David Hall named 20th Fire Chief

For veteran Springfield firefighter David Hall, becoming the City’s next Fire Chief is the fulfillment of a longtime goal. Hall, who officially became Fire Chief on Dec. 21, says he has been working toward this point for many years, and feels he has much to bring to the role.

“I’ve always had a desire to try to make the best of things,” Hall says. “I like the ability to have an impact, particularly on those things I’m passionate about. The fire service and the Fire Department itself are a passion for me.”

During the past year in particular, Hall has been working on two main fronts — he has been a co-interim Fire Chief (along with Assistant Chief Randy Villines) and was heavily involved in many aspects of the Police/Fire pension sales tax issue. He has been the “face” of the FD in many ways during 2009.

“I think that will serve me well in the future,” he says. “I’ve learned you’re never going to make everybody happy. You have to just do what you truly believe is the right thing and let the chips fall where they may.”

Hall says he thinks the greatest asset he brings to the job is the familiarity he has with an organization he’s been a part of for almost 21 years.

“I’ve lived the history with our department. I’ve seen us grow and evolve, and I know our people,” he says. “I understand the importance of our role in the community at large. I’ve worked for years to develop relationships outside.

**See HALL on page 5.**

**Turkey Trot takes teamwork**

On Thanksgiving morning, while many in Springfield were enjoying a day off or preparing a large dinner, more than 6,000 people gathered downtown for the 15th Annual Turkey Trot.

And, several hours before that, some 100 Parks employees and volunteers were out and about in freezing temperatures prepping for the ever-growing 5K run/walk event. Many more police officers and Public Works employees helped manage the route that day, as well. And months of advance planning led up to the week of the event, making Turkey Trot one the biggest days of the year on the perpetually full Springfield-Greene County Parks Department calendar.

However, most of those Parks activities don’t occur on a major holiday; with everything set by 8 a.m.

“Personally, yes, you change your family traditions on that day,” says Susan Provance, athletics administrator for the Parks Department, who has helped spearhead the Trot for the past three years. “But for the people who work the Turkey Trot, they are, in a sense, volunteering their holiday for something bigger and better in the long run.”

The work – and dealing with the cold – is well worth it considering the benefits to the community, she says. The Turkey Trot is a three-fold fundraiser: it benefits the Developmental Center of the Ozarks, perpetually full Springfield-Greene County Parks Department calendar.

**See TURKEY on page 2.**

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**Turkey Trot**

**On the air**

The City is hosting a radio show every other week on KWTO.

**Free vaccines**

Vaccinations for the H1N1 virus are now available to all employees and retirees.

**Do You Know?**

Meet Kelly Cardin of Fire and Donna Euliss of Public Works.
the Park Board Scholarship Fund and the Ozarks Food Harvest. Proceeds benefit the first two, while participants bring canned food for the Food Harvest.

“This year was a little colder than last, but nothing like 2007,” said Bob Nelson, Parks Public Information Administrator, and a Turkey Trot worker each year. “When you see the amount of energy that many participants bring Thanksgiving morning, your adrenaline gets pumping like the runners and it really does warm you up.”

Planning for the Trot begins not long after the previous year’s event. Provance, Sports Coordinator Maria Johnston, and many others hold a wrap-up meeting to see what went right and what didn’t each year. Then the setup for the next year begins with an eye toward improving the event based on growth and the last year’s experience.

The growth has been the key issue. While Provance and others are delighted to see the numbers skyrocket each year — up from 3,400 in 2006 and just 300 the first year in 1995 — it presents a challenge. This year organizers knew they had to change the race route to allow for the runners to get out onto the course more quickly.

This was done by moving the second and third legs of the race onto National Avenue and then Grand Street. The race begins near the Springfield Expo Center, and ends behind the Expo Center adjacent to Mediacom Ice Park.

“We had 1,500 register within just days and hours before the race,” Provance says. “That is an organizational feat to get them in the computer system, get them their number and their chip.”

The days before the race is when the activity really ramps up. More than 40 volunteers helped stuff the registration packets. Tuesday, Wednesday and early morning Thursday are “24/7,” Provance says. The day before the race includes all the final prep for the route, linking the sound systems, moving thousands of t-shirts and registration packets, water coolers, bananas, bananas and much more. Aided by many layers of clothes, hot coffee and flashlights, Thanksgiving Day begins around 4 a.m. for the 8 a.m. race.

