“The Link” connects cyclists with Springfield

A ribbon-cutting and ceremonial bike ride was held on the afternoon of Sunday, May 15 to celebrate the opening of the first section of “The Link,” a new bicycle and pedestrian corridor that aims to connect greenway trails, existing bike routes and major activity centers in Springfield.

Cyclists from the SpringBike Bicycle Club and Ozark Greenways rode through the ribbon on Hammons Parkway and on to Hammons Field, where they rode around the warning track as a group between games of a double-header. The event also helped kick off the annual “Bike To Work Week” May 16-20.

The Link concept was created by and implemented by the Planning Department and Public Works Traffic Engineering. Avid cyclists Ralph Rognstad, Director of Planning and Development, and David Hutchison, Professional Engineer, are two of the project’s driving forces. Assistant City Planner Hannah Grubbs has also played a key role. The Link is a planned north-

Parks annual report shows growth, success

The Park Board held its second annual State of the Parks event in late April, where it released its 2010 Annual Report as well as findings from two key studies conducted over the last year: 2010 Visitor Spending/Economic Impact totals for key athletic events and 2010 Program/Event Attendance Totals.

The annual report highlighted the new Springfield-Greene County Botanical Center and other park properties opened last year, along with a financial statement and other key information. Updates also were given for current in-progress projects throughout the county-wide system for 2011.

The Park Board continued its trend of growth throughout the park system, with 2,755,793 county residents and visitors passing through its gates and doors for the past year through athletic events, family center usage, School-Park programs, pools and a number of other areas. This is an increase of 517,958 (23 percent) from 2009 reported attendance totals.

More than an estimated 4 million additional passive park users are not included in the figure, which include passive or walk-up use of departmental parks, facilities or other related park system amenities.

In 2010, 35 major athletic events directly connected

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The Link is not a series of bike lanes. Rather, it is an attempt to create a route where drivers and cyclists are expected to share traffic lanes.

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Ground broken on new training center

A groundbreaking ceremony was held May 5 for the Springfield Regional Police-Fire Training Center.

The training center will be built as an addition to the City of Springfield’s joint South District Police Station/Fire Station No. 6 located at 2620 W. Battlefield Road.

The $4.5 million project will provide modern training facilities and classrooms have been scattered across the region. Springfield’s police and firefighting forces have lacked adequate training facilities for decades.

The new training center will provide classroom equipped with the latest technology and equipment for both classroom learning and practical application. The Police Department will be able to simulate domestic situations and other environments in which police officers may find themselves. Firefighters will be able to use practical props for hands-on fire training. For the first time, all of these facilities will be in one place and located next to classrooms, so that academy recruits and current employees can move quickly from classroom to practical training. Until now, these facilities and classrooms have been scattered across the city in whatever space has been available.

The project is expected to be complete by June 2012. Funding comes from the voter-approved Level Property Tax.

Hints from the Help Desk

How to determine your mailbox size

The easiest way to find out the size of your mailbox is to log into the Web access version of Office Outlook. Hover over the mouse over the name of the mailbox and a popup will let you know the mailbox space used. Remember that most of the e-mails contributing to size comes from Sent Items, Deleted Items, and Inbox.

A more cumbersome way to do this is to right click on the mailbox in Outlook. Go to “Properties - lastname, firstname.” Click on the Folder Size button under the General tab. Keep in mind, you get 245 megs in your Exchange account. (This limit doesn’t include your Personal folders.)

Ordering Computer Supplies

When you order computer supplies from the Helpdesk, please include your fund/org at the time of ordering. Also, please pick up your supplies as quickly as you can. Storage space is limited and we need you to pick up your items when you receive the Cherwell Closed e-mail that is sent to you when your supplies arrive. Thank you for you help in this regard.

Improve yourself! Lynda.com training is in full swing.

The response has been quite remarkable. With the freedom to take the course of your choice (of which there are many), the freedom to take the course from any location that has Internet connectivity, and the availability to login whenever you have a few free minutes during your assigned week, this system has had many positive reviews. This resource is free to all departments as Information Systems is paying the bill.

