Parks unveils Dan Kinney Family Center

The Springfield-Greene County Park Board invites the community to the grand opening of the Dan Kinney Family Center Saturday, Jan. 12, 10:30 a.m. at 2701 S. Blackman Road, Springfield. Grand opening activities include a brief ceremony, facility tours, open gym, kids’ activities and refreshments.

Named for retired Parks Director Dan Kinney, the facility is the Park Board’s third Family Center, expanding family fitness and recreation opportunities to eastern Springfield and Greene County.

The two-level 35,000-square-foot facility includes a full-size gymnasium, indoor 1/16-mile walking/running track, fitness center and weight room, aerobics room, game room, childcare, community room and locker rooms. The building is designed to meet LEED Silver Certification and to accommodate future construction of an aquatics facility and second gym. The Family Center is located in the 18-acre Dan Kinney Park, home of the Betty and Bobby Allison Miracle League Ball Field, Springfield’s first universal playground and a 7/10-mile paved recreation trail.

2012 in review: Collaboration a recurring theme

From moments that sparked controversy or spread joy, to moments just hinting at things yet to come, it’s been a busy year in Springfield.

City officials faced the beginning of the year with a tragedy made easier thanks to the generosity and kindhearted spirit of Springfieldians.

Officials attribute good emergency preparedness planning, the quick actions of hotel residents, and the nearly flawless response of firefighters from Station # 2, for the safe evacuation of all 185 people inside The Missouri Hotel homeless shelter during an early morning blaze Jan. 20, 2012.

Five firefighters and three residents were treated and released from the hospital that same morning.

City staff and emergency relief agencies came together within hours and by early afternoon, created and implemented a plan to meet the short- and long-term needs of the displaced individuals. CoxHealth and Day Spring Ministries stepped up to help house families. American Red Cross coordinated emergency supplies. Springfieldians provided cash and food donations.

Thanks to this quick response and help from many additional community partners, most of the displaced residents were back in their homes at the Missouri Hotel within two weeks of the fire.

Collaboration like this is not uncommon in Springfield. And it was a theme repeated throughout the entire year.

Get the Goose! CAMP class starts fun peer recognition program.

SPD takes to FB Police Department ramps up social media presence.

Do you know? Get to know Christopher Walker in Information Systems.
CAmPers give employees the Goose

Members of the 2012 class of the City Ambassador Program (CAmP) didn’t want their teamwork experience to end once they graduated from the program. CAmP-ers (classmates) got together and created The Golden Goose Award as a way to recognize teamwork and cooperation among City employees.

CAmPers are a group of City employees from nearly every department. Throughout the year, they learn about teamwork, leadership, and get a better sense of how the City functions as an organization.

“After graduation, last year’s inaugural class decided to propose a class project, building on the principals and culture they learned in CAmP,” said CAmPer Errin Kemper, Public Works. “Our goal was to leave a legacy, to implement a program that will continue through the years.”

The Golden Goose is a fun and prestigious award that allows employees to recognize the outstanding, but often unnoticed, individual efforts of our coworkers and to promote a culture of teamwork and pride among all City employees. Each week, a traveling trophy (The Golden Goose) will be presented from one employee to the next as a way to say “thank you” for your efforts and to recognize them for a job well done.

**Here are the Rules:**

1. You must present the Golden Goose to a fellow City employee in a different department, who has done an outstanding job helping you do your job. The purpose of the Goose is to say “Thank You” to that person for their efforts and to recognize them for a job well done.
2. You can only keep the Goose for one week, and then you have to give it away.
3. It is highly encouraged that you present the Goose in front of that person’s supervisor, at a staff meeting, or in a way that recognizes them publicly for a job well done.
4. The Goose must be displayed in your work area for everyone to see. Accompanying the Goose will be a pin that you can wear all week.
5. A log book will document the travels of the Goose. As the Goose moves on, you must list WHO you are presenting it to and WHY. When you give the Goose, please send an e-mail to GooseShepherd@springfieldmo.gov stating to whom you are presenting the Goose and why. These entries will be included in the next edition of the Scene.