“And then boom, the race starts and just 15 minutes later you’ve got your first runner coming in,” Provance says. “It’s a sprint for the workers until about 10:30 or 11 a.m.”

But it’s not the speedy times that make the Turkey Trot what it is. The race is very inclusive, which helps Parks fulfill a role of promoting healthier lifestyles in the area, especially on a day when over-eating becomes a national pastime.

“The whole idea is people are spending their morning together as a family or with friends, bundled up, walking if they want,” Provance says. “The challenge for them is to cover the distance, not the time.”

-Mike Brothers, DPI
Follow these tips to reduce your holiday waste

During the holiday season the amount of solid waste generated by cooking, decorating and gift packaging increases significantly. The City of Springfield’s Solid Waste Management Division has a number of suggestions to reduce holiday waste.

- **Cooking Grease Disposal:**
  Don’t pour cooking grease down the drain. Instead, pour grease into a metal or glass container and place it in the trash. Scrap food and grease from dishes and pans prior to washing, rather than using a garbage disposal.

- **Reduce Holiday Toxics:**
  Do not use imported, decorative candles that emit black smoke — this often indicates the presence of lead in the wick. Mistletoe is highly toxic to children and pets — use artificial rather than the real thing. Other plants with toxic or irritating characteristics include: amaryllis (bulb), balsam, cedar, Christmas cactus, Christmas rose, elderberry, English Ivy, holly, juniper, narcissus (bulb) and several types of lily.

- **Reduce Litter:**
  When disposing of product packaging from gifts, please consider sorting for proper recycling. The City’s Recycling Centers and curbside recycling programs accept mixed papers, with the exception of the foil wrapping paper and pasteboard. Cardboard is accepted separately from mixed papers at the Recycling Centers. Please flatten boxes and remove staples and tape.

  Plastics marked 1-7 are now accepted at the Centers as well as curbside. A guide to plastics is available at: www.springfieldmo.gov/recycling/pdfs/Plastics.pdf. Please recycle or dispose of old electronics properly. The Computer Recycling Center accepts many old electronics for free. Visit www.computerrecyclingcenter.org or call 866-2588.

- **Disposing of Christmas trees:**
  Springfield residents have several options available for recycling live Christmas trees. Christmas trees are not accepted at Missouri landfills.

  **BASS PRO**
  Bass Pro will accept trees at the fenced area at the northwest end of the Bass Pro Shops parking lot directly behind the store at 1935 S. Campbell Ave. from noon-6 p.m. Dec. 26-Jan. 1. Fee is $2. Trees are used for fish habitat. No flocked trees. Call 875-6022.

  **WICKMAN’S**
  Wickman’s will accept trees at 1345 S. Fort Ave., in Springfield, and at 10791 U.S. 60 in Monett from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Saturday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday (Springfield only) Dec. 26-Jan. 13. Fee is $5. Trees will be ground into wood chip mulch, which is available for free. Bring your own container. No flocked trees. Call 869-8707 (Springfield); or 235-1112 (Monett) or visit www.wickmans.com

- **YARDWASTE RECYCLING CENTER**
  The YRC will accept Christmas trees from 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Tuesday-Saturday, closed Sundays and Mondays year round. The Center will be closed on Dec. 25 and 26. Directions: West on Sunshine (U.S. 60), south on Farm Road 115. Turn left on Farm Road 164 and follow signs. Donations are accepted; the brush recycling fee of $3 will be waived for Christmas trees through Jan. 30; otherwise, the $3 gate fee will apply. Existing commercial fees will apply to commercial loads. Call 864-1904, or visit www.springfieldmo.gov/recycling. Trees are not accepted at the Franklin and Lone Pine centers.

  -Barbara Lucks, Public Works

The City of Springfield takes to the airwaves

The City is now hosting a one-hour radio program called City Talk on KWTO AM 560. City Talk airs every other Thursday morning from 10 to 11 a.m. and follows the station’s typical live call-in format. The next few episodes will air on Dec. 31; and Jan. 14 and 28, 2010.

City Talk is designed to be an informational program on a wide variety of topics. So far, five City Talk programs have aired, covering topics including the Pension Fund sales tax referendum, recycling and yard waste, the H1N1 flu and more. In each case experts from the pertinent City department come into the studio to talk about the issues.

