Welcome to the Spring 2019 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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Make your voice heard April 2!
By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor

On April 2, Springfield voters will elect the mayor and five City Council members, determine whether to continue the ¼-cent Capital Improvements Sales Tax for 20 years with no tax increase and consider a $168 million bond proposal to fund 39 high-priority improvements at Springfield Public Schools.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
The candidates for mayor and City Council appearing on the ballot are:

MAYOR • Ken McClure
ZONE 2 • Abe McGull
ZONE 3 • Noah Snelson • Mike Schilling
ZONE 4 • Matthew Simpson
GENERAL COUNCIL SEAT C • Andrew Lear • Jaye Owens • Amy Champlin
GENERAL COUNCIL SEAT D • Richard Ollis.

¼-CENT CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS SALES TAX
In place since 1989, this tax has generated nearly $250 million to fund road, bridge, stormwater and sidewalk projects in Springfield. When possible, funding is leveraged with other partners, including county, state, federal governments and developers. The ¼-cent Capital Improvement Sales Tax is a sales tax continuation with no additional cost to taxpayers. A significant portion of the revenue generated comes from non-residents. Sales tax funds have been used to increase roadway capacity and improve safety on major roadways that serve the region.

Projects are chosen so that each council zone will see improvements within the next five years.

The ¼-cent Capital Improvement Sales Tax is estimated to generate about $11 million per year in the first five years of the tax cycle to be invested in high-priority projects, such as major street resurfacing and rehabilitation, traffic flow improvements, school sidewalks, stormwater management and neighborhood initiatives. Renewed for the ninth time in 2016, the tax has passed with more than 70 percent in support the past four cycles. The tax most recently passed with 86 percent approval. Proposed projects for the first five years of the 2019 ¼-cent Capital Improvement Sales Tax cycle were selected through a combination of public input, City department and partner agency assessed need, prior public/partner agency commitment and equitable geographic distribution.

Public input was sought through a citizen survey conducted online and in print Aug. 13-Sept. 7, 2018.

Citizens were asked to identify their top three projects and offer input to help guide the level of investment in certain programs.

Out of 1,304 total responses collected, eight projects rose to the top, each earning at least 5 percent of the vote. Of these eight, seven were included in the final list of proposed projects. City/agency need is determined by City departments and partner agencies who assess other variables that may impact the project’s overall benefit to the community. Total crashes, traffic capacity, infrastructure condition, economic development potential and flooding within the project area were all factors considered. Six projects were identified as previous commitments made to voters or partner agencies. The final variable considered was the location of each proposed improvement. Projects are chosen so that each council zone will see improvements within the next five years.

Visit SGFNeighborhoodNews.com/1-4cent/ for more information and the list of proposed projects.

SPS BOND PROPOSAL
If approved, this 18-cent increase to Springfield Public Schools’ debt-service levy would be phased in over two years with a 9-cent increase the first year and a 9-cent increase the second year. The cost increase to the owner of a home valued at $100,000 would be $34.20 annually following full phase-in, which would equal $2.85 per month.

If approved, the 2019 bond proposal will generate approximately $168 million to fund secure entrances at 31 schools, a new early childhood center in southwest Springfield.

See ELECTION on page 2
City offers new down-payment assistance loan program

By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor

The City of Springfield’s Planning and Development department is encouraging first-time home buyers to purchase homes in certain portions of Zone 1 and Zone 2 with a new down-payment assistance loan program, which provides income-qualified home buyers with a loan up to $5,000 for closing costs. The purchase price of the home may not exceed $130,000.

The program is also open to non-first-time home buyers who are single parents or qualify as displaced homemakers under the federal income guidelines.

**HOUSEHOLD SIZE AND INCOME LIMITS**

- 1-person = $33,600
- 2-person = $38,400
- 3-person = $43,200
- 4-person = $48,000
- 5-person = $51,850
- 6-person = $55,700
- 7-person = $59,550
- 8-person = $63,400

The program, financed with U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funds, is a 10-year zero-interest rate loan that is non-amortizing, which means there are no monthly payments required unless the house is no longer the buyer’s primary residence. After five years, 50 percent of the loan obligation will be eliminated on the anniversary date. For the next five years, the amount owed is reduced monthly. After 10 years, the applicant has no obligation to pay the loan back.

Buyers must be pre-qualified for a qualified first mortgage from a lender and must complete a HUD-approved homeowner or homebuyer education class with a class completion certificate prior to final loan closing.

“‘We encourage any first-time homebuyer looking to buy a home in the qualified area to apply,’” said Community Development Loan Officer Bob Jones. “We expect to fund about 20 loans at $3,000 each. Borrowers will be placed in a pool of income-qualified applicants. When the buyer has a signed purchase contract, funding will be reserved until the remaining underwriting for their home loan is complete.”

Visit springfieldmo.gov/downpaymentassistance or call Jones at 417-864-1593 for more information about the program, including a loan application, buyer’s guide and lender’s guide.

“We hope this great program will encourage home buyers to purchase a house in Zones 1 and 2. If the City of Springfield can help a few people over the initial hurdles of home ownership, we will improve our neighborhoods,” said Zone 2 Councilman Dr. Tom Prater.

Registered neighborhoods in the eligible area for the program are Bissett, Westside, Heart of the Westside, West Central, Tom Watkins, Grant Beach, Woodland Heights, Doling, Midtown, Weller and Robberson.

OTC to offer free adult education classes in Springfield

Provided by Ozarks Technical Community College

Ozarks Technical Community College is accepting enrollment for its Free Adult Education and Literacy (AEL) classes held at several locations in Springfield.

The classes provide individualized learning programs for adults who want to prepare for the High School Equivalency (HSE) exam, learn English as a second language or improve their reading, math and writing skills. To be considered for the AEL program, participants must be at least 17 years old and not enrolled in high school. Early enrollment is encouraged due to limited seating.

The OTC Springfield Campus offers AEL classes in Graff Hall, room 221, which is located at 725 E. Bob Barker Blvd. Classes are held Monday through Thursday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., and on Friday between 8 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. To enroll, visit Graff Hall room 121 on Mondays at 12:45 p.m. or Tuesdays at 5:15 p.m.

OTC’s AEL classes are also offered at The Dream Center and the Missouri Job Center – Ozark Region. Call 417-447-8860 for enrollment dates and class times at these locations.

“Our AEL program is a great option for those who are looking to take that first step toward a better life and more rewarding career,” said Ramona George, college director of AEL. “We’re ready and eager to help young adults and adults jumpstart their education.”

Established in 1991, OTC’s Adult Education and Literacy program serves more than 900 students on an annual basis. The program’s mission is to provide specialized instruction for students who wish to build or refresh the basic academic skills necessary for success in work and life. For more information about OTC’s Adult Education and Literacy program, visit otc.edu/adulteducation.
The fourth and final six-month rotation of the Springfield Art Museum’s Art In Our City exhibition went on display March 23 and features 10 artists from seven neighborhoods located in City Council Zone 4.

THE FEATURED ARTISTS ARE:

- Morgan Frew, Seminole Holland
- Penny Gordon-Chumbley, Seminole Holland
- Holly Goodwin, Meador Park
- Don Allen, University Heights
- John Short, Sequiota (Galloway Village)
- M. Scott Phifer, Brentwood
- Katherine Botts Whitaker, Brentwood
- Janelle Patterson, Southern Hills
- Janeshae Henderson, Southern Hills
- Sarah Gatewood, Lake Springfield

Zone 4 is located in the southeast quadrant of the city and is represented by Councilman Matthew Simpson. Selections were made by Springfield Art Museum Director Nick Nelson, from an open call for artists in the summer of 2017. The artists’ works range from painting, to photography, to textiles. Their work will show through Oct. 20.

The museum has long collected works by local artists including Julie Blackmon, Bill Armstrong, Bill Wright, Jacob Burmood, Robert E. Smith, Beverly Hopkins, Dwaine Crigger, Rodney Frew, Sarah Perkins, Roberta Stoneman Baker, Louis Freund and Elsie Bates Freund, among others.

Representative works by these artists are frequently on view in the museum’s semi-permanent rotating exhibition of the museum’s permanent collection, Creating An American Identity, placed within the larger context of the contemporary American art world.

“Art In Our City is unique in that it places the emphasis solely on living local artists who are currently working,” says Joshua Best, Development and Marketing Coordinator. “The exhibit’s location in Avant Art places it at the forefront of the museum, making these works some of the first that patrons encounter upon entering the museum.”

ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

Art In Our City is a special exhibition that highlights local artists and the character of Springfield’s unique neighborhoods. Art In Our City debuted in October 2017, featuring artwork from eight artists living or creating in five neighborhoods located in Zone 1. More than 76,000 patrons have visited the museum since this exhibition opened.

In addition to its great neighborhoods, Springfield is home to a vibrant artistic community, which inspired Nelson to dedicate the museum’s flexible gallery space, Avant Art, to local artists over the two years of the Art In Our City initiative.

“The Art In Our City exhibition highlights and celebrates the creativity of the Springfield community, focusing on artists living and working in the neighborhoods that make up our city. This exhibition not only concentrates on the artists on display, but the neighborhoods they live in and what it means to live and work creatively here,” Nelson said.

ABOUT THE PIECES

“TIME DILATION,” BY MORGAN FREW
Oil on wood panel, neon, electronic transformer

“‘Time Dilation’ is part of a larger body of work titled ‘Cosmic Debris,’” Frew says. “Combining the media of painting and neon, Cosmic Debris explores the vastness of the universe, the transience of the individual, and the life force that connects all things. The essential pigments in oil paints ... the noble gases that animate neon tubes ... and the physical architecture of the human body ... all are made from the dust of stars. Yet despite our inherent connection to a vast universe, our own human affairs are impossibly small and perhaps accidental in the grand scheme of things.”

“‘Cosmic Debris,’ highlights this contrast: the impermanence of a single life, the infinite nature of life itself. The juxtaposition is both unsettling and comforting. The neon phrases that illuminate these paintings evoke these enigmas for me: the cycle of breath, the cycle of stars, and the deep serenity that comes from contemplating the night sky,” he added.

“TOWER THEATER,” BY JANELLE PATTERSON
Acrylic on canvas

“This piece was inspired by the color blue and that was going to be somewhat of a challenge. Most of my paintings before this one heavily showcased warm tones of red, orange, yellow and brown. Simply put, I wanted to try something opposite,” Patterson says. “‘Tower Theater’ is from my ‘Placentalities’ series. For this series, I created several pieces based on local landmarks that meld a portion of the history or identity of the structure with its current architectural appearance. These pieces allow me to show the emotions I sense with these locations visually through their abstracted backgrounds.

“It was a joy to work on this piece. I’m over the moon to have been chosen to participate in this exhibition. It is such an honor to have one of my pieces included among those of so many other amazing local artists. I also love that for a while a little part of me will get to reside in the same building as so many great master artists. What an inspiring life experience that the Springfield Art Museum has provided,” Patterson says.

“EMERGE,” BY SARAH GATEWOOD
Acrylic on canvas

“This piece was inspired by the color blue and that was going to be somewhat of a challenge. Most of my paintings before this one heavily showcased warm tones of red, orange, yellow and brown. Simply put, I wanted to try something opposite,” Gatewood says. “As you can see, I still incorporated my warm palette and did so in a way that it almost dominates the space. This time I could not put aside my love of those warm tones. When I finished the painting, I felt like I was looking through the cool water into the blazing sun.”

See ART IN OUR CITY on page 7
Applications, forms for short-term rentals now available online

By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor

Applications and forms for short-term rentals are now available on the City’s website springfieldmo.gov/813/Applications-Checklists under the Short-Term Rentals heading. City Council approved regulations and definitions for short-term rental properties in the city of Springfield Jan. 28.

Any property owner who rents out their property in the city limits of Springfield for fewer than 30 days must have a business license and comply with other short-term rental regulations aimed at protecting the safety, character and quality of life in Springfield neighborhoods. Short-term stay rentals are grouped into three categories, listed below.

Owners of type 2 rentals (non-owner-occupied residence or an owner-occupied primary residence, legal accessory apartment or historic carriage house that is rented for more than 95 days in a calendar year when the owner is absent from the premises) must apply for a permit to operate their property as a short-term stay rental. The permit requires a neighborhood meeting and at least 55 percent of adjacent property owners to give consent.

**TYPES OF SHORT-TERM RENTALS**

**TYPE 1**
- Allowed in the Single-Family Residential (R-SF) or Residential Townhouse (R-TH) districts.
- For owner-occupied primary residences or historic carriage houses as allowed in the Zoning Ordinance.
- Cannot be rented for more than 95 days in a calendar year when the owner is absent from the premise.
- Must obtain an annual business license.
- Must provide an affidavit certifying that the primary residence, legal accessory apartment or historic carriage house will not be rented for more than 95 days in a calendar year when the owner is absent from the premise.
- No density restrictions.

**TYPE 2**
- Allowed in the R-SF or R-TH districts.
- For non-owner-occupied residence or an owner-occupied primary residence, legal accessory apartment or historic carriage house that is rented for more than 95 days in a calendar year when the owner is absent from the premise.
- No limitation on the number of days that it can be rented; however, all type 2s will require a short-term rental type 2 permit. The permit requires a neighborhood meeting and at least 55 percent of adjacent property owners to give consent.
- Must obtain an annual business license and a certificate of occupancy.
- Density limitations: A short-term rental type 2 shall be limited to no more than one type 2 or bed and breakfast per eight residential structures on the block face in R-SF or R-TH districts. No type 2 shall be permitted on a block face with fewer than four residential structures unless an appeal is granted by City Council (i.e. 1-3: no STR; 4-8: 1 STR; 9-15: 1 STR; 16-23: 2 STR). For purposes of this section, block face shall be defined as one side of a street, from one intersection to the next, not including alleys. Residential structures’ block face shall be determined by the mailing address assigned to each.
- No density restrictions.

**TYPE 3**
- Allowed in all other zoning districts.
- No residency requirement or limitations on the number of days that it can be rented.
- No more than two dwelling units within a premise can be rented.
- Must obtain an annual business license and a certificate of occupancy.
- No density restrictions.

**GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR ALL SHORT-TERM RENTALS**

All short-term rental properties shall comply with the residential occupancy requirements in the Zoning Ordinance, which requires that a dwelling unit may not be occupied by more than three unrelated persons in a R-SF or R-TH zoning district or four unrelated persons in a Low-Density Multi-Family Residential (R-LD), Medium-Density Multi-Family Residential (R-MD) or High-Density Multi-Family Residential (R-HD) districts.