The Goose was chosen as a symbol of the teamwork and cooperation often seen among members of this organization. It is a fact that, the lifting power of many wings can achieve twice the distance of any bird flying alone.

**Have you ever had your Zenworks icons (CityShare, GIS Viewer 12, CityLink etc.) disappear from your desktop?**

This will show you how to add them back:

1. Right Click on the blue icon with the white Z on it and select Login. This icon is located in the system tray. (lower right-hand corner of your desktop)

2. You should then be prompted to login. Enter your network login credentials (the same as logging onto your city computer) and hit OK.

3. Once you have successfully logged in and Zenworks has refreshed, your icons should then appear on your desktop as usual.

*Sometimes you will need to right click on the blue icon with the white Z and choose Logout and then complete the above steps to get all of your Zenworks icons back.
2012 REVIEW from page 1.

Early in 2012, City Manager Greg Burris kicked off an initiative to bring people together to tackle the issue of poverty. The result was a pilot program launched in two Springfield neighborhoods called Neighbor for Neighbor. The empowerment program helps drive positive change through a process of neighborhood discussion, planning and action.

A dialogue process brought together neighbors from Robberson and Weller neighborhoods with community partners to identify and solve problems together.

Projects, such as the creation of a community garden and identifying additional free or low-cost activities for children, may take root in 2013 as a result of this program.

Partners who have signed on to help with projects include: BRD, LLP; City of Springfield; Community Foundation of the Ozarks; Community Partnership of the Ozarks; Convoy of Hope; Council of Churches; Evangel University; Grupo Latinoamericano; The Kitchen; Missouri State University; NAACP; Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce; OACAC; Praise Assembly; Springfield Public Schools; Springfield Remanufacturing Corporation; United Way of the Ozarks; Victory Mission.

A newly-created Neighborhood Advisory Council also began meeting in 2012. Representatives from all neighborhood associations meet quarterly with Zone Council members to discuss and share ideas.

In the West Central neighborhood, citizens joined with City planners, business owners and potential developers to create a new vision for the College Street Corridor, an area located along College and Olive Streets, between Grant Avenue and Kansas Expressway. The result was a collaborative revitalization plan that includes a renewed celebration of the City’s Route 66 history.

Voices Matter

Springfield residents did not stop at just taking interest in improving their own neighborhoods, but went on to advocate and voice their opinions about a wide variety of Springfield issues.

City Council meetings saw an unprecedented amount of involvement from community members, including one meeting that drew more than 500 citizens. With council topics ranging from decriminalization of marijuana, sexual and gender identity, and planning and zoning discussions, community members were very involved in the civic process this year.

City staff enhanced the dialogue process by adding additional ways for citizens to engage with officials and one another. Many meetings were both live streamed on the City’s website and discussions shared through enhanced and additional social media sites. Civic engagement web portals also allowed citizens to vote on their favorite ideas for roadway improvements or make suggestions.

In addition to taking input from the public through open meetings and online dialogue, various committees and task forces were formed to address issues ranging from sales tax to stormwater. There were more opportunities than ever for citizens to participate in local government and community initiatives.

Below are just a few examples:

A Student Advisory Council comprised of student leaders from the city’s colleges and universities met quarterly with General Seat Councilpersons and the Mayor to share their insights on issues affecting youth. Identifying teen homelessness as an issue they would like to get involved with, the group did a clothing drive for The Rare Breed on all campuses.

A Citizens’ Sales Tax Oversight Committee continued to oversee spending and investments from sales tax revenues. Members ensure that the transactions are being handled appropriately and provide reports every year. In 2012, the committee has given another “clean” report to City Council.

In another endorsement of the City’s responsible use of tax dollars, citizens voted by 82% to renew the 1/8-cent Transportation Tax.