Barbara Lucks and Steve Meyer of Public Works talked about the many avenues open to Springfield residents who want to recycle materials; while Jaci McReynolds gave the latest updates on the H1N1 flu situation and Karen Prescott talked about holiday food safety in mid-November. In December, Earl Newman and Jason Haynes discussed traffic issues, while interim Police Chief Ron Hartman and outgoing Police Chief Lynn Rowe discussed several topics related to the police force, such as recruiting, crime statistics and crime prevention. City Manager Greg Burris will discuss the City’s strategic planning process and take his “Listening Tour” to the airwaves on Dec. 31.

The show is co-hosted by Louise Whall and Mike Brothers of the Public Information Department, with technical direction from Dan Vaughn of KWTO. As time goes on, the show will feature an expanding variety of topics, but all will be City related.

The show is the latest method the City is using to reach out and communicate directly to citizens. Though calls on the topic at hand are encouraged, questions of any kind are welcome during the hour-long show.

The KWTO show can also be streamed online at www.radiospringfield.com.

“We want to feature as many aspects of the City as we can, and we are open to employee suggestions about what we should cover on the show,” Whall said.

Do you or your department have a topic that you want to talk about on the air? What’s going on in your world that you think citizens should know more about? Contact Louise Whall at 864-1009 or via e-mail with your idea.

-Jac McReynolds (pictured) and Karen Prescott of Health were recent guests on the City’s new talk radio show on KWTO called City Talk. The show follows a typical live call-in format covering a wide range of topics.

-Mike Brothers, DPI
The City MARKETPLACE

FOR SALE

Multiple items for sale, all like-new. Pride scooter Go-Go; full-size bath bench; walker (folding); bedside pottie chair; crutches; adjustable cane. $625 for all. Call 869-8270.

Race car twin bed with mattress. Only four years old. Can also be a toddler bed. Has inserts, no toddler mattress. In good condition, no stains or tears. Can provide pictures if you’re interested. Asking $300, OBO. Call Kelly at 861-8847.

Nice lady’s rings-size 7 or 8, sterling silver, some with 2 plates platinum overlay, some white gold. Excellent condition - many gemstones (some “diamonique”) to choose from. $10 each. Call Pat at 224-2255.

Premium split hardwood firewood, split in small pieces and wrapped in 1 cubic foot bundles for a convenient evening fire. Only $2.50 a bundle compared to $5 at the convenience store! You can pick up in the employee parking lot before 8 a.m., after 5 p.m. or at lunchtime. Or I can deliver several bundles for a $10 fee in the Springfield/Willard area. Call 849-8904.

14 inch, fairly new, American-made saddle. Asking $200. If interested, please call 300-9746 and ask for Ashton.

Never futon for sale. Mattress is dark blue, with a wooden frame. Asking $75. If interested, please call 844-8974 for Mark.

English Equitation saddle, 21”, two-tone brown leather, with stirrups, good condition. Also 42” leather girth and black Professionals Choice showpad. $275 OBO.

Two quilted stable blankets with matching hoods: size 72, burgundy w/ navy trim, hardly used. $75 OBO; Size 74, black w/ teal trim, good condition, $45 OBO. Call 693-2786.

Bowling balls: Ebonite Angular One, 16 lbs., $60 OBO. Hammer No Mercy beat’n, 14-15 lbs., $60 OBO. Call 853-6951.

Terrarium, 3 sides glass, screen front and hinged screen top – 30x22x12, $30 OBO. HabiScape Terrarium 3D background. Fossil wall, new, 19x11, $10 OBO. Lee’s Carbon cartridges for underground filter tubes, 24 (2 packs) $20 OBO. Call 885-6951.

Firewood - $125 per cord. Call Brandon Spain at 838-3694.

Firewood - $100 per cord. Contact Dan at 553-5824.

SERVICES

Online Computers can handle viruses; data backup; consultation and installation of new hardware and software; and Wi-Fi for your personal computer. Call Jason Hicks at 569-3884.

Grizzly Mountain Saw Works - handcrafted wood art, custom stump carving. Send e-mail to: favorite848@hotmail.com, or call 749-1888.

Our close personal family friends’ house caught on fire one night,” he says. “I sat there and watched their house burn to the ground. They were on vacation at the time. There was nothing the Mountain Grove Fire Department could do.”

