Council Budget Workshops begin May

The Springfield City Council will use its Tuesday, May 1, lunch meeting to hold the first of several workshops to discuss the Fiscal Year 2013 Proposed Annual Budget. The meeting begins at noon in the 4th floor conference room of the Busch Municipal Building.

Two more Council workshops are scheduled for noon, May 1, 8, and 15.

City Manager Greg Burris submitted a proposed budget to Council, available online at springfieldmo.gov. The proposed budget is put forth by the City Manager with extensive input from City staff. The workshops allow City Council time to discuss and consider the budget in detail and put forth any suggested changes. Council must approve a final budget before the new fiscal year begins on July 1.

The proposed budget is summarized in the City Manager’s budget message to Council members at the beginning of the document. In it, Burris said sales tax revenue, the City’s primary source of revenue, has experienced a gain of 7% compared to the year before. However, while some of the increase is made up of growth in sales, it also includes one-time payments and increases due to Department of Revenue improvements in processing payments. Monitoring the top 100 taxpayers has given the City information to factor into the 2013 budget, an estimated real growth of 4%.

Use tax revenue was up 9%, but primarily as the result of one-time payments. Revenue from fees and fines, and payments in lieu of taxes (PILOT) from City Utilities fell short of budget and are budgeted to remain flat next year.

“I’m happy to report that 75% of the General Fund discretionary monies are proposed to be invested in you – our workforce. This includes continuation of merit step increases and an across-the-board pay increase of 1.5% for all eligible employees.”

Survey results indicate City is getting it right

Most Springfield residents are well satisfied with the city services, according to a survey by Kansas City-based ETC Institute. The survey shows citizen priorities remain much the same, with traffic flow, street maintenance and infrastructure needs topping the list.

Fire and Police polled best; traffic ranked last. The 2011 survey showed 70% of residents rated the quality of city services as good or very good. The average in other cities in Kansas and Missouri was just 54%. Nationally it was 57 percent.

A total of 868 residents from all parts of the city completed the survey, giving it a margin of error of plus/minus 3.3% with a 95% certainty.

An unusually high response rate may illustrate that citizens believe their voices matter, said Chris Tatham, ETC vice president, and that by filling out the survey, they can make a difference.

Bottom Line Results ETC Reported:
• The City is moving in the right direction.
• Composite Customer Satisfaction Index: up 7% since 2008.
• Citizen “Overall Satisfaction” rated 16% above the Missouri/Kansas average, and 19% above the national average.
• Progress was made on items that citizens considered priorities.

Information from the survey will be used in the development of a strategic communication plan, as well as other service delivery initiatives. For full survey results, visit springfieldmo.gov/surveys/index.html.
Park Board names Bob Belote Director of Parks

The Springfield-Greene County Park Board named Bob Belote as Director of Parks, effective May 6, 2012. Belote, 49, has served as Interim Director of Parks since the November 2011 retirement of former director Jodie Adams. He was Assistant Parks Director for the Springfield-Greene County Park Board 2006-2011, assisting in the development and implementation of capital programs included in the voter-approved 2006 Parks Sales Tax and leading numerous departmental initiatives. Belote also served as Superintendent of Recreation 2004-2006.

“Bob is outstanding in his field, recognized and respected by the recreation industry. He’s from here, he lives here, he knows how this community works and he can collaborate with anybody,” said Jerry Clark, chair of the Park Board.

“Bob’s resume speaks for itself. He served as Director of Parks and Recreation for two other cities before returning to us in 2004. He’s been our Assistant Director for six years, and during that time has worked closely with the Park Board. We’re impressed by his collaborative leadership style and his ability to work with our more than 200 partners.”

The Springfield-Greene County Park Board is one of four city-county departments, and the appointment of the Director of Parks is the responsibility of the Park Board itself. City of Springfield and Greene County leaders commended the Park Board’s selection.

“I think Bob is the right fit for the Parks Department at this point in its history,” said Greg Burris, Springfield City Manager. “We are blessed with an outstanding Parks program, and Bob possesses institutional knowledge of the department, greatly appreciates that history, and is focused on listening to our citizens as we plan our future. As we near the Park Board’s 100-year anniversary, we’re lucky to have him leading Parks into our next 100 years.”