Short-term rental types 2 and 3 must obtain and continually maintain a service agent business license. Licensing fees are based on gross receipts and typically range from $25 per year ($0-$10,000 in annual gross receipts) to $105 per year ($200,000 in annual gross receipts). Businesses that collect more than $200,000 in annual gross receipts are charged an additional 25 cents per $1,000. New applicants will be asked to estimate their gross receipts for the upcoming year. The figures can be adjusted accordingly when the business renews the following year, according to Licensing Supervisor Lori Stubbeman. If an annual business license is not continually obtained, the owner/business risks losing the ability to operate due to the density restrictions in type 2 and maximum dwellings in type 3.

Avoid front-yard parking

The Springfield Neighborhoods Plan identifies front-yard parking as one of a number of recurring nuisances that negatively affect neighborhoods. It can create ruts and increase erosion. Combined with other nuisances, it causes an aesthetic deterioration of the neighborhood. General Ordinance 5166 states it is against City ordinance to park a vehicle or trailer of any kind in the front yard of private property. The front yard is considered the area of land that faces a street in front of the house. If a house is on a corner lot and faces two streets, both sides are considered a front yard. To report, call 911 if the vehicle or trailer is in the front yard at the time of the call. This will allow police to be dispatched. If the vehicle is not in the front yard at all times, but is a persistent problem, call the Citizen Resource Center at 417-864-1010 or file a citizen service request online at springfieldmo.gov/request.
SPS and Burrell Behavioral Health partner on expansion of school-based mental health services

By Stephen Hall, Springfield Public Schools, for SGFNN

Springfield Public Schools has announced it will partner with Burrell Behavioral Health to expand school-based mental health services for many of its students. The announcement came during National School Counseling Week, an annual opportunity to recognize the educators and mental health professionals who care for the wide-ranging needs of students.

Beginning this spring, Burrell will focus on staffing the Hillcrest High School attendance boundary, which represents approximately 4,000 students. Burrell estimates 5-10 percent of those students will be served (200-400).

Schools impacted by this work include: Bowerman, Fremont, Hillcrest, Pleasant View, Reed, Robberson, Truman, Watkins and Williams.

“Offering access to services in local school buildings ensures immediate professional resources for educators, students and their families, which reduces stigma and can ultimately save lives.” – Dr. C.J. Davis

Onsite therapeutic and case management services for students will be provided, as well as training and consultation for school faculty, as needed.

“We have spent a great deal of time gathering feedback from our students, staff, parents and community regarding how to provide additional support to address the many needs within our classrooms today,” said Dr. Mike Dawson, chief learning officer for Springfield Public Schools.

“These important conversations led to the identification of budget priorities for the 2018-2019 school year, including enhanced safety and security training and additional resources in support of mental health. This partnership is the result of that important process.”

“When it comes to youth behavioral health disorders and suicide, the statistics in our state and our country are staggering and sobering,” said Dr. C.J. Davis, president and CEO for Burrell Behavioral Health.

“Offering access to services in local school buildings ensures immediate professional resources for educators, students and their families, which reduces stigma and can ultimately save lives.”

“Our SPS counselors do amazing work each and every day to meet the needs of all students in our schools,” said Rhonda Mammen, director of counseling services for Springfield Public Schools.

“Their critical work makes an impact on the social/ emotional, career and academic development of every learner in their school community. By partnering with Burrell’s team, we are able to boost supports for time-intensive concerns, including serious mental health issues. We look forward to working together in the best interests of our students.”

ABOUT THE PARTNERSHIP

In 2018, the rule for Medicaid eligible services for Missouri students was revised and expanded to allow behavioral health services to be reimbursed in schools. This significant change opened the door for providers to assist students by providing services within the school setting for a range of mental health issues.

Burrell’s school-based services department partners with nearly 30 school districts across central and southwest Missouri with the goal of increasing rapid access to mental health care. As part of that work, Burrell has collaborated with Springfield Public Schools for more than 10 years, currently with seven providers embedded to provide assessments and support district-wide. This announcement expands that partnership.

Burrell therapists and caseworkers practice trauma-informed care, which recognizes that people often have many different types of trauma in their lives and need support and compassion from those around them. Burrell providers assist with diagnosing and treating depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder, ADHD, oppositional defiant disorder and more.

OVERVIEW OF NEED FOR INCREASED MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

*Source: National Alliance on Mental Illness and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- One in five people will have a diagnosable mental illness at some point in their lives.
- Fifty percent of those people will demonstrate warning signs in their child and adolescent years.
- Approximately one in five youth, aged 13-18, experiences a severe mental disorder at some point during their life. For children aged 8-15, the estimate is 13 percent.
- Fifty percent of those with a diagnosable behavioral health issue never seek treatment.
- There currently is an 8-10 year gap between warning signs of a mental health need and their first intervention.
- 16.2 percent of Missouri high school students seriously considered suicide in 2015.
- 27.5 percent of Missouri high school students reported feeling sad or hopeless in 2015.
- 45,000 children and adolescents in Missouri are estimated to struggle with anxiety.
Nearly 1,000 have downloaded lifesaving PulsePoint app since September

PulsePoint empowers CPR-trained citizens to provide critical response to cardiac arrests

By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor

Gretchen Cliburn, a director at BKD Wealth Advisors and runner from Springfield, says she got a second chance at life in 2014, thanks to CPR-trained bystanders willing to help when she collapsed during a race.

“It was a gorgeous day,” she remembers. “My friend and running partner Kathryn and I were well-ahead of schedule and enjoying the run. There was nothing out of the ordinary.”

Cliburn says the last thing she remembers from that April morning is crossing mile marker 9 of the half marathon and remarking to her friend that she thought they’d have a strong finish in the race.

“Apparently I then told Kathryn that we needed to slow down a little,” Cliburn said. “The next thing she heard was the sound of my body hitting the pavement.”

Cliburn, who had no history of heart disease, had suffered a cardiac arrest and did not have a pulse. Two other runners, to whom she refers as “angels,” began performing CPR and called 911. They continued until paramedics arrived, defibrillated her heart into beating again and transported her to a Springfield hospital, where she was placed in a medically induced coma and underwent advanced cardiac procedures. Her prognosis ranged anywhere from never waking up from the coma to making a full recovery.

“I was extremely fortunate that day because of the people who were there with me who performed CPR and kept going until EMS got there,” Cliburn said.

The Springfield Fire Department hopes that Cliburn’s story and the many others like it will encourage anyone with a smartphone to get trained in CPR and download the PulsePoint app.

Last fall, the Fire Department and local emergency services personnel partnered to launch PulsePoint in the 17-county region served by Mercy and CoxHealth.

“PulsePoint is a powerful tool to increase survival rates of cardiac arrest in our community,” said Fire Chief David Pennington. “In addition to the lifesaving CPR notifications, the application provides a complete virtual window into the emergency communication center.”

For professional responders, Pennington says PulsePoint can improve situational awareness, increase incident and resource visibility, and enhance overall interoperability with neighboring jurisdictions.

Nearly five years after her cardiac arrest, Cliburn says she still encourages everyone she knows to get trained in CPR, and now that it’s available in the Ozarks, to download the PulsePoint app.

“You could be that person who gives someone in our community a second chance at life,” she said.

Funding and operational partners include:
- CoxHealth
- Mercy
- City of Springfield
- Missouri State University
- Ozarks Technical Community College
- Drury University
- Evangel University
- City Utilities and
- Springfield-Greene County Health Department.

Early application of bystander CPR and rapid defibrillation with an AED have proven to be crucial in improving a person’s chance of surviving sudden cardiac arrest. PulsePoint is not limited to emergency responders or those with official CPR certification, as it can be used by anyone who has been trained in CPR.

“When a patient is in cardiac distress, the quicker they receive help, the greater chance they have for a complete recovery,” says Dr. Stephen Kuehn, interventional cardiologist with CoxHealth. “This technology is a wonderful tool to have in place, and I’m excited for what it means for patients throughout southwest Missouri.”

HOW IT WORKS

After downloading the app from the Apple App Store or Google Play by searching for “PulsePoint,” those trained in CPR and wishing to assist in case of an emergency can be notified of a cardiac emergency nearby that may require CPR. If the cardiac emergency is in a public place, the location-aware application will alert trained citizens in the vicinity of the need for bystander CPR at the same time first responders are dispatched. The application also directs these citizen rescuers to the exact location of the closest publicly accessible automated external defibrillator (AED). Note: User notification only occurs after the 9-1-1 system has been activated.

“PulsePoint is a powerful tool to increase survival rates of cardiac arrest in our community,” said Fire Chief David Pennington. “In addition to the lifesaving CPR notifications, the application provides a complete virtual window into the emergency communication center.”

Want to nominate one of your neighbors for the Do You Know? feature?
E-mail Melissa Haase at mhaase@springfieldmo.gov or call 417-864-1003 for more information.

Jamie Orlando,
Community Health Advocate,
Springfield-Greene County Health Department

What is a Community Health Advocate?
A Community Health Advocate (CHA) is an individual who works with community partners and community members in order to promote wellbeing for those she serves. As a CHA for the Springfield-Greene County Health Department, I deliver personalized assistance to people who are facing barriers to being healthy and happy. I navigate Springfield’s web of social services and community resources, assisting my clients with things such as healthcare referrals, housing and transportation assistance, employment information, childhood referrals, hygiene needs, and so much more!

What made you decide to apply for the role of Community Health Advocate?
I moved to Springfield in 2010 and very quickly fell in love with the Springfield community. The community is active, the people are friendly, and everyone seems to have a desire to help out their neighbors. I’m so thankful that I now get to work with people who are actively improving the community! I love exploring the web of resources in Springfield and helping people find the services they need in order to thrive.

What do you enjoy most about your job?
My favorite part about my job is that I get to spend time talking with and helping people in our community!

How can neighbors request a referral or more information?
You can reach a Community Health Advocate at springfieldmo.gov/CHAreferral, by calling 417-864-2477, or e-mailing advocate@springfieldmo.gov.

Unlimited Community Advocacy

For every Community Health Advocate, Springfield-Greene County Health Department is an advocate to the entire Springfield-Greene County community! I love exploring the web of resources in Springfield and helping people find the services they need in order to thrive.

Unlimited Community Advocacy

For every Community Health Advocate, Springfield-Greene County Health Department is an advocate to the entire Springfield-Greene County community! I love exploring the web of resources in Springfield and helping people find the services they need in order to thrive.
Health Department creates online food access database
By Cara Erwin, Health Department, for SGFNN

Food insecurity is a major issue, both nationally and locally. Fourteen percent of U.S. households, and nearly 17 percent of households in Greene County are food insecure. Access to healthy food is also a concern.

There are varying negative health effects that are being heavily influenced by poor diets, in particular cardiovascular disease and obesity.

In 2018, the Springfield-Greene County Health Department provided an updated look at food access in Springfield. The report assessed supermarket locations as well as “safety net food providers,” which provide additional food access opportunities at no charge to low-income residents, to identify areas of our community that are food insecure. The assessment determined that while improvements have been made, more should be done to reduce food insecurity in our community. View the assessment at health.springfieldmo.gov/foodaccess.

‘Check out’ heirloom seeds from the library for your summer garden March-July
By Kathleen O’Dell, for SGFNN

“Check out” seeds for your spring and summer garden for free (and keep them!) with your library card at the Heirloom Seed Library at the Library Station, 2535 N. Kansas Expressway and Midtown Carnegie Branch Library, 397 E. Central St. The seed libraries are stocked from March through July.

Choose from a variety of vegetable, herb and flower heirloom seeds to borrow with your Springfield-Greene County Library card. Plant them at home or in your community garden and enjoy the harvest. If you wish, you can also learn how to collect and save the seeds at season’s end, and return them to the seed library so they can be used next year. Visit thelibrary.org/seedlibrary to learn more.

These heirloom seeds have been pollinated by natural means such as insects, birds or wind; not manipulated to become hybrid varieties. And, like your family heirlooms, they have been saved after the harvest and passed along to other gardeners. Visit thelibrary.org/seedcatalog to see all the varieties available in the Heirloom Seed Library. This year’s seed collection was provided by a team of seed savers and Master Gardeners; with funding from the Central High School Botanical Society and seed library official sponsor Farmers Gastropub.

FRIENDS
OF THE
LIBRARY

SPRING
BOOK
SALE

E*Plex, Ozark Empire Fairgrounds
3001 N. Grant Ave. Free Parking & Admission

Wed.-Fri 10 a.m.-8 p.m.
Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.–Half-Price Day
Sun. 1-5 p.m.–Bag Day
(Bag Day—everything you can pack in a sack is $1, or $5 from the “Better Books” side.)

Adult, young adult and children’s books and most audiovisuals are $1 or less; better books are $2 and up. Cash or Check ONLY! Questions call 417-887-9524 or email friends@thelibrary.org.

MAY 1-5

"SCOLIOSIS," BY JANESHAE HENDERSON

Digital photograph

“What inspired this piece and the project ‘Permanent Fear’ behind it, was my curiosity and interest of skin: what it can do and how it can heal. The deeper I got into the project, the more it changed. The end result being that this project, including this photo was all about me and my fear of something like this happening to me. I am not fearful of the permanent scar, but the pain behind it,” Henderson said.

“I have been living in Springfield for about seven years, and I have visited the Springfield Art Museum on several occasions. Having my work being on display at a place where I have enjoyed other amazing artists work is amazing! I am forever grateful for the opportunity,” she added.

See more artists from BRENTWOOD, GALLOWAY VILLAGE, MEADOR PARK & UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS in the neighborhood sections.
Meet your neighborhood’s PAR (Police Area Representative) officer

By Jasmine Bailey, Springfield Police Department, for SGFNN

The Springfield Police Department’s Police Area Representative (PAR) Officers are available to help solve long-term neighborhood problems and provide referrals to community organizations that can assist neighborhoods in the City of Springfield. As always, in the event of an emergency, call 911.

OFFICER ZACH PUGH

What made you decide to be a police officer?
I did not always want to become an officer. I had other career paths in mind once I started college. I did start to gravitate toward a career in law enforcement once I was in college. I chose this as a career because you see something new every day. It is not just sitting in an office every day for eight hours. Also, helping people is an aspect of the job that caused me to choose this career path.

What motivated you to become a PAR officer?
I was motivated to become a PAR officer because of the community interaction. In Springfield, we have great support from the community. Being a PAR officer, we get to interact with the citizens and help them out with their respected issues. What motivated me the most was that I could help with keeping the good relationship with our citizens intact.