For questions or to take advantage of this offer, simply call the helpdesk at 864-1111 or email helpdesk@springfieldmo.gov. It’s the best deal goin’!
burris: fy12 budget now before council

the city’s fiscal year 2012 budget is now before city council for consideration. council conducted workshops through may 19 in order to dig into the details of the document and work through any suggested changes. the budget is scheduled to go to council for a first reading on may 31.

in our current budget year, we migrated from a “hiring freeze” to a “hiring frost.” this allows departments to refill vacancies that occur on or after march 1 on a one-for-one basis to provide some staffing relief to departments. previously vacant positions will remain “frozen” at this time to help us continue to weather the recession.

despite the 78 frozen positions in other departments, all uniformed police and fire positions were fully funded in fy10 and fy11. i encourage all police and fire uniformed personnel to thank the staff of other city departments that continue to endure frozen/vacant positions for their continuing sacrifice that allows police and fire to be fully staffed.

thus far during fy11, our revenues have exceeded our projections (mostly because of an increase in the payment in lieu of taxes (pilot) we received from city utilities, an increase in municipal court-related fines and fees, and an increase in use tax revenues). this allowed us to apply $1.5 million toward one-time expenses. council approved those expenditures on may 16, and we will move quickly to obligate those funds and provide a bit of relief to the backlog of budget needs that has amassed over the past two-and-a-half years.

i have been very public that my top priority for fy12 is to restore merit steps. thus, i am proposing that merit steps be reinstated in the fy12 budget (effective july 1, 2011). this will cost approximately $900,000 from the general fund. the reinstatement of merit steps will not be retroactive, and the funding of merit steps will be reviewed and considered on an annual basis. with our existing budget uncertainty, the reinstatement of merit step increases in fy12 does not guarantee merit steps will be funded in future years – this will be a year-to-year decision.

i am, however, also sensitive to those employees, specifically ftes, who are “topped out” at the last step of their salary grade. since salary and benefit costs constitute 78 percent of our general fund budget, we cannot afford an across-the-board salary increase in the fy12 budget. therefore, i am recommending a $1,000 increase at the last step of all salary grades. by recommending a fixed dollar amount instead of a percentage, this increase will have a greater percentage impact on those fte employees at the lower end of the pay scale.

other highlights of the proposed fy12 budget . . .

• the public works department will split into two separate departments effective july 1, 2011. traffic, transportation, storm water, street maintenance, construction inspection and general services will continue, along with the service center, to comprise the public works department. clean water services and solid waste will comprise the new environmental services department. while the two departments will continue to share some positions, this reorganization will be phased over multiple years.
• fill vacant positions that include an assistant fire chief in charge of training, a fire marshal, three police services representatives, two animal control officers, and support staff in the city attorney’s office, finance department, human resources and the municipal court.
• the proposed budget includes funding for career-laddering of employees in information systems, law, and municipal court per the career-laddering plan in effect in each of those departments.
• significant cuts were made to departments’ professional development budgets in both fy09 and fy10. the proposed fy12 budget restores some of these professional development funds, and i am hopeful we can continue to restore these cuts in future years. professional development must remain a priority.
• the employee wellness program was eliminated as part of the fy11 budget cuts. restoring the wellness program was identified as a priority in the recent employee survey. the proposed fy12 budget includes $50,000 to begin to re-establish this program, and i hope to add to this in future years. a new employee wellness committee will help determine how these funds can be allocated most effectively.
• the proposed fy12 budget includes an increase of $415,000 to our self-funded worker compensation fund. this is the fourth annual increase out of a seven-year commitment of annual increases in order to get this fund back on its feet after having a negative balance for many years. i am committed to restoring this fund to a healthy status.

the first portion of the link is now underway, running from doling park to phelps grove park. signs and marking are being installed now. two more planned legs of the link will connect to other greenways and activity centers in northwest and southeast springfield.

a complete map of the project can be found online at springfieldmo.gov/thelink. the areas in blue are scheduled to be complete by the end of 2012. the shaded areas will be completed as funding becomes available in subsequent years. funding comes from 1/4-cent sales tax for capital improvements.
Service Anniversaries
25 years
Chuck Collins
CAD Operations Coordinator
Emergency Communications – 05/19/86
Jack Dill
Supervisor Survey Operations
Public Works – 05/19/86
Kevin Routh
Police Major
Police – 05/06/86

20 years
Mark Brann
Survey Chief
Public Works – 05/25/91
Scott Kamykowski
Police Sergeant
Police – 05/20/91
Duane Mumm
Heavy Equipment Technician
Public Works – 05/07/91
Eddie Stroud
Police Officer
Police – 05/19/91
J. R. Webb
Assistant Director Emergency Communications – 05/22/91

10 years
Jenny Deppe
Litigation Paralegal
Law – 05/07/01
Paula Leggett
Police Services Representative
Police – 05/06/01
David Mills
Firefighter
Fire – 05/28/01
Ted O’Neill
Superintendent of Solid Waste
Public Works – 05/07/01
Rebecca Quinn
Program Compliance Coordinator
Workforce Development – 05/16/01

