Easter at the Farm
10 a.m.-3 p.m., Saturday, March 28, Rutledge-Wilson Farm Park. This event will feature controlled Easter egg hunts throughout the day for kids 3-9. Admission is free, but some activities have a small fee.

Register now for spring sports!
• Softball
• Baseball
• Flag Football
• Little Sluggers!
Call 417-837-5817 or visit eteamz.com/parkboard/.

Winter deals available at Horton Smith, Rivercut and Payne Stewart golf courses
Any day the forecast is below 50 degrees, you get to spin a wheel at the golf course for 15 percent to 50 percent off the maximum daily rate.

Police and Fire departments recognize staff, citizens at awards ceremonies

Fire awards
During its annual awards ceremony Feb. 25, more than 50 Springfield firefighters were honored for exemplary achievements during 2014.

Among the honorees was the crew from Engine 8A, who on Aug. 15, 2014 pulled Carmen Plumb from her burning home and began CPR before she was transported to the hospital. Plumb spent more than six weeks in the hospital and made a full recovery. Plumb attended the awards ceremony Wednesday and was able to meet the firefighters who saved her life. Engine Operator David Cook and Firefighters Chad Bright and Nick Hartman received Fire Life Save Awards.

Also honored were first responders who helped extricate a patient involved in a car accident on April 20, 2014. The crews from Rescue 1C, Rescue 1A, Rescue 8A, Engine 5A, Truck 2A, Engine 4A, Air 8A, Battalion Chief Kevin Trogdon, Bruce Pettus with MoDOT, Amanda Kahler with the Missouri State Highway Patrol and Wrecker Service were awarded for their actions during the three-hour long ordeal that ultimately saved the leg of the trapped patient.

Rescue Specialist Steve Sweaney was named 2014’s Firefighter of the Year. RS Sweaney has been with the Department since 2001. RS Sweaney was chosen for his exemplary service on the fire ground as well as dedication to the Training Division, by educating new recruits on critical tasks such as forcible entry and fire ground operations.

Captain Jeff Owings was named 2014’s Fire Officer of the Year. Captain Owings started with the department in 2000. Owings was chosen for the work he has done to place himself in a place of responsibility and accountability, rather than merely a seat of authority. The nominating committee recognized Owings for continually exhibiting leadership qualities as a servant to the people who work for him rather than a manager of their lives at work.

Also honored during the ceremony were more than 30 Fire Department personnel who volunteered to serve as educators in Springfield schools during Fire Prevention Month and multiple crews for saving lives on medical calls.

Community Service Awards were also given to firefighters who provided a service to the community above and beyond their regular job requirements, both on and off duty.

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Book Sale March 23-27
The sale will benefit the newly formed Employee Crisis Fund.

Walking Challenge
The 2015 challenge will begin April 1.

Do You Know?
Get to know Nancy Elms at Hazelwood Cemetery.

> See AWARDS on page 3.
Book Sale to benefit Employee Crisis Fund March 23-27

The Employee Crisis Fund book sale will be held March 23-27 in Busch 2 East Conference Room. All proceeds will go to the newly formed Employee Crisis Fund.

The sale will be an honor system, come-and-go event for employees, as the room will be unstaffed. A locked donation/collection box will be placed on the Citizen Resource Center counter in the lobby. After selecting the books you like, just take them to the CRC counter and then deposit the correct amount of money in the donation box. Both cash and/or checks written to the “City of Springfield – Employee Crisis Fund” will be accepted as payment.

All books will be color coded with a price from $1 to $4. (Orange = $1, Yellow = $2, Blue = $3, Green = $4.)

The sale will end on Friday, March 27 at 2 p.m., and any remaining books will be donated to selected organizations, such as Harmony House and the Springfield / Greene County District Library.

Anyone wishing to donate used books, DVDs, CDs, or tapes to this project may do so. Donated items are accepted from now until March 23 on the fourth floor of the Busch Building in the Department of Public Information.