The choice of roadway improvement projects was influenced by long-standing priorities reflected in citizen surveys. About 1600 citizens participated in a transportation survey asking which projects were deemed most important. In the 2011 community survey, traffic flow was identified as the top concern, which is reflected in the projects chosen for the upcoming ¼-cent Capital Improvements Tax renewal.

Three citizen-driven groups are helping ensure the community has a sustainable future:

• The Springfield-Greene County Stormwater Management Task Force is working to address the federally-mandated requirement of additional stormwater controls within urban developments.

• The Springfield-Greene County Environmental Mandate Affordability Task Force has the challenging task of reviewing and evaluating the Missouri Department of Natural Resources’ current “community affordability” framework and making any recommendations for changes. The task force consists of representatives from many stakeholder groups, all of whom will be impacted by the level of community affordability determined for our city, county and utility.

• The Green Building Task Force is working for balanced solutions for green building construction practices appropriate for the local market. They are currently investigating and evaluating green building policies and procedures and costs.

With the City taking many proactive steps to ensure sustainability and address regulatory compliance, it’s not surprising the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Natural Resources have each referred to Springfield as a “model” community.

Other task forces beginning or continuing in 2013 include: Animal Issues; Park Central; and Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity.
Lee Grover  
Rescue & Salvage Specialist  
Fire – 01/12/98

Jack Ryan  
Parks Maintenance Equipment Crew Leader  
Parks – 01/12/98

James Brown  
Lead Aircraft Line Services Technician  
Airport – 01/06/03

Tina Stob  
Senior Designer  
Public Works – 01/12/03

Chelsea Maslowsky  
Police Officer  
Police – 01/26/03

Jake Williams  
Airline Service Lead Agent  
Airport – 01/06/08

Karen Ostby  
Police Services Representative  
Police – 01/06/08

Tony D’Andrea  
Police Officer  
Police – 01/07/08

Jeff Coover  
Team Leader  
Public Works – 01/07/08

Joseph Woods  
Equipment Operator III  
Environmental Services – 01/08/08

Micky Buchanan  
Utility Worker  
Parks – 01/22/08

Lucinda Hodges  
911 Communicator  
Emergency Communications – 01/22/08

Walt Neely  
Fire Marshal – 01/12/98

Mike Hurley  
Fire Marshal – 01/12/98

Sybil Brauer  
Senior 911  
Telecommunicator  
Emergency Communications – 24 years

Welcome
Tequila Jackson  
Custodian – Art Museum
Johnny Mansker  
Concession Supervisor – Parks
Jill Petersen  
Workforce Development Specialist – Workforce Development
Mark Stiles  
Right-of-Way Agent – Public Works

Lee Grover  
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Jill Petersen  
Workforce Development Specialist – Workforce Development
Mark Stiles  
Right-of-Way Agent – Public Works

Looking to buy older, country music books or sheet music in good condition. Also looking to buy gently used banjo or violin. Call Kathy, 619-5511 or 881-2591 to leave message with call back number.

FOR SALE
Ipod Touch (8GB) for sale. Like new! $125  
Call Peggy 880-5602

2002 Mercury Grand Marquis, Excellent Condition. 92,000 miles. $5,500.  
If interested call 766-1550.

1955 Chevy Bel-Air, 2 door-post $20,000.00  
-rebuilt 327 small block V8, small cam  
-newly rebuilt Holley 650 double pumper  
-New front wheel cylinders  
-New front right wheel bearing  
-3 speed automatic transmission  
-True dual exhaust (headers & glass packs)  
-all original (except motor, steering wheel, interior, and rear end (ford 9 in./4-11 gears))  
-4 brand new tires

3 quiet, wooded acres between Greenfield and Stockton lake off HWY H. Electric to site, just need a meter. Corner lot on private gravel road. 5 minutes to Ruark Bluff campsites and boat ramp. Walk to public land access. Great deer hunting. No long term camping, land has covenants. Call Jim @ 827-0745 for details and questions. $9,000.00

For sale by owner; bi-level, custom-built, brick and wood frame home. Sits on three acre wooded lot in exclusive southwest Springfield neighborhood with four fireplaces, four and a half baths, six bedrooms, two decks, four living room areas and two formal dining rooms, two full kitchens, two laundry rooms and a two-car attached garage. Also has an unattached, finished four-car garage with loft workshop. Owner asking $265,000, which is $34,000 less than real estate company would ask. Call Kathy at 619-5511 or 881-2591 to leave a message with call back number.  