5 years
Rinda Dunn
Public Health Nurse
Health – 05/13/06
David Johnson
911 Telecommunicator
Emergency Communications – 05/16/06
Hannah Grubbs
Assistant City Planner
Planning and Development – 05/30/06

Stephen Slatkavitz
Aircraft Services Specialist
Airport – 05/22/06
Corine Stewart
Police Services Representative
Police – 05/08/06

Welcome
Cheryl Blevins
Community Health Nurse – Health
Evelyn Platz
Workforce Development Specialist – Workforce Development
Laura Wingo
Public Health Investigator – Health
Dustin Martin
Community Health Nurse
Melissa Mau
911 Telecommunicators – Emergency Communications
Tanika Nevills
Court Services Representative – Municipal Court
Daniel Romine
Craftworker – Airport
John Choate
Maintenance Worker – Public Works
Jason Hoag
Aircraft Services Specialist – Airport

Promotions
Cynthia Koenneker
Senior Workforce Development Specialist – Workforce Development
Gary Smith
GIS Analyst – Information Systems

Retirements
Gary Cyr
Director of Aviation
Airport – 16 years
Alexander Montgomery
Fire Captain
Fire – 25 years
Bruce Murrell
Multimedia Coordinator
Public Information – 16 years
Joan Townsend
Police Services Representative
Police – 17 years
Jonathan White
Rescue & Salvage Specialist
Fire – 25 years
David Zuhlke
Police Sergeant
Police – 27 years

For Sale
Glass perfume bottle collection; mostly small bottles, have some older Avon bottles too. Buy all as a group (approximately 52 to 55 bottles) or individually. Reasonably priced at $3 each or buy the complete collection for $100 Call Kathy at 619-6511 or leave a call back message at 881-2591.

Coffee … the world’s favorite beverage! Julia’s Java Gourmet Coffee offers a large variety of fresh roasted coffees. Visit www.juliasjava.com or call 882-6344 for a brochure.

2008 Nissan Armada LE 4x4 seats eight, loaded, 24,000 mi., factory war. till 10/2012. $94,200. For details call Kevin at 872-7294.

Girl’s Bicycle for sale. Make-Diamond Back; Model-Wildwood; Color-Gold/White. $150. Call Rose at 877-9499.

Visioneer flatbed scanner, model 9420, USB Driver and Software disk included, $25. Newcomb 4-harness weaving loom, 45” wide, $700. Call Phil at 848-8450.


Ruger, 12 gauge over and under shotgun, 28” barrel, less than 1 box of shells fired in it. Call Jerry at (816) 229-1496.

Yardman Riding Lawn Tractor, 50-inch cut, 22 hp gas motor; reduced to $499. Runs great - still in use. Call to see. 882-6583.

Bach student trombone in good shape with extra mouthpiece, cleaning kit, slide lube, hard case, etc. $250 OBO (paid $750). Call David at 299-5140.

David’s Bridal flower girl dress, size 2T, white satin, empire waist, sleeveless with shoulder straps, white tulle over satin skirt, removable pink sash. New $85, asking $45. Call Kathy Hardt at 869-7706 for info and/or picture of dress.

Homemade Goats Milk Soap. Made with essential oils especially for moisturizing and skin care. Contact Steve Brawn at 299-0556 AFTER 5pm daily, or visit www.stegsfarm.com to view and order.

Meat Rabbits, $8 each. Call Tina at 818-7017.

Do you have something to sell or a service to offer? Advertise it for free in the SCENE. Call Mike Brothers at 864-1119 or send an e-mail to thescene@springfieldmo.gov.
### MAY BIRTHDAYS

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**Abbreviations**

- 911: Emergency Comm.
- AIR: Airport
- ART: Art Museum
- BDS: Building Dev.
- CC: City Clerk
- CM: City Manager
- EM: Emergency Mgt.
- FN: Finance
- FR: Fire
- HL: Health
- HR: Human Resources
- IS: Info. Systems
- LAW: Law
- MC: Municipal Court
- OGS: Ozark Greenways
- PRK: Parks
- PDV: Planning & Dev.
- DPI: Public Information
- POL: Police
- PW: Public Works
- WD: Workforce Dev.
MILESTONES: JUNE 2011

Service Anniversaries

35 years
Richard Miller  
Senior Designer  
Information Systems – 06/06/76

25 years
Richard Dekker  
Traffic Controls Working Leader  
Public Works – 06/30/86
Richard Dutcher  
Parks Maintenance Supervisor  
Parks – 06/09/86
Robert Felber  
Custodian  
Art Museum – 06/24/86
Bill Morrow  
Equipment Operator II  
Public Works – 06/03/86
Tri Nguyen  
Computer System Administrator  
Emergency Communications 06/10/86
Judy Rowell  
911 Telecommunicator  
Emergency Communications 06/09/86
Naaman White  
Traffic Controls Worker II  
Public Works – 06/29/86