Book Sale Committee Members include: Deanna Farley, Lavena Pilgrim, Julie Vaughan and Sharon Spain.

About the Crisis Fund

During the week of Christmas 2014, a City of Springfield staff member lost his home to a fire in Polk County. The employee was married with two children and the family had to live in a hotel until they were able to locate an apartment to rent on a monthly basis.

This situation underscored the need for a City of Springfield Employee Crisis Fund, as many employees stepped forward wanting to offer monetary donations to this family.

Fellow City employees wishing to make a donation to assist the family during times of crisis now have an avenue to do so through a City of Springfield Employee Crisis Fund. The fund is a legacy project of the 2013 City Ambassadors Program (CAmP).

CAmP provides employees an opportunity to learn about the many departments and divisions within the City’s government services.

“Our class members want to show their appreciation to fellow employees and leave a legacy. Our idea was to create an avenue for providing assistance to the City’s employees during a time of crisis,” said Cora Scott, 2013 CAmP class president.

Donations to the fund may be sent to the Finance Department, Attn: Accounting Manager. The Finance Department is located in the lower level of the Busch Municipal Building, 840 Boonville. Make checks payable to City of Springfield Employee Crisis Fund. Funding comes from a variety of different avenues, including one-time donations and through special fundraising efforts throughout the year.

The Employee Crisis Fund is held in a bank account, separate from City funds and managed and audited by the City’s Finance Department. Recipients must be current active employees who are experiencing a one-time crisis. Recipients must have made a reasonable attempt to exhaust other avenues of assistance.

An Employee Crisis Fund Committee appointed by the City Manager and staffed by the Department of Public Information oversees the application process. An application must be completed by the employee or designee.

The application is confidential and requires specific information to determine if the applicant qualifies. The application is reviewed by the committee to determine if the applicant qualifies.

If you are interested in seeking help from the fund, please contact the Finance Department for an application.
SPD awards
The Springfield Police Department hosted a combined awards and promotions ceremony for citizens and SPD staff Feb. 23 at the Springfield Regional Police and Fire Training Center. Staff and citizens were commended for their service, and in some cases, their bravery and extraordinary actions.

Officers Brian Steen, Jason Bohannon, Marc Stevens and Shane Kern and Sergeant Tatem DeWitt were awarded Meritorious Services awards, which recognize personnel who, in the protection of life or furtherance of justice, exhibit conduct, which is exceptional.

Police Services Representative Brian Clemons and Officers Kevin Benedict, Brad Eddy, Jason Holland and Greg Sly received Command Commendations, which are presented to department personnel who personally save a life, normally involving one of the learned life supporting processes outside of routine measures.

Norris Wacasey received a Citizen Service Citation, which is presented to citizens who distinguish themselves by their commitment to law enforcement. Wacasey volunteers at the Weapons Training Facility.

Toohill was a passenger in a vehicle on Campbell Avenue near Parkview High School when he witnessed a man actively assaulting a woman in the street. The male was ultimately arrested and charged with domestic assault in the second degree. Toohill willingly testified on four different occasions.

Due to Toohill’s testimony, the suspect was found guilty by the jury at the conclusion of his trial.

Officer Greg Anderson was presented with a Life Saving Award, which is presented to department personnel who personally save a life, normally involving one of the learned life supporting processes outside of routine measures.

Anderson responded to the Arbor Suites at 1260 E. Independence regarding a female that had possibly overdosed. Upon arrival, Officer Anderson found her unresponsive. She had no pulse and was not breathing.

Anderson immediately began performing chest compressions until emergency medical services arrived. The female was transported to a hospital and made a full recovery. Medical personnel stated that due to Anderson’s quick action, they were able to resuscitate the female without lasting (adverse) effects, and he had saved her life.

Anderson’s actions epitomize the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics and greatly reflect the values of the department.

William Fry was awarded a Citizen Service Medal, which is presented to any citizen who displayed an act of bravery and courage while providing assistance to the Springfield Police Department.

