

Day Break

POWER DOPPLER 17 WEATHER

TODAY'S FORECAST A few fair-weather clouds. Otherwise mostly sunny and warmer.

HIGH **83°** LOW **61°**
Chance for precipitation: 0%

Sunrise 5:47 a.m.
Sunset 8:38 p.m.



LOTTERY NUMBERS

PICK 3 (07/01)
Mid: 6 ■ 7 ■ 4
Eve: 7 ■ 7 ■ 3

SHOW ME 5 PAYDOWN (07/01)
Mid: 09 ■ 12 ■ 15 ■ 23 ■ 25
Eve: 08 ■ 12 ■ 21 ■ 34 ■ 40

POWERBALL (06/30)
24 ■ 38 ■ 39 ■ 46 ■ 47
PB: 26
Power Play: 3
Jackpot: \$15 million
Next jackpot: \$20 million

PICK 4 (07/01)
Mid: 5 ■ 7 ■ 3 ■ 9
Eve: 2 ■ 4 ■ 1 ■ 4

LOTTO (06/30)
03 ■ 07 ■ 08 ■ 10 ■ 19 ■ 42
Jackpot: \$1.4 million
Next jackpot: \$1.5 million

NEW ON mymissourian.com

A series of articles that introduce MyMissourian readers to community members involved in Columbia's Visioning process.
A poem by Jennifer Brandt titled "The Cassandra Crisis."

DAILY ALMANAC

July 1, 2007
HIGH **78°** LOW **65°**
Normal 87° Normal 65°
1 Year Ago 95° 1 Year Ago 64°
Record 110° Record 45°
1980 1892
Nation's High 119° Nation's Low 31°
Death Valley, Calif. Stanley, Idaho

PRECIPITATION RECORD

Trace as of 6 p.m. July 1
Total month to date 4.36"
Normal month to date 4.15"
Total year to date 18.63"
Normal year to date 20.32"

LAKE LEVELS

Lake of Ozarks 659.7 Up 0.6
Mark Twain 612.2 Up 0.3
Truman Lake 708.0 No change

MO. RIVER

at Boonville 14.8 Down 0.1
at Jefferson City 15.6 Down 0.6
at Hermann 16.1 Up 1.7

WEATHER FACTS

Clouds usually look white since the tiny cloud droplets scatter visible light in all directions.
When a cloud is thicker and the sunlight has to go through more droplets, less light makes it to the bottom of the cloud, and it looks dark.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Road Maintenance

ROUTE Y
Cedar Creek Bridge, five miles east of U.S. 63 in Ashland, will be closed to traffic through late summer for the replacement of the bridge deck. Motorists are asked to use Route 54, U.S. 63 and Route J as detours.

U.S. 63
Between the Randolph County line and Route 763, concrete replacement will continue in various locations in the southbound lanes on Monday. One lane will be open to traffic where work is being done.

ROUTE Z
Between Route H and Route 124 roadway maintenance will take place in various locations. One lane will be open to traffic.

New Today

FAMILY FUN NIGHT
A relaxed evening program of reading stories, singing songs and activities; ages 2 to 5; 7 to

7:30 p.m. Tuesday; Children's Area, Columbia Public Library, 100 W. Broadway; call 443-3161.

MEMORIAL WALK AND PANCAKE BREAKFAST
Parley P. Pratt Memorial Freedom 1- or 4-mile run/walk and pancake breakfast organized by the Columbia Stake of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. All ages. Registration begins at 7 a.m.; run/walk starts at 7:50 a.m. Wednesday; Twin Lakes Park Pavilion, 2500 Chapel Hill Road; call Richard Houseman, 445-7970.