A native of Springfield, Belote spent 12 years managing parks departments in Missouri and Iowa before returning to Springfield in 2004, including: Director of Parks and Recreation, City of Independence, Mo., 1998-2004; Director of Parks and Recreation, City of Sioux City, Iowa, 1997-1998; and Assistant Parks Director, City of Blue Springs, Mo., 1992-97.

Belote was also the Youth Baseball Program Director for the Springfield-Greene County Park Board in 1989 and served a graduate-level internship with Parks in 1988.

“I’m really proud to have this special opportunity,” said Belote. “The best things about our Parks system are the people who use it and the great partners and groups that our staff has the privilege of working with. I’m really looking forward to celebrating the Park Board’s centennial in 2013 with our community.”

Belote said the appointment is an honor, especially having grown up in the Park system and been mentored by former directors Dan Kinney and Jodie Adams.

Hints from the Help Desk

Phishing and Spam!

Phishing is a form of unsolicited commercial email. Whereas all spam is not a scam, all attempts at phishing are scams and it is a way of attempting to acquire information about you, whether it is usernames, passwords, or credit card details, all masquerading as a trustworthy entity in an electronic communication. DO NOT give personal information about yourself to any suspecting email requests.

Spam is all that unwanted email not wanted by anyone!

Here, at the City, we do have a spam filter that catches a good percentage of spam, but, NOT ALL spam is caught! For what gets missed and ends up in your inbox, please delete. If you seem to get the same person sending you the spam, then we can add them to our “BLOCKED SENDERS” list, but other than that, you are fine to just delete from your inbox.

Don’t forget about the free online training with Lynda.com. To find out more, contact the Help Desk at 864-1111.

Microsoft Office 2007 class schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Word Level 1</td>
<td>May 1</td>
<td>Judy Stangl</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jstangl@springfieldmo.gov">jstangl@springfieldmo.gov</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Word Level 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>PowerPoint</td>
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All classes are one day and begin at 8:15 a.m.

Contact Judy Stangl at jstangl@springfieldmo.gov with your requested date.
You will receive an e-mail acknowledgement.
(Limit of nine per class.)

SCENE Deadline
May 11, 2012

Please direct your submissions to the Department of Public Information. Submissions and ads via e-mail are preferred: thescene@springfieldmo.gov.
I recognize that 45% of our employees are at their top step,” said Greg Burris, City Manager.

Burris said he hopes the City is returning to a more stable revenue base, but that it’s important to continue monitoring operating expenses and limiting expense growth in those areas that we can control. “As we move into the current year, we are still carefully managing expenses.”

Highlights of the proposed budget include:

- Merit Increases: Plans include continuing merit step increases for those employees who are eligible and a 1.5% across-the-board increase in employee pay.
- Wellness: The budget also includes funding to expand an employee wellness program. Wellness programs are proven to show both a return on investment and increased productivity.
- Benefit costs have increased in almost all categories.
- Capital equipment replacement: This includes funding for the replacement of capital equipment. This area has been deferred for the last several years while we were struggling to balance the budget.
- Budget increases for operational areas to address high-priority needs in the community.

Director of Finance Mary Mannix Decker will hold meetings at various City facilities to present a summary of the FY 2012 fiscal year and the details of the proposed FY 2013 budget to employees. PIO will post a video of one of these sessions on our website for those who are unable to attend one of these meetings.

inBalance, the City’s wellness program, is offering Health Risk Assessments FREE of charge!

“inBalance is your program, and we hope that you will take advantage of this opportunity to learn more about your health and begin your journey toward becoming inBalance,” said committee member Emily Hegg.

For a full list of HRA dates and times, visit springfieldmo.gov/inbalance/hradates.html.

How do I sign up?
Please email wellness@coxhealth.com with your contact information and requested date and time.