OFFICER EVAN NICHOLSON

Did you always want to be a police officer?
I decided to pursue a career in law enforcement when I was in college.

What motivated you to become a PAR officer?
I wanted an opportunity to work with the community on a more personal level and build relationships so that I can come up with more permanent solutions to their problems.

OFFICER KEVIN GRUNDY

What made you decide to be a police officer?
When I was younger, I played cops and robbers like all the other boys did. My father was an Oklahoma Highway Patrol Officer when I was growing up and was killed in the line of duty. Through the process of his death, I was able to see various aspects of law enforcement and see the impact one officer can have on a community. I followed in his footsteps for part of my education, then stepped back and took another direction.

Years later, I was speaking with a current SPD officer who told me the City needed good officers and kept encouraging me to apply. After some time I realized my passion was to help, serve and protect other people. I revisited my early dreams of chasing down bad guys and keeping people safe. The only regret I have now is not joining the Springfield Police Department earlier in my life.

What motivated you to become a PAR officer?
I always tried to give people a better experience with the Police Department than they had the last time. Sometimes that was easier said than done, but while on patrol, I felt like I could never make a long-lasting impression.

Being a PAR officer was a great way for me to get to know a specific region of the city, being able to call people by name and build a better relationship with the community. I noticed immediately when I had an established relationship with someone, there was a higher level of cooperation and better results. I love the interaction I get to have with the businesses on Commercial Street and participating in area events. It lets the community know that police officers are not just robots, but we have personalities. We laugh and have fun, but most importantly, we can be trusted.

OFFICER CHRIS LAUGHLIN

What made you decide to be a police officer?
I grew up in a military household with a 30-year military veteran. My father always encouraged my sister and I to become public servants in some fashion and serve the community. Therefore, police work is something that has always interested me. I have been blessed with finding my calling in life from a very early age and was able to fulfill that dream.

What motivated you to become a PAR officer?
As police officers, we always strive to find a solution for whatever is needed at the time of our interaction or contact. The Community Services Section, specifically the PAR officers, are usually able to allocate more time to figure out those long-term solutions between neighbors or occupants within the community they serve.

OFFICER JACOB BOOMGAARDEN

Did you always want to be a police officer?
Yes. From an early age, I wanted to be a police officer but chose to follow other talents. I was a radio announcer and producer for six years prior to becoming a police officer. I decided to go after a career in law enforcement when I realized that I was tired of sitting behind a desk. I made a major life change and applied.

What motivated you to become a PAR officer?
I’ve always enjoyed community oriented policing. Sometimes finding the answer that’s best for the community may not always be the obvious answer. I enjoy having a new challenge each day and no two days are ever the same. I’ve also focused heavily in my career on mental health and homelessness issues. This is a large part of the daily complaints I handle.

OFFICER KEITH WRIGHT

Did you always want to be a police officer?
Once I hit my college years, I knew I wanted to work in some aspect of law enforcement. Being a former college athlete, I wanted to pursue a career that was built around teamwork. I had initially started pursuing a career in conservation, but quickly changed to law enforcement due to the influences of a professor who happens to be a retired SPD officer.

What motivated you to become a PAR officer?
The same desires that drove me to be a police officer drove me to become a PAR officer. I enjoy working with the business owners and residents in my assigned area to help solve police-related issues. I also enjoy being able to work closely with the members of this community and to help them understand how we work as a department. I enjoy finding new and innovative ways to resolve community issues.

To learn more about your PAR officer check out this story on SGFNeighborhoodNews.com
NAC works throughout the year to make our community better

By Rusty Worley, for SGFNN

The 50th anniversary of Martin Luther King’s “I have a dream” speech when Park Central Square was filled with over 5,000 people. The candlelight vigil for Hailey Owens, where Commercial Street overflowed with over 10,000 celebrating the life of a child taken from our community too soon. Each August’s National Night Out event, when the entire Springfield community comes together to give residents a chance to get to know each other and their local first responders.

The results are powerful when individuals come together for a common purpose.

Leaders from Springfield’s 21 registered neighborhoods and the Neighborhood Advisory Council (NAC) are working throughout the year to reduce crime, enhance housing stock, promote education and training, and improve infrastructure.

REDUCE CRIME

Police area representatives presented crime statistics for 2018 and hot spot areas for all the registered neighborhoods at the most recent NAC meeting on Feb. 13. It revealed an overall decrease in Part 1 crime of over 18 percent. Crimes against persons were down almost two percent and property crimes dropped by 20 percent. The most significant gains were mainly in car thefts as the Springfield Police Department encouraged residents to not leave their keys in running vehicles, lock their doors and secure valuables out of sight.

The police area representatives will continue to partner with neighborhoods to expand neighborhood watch programs, everyday courtesy of getting to know your neighbors and emphasizing the importance of “see something, say something.” Every resident has an important role to play in reducing crime and fostering a greater sense of security.

ENHANCE HOUSING STOCK

Addressing chronic nuisance properties continues to be a main area of focus for NAC. This includes advocating for more building inspectors and creating new economic incentives for renovating single-family homes. Neighborhood teams meet regularly with City staff from building development services, planning and police to collaboratively find ways to address problem properties.

The upcoming update to the City’s comprehensive plan will allow citizens to have a voice in shaping the future development of Springfield. NAC is an active participant in this process. Look for more information in the coming months on how you and your neighborhood will be able to share your ideas through community meetings, major events and digital surveys. Vision 20/20 produced a myriad of impressive results – Jordan Valley Park, Hammons Field, Center City revitalization, expanded greenway trails and alternative transportation, etc. – and this new process can be just as successful with your help!

PROMOTE EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Springfield is fortunate to have strong educational systems from early childhood to its universities. However, too many of our citizens are underemployed and lack the skills to obtain higher-paying jobs. Community Partnership of the Ozarks offers programming to obtain GEDs, credentials for green jobs and to strengthen financial literacy. Last year’s passage of the OTC levy increase will provide even more opportunities for acquiring new skills that are highly sought after by local employers. Neighborhoods are a grassroots connection to these important programs for educational attainment.

NAC convened a committee to provide input on the 2016 school bond issue. After its narrow defeat at the polls, the School District formed a new community-wide task force that included Becky Vozl (one of the members of the NAC committee) and many of the neighborhood concerns were addressed, including preserving neighborhood schools, renovating properties whenever possible, not combining elementary and junior highs into K-8 campuses, providing more details on proposed changes, and reducing the overall size of the new bond issue. The members of NAC thank the School Board for listening to concerns from our neighborhoods.

IMPROVE INFRASTRUCTURE

NAC has worked closely with Public Works on the Neighborhood Initiative program over the past three years to invest in projects to improve sidewalks, public parks and community gathering places. Neighborhoods applied for these projects and a NAC committee made recommendations to the City for priorities for funding.

In addition to renewing the Neighborhood Initiative program in the renewal of the capital improvement sales tax on April 2, city-wide funding has been allocated for sidewalks, storm water and traffic signals/calming. It is important for the City to continue to hear from the citizens who are closest to these improvements in order to maximize their effectiveness.

Springfield’s neighborhoods continue to band together with partners from across the community because we have witnessed first-hand the positive impact of collaboration. We celebrate our shared successes and support one another when unexpected challenges inevitably arise.

In the words of Margaret Mead, “Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”

Back row, left to right: Eric Pauly, Phelps; Becky Vozl, Woodland Heights; Caron Parnell, West Central; Jeff Barber, Rountree; Dellenie Nelson, Bradford Park; Pete Rodenck, Bissett, Middle row: Mark Maynard, Weller; Christina Dicken, Doling; Wendell Royster, Oak Grove; Jan Peterson, University Heights; Jane Augustine, Brentwood; Joe Roberds, Rountree; Dellene Nelson, Bradford Park; Pete Rodenck, Bissett, Middle row: Mark Maynard, Weller; Christina Dicken, Doling; Wendell Royster, Oak Grove; Jan Peterson, University Heights; Jane Augustine, Brentwood; Joe Roberds, Westside; Jaydeen Nelson, Heart of the Westside; Rusty Worley, NAC chair. Front row: Bobbi Ream, Meador, Teresa Pope, Delaware; Kathy Lutz, Grant Beach; Morti Mowery, Tom Watkins; Dee Ogilvy, Midtown; Fred Romaine, Greater Parkcrest and Marcie Kirkup, Galloway Village.

SPD presents 2018 top 10 dispatched calls for service for each neighborhood at February NAC meeting

By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor

Several representatives from the Springfield Police Department, including each neighborhood’s PAR (Police Area Representative) were at the February NAC meeting to present the 2018 top 10 dispatched calls for service for each neighborhood. Below are the definitions of common calls for service. Each neighborhood’s numbers are available in the neighborhood sections.

CHECK WELL-BEING

Person not answering their phone or door, family/friend unable to contact them, subject laying on the ground unknown problem.

CHECK A BUILDING

Home, business or structure is in a suspicious state (window/door may be open or tampered with or something out of place, light on or off when shouldn’t be). If a person is doing something at a building the call type would be check a person/burglary in progress/vandalism, theft, etc. and not check a building.

CHECK A PERSON

Suspicious activity observed, someone may be in place they are not supposed to be, behavior is out of place such as someone in a neighborhood that does not belong, or if caller believes the behavior is unusual in nature.

CHECK A VEHICLE

Suspicious vehicle on street, in neighborhood or within an area. Vehicle is parked somewhere it should not be, possibly vehicular trespassing. Vehicle is suspicious in nature due to VIN scratched off, strange odor. If a person is connected to a suspicious vehicle then it would be another call type. If it’s just listed as abandoned without any suspicious circumstance then it is a lower priority call and would not be listed as check a vehicle, but as abandoned vehicle.

For your neighborhood’s numbers turn to your neighborhood’s section.

DISCLAIMER: The City of Springfield Police Department, and all other contributing data suppliers, make no warranties, expressed or implied, concerning the accuracy, completeness, reliability, or suitability of the data for any particular use. Furthermore, the City of Springfield Police Department, and all other contributing data suppliers, assume no liability whatsoever associated with the use or misuse of the data. Created by Derrick Anderson, Police Technical Analyst.
Project RED Zone to move into Bissett in spring

By Heather Parker, Fire Department, for SGFNN

Since April 2017, Springfield firefighters have installed 2,334 smoke alarms in area neighborhoods as a part of Project RED Zone. They’ve visited over 14,600 homes in the West Central, Grant Beach, Westside, Heart of the Westside, Robberson, Woodland Heights, Tom Watkins and Doling neighborhoods. The department is moving into the Bissett neighborhood (bordered by West Bypass to the west, Fulbright Avenue to the east, Chestnut Expressway to the south and Division Street to the north) in the spring in an effort to ensure that every Springfield resident has adequate warning of a fire in their home.

In addition to the 2,000-plus installed alarms, firefighters have tested an additional 4,325 alarms and replaced 684 batteries in existing alarms as a part of Project RED Zone.

Project RED Zone—a reference to the red areas on the Springfield Fire Department’s map of fire incidents—stands for Reduce, Educate, Deliver. It is part of SFD’s Community Risk Reduction (CRR) program. The multifaceted campaign aims to ensure all homes in high-risk areas of the city have working smoke alarms.

The program is already a proven success, with at least two lives saved as a result of smoke alarms installed during Project RED Zone. In September 2017, the occupant of a West Central apartment was notified to a fire in a neighboring apartment by her smoke alarm that had been installed two months before by Springfield fire crews. In November of last year, the occupant of another West Central apartment was notified to a fire in a unit below her when her smoke alarm sounded. That alarm had also been installed by Springfield fire crews the previous January.

Working smoke alarms double your chances of surviving a fire. Smoke alarms should be installed on every level of the home, in each bedroom and outside each sleeping area.

Project RED Zone is funded with the help of donations from the American Red Cross of Southern Missouri, Safe Kids Springfield, FEMA Fire Prevention and Safety grants and general revenue SFD funds designated for public education.

The fire department offers free smoke alarms and batteries to anyone in need. To obtain a free alarm, call 417-874-2300.

Bissett business members growing and diversifying

By Pete Radecki, for SGFNN

A big thanks goes out to Bubba’s BBQ for renewing their membership in Bissett Neighborhood Association this year. We’ve enjoyed watching them grow in our neighborhood, but not just with barbecue. Did you know that right across the highway from their restaurant on West Bypass, they have THREE additional businesses?

Hillbilly Paradise boasts some of the coolest and most unique items under one roof. They have everything from hand-crafted cedar furniture to knickknacks and glassware to T-shirts and more!

Countryside BBQ Pro Shop has about everything you need to be a BBQ pro. They sell high quality grills, accessories and a pretty amazing selection of rubs. Finally, Legends Design House just opened last year. They make aluminum, wood and steel posters, and they make them in-house, so the quality is there. You can send them an image or text or both and they will handcraft something to go on your wall or for a really cool gift. It is really awesome to see all these local businesses launching and being successful right in our backyard.

Complete Electronics Recycling (CER) is renewing their BNA membership … and they are expanding. First you can now bring a wider variety of items for recycling there, including appliances. They have also expanded their waste removal service, so you can have them do anything from hauling off that old projection TV or broken down appliance, to clearing out a whole garage.

And now for the big kicker: Everyone knows about recycling and that usually means taking some material like paper, plastic or metal, shredding it up and reforming it into something else—usually something of lesser value. But how about upcycling? That’s where you reuse a discarded item to create a product of greater value.

Well, that is what the brand-new store co-located with CER on Chestnut is all about. They are just now opening and you can find 2,500 square feet of items that CER has refurbished and are now ready for a second life. Ever had a specialized screw fall out of something that then renders the item useless? CER is also carrying a range of really hard-to-find fasteners and other parts that they salvage from discarded items.

And how about starting off the day in fine form with a fresh doughnut from Daylight Donuts on West Bypass? We’re really happy that owner Chris Moss has also renewed his membership!

All in all, we’re really excited about the cool stuff happening with our Bissett Neighborhood Association business members. You’ll see each of them involved with BNA activities. They each have made positive impacts for our neighborhood in past years, and no doubt we’ll benefit from them again this year.
Busy 2019 in store for Bissett Neighborhood Association

By Pete Radecki, for SGFNN

Bissett Neighborhood Association will hold a wide variety of activities this year!

