

# MISSISSIPPI LIME

## Community News



### WORKING TO SUPPORT AND UPLIFT OUR COMMUNITY

*Pictured: MLC employees volunteered for the Friends of Hawn Association to build a new trail at Hawn State Park, November 2023*

MLC is actively involved in our community in meaningful ways through leadership and active support — that is part of our core values. When our community thrives, so do we.

We are proud to partner with organizations that improve lives in Ste. Genevieve and the greater Eastern Missouri region. Our charitable works program is focused on generating impact for several key areas: **education, health and welfare, community services, youth development and civic and cultural enhancement.**

Community impact is generated through direct donations, fundraising campaigns and volunteering. In 2022, this work culminated in over \$300,000 in charitable funds that were either raised or donated by MLC, as well as countless volunteer hours. We could not do this without the generosity and hard work of our employees.

Following are some examples of recent initiatives we proudly completed to benefit our community.

#### **Pedaling for the Fight against Cancer**

Most people are impacted by cancer at some point in their lives, which is why it's so important to contribute to cancer research and support programs that aid cancer patients and their families.

We were pleased to sponsor and participate in **Ride to Survive** again this September, which benefits the Friends Foundation of Ste. Genevieve County Memorial Hospital. This important annual fundraiser helps to ensure that cancer patients in Ste. Genevieve have access to excellent oncology care.

MLC also partnered with HBM Holdings to participate in **St. Louis Pedal the Cause** in September. The MLC/HBM team raised a total of \$95,550 (including our 100% company match), which is a new annual record. That brings our total support of Pedal the Cause to approximately \$640,000 since 2011. These funds benefit cancer research projects at Siteman Cancer Center and Siteman Kids at St. Louis Children's Hospital.

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## Preserving Our Natural Treasures

*Sustainability* is another one of MLC's core values, as it has been throughout our company's history. We operate our plants as responsibly as possible to minimize our environmental impact. We also recognize the need to help preserve the beauty and natural resources that make our region special.

On October 6 and November 7, dozens of MLC employees volunteered for the **Friends of Hawn Association**, a nonprofit with a mission to protect, maintain and grow Hawn State Park and the surrounding watershed. In addition to presenting a donation, the group worked to forge the path for the new Spanish Land Grant Trail. The trail will be fully completed in 2024 and provide a new way for the community to access and enjoy the Park.

MLC also partners with the **World Bird Sanctuary** to support local songbird species at our Ste. Genevieve operation. This includes the maintenance of on-site nest boxes each year.

## Supporting Our Next Generation

By fostering education and development, we have the opportunity to help young people succeed. MLC hosts hands-on co-op programs for university students in Ste. Genevieve each semester, and we are proud to donate to local organizations such as **universities, school districts, the Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts of Eastern Missouri, and afterschool athletic programs.**

In addition, the Harry B. Mathews, Jr. Scholarship Program supports college-ready student dependents of employees. Each of this year's five winners will receive \$8,000 annually over the course of four years.



*MLC's Calvin Calcium at Ride to Survive 2023*



*World Bird Sanctuary nest boxes at MLC, summer 2023*



*Dave Venhaus, Vice President of Operations at MLC, presents Harry B. Mathews, Jr. scholarship awards to four of the 2023 recipients*



*MLC employees volunteered for the Friends of Hawn Association to build a new trail at Hawn State Park, October 2023.*



## SPOTLIGHT ON: STE. GENEVIEVE MUSEUM LEARNING CENTER

Two members of the MLC Community Advisory Panel are also part of the driving force behind the **Ste. Genevieve Museum Learning Center – Robert Wolk and Vern Bauman**, who serve on the Museum’s Board of Directors.

The reimagined Museum opened in its new location in 2020 and is perhaps best known for its **Hall of Giants**, which showcases the dinosaurs that once roamed Missouri. Exhuming, studying, and cataloguing the remains of these ancient giants has been the life’s work of Guy Darrouh, curator.

The Learning Center’s treasures also encompass a significant range of **historical artifacts from throughout Ste. Genevieve’s storied history** – including geology, paleontology, culture, and engineering.