On Oct. 17, 2014, an injury accident occurred at Fort and Whiteside. When officers arrived, one of the vehicles was smoking and flames were beginning to show under the hood of the vehicle.

While the passenger of the vehicle had been removed, the driver appeared to be unconscious and was trapped inside the vehicle. The flames began climbing up to the windshield and engulfed the entire front of the vehicle.

Fry assisted Sergeant Tatum Dewitt (who won a Meritorious Service award for his actions) in pulling the male from the vehicle, and did so without hesitation.

The SPD also recognized three officers who have recently been promoted to the rank of corporal: Corporal Dustin Martin, Corporal Aaron Cassity and Corporal Jason Marcum.

Follow the Golden Goose
We all know that there are certain people that make sure things at the city keep running smoothly and know all the answers when no one else does. Belinda Gonzalez is undoubtedly one of those people. Everyone is near clueless on days Belinda isn’t around, so I am happy to pass the Golden Goose on to her. She has helped me numerous times with countless requests, questions, and processes. Thank you, Belinda, for what you have done for Stormwater and what you do for the City.

Colten Harris
Public Works
MILESTONES

20 years
Joe Payne
Operations Supervisor – Grounds
Public Works – 3/1/1995

Stewart Acosta
Aircraft Services Coordinator
Airport – 3/13/1995

Nolan Bright
Fire Equipment Operator
Fire – 3/13/1995

Barbara Lucks
Sustainability Officer
Environmental Services – 3/18/1995

Diana Powell
Administrative Assistant
Workforce Development – 3/20/1995

Randy Reed
Recycling Center Attendant
Environmental Services – 3/31/1995

15 years
Brad Musick
Public Health Investigator

Randell Riley
Airport Network Coordinator

10 years
Brian Dodson
Gardener
Parks – 3/7/2005

Albert Tiller
Building Maintenance Worker
Public Works – 3/14/2005

Mark Montgomery
Multimedia Coordinator
Public Information – 2005

3/20/2005
Lisa Lee
Public Health Investigator
Building Development – 3/21/2005

Jerry Weatherman
Maintenance Worker
Public Works – 3/21/2005

5 years
Jason Hoag
Aircraft Services Specialist
Airport – 3/13/2010

Richard David
Parks Caretaker
Parks – 3/29/2010

Devin Banwart
Maintenance Worker
Public Works – 3/29/2010

Promotions
Chad Skouby
Craftsworker – Parks

Mary Lilly Smith
Director of Planning and Development – Planning and Development

Nicholas Hartman
Fire Equipment Operator – Fire

Joseph Doza
James Friese
Clint Hunt
Fire Lieutenants – Fire

Kevin Fox
Fire Marshal – Fire

Thomas Dean
Matthew Morris
Plant Operators III – Environmental Services

Lauren Henderson
Police Officer (Academy) – Police

Julie Viele
Public Health Program Representative – Health

Brian Smithson
Rescue & Salvage Specialist – Fire

Pamela Boyce
Senior Executive Secretary – Airport

Andrew Dierks
Systems Administrator – Information Systems

Retirements
James Collins
Yardwaste Recycle Center Working Leader
Environmental Services – 8 years

Michael Groves
Systems Administrator Workforce Development – 22 years

Welcome
Brett Foster
Principal Engineer – Public Works
Marcia Smith
Mary Tinker
Workforce Development Specialists – Workforce Development

Roger Chism
Signal Crew Worker – Public Works

Matthew Corrie
Zoo Keeper – Parks

Peter Bradford
Park Ranger – Parks

Zachary Adkins
Matthew Bashiuom
Shane Bertalott
Christopher Brackin
Joshua Brown
Nicholas Evgenides
Cody Greninger
Jason Highley
John Howery
Veronica Knight
Evan Nicholson
Sophal Peng
Robert Price
Collin Teal
Nicholas Telscher
Nathan Worland
Nicolas York
Gregory Young
Police Officers (Academy) – Police

Katelyn Van Huis
Accounting Clerk I – Health

Justin Brooks
Police Services Representative – Police

Greg Braden
Ferrell Moore
Maintenance Workers – Public Works

Christopher Strodtmann
Gardener – Parks

Front row left to right: Tracy Polk, WFD; LaCresha Gerhart, WFD; Katelyn Van Huis, Health.

