BDS Director receives HBA President’s Award

Director of Building and Development Services (BDS), Chris Straw, received the Home Builder’s Association of Greater Springfield’s, President’s Award, Tuesday evening, December 13, 2011.

“I wanted to recognize Chris with a President’s Award for sincerely inviting stakeholder input when approaching policy and procedural change,” said HBA President Matt Bailey, who presented the award. “We hope other jurisdictions will model his common sense approach to code adoption, his commitment to improve customer service and willingness to problem solve in partnership with the industry.”

“This award is a well-deserved recognition of Chris Straw’s leadership and dedication to furthering the achievement of quality design and run a business is paying off. … there is solid reason for continued optimism for the Show-Me economy.”

Over the last 12 months Springfield has experienced job growth of nearly 5 percent adding more than 3,610 jobs within the city. The Springfield Metro Area has grown at virtually the same rate, adding 9,459 jobs in the past year. Expanding companies include global companies such as John Deere Reman and Expedia as well as local successes such as HealthMEDX and Digital Monitoring Products.

Earlier in December Greene County was cited as fifth in the Top 10 Mid-Sized Counties in the nation in a newly created “Fourth Economy Community (FEC) Index.”

The core of Greene County is Springfield – Missouri’s third largest city. Over the last year, the Springfield-Greene County region has experienced considerable economic growth.

The report notes the major expansion of Expedia, Inc., adding more than 500 people to its Springfield operations center along with banking solutions company, Jack Henry & Associates, completing a new 160,000 sq.ft. Springfield campus, which will house more than 650 people.

These two recognitions in one week point to Springfield and the surrounding area as a leader in the nation for economic recovery.

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Hints from the Help Desk

To receive work e-mail on a Smart device, the following instructions must be followed:

1) If a user has never had access to Work e-mail on a Smartphone or smart device (iPhone, iPad, Blackberry and Droid) then they must get approval from their departmental approver first. The departmental approver needs to e-mail their approval to helpdesk@springfieldmo.gov.

The official Department Approval list is on city share and can be found at http://sharepoint.springfieldmo.gov/supportservices/Policies/Dept%20approvals.xlsx

2) If a user has already had access allowed and is just getting a new device (e.g. switching from a Blackberry to an iPhone etc.), then all that needs to be done is to e-mail them device-specific instructions.

3) Once approval has been received by IS, a ticket is created in Cherwell and forwarded on to NOC to make sure user has access allowed. Once user is allowed access, NOC sends the ticket back to Help Desk and we forward on instructions for the user to follow for their specific device (iPhone, iPad, Blackberry or Droid).

4) If the user does not understand the instructions or needs help, they can stop by the Help Desk and we can help them out in person.

Don’t forget to take advantage of the Lynda.com online computer classes that are offered for City Employees. Spend as much or as little time as you need on a variety of offered classes. To register for your access to this great resource, notify the help desk at 864-1111.
construction standards in our community,” said Fred Marty, Deputy City Manager. “As importantly, the award is a tribute to the employees of the Building Development Services Department, who under Chris Straw’s leadership, are delivering on the City’s commitment to collaborative community development in partnership with developers and professional builders like those represented by HBA.”

### Changing responsibilities in the new year

**Budget cuts impact Animal Control**

Here is what will change, pending final approval of the Greene County budget, with Animal Control services beginning on Jan. 1:

- Citizens living in unincorporated Greene County may call 911 to report an animal bite only. The county is not able to respond to reports of loose or vicious dogs.
- Citizens living within Springfield city limits may call Animal Control for services that include picking up loose animals, dealing with vicious dogs and animal bites (any animal); trapping nuisance wildlife; and responding to reports of sick or injured animals, cruelty to animals, and the number of animals at a single residence. A current city limit boundary map can be viewed online at gismaps.springfieldmo.gov/councilzone.
- Greene County staff will now be responsible for ensuring that biting animals are properly quarantined when such incidents occur, and for completing the associated paperwork. Quarantine facilities at the city’s animal shelter will no longer be available. The county is currently making arrangements for the quarantine of biting animals picked up in the county.
- The city animal shelter will no longer accept drop-offs of animals from the county. Arrangements should instead be made with local animal rescue organizations.

**Nuisance code enforcement shifts to BDS**

In January, the primary responsibilities of nuisance code enforcement will shift from the Health Department to the City’s Building Development Services Department (BDS). The move is essentially a realignment – the services themselves are not being changed.