On his 21st birthday, Hall signed up to become a volunteer with the Mountain Grove Fire Department. Soon he had moved to Springfield to join the SFD. Hall says back then he “was skinny as all get-out.” He jokes about lining his pockets with pennies at the weigh-in to help tip the scales a bit closer to the 130-pound minimum weight.

His goals for the Fire Department? “Getting through our ISO rating will be important,” he says. “Getting a good professional development plan within the department is a goal. And really getting into some good analysis of where we’re at and what we should be doing is another goal. That’s my background — I’ve always been a numbers person.” Hall holds a master’s degree in business management and administration from Missouri State University.

The biggest challenges ahead are short staffing levels and a general budget crunch, he says. “All of the departments are facing this difficulty,” he says. “We have to figure out how we can still provide the level of service we want to provide.”

-Mike Brothers, DPI
H1N1 Vaccinations Now Available to Anyone

Based on a recommendation from the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS), the Health Department is now offering the H1N1 vaccine to anyone who is interested, regardless of their age or health status. Initially, vaccine was only offered to people considered to be at highest risk for developing flu infection, severe illness or complications.

Vaccination against H1N1 is the best protective strategy, even as cases appear to be declining. Influenza viruses are very unpredictable, and it is impossible to know if cases will remain low throughout the rest of the flu season, or if another spike, or multiple spikes will occur. Three formulations of H1N1 vaccine are available to adults:

- **Nasal spray** is licensed for use in people age 2 – 49 with no chronic medical conditions. This is similar to the FluMist used to prevent seasonal flu, and is sprayed into both nostrils. It is made from a live, weakened virus that reproduces in the nose in order to launch the body’s immune system, but it cannot reproduce in the lungs where the body’s temperature is higher. Therefore, you cannot get H1N1 from the nasal spray, nor can you transmit it to someone else.

- **Thimerosal-free pre-filled syringes** are available for women who are pregnant.

This is the recommended vaccine for pregnant women, so it is important that as a community we consider other alternatives for ourselves whenever possible and support the majority of this formulation going to serve pregnant women.

- **Multi-dose vials**

  This is the “shot” that most of us are familiar with. This injectable formulation is licensed for use in adults regardless of their health condition. People who are allergic to eggs or other ingredients in the vaccine should not be vaccinated. People who have had an allergic reaction to vaccinations in the past or who have developed Guillain-Barré syndrome should not be vaccinated.

Side effects from vaccination are typically mild and may include soreness, redness or swelling where the shot was given, fainting, headaches, muscle aches, fever and nausea. If these side effects occur, they usually begin soon after the shot and last one to two days.

The H1N1 vaccine was made using the same processes, facilities and manufacturing companies that make the seasonal flu vaccine. The H1N1 vaccine underwent testing and licensing through the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and was also tested in clinical trials. Vaccination is the best method of protection against influenza viruses. The H1N1 vaccination will protect against H1N1, but will not offer protection against other strains of influenza viruses, including those found in the seasonal flu vaccine.

In addition to being vaccinated, City employees are urged to use proven disease prevention methods such as good hand-washing, avoiding touching your face and keeping a distance from people who are sick.

It is also important that employees stay home when they have flu-like symptoms such as a cough, fever, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, sore throat, chills, vomiting or diarrhea. Employees should stay home for at least 24 hours after their fever has gone away without the help of fever-reducing medication.

For more information on H1N1 or seasonal flu prevention and vaccination, please visit www.FightTheFluMO.com or the Health Department’s Web site at www.springfieldmo.gov/health. You can also listen to automated information by calling 864-1166 or have your questions answered by a live operator by calling the H1N1 and Seasonal Flu Answer Line at 874-1298.

-Jaci McReynolds, Health

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FREE VACCINES

H1N1 vaccinations will be available at no cost to City retirees and their spouses from 1:30-4:15 p.m., Jan. 5 at Westside Public Health Center, 660 S. Scenic Ave. Active employees and their spouses who have not yet been vaccinated also are welcome.

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St. John’s Urgent Care Centers expand services

When it’s not an emergency but it feels like one, St. John’s Clinic now offers expanded urgent care services. Do you need after-hours care? St. John’s is ready to help. Call 888-8888 or 1-800-909-TEAM to find the St. John’s urgent care clinic closest to you. You may also go to www.stjohns.com/services/urgentcare for more urgent care guidance and information.