10 years
Jodi Daniel  
Coordinator of Epidemiological Services  
Health – 06/11/01
Kevin Houseman  
Airport Police Officer  
Airport – 06/27/01
Wendy Jenkins  
Airport Customer Service Representative  
Airport – 06/18/01

5 years
Cody Allen  
Parks Caretaker  
Parks – 06/12/06
Troy Crawford  
Equipment Technician  
Parks – 06/19/06
Amy Davis  
911 Telecommunicator  
Emergency Communications – 06/26/06
James Felin  
Maintenance Worker  
Parks – 06/12/06
Dean Freeman  
Equipment Operator II  
Public Works – 06/10/06

Howard Curtis  
Rex Frieze  
David Minnehan  
Randy Rossner  
Michael Wade  
Fire Captains  
Fire – 06/03/91

Jewell Gardner  
Health Program Assistant  
Health – 06/10/06
Robert Graham  
Parks Caretaker  
Parks – 06/26/06
James Kelley  
Plant Operator II  
Public Works – 06/19/06
Thomas Kirby  
Parks Caretaker  
Parks – 06/19/06
Michael Lamkin  
Gardener  
Parks – 06/12/06
Mark Miller  
Building Maintenance Worker  
Airport – 06/19/06
Don Underwood  
Sign Fabricator  
Public Works – 06/25/06

Welcome
Sherry Willhoit  
Workforce Developer Specialist – Workforce Development
Lisa Curtis  
Tamara Kashirsky  
John Rose  
Michael Siepel  
911 Telecommunicators – Emergency Communications
David Hudson  
Maintenance Worker – Parks

Promotions
Cynthia Daniels  
Building Maintenance Worker – Public Works

Ernest Glenn  
Public Grounds  
Maintenance Supervisor – Public Works
Chris Koester  
Truck Company Captain – Fire
Matthew Roberts  
Senior Systems Administrator – Information Systems
Aaron Roy  
Fire Equipment Operator – Fire
Steven Sweeney  
Rescue & Salvage Specialist – Fire
Adam Turner  
Systems Administrator – Information Systems

Retirements
Patrick Colvard  
Parks Caretaker  
Parks – 15 years
Larry Forza  
Laborer  
Public Works – 29 years
Rebecca Quinn  
Program Compliance Coordinator  
Workforce Development – 10 years
Rodney Smith  
Police Officer  
Police – 21 years
Marty Thomas  
Public Grounds  
Maintenance Supervisor  
Public Works – 33 years

Now taking new clients at the Wild Hair Salon in Nixa. Located at 611 W. Mt Vernon St. Call 725-5450 and just ask for Sharayah (AKA: Nan).
Bass lessons: Electric bass guitar or acoustic upright. Electric: Country rock swing; Upright: bluegrass swing or rockabilly slap. I have two uprights so you don’t have to haul yours. Former Branson player. Call 838-3084.
New Indoor Swap Meet Now Open! Free Admission and Parking to the Public! Open every Saturday and Sunday 7 a.m. - 4 p.m., 1411 W. Kearney at Paint Games Plus (behind Dairy Queen). Vendors and individuals welcome. Call 866-8869 for both availability and pricing.
Do you have something to sell or a service to offer? Advertise it for free in the SCENE. Call Mike Brothers at 864-1119 or send an e-mail to thescene@springfieldmo.gov.
JUNE BIRTHDAYS

1  Erin Dowdy  POL
    Kris Heinrichs  PDV
    Lauren McLarty  PRK
    Celestine Onyango  HL
    Julie Williams  FR

2  Marc Becker  FR
    Cheryl Blevins  HL
    Rick Bookout  AIR
    John Brewer  POL
    Thomas Cordova  PW
    Michael Dayton  POL
    Larry Decker  PW
    Larry Haugness  PRK
    Matthew Lyon  FR

3  Heather Anderson  POL
    Scott Leven  POL
    Kelsey Barths  HR
    Linda Charles  PW
    Virgil Dake  PW
    Melissa Dudley  PW
    Everett Kelley  PW
    Randy Milnes  PW
    Alexandria Ozley  PW
    Kimberly Pinkert  PRK
    Brett Taylor  PRK
    Tammy Beeman  WD
    Deb Gillenwaters  HL
    Daniel Grant  PRK
    Kristen Pattie  PRK
    Melanie Williams  PRK
    Kathryn Steinhoff  PRK
    Deena Woolsey  PRK