STREET CLEANUP
This spring, BNA will begin doing street cleanups to help beautify our neighborhood.
Garbage bags will be provided, along with reflective vests for safety, but please bring your own work gloves and closed-toe shoes or boots. Each cleanup will start at 9 a.m. and we expect it to take between one and three hours, depending on how many folks show up. Our next street cleanup will be April 27 on Hillcrest Avenue, from Nichols to Chestnut streets. We’ll meet at the intersection of Nichols and Hillcrest.

NEIGHBORHOOD CLEANUP
Our annual Neighborhood Cleanup will be held 8 a.m.-noon Saturday, June 1 at the Bissett Elementary west parking lot. Be looking for more information via a mailing as we get closer.

YARD ZALE IN JULY
Based on the huge success of our neighborhood-wide Yard Zale last July, we plan to hold another this summer as well as our annual Neighborhood Night Out. Most likely, the Yard Zale will be in July with the NNO in August. More info will be forthcoming on our Facebook page. Feel free to call or email me if you’re not on Facebook.

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS
Our next regular membership meeting will be Tuesday, April 9 at Bissett Elementary. The meeting will be at 6:30 p.m., with an optional pot luck dinner at 6 p.m. This meeting will feature a presentation by our new Community Health Advocate from the Springfield-Greene County Health Department, Jamie Orlando. There have been a variety of exciting changes to the CHA program, so come to the meeting to learn more about how the program can benefit you and your family.

Remaining regular membership meetings for 2019 will be held May 14, July 9, Sept. 10 and Nov. 12, so mark your calendars! The July 9 meeting will be our first ever to be held at the new L.A. Wise Park Pavilion, while the rest are planned for Bissett Elementary. All meetings will start at 6:30, and preceded by the optional pot luck dinner at 6 p.m.

Bissett Bobcats compete in annual SPS math contest

By Pete Radecki, for SGFNN

On Saturday, Feb. 9, more than 100 third, fourth and fifth-grade students from across Springfield competed in the 8th Annual SPS Title I Math Contest at the Westport K-8 school.

Competing for the entire Saturday morning, the tests definitely highlighted our kids’ math skills. After weeks of after-school practice, the Bissett Bobcats had a fantastic showing in all grade levels, placing among the top seven in every area. The third-grade participants filled three of the top seven spots in both Concepts and Problem Solving. The fifth-grade students brought home the third-place trophy in the team competition.

BNA is proud of all of the students who attend Bissett Elementary and congratulate the math team on these great accomplishments!

Bradford Park Neighborhood Spring Cleanup
April 13, 2019: 8 a.m.– Noon
End of Walnut Lawn
(1370 E. Walnut Lawn)
Dellene Nelson (417-882-2801)

Bradford Park Neighborhood
Top 10 SPD Dispatched
Calls for Service in 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Incident Type Description</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Check Well-Being</td>
<td>374</td>
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<tr>
<td>Check Person</td>
<td>213</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Disturbance</td>
<td>155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle Accident, Non-Injury</td>
<td>151</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alarm—Law Only</td>
<td>143</td>
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<tr>
<td>Check Building</td>
<td>123</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vehicle Accident, Injury</td>
<td>76</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stalled Vehicle</td>
<td>70</td>
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<tr>
<td>Domestic Disturbance</td>
<td>68</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stealing</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information about police dispatched calls for service see page 9.

Bissell Neighborhood Association Meetings
April 16 - May 21 - June 18: 6:30 p.m.
@ Immaculate Conception Church
(3555 S. Fremont Ave.)
Unity Church to host Earth Day celebration in Brentwood neighborhood April 26-27

By Donna Hemann, for SGFNN

Unity Church of Springfield will celebrate Earth Day April 26-27 with its Planet Unity event at 2214 E. Seminole St.

Friday night’s festivities are 7-10 p.m. and include live music, beer, wine and snacks, and a preview of Saturday’s events, which center on this year’s Earth Day theme: “Protect Our Species.” Saturday’s festivities are 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Admission is free both days.

The main attractions begin Saturday. There will be earth-friendly and earth-themed products to purchase, an indoor silent auction, craft activities for kids and adults, dancing and drumming, face painting, a children’s bounce house, and healthy lunch options to buy courtesy of Mama Jean’s and Bambinos Café. Live music performed by local bands continues throughout the day, intermixed with guest speakers addressing species preservation and other ecological topics.

A highlight of the event will be an appearance by the Dickerson Park Zoo at noon, which kicks off the guest lecture line-up. Conservation Education Director Pam Price will have several animals on hand, including a sulphur-crested cockatoo, peregrine falcon, a chinchilla and a tortoise. Price will discuss the various threats to these species.

At 2:45 p.m., David Hanke will speak on “The Ecology of Health.” Hanke is director of the 20,000-acre Alford Forest, a sustainable pioneering forest in southern Missouri.

While this is Unity Church’s second year hosting Planet Unity, it is the first year the church has reached out to the Brentwood Neighborhood Association to join forces in promoting the event. The Planet Unity event committee discussed getting the neighborhood more involved and then reached out to Cindy Cook, vice president of the Brentwood Neighborhood Association, to share information and invite the association to participate.

Cook then invited the Church to become business members of the association, which yields the benefits of promoting the event on the association’s website and Facebook page.

Cook was also willing to invite the board to get involved by handing out event flyers.

“This is a win-win,” says Cook. “It helps build relationships in the Brentwood community and builds awareness of and participation in the association.”

Planet Unity is made possible by sponsorship from individuals and businesses. To help support this event and contribute to a cleaner, greener community, go to: planetunityinfo@gmail.com or call the church office at 417-887-2214. To follow Planet Unity, visit facebook.com/planetunityspringfield.

Level Property Tax to fund 4 fire station projects including Fire Station 7

By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor

Two of Springfield’s most underserved areas are getting brand-new fire stations while two of its oldest stations will be demolished and rebuilt, thanks to the renewal of the Level Property Tax in November 2017.

“We are keeping our promise to Springfield voters,” said Fire Chief David Pennington.

Two of the projects – Fire Station 13 in the 1900 block of West College in the West Central neighborhood and Fire Station 14 at the northeast corner of West Chestnut Expressway and North Duke Avenue – are new stations, while two will replace Fire Station 4 at 2423 N. Delaware and Fire Station 7 at 2129 E. Sunshine.

Construction for stations 13 and 4 will begin in March 2020 and will be complete by December 2020. Construction for station 7 will begin in March 2023, with completion projected by December of that year. Bidding and construction for station 14 will be phased out over time as funding is available.

“I am very excited about building two new fire stations in underserved areas of Springfield, both of which have high fire risk,” said Pennington. “These new stations will reduce the amount of travel time for our fire crews to reach emergencies in these areas.”

Pennington said that Fire Stations 4 and 7, which were built in the 1950s and ’60s, have long exceeded their usefulness.

“We look forward to replacing 4 and 7 with modern facilities and equipment,” he said.

The City recently purchased the lots for Fire Station 13 and is working to complete a lot combination and demolition of on-site residential structures.
“FRIENDS AND ALLIES,” BY M. SCOTT PHIFER
Mixed media with spray paint, acrylics and oil pastels

“Friends and Allies,” is an intuitive mixed-media piece,” Phifer says. “Having this piece in the Springfield Art Museum is a great thing. The Springfield Art Museum has always been a place I have enjoyed visiting to see the variety of art and now my piece will be there for others to enjoy.

“NOW, WHERE WAS I?,”
BY KATHERINE BOTTS WHITAKER
Gouache and embroidery floss on canvas

“My Sewing Samplers series uses traditional sewing sampler techniques in a contemporary way. Sewing samplers were at one time foundational to young women’s education. But, in my lifetime, computerized, digitally programmable embroidery machines for home-sewers have always existed,” Botts Whitaker says.

Southeast neighborhoods form SNUG alliance
Group includes Delaware, Meador Park, Brentwood, Rountree, Phelps Grove, University Heights neighborhoods
By Kevin Evans, for SGFNN

Many neighborhoods face similar issues: cleanups, crime, litter, maintenance of infrastructure, potential overdevelopment, traffic-calming, or pretty much any topic that affects the general well-being of businesses, residents and responsible landowners.

Last summer, Delaware, Phelps Grove, and Rountree started a neighborhoods’ Facebook page, “The SNUG,” to discuss these issues. We share common goals of keeping our neighborhoods safe, clean and healthy. The SNUG is loose-fitting acronym for the Southeast Urban Neighborhood Group. The word “snug” comes from the small, private rooms in British pubs, where one can have a quiet conversation away from the boisterousness of the bar. The SNUG Facebook page recently expanded to include Brentwood, Meador Park, and University Heights.

KICKBALL WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT

So, some questions naturally arose, “Who has the best neighborhood? Who has the smartest kids, most athletic adults, cutest critters, etc.?"

It was a simple challenge offered by Delaware to Meador Park Neighborhood Association. Quickly, we (?!) decided it should be settled with the Springfield Neighborhood Kickball “World Championship” Tournament. Rountree and Phelps Grove neighborhoods stepped into the fray, and now on Sunday, April 7, from noon to 6 p.m., these four neighborhood associations will kick it out at Meador Park Sports Complex, 2500 S. Fremont Ave. to see who is the best ... at kickball.

Kids and adults from these neighborhoods, ages 8 and up, are invited to play, cheer, or just come hang out with neighbors. Kick-off is at 1 p.m. for Delaware vs. Meador Park and Rountree vs. Phelps Grove. A championship game will follow. The event is free. Food and refreshments will be available. Donations will be accepted. The event is sponsored by The SNUG and Springfield-Greene County Park Board and other neighborhood businesses. May the best neighborhood win!

Speaking of kickball, maybe Bradford Park, Doling, Heart of the West Side, Woodland Heights, and others might want to field a team next year ...

DELWARE NOW ON BIMONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE

Delaware Neighborhood Association now has bimonthly general meetings (odd months) and board meetings (even months). Both meet on the first Tuesday of the month at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1551 E. Portland St. at 7 p.m. (6:30 p.m. dinner for general meetings). All are welcome at general and board meetings.

Delaware Neighborhood Association Top 10 SPD Dispatched Calls for Service in 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Incident Type Description</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Check Well-Being</td>
<td>98</td>
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<tr>
<td>Check Person</td>
<td>70</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Disturbance</td>
<td>41</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alarm–Law Only</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check Building</td>
<td>33</td>
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<tr>
<td>Domestic Disturbance</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check Vehicle</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle Accident, Non-injury</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assist an Agency</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Found Property</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information about police dispatched calls for service see page 9.
Level Property Tax to fund 4 fire station projects including Fire Station 4

By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor

Two of Springfield’s most underserved areas are getting brand-new fire stations while two of its oldest stations will be demolished and rebuilt, thanks to the renewal of the Level Property Tax in November 2017.

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Pennington said that Fire Stations 4 and 7, which were built in the 1950s and ‘60s, have long exceeded their usefulness.

“We look forward to replacing 4 and 7 with modern facilities and equipment,” he said.

Galloway Village Neighborhood Association leadership and other stakeholders in the Galloway area met with City of Springfield staff in February to plan the community engagement process whereby the City will gather input for the future development of the Galloway/Lone Pine area.

Senior Planner Olivia Hough is leading the engagement process and says the February meeting was a fantastic kick-off.

“We have a great group of folks who are interested in seeing all the possibilities for Galloway while preserving the village’s history and unique character and charm,” Hough says. “Along with people who have chosen to live or do business in Galloway in recent years, we have families who have lived there for generations, starting at the turn of the century when Galloway was a company town operated by the quarry. We look forward to hearing all of the input from this wonderful varied group.”

The stakeholder group (comprised of Galloway Village residents, property owners and business owners; Ozark Greenways; the City’s departments of Public Works, Environmental Services, Planning and Development; and the Springfield-Greene County Park Board) voted to brand the community engagement process “Our Galloway” and selected a...
“My family made a purposeful decision to relocate to Galloway so we would be surrounded by nature, have a larger acreage on which our kids could play, and enjoy the unique characteristics of the valley that set it apart from any other area of Springfield.” – Marcie Kirkup

“I like the feeling of ‘getting away,’” said Firehouse Pottery Owner Amie Vandaamme. “I also appreciate the historic charm and am grateful for the people trying to preserve it.”

Green Circle Projects’ Jessica Pearson said she loves that Galloway has the walkability of a big city, but the feel of a village.

“My family made a purposeful decision to relocate to Galloway so we would be surrounded by nature, have a larger acreage on which our kids could play, and enjoy the unique characteristics of the valley that set it apart from any other area of Springfield,” said Marcie Kirkup, vice president of the neighborhood association. “We relish the tranquility of our neighborhood and the fact that there are deer, turkey, and other wildlife in our yard throughout the day. It’s a slice of heaven.”

The first public input meeting was held March 21 at All Saints Anglican Church. Two additional public meetings are planned for spring and summer to gather input for the future of Galloway, which will be announced via a mailed postcard and on Galloway Village Neighborhood Association’s Facebook page. Please join the neighborhood association’s Facebook group to stay informed about the process. Comments from the meetings and surveys the City conducts, will be posted on the City’s website at springfieldmo.gov/ourgalloway.

Once the public input process is complete, Planning and Development staff will present a report to City Council in late summer with recommendations. The report will be posted at springfieldmo.gov/ourgalloway.

BACKGROUND

In 2014, Springfield City Council adopted a blight study and redevelopment plan for the area north of East Lacuna Street and south to East Republic Road along the 3400 to 4100 blocks of South Lone Pine. Since then, development along the Lone Pine corridor from Battlefield to Republic Road has intensified. The unique topography of the area, along with increased retail and residential multifamily development has brought to light a variety of development issues.

After meeting with interested parties last fall, Zone 4 Councilman Matthew Simpson requested a resolution for an administrative delay for rezoning and lot combinations in the Lone Pine corridor so that City staff could gather input and develop recommendations. The resolution was passed in November 2018. The 270-day development moratorium expires Aug. 2.

HISTORY OF GALLOWAY

(Source: OzarksAlive.com)

Nearly 200 years of history tie to the area today known as Galloway. It’s named for Major Charles Galloway, a Mexican-American War and Civil War veteran who was also a locally well-known farmer and merchant.

However, the first white man in the area is said to have been Jacob Painter. In 1840, abstract records show he spent $200 to purchase 160 acres of land that he later broke up and sold to locals.

Around a half-century later, the area’s main livelihood — its quarry — really took off. It was purchased by Ash Grove Lime Works, (now Ash Grove Concrete) a transaction that seemingly happened in the 1880s.

Upon the purchase, the community grew, thanks to the relocation of employees to the quarry, which also had operations throughout the Ozarks.