Five city staffers will move from the Health Department to BDS. These employees’ primary duties include investigating calls regarding weeds, trash, and inoperable vehicles. These five employees will be available to conduct other types of zoning and land development inspections done by BDS, such as reports of multiple unrelated people living in one residence or home business violations. The Health Department will continue to investigate calls regarding potential vectors of disease, including rodents and mosquitoes.

To report issues regarding tall weeds, trash or inoperable vehicles, call the City’s Public Information Department at 864-1011.

### More ways to keep up with city government

CityView and the City of Springfield now offer more ways to view video on the internet.

- Using the same URL - www.springfieldmo.gov/cityview, employees may view all videos produced by the City of Springfield but can also view them on their smart phone or tablet device.
- Videos may be downloaded.
- Videos may be shared or embedded just like on YouTube.

Another new feature for City Council meetings, these have been Closed-Captioned for several years but now the text or data file from those captions may also be read on our website. If you are just looking for what someone said and need it quickly – this is another option.

City Council and Planning and Zoning Commission meetings also have links to supporting documents; agendas and other related material.

The agendas for these meetings have a time stamp for each agenda item, making it easier to find a particular bill or portion of the meeting. The previous bookmarking feature is not available but we hope to add that sometime in 2012.

CityView is still available through the same traditional channels as always: Mediacom 15.1, 15.2, 80 and 81, plus on AT&T’s Uverse at channel 99.
MILESTONES

Service Anniversaries

35 years
Shirley Johnson
Mapping & Reprographics
Technician
Public Works – 01/24/77
Bill Weaver
Development Economist
Planning and Development – 01/17/77

30 years
Dennis Budd
Municipal Court Judge
Municipal Court – 01/28/82

20 years
Lynn Gates
Buyer
Finance – 01/02/92
Timothy Spoon
Team Leader
Public Works – 01/21/92
Todd Wagner
Principal Engineer
Public Works – 01/13/92

15 years
Kevin Cross
Service Technician
Public Works – 01/21/97
Robert Johnson
Community Recreation
Supervisor
Parks – 01/21/97

10 years
Kenneth Browning
Shawn Clawson
Gregory McKinney
Maria Miller
James Stacy
Jason Trusler
Police Officers
Police – 01/07/02
Jeremy Anderson
Richard Noble
Eric Reece
Police Corporals
Police – 01/09/02
Daniel Tscherny
Firefighter
Fire - 01/07/02
Kevin Patton
Senior 911 Telecommunicator
Emergency Communications – 01/21/02
Anita Baker Climer
Administrative Assistant
City Clerk – 01/27/02

5 years
Timothy Boram
Airline Line Services
Technician
Airport – 01/09/07
Allison Carson
Senior Human Resources
Specialist
Human Resources – 01/08/07
Jason Dean
Firefighter
Fire – 01/08/07

Welcome
Kirk Juranas
Assistant Director of Public Works – Public Works
James Holland
Professional Engineer – Public Works
Joseph Coppenbarger
Andrew Hoover
Jolee Mercer
Andrew Meyer
911 Telecommunicators – Emergency Communications

Promotions
Mike Brothers
Public Health Information
Administrator – Health
Brian Athen
Olan Morelan
Fire Training Captains – Fire
Justin Merritt
Truck Company Captain – Fire
Bruce Hinkston
Plant Shift Supervisor
Environmental Services – 01/22/07
Michael Mills
Gardener
Parks – 01/08/07
Charity Brashers
Lisa Powell
Deputy Clerks
of Municipal Court
Municipal Court – 01/29/07
Joshua Strong
Equipment Operator II
Environmental Services – 01/08/07

James Noblitt
Wastewater Video Technician – Environmental Services
David Bilderdale
John Rippe
Senior Street & Sewer
Construction Inspectors – Environmental Services
Danny Mooneyham
Dennis Posey
Plant Operators III – Environmental Services
Chris Gardner
Fire Equipment Operator – Fire
Zachary Schmidt
Rescue & Salvage Specialist – Fire
Doug Simmons
Craftsworker – Parks
John Schmitz
Utility Worker – Airport
Eldon Reid
Parks Caretaker – Parks
Dustin Garner
Arborist Crew Leader – Public Works

Retirements
Jodie Adams
Director of Parks & Recreation
Parks – 01/32 years
Tanya Collins
Fire Captain
Fire – 18 years
William Davis
Police Officer
Police – 23 years
Randall McDowell
Police Officer
Police – 25 years
Eddie Stroud
Police Officer
Police – 21 years

Do you love candles? Check out www.417scents.com for Wickless Candles by Scentsy, which are a safe, wickless alternative to scented candles. Great gift ideas for holidays, birthdays, and anniversaries. Contact David or Anita Climer at 851-9129 or 858-5710 for more details.

