City Finance Director announces retirement

Mary Mannix Decker, City of Springfield Finance Director, announces her retirement effective July 22.

Mannix Decker joined the City of Springfield Finance Department in 1999 as the Budget Administrator, responsible for the development of the City’s annual operating budget. In April 2002, she was promoted to Assistant Director, before accepting the role of Finance Director in October 2004. She is currently responsible for the five divisions of the Finance Department: Accounting, Budget & Evaluation, Licensing, Purchasing and the Print Shop.

“Mary Mannix Decker is one of those special leaders who can explain complex issues in a way that you don’t feel dumb for asking the question,” said City Manager Greg Burris. “Not only has she successfully led the fiscal management of arguably the most complex organizations in the region, but has done so with a caring touch. The many awards, along with the fact that the City of Springfield’s bond rating actually rose during the

Summer SnowFest
Sat., June 25, noon-4 p.m. at Jordan Valley Park.
SnowFest features a mountain of snow from Mediacom Ice Park, as well as entertainment, interactive games, snowman building contests and bounce house. The Springfield Regional Arts Council partners to present Free Art Day, with interactive art projects. Bring the whole family for this free event.

Discount theme park tickets available through the Park Board

Zim Schwartzte named International 911 Director of the Year

Green Jobs for Zone 1 residents funded by EPA’s $200,000 grant

BeCivilBeHeard.com
Speak out with courage
Express yourself with honor and conviction.

Mercy’s digital mammography bus to visit Government Plaza June 7 and 15

When: June 7, 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
June 15, 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Where: Busch Building parking lot
(near east entrance)

Call 417-820-2790 to schedule your appointment. Qualifications for mobile mammography:

• Must be 40 years old, or older. (Can do a baseline for ladies 35-39 with a doctor’s order.)
• Must have been at least 10 months since last mammogram.
• Must not have current breast problems.
• Must have an established physician.

• We CAN provide mammography for those with breast implants. (Please notify the scheduler.)
• Must be able to enter bus via steep steps and stand for exam unassisted.

Appointments take approximately 15 minutes. We will file insurance for you. (Please verify coverage and limitations with your insurance provider.) The equipment on the bus is the same as the Mercy Breast Center. The technologist who performs the exam is female. Images are read by the same radiologists. We’re simply on site at YOUR location.
recent recession, speaks to the high-quality work of Mary and her team. The City of Springfield has been so fortunate to have someone like Mary at the financial helm for so many years.”

Mannix Decker is proud of her work with the City Manager and Leadership Team to consistently pass a balanced budget without dipping into reserves. This occurred during and since the recession, with reserve levels increasing.

“What I like about working in local government is that the work you’re doing translates into improvements in the community that are very visible. The stronger the City’s financial condition, the more we can accomplish,” she said. “I appreciate what all of our departments do to provide strong fiscal management. I value all of the friendships that I’ve made here.”

9-1-1 Director Zim Schwartze named Director of the Year by international association

The Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) International announced the winners of the 2016 Public Safety Communications Awards and Technology in Leadership Awards on Friday, May 20, Springfield-Greene County.

9-1-1 Emergency Communications Director Zim Schwartze was named APCO International Director of the Year.

Schartze will be recognized during the opening general session at the 2016 APCO Annual Conference & Expo taking place Aug. 14-17 in Orlando, Florida.

Schartze joined Springfield-Greene County 9-1-1 Emergency Communications in 2013, after retiring as a captain from the Columbia Police Department. While in Columbia, she also served as the director of the Boone County Joint Communications 9-1-1 and Office of Emergency Management for several years.

“As a city, we are very fortunate to have Zim’s wealth of experience in law enforcement, emergency management and emergency communications in Springfield,” said City Manager Greg Burris.

Schartze has a master’s degree in public administration and a bachelor’s degree in industrial engineering, both from the University of Missouri-Columbia. She is a graduate of the 2014th School of Police Staff and Command (SPSC) through Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois and the FBI National Academy, Session 251, in Quantico, Virginia.

She is an adjunct instructor at the Law Enforcement Training Institute located in Columbia as well as in the Northwestern University SPSC classes. Schwartze is a member of the three state 9-1-1 organizations and currently serves as the treasurer of the Missouri 9-1-1 Directors Association.