Listed below are the St. John’s Urgent Care Clinics in Springfield and the surrounding areas:

**St. John’s Urgent Care - Smith Glynn Callaway**
3231 S. National, Springfield, MO 65807
Phone: (417) 888-5666

**St. John’s Pediatric Urgent Care - Smith-Glynn-Callaway**
3231 S. National, Springfield, MO 65807
Phone: (417) 885-5487

**St. John’s Urgent Care - Nixa**
940 W. Mount Vernon, Ste. 100, Nixa, MO 65714
Phone: (417) 724-5280

**St. John’s Urgent Care - Northwest**
2120 W. Kearney, Springfield, MO 65803
Phone: (417) 869-6191

**St. John’s Urgent Care - Branson**
1065 Hwy 248, Branson, MO 65616
Phone: (417) 336-6011

**St. John’s Urgent Care - Lebanon**
(Located in the Women’s Center)
120 Hospital Drive, Ste. 250, Lebanon, MO 65536
Phone: (417) 585-6717

**St. John’s Urgent Care - Monett**
315 E. Cleveland, Monett, MO 65708
Phone: (417) 285-4834

You may contact Peggy Thompson, Senior Human Resources Specialist, via the City’s e-mail or at 864-1608 for questions related to your benefits.
In Brief

Police reception

A retirement reception for Police Chief Lynn Rowe and executive secretary Marilyn Grier will be held from 2-4 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 14, in City Council Chambers. Rowe has been Chief of Police for 16 years, while Grier has worked more than four decades at the City through the tenure of five police chiefs. Come wish them both well in retirement at the reception.

Census now hiring

City employees may want to refer family, friends or neighbors who are currently seeking jobs to the U. S. Census Bureau.

The Census Bureau is recruiting temporary, part-time census takers for the 2010 Census. These short-term jobs offer good pay, flexible hours, paid training, and reimbursement for authorized work-related expenses, such as mileage incurred while conducting census work. Best of all, census takers work right in their own communities.

Census taker jobs are excellent for people who want to work part-time, those who are between jobs, or just about anyone who wants to earn extra money while performing an important service for their community. Hundreds of thousands of census takers are needed nationwide. Most positions require a valid driver's license and use of a vehicle.

Census results help determine our representation in government, as well as how federal funds are spent in your community on things such as roads, parks, housing, schools, and public safety. As a census taker, you'll play a vital role in making sure that everyone is counted. All census takers must be able to speak English, but people who have bilingual skills are needed in communities where a large number of residents primarily speak other languages.

Apply today by contacting the Census Bureau at 1-866-861-2010.

Centers offer trials

The Springfield-Greene County Park Board is again offering free trials to either its Chesterfield or Doling Family Centers through the month of December, as part of a Trial Membership Program promotion.

Non-members can sign-up for the promotion at either Chesterfield, 2511 W. Republic Road, or Doling, 351 E. Talamage St., between Monday, Dec. 21 and Wednesday, Dec. 30. The seven one-day pass promotion must be used by Friday, Jan. 15, 2010.

Chesterfield and Doling Family Centers feature an indoor gym, indoor track, aerobic and cardio equipment, weightlifting, community rooms, lockers with showers, game rooms and complimentary child care for children 8 years of age and younger. In addition, Chesterfield offers a zero-depth entry Aquatics Center with 100-foot water slide, resistance walk, and whirlpool.

Annual membership fees for both facilities range from $105 for youth 18 and younger to a family membership for $460. Daily rates for non-members are $4-$7. One-day family rates or a 15-visit value card are available. Call 891-1616 for more information on the trial program.

Kids had the opportunity to get crafty at the annual Christmas on the Farm event at Rutledge-Wilson Community Farm Park in December. Other activities included pictures with Santa, hayrides through light displays and buying Christmas trees.

Do You Know…?

A Q & A of City of Springfield employees. To suggest a colleague for a “Do You Know…?” profile, email mbrothers@springfieldmo.gov.

Kelly Cardin

Truck Company Captain
Station 10 Shift C. Fire.
Kelly has worked for the City for 12 years.

What did you want to “be” when you grew up?
I’ve wanted to be a firefighter since watching a house fire on my block when I was 5.

What one word would you use to describe yourself?
Intense (in a good way).

What one word would your friends or family use to describe you?
Intense (not in a good way).

What do you most dislike in yourself?
Pride.

