

National Night Out set for Aug. 7 at Nichols Park *Neighborhood Night Out events to follow this fall*

By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor



Springfield Police
Chief Paul Williams

Each August, Springfield Police Chief Paul Williams and Springfield neighborhoods send a message to criminals: Springfield neighborhoods are organized and fighting back against crime.

Aug. 7 will mark Springfield's 7th annual

National Night Out event to coincide with the national public safety event, and its second year at Nichols Park, 1900 W. Nichols, in the Heart of the Westside neighborhood.

National Night Out offers residents a chance to get to know their local law enforcement representatives, fire personnel, first responders and other agencies and organizations that promote health and safety. The event gives families a chance to tour police, fire and safety vehicles, browse safety information booths and enjoy free hot dogs, ice cream and music. There will also be games and inflatables and a Police vs. Fire softball game starting at 7 p.m.

This free event is a result of collaboration among Community Partnership of the Ozarks, Springfield-Greene County Park Board and the City of Springfield.

National Night Out celebrates the culmination of crime prevention activity in all Springfield neighborhoods: people working together in associations and other groups to prevent and address crime and other neighborhood problems. It also promotes healthy neighborhoods and encourages people to get out and get to know one another.

"It is an occasion to celebrate past successes, discuss current challenges or issues, and re-dedicate collaborative efforts with neighbors, police, businesses and others to improve the quality of life in our city." – Police Chief Paul Williams

Past National Night Out campaigns involved citizens, law enforcement agencies, civic groups, businesses, neighborhood organizations and local officials from thousands of communities from all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canadian cities and military bases worldwide.

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Neighborhood Advisory Council *elects Rusty Worley as next chair*

By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor

Springfield's Neighborhood Advisory Council (NAC) unanimously elected Rusty Worley as its next chair at its May 9 meeting.

Worley replaces Pete Radecki, who completed three years as chair at the end of June. Zone 1 City Councilwoman Phyllis Ferguson was the NAC's first chair from the NAC's inception in 2013 until she was elected to the Zone 1 council seat in April 2015. Radecki will continue to participate in the NAC as past chair and as a representative from the Bissett Neighborhood Association.

"It has been a privilege to serve as the NAC chair the past three years. I have appreciated very much the collaboration we have had between neighborhood leaders, City staff and City Council members — all toward the betterment of Springfield and its neighborhoods," Radecki said. "Having known and worked with Rusty Worley for over a decade, I can say NAC is in very capable hands

as he assumes the role of chair. I look forward to seeing NAC's continuing development under his leadership."

Worley, who is vice president of the West Central Neighborhood Alliance and lives in a restored 1896 Victorian home in West Central with his family, is one of the founders of the Birthplace of Route 66 Festival. The festival began as a neighborhood car show and festival in 2011 and has grown exponentially each year, bringing 53,000 attendees to downtown Springfield in 2017 with an estimated economic impact of \$1.4 million.

He has served as the executive director of the Downtown Springfield Association for 12 years. Prior to joining the DSA staff, he was a member of



► See **RUSTY WORLEY** on page 3



Welcome to the Summer 2018 edition of SGF Neighborhood News!

Keep up with what's going on in Springfield neighborhoods and get to know your neighbors with this quarterly newspaper and website.

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Greg Burris

thanks neighborhoods for civic engagement as he steps down as City Manager

By Greg Burris, Publisher

As I step down as City Manager effective June 30, I want to thank the citizens of Springfield for their civic engagement and encourage you to keep going!

The very fact that you are reading the SGF Neighborhood News shows a level of engagement in your city. Keep reading future editions. SGFNN is a wonderful way for us all to communicate with each other.

Many of you attend neighborhood association meetings. Some of you serve in leadership positions on neighborhood association boards. Keep attending and leading. This "grass roots" participation is a key to our neighborhoods' continuous improvement. Things get better when you get involved.

And finally, keep watching the horizon. Our community, like all others in our country and many around the world, will be experiencing significant changes over the next 20-30 years. Ask yourself, "How should we be preparing our community for those anticipated changes?"

I believe Springfield is positioned well for the future changes that will occur. We have a strong local economy with anchors such as healthcare and education. We have a dynamic downtown that continues to be a talent magnet. We are a weird stew of skills, backgrounds and dreams. Building on this fertile ground, anything is possible.

You can help shape our community for the future. In fact, you already are. Keep yourself informed. Participate in the process. Meet your neighbors, and talk to them. Vote.

Most of us have very busy lives, but investing some time in your neighborhood — and your neighbors — not only makes your community better and more vibrant, but it's also good for our entire city. Strong neighborhoods are the building blocks of a strong city.

It has been my pleasure and honor to serve as city manager for the past decade. I wish Jason Gage all the best as he takes the reins, and I am comfortable knowing he is inheriting a special set of neighborhoods.



Jason Gage

named next City Manager

By Cora Scott, Executive Editor

Springfield City Council announced June 1 that Jason Gage will be Springfield's next City Manager. His planned start date is Aug. 1.

"Jason emerged from a very strong pool of candidates," said Mayor Ken McClure. "He was the best fit for Springfield with his experience in public safety and economic development, which are two of City Council's main priorities. In addition, he has experience working in a community that has a strong educational background, Stillwater, Oklahoma. Like Springfield, there is a strong town-gown relationship there. We are pleased to welcome him to our community."

Gage has served as Salina, Kansas City Manager for 13 years, having previously served as the City Manager of Stillwater, Oklahoma. He graduated from Missouri Southern State College in Joplin with a bachelor's degree in political science and completed a masters' degree in Public Administration at the University of Missouri — Columbia. He served as City Manager of De Soto, Missouri from 1994 to 1999 and was Salina's Assistant City Manager from 1999 to 2003.

"I am very thankful for the opportunity to serve in my home state as Springfield's City Manager. I have always considered Springfield to be the finest community in the state. It is full of wonderful people and has a distinctive, progressive quality. In addition, this area of the state is absolutely beautiful! I truly look forward to meeting the people of Springfield and working with the City Council, fellow employees and community leaders," Gage said.

As Salina City Manager, Gage provided leadership for a \$155 million redevelopment project to renew Salina's downtown. The project includes a partnership with key members of Salina's business community to develop a downtown athletic tournament fieldhouse, a premier hotel and conference facility, a vintage automotive museum, a family entertainment venue, downtown loft and apartment housing, an enhanced streetscape, and

niche retail/restaurant development. He is currently providing direct management support for design of a \$30 million "Smoky Hill River" renewal project, including; full stream-bed restoration, ecosystem upgrades, downtown river walk improvements, complementary hiking/biking, sidewalk and trail network, related bridge replacements, and recreational opportunities.

"I have always considered Springfield to be the finest community in the state. It is full of wonderful people and has a distinctive, progressive quality... I truly look forward to meeting the people of Springfield and working with the City Council, fellow employees and community leaders."

In 2012, Gage established a Continuous Process Improvement (CPI) Program. This program implements Lean Six Sigma (LSS) tools throughout the organization to reduce non-value operational time and improve organizational efficiency. Over the last four years, this approach to efficiency has resulted in approximately 900 total improvements and \$2.9 million in net efficiency/cost reductions (which is projected to be \$5.3 million through 2018).

Gage was offered a one-year contract with a base salary of \$220,000.

Assistant City Manager Collin Quigley will serve as interim City Manager between July 1 and July 31.

About Salina, Kansas

The City of Salina has 480 employees and an annual budget of \$137 million, serving a city of 49,000 residents.





► **NATIONAL NIGHT OUT** from page 1

CRIME PREVENTION

The Springfield Police Department uses a variety of crime prevention and community engagement strategies to increase ways that citizens can protect themselves and their property.

Community policing is a collaborative effort between the police department and the community that identifies problems of crime and disorder and involves all elements of the community in the search for solutions to these problems. It is founded on close, mutually beneficial ties between police and community members.

Police Area Representative (PAR) officers use problem-oriented policing to produce long-term solutions to the problems of crime or decay in communities. Police, residents and other agencies or organizations work together to identify and find the causes for neighborhood crime problems, then develop responses to those problems. In most cases, the responses developed through problem-oriented policing are joint police-community actions, which also involve participation by a variety of other departments within the City of Springfield. By doing this, the PAR officers are able to resolve long-standing neighborhood issues, thereby avoiding an escalation of those specific incidents. Citizens can locate their PAR officers at the City's website.



Police vs. Fire Softball Game

Neighborhood Watch, Block Watch, Apartment Watch and Business Watch are voluntary programs organized by concerned citizens to reduce crime. Working with local law enforcement agencies, citizens can learn when and how to report suspicious activities,

assist in property identification, conduct security surveys and implement security measures and precautions.

Crime Prevention Officers coordinate and help organize watch groups and perform commercial and residential security surveys using established Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles.

Crime prevention officers are available to present on varied topics, including robbery prevention, drugs, residential security, commercial vandalism and burglaries and personal safety. They can be reached at 417-874-2113. Crime prevention tips are available at springfieldmo.gov/spd.

NEIGHBORHOOD NIGHT OUT

National Night Out doesn't replace the annual Neighborhood Nights Out. Individual neighborhood and homeowner associations are encouraged to hold their own events following National Night Out to allow residents to get to know their neighbors.



Doling Neighborhood Night Out, 2017

Neighborhood Night Out SCHEDULE

At press time, several registered neighborhoods in Springfield had already planned their Neighborhood Nights Out:

DELAWARE:

Aug. 13

Time and Location: TBA

MIDTOWN:

6-8 p.m., Aug. 24

Washington Park, 1600 N. Summit

GRANT BEACH:

6-10 p.m., Aug. 24

Grant Beach Park, 1300 N. Grant

WOODLAND HEIGHTS:

Noon-3 p.m., Aug. 25

Lafayette Park, 202 E. Atlantic

ROBBERSON:

4-7 p.m., Aug. 25

Robberson Community School, 1100 E. Kearney

BISSETT:

4:30-7 p.m., Aug. 30

Bissett School/Park, 3014 W. Calhoun

WEST CENTRAL:

5:30-7 p.m., Sept. 7

McGregor School/Park, 1200 W. State

WESTSIDE:

2-4 p.m., Sept. 8

Westport School/Park, 415 S. Golden

TOM WATKINS:

4-8 p.m., Sept. 22

Tom Watkins Park, 2100 W. High

DOLING:

In lieu of a Neighborhood Night Out, Doling will host a Halloween Bash Oct. 27.

Visit sgfneighborhoodnews.com for the latest updates on the Neighborhood Night Out schedule.

► RUSTY WORLEY from page 1

the Urban Districts Alliance board of directors from 2000 to 2005 and served as its president in 2003 and 2004.

"I appreciate the opportunity to continue Pete Radecki's legacy on the NAC," Worley said. "We will remain steadfast in our core services while exploring ways neighborhoods can be a positive player in the City's revisions to the comprehensive plan, expanding our residents' participation at the ballot box and engineering more opportunities for neighborhood roundtables to learn from one another."

Worley is a two-time graduate of Drury University, earning his bachelor's degree in business administration and communication in 1992 and his master's in business administration in 1994. He served his alma mater in many capacities from 1993 to 2005, including as the vice president for administration from 2000 until 2005.

In addition to his roles with DSA and NAC, Worley participates in the International Downtown Association and the Responsible Hospitality Institute. He is a graduate of Leadership Springfield Class XV and currently serves on the board of directors for the Jordan Valley Park Advisory Committee and the Missouri State University College of Arts and Letters Advisory Board. He is a past chair of the Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce's Non-profit CEO Roundtable and a member of the Southeast Rotary Club of Springfield.

ABOUT THE NAC

The Neighborhood Advisory Council, organized by the City's Planning and Development department, is a neighborhood-led citizen advisory group whose members want to use their solidarity and collective passion for an improved quality of life, healthy neighborhoods and an improved City of Springfield. The purpose of the council is to provide an opportunity for the 18 registered neighborhood organizations to have face-to-face discussion with City Council members, to share information and receive feedback on programs and related business that impact the quality of life in their neighborhoods. The NAC serves the City and City Council as a review body for programs and policy changes that impact neighborhoods.

The NAC presents annual recommendations for the City's budget. Recommendations for fiscal year 2018-2019 included continued funding for SGF Neighborhood News, a quarterly newspaper for registered neighborhoods produced in cooperation with the neighborhoods by the City's Department of Public Information; additional funding for an additional City planner and out-of-pocket costs associated with neighborhood planning an organization; additional funding for neighborhood cleanups and the Great Neighborhoods program and additional funding for the City's Building Development Services department for code enforcement.

The NAC meets at 6 p.m. quarterly on the second Wednesday in February, May, August and November. Each neighborhood association has a representative and an alternate. Neighborhoods interested in organizing and registering with the City should contact Alana Owen at 417-864-1831.

**Read Rusty Worley's
NAC column on page 11.**

Citizen Resource Center Coordinator Claudia Crighton retires June 1

By Cara Burch, for SGFNN

Potholes, vacant buildings, tall weeds, grimy grocery carts and urban beavers.

These are just a few examples of the many citizen service requests answered by Citizen Resource Coordinator Claudia Crighton over the years. After more than 17 years and hundreds of thousands of calls, Crighton took off her headset for the last time on June 1.

"I have no idea how many total calls I've taken over the 17 years I have been with the City, but it is probably approaching 750,000-800,000 – maybe more," Crighton said.

The Citizen Resource Center, located on the first floor of the Busch Municipal Building, receives approximately 60,000 to 70,000 calls per year, routing more than 15,000 service requests to City departments such as Public Works, Building Development Services, Planning and Development, Public Information and Civic Engagement, and others.

"Every day is a new day," says Crighton. "We have so many interesting calls. It is very fulfilling to know you are helping people with issues they can't fix themselves."

Crighton has always loved working with the public. So much so, that in 2013, she presented her vision for a stand-alone center for citizen service requests and questions to Director of Public Information and Civic Engagement Cora Scott, who loved the idea.

"Claudia has done an amazing job building the CRC into what it is today," Scott said. "She is truly dedicated to helping citizens, no matter what the issue. She maintains a positive attitude and people appreciate her and the work done in the center. We will miss her very much."

Crighton is nicknamed "The Claudiapedia" by CRC staff members McKensie Phillips and Regina Crumrine.

"Whether it's City information you're looking for, a phone number that Google can't provide, or maybe you can't remember where that one person lives who had that one complaint last month, Claudia has your answer," Phillips says.

In addition to supervising the CRC, Crighton managed the Busch building's front desk and its



Above: Claudia with her brother, Rick Turner, at her City retirement reception on May 31.



security guard, John Dowdy. She also served on the steering committee of the MyCity customer service committee.

Because of her extensive knowledge and willingness to help, Crighton built a relationship of trust among Springfield citizens.

"People know us in the CRC; a lot of callers know our names, which makes them feel more connected to us. They call us knowing we will listen to their issue and help them if we can," she says.

Crighton is known at the City for going the extra mile for citizens.

"Sometimes it takes research. Several times a day, we call different departments to ask about a project or something that the City is working on," Crighton said. "Finding the answer and calling the customer back is always the best option. Citizens are always so happy when they get a 'real person' to answer the phone," she added.

Do you know how to strengthen your household?

By Francine Pratt, Prosper Springfield, for SGFNN



Some people refer to them as assets, stability indicators or "getting ahead" outcomes. Many of our local agencies that help those without enough resources or living paycheck-to-paycheck use a set of strength indicators to help families become more prosperous.

When families can strengthen in the following areas, their level of household stability can change.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Can I see past today, two to three weeks ahead or a month or two in the future and make plans?

EARNED INCOME CREDIT

Am I taking full advantage of the Earned Income Credit by filing my taxes every year?

PARENTING EDUCATION

Am I taking advantage of opportunities to learn how to be a better parent by learning new techniques that help my children thrive?

TRANSPORTATION

Do I have reliable transportation that is dependable?

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Am I spending more than 30 percent of my income on housing?

QUALITY CHILD CARE

Do I have dependable, quality and safe child care for my children?

MONTHLY BUDGET AND/OR SPENDING PLANS

Have I created a plan to spend within the amount of money I have coming in each month with plans to save some money for emergencies?

JOB TRAINING

Do I want to take advantage of opportunities to increase my skills to obtain a better paying job?

RESOLVING LEGAL ISSUES

Do I have unresolved legal issues that interfere with my work or school?

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Do I have any health issues that prevent me from going to work or school?

► See **STRENGTHEN YOUR HOUSEHOLD** on page 5



To empower, engage and uplift residents of Springfield neighborhoods by communicating news and information and connecting residents, neighborhoods, businesses, faith organizations and public and private service agencies.

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Opioid addiction resources available at Jordan Valley Community Health Center

By Bob Monier, Health Department, for SGFNN

The opioid crisis was declared a national public health emergency in October 2017. Opioid use disorder refers to those who are addicted to opioids like heroin, OxyContin, Percocet, fentanyl and others. Those who are trapped in a web of addiction could unintentionally end their life if they do not escape their daily cravings for opioids.

As a community health advocate for the Springfield-Greene County Health Department, I work in partnership with Jordan Valley Community Health Center to help opioid-addicted patients by removing barriers that might prevent successful treatment. Barriers include inadequate or no housing, lack of food resources, transportation issues, employment and others. By assisting patients in removing these barriers, we believe it will lead to a more successful treatment and recovery while giving the patient their next best chance.

Those who are trapped in a web of addiction could unintentionally end their life if they do not escape their daily cravings for opioids.

Jordan Valley Community Health Center's behavioral medicine and pain management clinics offer help through medication assisted treatment (MAT), mental health services, supportive peer groups, behavioral health consultants and community health advocates.

A common medication used in MAT to manage opioid use disorder is buprenorphine. Brand names for buprenorphine include Subutex and Suboxone. Buprenorphine comes in different forms such as a tablet or a film that dissolves under the tongue. Once MAT is established, the doctor, medical team and patient will work closely together on an appropriate treatment plan for successful next steps in recovery and life.

► **STRENGTHEN YOUR HOUSEHOLD** from page 4

"Getting ahead" outcomes or strengthening indicators are a starting point for a family's level of prosperity. A family's prosperity will look different for everyone.

For example, if a family unit of four (two adults and two children) had an annual income of \$9,000, a credit score of 350, a broken car and thousands of dollars in debt, this is a family that does not have enough resources. If that same family completed a program at The Northwest Project or the Dream Center, within a year or two, that family may have doubled their income, doubled their credit score, now have a working car and cleared their debt, and that family has become more prosperous. However, according to federal guidelines, that family will still be considered living below the poverty level. Yet, this is a family that has regained hope to continue improving their household.