The area along today’s Lone Pine Avenue was much different in those days. While the avenue ends near the intersection of U.S. 60 and 65, in the past it went through and was the first road to connect Springfield and Branson. It was a stop on the Chadwick Flyer, a rail route that went between Springfield and the Christian County town of Chadwick.

The area was also popular with tourists. Even in the late 1800s, visitors frequently came out to nearby Fisher’s Cave — at today’s Sequoita Park — for picnics and more.

At one point, the cave was used as a grocery store (operated by the aforementioned Maj. Charles Galloway); to raise mushrooms, rhubarb, celery and frogs, for their legs; and eventually, as a fish hatchery and state park, which spanned 1920 to 1959, when the operation was relocated to Table Rock Lake and the park was donated to the Park Board. Just down the road, Half-a-Hill, a popular dance hall, was added in 1920.

The City of Springfield annexed Galloway in 1969. It has since been home to hundreds of residents; a flock of peacocks; Galloway Baptist Church; several restaurants, bars and tea rooms; the Galloway Creek Greenway Trail, a pottery-painting business and a veterinary clinic.

In the late 1980s, the area became a destination for crafts and antiques, branding itself as Galloway Village. After the blight designation in 2014, three apartment buildings, a retail center and a spa have sprung up along Lone Pine, with other developments planned.

Galloway Village Neighborhood Association became the City’s 20th registered neighborhood in November 2018. The neighborhood associations service area boundaries are Battlefield Road to the north, James River Freeway to the south, U.S. 65 to the east and Glenstone Avenue to the west.

“In my adaptation of the media I use the base and colors that work best for the application method I use. My motivation for this piece originally was to satisfy the adaptation of the Japanese rice paper lantern to a hand-applied study of images in my style that would also be backlit,” he added.

“Harvest,” by John Short

Mixed media, oil and acrylic base

“There are four panels in the lamp and the media I use is mixed, oil base and acrylic base for the reason that some colors of each base may or may not lend to translucent light. Of course, this is not any usage of either one that was ever thought of at development. When painting in reverse with a back light, you are talking about sign cabinets intended for exterior use. The paints used for signage are usually solvent-based translucent colors best for light transmission, sprayed letters, graphic elements and backgrounds,” Short says.

See page 3 for more information about the ART IN OUR CITY ZONE 4 exhibit.
Galloway Village adopts Galloway Creek through Adopt-a-Stream program

By Tanya Willhite-Vaughn & Carrie Lamb, for SGFNN

Galloway Village Neighborhood Association has adopted Galloway Creek through the city’s Adopt-a-Stream program. During the neighborhood’s fall cleanup, it was noted that a large volume of trash had accumulated in the waterway. The Greenspace Committee introduced a motion to join the Adopt-a-Stream program during the January neighborhood meeting. The motion was approved by members present.

As a new Adopt-a-Stream team, the neighborhood’s name will be added to the existing program sign in Sequiota Park. The City will provide supplies such as gloves, trash bags and grabbers for the team to use in the completion of three cleanups a year.

The next cleanup is Saturday, April 13 at 10 a.m. at Sequiota Park. Those interested in joining can check in at Sequiota Park at that time. All are welcome. Join us in keeping our stream clean!

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Grant Beach Food and Family Network offers neighbors food, household assistance

By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor

If you could use some extra help with food and household necessities and are a member of the Grant Beach Neighborhood Association, consider signing up for the Grant Beach Food and Family Network.

The network is a program for low-income GBNA members to receive food and household supplies twice a month. In addition to joining GBNA, participants must donate $5 per pickup and contribute two hours of service per month to the neighborhood association by working concessions at Grant Beach Sports events, working in the Grant Beach Community Garden or manning the Hovey House, for example.

“We have seven families in the network currently,” said Grant Beach resident Yolanda Taylor, who runs the program. “We provide boxed and canned goods, as well as fresh produce and dairy, and we try to ensure a good mix of everything for each family.”

Food for the boxes is provided by Victory Mission, while household supplies such as toilet paper and other necessities is purchased with donations.

The group meets at 12:30 p.m. the Saturday after the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at Hovey House, 800 W. Hovey. For more information, contact Taylor at 417-952-5735.

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Businesses join Grant Beach Neighborhood Association in 2019

Provided by Grant Beach Neighborhood Association

Business members for 2019 include:

- Grant Beach Railroad Museum in Grant Beach Park, Open Saturdays 2-4 p.m. May through October, or by appointment at 417-883-0994.
- Northtown Automotive, 634 W. Commercial
- Pappy’s Place, 943 N. Main
- Grant Avenue Baptist Church and Daycare, 1033 N. Grant

Provided by Grant Beach Neighborhood Association

GBNA made a bylaw change in 2018. Beginning in January 2019, membership in the neighborhood association is $5 per each individual member of the household. One membership equals one vote. We also accept membership dues by PayPal at gbna.pay@gmail.com (be sure to note all of your contact info in the memo) and credit/debit at Hovey House during open hours.
GO GREEN THIS SPRING!

BEST PRACTICES FOR HELPFUL & ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE HOME & YARD CARE

HERE'S WHERE YOU CAN RECYCLE!

YARDWASTE RECYCLING CENTER
3790 S. FARM RD 119

FRANKLIN AVE
731 N. FRANKLIN AVE.

LONE PINE
3020 S. LONE PINE AVE.

HOUSEHOLD CHEMICAL COLLECTION CENTER
1226 W. NICHOLS ST.

BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR FRIENDS AT THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

The Department of Environmental Services protects the natural resources and public health of our City and region for current and future generations by providing effective and efficient integrated management of stormwater, wastewater and solid waste.

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES CONSISTS OF:

STORM WATER
The Stormwater division monitors storm drains, erosion and runoff to help protect the quality of our streams and lakes.

STORMWATER QUALITY
(417) 864.1996
springfieldmo.gov/stormwater
yardethic.com

WASTE WATER
The Wastewater division manages the collection and treatment of the waste in water we flush and pour down the drain.

SEWER EMERGENCIES & ISSUES
(417) 864.1010
AFTER HOURS SEWER EMERGENCY
(417) 864.1923
springfieldmo.gov/sewer

SOLID WASTE
The Solid Waste division integrates various programs and services to help manage and reduce Springfield’s waste stream.

RECYCLING HOTLINE
(417) 864.1904
springfieldmo.gov/solidwaste

SPRING CLEANING
LAWN & GARDEN
WATER QUALITY
HOME COMPOST
SPRING CLEANING

LAWN & GARDEN

It's time to get outside to clean up and beautify your home and yard! Read more about the many resources available to you from Environmental Services and our community partners. Learn more at springfieldmo.gov/environment

NEW PROGRAM!

YARD ETHIC

Investing in a healthy yard - good for you, good for your neighbor.

Join the Yard Ethic community by implementing practices that save money, beautify your yard, conserve water, reduce stormwater pollution and create habitat. You can be Yard Ethic certified by simply completing three or more of the items listed below:

- Test your soil
- Plant for Pollinators
- Harvest the Rain
- Plant a Tree
- Build a Rain Garden
- Compost

Once certified you can show off your commitment proudly with the Yard Ethic certification yard sign! Find more yard maintenance resources and learn more about the certification program at YardEthic.com

LAWN & GARDEN

 Beautify with Butterflies
The City of Springfield serves as a monarch butterfly habitat during their migration from Mexico to Canada. Consider planting milkweed, as it is a natural food source for monarch butterflies. Tell us about your individual efforts by using the Butterfly Habitat Tracker at springfieldmo.gov/stormwater

LAWN & GARDEN

Consider planting beautiful and beneficial natives in your yard.

Native plants are hardy because they are better adapted to the local climate. Native plants often require fewer pesticides, fertilizers, and watering. Not only is this better for our air and water quality, it saves time and money! When planted in rain gardens, natives are more naturally suited to help soak up stormwater runoff. Diverse varieties of birds and butterflies are also attracted to native plants, thus enhancing the biodiversity of the area. Learn more about natives at GrowNative.org

LAWN & GARDEN

Need compost or mulch for landscaping?
The Yardwaste Recycling Center (YRC) creates mulch and compost out of the locally generated plant-based materials received yearly. A true example of sustainable practices - repurposing the materials into beneficial products for the communities use. It's true MO product with MO benefits. Purchase in bulk at the YRC or by bag at the Lone Pine Recycling Center. While supplies last, buy one yard of bulk unscreened mulch at the YRC and get one free.
Add a little green and plant a tree! Trees clean and cool the air, absorb rainwater, lower energy costs, build soil and provide shade and wildlife habitat. Earn your Yard Ethic certification simply by having a specific percentage of tree canopy coverage in your yard.

Don’t have a tree in your yard? You can boost your canopy in your yard by planting new native or fruit/nut trees. Consider using the Neighborwoods program and you may be eligible for a free tree - purchased and planted by the City. 
springfieldmo.gov/Neighborwoods

Springs cleaning
Have a few trees to trim and prune? Bundle up all of those twigs and branches (what they call brush) and dispose of them at the Yardwaste Recycling Center (YRC). These will be repurposed into our MOPOST and MOMULCH products for purchase at the YRC.

All brush should match the following specifications when disposed:
Diameter Brush and limbs up to six inches (6”) in diameter are accepted.
Length Brush and limbs up to four feet (4”) in length are accepted.

Add a little green and plant a tree! Trees clean and cool the air, absorb rainwater, lower energy costs, build soil and provide shade and wildlife habitat. Earn your Yard Ethic certification simply by having a specific percentage of tree canopy coverage in your yard.

Don’t have a tree in your yard? You can boost your canopy in your yard by planting new native or fruit/nut trees. Consider using the Neighborwoods program and you may be eligible for a free tree - purchased and planted by the City. 
springfieldmo.gov/Neighborwoods

It’s not “Spring Cleaning” without going through the garage! This year, as you box up things you don’t need, consider donating items and dispose of recyclables, liquids and other materials responsibly. Check out the Recycling & Donation Locations Guide to find out where to take all of those unwanted items, materials and chemicals. 
Pick up a printed version or view the digital one at springfieldmo.gov/recycling

Harvest the Rain. Not only does it cut back on your water bill, but it is a smart and sustainable way to utilize a resource that otherwise would soak into the ground or run off into the storm drain. Consider purchasing a rain barrel, but save the receipt! You may be eligible for the Right as Rain rain barrel rebate www.jamesriverbasin.com/rain-barrel

Before you start planting, test your soil. The benefits of a healthy lawn go beyond curb appeal and the satisfaction of a job well done. A healthy lawn will create the right environment for plants to thrive while holding the soil in place and allowing water to soak in rather than leave your property as stormwater runoff. Healthy soils will require fewer inputs and amendments, saving you time and money while preventing excess nutrients from entering our waterways.
Let us help you to get started down the path of improving soil health and protecting water quality by providing you with a FREE soil test and FREE three-year nutrient management plan tailored to your yard’s specific needs. 
To see if you qualify, call (417) 836.4847 and go to jamesriverbasin.com/lawn-steward

Resealing your asphalt driveway? Citizens who choose to use asphalt-based sealant when sealing their driveways can elect to showcase the water quality benefits of this choice through a Clean Pavement Initiative yard plaque supplied by the City. Springfield Striping & Sealing, Lazer Perfect Striping & Sealing, and BlackRoads Materials are all participating professionals committed to applying this alternative sealant solution.
Find out more at springfieldmo.gov/CleanPavement

Hosing off the drive or cleaning the car? Don’t forget that the storm drain nearby goes straight to our local streams. It is not intended to be a depository for grass clippings, wax and soap residue or excess fertilizers. Disposing of these in the storm drain is actually against the law! Please take care to bag up your yardwaste and not rinse any chemicals or trash into the storm drains. 
Report clogs or pollution in City storm drains by calling (417) 864.1010
In Springfield, food waste is the second largest component of our collective waste stream, accounting for over 12% of the waste that makes it to the landfill every day. That’s over 31,000 tons of food and organic material being sent to our landfill every year. Dish to Dirt is a home composting program that allows us to educate and engage the community on this topic, but to also institute new practices and behaviors at home. Sign up for notifications of future courses, tips, resources and more at springfieldmo.gov/homecomposting

Keto may be working for you, but it doesn’t work for the drain!
We won’t disagree that bacon is delicious, but we will disagree that the sink is the proper destination for all of the grease and fat that comes with cooking it. Fats, oils and greases should never be washed down the sink. Put them in a container or bag (tied tightly) and dispose of them in your trash.

I have a garbage disposal, so I can put anything down the drain, right?
Simply put, wrong. Food should never go down the drain, but we understand occasional crumbs and food waste may happen. When possible, avoid tossing the following down the disposal:
- Milk
- Eggshells
- Yogurt
- Sour cream
- Dressings
- Fats
- Oils
- Grease
- Fruit scraps
- Coffee grounds

Learn about our Fats, Oils & Grease Management Plan at springfieldmo.gov/sewer

NO WIPES DOWN THE PIPES!
Sure, they say they are flushable, but take a closer look at the fine print. These are NOT intended to go down your toilet or drain and are a dangerous ingredient to sewer clogs and backups. Feminine hygiene products and other so-called flushable products, such as doggy-doo bags, should NEVER be flushed down the drain!

Sanitary Sewer Laterals are the pipes that connect every home and business to the public sanitary sewer system. Wastewater from toilets, sinks and appliances go down the drain and run through the lateral; into the City’s sewer line and toward a wastewater treatment plant.

Why is this important for homeowners to know?
The sewer lateral is actually the property owner’s responsibility. When a lateral is broken or blocked, the owner is required to manage the repairs and maintenance. In fact, the City of Springfield’s Environmental Services Department highly recommends that all homebuyers schedule a sewer lateral inspection to identify any existing or potential issues before purchasing a home. Learn more at springfieldmo.gov/SewerLaterals

It’s the time of year that motivates us to clean... even under the sink.
Often enough, random household cleaners find themselves under here, pushed back out of reach and out of sight. Maybe they are aging or you just don’t need them anymore, but don’t put them in your trash. Instead, make an appointment with the Household Chemical Collection Center (HCCC) by calling (417) 864.2000

Let them handle your household chemicals and ensure they are disposed of safely and responsibly; keeping these materials out of the landfill and our region’s water supply.
Division & Grant intersection improvements to begin in April
By Kristen Milam, Public Information, for SGFNN

The busy Division Street and Grant Avenue intersection will receive $2.2 million in improvements this spring.

The Division Street and Grant Avenue Intersection Improvement Project will include traffic signal and crossing signal replacements, as well as Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-compliant sidewalks, stormwater infrastructure and pavement improvements. Construction is expected to wrap up in June.