Attractive ranch style home with partial brick front. Fireplace in large living room, large country kitchen, utility room, two full bathrooms, three bedrooms and computer room. Two car attached garage, large fenced backyard with storage shed and back yard deck. Located in a nice neighborhood at 1238 E. Berkeley, near Mercy Hospital. Call Karla at 550-0991.

SERVICES
Custom sewing of all types, and basic alterations. Call Lauren at 724-0097 after 4 p.m. or leave a message.

Everyone deserves legal protection. With Legal Shield you have it. Everyone living under your roof is covered. For traffic tickets and accidents, Legal Shield will represent you in court and achieve the best options available to you. It’s included. You, your spouse and teen drivers are all covered. Welcome to peace of mind. Visit www.legalslidh.com for more information. For City of Springfield employees it is only $15.95/mo. Contact John for more information or to sign up. 861-0323.

Stephanie Chase Cleaning Service  
“Professional House Cleaning”  
License and Insured  
299-9034 | Stephaniechase18@gmail.com  
References upon request.
JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1 Erin Kinzinger
   Richard Noble
   Roy Roberson
   Jillian Wokurka

2 Tatem Dewitt
   David Messenger
   Tommy Nguyen
   Brian Smith

3 Keith Ball
   Steven Bintz
   Tom Dyer
   Virgil Hollis
   Larry McKnight
   Stephanie Still

4 Ryan Acker
   Mary Ellison
   Lydia Hedden
   Nicholas Saverino
   Mackenzie Stubberman

5 Jeffrey Henson
   Joshua Johnson
   Michael Leffler
   William Smart
   James Stacy
   Martha Weaver

6 James Deckard
   Sandy Goss
   Karen Herron
   Sue Kessler

7 Matthew Fields
   John Habibi
   Lisa Husted
   Blaire Peters
   Robert Scott
   Gregory Slentz
   Stefanie Vochater
   Donna Whitfield

8 Jerry Bullinger
   Kara Daniel
   Jason Holland
   Elizabeth Jones
   Scott Jones
   Jason Trusler
   Terry Whaley

9 Robin Beck
   Daniel Dulany
   Heather Ferrier
   Monica Layton
   Nick Nelson
   Tyler Palmer
   Steven Ramey
   Pamela Thompson

10 Daniel Conlan
    Emali Kimker
    Michaela O’Neill
    Andrew Parsons

11 Renee Evans
    Andrew Houser
    Megan Jolley
    April Marler
    Katherine Perryman
    Daniel Rankey
    Randall Whitman

12 John Ackerman
    Thomas Dean
    Ethan Evans
    Cathy Gaw
    Fred Marty
    Christopher Sharp
    Bradley Shryer

13 Bob Belote
    Robert Eggers
    Julie Nelson
    Heather Strange
    Nancy Yeomans

14 Sophronia Bradford
    Jeffrey Burnett
    Mark Epps
    Zaneta Gann
    Justin Hughes
    Hannah Lewis
    James Montgomery
    Kenneth Smith

15 Mary Collier
    Joshua Curnutt
    Darran Kinney

16 Gower Anderson
    Pam Cummings
    Mark Delozier
    Kay Greenlee
    Scott Hartford
    Tequila Jackson

Cindy Leven
Clara Porter
Kevin Turner

17 Harrison Anderson
    Gilbert Correa
    Sarah Dewitt
    Christopher Dockins
    Daniel Tindle
    Jacob Wells

18 Cecil Cameron
    Eric Claussen
    Leah Hamilton
    Scott Ranykowski
    Tom Luellen
    Luz Melendez
    Robert O’Quinn
    Ally Walsh

