



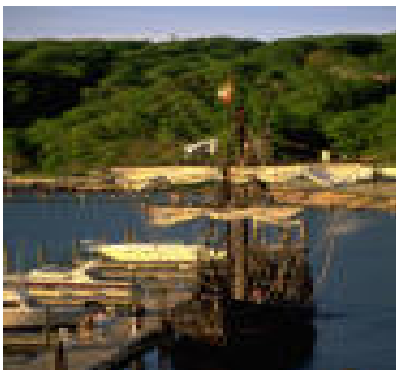
Office of
Jason Crowell State Senator
The Crowell Connection

Senator Jason Crowell – Serving Bollinger, Cape Girardeau, Madison, Mississippi, Perry, and Scott Counties.

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New World, New Hope, New Possibilities

When Christopher Columbus set foot on the soil of what would later become North America on October 12, 1492 he and his crew were unaware of the challenges or the triumphs that lay ahead. But the voyage marked an incredibly significant discovery for Europe because not only was the theory that the Earth was flat put to rest, but a new era of European exploration and expansion was born.



Over time, many have credited Columbus with being the Father of Discovery for the New World. The first-known celebration of the successful voyage took place 300 years after the Nina, the Pinta and the Santa Maria shored up to the coast of an unknown land. A ceremony organized by the Colombian Order was held in New York City in commemoration of Columbus

landing in the Bahamas. There was also movement to rename the country The United States of America Columbia. Instead, the nation honored Columbus by naming the capital District of Columbia. By the late 19th century, several other metropolitan populations throughout the country followed suit, such as the city of Columbia, Missouri.

In 1892 President Benjamin Harrison drew up a commemorative proclamation in honor of the 400th anniversary of the discovery. The enthusiastic response from the public

led to the organization of school programs, theater productions and festivals across the country. The celebration lasted an entire year. In conjunction with efforts in France to make Columbus a Saint, Irish Catholics joined the newly formed international fraternal society, the Knights of Columbus. Over the next several years, the Knights of Columbus lobbied state legislatures to declare October 12 a legal holiday in the name of Christopher Columbus. By 1971, the federal government officially recognized the second Monday in October as Columbus Day. We still observe the day to note the possibilities to which taking risks and exploring seemingly uncharted terrain can lead.

Contact Me

As always, I appreciate hearing your comments, opinions and concerns. Please feel free to contact me in Jefferson City at (573) 751-2459. You may write to me at Jason Crowell; Missouri Senate; State Capitol; Jefferson City, MO 65101, or email me at: jcrowell@senate.mo.gov or visit me on the web at <http://www.jasoncrowell.com>.

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