

## Thanks for keeping flame burning

Our community has reason to be proud. Several weeks ago, *The Star's* Mike Hendricks wrote about efforts to keep the eternal flame atop the Liberty Memorial from being extinguished due to budget cuts (5/23, Local, "Carrying a torch for the flame"). After reading that story, our Pioneer Services associates (who offer military banking services) initiated the "Save the Flame" grassroots campaign. The local response was overwhelming, raising almost \$60,000 in less than four weeks and ensuring the flame will burn for another year.

Corporate donations helped, but there were hundreds of \$5 and \$10 donations from area residents and many more from around the country. Everyone involved in this effort worked to honor the sacrifices of those who served this nation, as well as those who serve today.

The eternal flame is a symbol of our eternal gratitude for those who sacrificed so much. Kansas City once again rose to the challenge.

**Tom Holcom**

*President, Pioneer Services*

*Kansas City*



**SAVE  
THE  
FLAME**