Second row: Chelayne Sloss, Parks; Marcia Smith, WFD.

Third row: Alex Schriver, Parks; Brandon Ferguson, IS; Justin Brooks, PD.

Fourth row: Bau Chism, PW; Chris Strodtman, Parks.

Back row: Brett Foster, PW; Peter Bradford, Parks; Mark Seery, PW.
1 Dennis Budd  MC
Libby Harris  POL
Richard Mansel  POL
Jon Mooney  HL
Haley Moshier  PRK
David Pennington  FR
Matt Shackelford  POL
Lyle Smith  PW
Eric Werbitzky  ES

2 Brendan Griesemer  PDV
Derrick Hall  IS
Richard Tracy  AIR

3 Jacquelyn Adams  WD
Malcolm Byrd  PRK
Stephen Miller  PRK
Karen Stewart  PW
Emily Tull  PRK

4 Allison Carson  HR
Daniel Jones  PRK
Douglas Morgan  PRK
Alana Owen  PDV
Travis Scudder  AIR

5 Andrew Bath  POL
Jason Copley  POL
Jennie Smith  PRK
Diana Young  911

6 John Greer  911
Thomas Shaw  FR

7 Jeffery Eagleburger  ES
Barbara Lucks  ES
Joe Martinez  AIR
Brian Powers  ES

8 Moriah Cox  PRK
Cathie Lehman  PW
Taylor Moore  PW
Kari Reynolds  ES
Joshua Steele  POL

9 Karen Chandler  ES
Mavis Jackson  FN
Michael Karnes  POL

10 Randy Greer  MC
Janet Hicks  HL
James Miranda  PRK
David Park  FR

11 Brandon Bowling  POL
Jeramee Cooper  FR
Nicole Hays  IS
Emily Norton  PRK
Danny Perches  WD
Keisha Woodside  PW

12 Lisa Dement  AIR

13 Howard Curtis  FR
Annelise Dixon  PRK
Amanda Dodge  POL
Steven King  PRK
Olan Morelan  FR
Heath Aldridge  PRK
James Andela  PRK
Tanner Counts  AIR
Angelia Merritt  PRK
Stuart Rutledge  PRK
Spencer Thompson  ES

14 Curtis Collins  PRK
Sherylyn Hume  WD
Roger McCormack  PRK
Jessica McCutcheon  PRK
Darin Miller  FR

15 Elizabeth Langley  POL
Rick Miller  IS
Justin Ray  HL

16 Taylor Aurentz  PRK
Nathan Billings  HR
Bryan DiSylvester  POL
Joel Grieshaber  FR

17 Lauren Henderson  POL
Nicholas Master son  POL
Steven McMurray  FR
Sue Schofield  POL
Michael Walker  POL
Kyle Williams  FR

18 Dorrell Duquette  BDS
Brian Weiler  AIR
Joshua Hyde  PRK
Brian Lamkin  PRK
Ashley Little  ART
Joseph Medina  PRK
Ronald Moskalski  PRK
Coy Spurlock  PRK
Lee Walker  POL

19 Dean Bogart  PRK
Michael Foster  PRK
Colten Harris  PRK
Sarah Kerner  PRK
Duke McDonald  PRK
Collin Quigley  PRK
Sabrina Ross  CM
Jonn Strahl  CM

20 Whitney Curry  FR
Lee Groover  PRK
Lisl Hufford  PRK
Julie Williams  PRK

21 Sandra Fanning  PRK
Kristen Milam  HW
Lauren Hinnershitz  DPI
Kristen Milam  DPI
Daniel Nilsen  PRK
Julie Randolph  PRK
Patricia Sullivan  PRK

