



22 volunteers, Fire Department and Weller Community Church recognized at 13th annual NOVAs

By Melissa Haase,
Managing Editor

Community Partnership of the Ozarks and sponsor Air Services Heating & Cooling hosted the 13th annual Neighborhood



Community Partnership of the Ozarks President and CEO Janet Dankert

Organization Volunteer Awards (NOVA) ceremony, Dec. 3, 2019 at Relics Event Center to recognize and reward outstanding neighborhood volunteers who work tirelessly to improve and revitalize their communities.

A nova is a brightly shining star. CPO feels organizations and individuals who tirelessly work at making our community a better place to live should be recognized as stars. The annual NOVAs banquet allows us to reflect on the achievements and contributions made by dedicated people in our community. The NOVAs banquet is a highlight of our year and we truly enjoy the opportunity to celebrate those who may go unnoticed for all they do in and for our neighborhoods.

Greene County Presiding Commissioner Harold Bengsch presented the keynote address about what it means to be home for the holidays, which was the theme of this year's banquet.

REACHING FOR THE STARS AWARD

"... SFD has increased their participation in neighborhood events, activities, and meetings, providing valuable information and connections to the community." – Brooke Ash

The 2019 Reaching for the Stars Award went to the Springfield Fire Department for Project RED Zone.

"Since April of 2017, the Springfield Fire Department has been busy checking smoke alarms, replacing batteries and installing new alarms in thousands of homes thanks to Project Red Zone, an initiative to ensure all homes in high risk areas of the city have working alarms. In addition to helping



Springfield Fire Department receives Reaching for the Stars Award.

keep people safe through Project Red Zone, SFD has increased their participation in neighborhood events, activities, and meetings, providing valuable information and connections to the community. All of their efforts haven't gone

unnoticed and because of their hard work and dedication to making our neighborhoods safer, we would like to honor them as the 2019 Reaching for the Stars recipient," said Brooke Ash, CPO's Caring Communities program director.

The Reaching for the Stars Award is an annual award given to a person, organization, or partner that has had a particularly large and profound impact on the neighborhoods throughout the past year.

Fire and Life Safety Educator Heather Parker accepted the award on behalf of the department.

INDIVIDUAL NOVAs

- Bissett: Vickie Grinde
- Bradford Park: Marilyn Kemper
- Brentwood: Cindy Cook
- Delaware: Teresa Pope
- Doling: Melissa Gallian
- Galloway Village: Wendy Huscher
- Grant Beach: Merle Goehring
- Greater Parkcrest: Murielle Reed
- Heart of the Westside: Anna Pageler
- Meador Park: Sara Stubbins
- Midtown: BJ Bilton
- Oak Grove: Cindy Cooper
- Phelps Grove: David and Vicky Trippe
- Robberson: Ben and Lillie Beal
- Rountree: Laurel Bryant
- University Heights: Linda Regan
- Weller: Weller Community Church, accepted by Matt and Melanie Wilke
- West Central: Michelle Ciesielski and Loren Austin
- Westside: Sharon Brooks
- Woodland Heights: Steve Sexton.

BASS PRO MARATHON NEIGHBORHOOD CHALLENGE AWARDS

Concluding the evening were the Great Neighborhoods grants to neighborhoods and the Bass Pro Marathon cheering section awards. Galloway Village took first place and \$1,600 in the competition, with their "village people" theme.

► See NOVAs on page 2

Welcome to the Winter 2020 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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City of Springfield awarded \$21 million BUILD grant

By Cora Scott, Executive Editor

U.S. Sen. Roy Blunt's office announced Nov. 6, 2019 that the City of Springfield will receive \$20,960,822 in federal funds to create the Grant Avenue Parkway – major multi-modal transportation improvements, along Grant Avenue in the heart of Springfield.

Blunt sent a letter to U.S. Secretary of Transportation Elaine Chao earlier this year urging funding for the project. Funding is from a BUILD Transportation Grant. BUILD stands for "Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development." This 3.3-mile stretch of "parkway" would create an attractive corridor connecting vibrant Downtown Springfield to the Wonders of Wildlife National Museum and Aquarium, with various neighborhoods, parks, Ozark Greenway connections and other amenities in between.

"The City of Springfield is so excited about this transformational news. This grant will help the City take a giant step forward in carrying out the City Council priorities of economic vitality and quality of place. We are extremely grateful for the superb congressional support, which has made this grant a reality," said Mayor Ken McClure.

"This grant will help the City take a giant step forward in carrying out the City Council priorities of economic vitality and quality of place. We are extremely grateful for the superb congressional support, which has made this grant a reality."
– Mayor Ken McClure

The Grant Avenue Parkway is a proposed project to create an off-street pedestrian and bicycle pathway along Grant Avenue between Sunshine Street and Walnut Street, in the heart of Springfield. The parkway route would further connect parks and recreation amenities, neighborhoods, schools and fill a gap in the Ozark Greenways rural trail network.

It is planned to start downtown and end at Sunshine Street and will include bike lanes, a roundabout, various traffic-calming improvements, a grade-separated crossing at Fasnicht Creek, bridge enhancement, utility upgrades, fiber optic connectivity and additional crossing and signal-timing improvements.

Downtown Springfield's renaissance has been steady over the past 20 years.



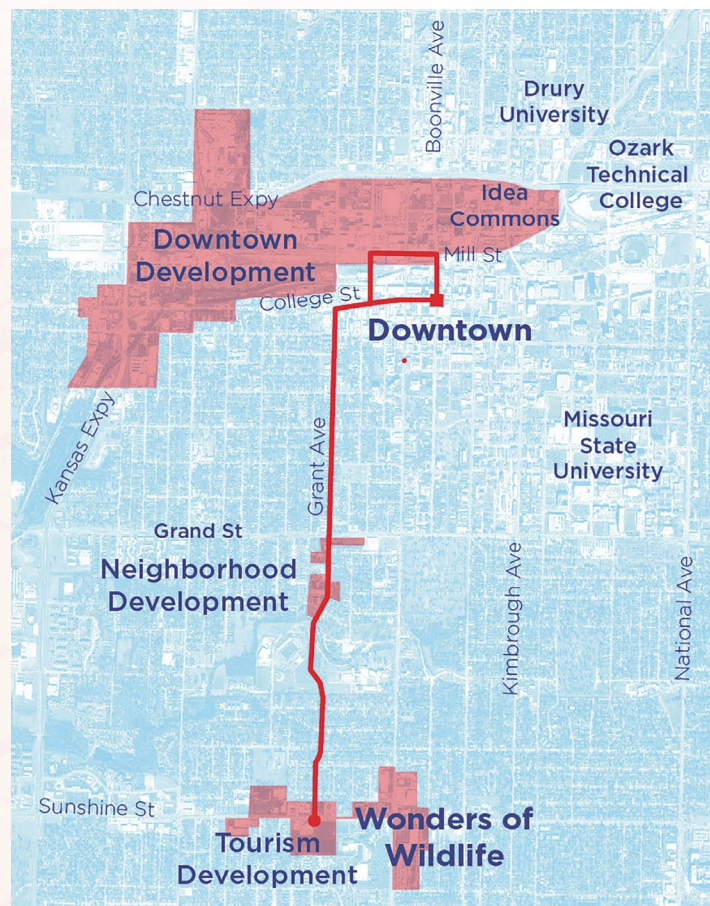
Over one-half billion dollars of public and private investment has been made downtown since 1996.

WOW was voted America's Best Aquarium and Best New Attraction by USA Today readers. Since opening in September 2017, the estimated \$300 million private investment has resulted in significantly increased hotel nights and generated hundreds of thousands of visitors.

These two destinations generate a tremendous amount of economic activity and are authentic Springfield experiences for both residents and visitors. This project will also alleviate traffic congestion, improve safety and accessibility and reduce environmental concerns.

The City's Public Works and Planning departments convened a multi-departmental, multi-agency team to prepare the grant proposal. The City is required to provide a 20% match – roughly \$5 million.

For more information visit springfieldmo.gov/grantavenueparkway.



► *NOVAS from page 1*

Doling and Woodland Heights tied for second and took home \$1,225 each. Doling's cheering section featured a Christmas theme, while Woodland Heights' featured an outdoors theme.

Bradford Park and Rountree tied for third and each took home \$800. Meador Park, Midtown and Westside tied for fourth and each took home \$625. Oak Grove and University Heights tied for fifth and each took home \$550. Robberson, Greater Parkcrest and Brentwood tied for sixth and each took home \$275.

GREAT NEIGHBORHOODS GRANTS

Alana Owen from the City's Planning & Development department awarded several Great Neighborhoods grant checks:

- Bissett: \$500
- Bradford Park: \$750
- Brentwood: \$500
- Galloway Village: \$750
- Grant Beach: \$500
- Greater Parkcrest: \$750
- Meador Park: \$750
- Phelps Grove: \$500
- Robberson: \$750
- University Heights: \$500
- Weller: \$500
- West Central: \$750
- Westside: \$750
- Woodland Heights: \$750.



The Great Neighborhoods program encourages clean, safe, and friendly neighborhoods through activities and programs that develop relationships between neighbors and their neighborhood association. This is a voluntary program where registered neighborhoods can participate and earn points toward designation as a City of Springfield Great Neighborhood, along with grant money to be used toward a neighborhood program or activity.

Points can be earned in the three categories that define Great Neighborhoods: clean, safe, and friendly. Neighborhoods are scored and ranked based on the information in their application as well as their effort to follow the four principles of the Great Neighborhoods program:

- Residents must lead the process.
- A long term commitment is expected.
- All neighbors interested in participating must be included.
- Continual activities that engage everyone in the neighborhood.

Neighborhoods can earn up to:

- \$500 – 9 points
(at least 3 points in each category)
- \$750 – 18 points
(at least 6 points in each category)
- \$1,000* – 18 points
(at least 6 points in each category)
*requires a \$250 match.



City Council hears concept plans for Phase 1 of Jordan Creek daylighting through downtown

By Kristen Milam, Public Information, for SGFNN

City of Springfield Principal Stormwater Engineer Chris Dunnaway presented preliminary concepts for Phase 1 of the daylighting of Jordan Creek through downtown Springfield at a City Council Lunch Workshop on Nov. 19, 2019.

Channeled through a series of underground culverts beginning in the 1920s, many visitors to downtown Springfield may not realize the Jordan Creek is flowing beneath their feet. The goal of the daylighting project is to bring the creek to the surface, helping to reduce flooding, improve water quality and provide various outdoor amenities in the heart of downtown.

Phase 1 of the project will involve restoring Jordan Creek to a small natural stream between Boonville Avenue and Main Avenue, along with native landscaping and a new bridge at Campbell Avenue. Sidewalks and a multi-use path will provide pedestrian and bicycle connections, helping to fill in gaps along the Jordan Creek Greenway Trail. Open greenspace, decorative lighting, electrical improvements and other placemaking features will help create an enjoyable natural space for recreation and events.

Funding for improvements to minimize flooding and restore the natural environment around Jordan Creek was approved by voters through the 2017 Level Property Tax renewal. A concept for the project was established via a specialized input process involving multiple city agencies and downtown stakeholders. The top three project priorities identified through the process were flooding and water quality, connectivity and less surface parking, and economic development.

"The improvements and volume of water will look much like stream restoration projects completed along South Creek, Fassnight Creek and along the north branch of Jordan Creek between Silver Springs Park and Smith Park," explained Dunnaway. "These improvements help slow down, spread out and filter rainwater, while providing greenspace and trails for the entire community to enjoy."

Visuals and project features presented are still conceptual, Dunnaway added. Further public input will be collected as part of the detailed design phase of the project, beginning in early 2020. Construction is anticipated to begin in late 2021.

The project is estimated to cost \$6.8 million.



Concept drawing of the space between Water and Mill Streets looking east toward Campbell Avenue.



Everyone counts.

Census Day
April 1, 2020

Why it's important to participate in the Census

The census provides vital information for you and your community.

- It determines how many representatives each state gets in Congress and is used to redraw district boundaries.
- Communities rely on census statistics to plan for a variety of resident needs including new roads, schools, and emergency services.
- Businesses use census data to determine where to build new places to work and shop.

United States
Census
Bureau

CITY OF
Springfield

GOOD NEIGHBOR Tip



Avoid trash & solid waste accumulation

Accumulation of trash and solid waste is declared to be a public nuisance in Sec. 74-381 and 74-382 of the City Code. If the violation is not corrected at the end of the notice, the property owner can be issued a summons to Municipal Court and the property cleared by the City with a tax lien placed upon it to recover the cost of abatement.

Do you need help?

Community resources are available to help you keep your property in compliance. If you live in a registered neighborhood, free neighborhood cleanups are offered in the spring or fall. Call 417-888-2020 to find out your neighborhood's next cleanup date and other cleanup resources available. Your neighborhood association may also be able to offer you temporary assistance with your property.

Call the **Citizen Resource Center** at 417-864-1010 to find out if you live in a registered neighborhood and to obtain contact information.

CITY OF
Springfield

Forward SGF visioning workshops planned for late January

By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor

The community will again have the opportunity to provide input to help craft the vision for the future of Springfield with three visioning workshops planned for Jan. 28 and 29 as part of the Forward SGF comprehensive planning process.

“The goal for the visioning workshops is to generate a shared vision for the Springfield of the future,” says Planning and Development Director Mary Lilly Smith. “We want anyone who considers themselves stakeholders in our community’s future at the table during these visioning workshops to provide their input.”



Community members discuss the future of Springfield during a 2019 Forward SGF workshop.

Visioning is the second public engagement phase in the Forward SGF initiative.

Forward SGF kicked off in August 2019 and continued through the fall with several public engagement events to gather input on Springfield’s strengths, weaknesses and topics citizens felt the comprehensive planning process should address. The results of those workshops can be viewed at forwardsgf.com.

Mick Cornett, former Oklahoma City mayor and author of “The Next American City,” kicked off the Forward SGF Speaker Series Oct. 23, 2019 by sharing his experiences and how Springfieldians can use Forward SGF to create a better version of Springfield by 2040.

Once the input from the January 2020 visioning workshops is collected and analyzed, the City plans to host at least two goal-setting workshops March 10 and April 14, with times and locations to be announced at a later date.

VISIONING WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

- **Visioning Workshop 1:** 6:30 p.m., Jan. 28
Oasis Convention Center, 2546 N. Glenstone
- **Visioning Workshop 2:** 2 p.m., Jan. 29
University Plaza Hotel, 333 S. Hammons
- **Visioning Workshop 3:** 6:30 p.m., Jan. 29
Relics Event Center, 2015 W. Battlefield

BACKGROUND

What is a Comprehensive Plan?

A comprehensive plan is a blueprint for the future. It is a community vision that is intended to guide the City for the next 20 years. Springfield’s Forward SGF Comprehensive Plan will result in a set of policies that direct future growth and development. Additionally, the creation of a plan can lead to potential strategies that will help effectively guide City leaders with making substantive and thoughtful decisions for the community.

A typical comprehensive plan outlines the existing conditions of the City, describes future goals and objectives for development, and includes an action plan on how to achieve these goals and objectives. The Forward SGF Comprehensive Plan will include sections on:

- land use and development
- economic development
- housing and neighborhoods
- transportation and mobility
- community facilities
- capital improvements and infrastructure
- natural resources, resiliency, parks, and open space
- cultural and historic resources
- public health
- community character and placemaking.

Who is involved in creating the Comprehensive Plan?

As the blueprint for the City, it is critical that all of Springfield’s stakeholders are involved in the development of the Comprehensive Plan. The City is committed to involving residents, businesses, and workers in the process in order to craft a community vision for Springfield’s future.

An advisory team comprised of 23 community members from across the City is serving as a community sounding board, meeting throughout the process to review and discuss issues and direction, and then provide feedback on a draft plan for Planning and Zoning Commission and City Council consideration, which will most likely be toward the end of 2021.

Forward SGF Advisory Team

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| • Tom Prater , chair
Zone 2 | • Paige Oxendine
Zone 3 |
| • David Atkisson
Zone 4 | • Danny Perches |
| • Laurel Bryant
Zone 2 | • Pete Radecki
Zone 1 |
| • Brad Erwin | • Tom Rankin
Zone 4 |
| • Leslie Forrester
Zone 2 | • Robin Robeson
Zone 4 |
| • Tammy Jahnke | • Tim Rosenbury
Zone 4 |
| • Britton Jobe
Zone 4 | • Debbie Shantz Hart
Zone 2 |
| • Amy Kern Stanfield
Zone 3 | • Amanda Stadler
Zone 1 |
| • Ashley Norgard
Zone 4 | • Susie Turner
Zone 2 |
| • Dee Ogilvy
Zone 1 | • Judy Wyrick
Zone 3 |
| • Daniel Ogunyemi
Zone 2 | • Becky Volz
Zone 1. |
| • John Oke-Thomas | |

“The work of this team is going to be vital,” said Mayor Ken McClure. “I am very thankful for Dr. Prater and the team’s willingness to serve their community.”

Police, middle-schoolers connect through SPD in PE program

By Jasmine Bailey, Springfield Police Department, for SGFNN

If you walked into the school gym during SPD in PE you’d hear laughing and see lots of smiling faces as Springfield police officers and seventh-graders sweat it out together during physical education class. SPD in PE is a new partnership between the Springfield Police Department and Springfield Public Schools. In this program, officers are forming bonds and building relationships through movement.

“I am proud of the commitment of our officers to be positive role models for these young people, and I hope to see the program expand in the future.”
– Police Chief Paul Williams

SPD in PE launched in August 2019 and works to create consistent and positive one-on-one interactions with kids to humanize officers and

help students feel more comfortable with law enforcement. Another goal of the program is to educate students about career opportunities in law enforcement and show how physical education is important to be a successful officer.



Officer Laura Kitta and Officer Darrell Barge with Cherokee Middle School students.

The idea for SPD in PE came from a desire within the department to have more positive and meaningful interactions with the children in the Springfield community. Many times, interactions with law enforcement can be intimidating, but SPD in PE allows officers to take off their uniform and connect with the kids on their turf – at school.

“SPD in PE has been well-received by our officers and by the students,” said Police Chief Paul Williams. “I am proud of the commitment of our

officers to be positive role models for these young people, and I hope to see the program expand in the future.”

For the 2019-2020 school year, officers are working with seventh-grade classes at Cherokee and Jarrett middle schools. Officers visit each PE class four times, with varying curriculum during each visit. On the final visit, officers bring some of the gear used during the agility test required of candidates who wish to be considered for the police academy.



Detective Tommy Nguyen jumps rope alongside Jarrett students.

SGF NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

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

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PUBLISHER

Jason Gage
Jgage@springfieldmo.gov

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Cora Scott
Cscott@springfieldmo.gov

MANAGING EDITOR

Melissa Haase
Mhaase@springfieldmo.gov

DESIGNER

Rebecca Pfitzner
Rpfitzner@springfieldmo.gov

PHOTOGRAPHER/WEB DESIGNER

Christopher Akins
Cakins@springfieldmo.gov

CONTRIBUTORS

Jasmine Bailey	Dellene Nelson
Joshua Best	Jamie Orlando
Sabrina A. Brinson	Anna Pageler
Mike Brothers	Jan Peterson
Brittney Bywater	Pete Radecki
Gerald Clary	Bobbi Ream
Kevin Evans	Joe Roberds
Jenny Fillmer Edwards	Hannah Spencer
Jacque Harness	Candy Smith
Marcie Kirkup	Becky Volz
Kathy Lutz	Justin Wagler
Kristen Milam	Jared Willard
Mark Montgomery	Rusty Worley

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

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Erin Gray	Joe Roberds
Betsy Johnson	Wendell Royster
Steve Koehler	Becky Volz
Kathy Lutz	Rusty Worley
Mark Maynard	Judy Wyrick

SUBMISSIONS

We welcome your submissions!
Please send them to Melissa Haase
mhaase@springfieldmo.gov.
417-864-1003.

