Significant growth fuels Springfield Art Museum master plan

The Springfield Art Museum is pleased to announce that it has hired BNIM to develop a master plan for the museum’s building and grounds. The museum is proud to celebrate 90 years of service to southwest Missouri in 2018. Recent significant growth in visitation, increased demand for expansion of services, and aging/outdated educational facilities have required museum leadership to strategically plan for the next 90 years of service to the community.

In August 2017, the Art Museum Board, with the backing of a generous anonymous donor, issued a Request For Qualifications for firms, or teams of firms, who could provide professional services for the creation of a master plan focused on three areas: renovation, replacement, and/or expansion of the existing education wing, renovation of the existing building to improve visitor experience and develop administrative spaces, and improvements to the grounds to better connect the museum to surrounding amenities including historic Phelps Grove Park and the nearby Waterwise Garden.

BNIM, with offices in Kansas City, Des Moines, and San Diego, was selected from a pool of talented firms, or teams of firms.
and well-respected applicants. Founded in 1970, BNIM received the 2011 AIA National Architecture Firm Award and can be recognized from iconic work on the Bloch Building Addition and Bloch Impressionist Galleries at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, the Kaufman Center for the Performing Arts, Kansas City Ballet's Todd Bolender Center for Dance & Creativity, the University of Iowa Museum of Art and visual arts building, and the Princeton University Lewis Center for the Arts. BNIM was also responsible for “greening” projects at both the White House and the Pentagon.

Museum Director Nick Nelson notes, “We were particularly impressed with BNIM’s proven track record in working with art institutions within a municipal structure. Equally exciting, is their practice of extending the museum experience to the outdoors and surrounding natural amenities. Having a firm of their recognized abilities, being ranked within the top 20 national firms in the categories of design and sustainability, speaks to the quality and stewardship we value as an institution. We are confident that this master plan will carry these values forward into the next 90 years.”

As the museum moves through the master planning process, a number of community listening sessions and stakeholder meetings will be held to help identify unanticipated needs and inform the work of BNIM. Final concepts are anticipated in the spring. The Springfield Art Museum is located at 1111 E. Brookside Drive. Admission is always free. Donations are gratefully accepted.

*ART MUSEUM from page 1*

Garcia says, “Another barrier we eliminate is the uncertainty of whether going back to school will be worth it. We do the homework, working with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and others, to find out which fields are in high demand and will lead to real jobs. We also help with time, by holding classes right on-site in our Fulfillment Centers and scheduling them when they make sense for the associate’s work patterns.”

In addition to the Career Choice Program, Garcia will discuss what Amazon calls The Offer, wherein once a year, the company offers to pay fulfillment center employees up to $5,000 to quit.

Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos explained the policy, first called Pay to Quit, in a 2014 letter to shareholders.

“The goal is to encourage folks to take a moment and think about what they really want. In the long run, an employee staying somewhere they don’t want to be isn’t healthy for the employee or the company,” Bezos wrote.

Prior to joining Amazon in 2015, Garcia spent six years serving as assistant secretary of the U.S. Navy for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, appointed to the position by President Barack Obama. Garcia also served a term in the Texas House of Representatives. He is a graduate of the University of California, Los Angeles, Harvard Law School and Harvard Kennedy School.

*JUAN GARCIA from page 1*

Garcia says. “Another barrier we eliminate is the uncertainty of whether going back to school will be worth it. We do the homework, working with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and others, to find out which fields are in high demand and will lead to real jobs. We also help with time, by holding classes right on-site in our Fulfillment Centers and scheduling them when they make sense for the associate’s work patterns.”

In addition to the Career Choice Program, Garcia will discuss what Amazon calls The Offer, wherein once a year, the company offers to pay fulfillment center employees up to $5,000 to quit.

Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos explained the policy, first called Pay to Quit, in a 2014 letter to shareholders.

“The goal is to encourage folks to take a moment and think about what they really want. In the long run, an employee staying somewhere they don’t want to be isn’t healthy for the employee or the company,” Bezos wrote.

Prior to joining Amazon in 2015, Garcia spent six years serving as assistant secretary of the U.S. Navy for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, appointed to the position by President Barack Obama. Garcia also served a term in the Texas House of Representatives. He is a graduate of the University of California, Los Angeles, Harvard Law School and Harvard Kennedy School.

*About MOmentum*

MOmentum: State of the Workforce Luncheon is hosted by the City of Springfield’s Department of Workforce Development and sponsored by the Ozark Region Workforce Development Board, City Utilities, The Network and the Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce. The event, now in its fourth year, brings together hundreds of area employers, human-resource managers and executives to hear the findings of the annual MOmentum: State of the Workforce Survey and share insights on improving the quality of the local workforce, meeting the needs of small and rural businesses and preparing students for tomorrow’s jobs.

MOmentum 2018 will be held at 11:30 a.m., Feb. 20 at the White River Conference Center. Tickets are $30 and can be purchased at springfieldmo.gov/momentum. A limited amount may still be available for purchase at the door.
Assistant City Manager Collin Quigley presented the implementation budget for the recently renewed Level Property Tax to City Council at its Lunch Workshop on Jan 23. Voters approved the renewal of the tax in November 2017 with 75 percent support. Level Property Tax is used to fund public safety, stormwater and public facility improvements and staffing to support the projects approved for the funds’ use.