4  David Burrell  PW
    Joshua Henson  FR
    Jennifer Penning  PRK
    Kevin Pierce  PRK
    Jody Smith  PRK
    Brenda Toler  CC
    Meghan Beard  PRK
    Willard Myers  PRK
    Renatta Peskar  POL
    James Sandbothe  FR
    Anne-Mary McGrath  PRK
    Jessica Nash  POL
    Philip Noah  FR
    Richard Tettenhorst  PRK

5  Kenneth Barstead  PW
    Kristi Bolli  PRK
    Timothy Gunn  POL
    Sherryl Lewellen  HL
    Zackery Russell  FR
    Sarah Buhr  ART
    Chantal Englerth  WD
    John Vangorkom  FR
    Randy Wells  AIR
    Kevin Benedict  POL
    Denise Bredfeldt  HL
    Steven Langguth  HL
    Caryn McAdoo  HL
    Cynthia Myers  POL
    Daron Wilkins  POL
    Bruce Clegg  AIR
    Kenneth Hall  PRK
    Ann Razer  HR
    Janice Smith  FN

6  James Dryer  PRK
    Roger Hall  PRK
    Christopher Hollan  PRK
    Todd King  PRK
    Eric Marcel  PRK
    Jordan Miller  PRK
    Andrew Newman  PRK
    Laurie Orr  PRK
    Steven Pratt  PRK
    Larry Clark  WD
    Jason Halbert  PW
    Brenda Miller  PRK
    Molly Nutter  FR
    Kristen Riffle  PRK
    Allison Schepp  PRK
    Sandra Stangroom  PRK
    James White  PRK
    Lennis Marcotte  FR
    Cathy Morrow  ART
    Cindy Quayle  FR
    Cody Allen  PRK
    Mark Cobb  HL
    Chris Gardiner  PRK
    James Greer  FR
    Angela Huggins  PRK
    Shirley Johnson  MC
    Gerry Koeneman  PW
    Ashley Lodwick  PRK
    Sean McGruder  HL
    Larry Morgan  PW
    Bryce Park  PRK
    Randell Riley  AIR
    Casey Wilson  POL
    Jesse Furrow  AIR
    Troy Jordan  PRK
    Michael Ruizcka  PW
    Micah Tannery  FR
    James Webb  PRK
    Tracy Whipple  911
    Robert Woody  FR
    Amanda Eckley  PRK
    Colette Patton  PRK
    Jonathan Chamberlin  PRK
    Holly Garrison  PRK
    Kevin Godfrey  PW
    Chuck Marinec  BD
    Meagan Munholon  PRK
    Hendrik Voschenk  PRK
    Mike Evans  PRK
    Ralph Hayes  PRK
    Jeffrey Hilton  PRK
    James Nixdorf  PRK
    Cynthia Scheuer  ART
    Justin Thorn  POL
    James Blair  PRK
    Mandy Buettgen  PRK
    Eric Glasson  PRK
    Dustin Martin  PRK
    Charles Rupe  PRK
    Dana Swearingen  FN
    John Wilson  POL
    David Dees  PW
    Susan Galey  ART
    Patsy Gardner  PW
    Jacob Grubbs  PRK
    Mark Montgomery  PW
    Thomas Royal  POL
    Janae Atwood  PRK
    Kennon Ellison  PRK
    Kenneth Hillen  PW
    Tammy Johnson  PRK
    Jessica Louden  PRK
    Nathan Moyer  PRK
    Peter Prewitt  FR
    Cynthia Bennett  WD
    Ronald Braden  PRK
    John Bradford  PRK
    Mattie Munsey  POL

27  Matthew Brown  POL
    Brenda Cirtin  CC
    Jenny Deppe  LAW
    Andrew Essary  PRK
    Joseph Fearn  PRK
    Marti Fewell  PDV
    Mark Garner  PRK
    Jeffrey Holmes  PRK

28  Joseph Combs  PRK
    Matthew Hawkins  PW
    Jessica Lascer  PRK
    Everett McGuire  FR
    Bradley Nicholson  POL
    Marvin Ringgold  PW
    Justin Shaffer  PRK
    Natalie Vaughan  PRK

29  Chris Akins  DPI
    George Dye  PRK
    Patrick Holloway  PW
    Ted O’Neill  PW
    Takao Sears  AIR
    Brennan Wingert  PRK

30  Jeffrey Carroll  FR
    James Collins  PRK
    Hannah Eskina  PRK
    Nicole Fowler  PW
    Joseph Harpine  PDV
    Andy Iorg  FR
    Christi Norris  PW