We must be careful when using the words "poor" or "poverty," because they do not tell a true story. Our community has many organizations that will

SIGNS OF OPIOID OVERDOSE

- Does not respond to voice or shaking
- Shallow breathing or gurgling sounds
- Pinpoint pupils
- Lips or fingernails blue or gray, face pale or clammy.

If overdose is suspected, call 911 and administer rescue breathing and naloxone (Narcan).

RISK FACTORS FOR OPIOID OVERDOSE

- Recent overdose
- IV use
- Using more than one drug
- Use after a period of abstinence.

Community Health Advocate Bob Monier, a retired Springfield firefighter, can be reached at 417-864-1498 or bmonier@springfieldmo.gov.



Community Health Advocate Bob Monier



help families in any of these areas. United Way of the Ozarks' 2-1-1 is a great place to locate resources that can help strengthen families. Call 2-1-1, chat with an operator online or browse the online directory today at 211helps.org.

Prosper Springfield is a collective impact initiative focused on a shared community vision to improve economic mobility in the Springfield community. The Prosper Springfield mission is to build community relationships and align community resources to create pathways that help move people to prosperity. Contact Francine Pratt at 417-888-2020 or visit prosper.springfield.org



Prosper Springfield Director Francine Pratt



Free tax prep clinics available this summer to assist with filing property tax credits

By Patricia Deck, CPO, for SGFNN

Millions of Americans face financial hardship every day and may even be one paycheck away from homelessness.

To make life a little easier and hopefully less stressful, Community Partnership of the Ozarks partners with 11 agencies through the Across the Life Span (ATLS) Coalition to provide free tax preparation clinics through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program and Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) Program.

These programs use IRS-certified volunteers to provide free tax preparation for low-to-moderate income individuals and families. The volunteers are trained to make sure individuals and families are maximizing their refunds and getting all the tax credits they are owed.

The ATLS Coalition prepared 6,869 tax returns this year, returning \$3,644,568 in federal tax refunds and almost \$700,000 in Earned Income Credit (EIC). EIC is a benefit for working people with low-to-moderate income. It's important because it lifts people out of poverty and strengthens our community. EIC households tend to spend their credits quickly and locally, which produces a strong "multiplier effect." It's estimated EIC generates approximately \$2 in local economic activity for every \$1 claimed, and it makes work pay because these credits grow for low-income workers as their income increases, providing a financial incentive for workers to stay employed and increase their earnings.

Free tax preparation clinics will be held throughout the summer to assist with filing property tax credits, amended and past-year returns. If you are interested in visiting with one of our volunteer tax preparers, please call 417-720-2000 to make an appointment.

Both the VITA and TCE programs could not be possible without our dedicated volunteers. We are looking for individuals who are interested in being trained to become a volunteer tax preparer. The time commitment is minimal and only for a few months a year. You don't have to be an accountant to be able to help! We provide free training and support to anyone who is interested. If you would like to find out more, call Patricia Deck at 417-888-2020 or email pdeck@cpozarks.org.

Crime Stoppers clears 58 cases since beginning of 2018

By Mandi Muse, Crime Stoppers, for SGFNN

The Greater Springfield Area Crime Stoppers had a busy last year and a half since gaining a new coordinator and board! As of May 15, Crime Stoppers has made 31 arrests and cleared 58 cases related to tips since the start of 2018.

In May, a wanted person, Alain Laberge, was arrested at a local motel just five hours after being featured as the Crime Stoppers Fugitive of the Week! Tipsters have the potential to get up to \$1,000 for a tip.

Since the program's inception, tip investigations have resulted in:

- Arrests: 2,840
- Property seized: \$1,325,707
- Drugs seized: \$1,354,012
- Reward money paid: \$138,432

Crime Stoppers relies solely on donations.



Donations can be monetary or time and talent. All donations are used to fund tipster rewards, advertise the program and pay operating costs. Recently, Fire Chief David Pennington and Police Chief Paul Williams agreed to give the donations from the

Carden Circus to Crime Stoppers — over

\$10,000! If you would like to donate to the program, please visit springfieldmo.gov/3472/Donate to get the mailing address or to donate via Paypal.

The Crime Stoppers program mission is to make Springfield and Greene County a safer place to live, work and play. All tip submissions are completely anonymous using a tip hotline number (417-869-TIPS [8477]), or a secure online website (P3tips.com). The P3 app available for smart phones can be downloaded via Google Play or the Apple Store.

You can stay up to date by following the Greater Springfield Area Crime Stoppers Facebook and Twitter pages. Sign up to receive email or text updates by visiting springfieldmo.gov/list.aspx and selecting Crime Stoppers.

The Crime Stoppers board recently celebrated their one-year Adopt-a-Street anniversary. The board maintains Commercial Street between Division Street and Lyon Avenue.

If you are interested in serving on the Crime Stoppers board, please contact Officer Rachel Kleemann at 417-864-1835 or rkleemann@springfieldmo.gov



Get to know Police Chief Paul Williams over coffee this summer

By Lisa Cox, Springfield Police Department, for SGFNN

Springfield Police Chief Paul Williams loves coffee in all its forms, from the Arabica blend at McDonald's to the gourmet roasts at Big Momma's. But his love for the morning brew isn't what drives him to show up at various Springfield coffeehouses each month — it's his desire to be accessible to Springfield citizens to answer questions, listen to concerns or, just chat.

Williams began meeting with citizens over coffee each month shortly after taking the reins as chief in 2010. He planned to continue the monthly meetings at least through his first year to get to know Springfieldians in an informal, comfortable setting.

As he neared his first anniversary with the SPD, a former City Council member encouraged him to continue "Coffee with the Chief," indefinitely. Eight years later, Williams has met with countless citizens over cups of joe and has no plans to stop.

"I chat with guests about whatever it is they would like to chat about," said Williams. "Some come with compliments for officers, some have concerns and others just want to enjoy some interesting conversations about whatever may pop up."

Williams added virtual meet-ups to the Coffee with the Chief schedule each quarter for those who aren't able to meet in person.



Springfield Police Chief Paul Williams enjoys coffee and conversation with several citizens at Big Momma's.

Join Chief Williams this summer for
"Coffee with the Chief"
on the following dates:

Thurs. July 19: 7-8:30 a.m.
at The Dancing Mule, 1945 S. Glenstone

Thurs. Aug. 16: 7-8:30 a.m.
at Eurasia, 445 E. Commercial

Wed. Sept. 19: 8-8:30 a.m.
Facebook Live at [facebook.com/SGFpolice](https://www.facebook.com/SGFpolice)

Know the law!

Move over for flashing lights, stop for school buses and crosswalks

By Kristen Milam, Public Information, for SGFNN

You're driving around town with the music turned up. Suddenly, an emergency vehicle with flashing lights and siren blaring is right behind you. Do you slow down, stop or pull over so it can pass you?

You've had a morning and are just trying to get to work on time. Now you're stuck behind a school bus. Do you pass it?

You're discussing a tense family situation with your child in the back seat. In your peripheral vision, you notice a sign indicating that a crosswalk is ahead. Do you stop at the crosswalk or keep going?

A driver compliance study conducted by Public Works in 2017 showed that only one in four Springfield drivers yields to pedestrians at crosswalks.

Often, motorists think they know what to do in the above situations, but the other motorists around them are doing something completely different. Below are the laws – and the penalties – for not yielding to flashing lights, school buses or crosswalks.

MOVE TO THE RIGHT FOR FLASHING LIGHTS

Missouri Revised Statute 304.022 outlines the procedures and penalties for responding to emergency vehicles, lights and sirens.

The law states:

Upon the immediate approach of an emergency vehicle giving audible signal by siren or displaying lighted red or red and blue lights, the driver of every motor vehicle shall yield the right-of-way and immediately drive to a position parallel to, and as far as possible to the right of, the traveled portion of the highway and thereupon stop and remain in such position until such emergency vehicle has passed.

This statute also covers what is required when passing emergency vehicles are stopped along busy roadways. This situation is one of the most dangerous for police officers and other emergency responders who could be killed or seriously injured if struck by a passing vehicle.

The law states that when approaching a stationary emergency vehicle displaying red and blue or amber and white lights, motorists are required to proceed with caution and yield the right-of-way. If possible, due to safety and traffic conditions, motorists are required to make a lane change into a lane not adjacent to the stopped emergency vehicle. If a lane change is not possible, motorists must reduce speed and use caution.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), a total of 53 law enforcement officers were killed in traffic-related incidents nationally in 2017. Fifteen of these were

struck and killed while outside their vehicle. The same dangers exist for other first responders. Nationally, in 2016, there were an estimated 15,425 collisions involving fire department emergency vehicles resulting in 700 firefighter injuries. Nineteen were struck and killed while working at the scene of a motor vehicle crash.

"Springfield police officers and firefighters, along with our EMS partners at Mercy and Cox, and our partners at MoDOT (Missouri Department of Transportation) and in the towing industry, respond to emergencies throughout our community at all hours of the day," explains Springfield Fire Chief David Pennington. "In an emergency, time is everything. Knowing and following the law will not only help keep our responders safe while responding to and managing emergency incidents, it will also help us provide more expedient and efficient service to the community."

Violation of this law is classified as a Class A misdemeanor and can result in fines and imprisonment.

STOP BEHIND SCHOOL BUSES

Springfield Public Schools reports that on any given day, around 100 drivers illegally pass school buses.

The NHTSA reports that nationally, between 2006 and 2015, 102 school-age pedestrians died in school transportation-related crashes. Roughly a third of those were struck by other vehicles involved in the crashes.

Upon approaching a school bus that is stopped to pick up or drop off children, Missouri Revised Statute 304.050 requires the driver of a motor vehicle to stop before reaching the bus and not proceed until the bus resumes motion or unless signaled by its driver to proceed.

By law, school bus drivers in the process of loading or unloading students, must activate mechanical and electrical signaling devices to communicate to drivers of other vehicles.

Drivers should learn to recognize the flashing signal system:

- **Yellow flashing lights** indicate the bus is preparing to stop or load or unload children. Motorists should slow down and prepare to stop their vehicles.
- **Red flashing lights** and extended stop arms indicate the bus has stopped and children are getting on or off. Motorists approaching from all directions must stop and wait until the red lights stop flashing, the extended stop-arm is withdrawn and the bus begins moving before they can continue driving.



Missouri law states that any person who violates 304.050 is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor and could be fined up to \$1,000.

STOP AT CROSSWALKS

On average, 60 pedestrians are struck on Springfield streets per year. A driver compliance study conducted by Public Works in 2017 showed that only one in four Springfield drivers yields to pedestrians at crosswalks.

Mandy Buettgen-Quinn, traffic safety professional for the City of Springfield, attributes some of Springfield's failure to yield to a lack of awareness of the law.

"Drivers either may not know that they are required to yield to pedestrians in crosswalks, or they aren't aware of their surroundings enough to notice a pedestrian attempting to cross," she explains.

According to Springfield City Code 106-451, drivers are required to yield the right-of-way, slowing down or stopping if need be, to a pedestrian crossing the roadway within a crosswalk when the pedestrian is upon the half of the roadway upon which the vehicle is traveling or when the pedestrian is approaching so closely from the opposite half of the roadway as to be in danger.

"In general, this means that if a pedestrian is standing at the crosswalk, clearly demonstrating their intention to cross, or stepping into the roadway, a motorist is required to yield to them," explains Buettgen-Quinn.

However, the code also specifies that pedestrians cannot suddenly walk or run into the path of a vehicle that is so close that it's impossible for the driver to yield.

Drivers who refuse to yield to pedestrians in a crosswalk could be cited for a general municipal code violation and fined.

For more information on pedestrian safety, visit springfieldmo.gov/sgfyields.

Learn to ID invasive plant species bush honeysuckle

By Jay Doty, Stream Team Volunteer, MO. Dept. of Conservation, for SGFNN



Do you remember pulling honeysuckle flowers as a kid? The ones you could pull the stamen out of the back of the bloom to get a little drop of sweet nectar? Those honeysuckle flowers most likely came from the native vine or the less-invasive Japanese honeysuckle and are not the same as Asian bush honeysuckles, which originated from eastern China.

While attractive to birds, bush honeysuckle berries are high in carbohydrates but low in fats and nutrients that migrating birds need to complete their journeys. Hence these berries are considered “junk food” for wildlife.

Invasive honeysuckles represent the species *Lonicera maackii*, *L. morrowii*, or the hybrid *L. X bella*, and are collectively known as bush honeysuckles. Much larger in size than the native vines, bush honeysuckles can grow 15-20 feet tall and form dense thickets, especially in urban areas.

They were introduced in the mid- to late 1800s for landscape ornamentals, wildlife cover and erosion control. Bush honeysuckles are currently found statewide.

WHAT ARE THE CHARACTERISTICS OF BUSH HONEYSUCKLE?

Bush honeysuckle is the first to leaf out in the spring and the last to drop leaves in the fall, which gives it a competitive advantage by shading out other plants.

Research suggests that bush honeysuckles exhibit allelopathic tendencies by producing a chemical that inhibits other plants from growing in its vicinity (although other invasives like winter creeper and bamboo seem to grow just fine amidst honeysuckle).

Other characteristics include:

- Opposite, simple leaves, 1-3" long and with pointed ends;
- Showy and fragrant white flowers in early summer that turn yellow as they age;

- Bright red or orange berries in the fall in clumps of two or four at the base of the leaves;
- Thornless bark with hollow stems in mature plants.

WHY SHOULD WE BE CONCERNED?

Bush honeysuckles take over riparian corridors and floodplains along streams, especially in urban areas. Riparian corridors and open woodlands provide the light needed in order to thrive. They out-compete and dominate forest understories that used to be the home of native plants, creating honeysuckle deserts from what were native woodlands.

While attractive to birds, bush honeysuckle berries are high in carbohydrates but low in fats and nutrients that migrating birds need to complete their journeys. Hence these berries are considered “junk food” for wildlife. Bush honeysuckles reproduce and spread quickly because the berries have numerous seeds and have help dispersing from the birds that eat them. For example, the first bush honeysuckle outside of cultivation in the St. Louis area was discovered in 1983. In just three short decades it has come to dominate the St. Louis landscape to the tune of millions of plants.

HOW CAN IT BE CONTROLLED?

Bush honeysuckles are aggressive and often it takes a two-year commitment to fully eradicate them from an area; one year to take out the bulk and the second year to remove any re-sprouts or new seedlings.

The unhinged invasive capabilities of bush honeysuckles will require a strong voluntary effort in order to reduce its spread.

Several different methods are used to remove honeysuckle:

Cut-stump method

Cutting the trunk low to the ground with a hand tool or chainsaw and applying a 20 percent

glyphosate herbicide at the base is one of the most effective treatments for bush honeysuckle removal when done properly. However, careful application of the herbicide is necessary to prevent unwanted effects to the surrounding environment, and re-sprouting may occur if herbicide is not accurately applied.

Hand-pulling

Small seedlings can easily be pulled in early spring when the ground is moist.

Digging

Because the roots are quite shallow, simply digging up the roots can be effective even for larger plants. However, this method is not recommended for widespread removal of large thickets due to the scale of land disturbance it may cause.

Fire

When burning can be conducted safely and with enough fuel, fire can assist in removing honeysuckle from the landscape, but prescribed burning may need to be repeated every spring or every two years for several years to be fully effective.

Foliar spray

This method uses a 2 percent glyphosate spray over the entire plant, but is only recommended in early spring or late fall when native plants have dropped their leaves or have not yet sprouted. Wind direction and speed should always be considered to prevent herbicide from reaching non-target vegetation.

CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE FUTURE

The unhinged invasive capabilities of bush honeysuckles will require a strong voluntary effort in order to reduce its spread. Education is a key factor in preventing the sale and cultivation of these invasive taxa. Proper identification is also extremely important, as many native plants can easily be mistaken for bush honeysuckle.

Consider native plants for landscaping in place of honeysuckle. Plants such as American beautyberry, black viburnum, flowering dogwood, deciduous holly, or Eastern Wahoo make excellent alternatives. All of these plants and other natives have stronger, deeper roots for preventing erosion and provide beneficial habitat and food sources for wildlife.



14 projects vie for 2018-2019 Neighborhood Works program grants

By Kristen Milam, Public Information, for SGFNN

Fourteen project applications will be considered this summer by the City and Neighborhood Advisory Council for potential funding through the 2018-2019 cycle of the Neighborhood Works program.

Neighborhood Works is intended to fund small-scale capital improvements within officially registered neighborhoods, giving residents the opportunity to identify projects they believe will offer the greatest benefit to their area. Projects are limited to \$100,000 or less and must take place on city-owned property or right-of-way.

The program is funded by a \$500,000 annual allocation for neighborhood initiatives from the voter-approved 1/4-cent Capital Improvements Sales Tax. The 1/4-cent Capital Improvement Sales Tax sunsets every three years and will be up for renewal in 2019.

“We made some minor changes to the application process and it appears these helped as the second cycle seems to be going well! Communication between the City and the neighborhoods has been the key to success with this program.”

Due to time constraints, the 2018-2019 cycles were combined into one to allow for all projects to be under construction before the tax sunsets in spring 2019. Neighborhoods are competing for a total of \$800,000 in combined funding, with \$200,000 set aside as a contingency.

A total of 16 applications were initially submitted by 10 registered neighborhoods. After an initial feasibility phase, and time allowed for applications to be revised, the NAC scoring committee is able to consider 14 projects for funding. Six applications propose improvements to public parks, four are public infrastructure related and four include a mixture of both.



New pavilion at L.A. Wise Park was recently completed as part of last year's program cycle.

“The City received some great feedback from the neighborhoods after the 2017 cycle,” says Dawne Gardner, City transportation planner and Neighborhood Works program administrator. “We made some minor changes to the application process and it appears these helped as the second cycle seems to be going well! Communication between the City and the neighborhoods has been the key to success with this program.”

Public Works has provided project cost estimates to NAC for consideration in the scoring process. Scoring will take place throughout June and July with final recommendations due to the city manager for consideration by Aug. 3. Approved projects are expected to be awarded by the end of August.

2017 CYCLE APPROVED PROJECT STATUS

The 2017 program cycle funded projects such as new pavilions, picnic table and bench installation and electrical upgrades in eight public parks. These improvements had been on the Park Board's wish list for years, but previously had no source of funding.

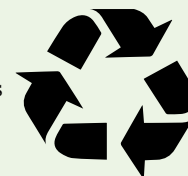
Currently, six of the 2017 approved projects have been completed. The final two — Parking Lot improvements at Phelps Grove Park and tennis and basketball court maintenance at Washington Park — are set to wrap up this summer. If enough contingency funds remain upon completion, the City will pursue two alternate projects identified in the 2017 cycle.