Quigley laid out a detailed plan and timeline that includes all of the promised projects that were included in the Council bill authorizing the ballot in August 2017. The plan utilizes both the issuance of debt (bonds) for large-scale capital facilities and improvements and a “pay-as-you-go” strategy to fund on-going expenses, such as:

- Life-cycle replacement of vehicles & equipment
- Personnel
- One-time expenses for small-scale projects

Council has already approved the funding and amended this year’s budget for the purchase of land for Fire Station 13 (West-Central), the replacement of a fire engine and the first reading of appropriation of funding to remodel the former Springfield Mill and Lumber building for the additional police staffing.

Primarily, LPT has been utilized in the past for bonding large-scale capital facilities with long life spans. Quigley reminded City Council that the City still has approximately $27 million of existing debt that this fund supports until 2031, when the existing bonds will be paid off. This previous debt was issued to support the voter-approved bonds will be paid off. This previous debt was issued to support the voter-approved projects from prior LPT approvals.

The City plans to again issue debt in 2020 and 2026 to support current needs for large-scale capital facilities.

One of the primary reasons to remove the sunset provision from the tax, was to establish a funding source for annual life-cycle replacement of vehicles and equipment and to add staffing for additional high-priority needs.

In last year’s budget hearings, City Manager Greg Burris cobbled together carry-over and other one-time sources to replace police cars and fire engines. “Thanks to the voters’ approval in November, we will now begin utilizing the LPT for this unfunded need. Replacing public safety vehicles and equipment based on the lifecycle of each is a significant step forward for our community,” he said.

### 2020 Debt Issuance Bond Anticipated Projects: Approximately $33.5 Million

- New Fire Station 13 (West-Central)
- Replace Fire Stations 4 & 7 with New Stations
- Historic City Hall Renovations
- Police Headquarters Roof Replacement
- New Public Works Grounds Operations Maintenance Building
- Replace the existing Animal Shelter with a New Facility
- Fire Station Upgrades to all existing stations except 4 and 7 including various facility improvements, such as roofs and window replacements, HVAC, electrical and mechanical system upgrades, parking lots maintenance/repairs, etc.
- Jordan Creek Regional Detention Basin at Chestnut and Trafficway
- Stormwater Improvement Projects (all zones)

### 2026 Debt Issuance Bond Projects: Approximately $8 Million

- New Police Property and Evidence Storage Facility
- New Fire Station 14 (West Station)

### Pay-As-You-Go Projects

- Life-Cycle Replacement of Vehicles and Equipment
- Public Works and Public Safety Staffing
- Contribution to the Greene County Jail Expansion
- Comprehensive Plan Development
- Design Fees and Land Acquisition Expenses

### Police Staffing Timeline:

- 19 New Officers
- 3 New non-sworn staff

**Timing:**

- **January 2019-10 recruits**
  - 6 for Family Violence Unit
  - 4 for Property Crimes Unit

- **January 2020-6 recruits**
  - 3 for Property Crimes Unit
  - 3 for Vice Unit

- **January 2021-3 recruits**
  - 3 for Vice Unit

Fire Staffing Timeline:

- **Station 13** (7 Firefighters from the current SAFER Grant)
- **Station 14** (12 New Firefighters in 2026)

Public Works Staffing Timeline:

- Staffing immediately for Project Management
- Staffing for Facilities' Maintenance for New and Fully Renovated Facilities

Jail Contribution

Funding as agreed upon with Greene County to contribute $200,000 a year for 10 years, beginning in July 2018 (beginning of fiscal year) for the jail expansion. Quigley explained that if the City tried to fund this prior to July, the LPT fund balance would go negative in year 2024. “Our cash flow is very tight,” Quigley explained, pointing to a spreadsheet containing full annual cash flow projections.

Next steps: City Council will be presented annually with the City’s budget for the anticipated expenditures within the LPT fund for capital and personnel to be funded from the LPT fund. This will be highlighted in this year’s budget workshops as staff and Council review the Special Revenue Funds proposed budgets.

A column labeled FY19 on the cash flow spreadsheet available at springfieldmo.gov, details what proposed projects will be presented to City Council with the proposed FY19 budget later this year. Those projects include: police life-cycle replacement of equipment and vehicles and additional investigators; seven firefighters; design costs for construction projects and public works staff to assist the project management; Greene County jail agreement commitment and a portion of the cost to begin the development of a Citywide Comprehensive Plan.
Residential fires in Springfield homes fall to 10-year low

Just eight months into the Springfield Fire Department’s most aggressive community risk reduction campaign to date, residential fires and fire-related injuries in the City of Springfield have fallen to their lowest numbers in 10 years, with fire-related fatalities in 2017 also below average. In 2017, there were 218 home fires in Springfield, down from a high of 288 in 2008. There were 12 fire-related injuries, compared to a high of 20 in 2009.

In 2017, no one died as a result of fire in their home. The City did, however, have one fire-related fatality. Tragically, a man died from injuries sustained when gasoline fumes ignited at a gas pump in November. In 2016, five people died in fires in the City of Springfield. The average number of fire-related fatalities per year in Springfield is 3.2.

Chief David Pennington says many factors have contributed to the declining numbers of home fires and fire-related injuries, including Project RED Zone. In April 2017, the Fire Department launched Project RED Zone, an aggressive community risk-reduction campaign aimed at reducing home fires, fire-related injuries and deaths in the community.