What do you like most about your job?
Getting to help people when they really need it.

Donna Euliss

Administrative Assistant,
Public Works Service Center.
Donna has worked for the City for 30 years.

What are you most proud of?
I am most proud of my kids and grandkids.

What do you like most about your job?
Some of the things I like best are working with the other departments in tracking their equipment history, doing reports, tracking down problems and working them out.

What are you compulsive about?
Doing things right - my parents raised me to do the best of my ability in anything that I do no matter what the job is.

What was your first job?
My first job other than babysitting was a checker at Consumers Grocery Store.

What was your first car?
My first car was a 1953 Chevrolet with a 1954 GMC motor.
To: **David Hall**, Fire Chief

We had scheduled a birthday party for our son at a fire station outside of the Springfield area. Less than a week before the party, the fire station abruptly cancelled and we were forced to scramble to find another location. Luckily, Fire Station No. 1 on Grand obliged and we had the party there. Upon arriving we found the station completely empty as the unit had been called away. Another crew from Fire Station No. 2 on Commercial (Shift 2C – **Heith Aldridge, Cale Murphy** and **James Frieze**) arrived shortly to find a station full of preschoolers. Frieze in particular was exceptional. He patiently let the children climb on every last piece of equipment multiple times, he answered a million questions, and he never seemed anything less than completely willing to provide a great experience to us. He was gracious about explaining tools, careful to keep everyone safe while exploring and obliging to picture-taking parents.

To that firefighter, my sincerest thank you. The taxpayers of Springfield should be proud their money has gone to such a great employee and establishment that understands the importance of serving every member of its community, regardless of their age. My son, his friends and their families continue to talk about what a great experience it was.

*Amy Loehr*

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To: **Police Chief Lynn Rowe**

I am writing to express my thanks to the work done on the Bolden case by your department. I know that changing venue to Boone County created additional burdens for the witnesses and scheduling issues for the department. Even with these extra issues, everyone cooperated and helped us achieve a just outcome for Officer Ruby’s family.

It is also important for you to know that the work of **Detective Christopher Barb** and Dr. Doug Anderson were vindicated at trial. The work of Det. Barb was directly questioned by the defense attorney, which led to the exhumation of Officer Ruby. By the end of the evidence, the issue in question became a moot point and the defense abandoned any argument about poor police work at the autopsy.

*T. Todd Myers*
First Assistant Major Crimes, Greene County Prosecutor’s Office

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To: **Marc Thornberry**, Director of Public Works

This week I have asked **Carrie Lamb** to remove the Clean-flo system that is pumping O2 into the Southern Hills lake. This was done reluctantly as the neighborhood hopes had been high that this would be a solution to our algae problem.

I would like to express thanks on the behalf of the neighborhood for the efforts made for us by you and the City Council. I know that it was a bit contentious for a while, but in the eyes of the neighbors, it was worth the effort. It is my hope that something beneficial will come of the studies that were done here and that the knowledge can be useful when other bodies of water in the city face equally challenging changes to water quality.

I would be remiss if I didn’t mention the great asset you have in Carrie. She has been great in working with the neighbors in her quiet and consistent manner. She was available for and responsive to inquiries and always did so in her nice manner. She was liked and respected by all with whom she came in contact.

Respectfully,

**Bob Smith**

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The City was recognized three times by the Ozarks Chapter of the Institute of Transportation Engineers (OCITE) at its 2009 Professional Recognition Awards:

- 2009 Transportation Achievement Award – Facilities (Public Agency) was presented to **the Springfield-Branson National Airport Board**. The award recognizes the importance of the new Midfield Terminal to the economic vitality and development of the Springfield-Branson region.

- A 2009 Distinguished Service Award was given to **Harry L. Price** recognizing his more than 40-year careers in transportation engineering. Price retired as District Engineer for the District 8 Office of the Missouri Department of Transportation in Springfield in 2002 and has continued his career for another seven years as Assistant Director of Public Works over Engineering and Storm Water Divisions for the City.

- The 2009 Transportation Professional of the Year Award was presented to **Gary A. Cyr**, Director of Aviation for the Springfield-Branson National Airport for oversight of many important Capital Improvements including construction of the new Midfield Terminal. Cyr began his service at the Springfield-Branson National Airport as Assistant Director of Aviation in 1995 and was promoted to Director in 2004.