Franklin Avenue Recycling Center's Randy Reed promoted to new position

By Kristen Milam, Public Information, for SGFNN

Nearly 60,000 customers per year come through the gates of the Franklin Avenue Recycling Center at 731 N. Franklin. Many customers fondly remember the friendly face who assisted with their recyclables since the center opened in 1992.



After 26 years at the facility, Recycling Attendant Randy Reed was recently promoted to a new position in the Clean Water Services division of the Environmental Services department. While the new job is less physically taxing, Reed says there are days when he misses his old job.

“I do miss helping my regular customers. I had been doing it for so long that a lot of them felt like friends. They would always talk and keep up with me, and they would know I would always listen,” Reed said. “It's a change of pace,” he said of the promotion. “I had been doing 10 hours a day, five days a week at Franklin for over 20 years. At my new job, I work eight hours a day.”

Reed says he inherited his work ethic from his mother.

“This job requires a lot — being on your feet, moving around, checking this and that and bouncing all around the lot. Randy was always dependable and did a great job for a long time,” said Recycling Collection Center Coordinator Mike Inman. “The citizens all loved him ... whenever Randy was gone and someone else was covering for him, customers would always express concern. Everyone looked out for him, and they were always grateful for his help,” he added.

In his free time, Reed helps care for his elderly parents and enjoys camping, fishing and boating. His love of the outdoors makes him appreciate the work of the Environmental Services department.

“Recycling keeps trash out of the landfill. It's important in today's world if we want to leave this planet better for our future and the generations to come,” he said.

Franklin Avenue customers can look forward to getting to know Reed's replacement at the recycling center, Lewis Hendrix. Hendrix has been with the City for six months and transferred to the Franklin center from the Lone Pine Recycling Center.

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SAT. 28

MON. 30

TUES. 31
7 p.m. • *Sun. match 6 p.m.

SGF Neighborhood News *inspires summer drive-through history reading program*

By Christine Peoples, for SGFNN



Minister Christine Peoples

Imagine the need for validation through the eyes, posture and expressions of a little brown-skinned girl, barely 4 years old. Her eyes fixed on you, mirroring herself in your skin. Standing in front of you with her head tilted to the left of her little body asking, "Do you think I'm pretty?"

Her mother, embarrassed, looking down, never

acknowledging you.

"Stop staring," the mother says abruptly, as she grabs her child and turns her around.

Yet the eyes of the little girl follow you.

"Stop staring," her mother repeats. Even after being scolded a second time, she bends her neck to see if you're still there.

This scenario happened to me recently as I sat at Dairy Queen enjoying a treat with a friend. The mother finally gave up on telling her daughter to stop staring at me. The little girl turned completely around in her seat to wave goodbye as I left, continuing to wave until I was gone.

Those eyes searching for validation kept haunting me. How could I help children be comfortable in their own skin? How could I have been more supportive or said something more encouraging that would have kept us connected?

Within my community of family and friends, children as young as kindergarten-age internalize their differences, fueling uneasy tensions of identity.

In 2013, I began a degree program in early childhood development at Ozarks Technical Community College. Not long thereafter, I began hosting Peoples Meet and Greet Projects and Promotions events at the Midtown Library to bring culturally responsive hospitality and celebration to a community space.

Springfield-Greene County Library District Associate Director Jim Schmidt was my biggest supporter during this time, allowing me to host a hospitality table at Midtown celebrating

preschoolers, youth and grandparents on the first Saturday in February, which is Black History Month. I learned so much by interacting with the community at these events.

My best practices were built at these events. When planning my events, I made sure to observe and utilize Urie Bronfenbrenner's Ecological Systems Theory, which identifies five environmental systems with which an individual interacts with others. The theory explains how the inherent qualities of a child and his or her environment interact to influence how he or she will grow and develop.

In July 2016, I heard about the City of Springfield's launch of the Zone Blitz, an effort to improve the quality of life for Springfield's Zone 1 residents. I was intrigued.

"Zone blitz" is traditionally a football term, which I knew nothing about. I called my brother, a former football player for Kansas University, to get some insight.

With the help of SGF Neighborhood News, I was able to fully visualize the target audience for my community outreach efforts. My world had come full circle! My heart's desire was to bring reading projects combining history, hospitality and celebration to young children.

In American football, a zone blitz is a defensive tactic that sends additional players to rush the opposing team's quarterback, while also unexpectedly redirecting a pass, rushing the player into pass coverage instead.

According to former City Manager Greg Burris, Springfield's Zone Blitz began with an initial look at crime statistics and other significant data pulled from northwest Springfield in the fall of 2014.

In addition to identifying "red zones" where there were higher incidents of violent crime, fires, chronic diseases, the heat maps also revealed "orange," "yellow" and "green" zones, which gave the community a simple, yet compelling, visual to understand the City's overall health. In addition to being the oldest part of the city, Zone 1 is home to many of its historic structures and bore witness to many of its historical events. It is an area steeped in blue-collar pride, but is also an area with growing crime and unemployment rates.

The troubling growth of a decaying stock of rental properties, and the unfortunate side effects, was taking a toll on the quality of life in Zone 1. At times, the challenges of addressing chronic



nuisance properties (caused by some tenants and some landlords) and the underlying reasons for their existence, seemed like an insurmountable challenge. Two other concerns topped the list in the City's whirlwind tour of nine neighborhoods called the "Community Listen" in the spring of 2015. Those concerns were increasing crime and aging roads and infrastructure.

With the Zone Blitz, a collective concentrated effort to reduce crime and poverty had blossomed into a grassroots movement of community assistance from the public and private sectors.

The January after the launch of the Zone Blitz, the City's Public Information and Civic Engagement department launched SGF Neighborhood News, a quarterly newspaper for Springfield's registered neighborhoods. The purpose of SGF Neighborhood News and its companion website, SGFNeighborhoodNews.com, is to empower, engage and uplift residents of Springfield neighborhoods by communicating news and information and connecting residents, neighborhoods, businesses, faith organizations and public- and private-service agencies.

With the help of SGF Neighborhood News, I was able to fully visualize the target audience for my community outreach efforts. My world had come full circle! My heart's desire was to bring reading projects combining history, hospitality and celebration to young children.

In cooperation with the Springfield-Greene County Library District, NAACP Springfield Chapter, Be a Jewel and Springfield Public Schools, The People's Meet and Greet began its Dreams and Goals: Drive-through History Reads program this summer at John B. Hughes and Forest Park apartment complexes in conjunction with the library's Book Mobile visits.

Programs will take place 5-6:30 p.m. Tuesdays July 10 and July 24 at John B. Hughes Apartments, 2100 N. Clifton, and 4:30-6 p.m. Tuesdays July 17 and July 31 at Forest Park Apartments, 1503 W. Loren St.

Christine Peoples served on the MLK 50 Committee and is a licensed and ordained outreach minister. She can be reached at 417-353-3189 or ministerpeoples50@gmail.com



Zone 4's Matthew Simpson reflects on first months on City Council

By Matthew Simpson, for SGFNN

Thank you to everyone who invests your time and talents in making Springfield an even better place to live ... you make a real positive difference for our community.

As the newest member of City Council, I'd like to use this opportunity to say thank you.

Thank you to everyone who has contacted me or talked to me about issues we are addressing as council. Every conversation is an opportunity for me to learn, and informed decisions are better decisions.

I encourage everyone to participate in the conversation both by sharing your thoughts and listening, with an open mind, to those shared by others. We may not always agree on the specifics, but we generally have common goals and can better achieve them through open conversations and informed decision making.

Thank you to everyone who attended or participated in my first town hall in April. It was a real privilege for me to get to hold this at Kickapoo, where I attended high school, and get to hear from fellow Zone 4 residents who were willing to invest their evening to learn about council issues and contribute to the discussion. One of the questions that stood out to me most was: how can we help our neighbors in Zone 4? It is that attitude that helps

make Springfield great and leads me to my next round of thanks.

Thank you to everyone who invests your time and talents in making Springfield an even better place to live. Whether you serve on a City board, volunteer with a local charity, are active with your local neighborhood association, pitch in with events like neighborhood cleanup days, or even simply show kindness and respect to your neighbors on a daily basis — you make a real positive difference for our community.

Finally, I am very thankful to have this opportunity to serve on council and give back to the community that has given me so much. As a young professional who grew up in Springfield and returned to start a family, I'm committed to Springfield's long-term vision and growth. Ultimately, my personal goal is to do whatever I can to help ensure that my son, and all other Springfield residents, are able to enjoy living in a community they love as much as I do.

I look forward to working together on achieving this goal.

Matthew Simpson was appointed by City Council to fill the Zone 4 seat vacated by Craig Fishel in March. You can reach Councilman Simpson through the City Clerk's office at 417-864-1651 or by e-mailing him at msimpson@springfieldmo.gov.



NAC



Individuals make a real difference when they band together for a common cause

By Rusty Worley, for SGFNN

The Neighborhood Advisory Council (NAC) and its 18 registered neighborhoods are committed to making Springfield a better place and celebrating the unique qualities of each of our areas.

I look forward to working with each of you over the next two years to make our neighborhoods and Springfield a better place.

We encourage our residents to get more engaged with their community through cleanups, block parties and signature events.

Our initiatives include working with police officers on Neighborhood Watch, with Building Development Services on addressing chronic nuisance issues and with City Council to invest in more sidewalks to our schools and improved facilities in parks.

Pete Radecki, from the Bissett neighborhood, has been an exceptional chair for the NAC over the past three years. We greatly appreciate his leadership and commitment to enhancing the quality of life across Springfield.

I appreciate the opportunity to continue his legacy. We will remain steadfast in our core services while exploring ways neighborhoods can be a positive player in the City's revisions to the comprehensive plan, expanding our residents' participation at the ballot box and engineering more opportunities for neighborhood roundtables to learn from one another.

My two decades of experiences in the Midtown and West Central neighborhood organizations have reinforced an appreciation for the difference individuals can make when they band together for a common cause. I look forward to working with each of you over the next two years to make our neighborhoods and Springfield a better place.

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THEN THERE'S THE PRESENT.
AND A TWO-LANE ROAD
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BISSETT NEIGHBORHOOD

Bissett Neighborhood Association welcomes new business members

By Pete Radecki, for SGFNN

COMPLETE ELECTRONICS RECYCLING



Here's a big shout out to David Kramer, and the folks at Complete Electronics Recycling, located at 2935 W. Chestnut Expressway, for joining the Bissett Neighborhood Association. They can accept most anything

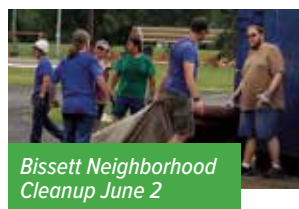
you might have laying around the house that has a plug or battery, and don't think just the old phone or computer. They'll even take your old washing machine, burned-out hand drill or car battery. All that stuff is free to recycle, and — for a reasonable fee — they'll take a conked-out fridge or TV. They helped us out at the June 2 neighborhood cleanup so we could expand what you could drop off. If you have questions, they can be reached at 417-864-4415, on Facebook or Twitter, or you can check out their website at RecyclingMore.com.

DAYLIGHT DONUTS



How about a warm, fresh donut and cup of coffee to start the day? The new owner of Daylight Donuts, Chris Moss, has just joined BNA! They're located at

516 N. West Bypass, about a block or so north of Chestnut Expressway. If you're coming from the north, the easiest way to get there is to turn left at Waddill Street and loop behind the Ramsey Excavating offices. They have a convenient drive-thru, but you don't get the full experience unless you come on in and smell those fresh donuts and pastries! They're open 6-11 a.m. Tuesday-Sunday. They even provided donuts for the volunteers at the June 2 neighborhood cleanup!



Bissett Neighborhood Cleanup June 2

Let's get healthy!

By Pete Radecki, for SGFNN

Bissett Neighborhood Association's lineup of speakers for our May, June and July meetings were all about ways we can make our diets healthier, improve physical health and feel better about things by achieving better balance in our lives.

The Bissett Sole Survivors, our neighborhood walking team, came in second place among Community Network teams in the city-wide Move Your Shoes month-long walking challenge.

Being healthy can also mean being a contributing member of the neighborhood. Perhaps you haven't met, or had the opportunity to get to know your neighbors yet. Folks can improve their street by getting to know their neighbors better and finding ways to help one another. We encourage all to visit with your neighbors and come out to a BNA meeting or event to meet some more. Whether you're a believer or not, to "love your neighbor as yourself" is a pretty good idea, and it's hard to love someone you don't know. After all, a neighbor isn't a "unit" in the worldwide human collective; he or she is "someone" who we can befriend, help and respect.



Bissett neighborhood 'Yardzale' July 21



By Pete Radecki, for SGFNN

On Saturday July 21, from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m., the Bissett neighborhood will host its first-ever "Yardzale."

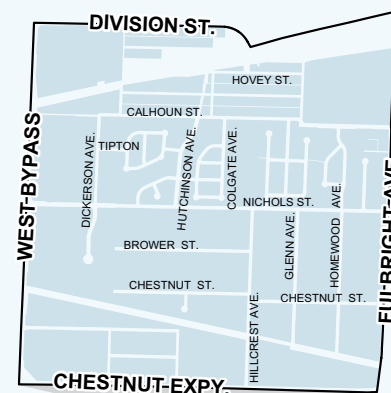
Come "cruze" our streets that day where you might expect to find most anything imaginable for sale: tools, clothes, artwork, home improvement materials, toys for the kids (even big kids), back-to-school stuff, and more!

Regardless of where you live, we would love for you to come out, meet some of our great residents, and (hopefully) walk away with a little bit of Bissett to remember us by and meet your needs! More information is available at the Bissett Neighborhood Community Facebook page. Bissett is bordered by Chestnut Expressway on the south, West Bypass on the west, Division on the north and Fulbright on the east.

If you live in the Bissett neighborhood and have stuff to sell, all you have to do is put out your sales items in your yard and staff your sale. Bissett Neighborhood Association will provide promotions and signage. No fees or sign-up required.

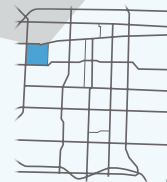


Neighborhood Boundaries



Connect

- Pete Radecki, President: ppradecki@gmail.com or 417-988-1257
- Chandra Palmer, Vice President
- Rob Sorbo, Secretary
- Sheila Radecki, Treasurer



Neighborhood Association Meetings

July 10: 6:30-7:30 p.m./6 p.m. optional potluck @ Faith Assembly of God Church (3001 W. Division). Please enter the building through the doors at the east end of the north side.

Meetings are normally the Second Tuesday of each month at Faith Assembly of God or Bissett Elementary School (3014 W. Calhoun). Check the calendar each month for possible variations.



Bissett Neighborhood Association donates dry-erase markers for kids, teachers at Bissett Elementary

By Pete Radecki, for SGFNN

Last year we asked Bissett Principal Marcie Stallcup what the school could use in the spring, and she said they always seem to run short on dry-erase markers. BNA took in donations in the fall and presented over 100 markers. A big THANK YOU to all those who donated! Go Bobcats!



Bissett Neighborhood Night Out

Aug. 30: 4:30-7 p.m.

Bissett School/Park
3014 W. Calhoun St.

BRADFORD PARK NEIGHBORHOOD

Dr. Bill Powers named Kickapoo High School principal

By Teresa Bledsoe, Springfield Public Schools, for SGFNN

Springfield Public Schools is pleased to announce the next leader of Kickapoo High School: Dr. Bill Powers, the current Cherokee Middle School principal. Dr. Powers replaced Kelly Allison, who retired from SPS on July 1.

Dr. Powers began his career in education as a classroom teacher of communication arts, social studies, computers, journalism and yearbook in Florida and at Jarrett Middle School. His administrative experience with SPS includes serving as the assistant principal of Study Middle School for two years before beginning his nine years of service as the leader of Cherokee Middle School. During his time at Cherokee, Dr. Powers has become known for his work to build meaningful relationships to influence positive change. This year, the Missouri Association of Secondary School Principals named Dr. Powers as its Middle School Principal of the Year.

"We are pleased to have Dr. Powers join the high school leadership team as principal of Kickapoo High School," said Dr. Shane Dublin, executive director of secondary education for SPS. "Dr. Powers is an experienced leader who values relationships and working as a team in the pursuit of continuous improvement. He is thrilled to join the outstanding

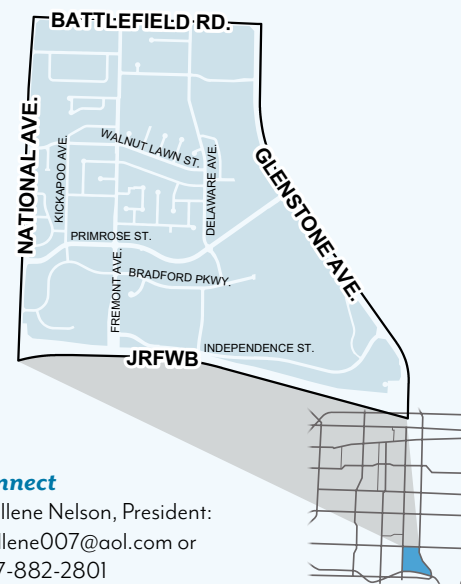
staff, students, parents and community at Kickapoo and will work tirelessly to carry on the culture of excellence already in place."

Dr. Powers completed his undergraduate studies at Tennessee Technological University and holds a master's degree in educational leadership from the University of South Florida as well as a doctorate in educational leadership from Southwest Baptist University.

"I am excited to join the Kickapoo team," said Dr. Powers. "I look forward to working to build upon the tradition of excellence as we provide our students opportunities to excel in their future endeavors."



Neighborhood Boundaries



Connect

- Dellene Nelson, President:
dellene007@aol.com or
417-882-2801
- Janet Wall, Vice President
- Jacque Ford, Secretary
- Ed Messerly, Treasurer

Neighborhood Association Meetings

July 17 • Aug. 21 • Sept. 18: 6:30 p.m.
@ Immaculate Conception Church
(3555 S. Fremont Ave.)



DELAWARE NEIGHBORHOOD

From the desk of Delaware Neighborhood Association VP Gene Campbell

By Gene Campbell, for SGFNN

According to multiple visits to the Personalized Spot Crime daily report emails, we in Delaware Neighborhood enjoy a low crime rate. Our PAR Officer Jacob Boomgaarden has been a great help in policing our neighborhood, and we congratulate him for a recent Life Saving Award. We also have a great little school, and now we have an association to foster a wonderful neighborhood. Our Facebook page has almost 300 members and we have an excellent leader in Kevin Evans, our president.

Our meetings accomplish the tasks in an efficient manner and as of last meeting will include a carry-in dinner at future meetings. We have participated with Rountree in cleanups, had a successful ice cream social, promoted the food bank at Delaware school, made residents aware of our association through multiple signs gracing the landscape of our neighborhood and our own T-shirts "Ask me about my DNA" on the front and on the back, "Delaware Neighborhood Association."