Despite successes, Chief Pennington recognizes work still needs to be done. Department statistics show in 2017, smoke alarms were installed in just 52 percent of homes where fires occurred. Of those, they were operational in 55 percent. “We still have work ahead of us to ensure that every home in Springfield has working smoke alarms,” Pennington says.

Along with fire-related injuries and deaths, nearly every major category of home fires were down in 2017 compared to 2016. Cooking fires fell nearly 10 percent, but remain the leading cause of home fires in Springfield. Electrical fires fell 13 percent. Of all the major fire types, only careless smoking and home heating fires posted increases in 2017 over the year prior. Approximately 12 percent of home fires are caused by careless smoking. Another 9 percent are caused by home heating.

Overall, 3/4 of all home fires are accidental and can be prevented by following some basic fire safety tips.

If you smoke:

• Use a sturdy ashtray or one filled with sand to collect ashes. Do not use a flammable container such as Tupperware and never use a potted plant. Potting soil contains combustible materials.
• Ashtrays should be set on something sturdy and hard to ignite, like a table.
• Put it out. The cigarette needs to be completely stubbed out in the ashtray.
• Do not let cigarette butts pile up on top of one another. Empty your ashtray often by first soaking the cigarette butts in water. NEVER toss hot cigarette butts or ashes in the trash.
• If you are drowsy, put it out. Fires caused by cigarettes often start on or next to the victim – in bed, on a sofa or in the trash.

Cooking safety tips:

• Stay in the kitchen while cooking and use a timer to remind you that you are cooking.
• Keep anything that can catch fire away from your stovetop.
• Keep a lid nearby when you’re cooking to smother small grease fires. Smother the fire by sliding the lid over the pan and turn off the stovetop. Leave the pan covered until it is completely cooled. For an oven fire turn off the heat and keep the door closed.
• If you choose to try and put out the fire yourself, be sure everyone else is evacuating and someone has called 911.

Home heating tips:

• Keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from heating equipment, like the furnace, fireplace, wood stove, or portable space heater.
• Have a three-foot “kid-free zone” around open fires and space heaters.
• Never use your oven to heat your home.
• Have a qualified professional to install stationary space heating equipment, water heaters or central heating equipment according to the local codes and manufacturer’s instructions.
• Have heating equipment and chimneys cleaned and inspected every year by a qualified professional.
• Remember to turn portable heaters off when leaving the room or going to bed.
• Always use the right kind of fuel, specified by the manufacturer, for fuel burning space heaters.
• Make sure the fireplace has a sturdy screen to stop sparks from flying into the room. Ashes should be cool before putting them in a metal container. Keep the container a safe distance away from your home.

See RESIDENTIAL FIRES on page 5
Other tips:
• Don’t overload electrical outlets.
• Avoid use of extension cords, if possible.
• Keep matches and lighters away from children.
• Keep furnace/water heater closet free of storage.
• Clean your dryer lint trap after each use.
• Avoid use of candles.
• Have working smoke alarms. Smoke alarms should be installed on every level and in every bedroom. For a free smoke alarm or battery, call 874-2300.

Wendy Garrison joins Springfield Municipal Court

Wendy Garrison of Springfield joined the City as a Municipal Court judge on Jan. 30. She replaces Judge Becky Borthwick, who resigned in April 2016 to fill a Greene County Associate Circuit Court judgeship seat.

Council appointed Garrison to the position with a resolution at its Jan. 16 meeting. Garrison’s four-year term will expire Jan. 30, 2022.

“We are pleased that Wendy has chosen to continue her career in public service by joining Judge Todd Thornhill and the team at Municipal Court,” said City Manager Greg Burris.

Since 2010, Garrison has served as an assistant public defender IV for the state of Missouri in Springfield. She was a partner in the law firm of Twibell, Johnson, Johnson & Garrison in Springfield from 2002 until 2010. She was in private practice in Neosho from 1998 until 2002, where she also served as a conflicts attorney for the Missouri State Public Defender. Garrison’s law experience also includes serving as an assistant city attorney for the city of Neosho and as a Newton County assistant prosecuting attorney.

Garrison received her law degree from the University of Tulsa College of Law and her bachelor of arts degree in English from Drury University.

She is a member of the Missouri Bar Association, the Missouri Bar Foundation Board of Trustees, the Springfield Metropolitan Bar Association and the Christian County Bar Association. She’s a 2015 recipient of the Missouri Lawyers Media’s Public Service Practitioner Award and a 2010 recipient of the Springfield Business Journal Twenty Most Influential Women Award.

“I am looking forward to serving the citizens of Springfield in a judicial capacity and working with Judge Thornhill in efficiently running the courts,” Garrison said. “I am excited to follow in Judge Becky Borthwick’s footsteps by having the opportunity to participate in and expand Homeless Court in an effort to benefit both the community and the individual participants.”

SPD releases Quarterly Public Safety Report

During the fourth quarter of 2017, SPD reported an overall decrease in crime by 15 percent. This is in comparison to the crime statistics from October through December 2016, and is shown in the Springfield Police Department’s latest Quarterly Public Safety Report.

Crimes against persons (violent crime) increased by about 8 percent compared to the fourth quarter of 2016, while there was an 18 percent decrease in crimes against property.

