



## McCain campaigns in Missouri

LEE'S SUMMIT, Mo. (AP) — He came to a place where young men dream big, a minor league ballpark.

Then John McCain came to a place where old men relax, one of the nation's larger retirement communities.

Campaigning in Missouri for the second time in eight days Monday, McCain and his vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin are putting an emphasis on appealing to Missouri's Republican base — be they young or old.

McCain made Missouri a bookend to last week's Republican National Convention by appearing at a ballpark rally in O'Fallon on Aug. 31 and at a retirement community's event center in Lee's Summit on Monday.

The similarity: Both events occurred in the Republican-leaning suburbs of Missouri's largest cities where McCain must fare well to counteract Democrat Barack Obama's anticipated urban voting strength.

"This state, we must win, and we will win," McCain said at the Pavilion in John Knox Village, where capacity crowd of 3,000 people stood inside and a roughly equal number listened over speakers outside. A few perched in trees.

Obama also campaigned in Kansas City on his way to the Democratic National Convention last month. On Tuesday, his vice presidential candidate, Joe Biden, is to campaign in Columbia and St. Louis.

McCain and Palin on Monday played up their opposition to earmarked spending while accusing Obama of supporting nearly \$1 billion of specialized spending over several years as a U.S. senator from Illinois.

Obama hasn't asked for any earmarks this year; last year, he

**"I will veto every pork-barrel earmark spending bill that comes across my desk."**

John McCain, Republican for president

sought \$311 million worth.

"I will veto every pork-barrel, earmark spending bill that comes across my desk," McCain said to applause. "We will stop it, my friends, because it breeds corruption."

While McCain has long opposed earmarked spending in Washington, Palin has as governor of Alaska requested nearly \$750 million of it in the past two years.

But she has also cut back on such spending and routinely touts that she stopped the much-publicized "bridge to no where" for which Congress had earmarked money in Alaska.

The retirement community where they campaigned has about 2,000 residents living in everything from single-family houses to a nursing home. John Knox Village promotes itself as one of the largest continuing care retirement communities in the nation, and the largest in the Midwest.

But most of the audience consisted of the general public.

A few dozen arrived Sunday night, sleeping in their cars in the parking lot or camping out on the sidewalk — despite rain — for the first-come, first-enter event, said Craig Faith, the public safety manager at John Knox Village.



PATTY DECKER/Colby Free Press

David Delzeit talked with Carolyn Bird (center) and Colby City Council member Bev Eicher during a retirement party Friday. Delzeit, 62, worked for the city sanitation department for more than 39 years.

## Man retires from city trash crew

By Patty Decker  
Free Press Editor  
pdecker@nwkans.com

Dave Delzeit saw his job change from garbage collection to "solid waste" operation in 39 years with the city sanitation department, but he drew the line at using a computer "joy stick" to pick up trash bins.

"I started working for the city when I was 23," recalled Delzeit, 62. "I was in Vietnam, and following military service, I came back to be closer to family."

Delzeit said he has seen a lot of changes in the trash-hauling business since those days.

"In the late 1960s," he said, "everyone put their trash in the alleyways. It wasn't until the '80s,

people started putting trash on the streets."

Oddly enough, Delzeit said, the younger people didn't like using the alley, but the older people did.

What made the job tougher years ago compared to now, he said, was there were no weight limits on how much trash people left for pickup.

"We had boxes full of trash, and they were mighty heavy," he said. "Trash cans were in varying sizes, and we had lots of complaints."

Before the city bought the large tipper cans used today, Delzeit said, people would pile trash up near the curb, but sometimes kids would leave their bicycles sitting around, or something else they didn't want to lose.

"We hauled everything off if

it was in the vicinity of the trash cans," he said.

City Manager Carolyn Armstrong called Delzeit "one of a kind." He spent more than 39 years with the city, she said, handling all aspects of sanitation service, from dumping bins to driving trucks.

"He witnessed changes from an open dump, where everything was mixed together," she said, "to a landfill where loads of garbage are checked and placed in different locations."

"Dave always had a comment on everything and a quick wit that made him interesting to visit with. He was ... injured in the course of his service to our country."

Armstrong said Delzeit, along with the other trash collectors,

spent many years picking up cans, bins, bags and cardboard boxes before the city changed to tipper cans.