Within the neighborhood there are residents opening up their homes and yards for neighborly get-togethers and open houses. We had a support group for the Bass Pro Marathon. We are supportive of the Delaware Neighborhood Community Garden at 1538 E. Stanford. Our residents will even track



down that lost dog or cat.

We anticipate further awareness of our association as we have planned such activities as the Ice Cream Social in July and Back To School event in August.

Our concerns look to the future with a robust proposal to the City for increased sidewalks, concern for property values for both landlords and home-owners and stepped up surveillance of traffic.

We have the right DNA – Delaware Neighborhood Association!

Delaware Neighborhood Night Out
Aug. 13
Time and Location: TBA

Neighborhood Boundaries



Connect

- Kevin Evans, President:
kevinevans@missouristate.edu
or 417-888-0288
- Gene Campbell, Vice President
- Pam Boyce, Secretary
- Cynthia Yarborough, Treasurer

Neighborhood Association Meetings

July 3 • Aug. 7 • Sept. 4 • Oct. 2: 7-8 p.m.
@ Westminster Presbyterian Church
(1551 E. Portland)



DOLING NEIGHBORHOOD

One of Doling's original families restores, improves family home

By Christina Dicken, for SGFNN

Each month the North Springfield Betterment Association (NSBA) recognizes a homeowner who has done great work with their property in North Springfield. In September, Mike and Jeannie Howell were recipients of that award for their home on 2723 N. Broadway Ave.

The Howells have lived at that address since 2006. It has been a family home since 1932, when Jeannie's grandfather, Warden Hall, built the home. Hall owned the farmland in that area, and was born in a home a few doors down. For many years he was a dairy farmer on the land and later sold about 16 acres for homes to be built.



Mike and Jeannie Howell's home on North Broadway has been in their family since 1932 when it was built by Jeannie's grandfather, Warden Hall. The couple have spent the last 12 years expanding and renovating the property. To the lower left is what the home looked like in the early 1980s.

In 2006, Jeannie moved back to the house with her new husband and continued the work begun by her son, Andy, remodeling bedrooms, adding a bath, and completing a family room addition, three-car garage and large covered deck overlooking their four-acre back yard. Mike added cedar paneling to the front of the porch and faced the additions with stone to match the original home. The front yard has flowers around the tree that was planted for a grandson in 1990. Mike is building matching columns across the front of the property, which will be joined by wrought iron fencing to finish the look.



Neighborhood rallies around arson victims

By Christina Dicken, for SGFNN



In May, Boy Scout troops helped Alan and Dawn Edes clear the wooded area behind their home. It happened because Diana Flannigan's son, Scott, wanted to help his neighbors after they suffered two arson fires earlier this year. So, Scott got his scout troop together for a service project. Good things happen when we come together.

Alan and Dawn Edes had just finished watching the Eagles upset the Patriots in Superbowl LII when they heard the sounds of fire trucks approaching their street and stopping nearby. Their hearts sank. It was just two months ago on Christmas Eve when fire trucks stopped in the neighborhood, one block down from their rental on West Kerr. The emergency lights were in front of the site of the new home they are building up the street. Their 2015 travel trailer was on fire. It was a total loss.

When the Edeses heard the sirens again, Alan quickly threw on some pants and a jacket and rushed outside. The fire trucks were back. This time, their new shop/shed was on fire. Both fires were ruled arson. No arrests have been made.

Alan retired from OTR trucking so he can care for his wife, Dawn. She is disabled because of lupus, an incapacitating autoimmune disease. He continues to work part-time in construction. They are building a downsized home on West Kerr Street, where it will be easier for Dawn to get around, and where they can be a part of a friendly and supportive neighborhood.

But after the second fire, the Edeses were ready to abandon their nearly complete new home. The shed fire destroyed everything that meant anything to them. This included Dawn's wedding dress and all of their wedding photos and memorabilia.

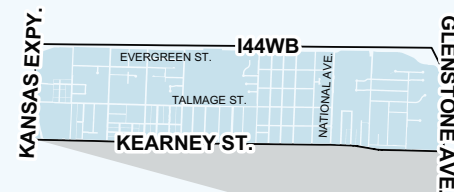
They lost all of their family photos, memories, and keepsakes, Alan's grandmother's antique china, and her antique roller skates. They lost antique family quilts and a jeans jacket autographed by the band Foghat, which meant the world to Alan. In addition to their family heirlooms, they also lost most of their clothes, tools and household items.

After an outpouring of support from their new neighbors, the Edeses have decided to stick it out.

While they have insurance, their insurance company is reluctant to pay both claims. And the Doling neighborhood has started a fundraiser to help soften the blow. Some of the money raised has already gone to help the Edeses pay for a front porch on their new house, a porch that will soon welcome neighbors to their new home in Doling.

If you would like to help, go to youcaring.com/edesfamily or send a donation to the Doling Neighborhood Association at 334 E. Kearney Street #157, Springfield, MO, 65803.

Neighborhood Boundaries



Connect

- Christina Dicken, President: christina.dicken@yahoo.com
- Grady Cooper, Vice President
- Mary Kay Glunt, Secretary, 417-844-0629
- Jayme VanMeter, Treasurer
- dolingna@gmail.com



Neighborhood Association Meetings

July 10 • Aug. 14 • Sept. 11: 6:45 p.m. – 8 p.m.
6 p.m. optional potluck @ Hillcrest Presbyterian Church (818 E. Norton Road)

dolingneighborhood.com



Doling Park Museum summer calendar

By Christina Dicken, for SGFNN

The Doling Park Museum is located on the site of the old Doling Skating Rink. The museum contains memorabilia of Doling Park, including items from the amusement park and skating rink days. The museum is open through Oct. 13, Sundays 1-4 p.m., Tuesdays, 1-5 p.m. and Fridays 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

MUSEUM EVENTS CALENDAR

- **July 3**, 1-4 p.m., Fourth of July Games/Bingo
- **July 19**, 7-9 p.m., Concert
- **Aug. 16**, 7-9 p.m., Concert
- **Aug. 26**, 1-4 p.m., Kids games and activities
- **Sept. 8**, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Garage Sale/Craft Show
- **Sept. 16**, 1-3 p.m., Concert
- **Oct. 6**, 1-4 p.m., Car Show/Hot Wheels and Diecast Shop & Swap Meet
- **Oct. 12**, 1-4 p.m., End of Season Trivia Night

Join Doling walking club

By Christina Dicken, for SGFNN

Doling has a walking club that connects neighbors who are looking for a walking buddy. Check out our private Facebook group open only to Doling neighbors. Use the page to establish meeting times and places, make some new friends and get healthy. Search Facebook for "Doling Walking Club" and join us!





A new life for an old icon

New businesses moving in to HilCres Center

By Christina Dicken, for SGFNN

HilCres Shopping Center has been on West Kearney Street since the 1960s. Consumers grocery left in the '90s, then the shoe store, cosmetology school and the hardware store. With the coming of O'Reilly's and the continuation of Holiday Lanes, residents remained hopeful that business would come back. Aaron's Rentals came along, too, but the remaining storefronts never really took off.

When Holiday Lanes closed in 2015, it seemed the west end of the center would not shine again.

Last year, Freeway Ministries purchased the empty and abandoned building west of Aaron's Rentals.

TWO NEW RETAIL STORES

Three storefronts formerly occupied by a pawn shop and thrift store are being cleaned and prepared for rental by two new businesses: Two Blondes Family Salon and R.C. Flea Mart, owned by Conita and Richard Silva. Conita and her business partner, Trish Bridwell, were hairdressers at Fantastic Sam's on East Kearney for five and over 30 years, respectively. With that shop closing, Conita and Trish look forward to opening Two Blondes, where they will bring their former coworkers and provide hair care for all ages, nail services and massage. The upscale flea market will take over the two larger storefronts.

FREEWAY MINISTRIES

Freeway Ministries started with seven names on a signup list in 2011 and is now an international parachurch ministry to men and women struggling with addiction and life-controlling problems. Freeway rented Springfield Christian Schools' gymnasium on Talmage for several years for their Saturday night dinner and worship. They outgrew that facility and purchased the bowling alley and storefronts through multiple fundraising efforts and donations from across the community. Terry Bond, a board member who grew up three blocks away in the Woodland Heights neighborhood and attended Hillcrest High School, explained that this will be their headquarters, not a church "proper." The property will be used for offices during the week, and when they move in sometime this



Casey Merrick, Freeway's associate pastor, center, works with volunteers demo-ing the bowling alley. While incarcerated, Merrick started attending a prison ministry. On his release, he got on the "wrong" bus and ended up at a Freeway meeting, where he found the tools to turn his life around. Today he is part of leadership, mentoring others who are struggling with addiction.

summer, they will move their Saturday dinner and meeting to the HilCres property.

The bowling alley will be a 1,000-seat auditorium with rooms for private counseling and help. The former "fun center" will house a kitchen and middle- and high-school classrooms. The former cosmetology school (rooms west of the pass-through) will be offices and a meeting room at the front, and secure children's classrooms and a children's church center toward the back. They are also planning to open Freedom Kids, a preschool/day-care program for low-income families. Parents who cannot afford day care maybe able to work for tuition.

Bond says they are excited to be a part of the community and to make a difference here. He emphasized that it will not be a homeless shelter; their purpose is to help struggling people. Making a positive impact in the neighborhood is a close second. Bond invites all of our neighbors to stop by on Saturdays to tour the facility and learn more about the project. Those who would like to volunteer are welcome, too. Watch for information on their open house early this summer. You can learn more at Freewayministries.com or call Terry Bond at 417-689-3793.



New Doling website to launch this summer

By Christina Dicken, for SGFNN

Doling will have a new website this summer with news, information and resources for the neighborhood. New Doling resident and tech guru Cecil Evans is volunteering his time to create a home page for the Doling neighborhood at dolingneighborhood.com. Stay tuned!



Doling Neighborhood Cleanup May 12



Photos courtesy of the Doling Neighborhood Association Facebook page.



Have a few minutes to share?

By Mary Kay Glunt, for SGFNN

We have busy lives. Sometimes it seems we don't have a spare minute anywhere. The truth is that everyone has 24 hours each day, that's 1,440 minutes.

How we prioritize those minutes determines whether we have any to share. Even the busiest person can squeeze a few minutes out occasionally. And being a neighbor is much more than living on the same street. It's about working together and helping one another. Unfortunately, planning and carrying out events falls to board members, and we are really tired! It's your neighborhood, and we need your help with these items and the annual events listed below.

So, if you do find a few minutes now and then, here are a few opportunities to make our neighborhood a better place. If we all work together, volunteering in our neighborhood won't take a lot of time, but will make a big difference!

PLOGGING

Doctors tell us that walking is an excellent exercise to keep the heart and body healthy. OK, so maybe you are a jogger or runner. Either way, why not spend that time in our neighborhood instead of some other walking trail. And while you are doing that, carry along a bag and pick up cast off items along the road, like cups and papers, to make the neighborhood look better. It's called plogging!



Jayme VanMeter and Jaxon Green pick up trash along Livingston during an Adopt-a-Street cleanup in 2017.

ADOPT-A-STREET

The Adopt-a-Street program, sponsored by the City, recruits groups to clean a designated area at least three times a year. Doling Neighborhood agreed to adopt Talmage Street from Broadway to Kansas Expressway, and your current board has been continuing that work. This past year we have included Livingston from Fort to Kansas Expressway, where trash from the parking lots and the road above collect.

Will you help us keep those roads clean and make Doling shine? Also, if there is an area in your part of Doling that you and your neighbors want to sponsor, and which you will coordinate, contact a board member and let's talk to the city.

BLOCK PARTY/BLOCK WATCH

Want a safe neighborhood? Talk to your neighbors about starting a Block Watch. A great way is to host a block party with DNA's Block Party Tool Kit! It has everything you need to pull it off, including hamburgers and hot dogs. The block

party handout is available on Nextdoor and on Facebook under files on the Doling Neighborhood Association page. We need drivers to haul the trailer to the block party site and bring it back.

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

Do you know your neighbors? Take a few minutes each week to stop and say hello to one or more of your neighbors. Get to know them, especially those who are elderly and don't have family nearby. When we know what to expect, we can help one another.

SIGNS

Volunteers are needed to display yard signs in well-traveled locations in the neighborhood on the week before the monthly meeting. Contact Christina Dicken.

FUNDRAISING

Volunteers are needed to make contact with businesses in our area to get business memberships, donations and sponsorships to support our programs and newsletter. Contact Mary Kay Glunt.

NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS

On the second Tuesday of each month (the third Tuesday in April), join us at Hillcrest Presbyterian Church, 818 E. Norton Road, for a monthly potluck at 6 p.m., with meeting at 6:45. Bring your favorite side or dessert to share, and learn more about what is happening in our neighborhood. We need help setting up and cleaning up after the meeting. Contact Christina Dicken.

As Mister Rogers taught us: "Let's make the most of this beautiful day, since we're together we might as well say: Would you be mine? Could you be mine? Won't you be my neighbor!"

MORE WAYS TO HELP

ST. PAT'S DAY PARADE

Help plan and decorate the float and ride/walk the parade route with your neighbors. This year we won the award for best float!

DOLING GARAGE SALE

Even if you aren't having a sale, why not contact your neighbors and consider helping someone who doesn't have anyone to help them? Mary Kay Glunt, coordinator.

KEARNEY STREET CRUISE

As a part of the Kearney Street Cruise events, we sponsor a food truck/child activity lot near BBC. We need helpers at least an hour prior to the event to setup (tables, chairs, games, bounce house, etc.) and to help tear everything down afterward.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

A free, city-wide event that brings together law enforcement, health and safety organizations and neighborhood groups to bring you a night of safety education and fun activities for the whole family! We will need people to help plan and staff our booth, provide items to hand out and to oversee games and the bounce house.

DUMPSTER DAY

Each year CPO and the City provide dumpsters for us to clean up our neighborhood. We NEED your help! Prior to the event, we need help with



Fred Ackley gives a high-five to a young sack-race participant at Doling's Neighborhood Night Out last August.

registrations for people needing items picked up. We need people on site to register neighbors as they arrive, collect money for donations and for recycling paid items, to guide traffic through Christ the King's parking lot, to help unload trucks and cars and to clean up afterward. Also, we need teams with trucks to drive to preregistered homes of our elderly and disabled neighbors to pick up their items and bring them back to the site. Contact Mary Kay Glunt, coordinator.

MONARCH WAYSTATION

We are working with the city to build a Monarch butterfly waystation at the Talmage Dip to provide more pollinators in our area. We need help planting, picking up trash, and more. Also, we are negotiating with the city about making the area from there to Livingston into a urban meadow. Like working with dirt? Let us know. Contact Jean Ackley, coordinator.

ADOPT-A-STREET

Help us pick up trash periodically throughout the year along Talmage between Broadway and Kansas Expressway. Contact Mary Kay Glunt, coordinator.

HALLOWEEN PARTY

Instead of having a neighborhood night out, we are switching gears this year and throwing a Halloween party. Help with planning, publicizing, staffing, etc. Contact Brandy Ecton, coordinator.

BASS PRO MARATHON

On the first Sunday in November we gather at near the end of the Bass Pro Marathon route to cheer on the runners. We compete against other neighborhoods for the most spirited cheering section. It involves picking a theme, planning our presentation, setup and attending the race all or part of the morning. Bass Pro gives cash awards to the best groups, which helps DNA fund our other events throughout the year.

CHRISTMAS CONTEST

A new program will offer prizes for the best outdoor Christmas decorations in our neighborhood. We need you to help plan the guidelines, publicize and to work on registrations for the event.

CONCERT AT THE CAVE

Our annual concert in Doling Park, bringing great music and fun to the park. We need helpers with setup, planning, tear down and cleanup, fundraising, food preparation for the hospitality tent, publicity, etc. We need your help for this to continue to be a great event. Contact Grady Cooper and Christina Dicken, coordinators.

GRANT BEACH NEIGHBORHOOD



Grant Beach Sports League celebrates 10 years this fall

By Darlene Steele, for SGFNN

Grant Beach Sports League will celebrate a milestone this fall when parents and players gather for the 10th season of Grant Beach soccer.

The sports league was formed to fill the need for a low-cost, instructional league for families in north Springfield. It expanded to include families from all over Springfield and Willard, as well as other outlying communities. The organizers are all volunteers within the Grant Beach Neighborhood Association. The coaches are parent volunteers. Only the referees and umpires are paid a nominal fee for their time and skill. There are families that have been involved from the beginning. One of those families is the Bursons.

David Burson has been a key part of the Grant Beach Sports League since the beginning. First, he was a parent who brought his kids to play. Then he decided to coach.

David grew up on Chicago's South Side. Football was his primary sport. He also played volleyball, softball, basketball and even bowling. After a short stint at Liberty University on a football scholarship, David went back to Chicago where he married and worked. While on a mission trip he visited Springfield. He and his wife then decided to come to Springfield so David could attend Central Bible College. Right before the move they discovered their first child, Darlene, was on the way. Then two years later came twin boys followed by one more son two years after that. David worked at UPS and the Stalnaker Unit of the Boys and Girls Club from the time it opened in 2003.



In 2008, as the father of four young children ages 6, 4, and 2, David was always on the lookout for low cost family activities. He began taking the kids to area vacation Bible schools during the summer and was a regular at the library.

He thinks that is where he saw a flier for Grant Beach soccer in the fall of 2008. He signed up his oldest three kids even though the twins were too young. He heard back from a coach for Darlene. At the first game not all of the players showed up. The coach asked if the twins would play, and so they got their first taste of soccer at age 4 and loved it.

David doesn't recall the name of the coach but from that point on, all three kids played on the team. They came back for baseball the next summer and soccer in the fall of 2009. It wasn't until Darlene was in third grade that David volunteered to coach. He has done so consistently for both soccer and baseball ever since. All four kids played until they aged out.



David recalls watching Richard Napieralski, who coached Darlene in second grade, and considers him a mentor. He learned to work with not only his players, but their parents and families as well. David earned a reputation as one of the most sought-after coaches in the league. Families requested him so the same kids played together for several years. Some of his teams were so dominating that it was hard to remember these kids had grown up playing Grant Beach soccer rather than in a competitive league. Now all five of the Bursons can be found on the field coaching or refereeing.

The sports league was formed to fill the need for a low-cost, instructional league for families in north Springfield. There are families that have been involved from the beginning.