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SPS provides update on progress of school bond projects

By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor

At its Nov. 19, 2019 meeting, the Springfield Public Schools Board of Education heard a project update from SPS staff on the status of 39 high-priority projects funded by the \$167.73 million school bond approved by Springfield voters in April 2019. The projects include renovations, expansion, and/or new construction for six schools and the creation of safer entrances at 31 schools. Space to add early childhood classrooms was created at three locations.

SECURE ENTRANCES

Secure entrance work is under way at 31 school sites and expected to be complete by July. The final contract that includes Weller, Cowden, Field, Twain, McGregor, Shady Dell, Truman, Watkins, Wilder, Pittman, Disney, Holland, Mann, and McBride was awarded at the November meeting.

SOUTHWEST SPRINGFIELD EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER



Rendering of the future Southwest Springfield Early Childhood Center.

Construction began in August 2019 for a new \$10 million early childhood center at Carver Middle School. The center is expected to open in July in time for the 2020-2021 school year and will serve up to 250 preschool students.

DELAWARE AND SUNSHINE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Work continues for the new \$15.9 million Delaware Elementary School and is expected to be complete by Aug. 1 in time for the 2020-2021 school year.

Sunshine Elementary's \$11 million addition is expected to be complete by Aug. 1 in time for the 2020-2021 school year. When complete, the school

will serve up to 350 students and will address accessibility and security challenges as well as providing a safe room.



Sunshine Principal Dr. Tracy Daniels and students at the August 2019 groundbreaking.

BOYD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Demolition of the former Berry Elementary School began in October 2019 to make way for Boyd's new site. Construction is anticipated to begin in April with completion anticipated for April 2021. The bid opening date for the project is anticipated for March. The original construction estimate for the new school is just over \$16 million.

JARRETT MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HILLCREST HIGH SCHOOL

Design development continues for renovations at Jarrett and Hillcrest.

Construction is expected to begin at Jarrett in September, with completion expected by August 2022. The bid opening date for the project is anticipated for August. The original construction estimate for Jarrett's renovations is nearly \$33 million.

Construction is expected to begin at Hillcrest in August, with completion expected by August 2022. The bid opening date for the project is anticipated for July. The original construction estimate for Hillcrest's renovations is \$19.6 million.

WILLIAMS ELEMENTARY

Williams Elementary is currently in the design development phase. Construction is expected to begin at Williams in July, with completion expected by July 2021. The bid opening date for the project is anticipated for June. The original construction estimate for William's renovations is nearly \$14.3 million.

THE SNUG

presents the

2ND ANNUAL SPRINGFIELD WORLD KICKBALL CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT

MARCH 29

Registration starts at noon,
games begin at 1 p.m.

Meador Park Softball Complex

We have 10 teams interested, but we need more! Check with your neighborhood association to see if your neighborhood has a team!

FOR MORE INFORMATION
DelawareNeighborhood@gmail.com
or MPNAMO@yahoo.com

SPD's Community Service section gains new supervisor

By Jasmine Bailey, Springfield Police Department, for SGFNN

Meet Springfield Police Sergeant Ryan Russell, the new supervisor of SPD's Community Service Section support squad. Sgt. Russell oversees SPD's police area representatives (PAR) officers, as well as officers who work in crime prevention, Neighborhood Watch, Business Watch and special events.

Sgt. Russell grew up in Eminence and married his high school sweetheart. Together, they have three sons.

Sgt. Russell has been in law enforcement since 1996, beginning his career with the Johnson County, Kansas Sheriff's Office and moving to SPD in 2001. At SPD, he's served in a variety of roles including working in patrol, training and financial crimes. He's also served as SPD's professional development coordinator and range officer.

Sgt. Russell wanted to work in SPD's Community Services Section because he feels it allows officers to be proactively involved in finding solutions to a wide variety of issues.

"As officers, we all strive to improve the quality of life for our communities. I feel that this position will best allow me to contribute to that challenge," he said.

Sgt. Russell says in his new role, he hopes to establish an empowering relationship between the police department and all segments of the community through maintaining and expanding an open line of communication.

You can contact Sgt. Russell by calling 417-864-1193 or emailing rrussell@springfieldmo.gov.



Sgt. Ryan Russell

New Parish Health Navigator program to help the under-resourced access services

By Jamie Orlando, Springfield-Greene County Health Department, for SGFNN

Winter is a stressful time for the under-resourced. High electric bills, difficulty finding transportation because it's too cold to walk or bike, and added expenses are significant concerns. When basic needs such as access to food, heat, and transportation are threatened, many find it difficult to cope.

Fortunately, there are many organizations in our community to help people in need, but they can be overwhelming to navigate.

A new program aims to help bridge this gap. Through a partnership with Missouri State University, the Springfield-Greene County Health Department (SGCHD) has developed the Parish Health Navigator program. This program is designed to train members of local organizations and churches to identify the needs of fellow members and connect them to community resources.



Community Health Advocate Jamie Orlando

resources available in Springfield and Greene County," says Health Program Coordinator Cara Erwin, who oversees the program.

The program is modeled after the SGCHD's Community Health Advocate program, which connects clients to resources such as health care, dental care, electric bill relief, food pantries, credit counseling and more. SGCHD's goal is to expand resource navigation availability, providing multiple points of entry for those needing help finding services.

The SGCHD is piloting the project at Life360 Church and hopes to expand to additional churches within the next year.

"Our church loves to serve our community. We recently noticed that in all of the services we provide, health services were missing. However, we do not have experts in the field as part of our congregation. This program empowers our people to offer the much-needed services and referrals to our neighbors. We are thrilled to continue our partnership and see the service

and involvement expand within our congregation," said Jeremy Hahn, executive director of Life360 Church Community Services.

If your organization is interested in participating in or learning more about opportunities to better serve your members, please contact Jamie Orlando: 417-893-9609 or jorlando@springfieldmo.gov. If you are in need of resources for yourself, please visit www.springfieldmo.gov/CHAReferral.

"The training equips parish health navigators with the tools to assess needs, make referrals and navigate the many resources available in Springfield and Greene County" – Cara Erwin

"Those with people skills, compassion, problem-solving skills, and a desire to serve their community are great candidates for the program. The training equips parish health navigators with the tools to assess needs, make referrals and navigate the many



SPRINGFIELD -
GREENE COUNTY
HEALTH

Educational events at Timmons Hall during Black History Month to highlight contributions to SGF

By Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Park Board, for SGFNN

The Springfield-Greene County Park Board's Timmons Hall will celebrate Black History Month in February with two events highlighting history and contributions of African Americans in Springfield.

The Feb. 1 People's History Café will offer a variety of events 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m., including:

- **11 a.m.:** Welcome and introductions
- **11:30 a.m.:** "Money Couldn't Buy," a show-and-tell-history skit by community youth based on Springfield history compiled by Irv Logan, Jr.
- **12:45 p.m.:** Intermission and refreshments
- **1 p.m.:** Panel discussion: African-Americans in the Medical Profession, led by J.R. Chappell, NAACP Health Committee chair, to inspire youth to consider health care careers.
- **2:30 p.m.:** Open exhibits for all ages

The People's History Café is free and open to the public.

On Feb. 8, the Timmons Hall History Spotlight event focuses on "The Milly Project," a play written and produced by Willard High School teacher Kendra Chappell, with research assistance from her students.



Cast of "The Milly Project"

The play tells the account of Milly Sawyers, a slave in Springfield who won her freedom in 1836 and was later dragged and beaten in the streets by an angry mob. The account was discovered in 2018 by former News-Leader reporter Giacomo Bologna and Greene County Archives director Connie Yen. Chappell and her students have performed the play several times.

The Feb. 8 event includes a conversation with director and cast, 11 a.m.- 1 p.m. The event does not include a staging of the play. Seating is limited and reservations are required at 417-864-1171.

Timmons Hall, formerly known as Timmons Temple, officially opened to the public in 2019 following relocation to Silver Springs Park in 2015 and years of restoration work managed by Friends of Timmons Temple. The former church now serves as an event facility offering historical, cultural



and educational opportunities, owned and operated by the Park Board and under the direction of Christine Peoples, coordinator.

Several events planned to celebrate centennial anniversary of the Negro baseball leagues in 2020

By Dr. Sabrina A. Brinson, for SGFNN

Springfield's MLK Commemorations Committee will host a variety of activities in 2020 to commemorate the centennial anniversary of the Negro baseball leagues.

The Negro leagues were United States professional baseball leagues comprising teams predominantly made up of African Americans and, to a lesser extent, Latin Americans.

The term is used broadly to include professional black teams outside the leagues, and it may be used narrowly for the seven relatively successful leagues beginning in 1920 that are sometimes termed "Negro Major Leagues."

The committee's goal with this year-long commemoration of the Negro baseball leagues is to highlight the ingenuity and resilience utilized in the face of bigotry that prohibited athletes of color from playing professional baseball; fill in omissions/bridge gaps in history; and, spotlight notable achievements of African American, biracial, Latino and multiracial baseball players, managers, owners and teams.

A few of the stories we plan to share during this year-long celebration include:

- Andrew "Rube" Foster, aka the "Father of Black Baseball," was the organizer of the Negro National League, the first long-lasting professional league for African American ballplayers (operated from 1920 to 1931).
- Three women played in the Negro leagues. Their names were Toni Stone, Connie Morgan, and Mamie (Peanut) Johnson.
- Before becoming a country music singer/musician and business owner, Charley Pride played in the NLB with teams like the Memphis Red Sox.
- In 2006, Newark Eagles executive Effa Manley, became the first woman inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame. Manley co-owned the New Jersey-based Eagles with her husband, Abe, and ran the business end of the team for more than a decade. The Eagles won the Negro Leagues World Series in 1946 – one year before Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier in major-league baseball.

Planned events and activities include:

FILM SCREENING AND INTERACTIVE DISCUSSION

Feb. 13. Location TBA.

This event will kick off the year-long celebration. It was on Feb. 13, 1920 that Andrew "Rube" Foster led eight independent black baseball team owners into a meeting held at the Paseo YMCA in Kansas City. Out of that meeting came the birth of the Negro National League, the first successful,

organized professional black baseball league that provided a playing field for African American and Latino baseball players to showcase their world-class baseball abilities. The Negro Leagues would operate for 40 years, becoming a catalyst for economic growth in African American communities across the country and helped spark social change in America. *Please note that the film screening and discussion is intended for adults, due to the nature of the film content and the related discussion about the intersectionality of power and privilege with bigotry and oppression.*

TRAVELING BOOK EXHIBIT

Throughout 2020 at Springfield-Greene County Library District branches.

The exhibit will feature a high-interest, culturally responsive bibliography of adult and children's books, along with other resources. Resources are illuminated to heighten awareness about historical gaps/omissions, and showcase exceptional accomplishments of Negro leagues players, managers, owners, and teams.

For example, there is a wealth of information in books like "Oscar Charleston: The Life and Legend of Baseball's Greatest Forgotten Player," by Jeremy Beer. Although Charleston is a little-known player, many experts title him as the best player in the Negro leagues' history.

Charleston was a formidable player and manager for several clubs, including the Pittsburgh Crawfords. Despite never playing in major leagues, he blazed a trail as the first African American man to work as a scout for a major league team; and, his stellar record as a player, manager, and scout crowns Charleston as the most accomplished individual in black baseball history.

COMMUNITY STORYTELLING EVENTS

Throughout 2020 at various locations in Springfield.

Community members will actively engage audiences in high-interest, culturally responsive read-aloud storytelling about Negro leagues; players, managers, owners and teams.

Join us for excerpts from "Curveball: The Remarkable Story of Toni Stone, the First Woman to Play Professional Baseball in the Negro League," by Martha Ackmann; "Maybe I'll Pitch Forever," by Leroy (Satchel) Paige as told to David Lipman; "Roy Campanella – Baseball Legend," by James Tackach; "The Most Famous Woman in Baseball: Effa Manley and the Negro Leagues," by Bob Luke; and "We Are The Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball," by Kadir Nelson (in community venues like barbershops/beautyshops, elementary schools, faith-based institutions, libraries, and Springfield-Greene County Park Board's Timmons Hall).

Can you keep a secret? Personas of NLB players, managers and owners might also be on hand to share their experiences. Shhhhhh!

NEGRO LEAGUES DAY AT HAMMONS FIELD

6:30 p.m., May 8.

The Springfield Cardinals will commemorate the Negro leagues' centennial anniversary at the Friday, May 8 home game against the Arkansas Travelers. The pregame show will feature a short video about the leagues and a Negro leagues representative will throw out the first pitch.

ABOUT THE MLK COMMEMORATIONS COMMITTEE

The MLK Commemorations Committee was founded in 2018 and is comprised of representatives from the following organizations:

- Boys Booked on Barbershops
- Children Booked on Faith
- Drury University
- Faith Voices of Southwest
- Girls Booked on Beautyshops
- Great Southern Bank
- Missouri State University
- Ozarks Technical Community College
- Penmac
- Peoples History Café
- Southwest Missouri National Organization of Women
- Springfield Art Museum
- Springfield-Greene County Library District, and
- Springfield-Greene County Park Board's Timmons Hall.

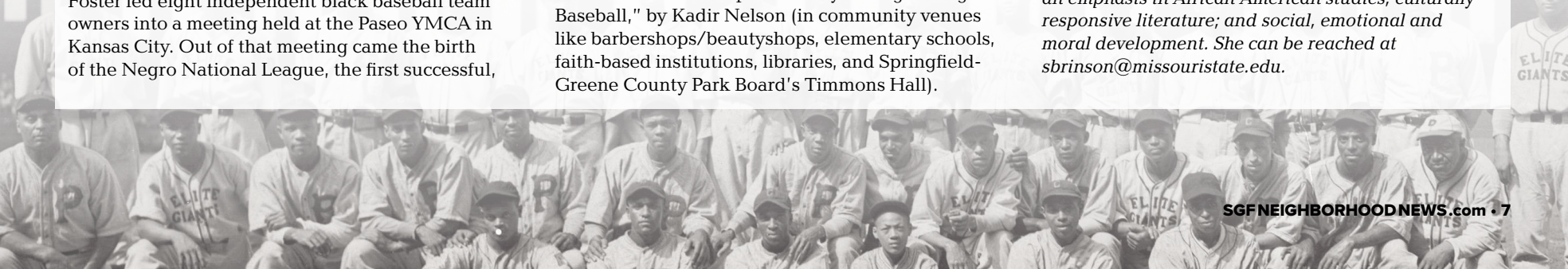
The committee operates under the auspices of the Springfield NAACP.

In Dr. King's stead, the committee was created to make a positive impact in the Springfield community through multifaceted initiatives, with an emphasis on Dr. King's primary platforms of education and service.

Springfield's MLK Commemoration Committee Chair Dr. Sabrina Brinson is a professor of childhood education and family studies for Missouri State University. Her primary lines of research include diversity, multiculturalism and social justice, with an emphasis in African American studies; culturally responsive literature; and social, emotional and moral development. She can be reached at sbrinson@missouristate.edu.



Dr. Sabrina A. Brinson



Springfield down a neighborhood champion with loss of Walnut Street's Gary Blankenship

By Rusty Worley, for SGFNN

Springfield lost a neighborhood champion in November 2019 when Gary Blankenship unexpectedly passed away. The celebration of the life of the long-time president of the Historic Walnut Street Association (HWSA) sparked reminders of three qualities he shared with grassroots leaders throughout our community – gracious hospitality, vision and commitment to service.



GRACIOUS HOSPITALITY

Gary was the consummate host for the Walnut Street Inn Bed and Breakfast, which he and his wife Paula purchased in 1996. He was a proud promoter of his district, Downtown and Springfield. He was active in the Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau and became a mentor for many new innkeepers across the country. We will always think

of Gary upon seeing thousands of families flocking to Walnut Street for Artsfest in the spring and Cider Days each fall.

Neighborhood leaders develop a deep appreciation of the history of their respective areas. They become ambassadors to spotlight what makes their section of Springfield unique. They are a resource for local media. They open their own homes for meetings and holiday socials. The genuine passion they exude for their neighborhood is easy to spot, and infectious.

VISION – NEAR AND FAR-SIGHTED

Gary was one of our pioneers in urban revitalization. He proudly defended the preservation of Walnut Street's historic homes. He called city hall to get alleys cleaned and streetscapes enhanced. He recognized the importance of the district's connections to Missouri State University and Downtown – supporting everyone's successes, as a rising tide lifts all ships. He was ahead of his time by advocating for Springfield to host a major Route 66 festival a decade before it was started nine years ago.

In much the same way, neighborhood leaders must be able to clearly look to the past to understand how they arrived at today's assortment of accomplishments and difficulties, while simultaneously gazing toward the horizon to chart a course toward a better tomorrow. Our vision tests manifest themselves in a variety of ways – events we hold to honor our history, participating in Neighborhood Teams to address chronic nuisance

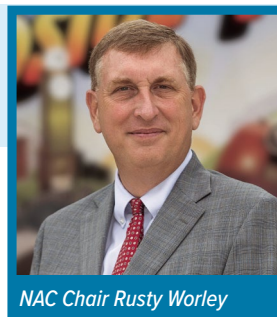
properties, attending Neighborhood Advisory Council meetings to advocate for new ordinances and grants written to improve future greenways, parks and public spaces.

COMMITMENT TO SERVICE

In his role as HWSA president, Gary served on the Urban Districts Alliance board, was a founding member of the Hospitality Resource Panel and guided the growth of Cider Days into being voted the region's Best Community Event in 2018. He was fortunate enough to see some of the fruits of his labors as Paula noted how proud he was of Center City's growth over the past 20 years.

Our neighborhood volunteers dedicate many hours each month away from their homes and businesses. They coordinate board meetings and potlucks. They navigate up to the third floor of City Hall to make sure their neighborhood is well represented at City Council on key issues. They reach out to school principals to see what can be done to help our kids. In the end, whatever it takes to make a difference.

As we start the new decade of the 2020s, please join me in thanking the family of Gary Blankenship and all Springfieldians who demonstrate gracious hospitality, exercise vision for their neighborhood and rise to a commitment of service. Our community is, and will be, a better place because of their efforts.



NAC Chair Rusty Worley

BISSETT NEIGHBORHOOD



Connect

- Russell Moore, President
- Chandra Palmer, Vice President
- Vickie Grinde, Secretary
- Sheila Radecki, Treasurer
- BissettNA@yahoo.com

Neighborhood Association Meetings

Feb. 11 • March 10: 6:30–7:30 p.m.,
6 p.m. optional potluck @ Bissett Elementary School (3014 W. Calhoun).