19 Troy Curtis
    Jose Leal
    Wade McElfresh
    Jeff Ruth
    Cody Stice
    Nathan Thomas
    Albert Valdivia
    Darren Whisnant
    Kimberly White

20 Meagan Bell
    Cameron Bland
    Joyce Brake
    Kyle Douglas
    Kim Talbot

21 Michael Batson
    Dorothy Conroy
    Janna Crain
    Rex Frieze
    Patrick Planer
    Anton Pleshka
    Michael Snider

22 Leslie Davis
    Brenda Sanders
    Julieta Villines
    Nathan Waltz

23 Shasta Beckers
    Floyd Harvill
    Vicki Hilton
    Richard Keil
    Maggie McDowell
    Darla Morrison

24 Jody Austin
    Jonathan Bartel
    Kimberly Castillo
    Brian Davis
    Kari Epperson

25 Arlie Becker
    Kelly Evans
    Matthew Morris
    Caleb St. Clair

26 Kenneth Champlin
    Jeffrey Clemens
    Matthew Godwin
    Jo Johnston
    Karen Jones
    Candace Ramage
    Annette Riley
    Steve Schwind
    Derek Williams

27 Matthew Engel
    Alex Hodge
    James Knott
    Shane Lumley

28 Jordan Hicks

29 Howard Bankson
    Darrell Bergeson
    Jeff Cumley
    Cassie Donahue
    Mark Priebe
    Robert Richardson

30 Bonnie Douglas
    Steve Matthews
    Clyddie McRimmons
    Michael Peskar
    Kendall Sawyer
    Heather West

31 Bryan Loughridge
    Harold Milliron
    Christopher Peak
    Dave Shalla
    Kenneth Vernetti
    Wayne Zelenik
SPD ramps up social media presence

The Springfield Police Department announces the official launch of a new social media platform, a first in the history of the SPD, and one that falls in line with the City of Springfield’s communication plan stressing the importance of communicating clearly and quickly with citizens.

The SPD invites you to look at the sites, which have been created for you to view the content and information available only to those who follow the SPD.

www.twitter.com/sgfpolice
www.facebook.com/sgfpolice
www.youtube.com/sgfpolice

Further improvements in SPD citizen and media relations will continue as Cora Scott, Director of Public Information & Civic Engagement, steps in as interim Public Affairs Officer upon Corporal Matt Brown’s departure for deployment in Afghanistan. Scott will work closely with Lt. Ben King to ensure communication efforts continue at the same level of service. Police Chief Paul Williams plans to replace Brown in the coming months and will begin a search later this month.

“...and adding this job to her already full plate as the City’s Director of Public Information and Civic Engagement,” said Chief Williams. “This will provide a smooth and seamless transition in our efforts to keep the public informed and sustain our high level of commitment to our media partners.”

FAMILY CENTER from page 1.

The Dan Kinney Family Center will offer fitness and dance classes, sports programs, access to personal trainers, childcare, health assessments, seminars, the Healthways SilverSneakers fitness program and Fitness on Demand, a new interactive group fitness video module with a limitless variety of programs.

The $5.2 million building project was made possible through the county-wide voter-approved Parks Sales Tax and bonding arrangements with Greene County. It was designed by Hood-Rich, Inc. and general contractor was Branco Enterprises, Inc. City Utilities of Springfield provided the land upon which Dan Kinney Family Park and Family Center sit through a long-term lease with the Park Board.

Individual, family and corporate memberships are available now. For membership information, call the Dan Kinney Family Center at 895-1500 or visit parkboard.org/dkfc.