Charity Events

BATTLE OF THE BANDS BENEFIT CONCERT
Featuring winning band Graffiti Out Loud, 2nd place Brunette, 3rd place Habitat Crew and 4th place A Grand Escort. Tickets are \$6; \$4 of each goes to support muscular dystrophy charities. 7 to 11 p.m. Thursday; The Blue Note, 17 N. Ninth St.; for more information, call Phil Overeem, 424-0121, or e-mail povereem@

columbia.k12.mo.us.
FIRST TUESDAY BOOK SALE
This month the themes are nature and travel. First Tuesday sales feature some of the best books that have been donated. All proceeds go to support library services. Noon to 3 p.m. Tuesday; Columbia Public Library, 100 W. Broadway; call 443-3161.

Kids

FINGERPRINT MADNESS
Turn fingerprints into mysterious creatures; be prepared to get a little messy with stamp pads and markers; 10 to 11 a.m. or 2 to 3 p.m. Monday; Program Room, Columbia Public Library, 100 W. Broadway; call 443-3161.

Holiday Events

COLUMBIA COMMUNITY CARNIVAL
Karis Community Church will be sponsoring a Fourth of July event. This event is free and the public is invited. There will be games, food, a giant bounce house and

more. 2 to 9 p.m. Wednesday; Flat Branch Park, 101 S. Fourth St.; go to karischurch.org or call 529-0909.

SALUTE TO AMERICA
Jefferson City's celebration of the Fourth of July; a two-day event with concerts, activities and a parade on Tuesday and concerts and fireworks on Wednesday. 4 to 10 p.m. Tuesday and 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Wednesday; downtown Jefferson City; for a full schedule of events, go to salutetoamerica.org.

I LOVE AMERICA FESTIVAL & KIDS DUATHLON

Duathlon (ages 7-14) is \$10 to register. First 75 registrations receive a free T-shirt, and every registrant receives a water bottle. "Little Tykes" Bike Race (under 6 years of age) is free. 4 p.m. until dark Wednesday; Boone County Fairgrounds, 5212 N. Oakland Gravel Road; to register, call 445-4900 or go to newlifecolumbia.org.

RESTAURANT INSPECTIONS

The Columbia Health Department inspected the following food establishments that serve or prepare food from July 21 through Aug. 4. The first score is the number of critical violations. The second number indicates noncritical violations.

Critical violations: Must be corrected at the time of the violation or within 10 days. They are more likely to contribute to food contamination, illness or environmental health hazard. **Noncritical violations:** Must be corrected by the next regular inspection. These inspections pose less risk.

	NO. OF VIOLATIONS	
	Critical	Non-critical
2006 E Broadway	0	0
previous: 12/11/06	0	0
EASTGATE MEAT		
2006 E Broadway	0	0
previous: 12/11/06	0	0
HOLIDAY INN SELECT TAVERN		
2200 I-70 Drive Southwest	0	0
previous: 6/12/07	1	2
JOHNNYS BEANERY		
212 GREEN MEADOWS	2	5
previous: 2/21/07	3	4
PARADISE LOUNGE & GRILL		
805 N Old 63	0	8
previous: 1/30/07	0	11
SKY HI RESTAURANT		
2513 S Old 63	1	8
previous: 2/5/07	4	4
SUBWAY RESTAURANT		
1201 GRINDSTONE	0	1
previous: 2/28/07	1	2
TACO BELL RESTAURANT		
220 E Business Loop 70	1	2
previous: 3/1/07	1	2
TRINITY LUTHERAN DAYCARE		
2201 Rollins	0	0
previous: 11/10/06	0	0

Columbia Billiards closes, blaming ban

By DAYNA FIELDS
news@columbiainmissourian.com

The last hours that the building at 114 S. Ninth St. would be called Columbia Billiards were bittersweet. Feelings of nostalgia, rebelliousness, good times and companionship filled the air. And although the pool hall was closing after more than 30 years, owners Phil and Maggie Spudich did not express regret.

"I'm actually pretty happy because we're going out with a bang," Phil Spudich said.

Spudich had fun with his store down to the last minute. The twinkle in his eye, the warm smile he sported and the glass of liquor that he raised in his hand whenever his customers approached him to say their goodbyes were all signs of the kind of man Spudich is and the kind of owner he has been.