Bissett Elementary School
3014 W. Calhoun

Bissett elects 2020 officers and board members

By Pete Radecki, for SGFNN

At the November 2019 BNA general membership meeting, officers and executive board members were elected for 2020. They are:

- President: Russell Moore
- Vice President: Chandra Palmer
- Secretary: Vickie Grinde
- Treasurer: Sheila Radecki
- General Board Seats: Mario Gonzalez, William Harvison and Patty Goss

We very much want to thank former secretary Rob Sorbo for his excellent service on the board these past two years and welcome Vickie who will be filling his post. We also want to recognize former board member Louise Buck for all she did this past year and welcome back to the board Patty Goss who has served BNA for many years.

2019 was year of transition. BNA held fewer pot luck dinners and regular membership and board meetings, but also held more events – most notably several street cleanups, as well as ongoing L.A. Wise Park cleanup.

In short, we're doing more and talking less! More than 300 attended the BNA-hosted Bissett Neighborhood Night Out in conjunction with the Bissett Elementary Open House in August. Over 60

households participated in the June neighborhood cleanup and about 30 households participated in the very successful July neighborhood-wide yard sale. In May, BNA conducted a workshop on

bicycle safety, and closed the year with a very enjoyable Christmas dinner and party hosted by Faith Assembly of God Church.

In support of efforts to improve neighborhoods across the city, BNA continued providing advocacy for Bissett through participation in the Neighborhood Advisory Council,

and in September, BNA conducted a workshop with residents to gather and provide ideas to the City in the Forward SGF comprehensive planning process.

In 2017 and 2018, BNA wrote successful Neighborhood Works grant applications to fund the L.A. Wise Park pavilion (built in 2018), additional improvements to the park, and a sidewalk connecting the park walking paths to Bissett Elementary. Lighting was added to the new pavilion in 2019, and we anticipate completion of the projects in 2020. ▶



► There are many who deserve our recognition and appreciation, without whom most of our 2019 activities would not have been possible, let alone successful. First, thanks to the many volunteers who helped with our events and meetings.



Pete Radecki

Thanks to the meeting speakers and the many organizational representatives at our Neighborhood Night Out who helped our residents learn ways to improve health, their properties, and learn about many services available to them.

Thanks to the organizations and business partners that contributed food and funding, notably, Bubba's Barbeque and Daylight Donuts, both on West Bypass, Complete Electronics Recycling on

Chestnut Expressway, the Salvation Army, Culvers, and Faith Assembly of God off West Division.

Special thanks also to Caring Communities of CPO and the Park Board for their partnership in many of our events. And thanks to the City of Springfield for their financial support via the Great Neighborhoods Program, their support of the neighborhood-wide cleanups, communications support via this newsletter and its companion website, and continuing staff support of NAC.

We look forward to another great year of activities in 2020 under the leadership of our newly elected officers and board.



Bissett Neighborhood Night Out, August 2019.



Congratulations
VICKIE GRINDE
Bissett's
NOVA Volunteer of the Year

BRADFORD PARK NEIGHBORHOOD



Connect

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



Neighborhood Association Meetings

Feb. 19 • March 18: 6:30 p.m.
@ Immaculate Conception Church
(3555 S. Fremont Ave.)



Dellene Nelson to step down as president of Bradford Park effective April 5

By Dellene Nelson, for SGFNN

The April 4 Bradford Park Neighborhood Cleanup will be my last activity as the president of the Bradford Park Neighborhood Association. I want to stay active in the neighborhood and will continue to serve on the board and attend the NAC meetings.

I have been at the helm since the City helped organize us 12 years ago. I've learned a lot about our Springfield City government as well as made life lasting friendships. My right hand has been Janet



Nelson, with husband Larry.

Wall. She is a best friend and super neighbor. She will also be stepping away from the Bradford Park board, so we will need to fill the roles of both president and vice president in April.

I feel that it is time for new leadership. I am running out of ideas! I look forward to supporting the new chain of command as we go into 2020. This neighborhood has been so supportive to the association, and we have accomplished so much. I am so proud of our team work!

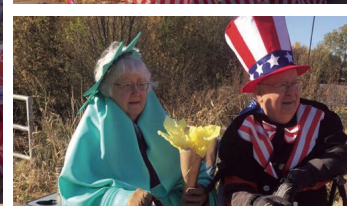
We will continue to give Great Neighbor awards. We have had great response to this program. The neighbors love to brag on acts of kindness that take place in the neighborhood. Please call Joyce Messerly at 417-887-2885 if you would like to nominate a neighbor for a Great Neighbor award.

The association will not meet again until February. We will resume our usual third Wednesday meeting schedule at 6:30 p.m., Feb. 19 at Immaculate Conception.



Bradford Park adopts patriotic theme to cheer on Bass Pro Marathon runners

By Dellene Nelson, for SGFNN



Bradford Park Neighborhood Spring Cleanup

April 4, 2020: 8 a.m. – Noon
End of Walnut Lawn
1370 E. Walnut Lawn
Dellene Nelson (417-882-2801)



Congratulations
MARILYN KEMPER
 Bradford Park's
 NOVA Volunteer of the Year

Traffic flow improvements at Fremont and Independence completed in time to ease holiday congestion

By Kristen Milam, Public Information, for SGFNN

Just in time for the influx of holiday shopping traffic, low-budget roadway improvements completed at the intersection of Fremont Avenue and Independence Street were expected to have a significant impact on traffic flow through the busy retail corridor.

Completed in early November 2019, the improvement project involved the widening of Independence Street, just east of the Fremont Avenue intersection, to provide dual westbound left-turn lanes. The Fremont Avenue Bridge over James River Freeway was also restriped to four lanes, providing a dedicated northbound right turn lane which allows through traffic on Fremont to funnel around those attempting to turn east onto Independence.

"Fremont and Independence is one of the City's busiest intersections during the holiday shopping season," says Eric Claussen, Public Works traffic

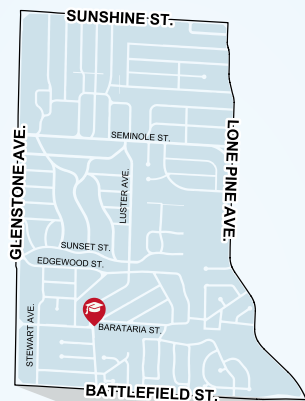
engineer over operations. "Once we determined these intersection tweaks would be feasible, we were thrilled to be able to complete this project quickly so we could start easing traffic delays prior to the holidays."

Aiding in turnaround time and budget, the project was able to be designed and constructed using internal Public Works staff. Construction occurred in the overnight hours to help minimize impacts to existing traffic.

The total project cost was approximately \$25,000, funded through the 1/8-cent Transportation Sales Tax.



BRENTWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD



Connect

- Erin Gray, President:
erineileengray@gmail.com
or 417-459-9020
- Cindy Cook, Vice President
- Elizabeth Seaton, Secretary
- Andrea Tunia, Treasurer

Neighborhood Association Meetings

Jan. 13: 6:30 p.m. @ Schweitzer Brentwood Branch Library (2214 S. Brentwood Blvd.)
 Meeting schedule varies. Please check the website or contact an officer for dates, times and locations.

brentwoodsgf.org

 **Field Elementary School**
 2120 E. Barataria St.




Congratulations
CINDY COOK
 Brentwood's
 NOVA Volunteer of the Year

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

Field Elementary second-grader Truit won a ride to school in December courtesy of Springfield Fire Station 10. Truit won the ride after filling out a home safety survey during SFD's Fire Prevention Month visit to his school.



Brentwood cheered on Bass Pro Marathon runners Nov. 3, 2019.



INFORMATION SESSIONS:
 Tuesdays, 9:30-10:30 a.m.
 Missouri Job Center – 2900 E. Sunshine St.



Obtain certification in a "Green" career! | **CONTACT:** Wendy Graves 417-841-3341 or wgraves@springfieldmo.gov

DELAWARE NEIGHBORHOOD



Connect

- Kevin Evans, President:
delawareneighborhood@gmail.com
or 417-888-0288
- Carroll Neyrey, Vice President
- Jeff Brossard-Sims, Secretary
- Cynthia Yarborough, Treasurer

Neighborhood Association Meetings

March 3: 6 p.m. (catered dinner included)
@ Westminster Presbyterian Church
(1551 E. Portland)



 **Delaware Elementary School**
1505 S. Delaware Ave.

Project RED Zone moving into Delaware and Oak Grove

By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor

Springfield Fire Department firefighters began going door to door in the Rountree neighborhood on Nov. 9, 2019 as the department continued efforts to ensure that every Springfield resident has adequate warning of a fire in their home.

"After Rountree, we plan to move into the Delaware and Oak Grove neighborhoods," said Fire and Life Safety Educator Heather Parker.

Since April 2017, Springfield firefighters have installed 3,313 smoke alarms in area neighborhoods as a part of Project RED Zone. They have visited 22,057 homes in the West Central, Grant Beach, Westside, Heart of the Westside, Robberson, Woodland Heights, Tom Watkins, Doling, Midtown, Bissett and Weller neighborhoods as well as areas without organized neighborhood associations. In addition to the 2,700-plus installed alarms, firefighters have tested more than 6,200 alarms to ensure they are functioning properly and have replaced over 900 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



Firefighters in the Rountree neighborhood in November 2019.

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 canvassing. In September 2017, the occupant of a West Central neighborhood apartment was notified of a fire in a neighboring apartment by the smoke alarm that had been installed two months before by Springfield fire crews. In November of last year, the occupant of another West Central neighborhood apartment was notified of a fire in a unit below her when their 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.



Bass Pro Marathon cheering section, neighborhood cleanup highlights of 2019 for Delaware

By Kevin Evans, for SGFNN

BASS PRO MARATHON NEIGHBORHOOD CHALLENGE

The De L'Aware Pyratts & Pyxies were shipwrecked at the corner of University and Delaware, at roughly 19 1/3 miles into the marathon. The tunes and cowbells were loud, and the "arrrrrrrghs," "ahoy mateys," and rum were flowing. The Pyratt skeleton blew in the wind from the wrecked ship's crow's nest while we shared the bounty of sport gels, sport

beans, M&Ms, and Gatorade (and seriously, rum). All the gold doubloons in Springfield could not have distracted us from our mission that morning as we cheered the runners on. We helped a runner celebrate her birthday, and we helped a runner support a friend running her first marathon in NYC. We made new friends and had a blast with the ones we already had. Isn't that what these neighborhoods are all about?!



NEIGHBORHOOD CLEANUP

On Nov. 9, 2019, volunteers scoured the neighborhood for materials left curbside, and residents brought trash, yard waste, mattresses, metals, and electronics to the parking lot at Westminster Presbyterian Church. At least fourteen mattresses (two trailer loads) were delivered to the Lone Pine Recycling Center, and 3,400 pounds of metals and appliances were recycled.

Nativity scene animals found new homes, a large sectional and a pool table moved across the street to be discarded, volunteers came from every corner to help, and new community connections were developed. Special thanks go to the Youth Volunteer Corps and coordinator Roger King, the Boy Scouts and leaders of Troop 16, and neighborhood volunteers.

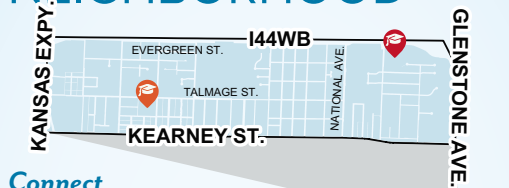


Delaware second-grader Rand won a ride to school in December, courtesy of Springfield Fire Station 8, after filling out a home safety survey during Fire Prevention Month in October 2019.



Congratulations
TERESA POPE
Delaware's
NOVA Volunteer of the Year

DOLING NEIGHBORHOOD



Connect

- Grady Cooper, President:
pictthisl@msn.com
- Emily Jenkins, Vice President
- Melissa Gallian, Secretary,
- Jayme VanMeter, Treasurer
- dolingna@gmail.com



Neighborhood Association Meetings

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



dolingneighborhood.com

Fremont Elementary School
2814 N. Fremont Ave.

Watkins Elementary School
732 W. Talmage St.

Doling rings in the holiday season early with Christmas-themed cheering section for Bass Pro Marathon



Grady Cooper prepares drinks for the runners to grab.



Santa's helpers stand ready to hand off drinks to thirsty runners.



Congratulations
MELISSA GALLIAN
Doling's
NOVA Volunteer of the Year

Ground broken for BigShots Golf at Glenstone and Kearney in November

O'Reilly Hospitality Management, LLC, a leading hospitality management group, officially broke ground for a BigShots Golf on 12 acres at Glenstone Avenue and Kearney Street Nov. 22, 2019. The development is expected to employ over 120. The site is the former location of a Kmart.

When completed, BigShots Golf, will have 56 driving range bays on two stories with 3,500 square feet of meeting space, an outdoor putting green, a golf academy that can be used for year-round training and a full restaurant and bar that will offer American fare, healthy food options, and special menu items.



"We are so very excited to bring BigShots Golf to the Springfield community, as I think it fills a little bit of a void that we have in entertainment and activity options, especially on the north side," said Tim O'Reilly. "I believe this unique, high tech, fun, and distinctive destination experience will be a favorite in Springfield and all of southwest Missouri within nine short months! Additionally, our partnership with BigShots and Club Corp has been a very positive experience that we look to replicate all over the Midwest, so this will be our showcase BigShots Golf facility!"

"We are so very excited to bring BigShots Golf to the Springfield community, as I think it fills a little bit of a void that we have in entertainment and activity options, especially on the north side." – Tim O'Reilly

This cutting-edge golf and entertainment establishment is created for all ages and skill levels. Avid golfers can play full rounds on virtual golf courses that will improve their game. Non-golfing players, families and children will enjoy games such as Knockout and Pinball, as well other fun, interactive games.

Reflecting a broader consumer, BigShots Golf meets the demand for more recreational and entertainment experiences in Springfield. Construction for BigShots Golf is projected to be a 10-month project timeline.

"I am so excited about this latest groundbreaking of BigShots Golf, our second this month with

O'Reilly Hospitality Management," says David Pillsbury, CEO of Club Corp. "This is a milestone for BigShots Golf and for O'Reilly Hospitality Management after months of collaborative planning ..."

ABOUT O'REILLY HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT

Founded in 2007 by Tim O'Reilly, O'Reilly Hospitality Management, LLC is a proven hospitality firm specializing in the design, development, and staffing of hotels, restaurants, and commercial properties for some of the leading national and independent brands across the nation. Founded on the principles of sustainability, community involvement, philanthropic outreach, and a commitment to elevating the modern guest experience, O'Reilly Hospitality Management is truly an innovative presence in the hospitality space. Our hotel management company in Springfield, brings a wealth of knowledge and forward-thinking initiatives to 35 existing sites and continuous development of new properties across the states. We do whatever it takes to make every guest smile, thanks to award-winning service, sustainable green practices, and a staff buoyed by working for a caring and involved company.

For more information please visit ohospitalitymanagement.com and to connect with O'Reilly Hospitality Management like us on Facebook.



ABOUT BIGSHOTS GOLF™

BigShots Golf is a high tech, high touch golf and entertainment company powered by proprietary technology. BigShots Golf delivers fun and "entertainment" for everyone through approachable golf software games and entertainment activities, shareable bites and family-style dining options, plus signature cocktails, craft beer and wine. Venues feature indoor and outdoor lounge seating, bar areas and private event spaces, providing the ideal atmosphere to host games, gatherings and neighborhood outings. Players can compete in their own hitting bays, with other players at the same venue or in real time with players at other BigShots Golf locations through Live Play™. BigShots Golf brings golf, fun and games to everyone. Play On™.



GALLOWAY VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD



Connect

- Marcie Kirkup, President:
kirkups@att.net or 417-224-5000
- Betsy Johnson, Vice President:
betsy92slp@yahoo.com
- Carrie Lamb, Secretary
- Wendy Huscher, Treasurer



Neighborhood Association Meetings

Jan. 21: 6:30 p.m. @ Galloway Baptist Church (2816 E. Republic Rd.) Meetings are quarterly. Special meetings may be called as needed.

gallowayvillage.org

 **Sequiota Elementary School**
3414 S. Mentor Ave.

Galloway Village Neighborhood Spring Cleanup

March 28, 2020: 8 a.m. – Noon

Sequiota Park

3500 S. Lone Pine

Tanya Willhite-Vaughn (417-437-3245)



Congratulations
WENDY HUSCHER
Galloway Village's
NOVA Volunteer of the Year

Historic building survey reveals treasures in Galloway Village

By Marcie Kirkup, for SGFNN

The recent development boom along the south Lone Pine corridor has prompted numerous conversations about both the future of the Galloway Village Neighborhood Association (GVNA) – and more importantly, the past.

The GVNA experienced a setback in historical preservation efforts in 2019 when City Council denied the Landmark Board's recommendation to designate the Treadway's General Store building across from Sequiota Park as an historic site. Although that designation would not have limited the property owner's ability to demolish the building, members of the GVNA felt it would draw attention to the significant history of the area and the value of preservation for the future of the neighborhood. Neighborhood residents felt frustrated by the ultimate outcome of the process. However, it was quickly apparent that decision was a blessing in disguise.



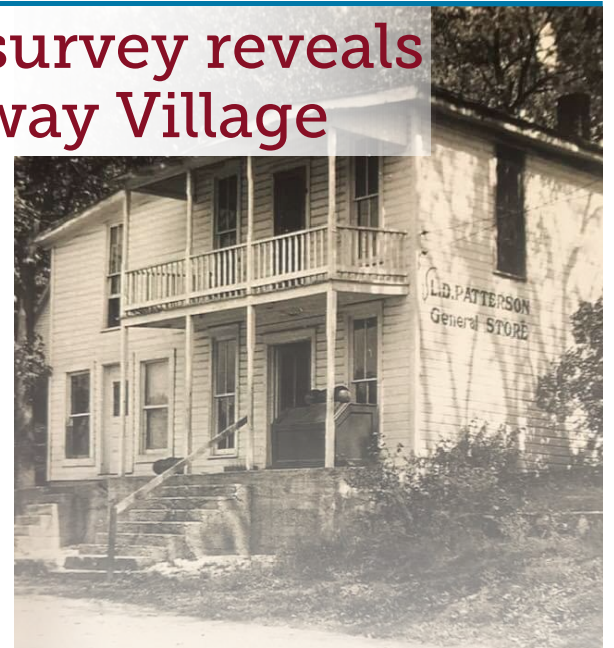
In the days following the decision, the association received an outpouring of support from local and even national preservation experts. But it was Erin Hudson, PhD, RPA, who stepped forward earlier this summer to volunteer her time, passion, and expertise to lead the first official historic building survey of the Galloway Village Neighborhood. Dr. Hudson is the cultural resource manager for a national environmental consulting company and an expert in historical preservation. For several months now, she has been leading the survey alongside the neighborhood association's Historical Committee, students from Missouri State University, and a team of neighborhood volunteers.



"Coffee Pot Tavern"

"In getting to know more of our Galloway neighbors, we have learned how important saving Galloway's history is to our residents." – Jacque Thummel

The survey process has included holding educational meetings with members of the association; conducting individual and family interviews with long-time residents and business owners; reviewing local historical census documents and other artifacts to connect buildings to events/places/people; building a database and loading parcel map info from the county assessor's office; conducting a walking field inventory to identify/document 50-plus-year-old structures;



photographing structures of historic integrity and writing building descriptions; and finally logging all of the information into a database that will eventually become part of the state historical archive.