Or you may call 417-269-4947 according to the following schedule:

Monday, April 23 __________ 12:00 to 4:00 pm
Tuesday, April 24 __________ 1:00 to 4:00 pm
Wednesday, April 25 __________ 7:00 am to 11:00 am
Thursday, April 26 __________ 10:00 am to 1:00 pm
Friday, April 27 __________ 11:00 am to 2:00 pm
April 30 – June 11 __________ Call anytime between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm

Having trouble calling during these times?
Please call Katie Towns-Jeter at 874-1260 or Emily Hegg at 864-2077 for help with scheduling an appointment.

Times will fill up fast and are on a first come first serve basis, so register early to better your chances of getting the time you desire.

If you wish to receive any of the optional testing, please include that information when you schedule your appointment. (Busch Building, Chesterfield Family Center and Doling Family Center will offer the free Bone Density screening.)

Please note that individual results are personal and confidential and your participation is completely voluntary.

For more information about the inBalance HRAs, visit springfieldmo.gov/inbalance/ hra.html to view a list of FAQs or email inbalance@springfieldmo.gov.
Promotions

Erick Roberts  
Superintendent of Solid Waste - Environmental Services  
Leslie Kimzey  
Public Health - Nurse Health  
Robert Uckele  
Community Recreation Services Administrator - Parks  
Ronnie Box  
Plant Operations Supervisor - Environmental Services  
Jerry Witt  
Fire Equipment Operator - Fire  
Judy Bell  
Office Administrator - Police  
James Dryer  
Equipment Technician - Airport  
Joseph Woods  
Equipment Operator III - Environmental Services  

Retirements

Faye Barkdale  
Police Lieutenant - Police - 20 years  
Thomas Deckard  
Airfield Maintenance Worker - Airport - 8 years  
Lynn Gates  
Buyer - Finance - 20 years  
Michael Owens  
Fire Equipment Operator - Fire - 31 years  

Sharon Pitts  
Senior Executive Secretary - Information Systems - 19 years  
Nancy Prine  
Senior Executive Secretary - Finance - 16 years  
Mark Smith  
Laboratory Analyst - Environmental Services - 30 years  
Wayne Taylor  
Police Corporal - Police - 23 years  
Arolin Thomas  
Team Leader - Public Works - 97 years  
Bill Trivitt  
Facilities Specialist - Public Works - 28 years  

Welcome

Ronald Bailey  
Professional Engineer - Public Works  
Andrea Coble  
Public Health Planner - Health  
Justin Ray  
Public Health Investigator - Health  
Roman Brown  
Christopher Walker  
Computer Technicians - Information Systems  

Larry Ford  
Plant Operator II - Environmental Services  
John Ackerman  
Traffic Data Collector - Public Works  
Kristen Linsenbardt  
Graphic Production Assistant - Public Information  
Brandi Head  
Community Recreation Specialist - Parks  
Flo Budd  
111 Telecommunicators - Emergency Communications  
Leonard Henry  
Sharyn Jones  
Walter Justice  
Quincy Smith  
Police Services Representatives - Police  
Travis Worden  
Wayne Zelenik  
Utility Workers - Parks  
Donnie Rice  
Equipment Operator III - Environmental Services  
Kenneth Edmonds  
Timothy Moore  
Kevin Turner  
Maintenance Workers - Environmental Services  
Todd Mitchell  
Cassia Schmeekle  
Park Caretakers - Parks  

In Brief

Neighborhood Watch training success

As of March 20, 2012, 180 citizens have attended the Neighborhood Watch training sessions sponsored by the Springfield Police Department and another 35 citizens have also completed the advanced version of the program.

The training sessions were launched in December of 2011, and focused on crime prevention, observation and reporting skills, Operation Identification, and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED). The training sessions are provided to the citizens of Springfield free of charge, and the SPD encourages all citizens to attend. Those interested can contact the SPD Crime Prevention Unit at 874-2115, or by the SPD web site at springfieldmo.gov/spd/GeneralInfo/NeighborhoodWatch/whatis.html. The SPD has received a tremendous response for the program. Seating is limited, so please contact the SPD and become part of...The Watch!

SPS Audit Applicability Task Force

A City task force charged with looking at any applicability of the recent Springfield Public Schools audit, provided recommendations to City Manager Greg Burris.