22 David Hall  FR
Tyler Pool  FR
Earl Wallace  PRK

23 Caleb Elliott  PRK
Belinda Gonzalez  PRK
Benjamin Norman  BCS

24 Amanda Ashworth  PRK
Dennis Bright  ES
Kevin Cantrell  POL
Anthony Finzo  PRK
Frerell Moore  PW
Shawn Schroeder  AIR
Amanda Tieupler  PRK

25 Kristian Doucette  PRK
Ethan Harmon  PRK
Samantha Jones  PRK
Daniel Pohlenz  ES
David Raine  PRK
David Shanholtzer  POL

26 Kendra Bork  AIR
Jordan Tate  AIR
Caleb Taylor  POL
Stacey Watson  911

27 Amanda Becker  PRK
Lacresha Gerhart  WD

28 Emily Browning  PRK
Jeff Couter  IS
Lawrence Epstein  PRK
Chad Eutsler  PRK
Bradley Jones  FR
Jason McCormick  FR
Barry Rowell  FN
John West  AIR

29 Ida Buske  AIR
Jasmine Felin  PRK
Cale Murphy  FR
Stephen Osborn  PW
Jesse Richerson  911

30 Matthew Daily  AIR
David Essary  PRK
Tracy Polk  WD

31 Brown leather couch, built in recliner on both ends. Good condition. $300.00. Linda #300-9917
2004 Mercury Grand Marquis, 4.6L V8, motor is strong, transmission is smooth. Rides like a cloud. Had collision with very large buck deer – has damage to front of car. Could be repaired for a solid driver. Asking $1,500. Call Nancy @ 417-425-6557.
2-1953 Ford Crown Victorias – one is a parts car and the other is to rebuild. This comes with a rebuilt motor, transmission, manuals etc., all for $3,000 or best offer. Call 417-872-7636 for more information.

FOR SALE
Farm fresh eggs for sale at $3.00 per 18. Please call Bonnie at 402-650-7614 or email at redplaidgirl@hotmail.com

B gratitude
Gather your team-members and get ready for inBalance Walking Challenge 2015!

This year teams will have more time to rack up steps as the challenge will last the entire month of April, beginning 8 a.m., Wednesday, April 1 and ending at 5 p.m., Thursday, April 30. Winners will be announced Friday, May 1.

More details:

• Gather a walking team of two to eight people.
• Decide which division your team belongs: FIELD or DESK.
• All steps count – walking, running; weekday, weekend; at work, at home.
• Each participant must submit an entry fee donation of $5. Proceeds will be split between the American Heart Association & Ozark Greenways.
• Choose a team leader, register your team, submit your entry fees, then GET WALKING.
• Track your steps any way you choose – cell phones, fitbits, pedometers all apply. inBalance pedometers are available for those who need them.

The top two teams in each division will win big prizes but, more importantly, major bragging rights!

Visit springfieldmo.gov/inBalance for full details and to register your team.

Jeff Seifried resigns Council; Jerry Compton sworn in as Mayor Pro Tem

Mayor Pro Tem and Zone 1 Councilman Jeff Seifried resigned at the Feb. 9 City Council meeting, citing a job opportunity outside of Springfield. He praised his fellow colleagues of City Council, City staff, including City Clerk Brenda Cirtin, Planning & Development Director Mary Lilly Smith and City Manager Greg Burris for their tireless work to serve citizens.

“I’m here to tell you they’re the best. They keep us in check. They keep us out of trouble … we’re all moving in the right direction,” Seifried said.

Seifried went on to say his favorite projects he has been involved with over the past few years include Moon City Creative District, developments on Commercial Street, the Heer’s building and other projects to build a strong center-city district.

Mayor Bob Stephens spoke on behalf of City Council, thanking Jeff for his service. Councilwoman Cindy Rushefsky followed up, describing Jeff as “an independent, intelligent and thoughtful member of this Council. That is exactly the kind of person we need to serve on City Council – someone who is willing to stick his neck out and research and come up with creative solutions.”