GVNA Historical Committee Chair Jacque Thummel reflects, "It has been empowering to educate ourselves on the importance of historical preservation, and build connections with the local and state preservation community. In getting to know more of our Galloway neighbors, we have learned how important saving Galloway's history is to our residents. Saving history can create jobs, expand tourism interests, and enrich the overall marketability of our city. But most importantly, this process has brought our unique community closer together as neighbors and friends. Like the Galloway community before us, we now wave, smile, and look out for one another. We're more like an extended family."

Dr. Hudson and the preservation team have invested hundreds of hours in this project to date. They are excited to have discovered some amazing stories and met inspirational people. Through research and interviews, GVNA has unearthed a richer history than previously known. Notable residents and pioneers included Jacob Painter, a famous gunsmith; Major Charles Galloway, a well-documented Civil War veteran; James H. Barton, the Ash Grove Lime plant manager who was instrumental in bringing the lime quarry operations to Galloway; and the Treadway family that operated a local service station and grocery store.

Thummel adds, "We are fortunate to still have a number of historic structures throughout our area. These are some of the more significant sites – a Girl Scout Camp along Lone Pine dating back to the 1940's; the Galloway Chapel located on east Republic Road founded in 1888; beautiful examples of Ozark Stone Masonry; and a handful of 'company' homes that remain from the quarry boom. Our lives have been enriched by the opportunity to learn the history entrusted to us. All we needed to do was look for it. Although this has been a steep learning curve, it has been well worth the effort. To have done nothing would have been a mistake for our community."

City Council approves recommendations to guide future development in Galloway

By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor

At its Oct. 21, 2019 meeting, City Council adopted the Planning and Development department's recommendations for future development in the Galloway area. The report will serve as the policy document for development in the area and will be used in reviewing applications for rezoning and subdivisions. The boundary for this policy as originally drafted includes gateways into the study area at the intersections of Battlefield Road and Republic Road with Lone Pine Avenue, and approximately 300 feet of frontage along Lone Pine Avenue between Battlefield and Republic.

"For those of you who did not get to see Council tonight, our recommendations from the administrative delay were approved by Council. Thank you so much to each of you who took surveys, wrote notes, and gave feedback. Democracy does not function if we do not show up, and I am so proud of my neighborhood for doing just that. You guys rock!" said Tanya Vaughn, on the Galloway Village Neighborhood Association Facebook page.

"It was a great night for Galloway at City Council tonight! The vote was 7-2 in favor of the recommendations ... We will continue to bring awareness to the unique issues with excessive development in our neighborhood but this is a huge win for us tonight. Great job to everyone who helped on this project," said About Faces Photography owner Wendy Huscher, who served on the stakeholder committee, on the Galloway Village Neighbors Facebook group page.

Public engagement for the Galloway recommendations was led by Senior Planner Olivia Hough, who hosted six stakeholder meetings and three public input meetings. The process also included two public surveys.

"On behalf of our association, I want to publicly acknowledge Olivia and what a blessing she has been to us through this whole process. Her advocacy, willingness to listen and ability to pull together her peers for a very collaborative process, has been refreshing," said Marcie Kirkup, Galloway Neighborhood Association president.

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 review development issues in the area, gather input and develop recommendations.

The boundary for this policy as originally drafted includes gateways into the study area at the intersections of Battlefield Road and Republic Road with Lone Pine Avenue, and approximately 300 feet of frontage along Lone Pine Avenue between Battlefield and Republic. The Planning and Zoning Commission reviewed this report on Aug. 15, and recommended 8-0 to remove the southeast and southwest corners of Battlefield Road and Lone Pine Avenue from the policy boundary.

The commission voted 4-4 to recommend approval of the policy as amended. The commission's Rules of Procedure dictate a tie vote results in tabling the measure. On Sept. 12, the commission voted 3-4 to recommend approval of the amended policy. Because fewer than five votes were cast in favor or denial of recommending the policy, it was again tabled. According to the commission's Rules of Procedure, a policy matter may only be tabled three times. If it fails to receive five affirmative or negative votes, it is sent to Council with a negative recommendation. On Oct. 10, the

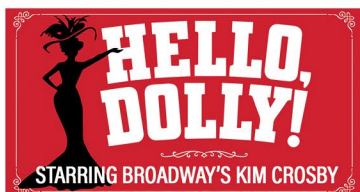


Sequoiota Park in Galloway Village from above looking south along Lone Pine.

Planning and Zoning Commission voted 3-4 to recommend approval of the measure. Since this was fewer than five affirmative votes, the measure was forwarded to City Council with a recommendation to deny the proposal.

According to the explanation to the council bill, the City's highest priority must be public safety for pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists in the area. Many of these recommendations are for transportation improvements, which may be both publicly and privately funded, but all public improvements receive City approval prior to construction. Environmental protection is another key priority for the City and the public. Protection of the natural environment will require City regulations and use of best practices in public and private improvements. The Galloway area has several unique features such as its extensive tree canopy, rocky sloped topography, and historic mixed-use development pattern. Our image enhancement recommendations help guide public improvements and private developments to preserve the defining characteristics of the area while allowing for continued growth of the area. The report concludes with general recommendations that have multiple responsible parties for implementation and rely heavily on community participation.

SPRINGFIELD LITTLE THEATRE



FEB 7-23



MAR 27-APR 11



MAY 8-17



JUN 12-28

*Discounts available for seniors, students, kids and groups of 10+

Springfield Little Theatre Education Department

Classes in acting, singing and dancing for kids through adults!

Scholarships are available • Call the Education Dept. to inquire! • (417) 869-2287



GRANT BEACH NEIGHBORHOOD



Connect


• Kathy Lutz, President:
kathylutz1000@gmail.com
or 417-501-8878
• Pauletta Dunn, Vice President
• Samantha Hunter, Secretary
• Doris Hunter, Treasurer
• Hovey House: 417-942-2456
or gbnewsnewsletter@gmail.com

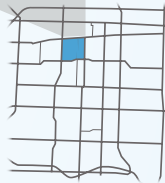
Neighborhood Association Meetings

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

grantbeachneighborhood.org

 **Weaver Elementary School**
1461 W. Douglas Ave.

 **Pipkin Middle School**
1215 N. Boonville Ave.



Weaver Elementary student wins ride to school courtesy of the Springfield Fire Department.



Congratulations
MERLE GOEHRING
Grant Beach's
NOVA Volunteer of the Year

Grant Beach Community Garden rededicated as Richard's Roots

By Kathy Lutz, for SGFNN

On Sept. 16, 2019, the Grant Beach Neighborhood Association held a rededication ceremony for Grant Beach Neighborhood Garden. The garden was renamed Richard's Roots, in memory of Richard Napieralski, who literally put his blood, sweat, and tears into the garden and passed away in August 2019.

Richard was an avid gardener (his entire backyard was a garden). Richard also helped establish the



Grant Beach produce distribution, which provided fruits and vegetables to those who signed up. Richard had been a member of the Grant Beach Neighborhood Association for over a decade, having served as our treasurer many years ago. Many sadly miss Richard, and this is our small way of remembering him.

Richard's sister and son were in attendance and livestreamed the event for his daughter, who was unable to attend. Several friends of Richard's were in attendance as well.



Registration for Grant Beach spring soccer season to begin in March

By Kathy Lutz, for SGFNN

We will post the date on the Grant Beach Sports Facebook page at facebook.com/GrantBeachSports as the season gets closer.

We always need coaches, so if you are interested in coaching please contact Yolanda Taylor, 417-952-5735, or Pauletta Dunn, 417-880-2453. Registration forms will also be on the door at Hovey House at 800 W. Hovey St. (corner of Hovey Street and Douglas Avenue).

This is an instructional league for ages 3-13 and is open to everyone. The cost is \$10 per child. This is a great way to find out if your child likes the sport BEFORE you invest a lot of money.



Tax-a-Palooza
Feb. 22
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
No appointment necessary!
(417) 720-2000

Bring your tax documents to the
Springfield Dream Center
at 829 W. Atlantic

IRS-certified volunteers will e-file your tax-return.
Get all of your eligible credits,
and save money by filing with VITA and TCE.

Community financial
resources will be on-site!

Free tax filing, All day long

Who is eligible? Taxpayers, married and single, who:

- earned less than \$56,000 in 2019 OR are over age 60
- did not declare bankruptcy in 2019
- do not own rental property

Other restrictions may apply call (417) 720-2000 for details



COMMUNITY
PARTNERSHIP



GREATER PARKCREST NEIGHBORHOOD



Connect

- Judy Wyrick, President:
jwyrick54@gmail.com or
417-883-0706
- Murielle Reed, Vice President
- Esther Nelson, Secretary
- Fred Romaine, Treasurer

Neighborhood Association Meetings

Feb. 20 • April 16: 6:30 – 8 p.m.
@ The Way Church (903 W. Katella St.)

 **Horace Mann Elementary School**
3745 S. Broadway Ave.



Mann Market rewards elementary students with toys, clothing, snacks and hygiene items

Did you know Horace Mann Elementary is one of 16 elementary schools in Springfield that receives \$100 a month to purchase all kinds of items for students? This project is called Mann Market and is part of an organization called Cents of Pride.

Mann Market is sponsored by and housed in The Way Church across the street from the school and is open the last Tuesday of each month.

To shop at Mann Market, students earn “dollars” in a variety of ways such as improving their school attendance, treating each other with respect and making wise decisions. Students then get to visit Mann Market with the “dollars” they have earned to “buy” toys, games, clothing, snacks or toiletries.

Mann Market always needs volunteers to staff the monthly shopping event and to donate items to the market or donate money so volunteers can pick up items.

If you are interested in donating your time or resources, please contact GPNA Vice President Murielle Reed at muriellereed@gmail.com. You can always bring donations to any GPNA-sponsored



event or meeting, as well.

Interested in donating items to Mann Market? Below is a list of suggested items for you from Horace Mann.

- Toys for girls and boys ages kindergarten-fifth grade;
- Clothes, including socks and gloves;
- Stuffed animals;
- Board games;
- Individually-wrapped snack items;
- Toiletries, such as shampoo, toothbrushes, combs, etc.



Greater Parkcrest Social Committee provides gifts for neighborhood helpers

The GPNA Social Committee put together candy gift bags for the teachers and staff of Horace Mann Elementary, The Way Church, the firemen at Fire Station 9, Officer Chris Laughlin and officers at the police station located on West Battlefield as a way to thank them for the work they do for our neighborhood everyday! Thank you to the Social Committee members for providing this thank-you treat on behalf of GPNA!



Congratulations
MURIELLE REED

Greater Parkcrest's
NOVA Volunteer of the Year



Check out a book from the Little Free Library on South Broadway.

HEART OF THE WESTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD

By Anna Pageler, for SGFNN

In September 2019, we had a successful fall cleanup. We were able to help neighbors dispose of more than 21 tons of trash and brush, recycle TVs, and we provided curbside pickup at 58 homes.



Heart of the Westside neighbors dispose of more than 21 tons of trash during fall cleanup

A huge shout out goes to Passion Assembly of God Church and Real Life Church. They provided 16 out of 21 volunteers, four trucks, and three trailers!

RESOURCE FAIR AND WESTSIDE CONNECTION

Unfortunately because of inclement weather, we had to cancel our greatly anticipated Heart of the Westside Resource Fair in the fall. However, please stay tuned for the upcoming Westside Connection spring event!

BIG MARCH MEETING

Heart of the Westside is excited to announce that we have created a clear goal for 2020! We would love for you to be a part of making that goal happen! So on March 12 at 6 p.m., please join us at Passion Assembly of God Church to meet your board, learn about our 2020 goal, and learn how you can be a part of making it happen! We are excited for what 2020 holds to move Heart of the Westside forward. [► More from Heart after the special section.](#)





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

WINTER WINDUP

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES EDITION

2020 Green Resolutions

1. Recycle something right.
2. Be nice to those pipes!
3. Practice Yard Ethics.



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/wastewater



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
springfieldmo.gov/recycling

WINTER WATER QUALITY

PAGE 4

PLUMBING PROBLEM PREVENTION

PAGE 3

CONTAMINATION HIBERNATION

PAGE 2

CONTAMINATION HIBERNATION

Become a responsible recycler and know the difference. Whether you recycle curbside or at a local center, there is a similar battle faced by each collector—contamination. Understanding how to avoid it can save loads of recycled materials from being ruined by misinformed recyclers. Know the difference and help our city decrease contamination levels at all recycling collection points. *Learn more at springfieldmo.gov/solidwaste*

A GUIDE FOR WHERE IT GOES		
RECYCLE	TRASH	COMPOST**
Aluminum Cans	Plastic Bags***	Coffee
Tin Cans	Plastic Wrap	Coffee Filters
Corrugated Cardboard	Plastic Coated Paper Boxes	Pizza Boxes
Newspaper & Magazines	Plastic Coated Paper Cups	Vegetable Scraps
GLASS*	Tissue Paper	Fruit Scraps
Wrapping Paper	Glitter Coated Paper	Plant Waste
Photographs / Pictures	Shiny Drink Pouches	Paper Products <i>uncoated</i>
Glass Bottles & Jugs	Ceramic	Napkins
Food and Tissue Boxes	Porcelain	Paper Towels
Toilet Paper Rolls	Plastic Toys	Tea Bags
Junk Mail Paper & Windowed Envelopes	Junk Mail - Plastic Cards	Yard Waste
Receipts	Plastic Cutlery	Shredded Paper
Plastic Cups	Deli Meat & Cheese Bags	Corks
Soap & Shampoo Bottles	Styrofoam***	
#1-#7 Plastics labeled		

NEIGHBORHOOD RECYCLING CENTERS		
LOCATIONS	NEAREST NEIGHBORHOODS	ACCEPTS
Franklin Avenue 731 N. Franklin Avenue	Midtown, Grant Beach, Bissett, Heart of the Westside, Weller, Robberson, Woodland Heights, Doling, Tom Watkins, Westside, West Central, Phelps Grove, Rountree, Delaware, University Heights	Glass, Plastics #1-#7, Aluminum, Tin, Paper, Cardboard, and Limited Yardwaste
Lone Pine Avenue 3020 S. Lone Pine Avenue	Galloway Village, Brentwood, Bradford Park, Meador Park, Oak Grove, Delaware, University Heights	Glass, Plastics #1-#7, Aluminum, Tin, Paper, Cardboard, and Limited Yardwaste
Yardwaste Recycling Center 3790 S. Farm Road 119	Greater Parkcrest, Mark Twain, Battlefield Area	Glass, Plastics #1-#7, Aluminum, Tin, Paper, Cardboard, Yardwaste and Brush Disposal

***Why Glass is Not Collected by Curbside Pickup**
We are often asked why comingled single-stream recycling does not allow glass, but does allow other recyclable materials that are collected at our recycling centers. The primary reasons center around a precaution to broken glass:

- It is a safety concern for collectors and processors.
- Broken glass contaminates loads; rendering materials unusable.

**** Compost refers to home composting.** We strongly encourage citizens to consider home composting. If you are interested and are currently not home composting, sign up for future courses and education at springfieldmo.gov/dishtodirt

***** Can be recycled at specialty locations.** Not accepted at curbside or centers. *Learn more about specialty locations at springfieldmo.gov/recyclingguide*

Know the Difference: Recycle Right

The processing of recyclables collected at our centers and through curbside providers can differ depending on material type. One difference being that *glass is not collected in single-stream curbside recycling* while it *is* collected at our three City recycling centers. There are slight variations between the materials collected curbside and centers, but one complication that we all face is that of contamination.

When people "*wishcycle*", the thought comes from the right place, but these good intentions can *contaminate* an entire load — turning recyclables into trash. Recycling isn't only about wanting to do the right thing; it requires knowing what the right thing is. In order to be successful, items must be placed in the right bin (even if that may be the trash).

Here are a few tips to ensure that what you put in the recycling bins will actually be recycled and repurposed as something new:

- **Rinse before recycling** (plastic & glass soda bottles and food jars)
- **Don't recycle if it has food on it** (greasy pizza boxes and paper plates)
- **No tangles!** (hoses, electronic cords, textiles, string lights & plastic bags)
- **Not these plastics!** (deli meat & cheese bags, cutlery, 6-pack rings, plastic film and toys)
- **Unsure? Don't recycle if there is no recycle symbol on the item.**
This is an example of "wishcycling."

single-stream Also referred to as comingled recycling, this is when recyclable materials are collected in one bin rather than separated. This is a more convenient and inexpensive method of recycling for residents and collectors. However, the risk for contamination is much greater.

wishcycle The act of placing an item that does not belong in the recycling bin that has the appearance of something recyclable. This often results in the contamination of loads of recyclables, which means they are sent to the landfill instead of being repurposed.

PLUMBING PROBLEM PREVENTION

Know the differences between the pipes and how to care for them.

It's easy for people to confuse stormwater drains, sewer laterals and sewer mains. However, they are all different in nature and responsibility. Understanding what each is, what their purpose is and how to ensure they continue to work properly is important and requires all City residents to remember several key responsibilities.

Learn more at springfieldmo.gov/wastewater

Not the Drain!

Collect your leftover oils, grease and fats from cooking in a glass jar or even an opened aluminum can.

A Recipe for Fatbergs

Grease, oil and fats will congeal as they cool and if rinsed down a drain, can build up and cause blockages in your home's sewer laterals.

SANITARY SEWER
SEWER LATERALS
STORMWATER DRAINAGE

Know Your Pipes

Take a look at the graphic above. This is a cross-section of the network of pipes that live under our city. There are two primary lines of pipe infrastructure that move water through our city. One takes wastewater to be treated and released into our local waterways and another takes stormwater directly to our waterways without treatment.

Sanitary Sewer Main

The pipe that connects all homes and businesses to the wastewater treatment plant.

Sewer Lateral

The pipe that connects homes and businesses to the sanitary sewer main. Anything you flush or rinse down the drain travels through this pipe and is the primary cause of any blockages, backups and clogs experienced in homes — and is the **property owner's responsibility**.

Stormwater Drainage

All stormwater drains into this series of pipes, ditches and culverts from streets and parking lots and flows directly to local rivers, streams and lakes.

What?! Santa in January?