Based on the Task Force’s work, out of the 51 recommendations from the State Auditor, two were not...
MAY BIRTHDAYS

1 Lucas Bollinger FR
   Erin Elliott PW
   Pamela Houston PRK
   Chayann Lakins PRK
   Joshua Tucker POL
   Randy Villines FR
2 Austin Davidson PRK
   Hannah Eastman PRK
   Debbie Lawrence FR
   Culley Wilson POL
3 Thalia Lee PRK
   Carl Schwartz PRK
4 Wesley Burrell PRK
   John Collette ES
   Dwight Cook MC
   Gregory Dorshorst HL
   Jewell Gardner PRK
   Richard Hogan AIR
   Nanette Kirkey AIR
   Deborah Meyer 911
5 David Barton PRK
   Madeline Olander PRK
   Michael Terrill POL
   Annesha Umbarger POL
6 Keith Coker ES
   Heather Hill PRK
   David Holtmann FN
7 Kenneth Ault PRK
   Kevin Binam FR
   Craig Bright ES
   Joseph Doza FR
   Benjamin Sonnenberg POL
   James Stephenson 911
8 Thomas Adams PW
   Ronald Bailey PRK
   Susan Cook PW
   Dawn Davis PW
   Floyd Griffin PRK
   Jason Hoag PW
   Jeffery Lepold AIR
   James Morehouse AIR
   Amy White AIR
   Carl Yendes PW
9 Robin Allen PW
   Jason Bogema FR
   Tyler Burks PW
   Kevin Byfield PRK
   John Lee AIR
   Stephen Slatkavitz AIR
   Marcus Walker POL
10 Joyce Black PW
    June Dillard WD
    Richard Frye PRK
    Orlando Hodges LAW
    Sheila Maerz HR
    Craig Noblitt PW
11 Clinton Collier POL
    David Cron DPI
    Amanda Kasper PRK
    Casey Kelhner PW
12 Debora Barnhart PRK
    Jeremy Liss PRK
    Kayla Nutt PRK
13 Charles Collins PW
    Timothy Hendrix FR
    Josh McCain POL
    Jefferson Wood WD
14 Tommy Flowers PH
    Anthony Gomez POL
    Charles Lowrance PW
    Johnathon Odel PRK
    Wayne Parker POL
    Machelle Stacey HL
    Nathaniel Stansberry PW
    James Tillman FN
15 Jonathan Gano PW
    Pamela Gianopulos POL
    Ulrich Gulje FR
    Katelyn Salchow PRK
    Bryan Welch POL
    Melanie Wilson PRK
16 Michael Gateley ES
    Kevin Grizzell POL
    Bian Miller PRK
17 Michele Benck PRK
   Samuel Brown POL
   Kimberly Cantrell PRK
   Matthew Crouch PRK
18 Jessica Dahlke PRK
    Caitlin Deeken POL
    David Hutchison PW
    Alan Lawson FR
    Jennifer Lewis FN
    Mark Mercer POL
    Jamie Moss WD
    Christopher Nuccio POL
    Rickey Ryan PRK
    Matthew Schaefer PDV
19 Bailey Burnett PRK
    Jason Finke FN
    Anita Fonner LAW
    Jason Haynes PW
    Sean Kennedy POL
20 Halli Bruton PRK
    Austin Lohkamp PRK
    Rachel Riedesel PRK
    Ronald Taylor PW
21 Carsen Baron PRK
    Charles Blackwell PW
    Christine Dahl HL
    Nicholas Hardecke PRK
    Thomas Hicks POL
    Dennis Posey ES
22 Roman Brown IS
    Micky Buchanan PRK
    David Dewitt ES
    Whitney Hanes PRK
    David Meyer PRK
    Lloyd Wilson PRK
23 Dylan Blackmer PRK
    Kaylee Friend PRK
    Katesha Fry PRK
    Justin Tucker PRK
24 James Burton FR
    Terry Neill WD
    Karen Stever HR
    Julie Vaughan LAW
    Veronica Zeigler POL
25 Ashley Crelrer HL
    Rinda Dunn PRK
    Walter Justice POL
    Matthew Ruzicka PRK
    Eric Sanders AIR
26 Nathan Davis PRK
    Katharine Gregory PRK
    Garrett Holt PRK
    Janelle Quesenberry PRK