“Upgrades to the traffic signals at Division and Grant will provide needed improvements with signal timings and traffic flow through the intersection,” says Public Works Engineer Alexis Walker. “This project will also provide ADA-friendly features and help increase pedestrian safety.”

Motorists can expect one weekend closure of the intersection to complete the stormwater infrastructure component of the project. Pavement improvements will warrant various daytime closures near the end of the project. Sidewalks will also be closed periodically for the compliance improvements.

The project will be paid for through the voter-approved ¼-cent Capital Improvement Sales Tax.

Primrose Street widening expected to begin in April
By Kristen Milam, Public Information, for SGFNN

The Primrose Street Widening Project, the last phase in a series of improvement projects aimed at reducing traffic congestion through the busy southwest Springfield corridor, will begin this spring.

The project includes widening Primrose Street to five lanes between South Avenue and Kimbrough Avenue, adding bike lanes on both sides of the roadway, constructing Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant sidewalks and installing new traffic signals at Jefferson Avenue and Primrose Street. Also involved is the construction of new City Utilities gas and water facilities and the installation of a sewer main to provide service to Kickapoo High School’s athletic facilities.

The public can expect Primrose Street to be open to traffic during the day, but various nightly closures are anticipated. Closures of Jefferson Avenue and South Avenue, adjacent to Primrose Street, are also expected during a portion of the project.

The project is expected to be complete in late fall.

Utilities improvements involved in the project will be reimbursed by City Utilities, with sanitary sewer improvements being funded by Springfield Public Schools. The remaining costs for the project will be funded through the City’s voter-approved ¼-cent Capital Improvement Sales Tax. The contractor is Hartman & Company.

Greater Parkcrest Neighborhood Association
Top 10 SPD Dispatched Calls for Service in 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Incident Type Description</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Check Well-Being</td>
<td>340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Disturbance</td>
<td>215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check Person</td>
<td>147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestic Disturbance</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicular Accident, Non-injury</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check Vehicle</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abandoned 911 Call</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information about police dispatched calls for service see page 9.
HEART OF THE WESTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD

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

Neighborhood Association Meetings
April 11 • June 13: 6 – 7 p.m. @ Passion Assembly of God (806 N. Forest)

A neighborhood is about the people, not the boundaries

Provided by Heart of the Westside Neighborhood Association

The Heart of the Westside neighborhood invites you to be a part of making our neighborhood a great place to live in Springfield. We are involved with providing events throughout the year such as the Easter Egg Hunt, Block Parties, Bar-B-Qs and other fun activities for the whole family. Additionally, the Association works to obtain grants for special projects such as neighborhood cleanup and enhancements to our area. We work closely with our Police Area Representative, Caring Communities, the City of Springfield, other neighborhood associations and more to learn and grow together.

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

MEADOR PARK NEIGHBORHOOD

Connect
- Bobbi Ream, President: MPNAMO@yahoo.com or 417-883-3438
- Will Carter, Vice President
- Jeremy Medley, Secretary
- Donna Clarkson, Treasurer

Neighborhood Association Meetings
April 3 • May 1 • May 5 • July 3: 6 p.m.
@ Cowden Elementary School (2927 S. Kimbrough Ave.) June & July meetings will be at a different location.

Meador Park looks forward to kickball challenge, summer meetings

By Bobbi Ream, for SGFNN

KICKBALL TOURNEY APRIL 7

Registration starts at noon at Meador Park Softball Complex with kick-off at 1 p.m.

Meador Park, Phelps and Rountree Neighborhoods have been challenged by the Delaware Neighborhood Association to a little fun. There is a catch: Delaware is sure they can field a better kickball team than any of the rest of us, trouble is they may be right. All we need to prove them wrong is to put a better team on the field. Nothing to that, right? We only need coaches, players, and a cheering section. We do have a copy of the rules, a date, time and place. Well, at least that is a start.

Players can be from 8 (under 18 need parents present, giving permission) to 80. Meador Park welcomes all comers (any neighborhood) to our team. If we get more players than we need for a team, no problem, we will rotate players in and out of the game. Ringers are welcome and needed.

We are going to have a little music (no big amps please). Bring your instrument and be there. Bring your appetite! We are going to have hamburgers and hotdogs with the trimmings. Donations will be accepted.

The Springfield-Greene County Park Board is a co-sponsor for this event; providing the fields, the necessary field preparation and some equipment. We are soliciting financial sponsorships. If you are interested in contributing, please contact MPNAMO@yahoo.com.

ADSCENE

AdScene – Yes that wonderful little bundle of advertisements wrapped in plastic and placed in our front yards, garden beds, or sometimes in our driveways on a weekly basis.

In the Meador Park neighborhood, we are looking for a few heroes. These are the people who will just pick them up. When you take a little stroll, just take a few of those awful supermarket...
by Kristen Milam, Public Information, for SGFNN

CU begins electrical work along Fremont Avenue to prep for roadway improvement project

By Kristen Milam, Public Information, for SGFNN

City Utilities began relocating electric lines located along Fremont Avenue in February in preparation for the Battlefield Road and Fremont Avenue Intersection and Roadway Improvement Project, anticipated in 2020.

This project will include the widening of Fremont Avenue to five lanes between Battlefield Road and Sunset Street. Improvements will also be made at the Battlefield Road and Fremont Avenue intersection, with traffic signal upgrades and additional turn lanes.

Pedestrian improvements will include new sidewalks north and south along Battlefield, east along Fremont and the addition of multi-use path on the west side of Fremont Avenue. CU will install new steel street light poles on the east side of Fremont Avenue in conjunction with the roadway project.

The roadway improvements project, which has an estimated cost of $5 million, is funded through the voter-approved ¼-cent Capital Improvement Sales Tax.

Meet Lori Situ, speech language pathologist at Boyd and York elementary schools

Provided by Springfield Public Schools

Why are speech services so critically important to children?

“We all have frustrating moments when our message isn’t understood, or we have difficulty comprehending someone else’s message. For children with speech and language impairments, these communication breakdowns can happen several times a day. The breakdowns can affect speaking, listening, reading and writing. They can be frustrating, embarrassing and defeating for the student. Speech and language services are designed to address the roots of these breakdowns and help with both academic success and self-esteem.”
Want to submit an article about your neighborhood? Let your neighborhood president or other representative know!

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

Stormwater improvement project near Oak Grove neighborhood to wrap up before summer

By Kristen Milam, Public Information, for SGFNN

The Gelven Withers Stormwater Improvement project, located roughly along Catalpa Street between John Avenue and Gelven Avenue near the Oak Grove neighborhood, is set to wrap up before summer. Construction began in November 2018 and is expected to be complete by mid-May.

The project includes the construction of new stormwater sewer piping, curb inlets, area inlets and paving along John Avenue, Gelven Avenue and Catalpa Street. Existing stormwater detention areas along John Avenue will be regraded and new detention excavated along the west side of the street.

Gas and water utility relocations were also necessary in order to make way for the new stormwater infrastructure.

“There were enough flooding concerns in the Gelven Withers area that this became a priority project,” explains Stormwater Engineer Julie Hawkins. “This project will help address a lot of those concerns.”

“This area is unique because it has the Craig Sinkhole which is one of the few sinkholes that has a city-maintained pump that pumps the water out and through stormwater infrastructure to an area further downstream,” Hawkins continues. “Part of the additional water detention being constructed is around this sinkhole and will further address flooding.”

As the project continues, Oak Grove residents can still expect a few short-term road closures at the intersection of Catalpa Street and Gelven Avenue and along Gelven Avenue between Grand Street and Catalpa Street.

This project is funded through the voter-approved ¼-cent Capital Improvement Sales Tax.
Update to Phelps Grove Neighborhood Plan and UCD to go before City Council in April

By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor

City staff and Phelps Grove neighbors are nearing the finish line on an update to the Phelps Grove Neighborhood Plan and Urban Conservation District (UCD), originally adopted in 1997.

The process began in October 2018 with a public planning workshop in the neighborhood. Attendees broke up into 11 teams and participated in a hands-on activity to provide feedback on seven topic areas for consideration in the planning process.

An open house followed in January to give residents and property owners an opportunity to review the preliminary recommendations and learn more about the planning study.

A second open house followed in February to provide residents with the opportunity to review and comment on the final plan recommendations staff will bring forward to the Planning and Zoning Commission and City Council in the spring as part of the update to the Neighborhood Plan and modifications to the Phelps Grove Urban Conservation District.

Senior City Planner Alana Owen presented the proposed updates and recommendations.

SIGNIFICANT RECOMMENDATIONS

Establish a minimum lot width requirement of 40 feet for the development or redevelopment of existing nonconforming (grandfathered) lots within the Phelps Grove UCD.

Establish residential infill and rehabilitation regulations for all new construction, exterior remodel and rehabilitation of residential properties in the Phelps Grove UCD.

Both actions will require an amendment to the existing UCD. Based on feedback received at the various public engagement meetings, the neighborhood is in support of these recommendations.

“The key goals moving forward in the update to the plan reflect the ongoing priorities of the neighborhood, including the desire to maintain the single-family residential character of the neighborhood, preserving the existing housing stock, and reducing the impacts of student housing and rental properties within the neighborhood.” – Alana Owen

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

• The Phelps Grove Neighborhood should continue to actively participate in a variety of programs and efforts aimed at discouraging overcrowding and nuisance violations that contribute to the deterioration of the neighborhood character.

• The neighborhood should pursue support from property owners to initiate the development of a Community Improvement District (CID) that can fund public improvements, such as buried utilities, alley improvements, traffic calming projects, and pedestrian scale lighting improvements.

• The neighborhood should enact an amendment to their bylaws extending their neighborhood association boundaries west to Campbell Avenue to align more closely with the boundaries of the Neighborhood Service Area.

• The cooperative agreement between Missouri State University and the City of Springfield has not been reviewed in over a decade. The City and university should consider pursuing completion of the agreement in cooperation with MSU’s Long-Range Plan 2016-2021 Visioning Guide.

• The neighborhood should continue to actively participate in a variety of programs and efforts aimed at discouraging overcrowding and nuisance violations that contribute to the deterioration of the neighborhood character.

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• The neighborhood should identify strategies to maintain and grow the neighborhood’s public street tree canopy.

• The neighborhood should further study to determine if there is interest and support for the designation of a local national historic district for properties and places in the neighborhood, not already designated.

• The neighborhood should encourage the City to be vigilant with sidewalk maintenance and to construct and maintain sidewalks where replacement is needed and where gaps exist in the system.

• The neighborhood should work with City Utilities to encourage improvements to the street lighting system to increase night-time visibility at the street and sidewalk level.

To view the significant findings, survey results, proposed updates and final recommendations in full, please visit springfieldmo.gov/phelps.
Phelps Grove’s Art in the Garden Tour set for June 9

By Vicky Trippe, for SGFNN

Lovers of nature, art and architecture will all find something to enjoy during the Phelps Grove Neighborhood Art in the Garden Tour on Sunday, June 9, from 1 to 4 p.m.

The Phelps neighborhood is defined by tree-shaded streets lined with Craftsman style, bungalow and four-square homes whose residents tend to beautiful gardens, both street-side and behind their homes.

During Art in the Garden, local artists display and sell their work in numerous front or back yards or even on front porches, and visitors are invited to tour the gardens and enjoy the flowers, art, and live music, which will be performed in some of the gardens.

Tickets of $10 each can be purchased at the corner of Kings and Bennett, and free parking will be available at the Springfield Art Museum. Maps of the garden locations and descriptions of the art being displayed will be given to those who buy tickets.

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

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

Robberson Neighborhood Association
Top 10 SPD Dispatched Calls for Service in 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Incident Type Description</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Check Well-Being</td>
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<td>Check Person</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Disturbance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Domestic Disturbance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assist an Agency</td>
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<tr>
<td>Check Building</td>
<td>143</td>
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<tr>
<td>Domestic Assault</td>
<td>102</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assist a Person</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential Burglary</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check Vehicle</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information about police dispatched calls for service see page 9.

Robberson Neighborhood Spring Cleanup
May 4, 2019: 8 a.m.– Noon
Central Baptist Church
2148 N. National Ave.
Phyllis Evans (417-866-1087)

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

Robberson Neighborhood Association Meetings
April 25 - May 23 - June 27: 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
@ Pathways United Methodist Church
(1252 E. Dale St.)

Phelps Grove Park
950 E. Bennett St.

Bark in the Park
Saturday, April 27
10 a.m.–2 p.m.
Phelps Grove Park
950 E. Bennett St.

The PARK
SPRINGFIELD-GILLESPIE COUNTY PARK BOARD
The PARK
CRUSE DOG PARK
ParkBoard.org

Enjoy an exciting day with your family and beloved canine!
Guided Dog Walk
Canine Vendor Village
Art and Demonstrations
Proceeds benefit Cruse Dog Park.

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


Library hosts bi-monthly true-crime book club at Tie & Timber

By Kathleen O’Dell, for SGFNN

If you love a good, true-crime tale once in a while, there’s a book club for you in the Rountree neighborhood.

Miranda Eudaly, a reference librarian with the Springfield-Greene County Libraries, hosts the My Favorite Crime Book Club every other month for age 21 and older at Tie & Timber Beer Co., 1451 E. Cherry St. The next meet-up is at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 15.

There are no dues and no one takes attendance in this club, Miranda says. It’s just a casual gathering that started in January with six attendees to talk about the selected title, “Road to Jonestown: Jim Jones and Peoples Temple,” by Jeff Guinn.

Eudaly consults attendees for help choosing the next read.

“I try to make sure our books explore different types of crimes, not just high-profile murder cases,” she says.


THE STORY

Fueled by a lifelong obsession, Appleman tells of his 10-year investigation of what became known as the Oakland County Child Killings.

“True crime is a flourishing genre right now, and I keep a list of options to draw from when I’m scheduling our get-togethers,” Eudaly says. “It’s a hefty list with over 100 books, all of them about real crimes throughout history. And although it’s so hard to choose just one for each meeting, selecting books is one of my favorite parts of running a book club!”

Reservations aren’t required; call 616-0531 for more information. The upcoming title is available in regular and large-print format at thelibrary.org/catalog.

Not into crime stories? The Library hosts a variety of book discussion groups on other topics at the branches and offsite. Visit thelibrary.org/bookdiscussions to learn more.
University Heights becomes Springfield’s 21st registered neighborhood

By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor

The City of Springfield welcomes University Heights Neighborhood Association as its 21st registered neighborhood.