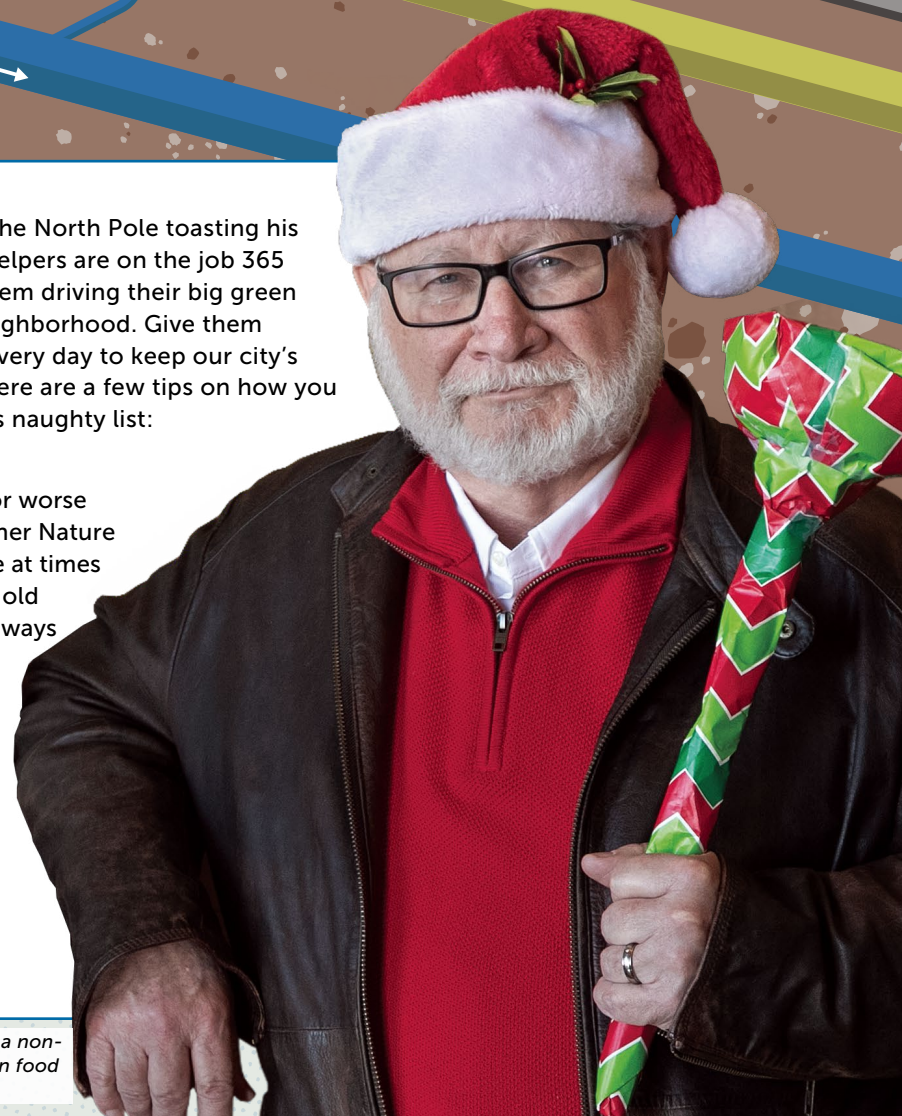
Sure, the main guy in red may be back at the North Pole toasting his toes by the fire, but Sewer Santa and his helpers are on the job 365 days a year. Chances are you have seen them driving their big green trucks through the city or even in your neighborhood. Give them a wave and remember, they are working every day to keep our city's sewers repaired and maintained. In fact, here are a few tips on how you can help while also avoiding Sewer Santa's naughty list:

Three Steps to Problem Prevention

Everyone has experienced a clog, backup or worse with their home's plumbing. Although Mother Nature or Father Time have a tendency to interfere at times when tree roots invade, corrosion starts or old clay pipes break down, here are three easy ways to decrease your chances of experiencing plumbing issues in your home.

- **Three-P's of Flushing:**
pee, poop and paper(toilet) are the only things that should be flushed down toilets.
- **No Wipes Down the Pipes!**
They may say they are flushable, but take it from us, they aren't.
- **No Stink Down the Sink!**
fats, oils and grease belong in the trash, not down the drain and in our pipes.

contamination A contaminant can ruin entire loads of recyclables. Specifically, a contaminant can be a non-recyclable material or trash that makes it in the recycling. It can also be recyclables that are covered in food residue or bottles of beverages that still have liquids in them. Guessing can cause contamination.



WINTER WATER QUALITY

Water freezes; but your attention to water quality does not.

It can be easy to forget about water quality when the days are cold and there are no lakes and streams to swim and float in. However, now is a perfect time to prepare for the spring and begin to plan rain garden and rain barrel installations.

Just remember, water quality efforts can remain active in the winter. It doesn't all have to be about planning. Consider a stream cleanup or be water quality conscious through responsible application of salt-melt and de-icers at work and home.

Learn more at springfieldmo.gov/stormwater

De-Ice Responsibly

The most common de-icing agent is salt-melt (or rock salt). This is largely due to its low-cost and effectiveness at melting ice. As many of us know, this can come with its drawbacks if you don't de-ice responsibly. Just remember, all of that salt can flow into our stormwater drains and run straight into our local waterways.

The Bad Side of Rock Salt

The negative effects of rock salt are evident from over-salting. Not only can this wash into our waterways, but it can aid in killing landscaped plantings, cause animal sickness, corrode metal and damage concrete.

Ways to Minimize the Bad

It can be difficult to be proactive when salting sidewalks, driveways and roads. Nobody wants to waste salt if it hasn't begun icing. However, pretreating sidewalks and driveways can minimize the negative effects while also increasing the effectiveness and reducing the amount used. It takes less salt to melt ice as it forms than after it has already formed. Application of a blend of de-icing agents can also reduce the amount used and increase the effectiveness of ice prevention and melt.



Harvest the Rain

In anticipation of spring, we generally expect an increase in rainy weather. Collecting that stormwater in a rain barrel is a smart and sustainable way to utilize a resource that otherwise would soak into the ground or run off your lawn into a storm drain.

Purchase a rain barrel and save the receipt! You may be eligible for the Right as Rain rebate from jamesriverbasin.com/rain-barrel.



Know Your Soil Before you Plant

Reap the benefits of a healthy lawn this spring. Understanding the nature of your soil will help your lawn and plants thrive with fewer inputs and amendments for growth and success.

Begin improving your soil health this year and watch your yard flourish. See if you qualify for a **FREE** soil test and **FREE** three-year nutrient management plan by visiting jamesriverbasin.com/lawn-steward.

Build a Rain Garden & Plant Natives

We can often wait until the temperature warms before we begin to plan our gardens. Get a jump on your yard planning while you still have time and consider a rain garden to beautify your yard, create habitat for wildlife & pollinators and help reduce stormwater runoff. In fact, planting natives in your rain garden is a great way to enhance the water quality, air quality and biodiversity of your yard.

Learn more about natives at GrowNative.org.

Join our city-wide and neighborhood-friendly Yard Ethic program by making changes like this to your yard this spring. See what other environmental enhancements you can make at yardethic.com or

This year make it a goal to make a positive impact on our local environment. In case you aren't familiar with this popular program, it connects citizens directly to area streams to help remove trash so we can all enjoy our trails, parks and the stream environment. Adopt-A-Stream is available to individuals, families, businesses and community groups willing to adopt a pre-selected portion of a major stream or small creek in need of periodic cleanups. Independent cleanups are also available. Visit springfieldmo.gov/adoptastream to get started today.



What about Shoveling?

When Springfield gets snow, shovel as early and often as possible. Shoveling can help keep snow from packing and forming ice, requiring more de-icers.

It's also a fun activity for the kids on a snow day!



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

Don't wait until spring to start your winter planning. Begin now, so you have a plan once the seasons begin to change. With just three simple practices, your yard could become Yard Ethic certified. It's easy to do and a great way to show that you are an active steward for our local and regional environment:

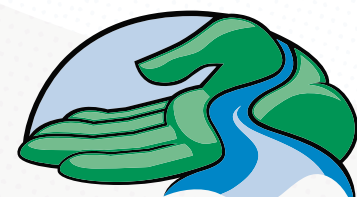
- Have your soil tested for tailored landscaping. visit jamesriverbasin.com/lawn-steward to apply for a soil test.
- Plant for pollinators (like bees and butterflies).
- Harvest the rain with a rain barrel.
- Plant a tree in your yard for habitat and canopy.
- Plan, prepare and plant a rain garden.
- Start home composting.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR RESOURCES & MORE
SUBMIT FOR CERTIFICATION AT YARDETHIC.COM



Show off your certification all year long with your very own yard sign!

You Can Make A Difference, Clean a Stream



ADOPT-A-STREAM
CITY OF SPRINGFIELD





Connect

- Cody Parsons, President:
codycodemanparsons@gmail.com
or 573-480-5393
- Mike Bauer, Vice President
- Anna Pageler, Secretary/Treasurer:
anna.pageler@gmail.com
- Glen Gohr, Social Media Coordinator:
archivesguy@hotmail.com
- theheartofthewestside@gmail.com

Neighborhood Association Meetings

March 12: 6 – 7 p.m. @ Passion
Assembly of God (806 N. Forest)



York Elementary School
2100 W. Nichols St.

Meet Victoria Mitchell, Caring Communities representative for Heart of the Westside and Bissett

By Jacque Harness,
CPO, for SGFNN

Victoria Mitchell is a community development specialist (CDS) for Community Partnership of the Ozarks in the Caring Communities Program. Currently, she serves York and Bissett elementary schools as well as Heart of the Westside and Bissett neighborhoods.



Victoria Mitchell

The nature of her work includes coordinating resources, developing and fostering community partnerships, creating and supporting after school programming, and supporting community engagement activities. Her work's purpose is to ensure children and youth are succeeding in school and that families have access to safe neighborhoods.

Springfield has been Mitchell's home for over 10 years. She is an alumnus of Missouri State University, where she studied administrative and business management. Victoria is a serious proponent for human rights and social justice. Her mission is to eradicate socioeconomic disparities in education and various factors of wealth including financial wealth, social wealth (status), time wealth (freedom), and physical/psychological wealth (health-safety), in creative yet strategic avenues.

Mitchell is also a graduate of Change One Thousand, a pre-employment soft skills training program offered by the City of Springfield's

Department of Workforce Development through the Missouri Job Center; a graduate of the Parent Leadership Training Institute program (PLTI); a recipient of the Making Sense of Money program; and a VITA volunteer, all three services provided by Community Partnership of the Ozarks.

For opportunities to partner with Mitchell, in her work as a CDS for Community Partnership of the Ozarks, you can connect with her via email at vmitchell@cpozarks.org.



**Congratulations
ANNA PAGELER**

**Heart of the Westside's
NOVA Volunteer of the Year**

MARK TWAIN NEIGHBORHOOD



Connect

- Samantha Spartan, President:
samantha4475@gmail.com or
417-343-3702
- Steve Koehler, Vice President
- Michael Georg, Treasurer

Neighborhood Association Meetings

Jan. 14 • Feb. 11 • March 10: 6:30 p.m. @ South
Haven Baptist Church (2353 S. Campbell Ave.)



Mark Twain Elementary
2352 S. Weaver Ave.

Mark Twain becomes Springfield's 22nd registered neighborhood

By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor

The City of Springfield welcomes Mark Twain Neighborhood Association as its 22nd 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 and 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.

Mark Twain's boundaries are Sunshine Street on the north, Campbell Avenue on the east, Kansas Expressway on the west and Battlefield Road on the south. The association meets at 6:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month at South Haven Baptist Church, 2353 S. Campbell.

Design underway for Mark Twain neighborhood stormwater improvements

By Kristen Milam, Public Information, for SGFNN

Mark Twain neighbors located in the area along Westwood Avenue between Seminole Street and Wayland Street may be noticing survey crews collecting data for an upcoming stormwater improvement project anticipated for construction in 2021.

City consultant Great River Engineering is currently completing the design plans for the project, located roughly along Westwood Avenue and Seminole Street between the intersections of Westwood Avenue and Wayland Street and Seminole Street and Nettleton Avenue.

“Our goal is to provide additional stormwater conveyance from the detention basin at Seminole and Nettleton to reduce the number of times the basin overtops and flows down Nettleton, flooding homes along the way.” – Zachary Mills



Detention basin at Seminole Street and Nettleton Avenue.

The area has experienced historic flooding into crawlspaces, frequent street flooding along Nettleton and Westwood, as well as overflowing of the detention basin at Seminole and Nettleton.

“Our goal is to provide additional stormwater conveyance from the detention basin at Seminole and Nettleton to reduce the number of times the basin overtops and flows down Nettleton, flooding homes along the way,” explains Public Works project manager Zachary Mills.

The project will most likely utilize new

underground storm pipes and inlets to allow for proper drainage. Additional detention volume may also be provided through the excavation of the detention basin at Wayland and Westwood.

Completion of design plans is anticipated in March 2020, with construction to begin in 2021 depending on acquisition of necessary easements.

The estimated cost of the stormwater improvements is \$489,000 funded through the 2017 renewal of Springfield’s Level Property Tax.



Past flooding in the Mark Twain neighborhood.

MEADOR PARK NEIGHBORHOOD




Connect

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

Neighborhood Association Meetings

Jan. 23 • Feb. 27 • March 26: 6 p.m. @ Cowden Elementary School (2927 S. Kimbrough Ave.)

 **Cowden Elementary School**
2927 S. Kimbrough Ave.



Meador president reflects on successful 2019

By Bobbi Ream, for SGFNN

With City of Springfield funding and excellent coordination by Community Partnership of the Ozarks’ Michelle Hethcoat, we had another very successful cleanup with help from numerous Meador Park residents and our chair, Shannon Medley. We moved our date up by about six weeks to avoid the cold. The weather was generally good, but had a rather substantial short shower.

We disposed of 10.4 tons of trash – that’s 20,400 pounds. That is a lot of trash! In addition, we recycled at least two very full loads of scrap metal and a large number of electronics.

We must say thank you to our City Council and CPO for making this possible!

KICKBALL 2020

The first year was a success – at least Rountree Neighborhood Association thought it was, since they were the winners. What does Meador Park need to bring home the 2020 trophy? Let’s start with a coach, players, and spectators!

The Meador Park Sports Complex will be home for this multi-neighborhood competition which will be on March 29. All readers from throughout the City of are encouraged to be involved.

We will find a spot for everyone. Please don’t be shy! If you have any interest in meeting new people or seeing old friends, please contact us.



NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

This was the first year for this program, which was chaired by Donna Clarkson. The objective was to assist neighbors with tasks that they were unable to accomplish themselves. Projects ranged from stabilizing a fence, to cleaning gutters, to yard work including some serious raking and pruning. Seven projects were completed in just a little over four hours.

We really do have some of the best residents in Meador Park neighborhood!



Congratulations
SARA STUBBINS
Meador Park's
NOVA Volunteer of the Year



Meador Park Neighborhood Association meeting at Cowden Elementary.

MIDTOWN NEIGHBORHOOD



Connect

- Jamie Saratella, President
- Susan Mann, Vice President
- Brian Shipman, Secretary:
417-880-2855
- Marie Wood, Treasurer:
417-496-8539
- midtown.sgf@gmail.com



Neighborhood Association Meetings

Jan. 13 • Feb. 10 • March 9: 6 – 7 p.m.
@ Urban Neighborhood Alliance, on Cox North
Hospital parking lot (918 E. Calhoun St.)



 **Boyd Elementary School**
1409 N. Washington Ave.

 **Central High School**
423 E. Central St.

Congratulations
BJ BILTON
Midtown's
NOVA Volunteer of the Year

*Want to submit an article
about your neighborhood?*

*Let your neighborhood
president or other
representative know!*

OAK GROVE NEIGHBORHOOD




Connect

- Gerald Clary, President:
gclary@aol.com
- Wendell Royster, Vice President:
jwrcameo5@att.net or
417-883-6541

Neighborhood Association Meetings

Jan. 28: 6 p.m. @ Oak Grove Community
Center (1538 S. Oak Grove Ave.) Meetings are
generally held at 6 p.m. on the last Tuesday of
alternating months. Contact Gerald Clary for
specific information.

ogna.weebly.com

 **Pittman Elementary School**
2934 E. Bennett St.

Join Oak Grove Neighborhood Association for \$5 per person or \$10 per household

By Gerald Clary, for SGFNN

The Oak Grove Neighborhood Association wants you!

If you live between Ingram Mill on the east, Glenstone on the west, Grand on the north and Sunshine on the south, then you live in the Oak Grove Neighborhood. Our goal is to provide a clean, safe, and friendly place for people to live, work and grow, by being involved with various community events in partnership with the city as a whole. Some of the major events we host are bi-monthly meetings of our general membership, usually with an interesting speaker that speaks to something of interest for our area.

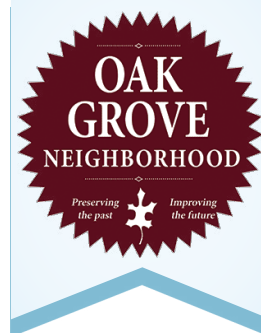


PAR Officer Jacob Boomgaarden discusses safety with a retired teachers group.

We have a PAR officer from the Springfield Police Department who is assigned to our area and keeps us abreast of any problems in our neighborhood and what we can do to protect ourselves.

Some of the other events we sponsor and/or participate in are:

- A three-day neighborhood garage sale in July.
- A City-wide National Night Out in August.
- A neighborhood block party in September.
- We participate in the Bass Pro Marathon in November by providing a water station for the runners.



- There's a neighborhood cleanup in November as well, at the East Grand Church of Christ, where we put trash and recycling containers and accept brush, leaves, and large-object trash, including appliances, furniture and anything else one needs to get rid of. We even have volunteers that will come and pick up things if you can't get it to the church.
- Ongoing projects include our "Adopt-A-Street" program in which we're responsible for picking up trash on Bennett between Oak Grove and Belcrest. We do that three times a year.



Oak Grove Neighborhood Association President Gerald Clary presents Pittman Elementary School Principal Lisa Batson with a \$500 check.

We help people deal with nuisance properties and sponsor improvements to our parks and sidewalks when possible as well. We are trying to get as many of our residents as is possible to complete the Neighborhood Watch training that the Police Department offers. We participate with the City through their Neighborhood Advisory Council and try and keep all of our membership up to date with what the city is doing as a whole that might affect us in our Oak Grove area. If you want to help and join, send your name, address, email and phone number to Cindy Cooper with \$5 per person or \$10 per household to Treasurer Cindy Cooper, P.O. Box 3128, Springfield, MO 65808.



Pittman kindergartener Lyla rode to school in style with Fire Station 7 in December 2019 after filling out a home safety survey during Fire Prevention Month in October.

Oak Grove Neighborhood Cleanup a success

By Gerald Clary, for SGFNN

WOW! What a cleanup! We used six dumpsters and filled them with leaves, brush and bulk items at our cleanup Nov. 9, 2019. We have several people to thank for helping to make our cleanup a total success, beginning with Sarah and Keith Campbell, East Grand Street Church of Christ, who provided the setup for us and assisted with disposals. Scoutmaster Jacob Hills and BSA Troop 7 made a significant contribution to our success.

Thanks to Alana Owen, senior planner from the City, who was involved, as well as Community Partnership of the Ozarks' Michelle Hethcoat, who coordinates the neighborhood cleanups. Big thanks to OGNA neighbors who came out and helped!



Oak Grove's Betty Johnson wins 75-79 age division in Bass Pro Marathon News-Leader 5K



Johnson, at left, is pictured with Gee Williams, who won the 80-plus age division.



**Congratulations
CINDY COOPER**
Oak Grove's
NOVA Volunteer of the Year

PHELPS GROVE NEIGHBORHOOD



Connect

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



Neighborhood Association Meetings

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

phelpsgrove.com



Randy Bacon photography exhibit on display at Springfield Art Museum

By Joshua Best, Springfield Art Museum, for SGFNN

Randy Bacon's The Road I Call Home photography exhibit opened Sept. 21, 2019 at the Springfield Art Museum. Bacon is a contemporary American photographer based in Springfield.