Michael Raney PW

27 Courtney Davidson PRK
    Doug Durrence ES
    Craig Hunter PRK
    Troy Powell PW
    Brian Stranghoener FN
    Ryan Ward PRK
28 Anthony Chaney PRK
    Matthew Coats PRK
    Aaron Wood FR
29 Ellen Friedman HR
    Travis Morrissey FR
    Tammy Teel PW
    Jason Williams FR
30 Joe Fuller FR
    Rachel Herron FR
    Scott Lambeth FR
    James Lane FR
    Jamie Miller PRK
    Danny Mooneyham ES
31 Roger Bates PRK
    Troy Crawford PRK
    Penny Hartman PW
    Michael Lucas POL
    David Trent PRK
    Pamela Wells HL

Abbreviations
- 911 Emergency Comm.
- AIR Airport
- ART Art Museum
- BDS Building Dev.
- CC City Clerk
- CM City Manager
- EM Emergency Mgt.
- ES Environmental Ser.
- FN Finance
- FR Fire
- HL Health
- HR Human Resources
- IA Internal Audit
- 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.
Discount opportunities and special passes to area entertainment venues are available to City employees to help add to your family’s summer fun.

Discounted tickets and season passes are now available for Missouri theme parks through the Springfield-Greene County Park Board.

Ticket discounts range from about 5 to 40 percent, and are made available through a partnership with the Missouri Park and Recreation Association.

Silver Dollar City one-day passes are available through December. All other passes are available only through each theme park’s regular summer season, including:

- Discount theme park tickets may be purchased at the Mediacom Ice Park, 635 East Trafficway, Chesterfield Family Center, 2511 W. Republic Road; Doling Family Center, 301 E. Talmage St.; Jenny Lincoln Center, 500 E. Harrison St., or the Park Board Main Office, 1925 N. Weller Ave.
- Tickets are available during normal facility hours of operation. For more information, contact the Park Board Offices at 417-864-1049.
- The Starlite Theatre in Branson is also offering a discount on shows available through December. See the Texas Tenors, Cirque Montage, or A Christmas Snow for $17.80 per ticket with even lower rates for groups of 15 or more. Contact Jill Pearce at (866) 911-1982.
- The Kansas City Chiefs are offering a limited number of $250 and/or $390 Full Season Tickets as well as discounted group tickets for single games to employees and their families. Contact Sam Cruse at (816)920-4836 or email scruse@nfl.chiefs.com.

### Summer entertainment discount options for employees

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<th>Park Board Summer Theme Park Discounts</th>
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<td>Schlitterbahn:</td>
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<td>Local Price:</td>
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<td>Gate Price:</td>
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<td>Local Price Savings:</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Admission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Child/Senior</td>
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<td>Silver Dollar City:</td>
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<td>Adult</td>
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<td>2 Park Season Pass Adult</td>
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<tr>
<td>Six Flags:</td>
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<td>Six Flags 1 Day</td>
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<td>Worlds of Fun:</td>
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<td>WOF Junior/Senior</td>
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### Services

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 888-9124 or 888-5710 for more details.

Next Level Sport Karate – 1317 W. Sunshine, Springfield. Offering classes in Tae Kwon Do, Hapkido, and Zumba Fitness. 496-5038 or online at nextlevelsportkarate.com.

Hitek Night Vision device. Hand held w/camera adapter. New in box, never used. Excellent for hunting, security, surveillance, camping etc. Precision optics, water resistant, and daylight filter built in. Purchased new for four hundred dollars. $250.00 OBO. Call Joe at 485-5117 or e-mail me at coloradoman78@sbcglobal.net.

Double wide mobile home on 1 acre 1.5 miles north of Kansas Expressway and I-44. 3 Bedrooms, 2 baths, fireplace, jetted tub in master bath. Stove, dishwasher and refrigerator are included. Central heat and air. $65,000. Call Don at 888-6182. Thank-you!

