



THE STOUFFER REPORT

Senator Bill Stouffer
Senate District 21

Capitol Building, Room 332
Jefferson City, MO 65101

For the Week of:
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Contact: Aaron Baker
(573) 751-1507

A Commitment to History

A couple of common quotes in our society are “learn from the past” and “history will repeat itself.” The best way to experience history is to visit some of the local historic sites in our area. There are seven state parks and historic sites within the 21st Senate District and 83 throughout Missouri’s state park system. Although there are only 83 historic sites listed in Missouri, our historical societies are continually working to restore our precious past. This is the time of year to reward Missouri’s historical societies, and with the cooler weather coming, it is a great time to go visit the historic sites in our area.

The seven historic sites in the 21st Senate District are:

- **Downtown Arrow Rock:** This once-thriving river town still has limestone gutters, wooden sidewalks and overhead canopies. Stay awhile and see one of the plays at the Lyceum Theatre.
- **Boone’s Lick State Historic Site:** You can picnic near the area’s largest salt spring, Boone’s Lick.
- **Sappington Cemetery:** This historic cemetery is the resting place for two Missouri governors and Dr. John Sappington, author of the first medical book published west of the Mississippi River.
- **Van Meter State Park:** You can camp where the Native Americans did for many centuries.
- **Battle of Lexington State Historic Site:** You can take a hike along the battlefield where a grueling three-day Civil War battle took place. Don’t forget to stop by the Lexington Courthouse, where a cannonball still rests in one pillar.

- **Confederate Memorial:** Opened in 1891, the Confederate Home was refuge to more than 1,600 Confederate veterans and their families for nearly 60 years. Today, visitors can see the chapel, cemetery and homes.
- **Watkins Woolen Mill:** You can tour the 19th-century textile mill with the original machinery still intact.

While we experience Missouri's historic sites, we should also reward those who preserve them. Missouri Preservation is our state's only statewide, non-profit organization dedicated to promoting, supporting and coordinating historic preservation activities throughout Missouri. The program offers four categories of awards for those involved in preservation efforts.

The Awards:

- The Elizabeth and George Rozier Award is given annually to an individual who has made significant contributions in the field of historic preservation in Missouri. It is the organization's most prestigious award.
- The McReynolds Awards are given annually to encourage individuals or groups that are either working on preservation projects or have made significant achievements in the field.
- The Osmund Overby Award was established in 2003 to recognize written works that contribute to the documentation and interpretation of Missouri's architectural history.
- The Preserve Missouri Awards recognize outstanding efforts and projects throughout the state and illustrate the diversity of historic preservation issues. The awards recognize a variety of projects including commercial and residential rehabilitation, landscape, archeology and advocacy.

I hope the residents of the 21st Senate District will recognize the efforts of those who contribute to the preservation of Missouri history.

Nominations for these awards must be submitted by Nov. 1, 2006, and the 2007 Honor Awards ceremony will be held in March 2007. To download the nomination form, visit www.preservemo.org.

To contact Missouri Preservation, call (573) 443-5946, mail Missouri Preservation, P.O. Box 1715, Columbia, MO 65205-1715 or e-mail preservemo10@yahoo.com.

If you have questions or comments about this or any other issue, please call toll free (866) 768-3987 or by e-mail at bstouffer@senate.mo.gov.

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