Chief Paul Williams comments on the notable drops in reported larcenies and vehicle thefts.

“The fourth quarter of 2016 was when we began seeing significant spikes in these crimes. For instance, reports of shoplifting and thefts of property inside motor vehicles were 44 percent higher in November 2016 than in November 2017. The numbers shown in the fourth quarter of 2017 reflect what can be considered within more of a normal range for what we typically see in Springfield,” said Williams. “We do not want these decreases to cause citizens to let their guard down. It is just as important as ever to keep your property locked up.”

The Quarterly Public Safety Report also features information about the pedestrian safety ordinance that went into effect in December 2017. SPD immediately began educating pedestrians and motorists of the new ordinance, and in January, the department began enforcement.

Connect with the City
#MyCitySGF
Are you connected with the City on social media?

More than ever, we are using social media to bring information to you. Make sure you are connected to catch news, photos, job opportunities and more.
New job-training program to address skills gap in local workforce

A good job is a great start. That’s the tagline of Change One Thousand Skills Academy, a new job-training program created by the City of Springfield Department of Workforce Development in partnership with the Ozark Region Workforce Development Board.

Director Mary Ann Rojas said the program, set to begin in February, will create pre-employment training opportunities for 1,000 individuals over the course of the next three years in the manufacturing, construction, transportation/logistics, IT and health care industries.

Training will be held at Missouri Job Center locations, partner organizations sites and The Fairbanks. Through existing partnerships and designated case managers, Change One Thousand will be distinctly qualified to address the most common barriers to employment such as childcare, transportation, mental health, substance abuse, disabilities, and criminal background.

Change One Thousand will begin with a pilot project highlighting opportunities in the Partnership Industrial Center East (PIC East) corridor. Training segments will be led by Bryan University and industry experts representing the PIC East employer consortium.

Rojas said the academy is designed to close the skills gap and create career pathways for individuals who meet the characteristics of being skills-deficient as a result of being unemployed or underemployed, living in poverty, or lacking access to resources and good jobs. Priority will be placed on recruiting residents of Springfield’s Zone 1, which has the highest unemployment rate and lowest per capita income of Springfield’s four zones.

“The desired result is a qualified workforce which supports an improved competitive edge for the industry,” Rojas said.

Those interested in the program can apply online at ChangeOneThousand.org or in person at the Missouri Job Center

Mayor’s Commission for Children welcomes new members

The Mayor’s Commission for Children welcomes six new members to the commission and its advisory council. Missy Riley and Jennifer McClure will join the commission’s existing members in February. The commission is adding four members to its newly formed advisory council. John Chastain, CoxHealth; Denise Frederick, Springfield Public Schools; Patrick Gartland, Boys and Girls Clubs of Springfield; and Amy Chenoweth, Missouri State University.

McClure is the vice president of strategic communication at Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce. Prior to this position, she served as a government affairs specialist for HBA of Greater Springfield.

Frederick will serve as the appointed advisory member to the commission, representing Springfield Public Schools.

Chastain is the system director of budgeting at CoxHealth and is a graduate of Missouri State University. He also currently serves as a board member for the Missouri State E-Factory Accelerator Board.

Gartland is the executive director of Boys and Girls Clubs of Springfield and has served terms as the president of Heart of the Ozarks Sertoma Club, as a member of the Ozarks Fighting Back Advisory Board, and on the education and workforce development committee for Field Guide 2030.

Chenoweth is currently an instructor at Missouri State University, a counselor in private practice and for OACAC Head Start, and is a certified community trainer for counselors, teachers, and parents in topics related to early childhood health.

Riley is currently the director of early childhood and Parents as Teachers for Springfield Public Schools.
Flu is on the rise: where to go and how to prevent getting sick

For the week of Jan. 26, 463 lab-confirmed flu cases were reported in Greene County, another uptick in cases as flu season seems to be in full swing in the Ozarks.

For those who aren’t feeling well, contacting your primary care physician can be an option. If you can’t get in to see your doctor, or don’t have one, Greene County has several options for care:

Telemedicine is a great option to stay home and avoid potentially exposing others. This allows patients to check in with their care provider virtually, rather than having to travel or sit in a waiting room.

Convenient Care, Urgent Care and Retail Clinic locations are good options for people experiencing the beginning stages of flu or other respiratory illnesses with symptoms such as fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, muscle or body aches, headaches or tiredness.

Links to resources in our area are available at health.springfieldmo.gov/flu

If you are sick, stay home for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone, without using fever-reducing medicine. Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze and try to avoid contact with others.

When to go to the Emergency Room:

There are scenarios where flu can progress to an illness that requires a visit to the Emergency Room. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention lists emergency warning signs for flu:

In children:
- Fast breathing or trouble breathing
- Bluish skin color
- Not drinking enough fluids

In adults:
- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- Pain or pressure in the chest or abdomen
- Sudden dizziness
- Confusion
- Severe or persistent vomiting
- Flu-like symptoms that improve but then return with fever and worse cough.

Anyone experiencing these symptoms should visit an emergency room.

For those who are feeling well and want to prevent getting sick:

Take time to get a flu vaccine—even if it proves to be less effective this year, some protection is better than none and often leads to less severe illness if you do get the flu.

A few reminders about getting vaccinated:
- Everyone over the age of 6 months is recommended to be vaccinated.
- Even if you were vaccinated last year, it is important to get vaccinated again this year to protect against changing flu viruses.