### Diversity @ Work

**Introducing: Diversity @ Work!**

As City of Springfield business, non-profit, educational and public leaders have come together to encourage employers and citizens to ensure that their environment is welcoming to all visitors and residents, our organization is seeking to embrace the same goal. In keeping with the City’s goal to become more welcoming, a group of Human Resources Department employees has begun to work on implementing diversity and inclusion into the foundation of our day-to-day work life. Although diversity includes racial differences, it also covers all of the differences that make every person unique, including our personal histories and interests. Embracing our differences and appreciating what each person “brings to the table” not only makes our environment more welcoming, but also more productive and competitive.

Through this group, we have begun to highlight heritage months on a display on the 3rd floor of the Busch Building. We have also modified our job descriptions to reflect the importance of respecting diversity in the work we do. We are also planning ways to connect our employee groups throughout the larger City of Springfield organization.

As City Manager, Greg Burris has said, “We are by far the most functionally diverse employer in the area. What other singular organization can you think of that includes a zoo, an art museum, an airport, and a cemetery?” It is the intention of this group to embrace both differences as well as similarities among our coworkers and continue to make our organization a great place to work.
considered to be applicable to the City of Springfield. Of the remaining 49 recommendations, the City has policies that address all but two of the State Auditor’s recommendations. A policy to address the recommendation concerning the storage and use of signature stamps is being drafted by the City Attorney. This policy will not only address the storage and use of signature stamps, but will also address the use of e-signatures. It also appears that the City does not have a comprehensive policy that addresses how we handle the extension of credit for services rendered, and the subsequent collection of unpaid fees. The Financial Control Workgroup has been tasked with developing a Citywide policy that identifies and recommends a policy for this area.

April Sales Tax reported

April sales tax revenue was $3,727,800,000, almost unchanged from April 2011. Year-to-date revenue is $33,054,000, this is 8.67% higher than this same time last year.

“While this is encouraging news, there are some factors impacting this growth: during this fiscal year, there have been a significant amount of one-time payments and the Department of Revenue seems to be processing payments more quickly,” Mary Manmiks Decker, director of finance, explains. “Taking these two factors into account we feel like the “real growth” in sales tax revenue is closer to 4%. Although we have seen a solid recovery in sales tax revenue, we are back to the level of revenue generated in the 2008 fiscal year.”

Website Breach Update

Several updates have been made to the City’s website presence, following a February breach. State and federal law enforcement agencies continue to investigate.

Policy or practice changes include:
- Review and scan of web pages for vulnerabilities with a new tool that provides more scrutiny than previously possible
- Intrusion protection system
- Change in how connection and retrieval of information from databases from websites
- Dropping the requirement for social security number entry in the online police reporting section
- Building in automatic data transfers out of the system on a weekly basis
- In certain sections, such as online building permits, limiting the amount of records returned during a search.

From the SCENE archives

10 Years Ago - May 2002

Jordan Valley Park Grand Opening

What was first called “Civic Park”, Phase I of the Jordan Valley Park will be dedicated on May 18, 2002. It is just the first part of a grander vision, a vision to revitalize downtown Springfield as a place where people want to live, work and play.

20 Years Ago - March 1992

Community Oriented Policing

In cooperation with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Police Department hosted a training session on community oriented policing. The FBI staff from Virginia, provided the instruction for the training, which was the first of its kind. Those attending were informed as to how it will be implemented in Springfield.

Jane Pike

Police Service Representative Springfield Police Department

Jane has worked for the city for 6 years.

What is your most memorable toy?

Easy Bake Oven that worked using a light bulb.

What will St. Peter say when you reach heaven?

Welcome home Sister Jane.

What one word would you use to describe yourself? Short

What was your parent’s best advice?

Be a leader not a follower. Meaning not to go along with the crowd, and if I commit a crime I would do the time.

What was your first car?

Brand new 1977 Ford Pinto Runabout.

Rich Kennehan

Administrative Systems Analyst

Information Systems

Rich has been with the city for 7 years.

