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News Release

For Immediate Release

Greenways Volunteers to Receive State Honors

Three Ozark Greenways volunteers will be honored in Jefferson City Monday, April 2, during Bicycle and Pedestrian Day at the Missouri Capitol.

Springfield Traffic Engineer David Hutchison and bicycle historian James Allen will receive the Missouri Bicycle and Pedestrian Federation's 2012 Distinguished Service Award. Bicycle advocate and instructor Coy Hart will receive the federation's Special Lifetime Achievement Award. The awards will be presented during a 10:30 a.m. ceremony in the Capitol Rotunda.

All three recipients have spent years working tirelessly on behalf of the bicycling community, said Terry Whaley, Executive Director of Ozark Greenways, adding that this is the first time three state award recipients have been from the Springfield area.

"This shows the interest in bicycling for transportation and recreation is increasing, both at the level of support from community leadership and people who have been working in the trenches," said Whaley.

David Hutchison is a traffic engineer with the City of Springfield Public Works Department. He leads the Bicycle-Pedestrian Committee of the Traffic Advisory Board and has been key to developing The Link, the City's plan to connect greenway trails and activity centers, by way of low-volume, low-speed streets. Hutchison is also a board member of Ozark Greenways and sits on the organization's Sustainable Transportation Advocacy Resource (STAR) Team and Technical Committee. He is also advocacy director for Springfield's Springbike Bicycle Club. He is trained as a League of American Bicyclists Cycling Instructor and has organized and taught numerous bicycle safety courses, including assisting with Missouri's first League Cycling Instructor Training, which doubled the number of trained instructors in Missouri.

James Allen is a leading authority on bicycle history and a proponent of cycling as a family adventure. He has served as program director for Springfield's Springbike Bicycle Club for 20 years and is now developing the Pedalers Bicycle Museum in Springfield. He has traveled more than 20,000 miles on his 50-inch high wheeler bicycle, including a 1999 trip across the country, and has served two decades as an official with antique bicycle organization The Wheelmen.

Coy Hart has worked hard to promote bicycling and trails across Missouri, serving on the boards of the Missouri Bicycle and Pedestrian Federation and the Missouri Foundation for Bicycling and Walking and as a longtime member of the MoDOT Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee. In Springfield, he's been an active advocate and volunteer with Ozark Greenways STAR Team and other bicycling organizations. He convinced David Hutchison to join him as a League of American Bicyclists Cycling Instructor and has organized and taught numerous
bicycle safety courses, including assisting with Missouri’s first League Cycling Instructor Training.

Monday’s award presentation is only one activity planned for Bicycle and Pedestrian Day at the Capitol. Bicycle advocates will also meet with lawmakers and take part in the 2012 Katy Trail Ride with Legislators, cycling or walking across the Pat Jones Bridge over Missouri River to the North Jefferson Katy Trailhead.

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