In addition to getting vaccinated, you can also help prevent the spread of many viruses by practicing proven disease prevention methods. This includes:
- Washing your hands often with soap and water. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer and then wash your hands with soap as soon as you are able.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. This is how germs are spread.
- Try to avoid close contact with sick people.

January sales tax check continues upward trend

The City of Springfield’s January sales tax check from the Missouri Department of Revenue is up 4 percent, or $145,305, compared to the amount budgeted. The sales tax check was $4,233,473 compared to the budgeted amount of $4,086,055.

The check reflects sales processed by the state in December from transactions made primarily in November. On a year to date basis, with January being the seventh month in the 2017-2018 fiscal year, revenues are down 1 percent compared to budget.

Compared to last January, monthly revenues are up 5 percent, or about $198,834.

The January check continues the upward trend that began with the December 2017 check, which was up 3 percent compared to the budgeted amount.

The December 2017 check was a rebound from the previous three monthly disbursements. The positive December and January distributions are a step in the right direction, according to David Holtmann, Director of Finance.

For several months, the city had been experiencing significant processing delays in vendor payments. November’s check was 7 percent below budget; October’s check was 9 percent below budget and September’s check was 7 percent below budget.

The City heavily relies on sales tax revenues as its main source of revenue to fund vital services, such as police and fire operations. In Springfield, approximately 56 percent of revenue in the General Fund comes from sales tax and use tax.
City staff bids farewell to BDS Director Chris Straw on Jan. 10 ... 

... and Deputy City Manager Tim Smith on Jan. 26
Art in our City: Through March 18. Springfield, Missouri is home to a vibrant artistic community. This exhibition highlights and celebrates the creativity of our community focusing on artists living and working in the many neighborhoods that make up our city. This exhibition not only concentrates on the artists on display but also their neighborhoods and what it means to live and work creatively in Springfield. The exhibit will rotate every six months; the first exhibition will feature work by eight artists from five neighborhoods located in City Council Zone 1.

The Structured Landscape: Through March 25. Buildings of all shapes, sizes, and styles are ever-present in our environment. A simple landscape becomes more interesting when dwellings or other architectural structures are included as part of the scene. This exhibition is the sixth in a series, focusing on various artists, styles and trends, pulled exclusively from the Museum’s outstanding collection of contemporary American aquamaedia.

Richard Tuttle: Lines and Edges: Through March 25. Richard Tuttle has spent the majority of his career working within a very limited set of formal constraints – line, color, and form – to explore deeper issues of abstraction. His practice has encompassed a wide variety of materials from etchings, aquatints, and woodcuts to more ordinary materials such as cardboard, Styrofoam, wire, wood, cloth and rope.

Tai Chi With Dee Ogilvy: Fridays, Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23 : 9–10 a.m. Great for adults of any age and physical fitness level. Requires no special equipment. Relaxed, composed flowing movements that combine strength with gentleness. Beginners are welcome! Free and open to the public.

1 Million Cups Springfield: Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28: 8:30–10 a.m. The 3rd largest 1 Million Cups Community out of nearly 100 national and international communities. The program was created based on the notion that entrepreneurs discover solutions and network over a cup of coffee. Each community uses the same format, two presenters, one hour, lots of free coffee, and asking of the generous question of “What can we as a community do to help your business?”

Wonder Rooms: Ozark Collections: Through Feb. 11. Wonder Rooms examines the human desire to collect, with a specific focus on private collections in Southwest Missouri, in order to discover the underlying stories and driving impulses behind collecting. The exhibit will present representative works from ten local media arranged in cabinets or ‘rooms,’ including ceramics, photography, outsider art, local art, furniture, prints and drawings.

Chamber Music Concert: Grant Wood Lithographs: Feb. 18, 3 – 4 p.m. Please join St. Mark’s Square for an intimate afternoon of chamber music inspired by our current special exhibition, “Grant Wood: Lithographs.” St. Mark’s Square is a string quartet featuring permanent chair musicians of the Springfield Symphony Orchestra. The members of St. Mark’s have performed around the world, from Broadway to Carnegie Hall to concert stages abroad. The ensemble will be performing a gallery concert featuring music of Antonín Dvořák, George Gershwin, and Leonard Bernstein. Due to generous grant funding from the Springfield Regional Arts Council, through Community Foundation of the Ozarks’ Arts & Culture fund donors, this concert series is FREE and open to the public.

All School Exhibition: March 3–April 29 This annual show features work by student artists from across our community, in kindergarten through 12th grades. This exhibit celebrates Youth Art Month and has been a staple of our exhibition schedule for decades.

All School Exhibition Opening Receptions:
  • Middle/High School: March 2, 5:30–7:30 p.m.
  • Elementary School: March 4, 2–4 p.m.

The Ultimate Springfield Cave Tour: Feb. 24–25. A half day of adventure and caving around the Springfield area. Hike to the outside of the caves at Ritter Springs Park, walk through Giboney Cave at Doling Park, and take a boat through Sequiota Cave at Sequiota Park. Transportation and gear is provided. Participants encouraged to bring additional headlamps or flashlights, as well as snacks and water. Space is limited. Register at ParkBoard.org/Outdoor by February 23. Ages: 6 yrs. and up (6-17 yrs. with an adult), $15/Person

Try Hockey for Free Day: March 3: 1 p.m. Kids interested in ice hockey? Give it a try. We provide coaches and equipment. Skating experience not required, but registration is. Age 10 yrs. and under. Located at Mediacom Ice Park.