In addition, Schwartze is a past president of the Kansas-Western Missouri Chapter of the FBI National Academy Associates and a member of the University of Missouri Harry S. Truman School of Public Affairs Advisory Board.

Schartze has volunteered her time with Special Olympics-Missouri for nearly 25 years. She serves on the Law Enforcement Torch Run Committee and is the chair of the State Summer Games held in Springfield each year.

Schartze and her husband, Jay, have two children and numerous family pets.

“Thank you to all of our award winners for your service above and beyond the call of duty,” said Brent Lee, president of APCO International. “And thank you to the nominators for participating in this program and recognizing those who make an impact in our communities.”

APCO International is the world’s oldest and largest organization of public safety communications professionals and supports the largest U.S. membership base of any public safety association. It serves the needs of public safety communications practitioners worldwide—and the welfare of the general public as a whole.

Mark your calendar: Courthouse Chorale to perform at noon on Monday, June 27

The Courthouse Chorale will perform a Patriotic Music Concert in the rotunda of the Historic Greene County Courthouse at noon on Monday, June 27. Everyone is invited to attend! For more information, please contact Cara Burch at 864-1004 or cburch@springfieldmo.gov.
EPA grant to fund green jobs for Zone 1 residents

A $200,000 grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training program will provide job opportunities to residents of Springfield’s most underserved neighborhoods.

The grant, awarded to Springfield’s Missouri Job Center, will be used to recruit, train and place local unemployed and underemployed individuals in full-time, sustainable, green jobs in a range of environmental fields. According to the Job Center Senior Workforce Development Specialist Isaac Weber, the funds should arrive in October with training to begin in early 2017. Weber is leading the project and encourages those interested in applying for the program to contact him at the Job Center at 417-887-4343.

The grant is one of only 18 nationwide as part of a $3.5 million total package, and is expected to provide funding to train at least 56 eligible residents from 19 census tracts within the Springfield city limits, with the goal of placing at least 35 trained workers into the local job market in specialized green jobs. Neighborhoods included in the 19 census tracts identified are Bingham, Doling Park, Downtown, Ewing, Fairfield Acres/Bissell, Fassnight, Grant Beach, Heart of the Westside, Midtown, Robberson, Rountree/Walnut, Tom Watkins, Weller, West Central, Westside and Woodland Heights.

The positions will include site cleanup, ecological restoration and lead and asbestos abatement at brownfields remediation projects at an average rate of $15 per hour, Weber said.

“We are pleased to receive this award and think it will help our Zone Blitz (springfieldmo.gov/zoneblitz) efforts to secure jobs for residents in our under-resourced areas of the community,” said City Manager Greg Burris. Burris said the departments of Workforce Development and Planning & Development worked together to secure the grant for the Job Center.

Operated by the City of Springfield’s Workforce Development department, the Missouri Job Center is located at 2900 E. Sunshine and serves Greene County and six surrounding Ozarks counties: Christian, Dallas, Polk, Stone, Taney and Webster.

The City has a history of positive partnerships with the EPA, including the City’s Brownfields Program, which works to assess, clean up and facilitate private development of potentially contaminated properties within the city of Springfield.

Specific training offered through the new training program will include certifications in OSHA Hazwoper, OSHA 10; Environmental Sampling and Monitoring; Trenching and Excavation; Confined Space; Lead Renovation, Repair and Painting (RRP); Lead Abatement Worker; Asbestos Worker/Handler; Stormwater Management; Forklift Driver; First Aid/CPR; and Commercial Driver’s License (CDL).

“These training classes are the keys to full-time, green jobs that pay well because they are in demand,” EPA Regional Administrator Mark Hague said. “For communities like Springfield, this helps build a workforce that can reclaim and revitalize environmentally challenged properties to benefit the community.”

According to Mary Ann Rojas, City of Springfield Workforce Development director, partners in the Missouri Job Center’s implementation of the grant include the Ozark Region Workforce Investment Board, Environmental Works, Gerken Environmental, Southwest Missouri Safety Company LLC, C1 Truck Driver Training, Bryan University, and Greenfield Environmental Trust Group Inc.