If you have coached or played Grant Beach soccer over the last 10 years or know someone who was, please send your contact information to gbanewsletter@gmail.com. Keep an eye on the Grant Beach Sports Facebook page or GBNA Grant Beach Facebook group for more information on the 10-year celebration. As always, soccer registration will begin shortly after school starts in August. A \$10 registration fee will provide six weeks of fun and a T-shirt. If you are interested in coaching, we are always looking for those too. Contact Yolanda Taylor at 417-952-5735.

Finally, a great big thank you to the many partners who have made this possible. The Springfield-Greene County Park Board for their blessing and support, Missouri Sports Hall of Fame for their financial support, various community sponsors, all of the neighborhood volunteers who organize the coaches and players, the concession volunteers who make sure there is 25-cent popcorn at every game, Triad Graphics who have kept our costs low on T-shirts and all of the coaches, refs, parents and players who have made these 10 years happen!

**Grant Beach
Neighborhood Night Out
Aug. 24: 6-10 p.m.
Grant Beach Park, 1300 N. Grant Ave.**

Neighborhood Boundaries



Connect

- Kathy Lutz, President:
kathylutz1000@gmail.com or
417-501-8878
- Pauletta Dunn, Vice President
- Kristina Wilmoth, Secretary
- Hovey House: 417-942-2456 or
gbanewsletter@gmail.com

Neighborhood Association Meetings

July 16 • Aug. 20 • Sept. 17: 6:30 – 7:30 p.m./
6 p.m. optional potluck @ St. Joseph Catholic Church
Parish Hall (1115 N. Campbell Ave.)

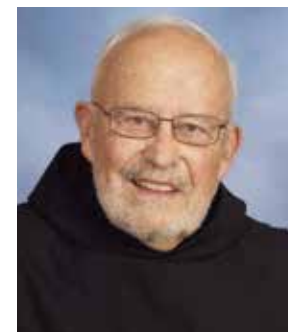
grantbeachneighborhood.org



Remembering Father Denis Dougherty

By Darlene Steele, for SGFNN

Grant Beach Neighborhood Association would like to take a moment to remember Father Denis Dougherty who passed away April 28. Father Denis was the pastor of St. Joseph Catholic Church since 1999 and was a great supporter of GBNA.



He was well educated with many interesting life experiences. He had a sly sense of humor that would often catch you off guard. He had a heart for the poor of our city and championed payday lender reform. He was proud of the neighborhood association, which he supported by offering space for GBNA monthly meetings and events, first at St. Joseph Catholic Academy and later in the parish hall.

He attended meetings as often as he could and we always welcomed his calming presence and input. When nominated for the Neighborhood Organization Volunteer Award last fall, he graciously and humbly declined. His funeral mass on May 3 was standing-room only, which is a testament to his outreach in the community. Grant Beach Neighborhood Association will purchase a memorial rose bush to be planted in the garden on the grounds at St. Joseph Catholic Church.

Rest in peace, Father Denis. You will be missed.

Grant Avenue Daycare oldest continuously operating day care in Greene County

By Darlene Steele, for SGFNN



Director Janice Sartin

In mid- to late May when high school graduates wax nostalgic about their academic careers, sometimes they find their way back to Grant Avenue Daycare. The comment that Director Janice Sartin hears most from returning students is how much smaller the hallways are.

Janice and I laugh thinking about the difference in size the hallways must appear to a 2-year-old or a 4-year-old. Really, the hallway is almost narrow and the ceiling is not so high. Memory has a way of playing tricks on you, depending on your perspective at the time a memory is made. Many, many small people have walked the halls of Grant Avenue Daycare since it opened in 1955.

The church wasn't always located in this building. It formed in 1888 as a mission and was organized as a church in 1891 when it was located at Grant and Poplar. Eventually, the church purchased the property at Grant and Scott and moved into the building we know now in 1926. In those days, the church was bustling and growing with a much larger membership. It was well known for its large vacation Bible school in the 1950s and '60s.

Even then, the church had a heart for the neighborhood and saw a need to create a safe place for working mothers to leave their children. So Grant Avenue Daycare came into being as the longest continuously operating day care in the same

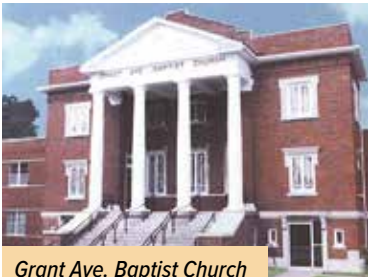
space in Greene County, if not the entire state of Missouri.

Kindergarten was added in the days before it was a requirement and continued into the mid-1990s until it was no longer needed. Grant Avenue Daycare has only had three directors and Janice has held the post for 47 years, so it is not a stretch to say that she has been there for multiple generations of children that attended the day care and kindergarten when it was in operation. Truly, it would be hard to find someone who has lived in Grant Beach very long who doesn't have a child, sibling, parent or friend that attended Grant Avenue Daycare, if they didn't go there themselves.

Although Janice can say she has made it her life's work to care for other people's children, she sees it with some regret and sadness that she was the one to experience those first steps or words. She is happy to have been at the day care to provide a place for dozens of children to learn and grow for more than four decades.

If you were a Grant Avenue Daycare kid, Janice would love to hear from you! She prides herself on never failing to recognize one of her former students. At the very least, stop by and remark on how small the halls have become!

And maybe give her a hug.



Grant Ave. Baptist Church



Eagle Scout gives back to Grant Beach Sports League

By Darlene Steele, for SGFNN

Many families have been involved in Grant Beach Sports League, and the Brazeals are a great example.

Chris Brazeal coaches baseball and his son, Jacob was a player from kindergarten until he aged out. Now Jacob is working to complete his Eagle Scout project. He loves sports and has memories of playing baseball at Grant Beach Park. He decided the field, the dugout and the bleachers needed some upgrades and attention, so that became his project.

"I have been working hard on my Eagle Scout project where I will revitalize the baseball field at Grant Beach Park."

Thanks to the possibility of more funding through Grant Beach Neighborhood Association and the Neighborhood Works grant, Jacob's initial proposal has grown beyond the ball field and bleachers to include additional upgrades in the park. While it is still only in the application stage, GBNA is happy to support Jacob and hopes that as much of his proposal as possible will be completed by next summer when Grant Beach Sports League celebrates 10 years of baseball. This is what Jacob had to say about his project, in his own words.

"I have been working hard on my Eagle Scout project where I will revitalize the baseball field at Grant Beach Park. I am estimating this project to cost around \$20,000. I am planning a large event to be held in July to help raise funds. Part of this event will include a silent auction. I have been trying to contact companies for donations, but I was hoping some of you may own businesses or know people who do who might be willing to donate items for this project. I would appreciate everyone's help. Please let me know if you have any ideas."

Mark your calendar for July 7, when Jacob will be holding a fundraiser at Grant Beach Park. Details will be coming, so look for fliers, check GBNA Grant Beach on Facebook or call 417-942-2456 for more information. If you can help Jacob with his fundraising efforts or know someone who can, you can reach him at jbrazeal91@gmail.com.

Garden Fun Night

Thursday, July 12th
6 - 7:30 pm
The Fairbanks - 1126 N. Broadway

Learn how to start a garden

Plant a tomato to take home

Sample garden snacks

Free event, everyone welcome!

Developer's daughter reflects on Parkcrest's beginnings

By April Wefler, for SGFNN

When the developer of Springfield's Parkcrest neighborhood decided to create a new subdivision outside the Springfield city limits, people told him he was crazy.

"He was told no one would ever want to live that far out in the country," said Betty Smith Ridge, the daughter of Parkcrest developer Tom Smith.

His peers were wrong. The new neighborhood welcomed Springfieldians upon completion, many of whom were veterans who purchased their homes with the help of the GI Bill.

Smith, who had served in World War II shortly after Normandy, was an old hand at construction. A native of Marionville, he moved to Springfield following his high school graduation and worked on the construction of Route 66 in the Halltown area.

Following the war, Smith and his wife Mary built Sunshine Court, a classic roadside motel that sat on West Sunshine near Moore Road, not far from the Missouri State Highway Patrol headquarters. Mary would sometimes take a homemade pie to the troopers, which Ridge said may have been the reason that some of them became the first residents of Parkcrest.

Sometime in the late 1950s, the Smiths purchased 160 acres of farmland that at the time was outside of the Springfield city limits. The southern part of the city ended on Sunshine; past that, the M Highway that would later become known as Republic Road stretched out to the country. This was the land they would use for the Parkcrest neighborhood.

"He was told no one would ever want to live that far out in the country."

Before starting work on Parkcrest, they had already built more than 36 houses along Seminole, Holland, Clay and Dollison.

Smith decided Parkcrest would have seven streets: Westview, Highland, Riverside, LaSalle, Maplewood, Kingsley and Sylvania. Fairview marked the east side of the residential area, with Broadway the west and Michigan bisecting the middle.

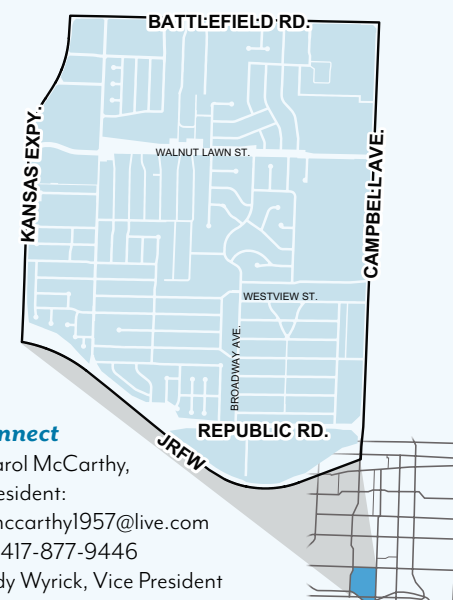
"My father wanted to put in concrete, but the partners thought it too costly. Later, streets all were paved in concrete," Ridge said.

Instead of concrete, the street was paved after water lines were laid along Westview. Additionally, a deep well was drilled near the intersection of LaSalle and Fairview, with a 125,000-gallon water tower, the second in Springfield.

"Everyone had a bicycle and the streets were easy to ride on," Ridge said.



Neighborhood Boundaries



Connect

- Carol McCarthy, President:
cmccarthy1957@live.com
or 417-877-9446
- Judy Wyrick, Vice President
- Kate Detoy, Secretary
- Nancy Fazzino, Treasurer
- Harlan Bristol, Chair/Block Captains

Neighborhood Association Meetings

Aug. 16 (Back to School Meeting): 6:30 p.m.
@ The Way Church (903 W. Katella St.)

There will be no July meeting. We hope residents will have block parties or walk and meet people on their blocks.



Students living in the area attended the Disney Kickapoo location, until South Kickapoo was built in 1960, now known as Cherokee Middle School. Neither of the Kickapoos were part of the Springfield Public Schools district.

Every Christmas, neighbors would drape a string of lights over the water tower.

"It looked like a giant Christmas tree. People would come out to see it," Ridge said.

In addition, there was no fire protection in the county, leading several Parkcrest residents to organize a volunteer fire department, with a pumper fire truck kept on-hand in the shop/fire station building adjacent to the water tower.

"Five people, including the most active volunteers, had red fire phones in their houses and would answer when a fire was called in, then summon the others. My father served as fire chief, and I recall Orville Watterly and Rex Kirkpatrick were among the volunteers," Ridge said.

She added that Kirkpatrick, a retired mechanic, used to run the pump and engine equipment after they arrived at the fires.

"At some point during the 1960s, Sheriff Mickey Owen focused on expanding county fire protection, and I remember him purchasing the Parkcrest fire truck. That was probably about the time Parkcrest was annexed," Ridge said.

Also during the 1960s, John Q. Hammons developed Village Green, off of Walnut Lawn. Shortly thereafter, in 1963, Horace Mann Elementary became the neighborhood school.

Despite opposition, Parkcrest was incorporated into Springfield around 1967. To accommodate the new residents, the Parkcrest Shopping Center was developed with a Consumers Market, Newport's Ben Franklin and a discount clothing store.

"My father did not want to have any of the merchants directly competing with each other. So we had one men's clothing store, one women's clothing store, Parkcrest pharmacy, a hardware store, beauty and barber shops, an insurance agency, Heritage bookstore, a Hallmark shop, Glo Cleaners and a few other businesses. Parkcrest Dental Group got its start in the center, as did

Parkcrest Veterinary Hospital," Ridge said.

The Studio Theatre owner promised to show wholesome movies and caused quite the uproar when he went back on his word.

"Just before the theater opened, [my mother] and other residents were shocked to see posters of scantily clad women and films with provocative titles. Springfield had its first X-rated movie theater, and I doubt most Parkcrest residents welcomed it," Ridge said.

"It was a bit of a local scandal, provoking picketing by politician O.K. Armstrong, who had appointed himself as a guardian of public morality some years earlier when 'Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf' was released," she added.

Instead of at the Studio, many Parkcrest residents decided to get their movie experiences directly in their backyards from the Hi M Drive-In. At a neighborhood meeting, people fondly recalled sitting in the backyard and enjoying the features. For them, it was literally a night at the picture show, as they were unable to hear the movies from that distance.

Ridge said she is pleased with the atmosphere Parkcrest has today.

"We drive through Parkcrest frequently. It makes me smile when I see people working in their yards, taking good care of their houses, kids playing and enjoying life in what is still one of Springfield's nicest places to live. The houses may not be the biggest or most expensive in town, but their owners' pride is obvious," Ridge said.

It was a feeling her mother seemed to share.

"Whenever my mother was introducing herself to people, even long after they'd left Springfield, she'd always say, 'We built Parkcrest,'" Ridge said.

"To her, that was their crowning achievement and one that remains their legacy," she said.

Two Horace Mann Elementary students win new bikes on Bike to School Day

By Cara Erwin, Health Department, for SGFNN



Horace Mann Elementary kindergartener Brianna Swanson and first-grader Levi Chelette each took home a brand-new bike just in time for summer on Bike to School Day May 9.

The City of Springfield, in partnership with Springfield Public Schools, SafeKids Springfield and TrailSpring, partnered to encourage students to bike or walk to school on Bike to School Day. Those who walked or biked to school that day were entered into a prize drawing for the two bikes. Other giveaways included helmets, bike lights, reflectors and bells.

Community partners used the Bike to School Day designation to encourage children to become more active in their everyday lives. While all children were encouraged to participate, Horace Mann students who biked or walked to school received giveaways and the chance to win one of two new bicycles, donated by TrailSpring. Springfield Greene-County Health Department staff were on site to educate families about the health benefits of walking or riding bikes to school.

SafeKids Springfield provided students with 30-plus bike helmets, reflectors and safety-related information.

The Bike to School Day event was held in

conjunction with the opening of the new crosswalk at Broadway and Walnut Lawn, benefiting Horace Mann students. Public Works staff and "Mr. Walker" were on the route to encourage drivers in the area to slow down and yield to pedestrians. The Springfield Fire Department assisted bikers and walkers across the street during the event.

Other event partners included TrailSpring, which is on a mission to improve the physical health and activity level of people in the Springfield area by creating and maintaining a network of multi-use trails, which will also increase the economic vitality of the region.

The Health Department encourages all children to get at least 60 minutes of physical activity every day. This helps prevent diseases such as cancer and obesity, improves thinking and concentration skills, provides energy and helps children feel happier.



New crosswalk installed at Walnut Lawn and Broadway Avenue Watch for walkers!

By Kristen Milam, Public Information, for SGFNN



A new pedestrian crosswalk with median refuge has recently been installed at Walnut Lawn and Broadway Avenue. LED lights were installed over crosswalk signage to increase visibility, but it is important for both pedestrians AND drivers to do their parts to keep everyone safe!

WALKERS: Parents should use extra caution when walking their kids to school on this route. We ask that everyone crossing make eye contact with drivers prior to entering the crosswalk.

DRIVERS: Please watch out for walkers at all times and respect crosswalks. Motorists are required by law to stop for pedestrians and are not allowed to pass other vehicles if pedestrians are present. For more information about pedestrian safety, visit springfieldmo.gov/sgfyields.

HEART OF THE WESTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD

Tammy Haynes Memorial Easter Egg Hunt March 23



Photos courtesy of the Heart of the Westside Neighborhood Association Facebook page.



National Neighborhood Night Out

Aug. 7: 5-8 p.m.

Nichols Park

1900 W. Nichols St.

Neighborhood Boundaries



Connect

- Cody Parsons, President:
codycodemanparsons@gmail.com
or 573-480-5393
- Billy Cockrum, Vice President
- Jaydean Miller, Secretary/Treasurer:
jaydean_miller@yahoo.com

Neighborhood Association Meetings

July 12 • Aug. 9 • Sept. 13: 6 – 7 p.m.
@ Passion Assembly of God (806 N. Forest)



MEADOR PARK NEIGHBORHOOD

Jarrett student artists design neighborhood sign for Meador Park

By Teresa Bledsoe, Springfield Public Schools, for SGFNN

Three icons make up the Meador Park Neighborhood sign's design. And three Jarrett Middle School students created it.

On April 4, Nina Musiyenko, Mabel Johnson and Faith Heffner presented their finished design for the new Meador Park Neighborhood sign to the Meador Park Neighborhood President Bobbi Ream. Months in the making, Jarrett art students collaborated to develop a design that best represented the neighborhood near the Battlefield Mall, said Reagan Lux, art teacher at Jarrett.

"Usually neighborhoods commission artists to do this sort of work, but they asked if there were artists here at Jarrett who would be up to the challenge," said Lux. "We've been in contact with the neighborhood association since, and it's been a lot of fun for our students."

Lux asked students in her art classes at Jarrett to discuss what symbols or images best represented the neighborhood. Three themes emerged, and three girls with a talent for visual design stepped forward to make the project their own.

"Honestly, I feel like I have a sense of purpose," said Nina Musiyenko, eighth-grader. "Usually

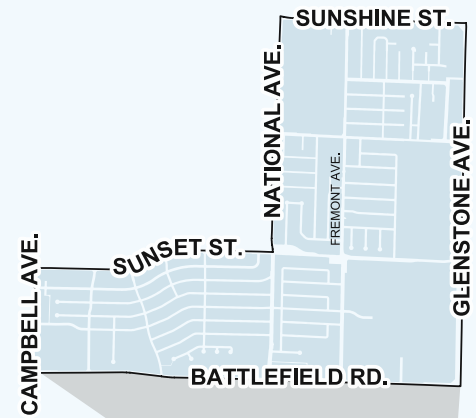


you think when you're doing art, you're doing something insignificant or unimportant. But this will be affecting other generations, and it will be standing there, helping not only me, but others."

Having student artwork displayed in the community is one goal of Lux's as a first-year teacher at Jarrett. But when her artists get to connect their work with the community, it makes a difference, she says.