Historically, when a Councilperson resigns, City Council will set a timeframe for the accepting of qualified applications. Once that deadline has passed, those applications are forwarded to Council and decisions are made as to the interview process.

The timeline to fill the Zone 1 seat is:

• March 27: Applications due to the City Clerk’s Office.
• April 13-17: City Council to review applications and select finalists.
• April 20-24: City Council to conduct in-person interviews with finalists and make selection. Person selected will be sworn in immediately.

Qualifications

• Be a qualified and registered voter of the city.
• Be a resident of the city for at least two years immediately prior to election and a resident of Zone 1 for at least one year.

New Parks discounts coming Summer 2015

inBalance and the Springfield-Greene County Park Board have partnered once again to offer employees NEW expanded discounts!

Participate in the 2015 Health Risk Assessments, going on now, and you will soon be able to enjoy 20% discounts at all Park Board-owned golf courses, Mediacom Ice Park, and Lake Springfield Boathouse & Marina.

Also enjoy discounted rates on classes and lessons for swimming, archery, golf, tennis, ice skating and much more!

Don’t miss out! To be eligible, employees must participate in the HRA, or turn in an annual physical form from your physician.
Animal shelter to begin sending adoptable pit bulls, pit mixes to rescue partners on trial basis

As a result of a request from Springfield City Council, the Springfield-Greene County Health Department will begin partnering with local animal rescues to avoid euthanizing adoptable pit bull and pit bull mix dogs.

The six-month trial program has been approved by City Manager Greg Burris. A change in the City’s Pit Bull Ordinance is not required for this particular policy.

At this time, the Health Department is working on the proper contractual language to transfer pit bulls or pit bull mixes to existing adoption partners.

“Citizens have provided feedback and Councilwoman Cindy Rushefsky and other Council members have further supported this policy change,” says Mayor Bob Stephens. “Other issues examined by the task force are still being considered, but this was a change staff felt could be made, following certain requirements.”

New Adoption Requirements for Pit Bull and Pit Bull Mix Dogs

• As with all other dogs leaving the shelter, the dog will be aggression-tested by Animal Control staff. Additionally, pit bull mixes will be evaluated by another outside qualified individual for additional temperament testing. Any animal showing dog, person or food aggression will not be a candidate for adoption.

• Any dog – pit bull or otherwise – with a previous bite history is not considered adoptable.

• Adoptable pit bulls will be microchipped and vaccinated before being sent to one of two adoption partners. The dog will also be required to be spayed or neutered by the adoption partner in compliance with the City’s Pit Bull Ordinance.

• The adopting agency will be required to sign a liability waiver before taking the dogs to hold the city harmless against the future actions of the dog.

History of the Ordinance

City Council passed an ordinance regulating pit bulls in April 2006. The ordinance is not an outright ban – it places additional ownership requirements on pit bull owners. The top priority has always been to protect people from dog bites.

Under the ordinance, a pit bull or pit bull mix must be:

• Microchipped
• Registered with Animal Control annually
• Spayed or neutered
• Up-to-date on the rabies vaccine (state law).

As a result of the ordinance:

• Pit bulls are more often returned to their owners compared to other breeds of dogs. (56.4 percent return to owner rate versus 31 percent as of December 2014)

• Dog bites have dropped significantly (down from a high of 148 in 2001 to 72 in 2014)

• Vicious dog attacks are down as well (from a high of 18 in 2005 to 2 in 2014)

• Fewer pit bulls are making it to our shelter (from 22 percent of the total dog population in the shelter in 2005 to 9 percent in 2014).

Do You Know...?

A Q&A of City of Springfield employees. To suggest a colleague for “Do You Know...?” e-mail thescene@springfieldmo.gov.

Nancy Elms
Administrative Assistant,
Public Works – Hazelwood Cemetery

Nancy has worked for the City for 9 months.