Additional support was provided by Zone 1 City Councilwoman Phyllis Ferguson, City of Springfield Planning & Development and Economic Development staff members Olivia Hough, Sarah Kern, Randall Whitman and Alyssa Alner, City of Springfield Environmental Services department staff, the Neighborhood Advisory Council, the Drew Lewis Foundation, Sunbelt Environmental Services, Inc., Keystone Building and Design, Euticals, Vocational Rehabilitation, K-State TAB program, OACAC Head Start, Community Partnership of the Ozarks, Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce, Missouri Department of Natural Resources and Preferred Family Healthcare.

Since EPA launched the EWDJT grant program in 1998, more than 256 grants have been awarded exceeding a total of $5.4 million. Approximately 14,700 individuals have completed training, and of those, more than 10,600 individuals have been placed in full-time employment with an average starting hourly wage of $14.34. This equates to a cumulative job placement rate of nearly 72% of graduates.

Springfield Municipal Court implements new bailiff uniform

Springfield Municipal Court Bailiffs are no longer wearing a dress jacket, dress shirt and slacks as they have in the past. According to Municipal Court Bailiffs Randy H. Greer, Larry Barrnts and Tina Sides, the new uniform is “more comfortable and practical.” Bailiffs requested the new courtroom attire through Judge Todd Thornhill and the request was quickly approved. “We are not interested in looking like policemen, however if the uniform deters inappropriate behavior, the similarity is worth it,” said one bailiff.

Pictured: Bailiffs and Chief Judge Todd Thornhill
Discount theme park tickets available through the Park Board

Discount tickets are now available for several Missouri theme parks through the Springfield-Greene County Park Board, in partnership with the Missouri Park and Recreation Association.

These discount ticket prices include no additional fees or tax.

Park Board prices are:

**Silver Dollar City (Branson)**
- Adult one-day (12-61 years) $56
- Child one-day (4-11 years) $46
- Adult two-day (12 years and up) $61
- Child two-day (4-11 years) $51

**Schlitterbahn (Kansas City)**
- General Admission $35.50
- Child/Senior (3-11 and 55 years and up) $29.50

**Worlds of Fun and Oceans of Fun** (Kansas City)
- One-day pass (3 years and up) $45

**Six Flags** (St. Louis)
- Adult or child one-day (48” or taller) $45

Discount theme park tickets may be purchased, while supplies last, at:
- Mediacom Ice Park, 635 E. Trafficway
- Chesterfield Family Center, 2511 W. Republic Road
- Dan Kinney Family Center, 2701 S. Blackman Road
- Doling Family Center, 301 E. Talmage St.
- Park Board Main Office, 1923 N. Weller Ave.

Tickets are available during normal facility hours of operation. For more information, contact the individual theme park directly, or call the Springfield-Greene County Park Board at 417-864-1049.

Outdoor pools open for the season

The Springfield-Greene County Park Board’s six outdoor pools opened for the 2016 season Saturday, May 28.

Throughout the season, each pool is open six days a week, 1-6:30 p.m., through Sunday, Aug. 14 (Fassnight and Grant Beach pools reopen for weekends only after school begins). Maintenance days are staggered Monday through Wednesday, and all outdoor pools are open Thursday through Sunday. A schedule is posted at ParkBoard.org/Aquatics.

“We have at least five pools open every day of the week, including indoor facilities at Chesterfield and Doling Family Centers,” said Marc Baker, Aquatics Coordinator for the Park Board. “All eight pools are open Thursdays through Sundays, so there are plenty of options to choose from.”

McGee/McGregor Wading Pool, for children 6 and under, operates different hours: Tuesday- Saturday, 10 a.m.- 12 p.m. and 1-4 p.m., and Sunday 1-4 p.m. Admission there is free.

Fassnight Pool has been freshly repainted for the season, a project that took 225 gallons of Brilliant White epoxy paint and about 240 man hours.

Meador Pool, closed for most of the 2015 season due to a major leak, is now repaired and ready for a busy season.

The Park Board completely renovated Fassnight (2009), Silver Springs (2010), Grant Beach (2011) and Westport (2012) with funds from the voter-approved 2006 Parks Sales Tax, adding splash features, slides and other amenities. The former outdoor Doling Pool was replaced by the Doling Indoor Aquatics Facility in 2013.

Daily outdoor pool admission is $3/adults, $2.50/youth and seniors.