He has an extensive history in portrait, commercial, and documentary photography. At the core of his work is the ability to present emotive visual stories of the people he photographs. Bacon is also the co-founder of the people-empowering story movement, 7 Billion Ones.

Randy Bacon: The Road I Call Home, is a photography exhibition that brings attention and empathy to our community's homeless population. This exhibit features 45 new large-scale simple, direct, casual studio portraits of homeless individuals living in Springfield from Bacon's The Road I Call Home series. These portraits emphasize the beauty, identity, and integrity of each person. Each portrait featured in this exhibit is accompanied by a narrative, as told by the subject, sharing their personal story of homelessness.

The goal of this project is to bring awareness to our homeless community and convey one simple message according to the artist: "That we're all people and every single one of us matters."

During the run of this exhibit, the Museum will partner with the Community Partnership of the Ozarks and Gathering Friends for the Homeless to serve as a collection site for high need items for the winter months for our community's homeless population.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Guided Tours:**
 - Sat., Jan. 11, 11 a.m.
 - Sat., Feb. 8, 11 a.m.
 - Thurs., Feb. 20, 6 p.m.
- **Springfield Street Choir Performance:**
Jan. 16, 7-8 p.m.
- **The Road I Call Home Film Screening:**
Feb. 6, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

All events are free and open to the public. The exhibit closes Feb. 23.



Portraits from The Road I Call Home exhibit by photographer Randy Bacon.



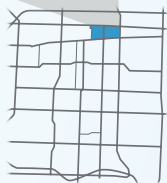
**Congratulations
DAVID & VICKY TRIPPE**
Phelps Grove's
NOVA Volunteers of the Year

ROBBERSON NEIGHBORHOOD



Connect

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



Neighborhood Association Meetings

Jan. 23 • Feb. 27 • March 26: 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
@ Pathways United Methodist Church
(1232 E. Dale St.)



Robberson Elementary School
1100 E. Kearney St.

Robberson fifth-graders partner with nonprofit to produce short film

By SPS Communications, for SGFNN

Only a true Redhawk could find the treasure. Robberson Community School fifth-graders wrote, produced, filmed and edited a short film as part of a hands-on project based learning unit. Plotline, a nonprofit film and media school, partnered with the students to provide camera and sound equipment, strategic direction and support for Michelle Barker's class.

But students led every step of the project.

"Knowing anything is possible is the real impact for the students. But we could be inspiring a future filmmaker, too." – Jim Bultas

"I've been really impressed by how engaged students have been in the whole process," said Jim Bultas, executive director of Plotline Film and Media. "Students are learning every step of the way. They developed the concept; they wrote the script. They're running the camera and directing actors. It's their movie."

Robberson fifth-grader Radley Satterfield made the treasure map, a key prop in the movie. She also is one of the students who memorized lines, followed scene direction from students directing the shot, as well as hitting marks within frame.

"I wouldn't say I'm the lead actress, but I was the person who found the riddle," said Radley. "There really isn't a lead in our movie. I haven't really acted before, so it's a lot of fun. I've seen bloopers a lot

and movies a lot, and I know it's OK to make mistakes, because I can do it again."

The finished short film premiered on a big screen in November. Students and their families had the opportunity to attend a film premiere, hosted by Plotline, with their culminating event an opportunity for their skills to shine.



And in every step of the two-week long film project, students were learning that anything is possible, says Bultas.

"The students went from knowing absolutely nothing about anything related to film to making a movie that they see on the big screen," said Bultas. "Knowing anything is possible is the real impact for the students. But we could be inspiring a future filmmaker, too."



**Congratulations
BEN & LILLIE BEAL**
Robberson's
NOVA Volunteer of the Year

ROUNTREE NEIGHBORHOOD



Connect

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



Neighborhood Association Meetings

Jan. 21 • Feb. 18 • March 17: 7 – 8 p.m.
@ University Heights Baptist Church
(1010 S. National Ave.)



routreenews.org

Rountree Elementary School
1333 Grand St.

Rountree expands boundaries to include Elm Street

By Mike Brothers, for SGFNN

The Rountree Neighborhood Association is making room for a few more neighbors. These aren't really new neighbors, however. It's a friendly annexation.

"We're excited about the possibilities before us and look forward to getting to know each other better and work together to keep that which is beautiful and noteworthy in our neighborhood." – Susan Belcher

The RNA and property owners on Elm Street, one block to the north of the existing neighborhood association boundaries, recently came together to bring Elm residents into the fold. Adding Elm Street to the RNA area has been discussed over the past two years as Rountree residents have worked with the City to update the area's neighborhood plan. That new plan was approved by the City Council in late 2018 and this change was one of its stated goals. The plan also recommended adding Elm Street to



the Rountree Urban Conservation District, which is a zoning overlay with special standards meant to recognize and protect the unique nature of the area. The UCD has been in place in Rountree since 1985.

"We are excited to have Elm Street join our neighborhood association," says Laurel Bryant, RNA board president. "We have long wondered why Elm was not included in either Rountree or the historic Walnut Street district just one street north of Elm. I have been so impressed with the engagement of the Elm neighbors and soliciting door-to-door feedback to survey their interest in joining us." ▶



Congratulations LAUREL BRYANT

Rountree's
NOVA Volunteer of the Year

► The process began in July 2019 with a potluck dinner inviting Elm residents to hear more and ask questions. About 35 residents showed up to explore the idea with members of the RNA board. Then volunteers from both RNA and Elm Street canvassed the area to gather input and approval.

"The responses were both positive and plentiful," Bryant says.

The RNA board voted to expand its own boundaries in the fall. The UCD is currently being updated by City staff and those changes will go before Planning & Zoning and City Council in the near future for a hearing.

"It is both an honor and opportunity for us to officially be a part of the Rountree Neighborhood Association — an organization with a solid track record of engaged citizenry, strong community building, and positive civic impact," says Susan Belcher, an Elm resident



Rountree Neighborhood Association Facebook Group, Mike Brothers

who helped organize for the change. "We're excited about the possibilities before us and look forward to getting to know each other better and work together to keep that which is beautiful and noteworthy in our neighborhood — even while working towards the Rountree of the future."

TOM WATKINS NEIGHBORHOOD



Connect

- Marti Mowery, President:
twma2010@yahoo.com
or 417-616-4064
or 417-864-7239
- Lynn Prince, Vice President
- Wanda Plumb, Secretary



Neighborhood Association Meetings

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

Williams Elementary School
2205 W. Kearney St.



Tom Watkins Neighborhood Spring Cleanup

March 14, 2020: 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Williams Elementary
2205 W. Kearney
Marti Mowery (417-616-4064)



Williams fourth-grader Dakota won a ride to school with Fire Station 5 in December 2019 after filling out a home safety survey during Fire Prevention Month in October.

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!



**THANK YOU,
SPRINGFIELD VOTERS!**
for renewing the 1/8-cent
Transportation Sales Tax and
the Police-Fire Pension Sales Tax!

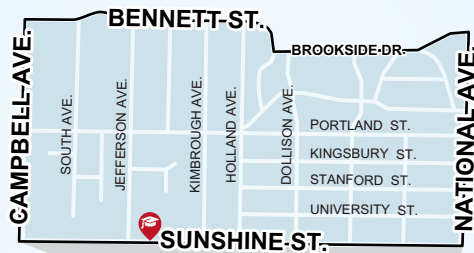
THE BIRTHPLACE OF ROUTE 66

AN OLD ROAD TO TRAVEL. NEW STORIES TO TELL.

Find official maps, toys, apparel and more at the
Route 66 Springfield Visitor Center or on our website.
SPRINGFIELDMO.ORG/ROUTE66

**Springfield
VISITOR CENTER**
(On Old Route 66 in Downtown Springfield)
Open Mon. - Fri., 8am - 5pm

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD




Connect

- Jan Peterson, President:
jan.peterson@att.net
or 417-838-6216
- John Stinson, Vice President
- Annette Hollon, Secretary
- Joel Thomas, Treasurer

Neighborhood Association Meetings

Feb. 5 • March 4 • April 1: 5:30 p.m.
@ Springfield Art Museum (1111 E. Brookside Dr.)



 **Sunshine Elementary School**
421 E. Sunshine St.

University Heights' first Bass Pro Marathon cheering section was a scream

By Jan Peterson, for SGFNN

About a dozen University Heights Neighborhood Association members gathered at an uncharacteristically early hour on Nov. 3, 2019 to cheer on runners as part of the Bass Pro Marathon Neighborhood Challenge.

With a theme of Museum Mayhem, in celebration of the neighboring Springfield Art Museum, the group took part in the challenge for the first time.

Costumes included Frida Kahlo, Bob Ross, a paint-splattered artist and works by artists Piet Mondrian and Edvard Munch.



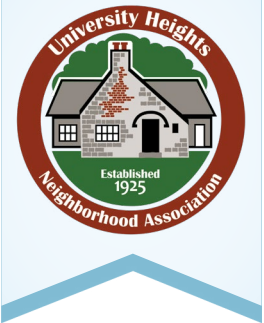
Runners were invited to leave their mark on a 9-foot canvas the team erected. Some of the runners took a moment to splatter acrylic paint across the canvas, helping to create a lasting memento of UHNA's participation.



Members and their kids also contributed to the merry mayhem that resulted on the canvas.

There were numb toes, lots of coffee and doughnuts and occasional trips to a nearby warming station (a nearby SUV), but the UHNA crew really got into the event and already is enthusiastically making plans for next year — and to increase the doughnut and coffee supply dramatically.

Other winter activities for the association included a holiday potluck celebration at a member's home and setting the course for 2020. It's certain to be a busy new year.



**Congratulations
LINDA REGAN
University Heights'
NOVA Volunteer of the Year**

WELLER NEIGHBORHOOD



Connect

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

Neighborhood Association Meetings

Feb. 6 • March 5 • April 2: 6 – 7 p.m.
@ Turning Point Church (1722 N. National Ave.)



 **Weller Elementary School**
1630 N. Weller Ave.

Weller Elementary celebrates new playground with ribbon cutting

By SPS Communications, for SGFNN

Weller Elementary School first-grader Brentley Phillips gave his school's new playground two big thumbs up.

"It's everything I ever thought was fun in my entire life," said Brentley. "It's awesome."



Brentley and every other Weller Elementary student participated in a special ribbon cutting ceremony on Sept. 13. The ceremony celebrated the conclusion of the Universal Language of Play Campaign, a two-year effort that raised more than \$200,000 for a new inclusive playground, says Weller principal Dr. Rebecca Donaldson.

"It takes a village and the entire Weller community and Springfield community became involved in raising money for our dream playground," said Donaldson. "Today, you are seeing our dream become a reality because of your generous giving."

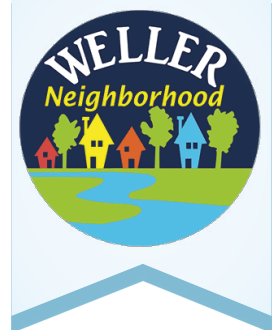
One member of the Weller community, third-grader Sylvia, donated \$120 to the playground fund

last February. The \$120 gift was the student's entire life savings, which she adamantly asked to donate to the school's playground. She had been saving the amount for five years.

Other students and parents raised money for the school's playground. Fourth and fifth grade students last year had a bake sale. Teachers wrote grants. Parents donated gallons of buckets of change.

Their generosity was matched with the support of local organizations. The Musgrave Foundation, Conco Concrete, Riteway Concrete, PlayCore, GameTime and Play 4 All all donated funds to The Universal Language of Play Campaign.

"We have students from five continents who attend Weller," said Dr. Donaldson. "We have students who are attending the ribbon cutting today who do not speak English. But when our English Language Learners come outside for recess, play becomes a universal language."





**Congratulations
WELLER
COMMUNITY CHURCH
Weller's
NOVA Volunteers of the Year**

Weller Neighborhood Community Yard Sale a success

Weller Neighborhood Association Facebook Page

The Weller Neighborhood Association wants to thank everyone who came out to support our community yard sale on Oct. 4 and 5, 2019. It was a great success!



WEST CENTRAL NEIGHBORHOOD



*Want to submit an article about
your neighborhood?*

*Let your neighborhood president
or other representative know!*

Connect

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

Neighborhood Alliance Meetings

Jan. 28 • Feb. 25 • March 24: 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
@ Broadway United Methodist Church
(545 S. Broadway Ave.)



McGregor Elementary School
1221 W. Madison St.



Campbell Early Childhood Center
506 S. Grant Ave.



**Congratulations
MICHELLE CIESIELSKI
& LOREN AUSTIN**

**West Central's
NOVA Volunteers of the Year**

WESTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD

Historic marker, playground dedicated at Zagonyi Park

By Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Park Board, for SGFNN

Springfield's Zagonyi Park is now home to a 80-year-old monument memorializing the Civil War event that gave the park its name.

Historians, Civil War reenactors and neighbors dedicated the monument, along with a new playground, in a ceremony in the park Oct. 25 — the 158th anniversary of Zagonyi's Charge.

On Oct. 25, 1861, two and a half months after the Battle of Wilson's Creek, Union Major Charles Zagonyi, with 326 men, lead a cavalry charge near Mount Vernon Road (present-day West Mt. Vernon Street) into 1,000 Confederate troops camped west of Jordan Creek. The attack routed

the Confederates, allowing Zagonyi's men to enter the Springfield public square and pull the Rebel flag down from the courthouse. The event, occurring early in the war, made national news and is now known as the First Battle of Springfield, or simply Zagonyi's Charge.

*"Knowledge about the history
of a community is essential to
understanding that community's
culture and values." – Bob Trewatha*

Gregory Wolk, with the Missouri Humanities Council, executive director of Missouri's Civil War

Heritage Foundation and author of "Friend and Foe Alike: a Tour Guide to Missouri's Civil War," has studied Zagonyi's Charge and believes the action actually took place on land that's now the park. He was the featured speaker at the dedication.

"Zagonyi's Charge was the first cavalry charge of the American Civil War, and in all probability the last cavalry charge in America that relied on sabers as a principal weapon," said Wolk.

Eighty years after the battle, in 1931, the University Club, a professional organization which has placed 21 historical markers in Greene County, ▶





Connect

- Joe Roberds, President:
joe65806@yahoo.com
or 417-838-0041
- Candy Smith, Co-Vice President
- Lydia Austin, Co-Vice President
- Sandi Huston, Treasurer
- Peri Redfearn, Secretary



Neighborhood Betterment Association Meetings

Jan. 14 • Feb. 11 • March 10: 6:30 p.m.,
@ Westport Park Apartments,
Community Room (250 N. Hilton Ave.)



Westport Elementary School
415 S. Golden Ave.

commemorated Zagonyi's Charge with a stone monument. It was first placed near the Frisco train depot in downtown Springfield, and after the depot was demolished in 1977, it was relocated to private property along Mt. Vernon Street, just west of Jordan Creek.

With recent development near the property, the future of the monument appeared uncertain. Neighbors from the Westside Neighborhood Betterment Association, along with the present-day University Club, concurrently had an idea: move the marker to Zagonyi Park. The University Club and Wommack Monument Co. moved, cleaned and installed the marker in what's now the park's circular community flower garden.



Gregory Wolk, rear right, with representatives with the Missouri Humanities Council and local Civil War reenactors, at the monument.

"Knowledge about the history of a community is essential to understanding that community's culture and values," said Bob Trewatha, with the University Club. "The Zagonyi's Charge marker

commemorates an important part of our history, and the University Club feels it must be preserved and maintained for us and future generations."



Members of Westside Neighborhood Betterment Association, along with Park Board staff, cut the ribbon for the new playground feature at Zagonyi Park.

Around the same time the monument was moved, the City of Springfield Neighborhood Works program awarded a \$97,500 grant for Zagonyi Park improvements through Westside Neighborhood Betterment Association. The grant funded a new universal-design accessible play feature, as well as new sidewalks, a community garden plot with adjacent irrigation, three drinking fountains, pavilion repairs and tennis court resurfacing at the park.

After a ribbon-cutting ceremony was held near the monuments, members of the Westside Neighborhood Betterment Association held a second ribbon cutting for the playground.

Additional grant-funded picnic shelters are planned at the 10-acre park, which was established in 1969.

Westside vice president reflects on 2019 successes

By Candy Smith, for SGFNN

As the year comes to an end, one often reflects on events from the current year. This year has been an exciting and an amazing one for the Westside Neighborhood Betterment Association (WNBA). Our many hours of hard work, document preparation and meeting attendance has paid off with three major projects being completed.



Our first completed project is the Grand Street bridge. After several years and handing out 300 surveys door to door, the bridge was reconstructed. It now has sidewalks, a center turn lane, and a connection to the Jordan Creek trail. Our neighbors can now safely drive and walk Grand Street now. It is a beautiful bridge!

... success does happen and problems do get fixed!

The "recharging" of Zagonyi Park is another great accomplishment this year. Over two years ago, WNBA submitted a proposal to the Neighborhood Works Program. The proposal was accepted for an inclusive playground, new drinking fountains, picnic shade structures and relocation of a Civil War

monument. Although the shade structures are still a work in process, the playground is in place and kid approved. Besides the two new drinking fountains, the old stone ones were repaired and made usable. The University Club Civil War monument now resides in a beautiful circle flower garden with plants and flowers from our neighbors. Come by and check it out.

While it is in its finishing stages, the new Mt. Vernon Street bridge is a welcome improvement to our neighborhood. The new bridge, just west of Kansas Expressway, replaces the old, crumbling and decaying one. This bridge is wider and it, also, has sidewalks on both sides. Work has also been done on Jordan Creek, which should help alleviate flooding during heavy rains. This work has helped highlight the hidden Jordan Creek walking trail. Access to the trail is now clearly marked and the trail is now a complete walk through to Grand Street

In between these projects, the WNBA has been busy sponsoring events to encourage neighborhood participation and betterment. Last December, 30 small "get to know WNBA" baskets were created and distributed to random homes. It was amazing to see expressions change from "who is knocking on my door bothering me" to ones of surprise, excitement, appreciation and WOW!!! The best result was the gaining of new members.

May was cleanup month. There were nine dumpsters of trash and two dumpsters of brush collected, which helped make our neighborhood cleaner. WNBA also participated in Westport's Rock the Block end of school event — a fun ending to the month.

The following months continued with fun events. There was CPR training, Neighborhood Night Out and Trunk 'r Treat. Our Neighborhood Night

Out was a great success with over 200 neighbors coming for pizza, prizes and to access information about various agencies. Treating the Westport kids at Trunk 'r Treat was a blast enjoyed by everyone. Finally, in November, WNBA participated in the Bass Pro Marathon with a cheering section with the theme of Route 66 Rockwood Motor Courts.

Westside neighbors help paint a replica of the Route 66 Rockwood Motor Courts for the neighborhood's Bass Pro Marathon cheering section.



As you can see, it has been a busy and successful year for the WNBA. There are still many areas of concern in our neighborhood. It does take time and teamwork to make things happen. A recent post on the Zone 1 Facebook page had a picture of a sign painted on a downtown building. The sign said "Every day is your chance to make this city a little better."