What do you like most about your job?

Getting to help some very nice people, often during a difficult time. I love how beautiful it is here at Hazelwood, and I find the history that goes with it very interesting. (Hazelwood has been City-owned since 1867).

What was your first job?

Actually, working for a city public works department. At age 15, I was painting fire hydrants and street sign posts in my small hometown in Arkansas during a summer work program. The next summer they moved me into the Water Department office, where I learned that red ink is not used just because it’s a pretty color.

What was parents’ best advice?

Dad used to always say, “if you don’t have it in your head, you will have to have it in your feet” ... meaning if I wasn’t smart enough to keep gas in my car, then I would end up having to walk (this was before cell phones). Only did that once!

What was your most memorable toy?

My Easy Bake Oven that I received at Christmas when I was 7.

What was your first car?

A 1962 Dodge Dart with push-button transmission. Sadly, I didn’t keep it.

What is your favorite thing to make in the kitchen?

DESSERT! Pies, cakes, cookies ...
To: Jessica McCoullough, 911 Telecommunicator

On Jan. 25, Jessica McCoullough received a message from SPD Officer Gower Anderson thanking her for “very good dispatching” when she advised him and SPD Officer Michael Mallon about a known drug house with weapons at an address close to where they were responding to. Jessica McCoullough thought they should be aware of this information for officer safety.

Officer Gower Anderson
Springfield Police Department

On Jan. 26, SPD Sergeant David Stone called to tell everyone at 911 Emergency Communications “thank you for everything last night regarding Officer Aaron Pearson’s shooting.”

Sergeant David Stone
Springfield Police Department

To: Ellen Herrmann, 911 Telecommunicator

On Jan. 26, Ellen Herrmann was the police dispatcher at the beginning of SPD Officer Aaron Pearson’s shooting incident. On February 2nd SPD Officer Craig Harter contacted 911 Emergency Communications and said Ellen Herrmann did an incredible job on the radio. He did not recall any errors or excitement/fear in her voice. She got the information to the officers quickly/clearly and assisted with moving officers around when needed as well as many other things. He does not know how she could have done any better. He continued to say everyone at 911 Emergency Communications performed amazingly during this incident.

Officer Craig Harter
Springfield Police Department

To: Kristina Webster, Shift Supervisor and everyone working Officer Pearson’s shooting

On Jan. 28, SPD Lieutenant Eric Reece sent an email to Director Schwartz, 911 Emergency Communications, stating he was the Watch Commander the night of Officer Aaron Pearson’s shooting and was quickly on the scene. He wanted to let Emergency Communications know they did an excellent job with this situation. He stated, “Emergency Communications was on top of it immediately and took care of every request SPD had, which were many.” He had frequent contact with Kristina Webster by phone and often had to be short and to the point with her. Kristina handled every request Lieutenant Reece gave her with professionalism and he can’t say enough about how great she was during this stressful time. He passes his thanks to everyone at 911 Emergency Communications involved during this incident.

Lieutenant Eric Reece
Springfield Police Department

To: 911 Emergency Communications

On Jan. 29, Chief Paul Williams sent an email to Director Schwartz extending his appreciation for 911 Emergency Communications efforts throughout that day regarding Officer Aaron Pearson’s shooting.

Chief Paul Williams,
Springfield Police Department

To: Mark Stiles and Mandy Buettgen-Quinn

Please accept our thanks for your extra effort to obtain the last needed easement to move forward on our Buena Vista Stormwater Improvement Project. Mark, thank you for making the extraordinary effort and being diligent to make the necessary contacts with the property owner, who resided in Germany and did not speak English. And thank you Mandy for using your ability to speak German to clearly explain the project and the need for the easement to the point that he was comfortable signing the easement. By working together you both made this project possible so that we can now address house and yard flooding experienced by neighbors.

Sincerely,
Colten Harris, Rodney Colson
Stormwater Engineering Division