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PRK  Parks
PDV  Planning & Dev.
DPI  Public Information
POL  Police
PW  Public Works
WD  Workforce Dev.
Changes to employee health plan detailed

As communicated in the past, the Health Plan has a provision that requires an automatic premium increase of 3 percent each July and another increase of 2 percent each January until the plan’s fund balance equals or exceeds the average amount of six months of claims. This reserve level is necessary to cover costs incurred but not yet paid and to be prepared for periods of unusually high or catastrophic claims. As of March 31, 2011, the reserve funding level was at five and a half months. Therefore, the funding is not at the six-month reserve level required to avoid the automatic premium increase of 3 percent in July.

While no one wants premium increases, the practice of periodic, routine increases has resulted in stability in funding of the City’s Health Plan during the recent economic downturn. Continuing to maintain an adequate level of reserve funding ensures that plan members will have their claims paid on time and according to the plan’s rules. It also means that should an individual plan member have a catastrophic health event, funds will be available to cover their eligible health expenses during a difficult time.

In July, the annual premium rate for each enrolled employee will be $2,316. Even though the City’s revenues have been significantly reduced and merit step pay increases have been frozen for the past two fiscal years, the City has continued to fund 100 percent of the employee’s portion of Health Plan costs. The City’s premium contributions, combined with employee’s premium payments for dependent coverage, have resulted in the ability of the Health Plan to keep pace with health care cost inflation.

Employees who have dependent health insurance coverage will see a deduction change on the June 2011 paychecks, which pays for July 2011 coverage.

An evolving issue that may have an additional impact on the City’s Health Plan is health care reform. While many of the details of the remaining provisions of the law are yet to be determined by federal regulators, employees should know that the City’s Health Insurance Committee, the City’s Health Plan consultant and Human Resources staff continue to review the legislation in detail to understand the law and its implications for future plan years. Employees will be updated as more is learned about the details of this law and how it may impact benefits. Any changes to the City of Springfield Health Plan will be communicated prior to the effective date of the change.

The Health Insurance Committee will also continue to monitor the plan’s revenue in comparison to the plan’s costs and update plan members periodically. In addition, the committee continuously looks for opportunities to offset or reduce costs whenever possible. Examples of these efforts include: regularly negotiating for discounts from providers (medical and prescription) and applying for government subsidy programs.

If you have questions, you may contact any of the following Health Insurance Committee members or Peggy Thompson, Senior Human Resources Specialist at 866-1608 or pthompson@springfieldmo.gov:

Committee members: Pat Carey, Police; Andrew McPherson, Police; Kevin Gipson, Health; Chris Miller, Airport; Kenny Huffman, Public Works, Jerry Mitchell, Parks; Joe Jones, Fire; Bob Monier, Fire; Randall Latch, Retiree; Chris Straw, Building Development Services; Sheila Maerz, Chair, Human Resources; Bob Schaefer, Retiree; Mary Mannix Decker, Finance; Peggy Thompson, Human Resources; Dan Wichmer, Law.

New rates effective July 2011

<table>
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<th>Coverage Type</th>
<th>Monthly Premium Rate</th>
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<tr>
<td>Employee</td>
<td>Change from $430 to $443 per month (100 percent City paid)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family</td>
<td>Change from $414 to 426 per month (deduction of $215 from first and second checks of each month)</td>
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Public Works Week declared in Springfield

Mayor Pro-Tem Bob Stephens proclaimed May 13-21 to be National Public Works Week in Springfield at a signing ceremony on May 17.

The theme for the 2011 National Public Works Week is “Public Works: Serving You and Your Community,” speaking to the all-pervasive effort of public works professionals and their projects, enhancing quality of life and providing the necessities of community to the citizens of the world.

The City of Springfield’s Department of Public Works has a strong tradition of outstanding leadership and accomplishment throughout the department. For example, the American Public Works Association annually presents a Top Ten Public Works Leaders of the Year Award. Since the program began in 1960, there have been a total of 500 Top Ten Leaders recognized by APWA, including 21 individuals from Missouri. Of the Missouri recipients, four have been from Springfield. Jonathan Gano was recognized as the Young Public Works Leader of the Year in 2010. Earlier this year, Randy Lyman joined Kevin Swarengin and Wayne Latimer as Public Works employees having received the Golden Manhole Award recognition for career-long accomplishments. In April, Phil Broyles and Bill Roach were recognized with Choose Environmental Excellence awards for their support of the city’s urban forest.