What was your favorite TV show as a child?

Land of the Lost. It taught resourcefulness, had a build-it-yourself ethic, and had plenty of ancient ruins to explore.

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

I wanted to be a video game programmer, back in the old days when a single person created the whole game. It doesn’t work that way now... you’re on a 50-person team, and you have a limited influence on the final product. It’s more fun as a hobby.

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

I love the movie “Tron” and have lost track of how many times I’ve seen it. It inspired me to become a computer programmer.
Springfield Traffic Engineer David Hutchison received the Missouri Bicycle and Pedestrian Federation’s 2012 Distinguished Service Award during Bicycle and Pedestrian Day at the Missouri Capitol. David works in the Public Works department and leads the Bicycle-Pedestrian Committee of the Traffic Advisory Board. He has been key to developing The Link, the City’s plan to connect greenway trails and activity centers, by way of low-volume, low-speed streets.

Springfield-Greene County Health Department’s Lab was chosen as second runner-up Lab of the Year by Medical Laboratory Observer, a national, peer-reviewed lab resource organization. The staff includes five team members who participate in proficiency testing at least once a year and provides services to a population of more than 300,000 people.

The City’s Environmental Services Department has received the 2012 Outstanding Management of Wastewater Biosolids Award.

For the 6th year in a row, the City of Springfield has received the Government Finance Officers Association’s Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its budget.
- There are four areas and a total of 27 criteria upon which the document is rated.
- In order to receive the award, budgets must be rated “proficient” in all four categories, and the 14 mandatory criteria within those categories in order to receive the award.
- For the FY 2012 document, 10 criteria were ranked “outstanding”, the highest level of achievement.

Rick Garner, with Building Development Services, has been named the Floodplain Manager of the Year by the Missouri Floodplain & Stormwater Managers Association. The membership in the association is comprised of local and state government officials, engineers, land surveyors, insurance agents, mortgage lenders, and other private industries or individuals engaged in the management of floodplains or storm water.

To: Fire Chief David Hall
I wanted to take a few minutes to say “thank you” for all that was done for the residents of the Missouri Hotel in connection to the fire of January 20, 2012.

My words cannot express the gratitude that we at The Kitchen have for everything that was done by you and your organization. Without your help and support, this unfortunate event would have truly been catastrophic, not only to the residents that call The Missouri Hotel home, but to The Kitchen, and the greater community of Springfield.

I have lived in several communities during my lifetime, but the Springfield community is the most giving by a large margin. Your actions during and after the fire show this to be true once again.

From all the residents, staff and all those served: “Thank You Very Much!”

With Appreciation,
Rorie Orgeron
The Kitchen, Inc.

To: Springfield-Branson National Airport
I am writing to express my gratitude and admiration for Springfield Airport Police Officer Al Berry. On April 12, my daughter was meeting my flight from St. Petersburg, Fla. In her rush, she locked the keys in the car with the lights on. Officer Berry worked for about 40 minutes to try to help us get into the car. Although he was unsuccessful, I was impressed by his diligence & professional demeanor.

Diane Fugit
(passenger at Springfield/Branson National Airport)

To: Police Chief Paul Williams
I wish again to thank you for your help by having Sergeant Justin Gargus call me, and work with me on dealing with the drug dealers so I believe he has moved off the street. It feels so good to have a Chief of Police who really cares. You will always have my vote. I still believe there are some drugs going on at the end of the street, but with that one no longer around it sure feels better on the block.

Thanks for all the great officers that have helped and the Sergeant has done a really great job here.

Thanks again,
Mr. William Southern

To: Police Chief Paul Williams
Today I would like to both thank and congratulate Officer Depinto on a job done to the best of his abilities. He was very respectful, understanding, and very thorough. It is nice to see that there are officers that would be so nice and appreciative of a cooperative arrestee; that guy did an awesome job. I didn’t know even if it was possible to, for sure, write a letter of commendation to an officer but for whatever it is worth, I would like for him to know his job is and was appreciated. I wrote this letter to basically tell him thank you.

Alonzo James Maggard