City of Springfield congratulates WOW on being named America’s Best New Attraction

On behalf of City Council and the City of Springfield, Mayor Ken McClure congratulates Wonders of Wildlife National Museum and Aquarium on being named America’s Best New Attraction in a recent USA Today national poll.

“The community is very proud of Wonders of Wildlife, Bass Pro and Johnny Morris on this impressive recognition. We agree that the museum is a world-class attraction that helps put Springfield on the map as a major tourist destination,” McClure said. “We are especially thankful to Mr. Morris for being very committed to our region, our people, and especially our youth. I also want to thank Springfield residents for stepping up and supporting WOW during this vote.”

Wonders of Wildlife celebrates people who hunt, fish and most importantly, act as stewards for environmental resources. It opened in September 2017 and is considered the world’s largest, most immersive fish and wildlife attraction. Wonders of Wildlife consists of an all-new 1.5-million-gallon aquarium adventure showcasing 35,000 live fish, mammals, reptiles and birds, and an immersive wildlife museum that brings visitors eye-to-eye with the greatest collection of record-setting game animals ever assembled. Located adjacent to Bass Pro Shops National Headquarters, the 320,000-square foot experience celebrates people who hunt, fish, and act as stewards of the land and water.

“Our importance as a community has been elevated by the presence of this unique conservation showcase,” said Mayor Pro Tem Jan Fisk. “The Morris family has given Springfield and the conservation community possibly the last great museum of its kind, even greater than the Natural History Museum in New York City and the Smithsonian Museums in Washington, D.C. Those who tour WOW will truly be inspired by the vision of Johnny Morris. We hope visitors from across the globe will fall in love with the Ozarks, the place we are fortunate to call home.”

Springfield Art Museum seeks entries for Watercolor USA 2018

The Springfield Art Museum is currently seeking entries for Watercolor USA 2018, highlighting the very best in contemporary American watermedia. This year’s exhibit will run from June 2 through Aug. 26. The deadline to apply is March 6.

Organized in 1962, this year marks the 57th year of Watercolor USA. The nationally-known exhibition is open to artists from all 50 states and U.S. territories, and seeks to discover what is new and what is next in the world of American watermedia. This year’s exhibit will be judged by Kelly Kane, former editor-in-chief of Watercolor Artist magazine and a leader in art publishing for more than 20 years.

Approximately $20,000 in cash prizes and possible museum purchase awards are available. Top awards include the $3,000 Kenneth M. Shuck Memorial Award, the $2,000 Greg G. Thielen Memorial Award, the $1,500 Bill Armstrong Memorial Award, and the $1,000 Robert E. Goodier Memorial Award For Traditional Transparent Watercolor, among others. Additional cash awards are generously provided by the Watercolor USA Honor Society.

Artists from all 50 states and U.S. territories, ages 18 and up, who are using watermedia as critical components of their work are eligible to apply. Artists whose work pushes the boundaries of traditional aqueous media are encouraged to enter. High realism, abstraction, traditional transparent watercolor, and innovative uses of the medium are all welcomed as the exhibit continues to expand and adjust with contemporary artistic practice, including the use of nontraditional supports and mounts.

For full information on entry rules, entry fees, and how to submit artwork, please visit sgfmuseum.org.
A Q&A of City of Springfield employees. To suggest a colleague for “Do You Know...?” e-mail thescene@springfieldmo.gov.

Rinda Davis
Health Program Coordinator, Health Department
Rinda has worked for the City for 13 years.

What’s something you’ve learned since working for the City? “There is a lot behind the scenes that goes into keeping the City safe and running smoothly. It is easy to take for granted when things are going well or complain when one part of the system does go down, but one must remember that, many people are doing many things to keep the system running. I think this has just given me an overall greater appreciation for all of the departments and the work they do.”

What’s the hardest part of your job? “Our team works to prevent diseases that often take years to show up. Our efforts often do not produce instant results. So it can be challenging at times to remember we are making a difference.”

What’s the best part of your job? “The people that I work with. We have a very dedicated, professional team at the Health Department. They are supportive and create a great workplace. I have made a lot of great friends with many of these individuals as well.”

What do you admire about this organization? “The variety of services that we provide paired with the intelligent, creative, and very capable work force that we have in place. I think the quality of our employees improves every year.”

If you could switch your job with anyone else within the City, whose job would you want? “A zoo keeper. I am a huge animal lover and enjoy working outside.”

Order City Spirit Shirts by 5 p.m. Feb. 2

For the employees who did not receive a City spirit shirt on the original order last summer, PIO is asking each department’s executive secretary who placed the original order to please follow up with their staff to discern who received a shirt, who did not, and then submit their department’s order to Sharon Spain by 5 p.m., Friday, Feb. 2 for the specific number of sizes and colors needed. Once the order is in, each department can pick up their boxes of shirts, and distribute them to their employees at the appropriate locations. New employees will receive spirit shirts during Welcome to the City orientation. Employees who would like to order additional or replacement shirts can submit their order to Sharon Spain directly, but are responsible for the cost. Cash and checks are accepted. Going forward, shirt orders will be placed once a quarter.