One way to make your neighborhood and city better is to get involved. Join your neighborhood association to help determine the neighborhood strengths and weakness. Then work with your team to fix the problems. Because success does happen and problems do get fixed!

Westside features Rockwood Motor Court rehab in Bass Pro Marathon cheering section

By Joe Roberds, for SGFNN



WNBA President Joe Roberds



Westside neighbors stand ready with refreshments for the runners.



WNBA chose a Route 66/Rockwood Motor Court theme. Rockwood Motor Court is being revitalized by owners Phyllis Ferguson and her husband Tim.



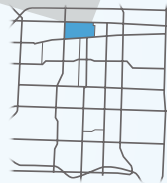
Congratulations
SHARON BROOKS
Westside's
NOVA Volunteer of the Year

WOODLAND HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD



Connect


- Becky Volz, President:
rsvolz5@gmail.com
or 417-880-4210
- Steve Sexton, Vice President:
- Katie Bolt-Goeke, Secretary
- Bernadean McAfee, Treasurer



Neighborhood Association Meetings

Jan. 21 • Feb. 18 • March 17: 6:30 – 7:30 p.m./
6 p.m. optional potluck dinner @ Woodland
Heights Presbyterian Church (722 W. Atlantic St.)

woodlandheightsneighborhood.org

 **Bowerman Elementary School**
2148 N. Douglas Ave.

 **Reed Middle School**
2000 N. Lyon Ave.

Habitat for Humanity of Springfield recognizes Becky Volz with Helping Hands Award

By Hannah Spencer, Habitat for Humanity of Springfield, for SGFNN

Habitat for Humanity of Springfield recognized Woodland Heights Neighborhood Association President Becky Volz with a Helping Hands Award at its annual Hearts and Hammers Awards Luncheon Nov. 5, 2019 at University Plaza.

The Helping Hands Award is given to individuals or organizations that volunteer time to builds, Neighborhood Revitalization projects, administrative help, special events, committee work and more. These honorees have made it possible for us to make an impact in the lives of our neighbors.

Becky has been a huge help to us here at Habitat in our neighborhood revitalization efforts. She has been a long-time Woodland Heights resident and community leader. If you aren't aware, Woodland Heights is currently our partner neighborhood for our neighborhood revitalization efforts, so we have gotten to work closely with Becky! She also serves on the Springfield Council of PTAs, Neighborhood Advisory Council, Woodland Heights Neighborhood Association board, and most



Volz, with Habitat for Humanity of Springfield Executive Director Larry Peterson.

recently the Forward SGF Advisory Team. We have seen firsthand that she is always there to help a stranger, neighbor, or friend, and she doesn't do it for the recognition. She truly just cares about building a better community.

OTHER AWARD RECIPIENTS INCLUDED:

Golden Hammer Honorees

- Glenn Green
- Kayshia Rosenbury
- Amy Shelley
- Guaranty Bank
- Republic Services
- T-Mobile

Building Lives Honorees

- Valerie Eastman
- Walter and Kay Green
- Missey Hayward

Helping Hands Honorees

- Becky Volz
- AARP Foundation Senior Community Service Employment Program

Special Recognition

- Rob Bell
- Kyrie Stewart



Woodland Heights Neighborhood Spring Cleanup

April 18, 2020: 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Reed Academy
2000 N. Lyon
Becky Volz (417-880-4210)



800-1,000 attend Woodland Heights' first Fall Festival

By Becky Volz, for SGFNN

It was the August 2019 WHNA board meeting at the Charlie Norr Community Center (lovingly dubbed "The Charlie.") Discussion as usual (or unusual) about important neighborhood matters was under way. Jolene Hall, a new board member asked, "Does Woodland Heights do anything for Halloween?"

It had been quite a while since neighbors organized a family event in the park for Halloween.

How about using The Charlie for a spooky maze?, she asked.

She had lots of décor ... Halloween is her favorite holiday ... hmmm, a safe, family-friendly event for our neighbors ...

A budget was discussed, a motion was made, then a second, and the motion passed. An application was submitted to the Springfield-Greene County Park Board to use The Charlie for the event. Doug Schlottman from Community Partnership of the Ozarks went to Reed Academy's new principal, Sara Strohm, with the idea of a collaboration, and planning for Woodland Heights' first fall festival was soon under way.

Committee meetings were held at Katie Bolt-Goeke's house with Janetta Tracy, Jolene, Doug and Reed's Anje O'Donnell. Excited faculty, families and neighbors signed up to add a trunk or treat component. Neighborhood deejay Jason Gish found some music to spin, face painters prepared for a long line of faces to decorate and candy by the



Some waited in the line for over an hour to get into the Hall of Terror! Special thanks to Jolene Hall and family.

pound and hot dogs and buns were donated.

"This will be an awesome welcome for our new principal," we thought.

Back at The Charlie, Jolene and her family taped out a design on the floor for the maze. A call went out to neighbors for 5-gallon buckets to borrow, and along came Larry Massey and Tom Wallis with them. Then, a trip to Habitat for Humanity's ReStore for supplies, guided by Kelsey Milholland, and the building began. Did we know it would be a wait-in-line-for-an-hour scary two-minute experience?! Uh, not really. We just hoped people would turn out for the event.

Reed Academy invited all their feeder school families. Postcards went to the 1,791 addresses in Woodland Heights. Social media sported a colorful poster designed by Linda Passeri. An estimated 800-1,000 came. It was a huge success!

Jolene's design/build team included her husband David Hall; her father and mother Lloyd and Lynda Howell; Ty and Renae Howell, her nephew and

niece; Milla and Natalie Hall, her daughters; Ryker Douglas, a friend; and missionaries from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

Donations were provided by Mars Candy, Culver's, Hill City Church, North Side Assembly of God Church, the Park Board, Air Services Heating and Cooling, The Dream Center, Greene County Freight, Jackson Brothers, Price Cutter, Fasnacht Creek Farms, Commerce Bank, Hillcrest High School and Missouri State University.

Activities included trunk or treating, free hot dogs, chips and custard, music spun by Jason, making s'mores, a photo booth, face painting, costume giveaway, yard games, visiting the fire truck, Bikers Against Child Abuse, a local police officer and of course, the spooky maze!

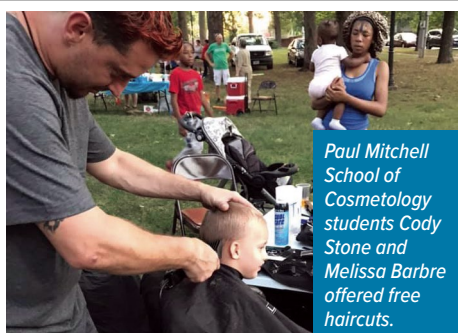
This event was the successful venture of the Woodland Heights Neighborhood Association, Community Partnership of the Ozarks, and Reed Academy. This looks like it may become an annual event!



The event included a trunk or treat for the kids at Reed Academy. Special thanks to Doug Schlottman at Community Partnership of the Ozarks for facilitating the partnership for the trunk or treat with Reed Academy.

Woodland Heights' Neighborhood Night Out includes free haircuts, face painting and more

By Becky Volz, for SGFNN



Paul Mitchell School of Cosmetology students Cody Stone and Melissa Barbre offered free haircuts.



Springfield Fire Department offered the neighborhood kids a close-up look at a fire truck.



Thanks to face painter Mary Kate!

Ribbon cut for new playground equipment at Lafayette Park

By Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Park Board, for SGFNN

Habitat for Humanity of Springfield; Republic Services; the Woodland Heights Neighborhood Association and the Springfield-Greene County Park Board cut the ribbon for new playground equipment at Lafayette Park Oct. 23, 2019.

Earlier this year, Habitat for Humanity received a \$100,000 Neighborhood Revitalization grant from the Republic Services Charitable Foundation's National Neighborhood Promise program. The grant provided new playground equipment for Lafayette Park, one of Springfield's oldest parks, located in the Woodland Heights neighborhood, Habitat for Humanity's Neighborhood Revitalization partner.

Volunteers with Republic Services, Habitat for Humanity and Woodland Heights partnered with Park Board operations staff to deconstruct outdated playground equipment at Lafayette Park in June, making way for the new equipment.

The new ADA-accessible playground includes



four slides, interactive climbing features and a state-of-the-art rubber padded surface for added safety. It was designed by Cunningham Recreation.

Lafayette Park was built in 1869 as a sister park with Washington Park, just before the Frisco Railway brought the railroad to North Springfield, a separate city until 1887. It was privately maintained until it was acquired by the Park Board in 1913. Lafayette Park is one of Springfield's 10 Historic Parks, and serves as a school-park for nearby Reed Academy.



Congratulations
STEVE SEXTON

Woodland Heights' NOVA Volunteer of the Year

Events

January – March 2020

EDUCATION & RESOURCES

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

Free Tax Preparation: Appointment lines open Jan. 15. You may be eligible for free tax preparation through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program if your household income is less than \$56,000/year, or you are a person with a disability, or if English is your second language. Call 417-720-2000. You must make an appointment for any of our eight locations in Greene County. Provided by Community Partnership of the Ozarks.

Forward SGF Visioning Workshops:

• **Workshop 1:** Jan. 28: 6:30 p.m., Oasis Convention Center, 2546 N. Glenstone. • **Workshop 2:** Jan. 29: 2 p.m., University Plaza Hotel, 333 S. Hammons Parkway. • **Workshop 3:** Jan. 29: 6:30 p.m., Relics Event Center, 2015 W. Battlefield Rd. The next step in the Forward SGF Comprehensive Planning Process, the goal for the visioning workshops is to generate a shared vision for the Springfield of the future. We want anyone who considers themselves stakeholders in our community's future at the table during these workshops to provide input. Learn more on page 4.

Coffee with the Chief: Jan. 30: 7-8:30 a.m., Smith's Restaurant, 2776 S. Campbell Ave. • Feb. 19: 7-8:30 a.m., Able Coffee & Provisions, 3049 S. Fremont Ave. • March 18: 7-8:30 a.m., Mudhouse, 323 South Ave. 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.

iPhone Class for Seniors: Second and fourth Tuesday of each month: 1-3 p.m. Schweitzer Brentwood Branch Library, 2214 S. Brentwood Blvd. If you're an older adult who would like to get more out of your iPhone or iPad, join us for free classes taught by veteran instructor Julie Mahaffy. This is a four-part series that covers different topics at each session. One-on-one assistance will be available for the first half hour, with the presentation beginning at 1:30 p.m. Call 417-883-1974 for more information.

Tax-a-Palooza: Feb. 22: 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Springfield Dream Center, 829 W. Atlantic St. Free tax filing! Bring your tax documents and our IRS-certified volunteers will e-file your tax return. Get all the credits you are eligible for, and save money by filing with VITA and TCE. No appointment necessary. Who is eligible?: Taxpayers, married and single, who earned less than \$56,000 in 2019 or are over age 60; did not declare bankruptcy in 2019; and do not own rental property. Other restrictions may apply. Call 417-720-2000 for details. What do I bring?: Photo ID; Social Security cards for all persons on return; all income statements: forms W-2, 1099, Social Security Unemployment, or other

benefits statement, self-employment records and any documents showing taxes withheld; childcare provider's information; and voided check for direct deposit of refund.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Events are free unless otherwise noted.

PTA Clothing Bank: Open most Thursdays 2:30-5 p.m. and some Saturdays from 9-11 a.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! 2020 Schedule: Jan. 16, 23, and 30; Feb. 6, 13, 20, and 27; March 5 and 26; April 2, 4, 16, and 23 (last day). Schedule subject to change. Like and follow The PTA Clothing Bank on Facebook for the latest updates.

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.

Senior Peer Support Training: Jan. 15-16: 9 a.m.-4 p.m. The Library Center, 4653 S. Campbell Ave. • Feb. 19-20: 9 a.m.-4 p.m. First Baptist Church, 525 South Ave. About 1 in 5 adults over 55 years of age experience a mental health concern and many of these adults don't receive the emotional and social support they need. Join the movement and become a trained Senior Peer Supporter. Senior Peer Supporters must attend the free training course and be at least 55 years old. The two-day training includes the Mental Health First Aid course, a national program to teach the skills to respond to signs of mental illness and substance use. Lunch will be provided. Registration is required, visit <http://bit.ly/seniorpeersupport>. Questions? Please contact Julie Vele at 417-864-2077 or jvele@springfieldmo.gov.

ARTS, CULTURE & FUN

Events are free unless otherwise noted.

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

Try Archery Program: Jan. 15, Feb. 19, March 15, April 22: 6-7 p.m., Springfield Archery Complex at the Davis Property, 5780 S. Farm Rd. 141. Allows beginners an opportunity to shoot a limited number of arrows under the supervision of an instructor. Equipment is provided. *Ages 6 yrs. and up. Fee: \$5/one-hour class.*

Eagle Days: Jan. 18-19: Sat., 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sun., Noon-3 p.m. Lake Springfield Boathouse, 5324 S. Kissick Ave. Learn about eagles and other migratory birds visiting Lake Springfield this winter. Bring binoculars, telephoto cameras or small telescopes, or use equipment provided by the Missouri Department of Conservation. Indoor eagle programs, crafts and activities also offered by MDC staff and Dickerson Park Zoo at the Springfield Conservation Nature Center (4602 S. Nature Center Way).

2020 Springfield Multicultural Festival:

Jan. 20: Noon-4 p.m., Oasis Hotel and Convention Center, 2546 N. Glenstone Ave. The Springfield Multicultural Festival is an annual performing arts and community resource expo designed to provide access to cultural enrichment through the visual and performing arts. The festival features ethnic foods, non-stop dance, and music originating from all over the world as well as over 45 exhibitors sharing information about employment opportunities, health care access, financial and educational services and a variety of other resources. *Admission is \$5 for adults (collected at the door) and is free for anyone 17 yrs. and under.*

National Skating Month Event: Jan. 25: 1-2:30 p.m. Jordan Valley Ice Park, 635 E. Trafficway St. Free ice skating with coaches on the ice to assist new and beginning skaters of all ages. *Free, includes skate rental.*

People's History Café: Feb. 1: 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Timmons Hall, 1055 E. Webster St. (inside Silver Springs Park). Please join us to celebrate and highlight the history and contributions of African Americans in Springfield. This event is free and open to the public. Learn more on page 6.

Junior Master Gardener Nights: Feb. 4, March 3, April 7: 5:30 p.m. Springfield-Greene County Botanical Center, 2400 S. Scenic Ave. Kids get their hands dirty with a fun hands-on horticulture activity. First Tuesday of each month. *Ages: 8-15 yrs. Fee: \$5/class.*

Timmons Hall History Spotlight: The Milly Project: Feb. 8: 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Timmons Hall, 1055 E. Webster St. (inside Silver Springs Park). Learn about "The Milly Project," a play written and produced by Willard High School teacher Kendra Chappell, with research assistance from her students. The plays tells the account of Milly Sawyers, a former Springfield slave who won her freedom in 1836. The event will include a conversation with the director and cast. Seating is limited and reservations are required at 417-864-1171. Learn more on page 6.

Senior Social: Feb. 10: 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Schweitzer Brentwood Branch Library, 2214 S. Brentwood Blvd. For adults age 60 and older. From 11 a.m.-noon, enjoy social time, refreshments, board games and puzzles. From noon-1:30 p.m., a Making Aging More Engaging lunch program will be provided by SeniorAge Area Agency on Aging. A \$3.50 lunch donation to SeniorAge is encouraged. Registration starts Jan. 27, call 417-883-1974.

Garden Story Time: Feb. 12, March 11, April 8: 10 a.m., Springfield-Greene County Botanical Center, 2400 S. Scenic Ave. Kids and parents meet for a garden-themed story in the Botanical Center, followed by a fun science-based activity. *For pre-schoolers with parents. Free.*

President's Day Pinecone-palooza: Feb. 17: Noon-3 p.m., Springfield-Greene County Botanical Center, 2400 S. Scenic Ave. School's out, but the Botanical Center is open. Drop in for a craft featuring everyone's favorite natural craft item: the pinecone! Children must be accompanied by an adult. *Grades K-6. Fee: \$5.*

Potting Shed University: Mondays starting Feb. 17: 6-7 p.m. Springfield-Greene County Botanical Center, 2400 S. Scenic Ave. Presented by the Master Gardeners of Greene County. Invest in gardening skills for life and become a better gardener. Pay-at-the-door registration opens at 5:30 p.m. Schedule: Feb. 17: Soil Health

for the Home Gardener • Feb. 24: Dish to Dirt Home Composting • March 2: Turf Sustainable Lawn Care • March 9: Herbs on Your Plate and in Your Glass • March 16: A Year in the Life of a Beehive • March 23: Pollinator Gardens • March 30: Blackberries: Delicious, Nutritious and Thornless. *Fee: \$5/Class.*

Try Hockey for Free Day: Feb. 22: 1 p.m., Jordan Valley Ice Park, 635 E. Trafficway St. Kids interested in ice hockey? Give it a try. We provide coaches and equipment. Skating experience not required, but registration is. Call 417-866-7444 to register. *Ages 10 yrs. and under.*

Daddy Daughter Dance: Feb. 22: 6-9 p.m., Doling Family Center, 301 E. Talmage St. Girls, bring your dad, step-dad, grandpa, uncle, or special guy out for a night you'll always remember. This year's theme is Enchanted Evening! Enjoy a catered dinner, music, dancing and special surprises. Event held in the Northview Center Ballroom, adjacent to Doling Family Center. Registration opens Jan. 13. Register early at ParkBoard.org, space is limited. *Fee: \$40/Couple, \$15/each additional girl.*

Shawn Bitters: Burn Out: Now through July, Springfield Art Museum, 1111 E. Brookside Dr. Shawn Bitters is a Kansas City-based sculptor and printmaker. His work explores the use of language, narratives, and belief structures to establish connections to our environment. Burn Out is comprised of 23 "stones," on view as a long-term loan courtesy of the artist. The stones in Burn Out form a narrative; each rock is encoded, representing a letter. The stones can be 'read' by moving through the landscape, beginning at the Museum's Amphitheater and moving west and north through nearby Phelps Grove Park. This installation is a collaboration with the Springfield Greene-County Park Board.

Randy Bacon: The Road I Call Home: Through Feb. 23, Springfield Art Museum, 1111 E. Brookside Drive. Randy Bacon is an American photographer based in Springfield. This exhibit features simple, direct, emotive, casual studio portraits of homeless individuals accompanied by personal narratives. These portraits emphasize the beauty, humanity, identity and integrity of each subject while raising public awareness of our homeless community. Learn more on page. 20.

- **Guided Tours:** Jan. 11: 11 a.m., Feb. 8: 11 a.m., Feb. 20: 6 p.m.
- **Springfield Street Choir:** Jan. 16: 7-8 p.m.
- **The Road I Call Home Film Screening:** Feb. 6: 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Frozen February: Feb. 29: 10:30 a.m. The Library Center, 4653 S. Campbell Ave. For pre-school to grade 5 in the auditorium. Don't get left out in the cold. Dance and sing along to one of your Disney favorites, "Frozen," rated G. We'll also have crafts and cool activities. Call 417-882-0714.