As the contributing artists, Nina Musiyenko, Mabel Johnson and Faith Heffner were awarded \$25 gift cards by a member of the Meador Park neighborhood, Karen Trigg. Trigg also made a \$25 donation to Jarrett's art department.

Neighborhood Boundaries



Connect

- Bobbi Ream, President: MPNAMO@yahoo.com or 417-883-3438
- Deb Oman, Vice President
- Sara Stubbins, Secretary
- Donna Clarkson, Treasurer



Neighborhood Association Meetings

Aug. 1 (Contact Neighborhood Association president Bobbi Ream at MPNAMO@yahoo.com or 417-883-3438 for time and location.)



MIDTOWN NEIGHBORHOOD

Midtown Community Garden receives new gazebo

Meet Midtown Community Garden leader, Louise. She's dedicated four years to volunteering at the garden. On May 15 the garden received a 12 foot by 24 foot gazebo for SCG outdoor classroom space. Thanks to the George and Linda Deatz family with recognition to Friends of the Garden and Master Gardeners of Greene County!



From the Springfield Community Gardens' Facebook page.

Midtown Neighborhood Cleanup April 7



Photos courtesy of the Midtown Neighborhood Association Facebook page.

28th Annual 4th of July Parade & Celebration

July 4, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

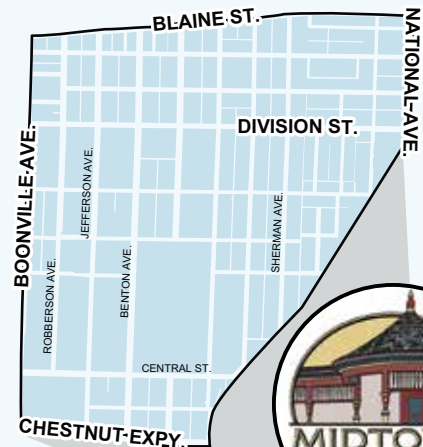
Featuring Greg Burris as Parade Grand Marshal

Parade starts on Benton Ave. and ends at Washington Park where the celebration will continue!



Sponsored by the Midtown Neighborhood Association
For more information visit facebook.com/midtownsgf

Neighborhood Boundaries



Connect

- Brian Shipman, President: brianshipman@drury.edu or 417-880-2855
- Brian King, Vice President
- Marie Wood, Secretary: 417-496-8539
- Mary Jo Greer, Treasurer



Neighborhood Association Meetings

July 9 • Aug. 13 • Sept. 10: 6 - 7 p.m.
@ Urban Neighborhood Alliance, on Cox North Hospital parking lot (918 E. Calhoun St.)



Midtown Neighborhood Night Out

Aug. 24: 6-8 p.m.

Washington Park

1600 N. Summit Ave.

OAK GROVE NEIGHBORHOOD



Pittman Reading Challenge engages students to the very end of school year

By Teresa Bledsoe, Springfield Public Schools, for SGFNN

As the school year wound down, Pittman Elementary School students revved up their reading efforts by competing in a school-wide reading challenge.

"Part of this is to keep kids engaged until the end of the school year, and the other part is to just get them interested in reading," said Laura Baton, Pittman principal. "We did it for the first time last year, and having some kind of incentive to read gets kids hooked on books, which is what we want."

As a building, students were challenged on May 10 to spend 50,000 minutes reading before May 20. Students shattered expectations, reading more than 50,000 minutes by May 15. Students were then encouraged to meet a stretch goal of 75,000 minutes to unlock prizes for reading, like a participation pizza party, fun with their principal on the school's roof May 21 and more, said Melissa Agnew, learning coach at Pittman.

"We believe that the more you read, the better reader you become," said Agnew. "Our teachers are pushing that end-of-year independent reading, with

kids reading what they want to read. Time and choice are the two biggest factors to get kids to read more and more."

A number of the school's community partners are supporting students as they read. Freddy's Frozen Custard Dessert donated frozen custard that students could receive after they read five new books in the Pittman Library and submitted a grade-appropriate book review.

And on May 16, every classroom was visited by Laura Loffler, a storytime reader and librarian at the nearby Schweitzer Brentwood branch of the Springfield-Greene County Library System. In her presentations, students were encouraged to read



Neighborhood Boundaries



Connect

- Wendell Royster, President:
jwrcameo5@att.net or
417-883-6541
- Mark McKnelly, Secretary

Neighborhood Association Meetings

Meetings are held on an as-needed basis. Contact a neighborhood officer to find out the next scheduled meeting.

ogna.weebly.com



all summer long and participate in the library's Summer Reading Program to qualify for prizes.

"We're all about promoting literacy, and it's really important to start young," said Loffler. "Reading has such a great impact for their entire lives."

SPS installs upgraded lighting on Pittman Elementary parking lot and playground



By Linda Lanham, for SGFNN

If you drive past Pittman Elementary School on East Bennett during nighttime hours, you may have noticed additional lighting on the school parking lot and playground. According to Laura Batson, principal at Pittman School, and Stephen Hall, chief communications officer for Springfield Public Schools, the SPS facilities team installed the lights in response to security concerns voiced by parents and Oak Grove residents.

As longtime OGNA resident Gerald Clary reminds us, "If you see something, say something."

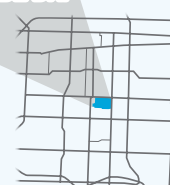
Watch for details of upcoming block party, and Bennett street cleanup. Visit Oak Grove's Facebook page for further details, or contact an officer.

PHELPS GROVE NEIGHBORHOOD

Scenes from World Tai Chi Day April 28



Neighborhood Boundaries



Connect

- Eric Pauly, President:
ptum10@gmail.com or
417-736-9357
- Renee Tyson, Vice President/
Secretary: 417-863-0246
- Nancy Danielsen, Treasurer



Neighborhood Association Meetings

Phelps Neighborhood Association meets the second Tuesday of the month at Fire Station 1 community room, 720 E. Grand. Contact an association officer for meeting times.

phelpsgrove.com



ROBBERSON NEIGHBORHOOD

The Mobile Library – your neighborhood welcome wagon

By Laura Schulteis, Robberson Community School, for SGFNN

It's a beautiful day in the Robberson neighborhood just about any day, but Yesenia and Tony Martinez will tell you that Wednesdays are a little extra special. That's because on Wednesdays from 4:25 until 5 p.m., a six-wheeled, multi-ton, you-can't-miss-it, white truck with swirls of green rolls down the street emblazoned on both sides with "The Mobile Library."

The Mobile Library, or "the book mobile" as us older folks may fondly recall it, is no stranger to the streets. The Springfield-Greene County library on wheels is in its 70th year of running services according to Allison Eckert, the library's outreach manager.

"The proposal for the first book mobile surfaced in 1946. In 1948 we began running services," she says. "The Mobile Library we have now was put into service on July 6, 2011; the Robberson neighborhood stop started in December 2011."

Eckert says an average of 1,450 people visit The Mobile Library per month, checking out an average of 8,700 items per month.

Cruising the streets of Springfield, The Mobile Library is on the road four days a week and makes 26 public stops. Yesenia and Tony are glad that the Robberson stop at 2350 N. Taylor Ave. (on the east side of Robberson Community School), is one of them.

"I like coming here," Yesenia says, "You can find the things you like to read and watch." Due to work schedules and life demands, the Martinez family isn't able to get to the brick-and-mortar libraries. Patron Anja Williams also chimes in, "We don't have a car, so this is much easier for us. We come every week."

Mr. Rob and Ms. Mary, The Mobile Library outreach assistants, enjoy seeing and getting to know their patron friends.

"Tell us stories. It's all about the stories," says Mr. Rob.



With a gleam in his eye, you can tell that he's not only referring to books and resources, but also the people he's come to know and care about in his 18 years behind the wheel. After thoughtful reflection, Mr. Rob adds, "We see a lot of moms, and that's great, but I like seeing dads too. I'd like to encourage the dads to come out more often."

At The Mobile Library, you can fill out an application and get your library card, check out books, DVDs and CDs, request hotspots and toys, pick up and turn in voter registration forms, and sign up for the Summer Reading Program, among other services. The Summer Reading Program "Libraries Rock" is for all ages and runs through Aug. 4.

The complete list of The Mobile Library scheduled stops can be found on the website thelibrary.org under the "Library Services" tab.

"We're here to help," Ms. Mary says, "Come on in and check us out!"



The Mobile Library Outreach Assistants Mr. Rob and Ms. Mary



Hillcrest High School student journalists win regional award

By Teresa Bledsoe, Springfield Public Schools, for SGFNN

The Mid-America Chapter of the National Television Academy has announced its 2018 high school winners.

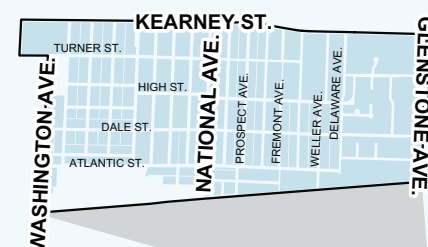
"HTV Magazine," produced by students at Hillcrest, won first place in Newscast.

The following Hillcrest students earned Honorable Mention:

- General Assignment, Serious News, **Kaylinn Clotfelter** and **Trenton Wolfe**
- General Assignment, Light News, **Brennan Williams** and **Gabby Deckard**
- Craft: Photography, **Kaylinn Clotfelter**



Neighborhood Boundaries



Connect

- Michael Blackshear, President:
pathwayspastor@gmail.com
or 417-631-7595
- Betty Green, Vice President
- Phyllis Evans, Treasurer
- Roxanne Bedell-Taylor, Special Events
and Fundraising Chairman

Neighborhood Association Meetings

July 26 • Aug. 23 • Sept. 27: 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
@ Pathways United Methodist Church
(1232 E. Dale St.)



Robberson Neighborhood Night Out

Aug. 25: 4-7 p.m.

Robberson Community School
1100 E. Kearney St.

Cox Children Miracle Network Mobile Bus at Robberson Neighborhood Science and Safety Event May 12



Photo courtesy of the Robberson Neighborhood Association Facebook page.

ROUNTREE NEIGHBORHOOD

Rountree neighbors attend neighborhood plan meetings

After a May 14 presentation at Trinity Lutheran Church by consulting firm H3 Studio, Rountree neighbors discussed ideas, goals and strategies for the National Avenue and Cherry Street corridor and the Rountree Neighborhood Plan. On Wednesday, May 16, neighbors attended an open house at Rountree Elementary, where the feedback from the May 14 Monday night meeting was shared and Planning and Development staff visited one-on-one with neighbors.



Neighborhood Boundaries



Connect

- Laurel Bryant, President:
laurelrbryant@gmail.com
or 417-619-4663
- Sue Ekstam, Vice President
- Connie Schneider, Secretary
- Peggy Wise, Treasurer

Neighborhood Association Meetings

July 17 • Aug. 21 • Sept. 18: 7–8 p.m.
@ University Heights Baptist Church
(1010 S. National Ave.)

routreenews.org



Rountree Neighborhood Cleanup May 5



TOM WATKINS NEIGHBORHOOD

SPD passes out ice cream at John B. Hughes Apartments

By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor

Lots of kids enjoyed a cold treat on a hot afternoon from the SPD Cold Patrol at John B. Hughes Apartments May 9.



Tom Watkins
Neighborhood Night Out
Sept. 22: 4-8 p.m.
Tom Watkins Park
2100 W. High St.

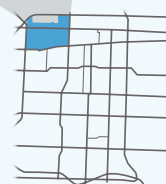
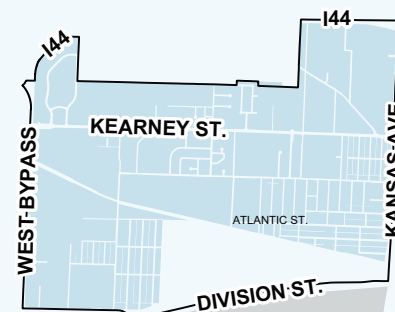
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Neighborhood Boundaries



Connect

- Marti Mowery, President:
twna2010@yahoo.com
or 417-616-4064
or 417-864-7239
- Lynn Prince, Vice President
- Wanda Plumb, Secretary
- Don Atwood, Treasurer: dla913@yahoo.com
or 417-864-7239

Neighborhood Association Meetings

Aug. 30 • Nov. 29: 7–8:30 p.m. @ Tom Watkins Park
Community Center (2100 W. High St.)



Weller restaurants give fourth-graders management, job experience

By Teresa Bledsoe, Springfield Public Schools, for SGFNN



Kendahl McCrimmons walks around with a purpose, watching over the dining room at the Mexican Mansion restaurant. She checks on tables and greets guests as they arrive, helping the hostess seat guests at tables. She's a restaurant manager, leading employees.

She just happens to be 10.

"When we started as managers, we had other jobs, too," she said. "There were makers making signs and posters, and on my Chromebook we made a slide that had all the jobs, like cooks, helpers, servers, and then we had to make an application. It was really fun."

Kendahl and 60 other fourth-graders designed, planned and operated three separate restaurants, serving families dinner at Weller Elementary School May 11. The integrated learning unit was developed by their teachers, Haley Gullion, Carrie Norrell and Cari Morey.

"We wanted to have something that was engaging for them, and once we decided on a restaurant, that's when we began focusing on economics," said Norrell. "They learned about profit/loss in economics, which helped them determine menu prices. But we also talked about how students should be healthy and make healthy choices, like balanced plates."

"In life, they're going to have to be responsible, they're going to have to take ownership in their jobs and the work they do. This is just the beginning of that."

"And so the students had to develop menus and pitch different items for their menu," said Gullion. "They came up with a business plan, and we had a Shark Tank proposal in my classroom. They came up with the name, and they justified every item on our menu from a nutritional standpoint."

After students developed their own menus, they got to work. Teacher-selected student managers developed job applications, and other students applied for their selected job. A field trip and behind the scenes tour of Ruby Tuesday helped students understand the many roles of a restaurant, as well as intentional customer service, food safety and restaurant etiquette.

Student managers conducted job interviews, then hiring their classmates and placing them in job-specific committees. Mya Holloway, a fourth-

grade manager at the Healthy Garden in Gullion's classroom, enjoyed overseeing the restaurant's development as a manger.

"Before the restaurant opened, we had to go check in on the committees and make sure that the work they were doing was OK," she said. "They had to make sure it was OK with us before they could do anything. Getting it all set up was my favorite."

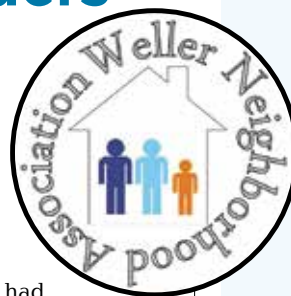


And once the restaurants opened, the fourth-graders took charge. Diners were seated, and fake money was used to help cashiers count back change and encourage participation from Weller families. Fourth-graders served tacos, grilled cheese and eggs — food they chose, cooked and served.

"It's so important that they work together, rely on each other, and see how they collaborate," said Morey. "In life, they're going to have to be responsible, they're going to have to take ownership in their jobs and the work they do. This is just the beginning of that."

Mya smiles as she talks about her job as a leader at the Healthy Garden.

"We get to cook and pretend that we're actually doing this for real," she said. "It's awesome."



Neighborhood Boundaries



Connect

- Mark Maynard, President:
doc@ceoradio.net or
918-231-4960
- Rosetta Clarida, Vice President
- Gina Rennison, Secretary
- Brenda Nuber, Treasurer

Neighborhood Association Meetings

July 5 • Aug. 2 • Sept. 6 • Oct. 4: 6 – 7 p.m.

@ Turning Point Church
(1722 N. National Ave.)



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COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP
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WEST CENTRAL NEIGHBORHOOD



City cuts ribbon on College Street/Historic Route 66 improvements between Grant & Market avenues

By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor

The City of Springfield cut the ribbon on improvements to College Street between Grant and Market avenues May 10. The project included new federal Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant sidewalks, stormwater and roadway improvements, tree wells, lighting enhancements and utility upgrades. This project is one of several in Springfield funded by 2017 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant funds, which were required to be complete by the end of May. The City and the Springfield-Greene County Park Board also celebrated the completion of 2017 CDBG-funded projects at Tom Watkins, Nichols, Meador and Cooper parks.



West Central's Urban Roots Farm fundraising to create summer and after-school programming for youth

Provided by Urban Roots Farm

Urban Roots Farm is seeking funding to partner with Missouri State University to create a position to develop and implement summer and after-school programming on the farm for the youth in the West Central neighborhood.

Urban Roots Farm is a Certified Naturally Grown four-season urban farm. West Central includes historic homes, six public parks and easy access to the amenities of downtown. Unfortunately, it also includes a high poverty rate and a large population of at-risk youth. Urban Roots Farm is located just two blocks away from McGregor Elementary School where 85 percent of the students receive free or reduced lunch. Many of these students are the same young people that find their way to the farm on their walk home from school or over the summer.

Over the past few years, many young people from the neighborhood have found refuge at the farm, and we have loved having them there. They love learning about how we grow food, helping us out with various farm-related chores and getting to take fresh veggies home to their families.

We want to offer more to these children by creating a youth program to invite children to explore urban agriculture in their neighborhood while also receiving mentoring and tutoring throughout the summer and after school. A program like this will allow us to welcome these children more intentionally to the farm by providing an on-site staff member dedicated to the needs of these kids.

This campaign would allow us to partner with Missouri State University to hire a graduate assistant to create a youth program. This program would have the following goals:

1. Provide a safe space for at-risk young people to spend their summer and after-school times.



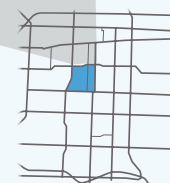
2. Teach participants in the program about urban agriculture and sustainability.
3. Connect each young person with mentoring and tutoring.
4. Secure longer-term funding for this program and position.

We already have several volunteers who are ready to join us in this project! We are so excited about the impact that a dedicated position to youth programming at the farm will have on our neighborhood, our families and the lives of the young people surrounding the farm. We want to live in a vibrant community, and we are committed to healthy, sustainable practices. We are always mindful of the impact our actions have on our community, and we are so eager to begin impacting the young people of West Central in a big way. Thank you for helping us reach this goal!

To donate, visit gofundme.com/urbanrootsfarmyouth.

*West Central
Neighborhood Night Out*
Sept. 7: 5:30-7 p.m.
McGregor School/Park
1200 W. State St.

Neighborhood Boundaries



Connect

- Caron Parnell, President:
crsettle@gmail.com or
314-825-6498
- Rusty Worley, Vice President/Treasurer:
rusty@itsalldowntown.com or 417-569-8866
- Mia Joe, Secretary

Neighborhood Alliance Meetings

July 24 • Aug. 28 • Sept. 25 : 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
@ McGregor Elementary (1221 W. Madison St.)