**The displays depict the rich timeline of the area’s natural history:** mineral formations sparkle, ancient trilobites appear to scuttle along behind glass, and antique tools depict what life was like throughout the eras of human inhabitants.

A recent addition to the Museum is the **Mining Room, sponsored by MLC**. The displays provide insight into the mineral formations that fueled the growth of the local economy and the tools used to pull them from the earth over the centuries. Today, MLC is a global leader in innovation for lime, which advance its use in industries such as steel, energy, drinking water, foods, and polymers.

The Mining Room “gives the ability for young adults and their parents to see the Mississippi Lime operations



*Elizabeth Wilkerson, MLC Operations Director, cuts the ribbon for the new Mining Room at the Ste. Genevieve Museum Learning Center on October 18.*

and how it’s adding value to this community. When we tell that story and we show pictures of the opportunities at [MLC], it enlightens young minds and hopefully gets them to start thinking about staying in Ste. Genevieve,” said Wolk.

**As a nonprofit, the Museum funds its operation through donations, admissions, and shop income.**

Donations also support its strategic vision and education fund, to support student visits.

Wolk shared details about the **future vision of the Museum’s development**. In addition to refreshing displays with more of the artifacts in its archives – including a new Audubon exhibit in 2024 – the Board plans to expand the Museum to encapsulate the adjacent building and courtyard. The courtyard expansion would allow for the display of large mobile exhibits, such as historic vehicles, within a glass-enclosed space.

### Community Advisory Panel Members

**Brad Arnold**, Executive Director, Ste. Genevieve County Community Center

**Jason Basler**, Financial Advisor/Tax Accountant, HSB Advisors LLC

**Vern Bauman**, President, Vern Bauman Contracting Company

**Sandra Cabot**, Project Manager, SE Region, Missouri Dept. of Economic Development

**Jasen Crump**, Police Chief, Ste. Genevieve Police Department

**Fr. Edward Nemeth**, Head of Schools, Ste. Gen. Catholic Parish, Valle Schools

**Dena Kreitler**, Executive Director, Ste. Genevieve Chamber of Commerce

**Dr. Steve Pautler**, CEO, Ste. Genevieve County Memorial Hospital

**Randy Ruzicka**, Presiding Commissioner, Ste. Genevieve County

**Kendall Shrum**, Administrator, Ste. Genevieve County Ambulance District

**Gary Stolzer**, Sheriff, Ste. Genevieve County Sheriff’s Department

**Dr. Paul Taylor**, Superintendent, Ste. Genevieve R-II School District

**Happy Welch**, City Administrator, City of Ste. Genevieve

**Robert Wolk**, Consultant/Trainer, Wolk’s Insurance Agency, Inc



## DEMONSTRATING SAFETY EXCELLENCE THROUGH MINE RESCUE PREPAREDNESS

The MLC Safety Steering Committee regularly reviews the tools, procedures, and training in place so we can maintain the safest possible working environment. One of the Committee's responsibilities is to ensure our Mine Safety Team is prepared for any scenario.

This dedication to safety preparedness has been recognized year after year in regional mine rescue competitions across the U.S. This year, the Team took home **four first-place trophies, three second-place trophies, and one third-place trophy in competitions in Missouri and Kansas.**

In addition, **Charlie Gegg, Mine Compliance Coordinator, was inducted into the Missouri Mine Rescue Hall of Fame** this year, in recognition of his many years of award-winning mine safety performance. Based in

Ste. Genevieve, Charlie is our Mine Rescue Team's lead trainer and coordinator, and he leads both our Mine Safety Pillar Team and our Safety Training Subcommittee.

We thank these dedicated personnel for going above and beyond to ensure we can **safeguard our most important asset in a mine: the miner.**



## CELEBRATING THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT AT THE 2023 CHRISTMAS PARADE



*MLC's mascot Calvin Calcium was recently spotted spreading cheer at the Ste. Genevieve Holiday Christmas Festival.*



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