The only thing he ever refused to try was a new sanitation truck which had "joy sticks" to control the arm used to pick up the bins.

"He was not a member of the computer generation and had no desire to try his hand at joy sticks," she said. "We really appreciate all the years Dave worked for us and would like to hire six more just like him."

"He has earned his retirement, and I wish him the best."

More than 50 people attended a retirement reception for Delzeit on Friday at the city Law Enforcement Center on Franklin Avenue in Colby.

### Adding the final touches

Chris Griffin, Prairie Museum registrar, was hanging the latest visual arts exhibit at the museum, a traveling quilt display that will be up until mid-October.



PRAIRIE MUSEUM OF ART AND HISTORY

### Altered Quilts: An Artists Collaboration

In keeping with the Kansas Art Quilter's 2007 theme, "Altered Images", thirteen KAQ member-artists participated in an altered collaboration: altering the work of another artist. Two identical quilts were created; one quilt remains unaltered while the second was sent to another participating artist, who altered the quilt using any combination of techniques or methods desired. Many participants reported that it was daunting to do the work of a fellow-artist.

- Participating artists:  
Kris Barlow (with altered quilt by Linda Thompson)  
Sharon Bass (with altered quilt by Kris Barlow)  
Dianne Vettero Decker (with altered quilt by Sharon Bass)  
Mary Elmous (with altered quilt by Dianne Decker)  
Rosemary Claus-Grey (with altered piece by Mary Elmous)  
Harriette Jenke (with altered piece by Rosemary Claus-Grey)  
Leslie Tucker Jenison (with altered piece by Harriette Jenke)  
Sammie Messick (with altered piece by Leslie Tucker Jenison)  
Karen Stiehl Osborn (with altered piece by Sammie Messick)  
Janet Perkins (with altered piece by Karen Stiehl Osborn)

## Briefly

### Food sign-up begins today

Prairie Land Food (formerly the Share program) will have its monthly food sign-up from today to Friday at the State Farm Insurance office, 905 E. Fourth St., Colby. The September menu includes turkey strips, shrimp rings in sauce, deli ham, chicken tenders, ground turkey, lasagna with meat sauce, six to eight fruits and vegetables, all for \$23.50 plus two hours of volunteer service. For questions, call Gene Griffin, 460-3579.

### Fair board to meet Thursday

The Thomas County Fair Board will meet at 8 p.m. Thursday in the 4-H Building at the fairgrounds. Agenda items include com-

mittee reports from building and grounds, rodeo, parade and entertainment, fair book, advertising and exhibits and premium checks. Guests expected include Holly Stephens, Colby/Thomas County Chamber of Commerce executive director, and J&R Marketing co-owner Rich Epp. The board plans to discuss a grant from Midwest Energy. All meetings are open to the public.

### Red Cross offers classes

The Thomas County Red Cross is offering a first-aid and cardio-pulmonary resuscitation class from 6 to 10 p.m. Tuesday. For costs, location and registration, call Sherry White, manager, (785) 462-7161.

### Bluegrass concert Sept. 18

Tickets are available for a concert featuring the

Isaacs and Chace McNinch, bluegrass singers, at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 18, in the Colby High School auditorium. For questions or ticket locations, call (785) 443-1994.

### Book review next week

A book, "Last Rights" by Stephen P. Kiernan, will be reviewed at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 16, at the Hospice Services Office, 515 W. Fourth, Colby, by Barbara (Scheopner) Stoecklein. "Last Rights" offers a hopeful, profound vision for patients, doctors and families: a way to honor the dying during their greatest vulnerability, a chance for families to reconnect and opportunity for the medical system to treat patients with ultimate respect, a time to give comfort and compassion to those we most love," Stoecklein says. For questions, call 462-6710

### Treasurer to close Tuesday

The Thomas County treasurer's office will be closed Tuesday so employees can attend motor vehicle training, said Treasurer Donita Applebury.

### Yearbooks have arrived

The Colby Middle School yearbooks have arrived, said advisor Linda Haas, and can be pickup at the office. For questions, call Haas at 460-5200.

### 1958 Class reunion planned

The Colby High School Class of 1958 will hold its 50th reunion Thursday through Sunday, Oct. 2-5, in Branson, Mo., said Sandy Harper, one of the organizers. "If you were in the class, we would like to hear from you," she said. For questions, call 462-3759 or Norma Higerd, 462-7806.