In addition, Public Works facilities have been recognized for outstanding work. The Southwest Wastewater Treatment Plant was recently named 2010 Plant of the Year by the Missouri Water Environment Federation. The National Association of Clean Water Agencies presented the Southwest Wastewater Treatment Plant with a platinum peak performance award (for 100 percent permit compliance for five consecutive years) and the Northwest Wastewater Treatment Plant with a gold peak performance award (for 100 percent permit compliance in 2010).

At the Public Works Departmental picnic on May 16, Co-Interim Directors Phil Broyles and Steve Meyer presented “Image Awards” to Public Works employees who have helped promote a positive image of the work done by the department.

Those winners from the past 12 months included: Terry Allen, Brad Smith, Christi Norris, Julia Snyder, Larry Teel, Craig Noblitt, Mike Ranev, Dustin Keyes, Mick Ruzicka, Keith Ball, Jonathan Gano, Stacy Bergmann, Scott Foley, Kelly Green, Rose Watson, Jason Haynes, Randy Reed, Carrie Lamb and Mark Ryan.
Important Dates

<table>
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<th>May 21 - Armed Forces Day</th>
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<tr>
<td>May 21 - Battle of the Badges Racing Series at Springfield Raceway</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 30 - Memorial Day, City offices closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 14 - Police/Fire retirees picnic, 4-8 p.m., Northwoods Park, Lake Springfield</td>
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Battle of the Badges

Springfield Police Department plays against the Greene County Sheriff’s Office in the annual Battle of the Badges charity basketball game at 6 p.m., May 21 at Kickapoo High. Tickets are available at bigbro.com and the first 100 people buying tickets online get a free pass to Hollywood Theaters. All proceeds benefit Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Ozarks.

Log onto MyMercy

There are new ways to access your healthcare information online, from both St. John’s and Med-Pay. Included with this issue of the SCENE is a document with more information about these resources. MyMercy is St. John’s portal to your electronic health records. By setting up your MyMercy account, you may communicate with your doctor, schedule appointments and access test results.

Electronic copies of your health plan explanation of benefits (EOB) documents from Med-Pay are also available online. EOB’s are issued each time a claim for a medical service is filed with Med-Pay. Once your log-in and password is obtained from Med-Pay, you may look up recent or past EOB’s via Med-Pay’s website.

Take a look at the insert included with this issue of the SCENE and use these tools to better manage your health.

You’re Somebody

The new phone books are here! The new phone books are here!

Each year during the month of May the new phone books arrive here at City Offices. On average we receive between 600 to 800 phone books. This translates to between 1,688 and 2,250 pounds of paper that needs to be recycled, which leaves the dilemma of what to do with the old ones, and how to recycle them appropriately?

This year we are asking all City employees to make an effort to recycle your outdated phone books by bringing them to the employee entrance of the Bushch Building. There is an area that will be designated for you to stack your phone books on the floor so they can be recycled.

We will be partnering with a local Girl Scout troop to pick up the old phone books as a service project for their organization. This will also make the workload and the recycle bins a little bit lighter this year for our Public Works staff. For more information call Sharon Spain at 866-1105. Any remaining phone books, including phone books from home, can still be recycled along with other office/mixed paper headed for the big green bin.

Sales tax update

The City’s May 2011 one percent sales tax check from the Missouri Department of Revenue is up 5.46 percent compared to May 2010. Revenue collected totaled $2,383,214 compared to $2,259,850 in May 2010. Year-to-date, sales tax revenue for Fiscal Year 2011 is 1.96 percent above the previous year. Year-to-date collections total $32,800,645 compared to $32,170,938 in 2010 — a difference of about $630,707.

Kids Fishing Day

Join an action-packed morning of activities including casting, knotting and fish identification at the annual Kids Fising Day Fun Day, 8:30 - 11:30 a.m., June 4. Put that knowledge to use fishing for bluegill and catfish. You’ll participate in a postevent weigh-in and the staff from the Missouri Department of Conservation will clean your catch for you to take home for dinner! Pre-register for all the details.

For more information call Sportsman’s Park Center, 866-1352.

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.

Tony Smith
Police Officer,
Police Department.
Tony has worked for the City for more than 14 years.

What’s your most satisfying assignment while working at the SPD? The 5-and-a-half years I was assigned to the Training Section/Rangemaster. I love teaching and miss it.

What is your basic rule for dealing with people in your capacity as a Police Officer? Treat everyone decently and with respect, unless/until they give me a reason to treat them otherwise.

What do you like most about your job? Thinking on my feet and the people I work with (mostly).

What are you most proud of? My wife and children.

