

SLANT

• Access to the front of the new federal building downtown is the subject of a public meeting at noon Tuesday, Aug. 26 in the McNutt Room at City Hall. The architects at Morphosis are world-class, but apparently think a wheelchair ramp is unsightly in this design. They prefer elevators. We urge the GSA and Judge Hogan to work with Morphosis to avoid making the same accessibility mistakes we've made in the past. Give us a wheelchair ramp, graceful or ugly – an accommodation that doesn't break down and doesn't require waiting. And let's keep in mind that being able-bodied is just temporary.

• Tony Corcoran's frustrations with the budget process in Salem are evident in his

Insider Baseball column this week, but some progress appears to be forthcoming on a temporary fix. Moderate Republicans are finally agreeing to a much-needed income tax surcharge. A longer-term fix requires an overhaul of our entire state tax system, but that means voters need to purge members of the House and Senate who are hell-bent on protecting corporate candy, and sabotaging government services.

• Cellist extraordinaire Matt Haimovitz played at Sam Bond's last year to a standing ovation. The audience, mouths agape, beheld a group revelation that evening; an open window into a sublime alcove of the human soul. Bricklayers and lawyers shoulder-to-shoulder experienced a supreme translator at play. Throughout the year

since, *EW* has encouraged Haimovitz's management to put the Emerald City back on his packed national tour schedule, and the phone just rang. Haimovitz returns to Sam Bond's Sept. 24! Don't wait long if you want tickets to this must-see event.

• We didn't hear back from *Springfield News* Editor Larry Berteau until after we published the rumor last week about the paper going daily. He confirms that "There are significant plans to 'grow' the paper, and one result of that could be adding 'days' to our present twice-weekly status." Berteau says he is typically "not satisfied with the status quo" and "all things must grow, or perish." Let's hope that philosophy doesn't translate to Springfield's ample urban growth boundary – or to our equally expansive waistlines.



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