Diversity@Work

Each year, on the third Monday of January, we reflect on the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. who brought hope and healing to America. The late Dr. King was born on January 15, 1929, in Atlanta, Georgia, and became the world’s best-known advocate of the civil rights movement. The King Holiday honors the values he taught us through his example of courage and peacefulness. Dr. King led a nation-wide community movement that achieved historic reforms to help make his belief in equality and fairness a reality. On this holiday, we commemorate his holistic message of peace.

Springfield opportunities to participate in events marking the Martin Luther King Jr. national holiday, observed January 21st, 2013, include the MLK march in the morning and the 15th annual Multicultural Festival. The MLK march begins at 9:30 a.m. Monday at the Mediacom Ice Park on E. Trafficway, moves west to the Martin Luther King Jr. Bridge, then north to Drury University where a speaker will address attendees. The 15th annual Multicultural Festival will be held at Juanita K. Hammons Hall for the Performing Arts in the afternoon from 12:00 to 4:00. Sponsored by the Missouri State University Office for Diversity and Inclusion, the Festival hosts more than 50 organizations from the area to showcase ethnically and culturally diverse parts of society. Performing groups along with exhibitors are included. Information about employment and volunteer opportunities, and resources for assistance will also be available. The City of Springfield will be represented at the Multicultural Festival by employees from Police, Fire, Workforce Development, and Human Resources.
Application for Council’s Vacant Seat Begins January 7

City Council will take applications 8 a.m. Monday, Jan. 7 – 5 p.m. Friday, Jan. 18, for the General D seat left vacant following Thomas Bieker’s Nov. 2 resignation. Whoever is appointed will serve the remainder of the term, which ends in April 2015.

Applications can be downloaded from www.springfieldmo.gov, but must be submitted in person to the City Clerk’s Office (Busch Municipal Building 4th Floor) during regular business hours 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. in order for the candidate to sign an affidavit attesting to their qualifications.

City Charter section 2.5 states that vacancies will be filled with a majority City Council vote and the appointee will serve in the position until the next regular city election. Mayor Bob Stephens said the process will be similar to the one used previously to fill vacancies. City Council will meet to discuss applications submitted and select finalists for in-person interviews.

Zim Schwartze named Director of Emergency Communications

The City of Springfield has named Zim Schwartze as the new Director of Emergency Communications (911). She replaces Becky Jungmann, who retired.

Schwartze will manage the activities of the Emergency Communications Department, which provides 911 services to 21 emergency response agencies within Greene County.

Schwartze comes to Springfield from Columbia, Missouri, where she served the City of Columbia for 20 years, including varied leadership roles in law enforcement, emergency dispatch communications, and emergency management.

Her anticipated start date is Jan. 14.

Annual financial audit released

City Council received an “unqualified” financial audit from the City’s independent auditing firm, meaning there were no qualifications or reservations expressed about the City’s financial reporting processes. That is the highest level of opinion given.

Mayor Bob Stephens said the process will be similar to the one used previously to fill vacancies. City Council will meet to discuss applications submitted and select finalists for in-person interviews.

Zim Schwartze

From the SCENE archives

10 years ago – January 2003
Construction Begins on New Car Park

Another piece of the Jordan Valley Park plan was put into place when ground was broken at the site of the upcoming Jordan Valley Car Park. The ceremony took place on the site of the former Greyhound lot, west of Hammons Tower. The $10.6 million Car Park will have 977 spaces, and is a vital piece of the economic engine now under construction.

20 years ago – December 1992
A Message from City Manager Tom Finnie

The Busch Municipal Building renovation was a success and will serve our citizens and our employees well, and will be an asset for the entire community.

Before this project was started, four goals were set for the architects, contractor and project manager:
• A building designed to work first and foremost for our customers. The first floor is a one-stop shopping center where 80-90% of our customers can take care of business.
• An open and friendly building. An extensive use of glass and open areas to signal that the public’s business is being done properly.
• Good working space for employees. It is tough to be friendly and positive when working conditions are seriously inadequate.
• Do it right the first time. This was an expensive project, but it was one-half the cost of a new building.