This designation means that a neighborhood association has provided the City with proof that the organization is active; and, that it has made efforts to involve residents and property owners from throughout the neighborhood in activities.

Registered neighborhoods receive the following from the City’s Planning & Neighborhoods Office:

- Mailing labels with a master copy of all local addresses (and property owners addresses) that fall within the boundaries of the neighborhood.
- Service request data: a report is issued monthly and contains all citizens’ code complaints targeting areas within the neighborhood boundaries.
- Area zoning notices: registered neighborhoods are notified of any zoning requests and updates within the area. This information is provided by the Development Review Office of the City’s Planning Department.
- Neighborhood programs information: notices of neighborhood programs that the City or participating organizations offer.

Neighborhoods Office staff can provide residents with many resources to make neighborhood associations successful. Is your neighborhood interested in registering with the City? Contact Senior Planner Alana Owen with any questions at 417-864-1831 or aowen@springfieldmo.gov.

University Heights’ boundaries are Bennett Street/Brookside Street on the north, National Avenue on the east, Campbell Avenue on the west and Sunshine Street on the south. The association meets at 5:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month at the Springfield Art Museum, 1111 E. Brookside Drive.

Top 10 SPD Dispatched Calls for Service in 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Incident Type Description</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Check Person</td>
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<td>General Disturbance</td>
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<td>Domestic Disturbance</td>
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<td>Check Building</td>
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For more information about police dispatched calls for service see page 9.
Weller Neighborhood Association
Top 10 SPD Dispatched Calls for Service in 2018

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<th>Incident Type Description</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
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<td>Check Building</td>
<td>84</td>
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<td>Check Vehicle</td>
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<td>Alarm–Law Only</td>
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<td>Residential Burglary</td>
<td>58</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assist an Agency</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestic Assault</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

For more information about police dispatched calls for service see page 9.

West Central Neighborhood Association
Top 10 SPD Dispatched Calls for Service in 2018

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<th>Incident Type Description</th>
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<td>Check Person</td>
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<td>Domestic Disturbance</td>
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<td>Check Vehicle</td>
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<td>Assault</td>
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<td>Assist a Person</td>
<td>212</td>
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<tr>
<td>Residential Burglary</td>
<td>184</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information about police dispatched calls for service see page 9.
Specialty sign business shows its stripes in the Westside neighborhood

By Joe Roberds, for SGFNN

Along the historic Westside Route 66 corridor is a business that may not be readily noticed or regularly patronized by most people, but the building contains workers who produce a much sought-after craft and skill for customers throughout the area seeking these specialized services.

The business, Stripes LTD (lettering, tapes, design) is located at 1800 W. College and is owned by longtime Springfield resident Dick Harper. The building was originally a residence that was built in 1917 that has been converted into the business with the addition of a service bay area. Stripes began operation in 1985 and moved to the current Westside location in 2003.

Most likely you have seen products produced by Stripes on vehicles and businesses. Stripes produces graphic lamination that is applied to vehicles showing the information such as business names and services offered by the customer requesting the service. The business also produces signs ranging in size from yard signs to street side business signs. In addition, Stripes also produces magnetic signs of various sizes that can be placed on vehicles and removed as needed.

Another service that is growing is the creation or reproduction of classic vehicle decals. Often these classic vehicle decals can no longer be obtained from the vehicle manufacturer and Stripes offers a solution. This service is sought by vehicle body shops and people who restore classic vehicles.

Check for additional information at stripesltd.com or on Facebook.

Harper is proud to have this business on the west Route 66 corridor and to be a part of celebrating the heritage of the history of Route 66 while looking forward with hopeful optimism for additional recognition for the area.

Westside has many older buildings along the Route 66 corridor that have historical significance to the area. Harper, along with many others, have made the decision to invest in businesses in Westside. This investment trend will continue and make the Westside corridor a destination rather than a pass-through area, if we all support Westside businesses.

Preliminary work begins for the Mount Vernon Street Bridge Replacement Project

By Kristen Milam, Public Information, for SGFNN

Utility relocations and tree removals in preparation for the replacement of the Mount Vernon Street Bridge just west of Kansas Expressway began in early March. Road closures are expected periodically throughout this site preparation work.

The bridge replacement project will remove and replace the structurally deficient Mount Vernon Street bridge, add sidewalks compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act and connect the existing multi-use trail to Mount Vernon Street. The project will also provide bank stabilization and increased flow capacity to Jordan Creek.

“Like the recent Grand Street Bridge Replacement Project, the Mount Vernon Street Bridge project will be multi-faceted,” explains Public Works Engineer Andrew Flippin. “It will not only improve the function of the bridge, but it will also add pedestrian safety and accessibility features and help increase stormwater capacity along the creek.”

Construction on the project is anticipated to begin in April. At the start of construction, motorists and pedestrians can expect Mount Vernon Street to be shut down for approximately three months.

For more information about police dispatched calls for service see page 9.
‘Citizen cop’ receives President’s Citizen Award after coming to aid of SPD officer last summer

By Lyndal Scranton, for SGFNN

Woodland Heights resident Jerry Pendergrass doesn’t consider himself a hero, though his actions last summer potentially saved the life of a Springfield police officer.

For his quick-thinking actions, Pendergrass received the Missouri Police Chiefs Association’s prestigious “President’s Citizen Award” during a ceremony in Jefferson City.

Pendergrass, a conceal-and-carry gun owner, turned citizen cop last summer when he came to the aid of Officer Andy Zinke after a suspect drew his gun on Zinke. The incident concluded in Pendergrass’ back yard in north Springfield.

The instinctive act during Zinke’s foot pursuit of a gun-toting suspect who had already fired shots at police who were chasing him after reports the suspect had been attempting to break into homes in the neighborhood.

“I still once a day go ‘wow, that happened,’” Pendergrass said. “I have various thoughts. The world has changed. I feel like God placed me there. I’m no cop. I just reacted.”

The suspect already had fired at another officer. During those potentially key seconds, the instinctive act during Zinke’s foot pursuit of a gun-toting suspect who had already fired shots at police who were chasing him after reports the suspect had been attempting to break into homes in the neighborhood.

“The gun and we shot him.”

“The suspect had already fired shots at police who were chasing him after reports the suspect had been attempting to break into homes in the neighborhood.”

“With me saying that, Zinke was able to stop moving around and bring his attention back and it was at the same time that he brought his attention back that we both ended up—the man reached for the gun and we shot him.”

Zinke told KY3 that it was a blessing to have Jerry step up.

“Not a lot of people would do something like that,” Zinke said. “Certainly, we don’t encourage people to do that, people without training, but what Jerry did on his own, the bravery that he showed—it was something pretty remarkable that day, and I was blessed to have him over there.”

Pendergrass said he keeps the award on his wall in the living room and sees it every day. The impact of his actions didn’t really hit home until the banquet in Jefferson City.

“Again, I’m not a hero,” he said. “Until going to the dinner, I didn’t realize the impact that I had made in that officer’s life, his wife’s life … until I heard his side of the story and how he recalls it.”

“The biggest thing, it doesn’t matter where I am, I want to remind people to be kind to each other. Make sure you’re doing your part.”
From noon-1 p.m., a Healthy Living for Seniors lunch program will be provided by SeniorAge Area Agency on Aging’s Choice Presenters. A $3.50 lunch donation to SeniorAge is encouraged. To register call 417-616-0683


Bass Pro Shops Pre-1840s Outdoor Days: April 7: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Lake Springfield Park, 3324 S. Kissick Ave. Come visit the Primitive Skills Village Program Decennial; interactive activities and demonstrations will include Dutch-oven cooking, blacksmithing, soap making, woodcarving and more!

Nick Cave: April 6-July 28, Springfield Art Museum, 1111 E. Brookside Dr. Nick Cave is a multi-disciplinary artist working between the visual and performing arts through a wide range of mediums including sculpture, installation, video, sound and performance. He is well known for the ‘Soundsuits’ series, sculptural forms based on the scale of his body. Opening Reception: April 5: 5:30-7 p.m.


Easter at the Farm: April 13: 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Rutledge-Wilson Farm Park, 3825 W. Farm Rd. 146. A day of family-oriented activities celebrating spring, including arts and crafts, inflatables, games and the Easter Bunny. We’ll have more than 20,000 eggs filled with candy and prizes, with Egg Hunts throughout the day for ages 3-9. Kids are limited to 15 eggs each, while supplies last. Bring your basket and your camera for pictures with the Easter Bunny. Fee: Free (some activities have a small fee.)

Party for the Planet: April 20: 10 a.m-2 p.m., Dickerson Park Zoo, 1401 W. Norton Rd. Celebrate Earth Day at Dickerson Park Zoo with hands-on conservation learning stations and zookeeper chats. Families with children from infants-grade 12. Fee Day Admission: $15/adults and teens, $10/3-12 yrs., $12/60 yrs. and up. Free/2 yrs. and under and FOZ members.

Art in Bloom: Public viewing hours: April 27: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and April 28: 1-5 p.m. Springfield Art Museum, 1111 E. Brookside Dr. This festival celebrates fine art and fantastic floral displays, inviting floral designers from throughout the region to imaginatively interpret works of art on view in the museum’s galleries and present them alongside those works for your enjoyment.

* Family Fun Night: April 25: 4-8 p.m. Create seed bombs, learn about Ozark native plants, get your face painted, grab dinner from Queen City Wine Dive’s pop up diner and enjoy entertainment including special appearances from Princesses of the 417!


Master Gardener and Garden Society Plant Sale: April 27: 8 a.m.-2 p.m., Springfield Botanical Center, 2400 S. Scenic Ave. Presented by the Master Gardeners of Greene County and other garden societies. Sale includes annuals, perennials, vegetables, herbs, bulbs, grasses, vines, ground covers, shrubs and trees. Master Gardeners accept credit cards. Other societies accept cash or check only. Fee: Free admission, prices vary per plant.

Bark in the Park: April 27: 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Phelps Grove Park, 950 E. Bennett St. A fun and relaxing day in Phelps Grove Park with your family and your beloved dog. Enjoy demos and other activities at the Canine Vendor Village. All ages welcome! Vendors must register by April 19. Proceeds benefit Cruise Dog Park.

Community-Wide Play Day: April 27: 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Fasnight Park, 1301 S. Campbell Ave. Fun-filled day with free activities for families with children 12 and under. Rain or shine. Free book for every child. Food trucks will be on-site. Sponsored by Community Partnership of the Ozarks and the Springfield-Greene County Park Board.

Events are free unless otherwise noted.

PTA Clothing Bank: Open most Thursdays and some Saturdays from 9-11 a.m. and 2:30-5 p.m. Study Alternative Center, 2343 W. Olive St. Any student who is signed up for free or reduced lunch can shop at the PTA Clothing Bank. Please call, email or see your school nurse in person at school to request a referral to the Clothing Bank before visiting. Volunteers are always needed!

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. 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.

Events are free unless otherwise noted.

All School Exhibition: Closes April 28, Springfield Art Museum, 1111 E. Brookside Dr. Every March, the Springfield Art Museum invites student artists from across our community, in kindergarten through 12th grades, to exhibit outstanding artwork. A celebration of Youth Art Month, this highly anticipated show has been a staple of our exhibition schedule for well over forty years. By showcasing students’ work in one of its primary gallery spaces, the museum seeks to highlight the importance of arts education and honor the accomplishments of young artists.

Senior Social: Garden Time: April 4: 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Library Station, 2533 N. Kansas Expwy, Frisco Room. For adults age 60 and older. Enjoy social time and refreshments during this come-and-go event.

技术和资源
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 Commissioner: April 18: 8:30-9:30 a.m., Traveller’s House Coffee and Tea, 824 S. National Ave. Join the Mayor’s Commission on Human Rights and Community Relations to learn more about the work in progress in the Racial Equity subcommittee and ask your questions about our other projects.

Coffee with the Chief: March 29 7-8:30 a.m., Eurasia Coffee and Tea, 445 E. Commercial St. • April 17: 7-8:30 a.m., Classic Rock Coffee, 1900 W. Sunset St. 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.

HEALTH & WELLNESS
Events are free unless otherwise noted.

PTA Clothing Bank: Open most Thursdays and some Saturdays from 9-11 a.m. and 2:30-5 p.m. Study Alternative Center, 2343 W. Olive St. Any student who is signed up for free or reduced lunch can shop at the PTA Clothing Bank. Please call, email or see your school nurse in person at school to request a referral to the Clothing Bank before visiting. Volunteers are always needed!

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.
by award-winning watercolor artist Dean Mitchell. 

**Opening Reception:** June 6: 5:30 p.m. sponsored by Southwest Missouri Museum Associates. 

**Butterfly Festival with Young Sprouts in the Garden:** June 22: 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Springfield Botanical Gardens, 2400 S. Scenic Ave. Celebrate gardening, nature and butterflies. Visit the Dr. Bill Roston Native Butterfly House and caterpillar petting zoo, observe ladybugs and more. Free admission, including to the Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden.

**Summer SnowFest:** June 22: Noon-4 p.m., Jordan Valley Park, 633 E. Trafficway. Who says summer can’t have snow? SnowFest features a mountain of snow from Jordan Valley Ice Park. The Springfield Regional Arts Council partners to present Free Art Day, with interactive art projects. Bring the whole family and your mittens and play in the snow.

**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: April 9, May 14: 6:30-7:30 p.m./6 p.m. optional potluck, Bissett Elementary School, 3014 W. Calhoun. July 9: 6:30-7:30 p.m./6 p.m. optional potluck, L.A. Wise Park Pavilion, 3014 W. Calhoun.

Bissett Street Cleanup: Hillcrest Ave. from Nichols to Chestnut: April 27, 9 a.m. We’ll meet at the intersection of Nichols and Hillcrest. Garbage bags will be provided, along with reflective vests for safety, but please bring your own work gloves and closed-toed shoes or boots. We expect the cleanup to take between one to three hours depending on how many people show up.

Bissett Neighborhood Cleanup: June 1: 8 a.m.-noon, Bissett Elementary School, 3014 W. Calhoun St. The cleanup will take place outside rain or shine. Items accepted are trash, brush and metal. Curbside pickup is available, however, fees may apply. To schedule a curbside pickup, please contact Pete Radecki at 417-988-1257.

**BRADFORD PARK**

Bradford Park Neighborhood Association Meeting: April 16, May 21, June 18: 6:30 p.m., Immaculate Conception Church, 3555 S. Fremont.