Discount admission daily 5:30-6:30 p.m., $1 for all ages or free with a canned food item donation, benefiting Ozarks Food Harvest. Discount coupon books and season passes are available.

Outdoor pool admission prices apply at the indoor aquatics facilities at Chesterfield and Doling Family Centers, 1-6:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Outside of these hours, indoor aquatics facilities admission is $6/youth and seniors, $8/adults, or $22/family.

Detailed information about each pool, schedules, swimming lessons, pool rules, swim team and more is available in the 2016 Summer Aquatics program guide, found at ParkBoard.org/Aquatics. For more information, call the Aquatics Hotline at 417-864-2099.
Sheila Kerley  
Traffic Services Officer  
Sheila has worked for the City for 8 years.

**What’s the hardest part of your job?**
“Being responsible for controlling an intersection, while keeping drivers, pedestrians, other officers and myself safe.”

**What’s the coolest thing you’ve done in your career?**
“Being a role player for police recruit training and knowing they will be the future seasoned officers I will have the opportunity to work with.”

**What gives you satisfaction?**
“Satisfaction on the job is when you can ‘close a call’ and everyone involved is happy!”

**What do you admire about this organization?**
“The importance the City places on making Springfield a great place to live and raise a family.”

**Who do you admire in this organization?**
“Hands down my husband. He is also employed by the City of Springfield (Police). He is an amazing person, and I have yet to meet a person who thinks otherwise. His job as the range coordinator doesn’t end when he comes home. He is always taking phone calls or responding to texts and assisting other officers/colleagues when they are seeking firearm help or advice. He NEVER complains about that aspect of his job. He makes me a better person!”

**What’s something that Springfield as a city should strive for?**
“Supporting a positive atmosphere and working environment for employees. Happy employees are much more effective in their jobs.”

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**Go Skateboarding Day**
Tues., June 21, 3-9 p.m. • Free admission
Celebrate the official holiday of skateboarding at the Springfield Skate Park. Everyone is welcome, all ages, all skill levels. Introductory demos for new riders, games and contests for seasoned shredders. Concessions available, so come make a day of it! Skateboards only, no bikes or scooters at this event. Springfield Skate Park 868-8758.

**Butterfly Festival with Young Sprouts in the Garden**
Sat., June 25, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. • Free admission
Explore child-oriented displays, crafts, and activities designed to nurture an appreciation for gardening and nature. Visit the Plant Zoo, climb a tree, “pollinate” flowers, observe ladybugs and more. Join us at the Gray-Campbell Farmstead for tours of the one-room Liberty School, home of the Gray and Campbell families, log cabin kitchen, and/or barn. Botanical Center 891-1515.

**Aquathon Series**
July 5 and 12 at Doling Park; July 19 and 26 at Meador Park • Tues., 7 p.m., check-in 6-6:45 • $10/week or $35/All four weeks  
Ages 5 yrs. and up
A four-week series of timed biathlon-style races, including a 150-meter swim and one-mile run. Bring your running shoes and swimsuit. Participants earn points each week. Top three in each age group are recognized following the event. Free t-shirt with registration for two or more weeks. Doling and Meador Parks 837-5900.
**Employee Crisis Fund Donation Incentives**

Have you donated to the Employee Crisis Fund lately? If not visit the Crisis Fund tent at the Employee Picnic to take advantage of this offer and help your fellow co-workers!

The Springfield-Greene County Park Board has graciously offered the following one-time incentives for this special kick-off for the Employee Crisis Fund:

When an employee makes a minimum $25 donation at the Employee Picnic, they can choose from the following:

- One Round of ‘Golf’ at Rivercut, Horton Smith, or Payne Stewart Golf Courses
- 4 Rounds of ‘Golf’ at the Betty Allison @ Oscar Blom Golf Course
- 4 Complimentary Admissions to the Dickerson Park Zoo
- 4 Complimentary Admissions and Skate Rentals at Mediacom Ice Park

Donations may be in form of payroll deduction OR a one-time $25 donation to the Crisis Fund. This offer is only available at the Employee Picnic! For more information about these incentives or the Crisis Fund please contact Kara Daniel, at 864-1621 or kdaniel@springfieldmo.gov.