There is now a page on CityShare that details this information.
Refer a qualified job candidate and win movie tickets!

Human Resources is excited to kick off 2018 with a special promotion for anyone who participates in the Employee Referral Program! The program, launched in November, is designed to reward current employees for quality referrals, while bringing the City the most qualified applicants. Currently, the program is limited to hard-to-fill positions. Please review the list of eligible positions in the policy. You can access the full policy, as well as submit your referral application by visiting the Human Resources section on SharePoint.

Through the end of February, anyone who submits a valid referral will be entered to win a pair of movie tickets.

Postings are updated every Friday. Check our Jobs page, CityShare, or Monday Morning Announcements to stay up-to-date.

A valid referral meets all of the following requirements:
- Referring employee is a regular or contract employee
- Referral application is submitted by the employee for an eligible position before the posting’s deadline
- Applicant referred submits an application, answers ‘yes’ to being referred for the position, and provides the employee’s name

Procedure:
1. Ask a great candidate to apply, and indicate that you referred them on their application.
2. Complete the referral application found on CityShare.
3. A $500 award will be paid to the referring employee, for successful referrals, after 30 days of employment.

If you have questions please email hr@springfieldmo.gov or call Human Resources at 864-1607.

inBalance is now on Facebook!
Request to Join Today!
Search: inBalance - City of Springfield Employee Wellness

Stay up to date with our events & subscribe to the inBalance Share Point calendar today!
1. Go to inBalance Share Point site
2. Click “Calendar” (upper left corner)
3. Select “Alert Me”
4. Click “Set alert on this list” From here, you will be able to specify the notifications you would like to receive.

Questions? Email us inBalance@springfieldmo.gov

inBalance is partnering with Mercy to offer the City of Springfield employees a 4-week cooking workshop through inBalance University. Through the Basic Cooking Series, you will have the opportunity to learn the basics when it comes to preparing and cooking meals. You will learn how to plan meals, how to read labels, basic cooking skills (i.e. holding a knife, chopping, boiling an egg, etc.), and how to be mindful when you are eating.

For complete details, please visit: springfieldmo.gov/inbalance.

There are still a few dates left to attend our FREE blood pressure screenings. Visit springfieldmo.gov/inbalance for complete schedule.
All City of Springfield employees with a City e-mail and/or network login account have been enrolled in 2018 Cybersecurity training. This year's training is focused on one of our most serious cyber threats, e-mail phishing. This course takes approximately 20 minutes to complete and must be completed by Feb. 6.

To access the training website, open the CityShare home page and click the Help Desk link on the top menu. From the Help Desk page, click Links under the Cyber Security Awareness heading on the left-hand menu and then click on the SAFE Cyber Security Awareness Login Page link. Once you are logged in, select the My Courses button to locate and launch the course titled “S-1761-AP: Phishing.” Upon successful completion of the course, your score will be recorded and no further action will be required. Thank you for your help keeping our network and information safe!
FOR SALE

To submit ads, call 417-864-1003 or email TheScene@springfieldmo.gov.

Epson Workforce $45 for sale; Print/scan across wireless and wired networks, plus fax capabilities. $50… 417-864-1371, ask for Phil.

Vintage LXI Sears Series Speaker System (2 speakers), $15 for the pair. Model #564.93019750 Series. 32 1/4” H x 14” W x 12 1/2” D. Impedance 8ohm nominal. Woofer speaker 12” diameter, Mid-range speaker 4” diameter, Tweeter speaker 3” diameter. Contact Marcia at 417-379-8459.

Sony STR-DH830 7.1-channel Home Theater Receiver. $100. 7 HD Inputs (2 HDMI, 2 Optical/Component), iPod/iPhone playback with included dock, Remote Control, 2 HDMI cables included. Contact Marcia at 417-379-8459.

Panasonic DMR-EZ985V DVD Recorder & VHS Player with Built In Tuner, $100. DVD and VHS player and recorder. Can transfers vhs tapes to DVD and record tv shows. Includes HDMI cable, coaxial cable, remote control, and manual. Will also include approximately 40 blank DVD-R discs. Contact Marcia at 417-379-8459.

Reduced! Genuine HUMMER Paratrooper Mountain Bike. Full size, high-performance folding bicycle. Original style designed for military use for US Marines paratroopers. Folds in a matter of seconds for the car trunk or closet. Excellent condition. Ridden only on paved streets or trails a few times. Now asking $75. Contact Marcia at 417-379-8459.

Reduced! Black NuWave Oven Pro Plus with Extender Ring Kit. New in original box. Now asking $75. Contact Marcia at 417-379-8459.


Services

Farmhouse Picture Frames made of real wood. You choose your color! City Employee pricing: 8x10 ($25), 11x14 ($30), and 5x7 that holds up to 8 photos ($35). Have a size not listed? Let’s talk! For more info or pictures, call or text Chris at 417-894-2067.

Steve’s Scuba: City of Springfield employees and friends receive $100 off Open Water Certification Class (regular price $450 per person, special price is $350 per person). Save 10% on continuing educational classes; try scuba and lots of cabinet space and built to last a lifetime. Contact Marcia at 417-379-8459.

JR’S Handyman Service, 417-343-7772, Licensed & Insured. Services Offered: Tub Refinishing, Home Remodeling, Home Repairs. Also see us on Facebook@JR’s Handyman/Refinishing. Interested in Mary Kay products or hosting a party? Contact Maria Sanchez at 417-848-5357 or email mkmariasanchez@gmail.com. Also, ask how to receive a free facial.