"Everybody's gotta earn a living," Maggie Spudich said. "But we've had such a good time doing it. The people, customers and staff that we've been able to spend our days with are really special."

Word of the pool hall's closing brought in customers of all ages, regulars and first-timers.

After all, Maggie Spudich's one rule has always been, "Everyone is welcome, as long as you respect other people."

Maggie and Phil Spudich wore genuine smiles and, with a celebrity-like status, made their rounds to different groups of people who were all patiently waiting to give them hugs and tell them the impact that the "mom and pop" pool hall had on their lives.

By 7 p.m., the waiting list for a pool table began to fill. Everyone wanted a chance to play one last game on the 9-foot Brunswick pool tables and use the unwarped pool sticks, both hard to find in any pool hall, let alone a bar in Columbia.

Posted on the window outside was a sign that read:

"Columbia Billiards opened March 1, 1974. Our last day will be Sat. June 30, 2007, 11 a.m. to 1:30 a.m. Thank you for your support (4/7 of city council excepted) Phil and Maggie Spudich."

It was a classic example of the Spudiches' fun-loving personalities with a hint of defiance.

Ash trays that had not been seen since Jan. 9, when the smoking ban began, made an appearance. For one night, the

not-so-long-ago days of smoking cigarettes indoors with a guilt-free conscience re-emerged.

The table lights lit the smoky haze that passed over the tables as people laughed, shouted and enjoyed themselves in resemblance of a speak-easy from the days of Prohibition.

"Well, they can only close us down once, and they've already done that with their vote," Phil Spudich said. "I'm not going to complain. It's done, it's over and they did it legally."

George Schafer, 35, has been a longtime regular at Columbia Billiards, and his attitude is different from Phil's.

"You don't see Applebee's going out of business," Schafer said. "They want to make downtown Columbia a bunch of chains. All the mom and pop businesses are going out of business because people wanna have a smoke and a drink, and now they have no place to go."

Phil Spudich owns another pool hall in Springfield where, he said, there is a smoking ordinance that exempts pool halls and bars that have less than 50 percent of their revenue from food sales. Spudich said business is three times better in Springfield. He also said a

fairer way to deal with second-hand smoke would be to set air quality standards inside a bar that would be accomplished with ventilation systems.

Adam Cagle, 25, is not a regular, but he has visited the pool hall a lot during his time in Columbia.

"It's just really unfortunate that you can take a business that has been open for 30-plus years, and it's brought to its knees by people who have never even set foot in this place," Cagle said.

"This is a working man's bar. Anybody who works down here in the restaurants or the shops, they put in their eight to 10 hours a day, they wanna go play pool. They wanna sit here and have a good time."

Jimmy Knight had more than worked at the pool hall about 25 years ago; he lived on top of it. He recalled the people he worked with and the regulars who came in as his friends. He said they worked, shot pool and just hung out. A few days ago Knight saw the poster on the front window, and that's when he found out that his former home was closing down. He made sure to make it to Columbia Billiards on its last night.

"It's heart-breaking and sad,"

Knight said. "This was my favorite place, my favorite job. I love Phil and Maggie."

Kevin Gibbs worked at Columbia Billiards for 11 months before its closing. He noticed unfamiliar faces in the crowd and attributed them to old regulars who used to play pool in high school and have come back to say goodbye to Spudiches and the pool hall.

"I'm glad to see everybody coming out, but I wish there was some more support focused on, 'Let's do something about this,'" Gibbs said.

He said he didn't believe Phil when he first said that they might have to close down, but he soon realized that Phil was serious. Gibbs is a nonsmoker who appreciates the smoking ban, but he is also regretful that he is now out of a job.

"You know, everyone knows who Phil is. If you say 'Rack n' Roll' or 'Columbia Billiards,' everybody's like, 'Oh, Phil, yeah,'" Gibbs said. "So I guess that's how you look at it."

"It's just Phil and his wife and the handful of people that he chose to work in his business. I guess that's what makes a mom and pop store."

HOW MAY WE HELP YOU?

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