Next Level Sport Karate – 1317 W. Sunshine, Springfield. Offering classes in Tae Kwon Do, Hapkido, and Zumba Fitness. 496-5058 or online at nextlevelsportkarate.com.

Check CityShare for City employee discounts to area businesses. Need a great cup of coffee or a pastry to get you through the day? Visit the two new coffee shops across from Government Plaza at the Hub or at Fog City Coffee. See CityShare for details.

The City MARKETPLACE

FOR SALE
One Groupon ticket to Adventure Ziplines in Branson. adventureziplinesofbranson.com $29, valid through March 1 ($60 is their regular price) Call 862-7716, ask for Chris.

HOUSE FOR RENT – Cute 3BR 2BA, 2 garage house, 1250 s.f. 20 years old in established neighborhood. Excellent condition with new carpet and paint. West Springfield in Willard School District. Washer/Dryer provided. $750/mo. Call 849-8904.

For sale: 2 toddler beds. One is a Princess Sleigh bed with mattress in excellent shape $75.00 and the second is a Car bed with mattress in great shape for $10.00. Both beds come with sheets too. Please call Cindy at 818-6296. Pictures are in the Luncheonroom of the Busch Building.


Homemade Goats Milk Soap makes a great Christmas gift! Made with essential oils especially for moisturizing and skin care. Contact Steve Brawn at 299-0956 AFTER 5 p.m. daily, or visit www.stegsfarm.com to view and order.

SERVICES
Experienced pianist to teach beginner and intermediate piano lessons; will include scales, chords, theory, and technique as well as sight reading. Located near Sunshine and National. $15 for 45 minutes. Call Kayla at 970-946-6294.

The City MARKETPLACE
### JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Mona Brake</td>
<td>POL</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Austin White</td>
<td>PRK</td>
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<td>Ryan Acker</td>
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<td>Jeffrey Henson</td>
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<td>31</td>
<td>Donna Whitfield</td>
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### Important Dates

- **Jan. 2** – City Offices Closed in observance of New Year’s Day
- **Jan. 16** – City Offices Closed in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- **Jan. 17** – Police/Fire retirees meeting, 6:30 p.m., Heritage Cafeteria, 1364 E. Battlefield Road

### Abbreviations
- 911 Emergency Comm.
- AIR Airport
- ART Art Museum
- BDS Building Dev.
- CC City Clerk
- CM City Manager
- CM Emergency Mgt.
- ES Environmental Ser.
- FN Finance
- FR Fire
- HL Health
- HR Human Resources
- IS Info. Systems
- LAW Law
- MC Municipal Court
- OG Ozark Greenways
- PRK Parks
- PDV Planning & Dev.
- DPI Public Information
- POL Police
- PW Public Works
- WD Workforce Dev.
Hope Connection aids homeless

On November 16th, staff from the Health Department participated in Hope Connection at the Expo Center. Hope Connection is a one-day, one-stop-shop to deliver services to the homeless community of Springfield. The goal was to provide access to such services as medical/dental/vision care, basic needs (food/clothing), mental health and substance abuse treatment, and much more. In other words, in one day, a homeless individual could access services that otherwise would take up to eight months to receive.

We would like to acknowledge the following employees and divisions of the Health Department who assisted during this very important one-day connection:
• The nurses with the immunization program (Leslie Davis and Leslie Kimzey) provided 58 doses of flu vaccine and 40 doses of Tdap vaccine. The Tdap vaccine was provided through a grant with the AmeriCares Program.
• Becki Davis and Jefferson Wood representing our TB Clinic saw a total of 31 people during the expo.
• Mary Ellison (WIC Coordinator) said that the entire WIC staff worked the Hope Connection. The staff checked in/registered 368 individuals, served as volunteer coordinators, and service navigators. Staff connected the participants with the volunteer event navigators so each family or individual had someone to help them fill out paperwork and find the services they wanted to access that day. WIC also provided staff support for the children’s area, enrolled 5 families in the WIC Program, and printed their vouchers. Mary stated, “The staff enjoys this day. It’s a great way to gain some perspective and help those less fortunate than ourselves.”

So a big thanks to everyone who participated in the Hope Connection this year! As always, the Health Department was doing their best to help people live longer, healthier, happier lives.

Director of Aviation achieves accreditation

Brian Weiler, Director of Aviation at the Springfield-Branson National Airport, recently became (again) an Accredited Airport Executive. He had achieved this designation earlier in his career but did not need to maintain it during his time with MoDOT.