Working with the Community

To: Tracy Whipple, 9-1-1 Telecommunicator

On Jan. 6, Republic Police Officer Sanders called to thank Tracy Whipple for all the extra work she put into helping him with a juvenile missing person call. The call started with an off-duty Clever police officer traveling to Republic to search for his missing nephew who had been with a family member. The family member had to deal with some issues they were experiencing, and the juvenile’s whereabouts were unknown or had been taken. After an extensive search involving multiple people, places, phone calls, and information from Telecommunicator Whipple, the child was located safe and sound.

To: Sgt. Snipes, Cpl. Dunnegan, Officer Cendejas, and Officer Worland

On Jan. 9 Mercy EMS, and the Fire and Police departments were all dispatched to Tall Grass Apartments for a female found unresponsive. The patient was only in her thirties but has many chronic medical issues, and first responders apparently did CPR and were able to keep her alive as she was transported to Mercy. I’m told our officers prayed with her husband when he requested it and also drove him to the hospital. He is extremely grateful to these officers and the other first responders from SFD and Mercy for all they did to save his wife’s life.

To: Building Development Services

Thank you to former BDS director Chris Straw and the whole BDS department for being so friendly and helpful with the relocation of Timmons Temple to Silver Springs Park to become Timmons Hall in 2018.

Friends of Timmons Temple


1988 Honda Goldwing, 1500cc with reverse, am, fm, cassette, three helmets and mic systems. A matching trailer comes with it. 106k miles. Runs great and looks great. $4,000 or best offer. For more info or pictures contact Richard at 417-818-3353.


Large L-shaped simulated cherry office desk with beautiful matching hutch from office depot ($200). 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). Contact Joe at 343-3117.

New & still in original box, Black NuWave Oven Pro Plus with Extender Ring Kit. Digital power head, cool to touch base, durable shatter-resistant BPA free power dome, 12” non stick liner pan, 1”/5” reversible cooking rack, and dome holder. Extra “Pro Plus” Extender Ring Kit includes a 2” cooking rack, 10” non stick baking pan, and 3” stainless steel extender ring. $100. Call Marcia at 417-379-8459.

Reduced! Genuine HUMMER Paratrooper Mountain Bike. Full size, high-performance folding bicycle. Original style designed for military use for US Marines paratroopers. Folds in a matter of seconds for the car trunk or closet. Excellent condition. Ridden only on paved streets or trails a few times. Now asking $75. Contact Marcia at 417-379-8459.

Farmhouse Picture Frames made of real wood. You choose your color! City Employee pricing: 8x10 ($25), 11x14 ($30), and 5x7 that holds up to 8 photos ($35). Have a size not listed? Let’s talk! For more info or pictures, call or text Chris at 417-894-2067.

Steve’s Scuba: City of Springfield employees and friends receive $100 off Open Water Certification Class (regular price $450 per person, special price is $350 per person). Save 10% on continuing educational classes; try scuba and lots of cabinet space and built to last a lifetime. Contact Marcia at 417-379-8459.

JR’S Handyman Service, 417-343-7772, Licensed & Insured. Services Offered: Tub Refinishing, Home Remodeling, Home Repairs. Also see us on Facebook@JR’s Handyman/Refinishing. Interested in Mary Kay products or hosting a party? Contact Maria Sanchez at 417-848-5357 or email mkmariasanchez@gmail.com. Also, ask how to receive a free facial.

Working with the Community

To: Building Development Services

Thank you to former BDS director Chris Straw and the whole BDS department for being so friendly and helpful with the relocation of Timmons Temple to Silver Springs Park to become Timmons Hall in 2018.

Friends of Timmons Temple


1988 Honda Goldwing, 1500cc with reverse, am, fm, cassette, three helmets and mic systems. A matching trailer comes with it. 106k miles. Runs great and looks great. $4,000 or best offer. For more info or pictures contact Richard at 417-818-3353.


Large L-shaped simulated cherry office desk with beautiful matching hutch from office depot ($200). 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). Contact Joe at 343-3117.

New & still in original box, Black NuWave Oven Pro Plus with Extender Ring Kit. Digital power head, cool to touch base, durable shatter-resistant BPA free power dome, 12” non stick liner pan, 1”/5” reversible cooking rack, and dome holder. Extra “Pro Plus” Extender Ring Kit includes a 2” cooking rack, 10” non stick baking pan, and 3” stainless steel extender ring. $100. Call Marcia at 417-379-8459.

Reduced! Genuine HUMMER Paratrooper Mountain Bike. Full size, high-performance folding bicycle. Original style designed for military use for US Marines paratroopers. Folds in a matter of seconds for the car trunk or closet. Excellent condition. Ridden only on paved streets or trails a few times. Now asking $75. Contact Marcia at 417-379-8459.

JR’S Handyman Service, 417-343-7772, Licensed & Insured. Services Offered: Tub Refinishing, Home Remodeling, Home Repairs. Also see us on Facebook@JR’s Handyman/Refinishing. Interested in Mary Kay products or hosting a party? Contact Maria Sanchez at 417-848-5357 or email mkmariasanchez@gmail.com. Also, ask how to receive a free facial.