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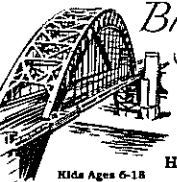
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 www.nsbnet.com
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OnTheAgenda

FEBRUARY MEETING
THURSDAY
FEBRUARY 12, 2009
11:45 A.M.
FOUNTAIN PLAZA ROOM
COX MEDICAL CENTER NORTH

SPEAKERS:
SCHOOL BOARD
CANDIDATES

TOPIC:
ELECTION FORUM

OnTheMenu

MIXED GREEN SALAD
CHICKEN FRIED STEAK
MASHED POTATOES WITH GRAVY
GREEN BEANS
DINNER ROLLS
ASSORTED DESSERTS
COFFEE, TEA & WATER
COST: \$8

InTheFuture

MARCH MEETING
WEDNESDAY
MARCH 11, 2009

SPEAKER:
CITY COUNCIL & MAYORAL CANDIDATES

TOPIC:
CANDIDATES' FORUM

Springfield City Manager Stresses Importance, Urgency of Pension Plan

Springfield City Manager Greg Burris informed the audience at the January general meeting of the importance of passing the Police and Fire Pension Proposal included on the February 3 ballot.

According to Burris, without the passage of the proposal, Springfield will have to undergo major changes in its day-to-day business activities. For instance, Burris said, the city will more than likely have to freeze at least 30 more positions while enduring further layoffs, no city employee will receive a raise or pay increase, several internal programs will be eliminated, the budget for city parks will need to be reduced by \$500 thousand per year, along with many other cuts.

The passage of this proposal means the city will not have to make so many dire cuts to trim its budget in hopes of coming closer to meeting its legal obligations to police and fire employees.

Currently, the city is \$195 million short in its budget from covering what is owed to police and fire employees and the problem of an unfunded pension costs Springfield \$39 thousand every day. The Police and Fire Pension Plan as on the ballot sets out a one-cent sales tax which would be charged for five years or until the pension plan reaches a 100 percent level of funding, whichever happens first.


The one-cent sales tax has the potential and is expected to generate \$40 million each year, enough money to fund the plan. In addition, visitors to the Springfield area are expected to actually pay 50 percent of this sales tax increase with the purchases they make while here. Burris said that is a good thing because it does not leave citizens in the community bearing the full brunt of the tax, and visitors are covered by the services offered by police officers and firefighters just as well as community members.

Burris encouraged voters to pass the initiative to take care of its police officers and firefighters, reminding everyone that these employees make up 56 percent of the city's budget. He also stressed the importance of this retirement benefit for these employees.

"Police officers and firefighters do not get Social Security," Burris said. "This is their retirement!"

For more information about the proposal and the city's budget, visit www.springfieldmo.gov.

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MeetYourMember

Darin Bridges has been a member of NSBA for two years. During that time, he has served on the board of directors for almost one year.

Bridges enjoys his membership with NSBA for many reasons.

"I have met some really great people," he said. "One of the things I love about NSBA compared to the other organizations I am involved with is that NSBA has a mission; I love this group for encouraging kids to stay in school and become respectable and responsible."

"NSBA is more of a personal passion than a business endeavor for me because I grew up on the North side and worked on the North side."

Bridges is active with several other community groups, as well. Some of these include serving on the board with Springfield's Best and membership with the Springfield, Nixa, Ozark, Hollister and Branson Chambers of Commerce.

"There is something so special about this NSBA group," Bridges said. "Rick Fay had a great passion for NSBA, so I decided to get involved."

"It seems some, not all, of the community organizations are self serving, but NSBA members are not. I have never been on a board of directors where people are so involved in trying to make a difference in their community."

Bridges and his wife, Michelle, have a son, Isaac, who is 8 years old. The family is very involved in outdoor activities, especially running. He also teaches marketing and operations at Drury and MSU. Isaac recently launched his first entrepreneurial venture, www.frogkit.net. Isaac makes outdoor survival kits.

Bridges said NSBA helps to instill this entrepreneurial spirit and ambition in other children by simply being supportive of their educational efforts.

WhoWeAre



Our Purpose:

To encourage and promote worthwhile and honorable endeavors which will make North Springfield a better place in which to work and live. Our intent is to be alert to our community's needs and well-versed and knowledgeable in order to take constructive action for community betterment.

NSBA BOARD OF DIRECTORS / OFFICERS

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NORTHSIDER STAFF
JACQUÉ HARNNESS, EDITOR

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E-mail: litho-stat@att.net Attn: Jacqué Harness

Plane Ride

Hi my name is Brandon Marler. I won my Airplane ride at a perfect attendance party. My name was drawn to get a prize. Once I got up to the prizes there were lots to choose from but I chose the Airplane ride. I've never been on an airplane and it was an awesome prize. After I got my prize a guy came up to and said he was on the board and said I was the first boy to get the plane ride. So a few days later my parents Cindy and Burnis Gibson called and a day that was good for them and us. When got to the airport we met the pilot who told us what we were going to do and he was a very nice guy. Before we got in the airplane with my mom and dad got in he checked everything. Then we all got in the airplane and left the airport. Then I got to fly the airplane to my house and back. At first I was nervous then I got a hang of it. The airplane ride was the best day of my life!

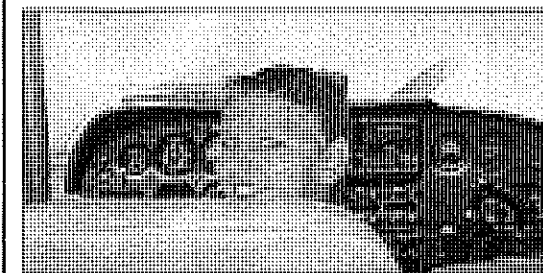


Brandon Marler won the airplane ride donated by Joe and Pat Jenkins at the Annual Attendance Party in May 2008.

Thank You,
Brandon Marler

Brandon Marler

Brandon Marler enjoys being behind the controls of an airplane.



Managers of Downtown Theater Accept Honor for Area Beautification

The **Commercial Beautification Award** for January was presented to Hollywood Theaters for their new location, College Station Stadium 14, located in downtown Springfield. House Manager Tyler Thompson and General Manager Rich Idiaquez accepted the award for the theater, which was developed by Scott Tillman.

According to Idiaquez, this theater was a four-year project and they are pleased with their end result.

"Without a doubt, this is the most beautiful theater we own," he said. "We are very thankful and happy to be in North Springfield."

Thompson echoed this sentiment of being pleased to be doing business in this community.

"We are glad to be a part of it," he said.

College Station Stadium 14 is located at 415 W. College Street, in the heart of the downtown revitalization area. For more information, call 799-3457 or send an e-mail to collegestation14@hollywood.com.

Nate's Numbers

Did you know?...

Students from Drury University's Media Department filmed a Public Service Announcement for NSBA which portrays Nate with kids from Boyd/Berry Elementary!



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