Christopher Walker
Computer Support Specialist
Chris has worked for the City for 9 months.

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

If they made a movie about your life, who would play you?
Robin Williams

What do you like most about your job?
The people I work for and with.

How would you change your name?
If I could put an exclamation mark at the end of my name to make it sound enthusiastic I would.

What would you put on your own gravesite?
Why are you reading this? Go out and live your life!!!

What can you do with a general when he stops being a general? Bing Crosby says, “Make him Deputy City Manager, ba ba ba boo.!”
Shaun Sigrest is
2012 EVT of the Year
SFD Emergency Vehicle Technician Shaun Sigrest has been selected as the 2012 Emergency Vehicle Technician of the Year through the IAFC and Fire Chief magazine. Shaun was selected from a highly qualified group of applicants for this year’s award, once again demonstrating how fortunate we are for him to be a part of our department.

Shaun will be presented his award in January at the Fire Department Safety Officer Association’s Apparatus Symposium in Orlando, Florida.

SFD Assistant Fire Chief completes international Designation Process
SFD Assistant Fire Chief David Pennington has successfully completed the process that awards him the professional designation of “Chief Fire Officer” (CFO). The Commission on Professional Credentialing (CPC) met on November 6, 2012, to officially confer the designation upon Chief Pennington. Chief Pennington is one of only 908 CFO’s worldwide.

Chief Pennington has been a member of the Springfield Fire Department for 15 years. He holds a Bachelors and Masters degree from Missouri State University.

Chief Pennington shares this distinction with City of Springfield Fire Chief and Executive Fire Officer (EFO) David Hall, who also received designation as CFO in 2012.

Kemper achieves D.WRE designation
Errin Kemper, Public Works, has been recognized by the American Academy of Water Resources Engineers for meeting the requirements for the Diplomate, Water Resources Engineer (D. WRE) designation.

The AAWRE is a non-profit organization formed to improve the practice, elevate the standards, and advance the profession of water resources engineering. The Academy created the D. WRE credential to provide engineers an opportunity to gain further recognition in the broad field of water resources engineering.

To: Director of Emergency Management Ryan Nicholls

On behalf of the Airport Board and the staff of the Springfield-Branson National Airport, I want to send my sincerest thanks to you and your staff for assisting with our stranded airline passengers on December 20, 2012.

One could reasonably argue that an overnight stay at an airport terminal does not rise to the level of “emergency.” It does, however, present an opportunity to offer comfort and hospitality. And that’s exactly what our two organizations did.

Here’s how one stranded passenger put it, while being interviewed by KY3 News: “Everyone here, they kind of embrace you. They’ll help you; we’ll take care of you.”

As that quotation vividly illustrates, our teamwork turned a negative experience into a positive. Years from now, when those passengers remember being stranded, they will have positive memories of Springfield and how they were treated.

My warmest thanks and good wishes,
Brian Weiler, AAE
Director of Aviation

“Back the Blue” shirts on sale to support SPD Cadets

“Back the Blue” t-shirts are now on sale to support the new Springfield Police Department Cadets. The classic SPD tshirt is available in short sleeve, long sleeve, and hooded sweatshirts.

Proceeds will benefit the Cadets in purchasing their badges and other program expenses.

For more information or to place an order email jconklin@springfieldmo.gov with quantity and size. All orders must be in by Jan. 18.

Vital Signs first edition

The Springfield-Greene County Health Department has released the inaugural edition of Vital Signs, a semi-regular snapshot of public health data. Each edition of Vital Signs will focus in-depth on a different topic relevant to the health and safety of the Springfield and Greene County community.

In Brief

Join us for the Grand Opening of the Dan Kinney Family Center

Saturday, Jan. 12
10:30 a.m. ribbon-cutting ceremony
2701 S. Blackman Rd.

Facility tours, equipment demo, open gym, kids’ activities and refreshments offered 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Longtime Parks Director Dan Kinney and family check out the new Dan Kinney Family Center.