, a new playground and entrance to Laclede's Landing, a new garage topped by an ice rink in the winter and a beer garden in the summer, and a cobblestone plaza between the Arch and the river for markets and special events.

The design team continues to work on proposals that will more fully involve the

east bank of the river, tying the park grounds to the Gateway Geyser and the Malcolm W. Martin Mississippi River Overlook in East St. Louis for a truly regional vision.

Funds to cover the redesign will be solicited from a mix of private foundations and local, state and federal government sources. The project's completion date is set for the 50th anniversary of the Arch in October 2015.

Called "Framing a Modern Masterpiece," this planning effort strikes a balance between new ideas and the retention of the character-defining features of the site, the core of which is the iconic Gateway Arch. This grand ambition and plan redefines one of America's first urban parks containing a National Historic Landmark, and will also reconnect the St. Louis region to both sides of the Mississippi River.

## OLGA 2010

Gateway Lifetime  
Public Service Award

Carl R.  
Sandstedt



Left to right: Mark Kern, Chairman, St. Clair County Board, Carl R. Sandstedt, Steve Ehlmann, County Executive, St. Charles County, and Ed Hillhouse, East-West Gateway Executive Director.

Carl Sandstedt became the director of the St. Charles City-County Library District in 1976, just three years after it was formed.

The numbers: the library district serves 560 square miles with about 350,000 residents. Under Carl's leadership, the district has expanded from five branches with a total of 20,000 square feet to 12 branches with 180,000 square feet. Circulation has increased 50-fold, from 145,000 items to 7.3 million items. The operating budget grew from a half million dollars to \$16 million, with seven times the number of employees.

Unlike many districts, St. Charles does not have a main library. Carl's philosophy of treating the library district as an information utility lead him to place materials and services right where people live, providing them with the highest possible level of library service.

Carl's commitment to public service extends to his employees. He places an emphasis on public policy management degrees for branch managers and promotes extensive involvement of the staff, outside of library walls, throughout the community.

Carl has constructed the district's new facilities to create what he calls a "third space" that isn't work or home but is a community setting that welcomes people to interact, supports telecommuters, businesses, non-profits, communities and social groups.

Carl has dedicated his career to public service and his tenure in our region has established the foundation for a public library system that plays an important and continuing role in the development of the region and will remain an integral part of the lives of future generations.

## OLGA 2010

### Gateway Lifetime Public Service Award

Robert J. Baer



Left to right: John Griesheimer, Presiding Commissioner, Franklin Co., Charlie Dooley, County Executive, St. Louis County, Alan Dunstan, Chairman, Madison County Board, Robert Baer, Francis Slay, Mayor, City of St. Louis, Mark Kern, Chairman, St. Clair County Board, and Ed Hillhouse, East-West Gateway Executive Director.

Bob Baer served as executive director of Metro in the mid '70s, and stepped forward once again in 2007 to provide the leadership that Metro needed to guide the agency through one of its most difficult periods in its history. Baer restored public confidence in Metro, resurrected the region's endangered transit service and helped to ensure its long-term financial stability.

As Interim President and CEO of Metro, Bob helped settle a contentious lawsuit, secured an unprecedented \$12 million one-time appropriation from the Missouri Legislature and completed the agency's first comprehensive long-range plan. His tenure culminated with 63% voter approval for a sales tax to support Metro operations.

This was far from Baer's first chapter in a lifetime of public service. Before his two tours of duty at Metro, Baer served as chief of staff for St. Louis County Executive Larry Roos. He later was president of the

Board of Police Commissioners and after that chairman of the Regional Sports Authority. Before his second stint at Metro he was chairman of the Metropolitan Sewer District Board of Trustees during a tumultuous time when a crucial bond issue was passed.

Baer served for 25 years as president and CEO of UniGroup, a worldwide transportation company and parent company of United Van Lines and Mayflower Transit. He is an emeritus member of Civic Progress and serves on the boards of several area corporations and universities.

Baer has built an unquestionable reputation for integrity and performance throughout his career and has been one of the most effective problem-solvers in our region. He has never failed to answer the call to service in the assistance of the region and its citizens.