

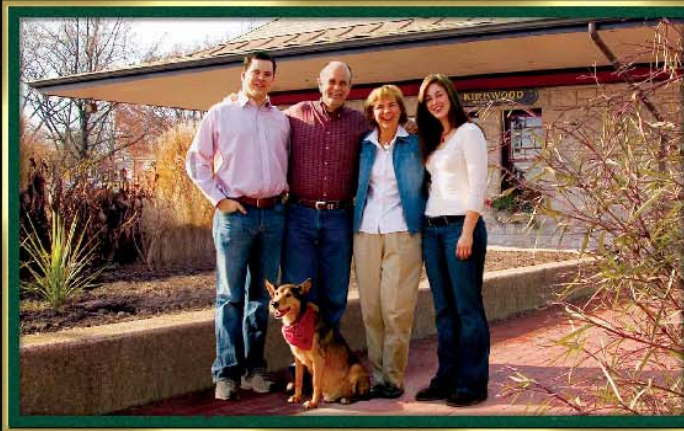


Gibbons Capitol Report
December 22, 2006

Wishing You a Merry Christmas

As the new year approaches things get hectic as we prepare for the next legislative session. This year, I'm planning on spending as much time over the holidays as I can with my family. This is my daughter's senior year and it's hard to imagine she'll soon be leaving for college. It seems like not so long ago I would watch her and her brother on Christmas morning, bursting with excitement, at the top of the stairs before they came barreling down to find out what Santa Claus had brought them. It's a wonderful memory. Liz and I are fortunate because we get to celebrate with both Danny and Meredith, my sister's family, Liz's brothers' families, along with Liz's parents and my parents. I hope you and your family have the same opportunity this holiday season to spend time together and make new memories that will last a lifetime.

Merry Christmas and best wishes for a happy and healthy New Year.



KIRKWOOD
MISSOURI PACIFIC

HISTORY OF THE FAMOUS KIRKWOOD TRAIN STATION

In 1852, land where the current station is located (Argonne Avenue and Kirkwood Road) was obtained from Owen Collins by the Pacific Railroad for a right-of-way. The track for the Pacific Railroad to Kirkwood was completed in 1853. The first train arrived May 11, 1853, for an auction sale of lots, making Kirkwood the first planned suburb west of the Mississippi. The town was named for the chief engineer for the railroad, James Pugh Kirkwood.

In 1863, a frame depot was built. Here members of the first school board met to draft the charter of the Kirkwood School District, which was granted in 1865. In 1893, Douglas Donnan was hired to construct the current stone station to replace the wooden station. The current station remains today as an outstanding example of Richardsonian architecture.

Commuter trains ran to and from Kirkwood until 1961. A train turntable was located near the present Farmer's Market for the engines to be turned for the return trip to St. Louis and for the helper engines, which were used to help freight trains manage the "Kirkwood Hill," prior to the arrival of diesel engines.



Dear Friends,

December 2006

May this holiday season be full of safe travels, bringing friends and family together in joyous celebration of the past with great hope for the future.

Mike, Liz, and family

Mike Liz

Meredith Danny