What’s the one thing about you most people don’t know? I’m a computer geek (Mac). I love teaching.

What will St. Peter say when you reach heaven? He has to wait in line; I’m talking to Jesus first.

From the SCENE archives

20 Years Ago - May 1991

• Dan Kinney was quoted as saying the volunteer organization Friends of the Zoo started with just tee-shirts and balloons, but has become an integral part of maintaining the Zoo making it a wholesome, educational, and recreational place to visit.

• Public Works employee Sergeant Major Jess Abney was recommended for the Legion of Merit Award based on super meritorious service and exemplary leadership while serving as the Sergeant Major of Warrior Training Battalion, Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, California. from January 15 to April 1, 1991.

10 Years Ago - May 2001

• Employee Survey Results showed 80 percent of employees were satisfied with their jobs and 74 percent were satisfied working for the City of Springfield. The return rate on the survey was 58 percent of employees.
The **Southwest Wastewater Treatment Plant** received the 2010 Treatment Plant of the Year Award for plants treating more than 5 million gallons of wastewater per day. The SWTP is designed to treat 43 million gallons per day with peaks of up to 150 million gallons during heavy rain events. The plant was given this honor based on outstanding operations and maintenance, and a track record of consistent compliance. Public Works employees accepted the award from the Missouri Water Environment Federation earlier this year (pictured).

**Randy Lyman**, PW Environmental Compliance Officer, was given the 2011 Golden Manhole Award, an honor recognizing his 39 years of exceptional professional service. Selection is based on contributions individuals have made to the operation, maintenance or design of collection systems, with an emphasis on pride, safety, teamwork, education, professionalism and leadership.

**Errin Kemper** and **Todd Wagner** of the Public Works Stormwater Services Division have both passed the Certified Stormwater Managers test. This is a relatively new certification that was developed by the American Public Works Association. The test and certification are aimed at stormwater professionals who have broad knowledge of community stormwater management, including stormwater engineering, water quality protection and capital improvement program management.

The Community Partnership of the Ozarks’ Task Force on Gangs and Youth Violence hosted a recognition ceremony for the Graffiti Reporting Program on April 21. City employees were among those receiving certificates for their involvement in the program. **Nathan Huggins** with Information Systems was recognized for his help in training and providing handheld GPS units for the participants. **Sgt. Justin Gargus** and **Cpl. Tatem Dewitt** of the Springfield Police Department were recognized for their assistance with identifying gang graffiti. **Claudia Crighton**, Public Information Department, was recognized for assistance with reporting the graffiti. In the program’s first year, 549 incidents of graffiti at 126 locations were reported.

In April 22 edition of the News-Leader, the Health Department’s **Animal Control Section** received a rose from Lynn O’Toole of Walnut Grove. Ms. O’Toole gave the rose to Springfield Animal Control for saving the lives of 92.8 percent of all dogs picked up this year through their hard work in locating owners and working with licensed rescues.

**Lisa Lee**, Public Health Investigator II

**To: Police Chief Paul Williams**

Police Services Representative **Julie White** called today stating Judith Mear spoke with her in reference to a stolen vehicle. PSR White stated Ms. Mear said, "**Officer Tom Savard** was like a bulldog and he wasn’t going to give up. He was relentless after the suspect. He was knee-deep in the mud trying to catch the suspect. She likes this kind of community service.”

**Francene Marchant**, Executive Assistant, SPD
Don’t wait for bloodwork and other lab results. Get them any time of day or night through MyMercy.
Med-Pay, the City of Springfield Health Plan’s third party administrator, provides on-line access to your medical claims history via www.Med-Pay.com. To initiate access, you must first contact Med-Pay’s Customer Service to receive your log-in information. Once you have this information, click on the “For Employees” tab on the web site and then click on the “My Med-Pay Data” link in the top right corner of the main white area.

Should you have problems with or questions about accessing your on-line claims information, you may call Med-Pay’s Customer Service Department at 417-886-6886.

Here are some features of Med-Pay’s web site:

- Access to your claims information is available on-line 24 hours a day and 7 days per week through the My Med-Pay Data link.
  - Access to the past three years of medical claims history.
  - Claims information for you and any family member who is covered under the City of Springfield Health Plan is accessed under your login and password. You will see the online Explanation of Benefits (EOB) for any persons for which you would have received an Explanation of Benefits in the mail.

- Fillable claim and accident questionnaire forms that can be submitted on-line.

- Printable forms that can be filled out and mailed or faxed.

- Helpful Hints, Claims Filing Instructions, Frequently Asked Questions are available.

- Order a replacement ID card; change of address request; precertification; general inquiries, etc.