AAAE is committed to the advancement of aviation professionals by granting the A.A.E. designation to those who have demonstrated their ability to handle the responsibilities of airport management, regardless of airport size. Candidates enrolling in the Accredited Airport Executive program are required to meet a number of pre-requisites and complete three phases; each of which is carefully designed to test one’s knowledge, comprehension and understanding of aviation management.

Additionally, Shawn Schroeder, Asst. Director of Aviation, is also an Accredited Airport Executive with AAAE since 1999.

Congratulations to Brian for once again achieving this professional status (and for getting to put initials after his name!)

Health Dept. employee celebrates 25 years

Roxanne Sharp, in the Food Section of the Health Dept., celebrated 25 years of service with the City of Springfield on December 22nd! She originally was hired as a Nutritionist at the WIC Office in December 1986. She was later hired as a Public Health Investigator for the Food Section in 2002. She became the lead Public Health Investigator III (supervisor) for the Food Section in June 2009.

Watch Program begins trainings

The Springfield Police Department is hosting several training sessions in 2012 for the new Neighborhood Watch program. Attending classes helps citizens:
• Better understand how the police department operates.
• Become better witnesses
• Better recognize and report suspicious activity
• Make their home less attractive to criminal activity.
You must attend all four hours to receive your Phase 1 certificate. Saturday classes cover all four hours in one morning. Tuesday and Thursday classes are broken up into two – two hour sessions.

Please call Jason Rust at 874-2115 or email to jrust@springfieldmo.gov to register for any of these sessions. Space is limited; Jason needs the name, address, phone number and email address of each person who wants to register.

Jason and the SPD look forward to working with each of you to get you trained and ready to “See Something and Say Something!” Please share this information with your family and neighbors.

Schedule of Trainings

January 14
8am – 12pm
Doling Family Center
301 E. Talmage

January 17 & 19
6:30pm - 8:30pm
Fire Station 12
Blackman Rd.

February 4
8am - 12pm
Library Center
South Campbell

February 21 & 23
6:30pm to 8:30pm
Fire Station 8
Scenic and Bennett

For more Awards & Recognition, see Working with the Community on page 8.
Police Department sergeant promotions

The Springfield Police Department held a promotional ceremony for the rank of Sergeant on December 16, 2011. Corporal Andrew Barksdale, Corporal Eric Reece, Corporal Steve Schwind, and Corporal Chris Wells, each completed the Sergeant’s promotional process. The process included a written examination, an assessment center, and a past performance review.

Cora Scott named Director of Public Information

Cora Scott is the City’s next Director of Public Information and Civic Engagement.

Scott currently serves as Mercy Media Relations Manager for St. John’s Health System, where she is responsible for media and public communication for Mercy’s north central region. Scott has served St. John’s Health System in similar public relations roles since 1993. She holds a bachelor’s degree in Communications from Drury University.

Scott will be the first Public Information Officer at the City to also have responsibilities for civic engagement in addition to the more traditional PIO-related responsibilities. These additional responsibilities include developing strategies and programs to increase citizen participation and trust in local government, and promoting community understanding of civic issues.

Her first day is expected to be Jan. 18.

December sales tax up over 16 percent

The City of Springfield’s December 2011 one-percent sales tax check from the Missouri Department of Revenue is up 16.13 percent compared to December 2010. Revenue collected totaled $5,946,727 compared to $3,398,681 in December 2010.

Year-to-date, sales tax revenue for Fiscal Year 2011 is 10.28 percent above the previous year. Year-to-date collections total $19,882,383 compared to $18,029,541 last year — a difference of $1,852,842.

From the SCENE archives

20 Years Ago - Jan. 1992

Why Recycled – The SCENE

The City Printshop prints 2000 copies of the SCENE each month. These are distributed to all City employees, retirees, and to community organizations. That means 8,000 sheets of paper are used each month to provide information to employees.

When recycled paper became available to the City, it seemed the responsible thing to do to move to having such a big project printed on recycled paper. The creator of the SCENE, Polly McDaniel, began many of the traditions carried on today, including the name of the publication, the service anniversaries and birthdays, and the Marketplace.

10 Years Ago - Jan. 2002

Tree Planting Project

Ozark Greenways and the City of Springfield Public Works Department have teamed up with Caring Corps of Springfield, a part of AmeriCorps. The initial portion of the tree planting project occurred at Trafficway and Chestnut Expressway. The Public Works Department supplied planting assistance and 60 native species of trees and shrubs through their cooperative nursery with the Springfield-Greene County Park Board. Plants were planted along the present detention basin that will someday be part of the Greenway Trail system connecting Cooper Park to Jordan Valley Park. Ozark Greenways volunteers and ten Caring Corps representatives also helped to plant the new trees.