Heirloom Seed Library Grand Opening: Feb. 29: 2-4 p.m. The Library Station, 2535 N. Kansas Expy. Stop by during this come-and-go event in the lobby and get the first pick of heirloom seeds. Need help getting started? Experienced gardeners will be on hand to answer your gardening questions and give you pointers on starting your garden. Call 417-865-1340.

Anders Zorn: Etchings: Through March 8, Springfield Art Museum, 1111 E. Brookside Dr. Anders Zorn (1860-1920) was a Swedish artist known for his skills as a sculptor, printmaker and portraitist including three American presidents — Grover Cleveland, William Howard Taft and

Theodore Roosevelt. This exhibition presents all 93 of Zorn's etchings from the museum's permanent collection, gifted to the museum in 1970 by the late Arthur E. Anderson.

- **Curator's Tour:** Jan. 30: 6 p.m.
- **Slow Viewing Night:** Feb. 13: 6 p.m.

All School Exhibition: March 6-April 26, Springfield Art Museum, 1111 E. Brookside Dr. The museum's longest running exhibition initiative, the All School Exhibition invites student artists from public, private, parochial and home school cooperatives to exhibit outstanding artwork in our largest gallery space. This exhibit also reflects the work of the incredibly talented teachers in our community, many of whom are practicing artists themselves.

- **Opening Receptions:**
 - Middle/High School: March 5: 5:30-7 p.m.
 - Elementary School: March 7: 2-4 p.m.

Framed: The Art of the Picture Frame: March 21-June 21, Springfield Art Museum, 1111 E. Brookside Dr. This special exhibition features over 40 works from the museum's permanent collection, demonstrating art framing styles and trends as varied as the paintings they surround and illustrating the important role of art framing in conserving and preserving artwork. This exhibition is divided into three areas: history of art framing, aesthetics, and a hands-on educational frame shop. This exhibition is guest curated by Exhibitions Manager Cindy Quayle.

Orchid Show and Sale: March 21-22: Sat., 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sun., 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Springfield-Greene County Botanical Center, 2400 S. Scenic Ave. The Springfield Orchid Society presents a dazzling juried display of beautiful, rare and exotic orchids, some of which are available for purchase. *Free admission, prices vary per plant.*

Floating Easter Egg Hunt: March 28: 6 mo.-4 yrs, Noon-1 p.m.; 5-8 yrs, 1-2 p.m.; 9-12 yrs., 2-3 p.m. Chesterfield Family Center, 2511 E. Republic Rd. A hoppin' good time with a floating twist. We fill the pool with floating eggs for kids to splash, swim, and plunge their way to gathering them up. Bring a waterproof basket to collect eggs. Every participant receives a prize! Children 8 and under must be accompanied by an adult in the water. *Fee: \$8/participant, includes an accompanying adult, \$2/spectator, with pre-registered participating youth.*

The Second Annual Springfield Neighborhood Kickball World Championship: March 29: Registration begins at noon, the games begin at 1 p.m. Meador Park Softball Complex, 2500 S. Fremont Ave. We have ten teams currently interested, but we need more! Contact your neighborhood association to find out if they have a team and how to join. The first event was a hoot! This one should be even better! For more information contact DelawareNeighborhood@gmail.com or MPNAMO@yahoo.com.

Cherry Blossom Kite and Piñata Festival: April 4: 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Springfield Botanical Gardens, 2400 S. Scenic Ave. Celebrate spring with the Springfield Sister Cities Association. Bring a kite to fly or build one with us on the Great Lawn. Whack a piñata nearby. Enjoy Japanese and Mexican children's crafts at the Botanical Center, and free admission to the Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden as it reopens for the season. *Free admission, \$5/kite kits.*

National Zoo Lovers Day & Enrichment EGGstravaganza: April 4: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Dickerson Park Zoo, 1401 W. Norton Rd. Celebrate zoos, and

watch the zoo's animals "hunt" when zookeepers hide papier-mâché eggs filled with treats or use other egg-themed enrichment items. *Fee: \$15/adults and teens, \$10/Children 3-12 yrs., \$12/60 yrs. and up, Free/Children 2 and under, and FOZ members.*

Easter at the Farm: April 4: 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, yard games and the Easter Bunny. We'll have more than 20,000 eggs filled with candy and prizes, with individual Easter Egg Hunts throughout the day. Kids are limited to 15 eggs each, while supplies last. Bring your basket, and your camera for pictures with the Easter Bunny. *Free (some activities have a small fee).*

Golf Customer Appreciation and Masters Kick-Off Party: April 8: 4-6 p.m. Rivercut Golf Course, 2850 W. Farm Rd. 190. Join the Park Board and kick off the 2020 Masters Tournament at Rivercut Golf Course, with themed appetizers, demos, contests and other surprises. *Free*

Full Moon Hike: April 10: 8 p.m. Springfield-Greene County Botanical Center, 2400 S. Scenic Ave. Back by popular demand! Experience the spring "pink moon" in the gardens with a guided walk around Lake Drummond. This one-mile walk is wheelchair and stroller accessible. *Registration is encouraged by calling 417-891-1515.*

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.

Green for Greene Information Sessions: Tuesdays: 9:30-10:30 a.m., Missouri Job Center, 2900 E. Sunshine. Green for Greene provides certifications that are needed for high paying, local "green" jobs that will assist local neighborhoods, attract new and expanding business, and create more jobs and services in the area. For more information on how to apply contact Wendy Graves a 417-841-3341 or wgraves@springfieldmo.gov.

BY NEIGHBORHOOD

BISSETT

Bissett Neighborhood Association Meetings: Feb. 11, March 10: 6:30-7:30 p.m./6 p.m. optional potluck, Bissett Elementary School, 3014 W. Calhoun.

BRADFORD PARK

Bradford Park Neighborhood Association Meetings: Feb. 19, March 18: 6:30 p.m., Immaculate Conception Church, 3555 S. Fremont.

Bradford Park Neighborhood Spring Cleanup: April 4: 8 a.m.-Noon, End of Walnut Lawn, 1370 E. Walnut Lawn. Residents and/or property owners in the Bradford Park neighborhood are invited to participate in the spring neighborhood cleanup. Residents are encouraged to take advantage of this free and convenient opportunity to dispose of trash, brush, metal, leaves, tires and TVs (contact your coordinator for details). Curbside pickup is available, but fees may apply. To arrange a pickup contact Dellene Nelson at 417-882-2801.

BRENTWOOD

Brentwood Neighborhood Association

Meetings: Jan. 13: 6:30 p.m., Schweitzer Brentwood Branch Library, 2214 S. Brentwood Blvd. Meeting schedule varies. Please check the website or contact an officer for other meeting dates, times and locations.

DELAWARE

Delaware Neighborhood Association

Meetings: March 3: 6 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1551 E. Portland. Catered dinner included.

Delaware Women's Group: Day and location change each month. Contact Nancy Williams at 417-496-2187 or see Delaware's Facebook group event listing for details. Come join us for food, drink (if you want) and frivolity!

DOLING

Doling Neighborhood Association Meetings:

Jan. 14, Feb. 11, March 10: 6:45-8 p.m., optional potluck starts at 6 p.m., Hillcrest Presbyterian Church, 818 E. Norton Rd.

Giboney Cave Tours: April 4: 1, 2, & 3 p.m. (Tunnel Tour only offered at 3 p.m.) Doling Park, 301 E. Talmage. Explore the myths, facts and history of Doling Park's Giboney Cave. Shoes will get muddy on Walking Tours, and you will get very muddy and wet on the in-depth Tunnel Tours. Dates subject to cancel due to weather and bat activity. Pre-register or sign up in person at Giboney Cave on tour day. *Ages 5 yrs. and up. Fee: Walking Tour: \$5/Person, \$16/Family of 4; Tunnel Tour: \$7/Person, \$24/Family of 4.*

GALLOWAY VILLAGE

Galloway Village Neighborhood Association

Meetings: Jan. 21: 6:30 p.m., Galloway Baptist Church, 2816 E. Republic Rd. Meetings are quarterly. Special meetings may be called as needed.

Walk and Talk Book Club: Every other Tuesday: 10 a.m., Sequiota Park, 3500 S. Lone Pine Ave. For adults. Let's book it! Meet at the pavilion for a 45-minute walk along Galloway Creek Greenway. Talk about what you're reading and hear from others.

Sequoiota Cave Boat Tours: March 7-8: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. both days. Sequiota Park, 3500 S. Lone Pine Ave. Slowly paddle through Sequiota Cave learning its myths, facts and history. Bring your own headlamps or flashlights. Dates subject to weather and bat activity. Space is limited, so register early. No on-site registration. *Register by March 6 at ParkBoard.org/Outdoor or by calling 417-833-8647. Ages 5 yrs. & up (5-12 yrs. with an adult). Fee: \$8/Adult; \$6/Youth 5-15 yrs.*

Galloway Village Neighborhood Spring Cleanup:

March 28: 8 a.m.-Noon, Sequiota Park, 3500 S. Lone Pine Ave. Residents are encouraged to take advantage of this free and convenient opportunity to dispose of trash, brush, leaves and metal. Curbside pickup is available, but fees may apply. Contact Tanya Willhite-Vaughn at 417-437-3245 to arrange a curbside pickup.

GRANT BEACH

Grant Beach Neighborhood Association Meetings:

Jan. 20, Feb. 17, March 16: 6:30-7:30 p.m.,/ 6 p.m. optional potluck, St. Joseph Catholic Church Parish Hall, 1115 N. Campbell Ave.

Grant Beach Produce Distribution: 2:30 p.m. Thursdays, The Fairbanks, 1126 N. Broadway Ave.

Free produce delivered by Ozarks Food Harvest and distributed at The Fairbanks every Thursday. Participants are required to join 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.

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 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.

GREATER PARKCREST

Greater Parkcrest Neighborhood Association

Meetings: Feb. 20, April 16: 6:30-8 p.m., The Way Church, 903 W. Katella St.

HEART OF THE WESTSIDE

Heart of the Westside Neighborhood Association

Meetings: March 12: 6-7 p.m., Passion Assembly of God Church, 806 N. Forest.

MARK TWAIN

Mark Twain Neighborhood Association Meetings:

Jan. 14, Feb. 11, March 10: 6:30 p.m., South Haven Baptist Church, 2353 S. Campbell Ave.

MEADOR PARK

Meador Park Neighborhood Association Meetings:

Jan. 23, Feb. 27, March 26: 6 p.m., Cowden Elementary School, 2927 S. Kimbrough Ave.

MIDTOWN

Midtown Neighborhood Association Meetings:

Jan. 13, Feb. 10, March 9: 6-7 p.m., Urban Neighborhood Alliance building on Cox North Hospital parking lot, 918 E. Calhoun St.

OAK GROVE

Oak Grove Neighborhood Association Meetings:

Jan. 28: 6 p.m., Oak Grove Community Center, 1538 S. Oak Gove Ave. Meetings are generally held at 6 p.m. on the last Tuesday of alternating months. Contact Gerald Clary at gclary@aol.com for specific information.

PHELPS GROVE

Phelps Grove Neighborhood Association Meetings:

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

ROBBERSON

Robberson Neighborhood Association Meetings:

Jan. 23, Feb. 27, March 26: 6:30-7:30 p.m., Pathways United Methodist Church, 1232 E. Dale.

Robberson Community School Parent Resource

Night: March 10: 5:30-7 p.m., Robberson Community School, 1100 E. Kearney St.

ROUNTREE

Rountree Neighborhood Association Meetings:

Jan. 21, Feb. 18, March 17: 7-8 p.m., University Heights Baptist Church, 1010 S. National.

TOM WATKINS

Tom Watkins Neighborhood Association Meetings:

Jan. 30: 7-8 p.m., Tom Watkins Community Center, 2100 W. High St.

Tom Watkins Neighborhood Spring Cleanup:

March 14: 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Williams Elementary, 2205 W. Kearney St. Residents are encouraged to take advantage of this free and convenient opportunity to dispose of trash, brush, leaves, metal and TVs. Curbside pickup is available, but fees may apply. To arrange a curbside pickup, contact Marti Mowery at 417-616-4064

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

University Heights Neighborhood Association

Meetings: Feb. 5, March 4, April 1: 5:30 p.m., Springfield Art Museum, 1111 E. Brookside Dr.

WELLER

Weller Neighborhood Association Meetings:

Feb. 6, March 5, April 2: 6-7 p.m., Turning Point Church, 1722 N. National.

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

WEST CENTRAL

West Central Neighborhood Alliance Meetings:

Jan. 28, Feb. 25, March 24: 6:30-7:30 p.m., Broadway United Methodist Church, 545 S. Broadway Ave.

WESTSIDE

Westside Neighborhood Betterment Association

Meetings: Jan. 14, Feb. 11, March 10: 6:30 p.m., Westport Park Apartments Community Room, 250 N. Hilton.

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: Jan. 21, Feb. 18, March 17: 6:30-7:30 p.m./ 6 p.m. optional potluck dinner. Woodland Heights Presbyterian Church, 722 W. Atlantic St.

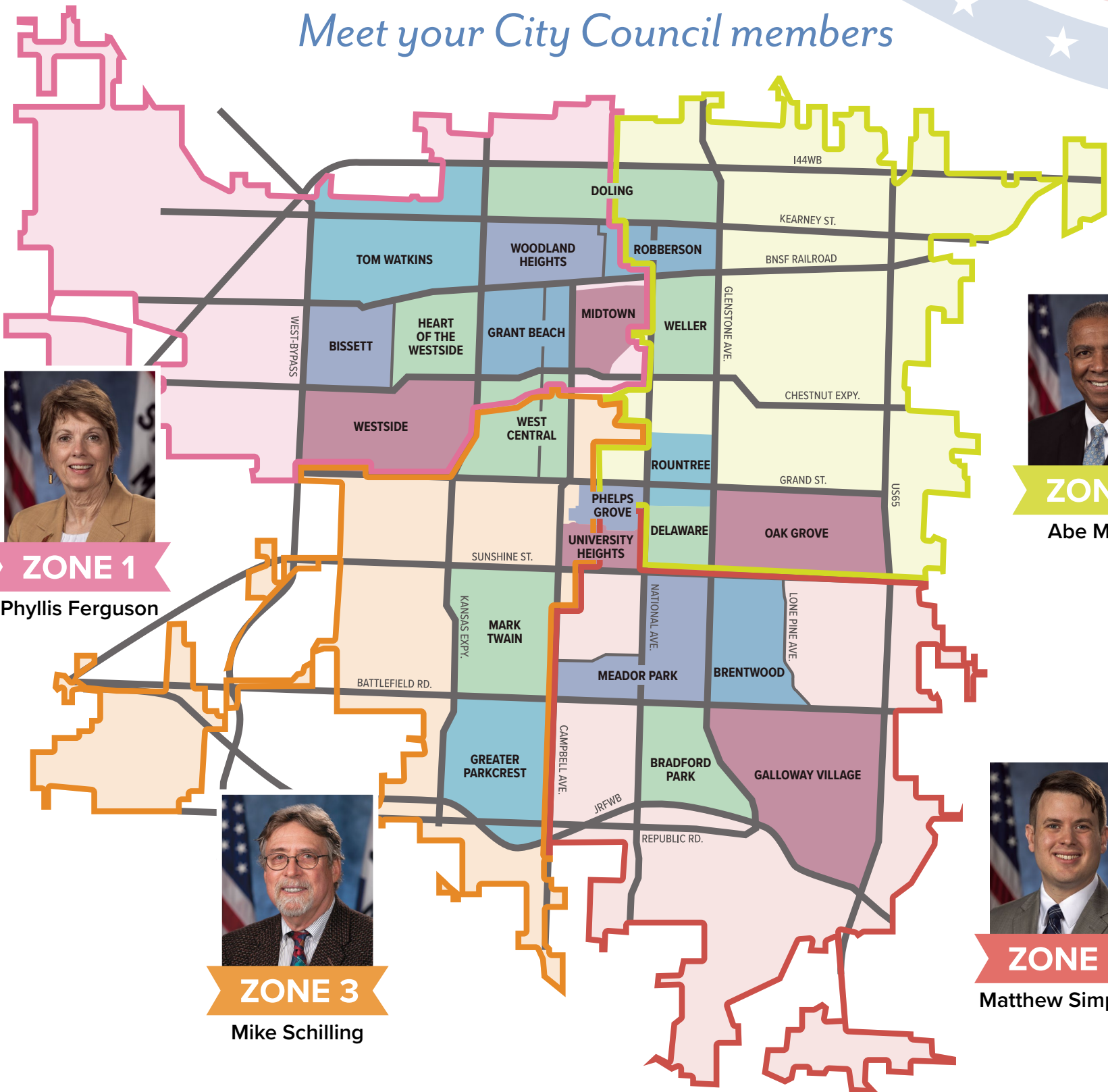
Fresh Food Fridays: Fridays: 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Springfield Dream Center, 829 W. Atlantic St. Come by the Dream Center between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. to snag some fresh fruit and veggies for your family.

Woodland Heights Neighborhood Spring Cleanup:

April 18: 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Reed Academy, 2000 N. Lyon. Residents are encouraged to take advantage of this free and convenient opportunity to dispose of trash, brush and metal. Curbside pickup is available, but fees may apply. To arrange a curbside pickup contact Becky Volz at 417-880-4210.

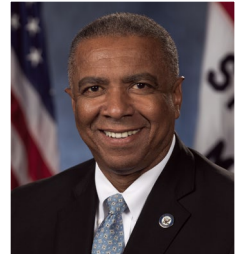
Springfield Zone Boundaries & Registered Neighborhoods

Meet your City Council members



ZONE 1

Phyllis Ferguson



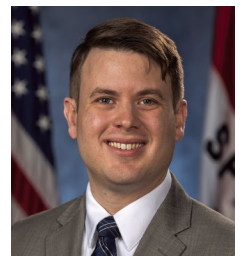
ZONE 2

Abe McGull



ZONE 3

Mike Schilling



ZONE 4

Matthew Simpson

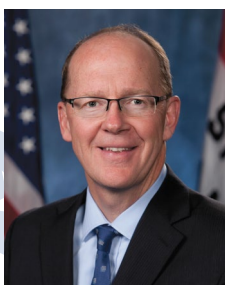
Ken McClure
Mayor



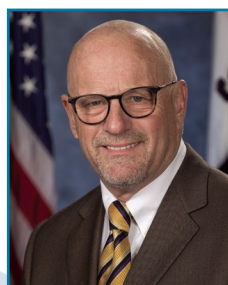
Jan Fisk
General Seat A



Craig Hosmer
General Seat B



Andrew Lear
General Seat C



Richard Ollis
General Seat D



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

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Greene County Senior Peer Support

JOIN THE MOVEMENT. BECOME A
TRAINED SENIOR PEER SUPPORTER.

About 20% of people over 55 years of age experience a mental health concern and many of these seniors don't receive the emotional and social support they need.

A Senior Peer Supporter offers support, connects with other seniors through shared experience, and provides appropriate mental health resources and care.

UPCOMING TRAINING:
January 15-16, 2020
February 19-20, 2020

To register visit: <http://bit.ly/seniorpeersupport>

Questions: Julie Viele
at 417-864-2077
or jviele@springfieldmo.gov



If you're interested in joining or becoming a registered neighborhood, visit springfieldmo.gov/neighborhoods.



MARK TWAIN October 2019

See page 17 to learn more.

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