Calaboose tours available during First Friday Art Walks

By Lisa Cox, Springfield Police Department, for SGFNN

Located at 409 W. McDaniel, the Calaboose (jail), built in 1891, is the oldest existing structure owned by the City of Springfield. It was rescued from deterioration caused by age, weather and lack of ongoing maintenance and reopened as a police substation and museum in 1999.



Information gathered from research in the city archives was used to assure historic accuracy in the restorative design. Whenever available, original materials were used and reconstruction components were consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Historic Preservation Projects.

In addition, the State of Missouri Historical Preservation Program was involved throughout the entire project to ensure a high standard of restoration and quality of workmanship. Their involvement, along with great attention to detail, enabled this structure to return to prominence in the community.

The Calaboose will be open for tours 6-9 p.m. July 6, Aug. 3, Sept. 7 and Oct. 5.

The community is welcome at these times with no appointment necessary. Free parking is available in the parking garage next door, courtesy of the City of Springfield.

WESTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD

Sharpen your ax-throwing skills at TommyHawks Axe House on West College

By Joe Roberds, for SGFNN

As we approach the time when Springfield celebrates our Route 66 heritage, I like to reflect on the west corridor of this historic road through Springfield and the treasures it contains.

Traveling often down College Street we have a tendency not to notice the historic homes and buildings along the road. Taking the time to look at these structures, you'll develop an appreciation of times past and the significance of their contribution to Springfield's west side. These buildings are a part of our past, but the preservation and continued business occupancy of these buildings is needed for our future. Investments in new businesses, along with other established businesses maintaining a presence, is occurring on this historic street.

One recently opened College Street business is pretty unique. TommyHawks Axe House, located at 1631 W. College, is reportedly the only indoor ax-throwing business in the area. Yes, ax throwing. According to owner Tom Jennings, who owns TommyHawks with his wife, Kacey, the sport of ax throwing is growing in popularity.

The inside of the building has several lanes for ax throwing with wooden bullseyes at the end. During your first visit to TommyHawks, Jennings provides a 20-30 minute lesson on technique and safety before your first throw. Jennings related that the initial technique is obtained quickly, but proficiency takes practice.

Jennings retired from the U.S. Army in 2015 and

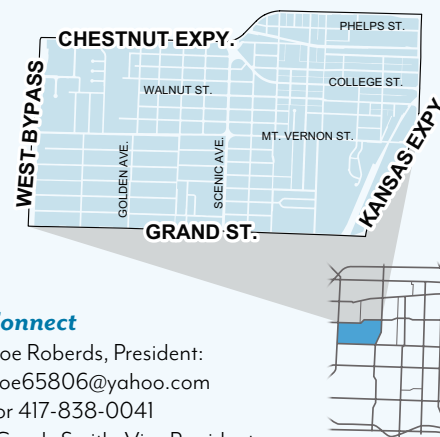


started a home-based business building tomahawks called TommyHawks. That endeavor continues and is now complemented with the business of providing an indoor ax-throwing location.

For more information on TommyHawks visit tommyhawks.net or find them on Facebook.

New businesses opening on Route 66 in the Westside neighborhood are exciting, but we should continue to support businesses who maintain a presence in our neighborhood. The College Street Cafe, Route 66 Car Museum and four historic motor courts along with numerous other businesses are west-Springfield treasures. The Jenningses, along with many others, have made the decision to invest in store fronts on the west side. This trend has made the west side Route 66 corridor a destination rather than a pass-through area. Please support our west side businesses and let them know that you appreciate their presence.

Neighborhood Boundaries



Connect

- Joe Roberds, President:
joe65806@yahoo.com
or 417-838-0041
- Candy Smith, Vice President
- Steve Sischo, Treasurer
- Ken Sweetser, Secretary

Neighborhood Betterment Association Meetings

July 10 • Aug. 14 • Sept. 11: 6:30 p.m.,
@ Westport Park Apartments,
Community Room (250 N. Hilton Ave.)



Westside Neighborhood Night Out

Sept. 8: 2-4 p.m.

Westport School/Park
415 S. Golden Ave.

Westside Neighborhood Cleanup May 12



Photos courtesy of the Westside Neighborhood Betterment Association Facebook page.



WOODLAND HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD

Woodland Heights Neighborhood Night Out

Aug. 25:
Noon-3 p.m.

Lafayette Park
202 E. Atlantic



Neighborhood Boundaries



Connect

- Linda Passeri, President:
artistlinda75@yahoo.com
or 417-880-1572
- Michelle Stevens, Vice President:
michellestevens417@yahoo.com
or 417-824-1645
- Sarah Gaddy, Secretary
- Becky Volz, Treasurer

Neighborhood Association Meetings

July 16 • Aug. 20 • Sept. 17: 6-7 p.m.
@ Woodland Heights Presbyterian Church
(722 W. Atlantic St.)

woodlandheightsneighborhood.org



Want to submit an article about your neighborhood? Let your neighborhood president or other representative know!

Attend neighborhood association meetings to learn more about what's going on in your area, neighborhood projects, programs offered, and more!

Events

July – September 2018

EDUCATION & RESOURCES

Springfield-Greene County Library District Free Technology Classes: You can choose what you want to learn and go at your own speed with our self-paced tutorials. We provide the computer and you select from a wide variety of lessons designed specifically for individual learning. Topics include basic skills, Windows 10, Microsoft. Visit thelibrary.org, a library branch, or call 417-837-5011 for the schedule. Please note these classes are for adults.

Coffee with the Chief: *The Dancing Mule:* July 19: 7-8:30 a.m., 1945 S. Glenstone Ave. • *Eurasia:* Aug. 16: 7-8:30 a.m., 445 E. Commercial St. • *Facebook Live:* Sept. 19: 8-8:30 a.m., [facebook.com/SGFpolice](https://www.facebook.com/SGFpolice). Springfield Police Chief Paul Williams hosts "Coffee with the Chief" to encourage an open discussion between the public and the chief. Anyone interested in asking questions or learning more about the Springfield Police Department is encouraged to attend.

Landlord Training: Lead Paint and Your Rental Property: Aug. 22: 6-7 p.m., Jordan Valley Community Health Center, WIC Building, 440 E. Tampa. Representatives from the Springfield-Greene County Health Department will be on-hand to discuss lead-based paint, including the EPA rule. Registration is required. Call 417-888-2020 or visit cpozarks.org/event/landlord for more information.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Events are free unless otherwise noted.

Tai Chi with Dee Ogilvy: 6-7 p.m. Tuesdays, Midtown Carnegie Branch Library, 397 E. Central • 5-6 p.m. Wednesdays, Mount Carmel Methodist Church, 1001 N. National • 9-10 a.m., Fridays, Springfield Art Museum, 1111 E. Brookside Dr. Learn Yang Style Tai Chi from Shifu M. Dee Ogilvy. Great for adults of any age and physical fitness level, no special equipment needed, beginners welcome. Learn more at springfieldtaichi.wordpress.com.

Baby ABCs: 3:30 p.m. Thursdays, The NEST Partnership, Westside Public Health Center, 660 S. Scenic (between Grand and Chestnut Expressway). Learn basic infant-care skills in a no-stress group setting. Bring your friends. To sign up call 417-874-1249 or email cblevins@springfieldmo.gov and leave a message with your name and contact number.

ARTS, CULTURE & FUN

Events are free unless otherwise noted.

Red, White and Zoo: July 4: 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Dickerson Park Zoo, 1400 W Norton Road. Free admission all day for active military personnel (with military ID) and veterans and their immediate family members.

First Friday Art Walk: First Friday of each month, 6-10 p.m., downtown Springfield. Art lovers "Walk the Walk" throughout the Downtown Arts District, enjoying original art, music, demonstrations and performances in gallery venues. Visit ffaw.org.

Racquet, White and Blue: July 6: 6-8 p.m., Tom Watkins Park, 2100 W. High St. Come play tennis at Tom Watkins Park! Grab your family and friends and join in on a celebration on the court with music,

snacks and have fun playing tennis. All equipment is provided. Sponsored by USTA.

Family Fridays in the Garden: July 6 and 20, Aug. 3, 17 and 31: 7:30 p.m. Springfield Botanical Gardens at Nathanael Greene/Close Memorial Park, 2400 S. Scenic Ave. Bring the whole family for an evening to discover plants, animals and the history of the garden. Meet on the Rooftop Plaza. (July 6: Neat Natives, July 20: The Secret Night Life of Plants, Aug. 3: From Trail of Tears to Greenways Trail, Aug. 17: Gone Batty and Aug. 31: From Garden to Grocer)

Movies at Founders Park: Fridays and Saturdays July 6-28 and Aug. 25: 8-10 p.m. (Movies begin at dusk), Founders Park, 330 E. Water St. A contemporary version of the drive-in theater at Springfield's founding site. Enjoy new release and classic movies in an outdoor setting. Fridays are Family Night; Saturdays are Date Night. All movies are G, PG or PG-13. Concessions available, bring your own lawn chairs or blankets. Movie titles and details at ParkBoard.org/Movies.

National Teddy Bear Picnic: July 10: 6-8 p.m., Nathanael Greene/Close Memorial Park, 2400 S. Scenic Ave. "Bring your favorite stuffed toy for an evening at the Peace Through People Pavilion at the Springfield Botanical Gardens celebrating National Teddy Bear Picnic Day. Bring your own picnic or purchase sandwiches from Parks Concessions and enjoy music, games and crafts. Free screening of Paddington at 9 p.m. Free, but registration is requested at ParkBoard.org

Cruise Kearney: July 14, Aug. 11 and Sept. 8: 6-10 p.m. Kearney Street from Kansas Expressway to Glenstone. Come out, cruise, hang out with other automotive enthusiasts and just generally have a good time. You will see a wide variety of vehicles and many classics that you won't want to miss.

Big Rig Night: July 17: 5:30-8:30 p.m., Battlefield Mall, 2825 S. Glenstone Ave. A free event for the whole family! SPS Parents as Teachers, Community Partnership of the Ozarks and Battlefield Mall are excited to present this fun family event! Join us at the north parking lot (by Macy's) to explore some kid favorite BIG and small vehicles. Plus free activities for kids! See you there!

Springfield Lasers Pro Tennis Season: July 18; July 19; July 20 with Jack Sock; July 28; July 30; July 31: 7 p.m.; Sunday, July 22: 6 p.m. Cooper Tennis Complex, 2331 E. Pythian. The Springfield Lasers professional tennis team brings rising international stars and familiar faces to Cooper Tennis Complex this summer for the 23rd season of World TeamTennis. Jack Sock returns to Springfield for a second season. Don't miss your chance to see world-class tennis in a family-friendly setting right here in Springfield. *Fee: \$10 grandstand, \$20 box seats, except for July 20. Tickets available at SpringfieldLasers.com*

Credit Unions for Community Kids Day: July 21: 10 a.m.-Noon, Springfield Art Museum, 1111 E. Brookside Dr. Join the Credit Unions for Community for a FREE Family Day style drop-in event featuring fun for kids and their guardians. Please RSVP to Jason Dill at 417-851-1408 or jdill@mycucommunity.com by July 17.

World Tiger Day: July 29: 9 a.m.- 5 p.m., Dickerson Park Zoo, 1400 W. Norton Road. Educational animal presentations highlighting tigers. Wear your stripes for \$2 off general admission. *Fee: \$14/adults and teens, \$11/Seniors 60+, \$9/Children 3-12 yrs.*

Springfield Ballet Senior Summer Intensive Showcase: Aug. 3: 7-8 p.m., Springfield Art Museum, 1111 E. Brookside Drive. Senior Intensive participants will perform ballet, jazz and modern repertoire learned during the Intensive in the Springfield Art Museum auditorium. This performance is free and open to the public.

15th Annual Kid'Athlon: Aug. 4: 8 a.m., Meador Park, 2500 S. Fremont. A mini-triathlon for kids. Swim, bike and run your way to victory in events designed for your age group and take home a medal, t-shirt, giveaways and the pride that comes with finishing a triathlon. Registration required by Aug 2. Discount early registration closes July 20. For kids 5-12 yrs. *Fee: July 20: \$25/child, \$15/additional child same household; July 21-Aug. 2: \$35/child, \$25/additional child same household.*

Frolic of the Mind: The Illustrious Life of Rose O'Neill: Closes Aug. 5, Springfield Art Museum, 1111 E. Brookside Dr. This exhibition traces the prolific career of artist, illustrator, author, poet, and inventor Rose O'Neill. This exhibit features 150 works from a number of public and private collections including the Springfield Art Museum, the Huntington Library and Art Museum, the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Bonniebrook Home and Museum, the National Portrait Gallery, and the Smithsonian American Art Museum, among others.

National Night Out: Aug. 7: 5-8 p.m., Nichols Park, 1900 W. Nichols St. See pages 1 and 3 for more information about this event.

Watercolor USA 2018: Closes Aug. 26, Springfield Art Museum, 1111 E. Brookside Dr. This annual summer favorite returns with over \$20,000 in cash prizes and possible Museum purchase awards available. The 57th showing of the very best in contemporary American water media, judged by Kelly Kane, former Editor-in-Chief of *Watercolor Artist* magazine.

- *Artist Talk:* John Fitzgibbon: July 26: 5:30 p.m.
- *Artist Talk:* Alicia Farris: Aug. 16: 5:30 p.m.

Art in Our City Zone 2: Through Oct. 14, Springfield Art Museum, 1111 E. Brookside Dr. Springfield. 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. Art in our City 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 rotates every six months; the second rotation features work by nine artists from five neighborhoods in City Council Zone 2.

Four by Four 2018: Aug. 25-Nov. 18, Springfield Art Museum, 1111 E. Brookside Dr. The biennial Four by Four 2018: Midwest Invitational Exhibition recognizes and encourages artists working in all media who reside in the four-state region of Missouri, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Kansas. The exhibit features work by four artists — one from each state — who will each exhibit a body of work. This year's artists will include Shawn Bitters (Kansas), Jason Cytacki (Oklahoma), Dawn Holder (Arkansas) and Meghan Roswell (Missouri). • *Opening Reception & Award Ceremony:* Aug. 24: 5:30 p.m.

Dog Swim: Sept. 4: 4-7 p.m., Fasnigh Pool, 1301 S. Campbell. Dogs get to swim in a human sized pool. Fee: \$8 for 1 dog and 1 human, limit 1 dog per human; \$3 each additional human. All proceeds benefit Cruse Dog Park. Registration and proof of vaccination required. For more information visit ParkBoard.org.

23rd annual Japanese Fall Festival: Sept. 7: 5-10 p.m.; Sept. 8: 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sept. 9: 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden at Nathanael Greene/Close Memorial Park, 2400 S. Scenic. Three days of Japanese culture in the Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden, celebrating Springfield's sister city, Isesaki, Japan. Includes Taiko drumming, Japanese storytelling, top spinning, folk dancing, martial arts, origami and other hands-on crafts, tea ceremonies, a tent-top market with authentic Japanese foods and gifts, a visiting delegation from Isesaki and more. Friday opening ceremony with student ambassadors. Friday and Saturday evenings end with an intimate candlelight walk. Presented by the Springfield Sister Cities Association, peacethroughpeople.org. *Fee: Fri. & Sun., \$7/adult, \$3/12 yrs. and under; Sat., \$10/adult, \$3/12 yrs. and under.*

Decades: 90 Years of Collecting: Sept. 15-Feb. 17, 2019, Springfield Art Museum, 1111 E. Brookside Dr. This exhibition will trace the history and growth of the Museum's permanent collection beginning with the initial acquisition, in 1928, of a landscape painting by Philadelphia artist Mary Butler. This exhibit is divided into decades, presenting 10 objects per decade and examines the shifting trends, priorities and diversity of the Museum's collection and consequently, presents a history of the Museum's first 90 years through the lens of the permanent collection.

FREE Family Day at the Springfield Art Museum: Sept. 15: 10 a.m.-Noon, Springfield Art Museum, 1111 E. Brookside Dr. Family Days are drop-in events designed to help kids and grown-ups explore the museum's exhibits together. No registration required.

16th Annual DogFest: Sept. 22 (rain date: Sept. 23), 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Chesterfield Park, 2511 W Republic Rd. A canine extravaganza! Everyone, including the family dog, is invited for free fun and activities. DogFest features dog agility demonstrations, expert seminars, local celebrities, police K-9s, therapy dogs, a dog fashion show, canine-related vendors and non-profits and a dog-themed bounce house for kids. All proceeds benefit Cruse Dog Park, Springfield's first off-leash dog park. Free admission; \$1/Bounce house; \$10/t-shirt. For more information visit ParkBoard.org

JOBS & CAREERS

The Missouri Job Center offers free one-on-one job counseling services, resume assistance and several workshops and training classes at their locations at 2900 E. Sunshine and 1443 N. Robberson, and via the mobile career center bus. Visit them in person or online at springfieldmo.gov/jobcenter to view the schedule or call 417-887-4343 for more information.

Missouri Job Center Jobs Club: Mondays: 10-11 a.m., Missouri Job Center, 2900 E. Sunshine. Free application process tips, methods and techniques to improve your chances for success, weekly guest speakers, network with employers regarding local job opportunities.

BY NEIGHBORHOOD

BISSETT

Bissett Neighborhood Association Meetings: July 10: 6:30-7:30 p.m./6 p.m. optional potluck, Faith Assembly of God Church (3001 W. Division). Please enter the building through the doors at the east end of the north side. Meetings are normally

the Second Tuesday of each month at Faith Assembly of God or at Bissett Elementary School (3014 W. Calhoun). Check the calendar each month for possible variations.

Bissett Neighborhood Yardzale: July 21: 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Bissett neighborhood is hosting its first-ever "Yardzale." Regardless of where you live, we would love for you to come out, meet some of our great residents and walk away with a little bit of Bissett to remember us by. More information is available at the Bissett Neighborhood Community Facebook page. If you live in Bissett there are no fees or sign up required. Bissett Neighborhood Association will provide promotions and signage.

Bissett Neighborhood Night Out: Aug. 30: 4:30-7 p.m., Bissett School/Park, 3014 W. Calhoun St. Held jointly this year with Bissett Elementary's Open House, come to enjoy free food, win prizes in children's games, learn about many service programs in the city, and talk to police officers and firemen as we all seek to strengthen crime prevention, community-policing and home safety. Whether you have kids in Bissett Elementary or not, this event is for the whole neighborhood!

BRADFORD PARK

Bradford Park Neighborhood Association

Meeting: July 17, Aug. 21, Sept. 18: 6:30 p.m., Immaculate Conception Church, 3555 S. Fremont Ave. Join us for our ice cream social Aug. 21.