Do You Know…?

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

David Moore
Park Ranger

What do you feel is the most important thing for people to know about you?

There’s more to me than meets the eye.

What has been your greatest achievement?

Becoming a Park Ranger.

What did you want to “be” when you grew up?

A Forest Ranger or Police Officer.

What are you most proud of?

My 3 daughters and 5 grandchildren.

What’s the one thing about you most people don’t know?

I have 6 dogs, with 3 of them being “rescue” animals.

Kristen Linsenbort
Graphic Production Assistant
Department of Public Information

How long have you worked for the City?

About 6 weeks.

Who had the greatest influence on you during your childhood?

My big brother. I followed him around and wanted to do everything he was doing.

What is your favorite film? How many times have you seen it?

I’m a huge nerd. I’ve probably seen all the Star Trek movies about 50 times each.

Where would you like to spend tomorrow?

Strolling around the streets of London, or at home being lazy. It’s a toss-up.
To: Kevin Gipson, Health Department

I recently paid a visit to the health clinic, and want to pass on my experience there. I figured since it was free, that I probably wouldn’t be treated very well by staff. But I have to say there wasn’t one person who was not friendly there. I was treated with the up-most respect from the time I checked in, was tested and left. Same way when I got my results. The people who work there, are far more friendly then any hospital I’ve been to, or any doctor I have ever seen. I just want to say thank you, and hope the word gets passed on to the staff.

Justus1987

To: Police Chief Paul Williams

Just want to say thanks to Chief Williams and all of the SPD officers who donated their time and effort to make this year’s Toys for Tots ride up Glenstone Avenue happen again this year. As a Marine Corps veteran and a motorcyclist, it gives me a great sense of pride to be able to participate in Toys for Tots each year, and without the time and effort put forth by SPD it wouldn’t happen. Thanks guys, and well done.

Loren Crowder

To: Police Chief Paul Williams

I am an international student in MSU. I studied how to drive in Springfield last winter and got my license. I have always been a cautious driver - never drive after drinking, and surprisingly never speed. But I was still afraid all the time that I would get pulled over by a police sometime, because my friends here told me that sometimes you can run into a very bad police officer. I didn’t know how to handle it if I run into a very bad-tempered one. But very fortunately, on the midnight of 11/27, Cpl. Steve Schwind pulled me over for not stopping at a flashing red light, and he was very polite, very nice, and he was being very reasonable and taught me that I should treat flashing red as a stop sign. This really helped me because I will remember it for sure, and reduce the possibility of traffic accidents. So I want to thank him for being very nice, and not scare me. I really appreciate the first ticket he gave me.

Chen Li

To: Kevin Gipson, Health Department

We would like to commend Animal Control Officers Allison Miller and Angela Foster for their professionalism and speedy capture of a stray dog. The dog had been around all day, worrying neighbors. We called Animal Control and were impressed at how fast they responded.

We live near Kearney and there was a concern just chasing the dog away would mean the dog either returning or getting hit. They didn’t give up despite our acre-sized yard, working hard to corner the dog in our barn. When this did not succeed, they let him wear himself out until he could be caught.

They caught him right at the time the elementary school let out next door, which was a relief. They were kind to the dog, but appropriately firm as well - as the dog was a bit aggressive when the first officer arrived. She was great at calming him down.

Again, we want to thank them for their hard work.

Sincerely,
Paul and Teri Duffy

To: Police Chief Paul Williams

I just wanted to say that Officer Kevin Holle is the most professional police officer I have ever watched on COPS and the best at performing his duties.

Franklin Bogus

To: Greg Burris, City Manager

Gary Highberger, an ex-SPD officer, called in and left a message on the law phone system. When I returned his call that afternoon, it turned out that he had already been over and talked to PIO to resolve his issue. He was very happy that someone had checked to make sure his issue was resolved, but more importantly, very impressed with his experience with Claudia Crighton. He said she was very helpful and made doing business with the City very easy and enjoyable.

Orlando Hodges

To: Greg Burris, City Manager

Today I spoke with Gary Highberger, a citizen who called in about an unrelated matter. During the conversation he divulged that he was an ex-SPD officer, circa 1975, and had a lot of great things to say about Chief Williams. He said that the Chief was fair, honest and the best Chief we’ve had in a long time.

I know a compliment, no matter how small, seems to help my day, so I thought I would pass this one along in hopes that it would do the same for the Chief.

Orlando Hodges