Bradford Park Neighborhood Cleanup: April 13: 8 a.m.-noon, End of Walnut Lawn, 1370 E. Walnut Lawn St. The cleanup takes place outside, rain or shine. Items accepted are trash, brush, leaves, tires, metal and TVs (fees may apply for TVs). Curbside pickup is available, but fees may apply. To schedule a pickup contact Dellenie Nelson at 417-882-2801.

Bradford Park Neighborhood Garage Sale: June 7-8. Call Janet at 417-882-1241 if you have unwanted items you would like to donate to benefit the association.

**BRENTWOOD**

Brentwood Neighborhood Association Meeting: April 8, May 13, June 16: 6:30 p.m., Schweitzer Brentwood Branch Library, 2214 S. Brentwood Blvd.

**DELAWARE**

Delaware Neighborhood Association Meeting: May 7, July 2: 7-8 p.m., optional dinner starts at 6:30 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1551 E. Portland.

Delaware Neighborhood Association Board Meeting: April 2, June 4: 7-8 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1551 E. Portland. Meetings are open to the public.

**Southeast Neighborhoods Kickball Tournament:** April 7: 1-6 p.m., Meador Park, 2500 S. Fremont Ave. Delaware Neighborhood Association has issued a challenge to Meadow Park Neighborhood Association to play kickball. The Rountree and Phelps Grove neighborhoods have joined in too. All residents, families with children age 8 and up, businesses and landowners are invited to play. Burgers, regular and veggie, will be served. Contact delawareneighborhood@gmail.com for more details or sign up on your neighborhood association’s Facebook page.

**DOLING**

Doling Neighborhood Association Meetings: April 9, May 14, June 11: 6:45-8 p.m., optional potluck starts at 6 p.m., Hillcrest Presbyterian Church, 818 E. Norton Rd.

Doling Neighborhood Garage Sale: April 20: 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Maps of participating homes will be available the morning of the sale at the big yellow house at the corner of Talmage and Grant. If you are a Doling resident and would like to host a garage sale, please contact Melissa Gallian at 417-440-0280 or the Doling Neighborhood Association at dolingna@gmail.com. In case of inclement weather, the rain date will be scheduled for April 27.

Doling Neighborhood Cleanup: May 4: 8 a.m.-noon, Christ the King Church, 2537 N. Broadway Ave. The cleanup will take place outside, rain or shine. Items accepted are trash, brush, tires, TVs and Metal. Curbside pickup is available, but fees may apply. To schedule a curbside pickup, please contact Christina Dicken at 417-841-7273.

**GALLOWAY VILLAGE**

Galloway Village Neighborhood Association Meetings: April 16, July 16: 6:30 p.m., Galloway Baptist Church, 2816 E. Republic Rd. Meetings are quarterly. Special meetings may be called as needed.

Galloway Creek Adopt-a-Stream Cleanup: April 13: 10 a.m., Sequiota Park, 3500 S. Lone Pine Ave. All are welcome. Join us in keeping our stream clean.

**GRANT BEACH**

Grant Beach Produce Distribution: 2:30 p.m. Thursdays, The Fairbanks, 1126 N. Broadway Ave. Fresh produce delivered by Ozarks Food Harvest and distributed at The Fairbanks every Thursday. Participants are required to join Springfield Community Gardens for $5 per year. Membership forms are available at the distribution. Contact Shelley Vaugine at 617-877-7836.

Grant Beach Community Dinner: Thursdays and Sundays: 5:15-6 p.m., The Drew Lewis Foundation at the Fairbanks, 1126 N. Broadway Ave. Free dinner. Free childcare. Free resources to support you and your family.

**GREATER PARKCREST**

Greater Park Crest Neighborhood Association Meeting: Meetings are held on an as-needed basis at 6:30 p.m. at The Way Church, 903 W. Katella St. Contact a neighborhood officer to find out the next scheduled meeting.

**HEART OF THE WESTSIDE**

Heart of the Westside Neighborhood Association Meetings: April 11, June 13: 6-7 p.m., Passion Assembly of God Church, 806 N. Forest.

**MEADOR PARK**

Meador Park Neighborhood Association Meetings: April 3, May 1, June 5, July 3: 6 p.m., Cowden Elementary School, 2927 S. Kimbrough Ave. June and July meetings will be at different location.

Southeast Neighborhoods Kickball Tournament: April 7: 1-6 p.m., Meador Park, 2500 S. Fremont Ave. Delaware Neighborhood Association has issued a challenge to Meadow Park Neighborhood Association to play kickball. Join us for the first-ever Springfield Neighborhood Kickball Championship. All residents, families with children age 8 and up, businesses and landowners are invited to play. Burgers, regular and veggie, will be served. Contact delawareneighborhood@gmail.com or the Meador Park Facebook page for more details.

**MIDTOWN**

Midtown Neighborhood Spring Cleanup: March 30: 8 a.m.-noon, Cox North Parking Lot, 1471 N. Benton Ave. Items accepted include trash, brush, leaves and metal. Please contact Brian Shipman at 417-880-2858 for curbside pickup, fees may apply.

Northwest Project Grant Beach Maintenance Classes: Thursdays: 6-7 p.m., The Drew Lewis Foundation at The Fairbanks, 1126 N. Broadway Ave. Childcare provided. Classes meet in the library following the community dinner in the gymnasium.

Grant Beach Neighborhood Association Meetings: April 15, May 20, June 17: 6:30-7:30 p.m., The Drew Lewis Foundation at The Fairbanks, 1126 N. Broadway Ave. Schedule your free head, neck and skin cancer screening. Also ask us about our free mammograms and HPV vaccinations. To register for screenings, call 417-820-2588 or email melissa.schroeder@mercy.net.

Grant Beach Food and Family Network: Second & Fourth Saturdays of each month, 12:30 p.m., Hovey House, 800 W. Hovey. For low-income Grant Beach Neighborhood Association members to receive food and household supplies. Participants must be members of the neighborhood association, donate $5 per pickup and contribute two hours of service per month to the neighborhood association by working concessions at Grant Beach Sports events, working in the garden or manning the Hovey House. Food for the boxes is provided by Victory Mission while household supplies, such as toilet paper and other necessities, are purchased with donations.

Reptile Day at the Fairbanks: May 4, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., The Fairbanks, 1126 N. Broadway Ave. 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. All indoors. Children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

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Midtown Neighborhood Association Meetings:
April 8, May 13, June 10: 6-7 p.m., Urban Neighborhood Alliance building on Cox North Hospital parking lot, 918 E. Calhoun St.

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.

PHELPS GROVE
P helps 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.

Southeast Neighborhoods Kickball Tournament:
April 7: 1-6 p.m., Meadow Park, 2500 S. Fremont Ave. All residents, families with children age 8 and up, businesses and landowners are invited to play. Contact delawareneighborhood@gmail.com for more details or sign up on your neighborhood association’s Facebook page.

PHELPS GROVE Neighborhood Cleanup:
May 18: 8 a.m.-noon, MSU Parking Lot #18 at Grand and Kings. The cleanup will take place outside, rain or shine. Items accepted include trash, brush, metal and leaves. Curbside pickup is available, but fees may apply. Please contact Eric Pauly at 417-736-9357 to schedule.

Art in the Garden Tour:
June 9: 1-4 p.m., Tour starts at the corner of Kings and Bennett. During Art in the Garden, local artists display and sell their work in numerous front or back yards, and visitors are invited to tour the gardens and enjoy the flowers, art and live music. Tickets ($10 each) can be purchased at the corner of Kings and Bennett, and free parking will be available at the Springfield Art Museum. Maps of the garden locations will be given to those who buy tickets.

ROBBERSON
Robberson Neighborhood Association Meetings:
April 25, May 23, June 27: 6:30-7:30 p.m., Pathways United Methodist Church, 1232 E. Dale.

Robberson Neighborhood Spring Clean-up:
May 4: 8 a.m.-noon, Central Baptist Church, 2148 N. National Ave. The cleanup will take place outside, rain or shine. Items accepted include trash, brush and metal. To schedule a curbside pickup, please contact Phyllis Evans at 417-866-1087. Fees may apply for curbside pickup.

ROUNTREE
R ountree Neighborhood Association Meetings:
April 16, May 21, June 18: 7-8 p.m., University Heights Baptist Church, 1010 S. National.

Southeast Neighborhoods Kickball Tournament:
April 7: 1-6 p.m., Meadow Park, 2500 S. Fremont Ave. All residents, families with children age 8 and up, businesses and landowners are invited to play. Contact delawareneighborhood@gmail.com for more details or sign up on your neighborhood association’s Facebook page.

Rountree Neighborhood Cleanup:
April 27: 8 a.m.-noon, University Heights Church, 1010 S. National Ave. The cleanup will take place outside, rain or shine. Items accepted include trash, brush, metal and leaves. Curbside pickup is available, however, fees may apply. To schedule a curbside pickup, please contact Peggy Wise at 417-860-8990.

TOM WATKINS
Tom Watkins Neighborhood Association Meetings:
April 25, Aug. 29: 7-8 p.m., Tom Watkins Community Center, 2100 W. High St.

Tom Watkins Neighborhood Cleanup: April 6: 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Williams Elementary, 2205 W. Kearney St. The cleanup will take place outside, rain or shine. Items accepted include trash, brush and metal. Curbside pickup is available, but fees may apply. Need to schedule a curbside pickup? Contact Marti Mowery at 417-864-7239.

Tom Watkins Annual Egg Hunt: April 13: 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Tom Watkins Park, 2100 W. High St. Free of charge for ages 1 yr-6th grade. Lots of candy and fun for everyone who attends. Check out the Facebook event page for the most up-to-date information.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS
University Heights Neighborhood Association Meetings:
April 3, May 1, June 5, July 3: 5:30 p.m., Springfield Art Museum, 1111 E. Brookside Dr.

WELLER
Weller Neighborhood Association Meetings:
April 4, May 2, June 6: 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.

Weller Neighborhood Cleanup: April 20: 8 a.m.-noon, Turning Point Church, 1722 S. National Ave. The cleanup will take place outside, rain or shine. Items accepted will include trash, brush and metal. Contact Steve Young at 417-864-6442 for more information.

Weller Community Garden Produce Distribution: Wednesdays: 3-4 p.m. Weller Community Church, 1624 E. Blaine St.

WEST CENTRAL
West Central Neighborhood Alliance Meeting:
April 23, May 28, June 25: 6:30-7:30 p.m., Broadway United Methodist Church, 545 S. Broadway Ave.

#movemoreSGF Downtown Scavenger Hunt: April 1-23. Downtown Springfield. Celebrate Move More Month by getting out for a walk around downtown Springfield in search of brightly colored hearts. Every heart you find is a chance to win a $100 gift card and other prizes. Snap a photo of yourself with the hearts and share on Facebook or Instagram using the hashtag #movemoreSGF or email your photos to jviele@springfieldmo.gov. Check out the event on Facebook for more information.

WESTSIDE
Westside Neighborhood Betterment Association Meetings:
April 9, May 14, June 11: 6:30 p.m., Westport Park Apartments Community Room, 250 N. Hilton.

Westport School Rock the Block: May 17: 5:30-7:30 p.m., Westport School, 415 S. Golden Ave. We will have food, inflatables, yard and carnival activities and fun things for all ages.

Westside Neighborhood Cleanup: May 18: 8 a.m.-noon, Study Alternative School, 2343 W. Olive St. The cleanup will take place outside, rain or shine. Items accepted include trash, brush and metal. Curbside pickup is not available. For more information, please contact Joe Roberds at 417-838-0041.

WOODLAND HEIGHTS
Northwest Project Woodland Heights Maintenance Classes & Community Dinner: Wednesdays: Dinner starts at 5:30 p.m., Classes start at 6:30 p.m., Springfield Dream Center, 829 W. Atlantic St. Childcare provided. The goal of the Northwest project is to pilot strategies over a five-year period to help families overcome the challenges that have kept them living in poverty and sustain their long-term success in emerging from those circumstances.

Woodland Heights Neighborhood Association Meetings:
April 15, May 20, June 17: 6:30-7:30 p.m./6 p.m. optional potluck dinner. Woodland Heights Presbyterian Church, 722 W. Atlantic St.

Fresh Food Fridays: Fridays: 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Springfield Dream Center, 829 W. Atlantic St. Come by the Dream Center between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. to snag some fresh fruit and veggies for your family.

Woodland Heights Rock the Block: April 13: 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Together we will Rock the Block completing home repair projects ranging from yard cleanups, to painting and minor exterior repairs. Hosted by Habitat for Humanity of Springfield.

Woodland Heights Neighborhood Cleanup:
April 27: 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Reed Academy, 2000 N. Lyon Ave. The cleanup will take place outside, rain or shine. Items accepted include trash, brush and metal. Curbside pickup is available, however, fees may apply. If you need to schedule a curbside pickup, contact Becky Volz at 417-880-4210.

Love the Heights Community Conversation:
May 4: 9 a.m.-noon, Woodland Heights Presbyterian Church, 722 W. Atlantic St. This community conversation is your chance to hear about the happenings in Woodland Heights, also give feedback, and discuss the future of the neighborhood revitalization in your community. Please come and share your voice. We will have door prizes, pancake breakfast and T-shirts. Breakfast at 8:30 a.m., Meeting: 9:15-12:15 a.m.

Dirt Day at Lafayette Park:
May 18: 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Lafayette Park, 202 E. Atlantic St. Get your hands dirty at the 7th annual Dirt Day in historic Lafayette Park. The Woodland Heights Neighborhood presents this garden-themed event with activities and demonstrations from garden professional and clubs, plant exchange, green living, interactive garden art, kids’ dinosaur dig and birdhouse painting.

4th Annual Tennis Under the Lights: June 7: 8-10 p.m., Lafayette Park, 202 E. Atlantic St. Come play tennis at night in Lafayette Park. Tennis courts will be all aglow with lights everywhere. Participants will also shine with glow necklaces and bracelets. Grab your family and friends and get on the court with music, snacks and fun. All equipment is provided. Sponsored by USTA, Springfield-Greene County Park Board and the Woodland Heights Neighborhood Association.

Summer Solstice Art Fair: June 15: 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Lafayette Park, 202 E. Atlantic St. The Moon City Creative District is please to announce the third annual Summer Solstice Art Fair in Lafayette Park. Presented in partnership with the Springfield-Greene County Park Board this white tent, juried show, features 20 regional fine artists including jewelers, potters, wood turners, printmakers, painters, fiber artists and more. Food vendors and live music! More information at mooncitycreativedistrict.com.
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