DELAWARE

Delaware Neighborhood Association

Meeting: July 3, Aug. 7, Sept. 4, Oct. 2: 7-8 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1551 E. Portland.

Delaware Neighborhood Ice Cream Social: July 10: 7 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1551 E. Portland St. Come get to know your neighborhoods. We will be in the parking lot unless it rains then we will move inside. Bring a lawn chair. We need volunteers to bring ice cream or other treats. Contact Kassidy Tuttle, kassidyututtle@gmail.com

Delaware Neighborhood Night Out: Aug. 13: Time and Location TBA. Neighborhood Night Out is an annual event that is designed to heighten crime prevention awareness while strengthening neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships. Neighborhood residents are encouraged to turn on their porch lights during the evening as a show of unity.

DOLING

Doling Neighborhood Association Meetings:

July 10, Aug. 14, Sept. 11: 6:45-8 p.m., optional potluck starts at 6 p.m., Hillcrest Presbyterian Church, 818 E. Norton Rd.

Concert at the Cave: Aug. 18: Noon-6 p.m., Doling Park, 301 E. Talmage. A family-friendly afternoon in Doling Park, presented by the Doling Neighborhood Association and the Park Board. Live music includes Shaun Munday, 83 Skidoo, Kevin and Mike and more, performing just outside Doling Park's Giboney Cave. Cave tours, kid's interactive art, games and bounce house. Play It Forward collects musical instruments for students. Concessions available.

Doling Halloween Bash: Oct. 27. Instead of having a Neighborhood Night Out, we are switching gears this year and throwing a Halloween party. Food, candy, costumes and fun are a given! If you would like to be involved in the idea and planning stages, please contact us at delingna@gmail.com

GRANT BEACH

Grant Beach Produce Distribution: 2:30 p.m.

Thursdays, The Fairbanks, 1126 N. Broadway Ave. Free produce delivered by Ozarks Food Harvest and distributed at The Fairbanks every Thursday. Participants are required to join the Grant Beach Garden Committee for \$5 per year. Membership forms are available at the distribution. Contact Shelley Vaugine at 617-877-7836.

Grant Beach Dinner and Circles® program:

Thursdays: 5:15-7:30 p.m., The Drew Lewis Foundation at The Fairbanks, 1126 N. Broadway Ave. Childcare provided. Circles® is a nationwide movement of communities in the United States and Canada focused on ending poverty by breaking down systematic barriers and creating community.

Grant Beach Park Baseball Field Revitalization:

July 7: 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Grant Beach Park, 1300 N. Grant Ave. Help revitalize the Grant Beach Park and Baseball field through an Eagle Scout Project hosted by Jacob Brazeal. We plan to provide funds for much needed updates to the ball field including sun shades, accessible seating, dugouts as well as updates to the pavilion including the restroom facilities and playground equipment. There will be an auction, 50/50 raffle, food, games and more. Springfield Cardinals Mascot "Louie" will also make an appearance.

Dizzy Backwards Baseball Game:

July 7: Registration begins at 9 a.m. Games begin promptly at 10 a.m., Grant Beach Park, 1300 N. Grant Ave. Great fun for all ages. All proceeds benefit Jacob Brazeal's Eagle Scout Project to provide baseball field enhancements at Grant Beach Park. To pre-register contact Yolanda at 417-952-5735. *Cost is \$3/kids, \$5/adults.*

Garden Fun Night at the Fairbanks: July 12, 6-7:30 p.m., The Fairbanks, 1126 N. Broadway Ave.. Learn how to start a garden, plant a tomato to take home and sample garden snacks. Free event, everyone welcome!

Grant Beach Neighborhood Association Meetings:

July 16, Aug. 20, Sept. 17: 6:30-7:30 p.m., St. Joseph Catholic Church Parish Hall, 1115 N. Campbell.

Reptile Day at the Fairbanks: July 21: 10 a.m.-3 p.m., The Fairbanks, 1126 N. Broadway Ave. Our staff consists of knowledgeable people who are passionate about, and keep, these animals as a hobby. Reptile Day is a hands-on experience featuring real live reptiles to see and touch. Also featured is an exhibit featuring Missouri's native reptiles, as well as other facts about these amazing creatures. Reptile Day is fun, free and all indoors, so whatever the weather, the show will go on! Children 12 and under MUST be accompanied by an adult.

Grant Street Adopt-a-Street Cleanup from Calhoun to Chestnut: Aug. 18, 9 a.m. Bring gloves. The City provides the trash bags. Let's make our corner of the world cleaner!

Grant Beach Neighborhood Night Out:

Aug. 24: 6-10 p.m., Grant Beach Park, 1300 N. Grant Ave. Save the date for the biggest party of the year in Grant Beach Park! Food, fun and prizes for whole family! Visit the Grant Beach Train Museum! There will be hundreds of dollars in door prizes. Community Organizations. Raffles and 50/50 Live Music. If you're interested in your organization or business donating to or participating in the event call Kevin Carter at 417-414-8968

GREATER PARKCREST

Greater Parkcrest Neighborhood Association Meeting: Aug. 16: 6:30 p.m., The Way Church, 903 W. Katella St. (Back to school meeting). There will be no meeting in July. We hope residents will have block parties or walk and meet people on their blocks.

HEART OF THE WESTSIDE

Heart of the Westside Neighborhood Association Meetings: July 12, Aug. 9, Sept. 13: 6-7 p.m., Passion Assembly of God Church, 806 N. Forest.

Heart of the Westside Dinner and Circles® program: Mondays: 5:15-7:30 p.m., Passion Assembly of God, 806 N. Forest Ave. Free dinner and childcare provided. Circles® is a nationwide movement of communities in the United States and Canada focused on ending poverty by breaking down systematic barriers and creating community.

National Night Out: Aug. 7: 5-8 p.m., Nichols Park, 1900 W. Nichols St. See pages 1 and 3 for more information about this event.

MEADOR PARK

Meador Park Neighborhood Association Meetings: Aug. 1 (Contact Bobbi Ream at MPNAMO@yahoo.com or 417-883-3438 for time and location.)

Meador Park Neighborhood Ice Cream Social with Zone 4 Councilman Matthew Simpson: July 11, 6 p.m., Cowden Elementary School Park, 2927 S. Kimbrough Ave.

MIDTOWN

Tai Chi with Dee Ogilvy: Tuesdays: 6-7 p.m., Midtown Carnegie Branch Library, 397 E. Central St. Learn Yang Style Tai Chi from Shifu, M. Dee Ogilvy, who began practicing Tai Chi 25 years ago at Duke University. Beginners are welcome.

28th Annual 4th of July Parade & Celebration: July 4, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Starts on Benton Ave in the Drury parking lot just north of Central High, heads north on Benton, turns east on Calhoun, north on Washington Avenue, then finally east on Locust to Washington Park where the celebration continues! This celebration brings people from all over the area to visit and enjoy our beautiful Historic Midtown Community. This year's theme is "Go Fourth and Vote." The parade's grand marshal will be retiring City Manager Greg Burris. For more information visit facebook.com/midtownsgf. Sponsored by the Midtown Neighborhood Association.

Midtown Neighborhood Association Meetings: July 9, Aug. 13, Sept. 10: 6-7 p.m., Urban Neighborhood Alliance building, on Cox North Hospital parking lot, 918 E. Calhoun St.

Midtown Neighborhood Night Out: Aug. 24: 6-8 p.m., Washington Park, 1600 N. Summit Ave. Neighborhood Night Out is an annual event that is designed to heighten crime prevention awareness while strengthening neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships. Activities include cookouts, visits from police officers, children's games and activities and live music.

OAK GROVE

Oak Grove Neighborhood Association Meeting: Meetings are held on an as-needed basis. Contact a neighborhood officer to find out the next scheduled meeting.

Bennett Street Adopt-a-Street Cleanup: July 7: 9 a.m. Holy Trinity Catholic Church, 2818 E. Bennett St. Starting from Holy Trinity's parking lot and going from Oak Grove to Belcrest.

Oak Grove Neighborhood Block Party: Oct. 7: 4-7 p.m., Oak Grove Assembly of God Church, 1320 S. Oak Grove Ave.

PHELPS GROVE

Tai Chi with Dee Ogilvy: Fridays: 9-10 a.m., Springfield Art Museum, 1111 E. Brookside Dr. Learn Yang Style Tai Chi from Shifu, M. Dee Ogilvy, who began practicing Tai Chi 25 years ago at Duke University. Beginners are welcome.

Phelps Grove Neighborhood Association Meetings: Phelps Neighborhood Association meets the second Tuesday of the month, primarily at Fire Station 1 community room, 720 E. Grand. Contact an association officer for meeting times.

ROBBERSON

Robberson Community Dinner and Circles® program: Tuesdays: 5:15-7:30 p.m., Robberson Community School, 1100 E. Kearney St. Childcare provided. Circles® is a nationwide movement of communities in the United States and Canada focused on ending poverty by breaking down systematic barriers and creating community.

Robberson Neighborhood Association Meetings: July 26, Aug. 23, Sept. 27: 6:30-7:30 p.m., Pathways United Methodist Church, 1232 E. Dale.

Robberson Neighborhood Night Out: Aug. 25: 4-7 p.m., Robberson Community School, 1100 E. Kearney St. Neighborhood Night Out is an annual event that is designed to heighten crime prevention awareness while strengthening neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships.

ROUNTREE

Rountree Neighborhood Association Meetings: July 17, Aug. 21, Sept. 18: 7-8 p.m., University Heights Baptist Church, 1010 S. National.

TOM WATKINS

Tom Watkins Neighborhood Association Meetings: Aug. 30, Nov. 29: 7-8 p.m., Tom Watkins Community Center, 2100 W. High St.

Summer Music Clubs: July 16-20: 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Tom Watkins Park, 2100 W. High St. Building musical skills and character. Come join us for music, fun and food! Springfield Regional Arts Council will provide free Find Your Wings Neighborhood Art Camp from 1-3 p.m. Register online at Heart Academy of Music at heartam.com.

Heart Academy of Music Music Fun Day: July 21, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Tom Watkins Park, 2100 W. High St. Music games, lunch and free school supplies.

Tom Watkins Neighborhood Night Out: Sept. 22, 4-8 p.m., Tom Watkins Park, 2100 W. High St. Neighborhood Night Out is an annual event that is designed to heighten crime prevention awareness while strengthening neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships. Activities include cookouts, visits from police officers, informational booths, children's games and activities and live music.

WELLER

Weller Neighborhood Association Meetings: July 5, Aug. 2, Sept. 6, Oct. 4: 6-7 p.m., Turning Point Church, 1722 N. National.

Tai Chi with Dee Ogilvy: Wednesdays: 5-6 p.m., Mount Carmel United Methodist Church, 1001 N. National Ave. Learn Yang Style Tai Chi from Shifu, M. Dee Ogilvy, who began practicing Tai Chi 25 years ago at Duke University.

WEST CENTRAL

West Central Neighborhood Alliance Meeting: July 24, Aug. 28, Sept. 25: 6:30-7:30 p.m., McGregor Elementary, 1221 W. Madison St.

West Central Neighborhood Alliance Summer Social: July 24: 6:30 p.m., Birthplace of Route 66 Roadside Park, 1200 W. College St.

West Central Neighborhood Night Out: Sept. 7: 5:30-7 p.m., McGregor School-Park, 1200 W. State St. Neighborhood Night Out is an annual event that is designed to heighten crime prevention awareness while strengthening neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships. Other activities include cookouts, visits from police officers, informational booths, children's games and activities and live music.

WESTSIDE

Westside Neighborhood Betterment Association Meetings: July 10, Aug. 14, Sept. 11: 6:30 p.m., Westport Park Apartments Community Room, 250 N. Hilton.

Westside Neighborhood Night Out: Sept. 8: 2-4 p.m., Westport School-Park, 415 S. Golden Ave. Neighborhood Night Out is an annual event that is designed to heighten crime prevention awareness while strengthening neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships.

WOODLAND HEIGHTS

Woodland Heights Community Dinner and Circles® program: Wednesdays: 5:15-7:30 p.m., Springfield Dream Center, 829 W. Atlantic St. Childcare provided. Circles® is a nationwide movement of communities in the United States and Canada focused on ending poverty by breaking down systematic barriers and creating community.

Summer Music Clubs: July 9-13: 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Dayspring Christian School, 2157 N. Prospect Ave. Come join us for music, fun and food! Springfield Regional Arts Council will offer Find Your Wings Neighborhood Art Camp from 1-3 p.m. Register online at Heart Academy of Music at heartam.com.

Woodland Heights Neighborhood Association Meetings: July 16, Aug. 20, Sept. 17: 6-7 p.m., Woodland Heights Presbyterian Church, 722 W. Atlantic St.

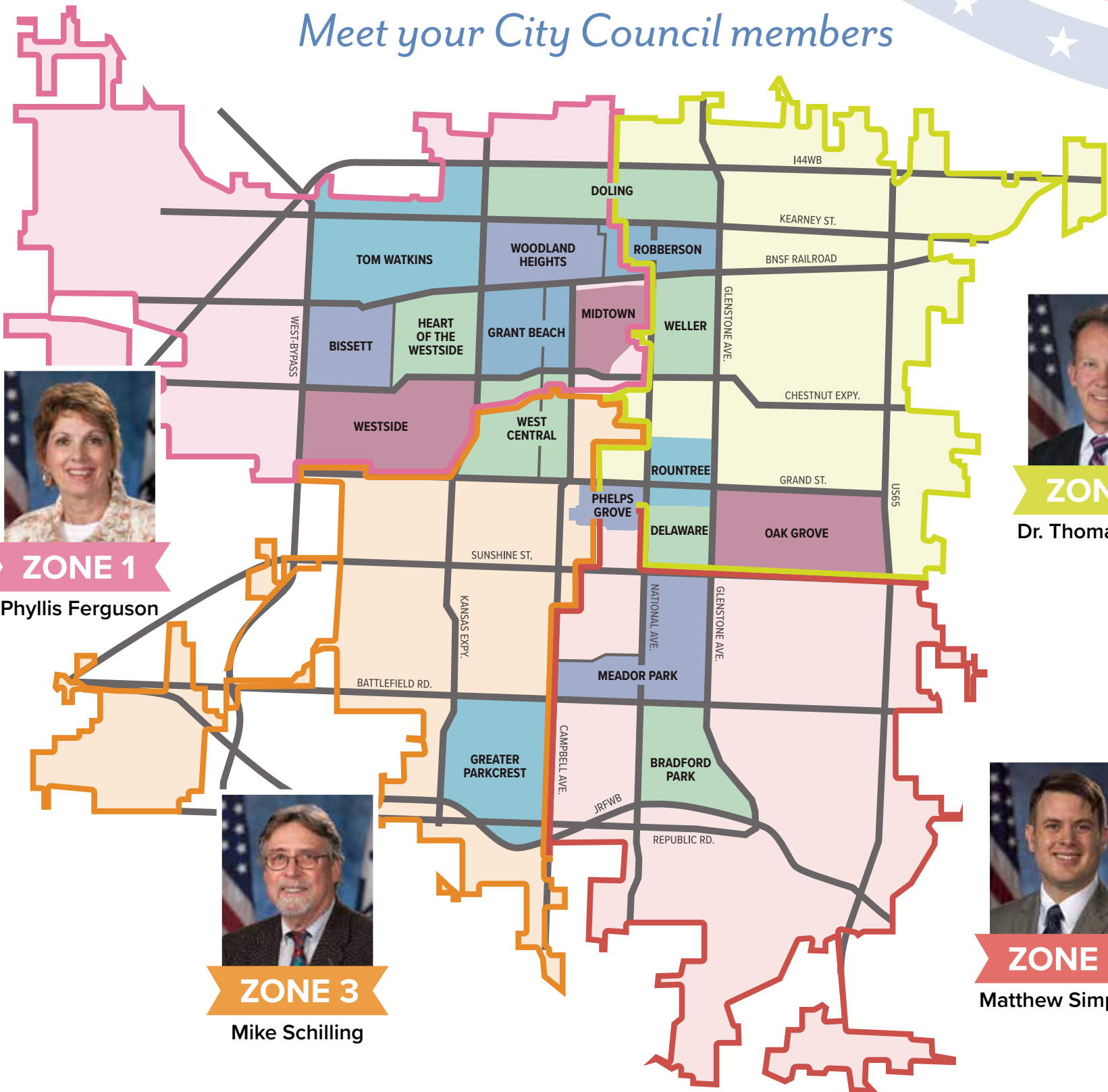
Woodland Heights Ice Cream Social: July 16: 6 p.m., Lafayette Park, 202 E. Atlantic St. We will hold this in the community center if there is rain or extreme heat.

Habitat Home Run: Aug. 25: 7 a.m., Woodland Heights Neighborhood. Join us for the 9th annual Habitat Home Run, a 5k, 10k and 1 mile fun run. Run through our fast, flat and shady course on our new race route in Woodland Heights, Habitat's partner in Neighborhood Revitalization! All proceeds benefit Habitat for Humanity's Neighborhood Revitalization. *Cost: One Mile Fun Run: \$25 pre-registration; \$30 race day (ages 5 and under free). 5k: \$30 pre-registration; \$35 race day. 10k: \$35 pre-registration; \$40 race day.*

Woodland Heights Neighborhood Night Out: Aug. 25: Noon-3 p.m., Lafayette Park, 202 E. Atlantic St. Neighborhood Night Out is an annual event that is designed to heighten crime prevention awareness while strengthening neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships. Other activities include cookouts, visits from police officers, informational booths, children's games and activities and live music.

Springfield Zone Boundaries & Registered Neighborhoods

Meet your City Council members



ZONE 1

Phyllis Ferguson



ZONE 2

Dr. Thomas Prater



ZONE 3

Mike Schilling



ZONE 4

Matthew Simpson

Ken McClure
Mayor



Jan Fisk
General Seat A



Craig Hosmer
General Seat B



Kristi Fulnecky
General Seat C



Richard Ollis
General Seat D



Watch City Council meetings
on Facebook Live:
Mondays 6:30 p.m.
Tuesdays 12 p.m.

 @CityofSGF

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Council@springfieldmo.gov

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FEATURING Classic Car & Motorcycle Show
Route 66 Associations Route 66 Authors Food Motorcycle Demo Rides
Parade Artists Collections Vendors Route 6.6K Run Concerts

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT
35TH ANNIVERSARY
2018

Tuesday, Aug. 7
5-8 p.m.
Nichols Park, 1900 W. Nichols St.

Visit with local police officers, firefighters and park rangers, and enjoy tennis, other games and special activities.

Springfield Firefighters vs. Springfield Police Officers
Softball Game 7-8 p.m.

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