To: Officer Mardie Keller

I would like to give a big THANK YOU to Officer Keller. She has been dispatched to my home a few different times due to an intelligent teenager. She not only was professional, but had compassion. She needs to be recognized for the awesome officer she is!

Sincerely, Lyne Young

To: Judge Todd Thornhill

Please accept the Supreme Court’s profound thanks for your service on its Municipal Division Work Group. The Court recognizes your extraordinary efforts in digesting the enormous volume of materials on the complex issues before you, your diplomacy working with multiple individuals and entities, and your wisdom, experience, and impartiality in determining appropriate recommendations to the Court.

The great importance of the issues facing this work group required a team of individuals whose credentials were recognized and respected and who were willing to commit the time and energy necessary to complete the tasks assigned. The Court was, indeed, fortunate that you accepted the challenge. Thank you for your service to Missouri’s judiciary.

Sincerely, Patricia Breckenridge, Chief Justice

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**Free Workout Opportunities from inBalance**

**Strength, Core & More!**

**WHEN:** Mondays & Wednesdays, 12:05 p.m. and 12:45 p.m.

**WHERE:** Mediacom Ice Park Pro Shop Lobby

Interval-style class which allows each person to work at his/her own personal fitness level. The class includes a variety of exercises and equipment targeting full body resistance training, core/abdominal strength, balance and agility. Suitable for all fitness levels from beginner to advanced - YOU control the intensity of the workout! For more details, please email: Ally McCall, ontargetpersonaltraining@gmail.com

**Pilardio**

**WHEN:** Mondays & Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m. and 11:55 a.m.

**WHERE:** Midtown Carnegie Branch Library Basement

Come join us for a 25-minute blend of Pilates-style exercises and low impact cardio. Great for ALL fitness levels, wonderful for beginners and anyone looking for a quick workout that’s easy on the joints. No equipment needed unless you prefer your own mat. For more details, please email: Ally McCall, ontargetpersonaltraining@gmail.com

**Workout Remix**

**WHEN:** Tuesdays & Thursdays, noon and 12:55 p.m.

**WHERE:** Midtown Carnegie Branch Library Basement

Tuesdays - A mix of cardio and toning, suitable for people of all fitness levels. Thursdays - Participants get to choose from a mix of different workouts such as Pilates, Pound, Kickboxing, and Zumba. For more details, please email: Amy Carney, amyannette1@yahoo.com

**Noon Time Fitness**

**WHEN:** Tuesdays & Thursdays, noon and 12:45 p.m.

**WHERE:** Mediacom Ice Park or Drury Field (weather permitting)

A full body workout that utilizes circuit training, weights and cardio. Workouts are customized to your fitness level and will move you to the next step of your fitness goal. This class is a great way to get exercise and fresh air at the same time! For more details, please email: Machelle Petit, mpett@springfieldmo.gov

**Yoga**

**WHEN:** Mondays & Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m.-6:45 p.m.

**WHERE:** Fire Station #1, 720 E. Grand

Free yoga class available to all City of Springfield employees and their family members! Classes are taught by certified instructor, Mona Alphin. All fitness levels are welcome. Mats and equipment are provided, but feel free to bring your own! Classes are great for beginners, with challenging poses for the advanced. For more details, please email: Ben Hunt, bhunt@springfieldmo.gov
Looking for old barns to tear down for the lumber to build furniture. We will clear everything from the site as a benefit to the property owner. Please contact Olivia at 417-849-0865.


‘95 Ford Conquest –$13,000 (Ozark, MO)
‘95 Conquest in excellent condition; well taken care of and maintained. New tires, new generator and stove. New batteries. Call Rex or Vera at (417) 818-4586.

2Bd/2Ba Garden Level Condo in Northern Branson behind Walmart, Kohls, and Bed Bath and Beyond. All appliances stay and will leave some furniture. In the process of painting entire unit and putting down new vinyl in kitchen and baths. If I finish $73,000, if you finish (I’ll leave paint and flooring) $70,000. Call Mary at 573-747-8705 or Johnnie at 636-524-9541. Parked in Branson.

Large L-shaped simulated cherry office desk with beautiful matching hutch from office depot ($200.00). Solid oak entertainment center with pull-out swivel television holder, including a 31” TV, and lots of cabinet space and built to last a lifetime ($250.00). Contact Joe at 343-3117.