

Springfield-Greene County ROAD TO RECOVERY

Welcome to the Summer 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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Phase 3 of City's Road to Recovery Plan effective June 15-July 5

By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor

Mayor Ken McClure, City Manager Jason Gage and Springfield-Greene County Health Department Director Clay Goddard announced Phase 3 of the city's Road to Recovery Plan June 12, lessening restrictions of business and community activities. The order is effective June 15-July 15, however, it will be reviewed prior to July 5, when it could change, if the City is ready to move into Phase 4.

The City's Road to Recovery Plan document maps out the next few phases, based on data gathered throughout the phase.

The plan maps out the area's next phases in reopening the local economy. The individual components and phases of the plan are subject to change based on local and national COVID-19 data as well as by measures tracked on the Springfield-Greene County Health Department's COVID-19 Recovery Dashboard.

The Phase 3 order increases the percentage of occupancy restriction in most categories to 50%, which is a formula created to maximize physical distancing.

According to the order, all businesses shall carry out to the greatest degree possible Centers for Disease Control & Prevention-recommended social distancing and cleaning guidelines in all situations, including, but not limited to, when customers are standing in line or when individuals, including employees, are using shared indoor or outdoor spaces, except as otherwise provided. If a business cannot comply with CDC recommended social distancing, then the business shall carry out to the greatest degree possible social distancing of at least 3 feet and require persons in areas open to the public to wear a mask or other facial cover at all times.

► See ROAD TO RECOVERY PHASE 3 on page 3

Springfield Art Museum Stormwater Improvement project to begin in late summer

By Kristen Milam, Public Information, for SGFNN

In May and June, the City of Springfield hosted two public engagement sessions regarding the stormwater improvement project near the Springfield Art Museum.

As part of the Springfield Art Museum Master Plan, construction of stormwater improvements to Fassnacht Creek are planned to begin this summer along Brookside Drive, roughly between National Avenue and Kings Avenue.

The project will restore this section of Fassnacht Creek to a naturalized channel for the benefit of flood mitigation, water quality and creation of an urban wildlife habitat. Construction will involve the removal of approximately 1,000 linear feet of existing concrete channel, studied by master plan consultant BNIM and determined to be completed after 1930s-era Works Progress Administration (WPA) improvements were made. The project design will intentionally incorporate naturalized pools and more than 200 native Missouri plantings.

The stormwater project will impact three bridges currently providing vehicle access over Fassnacht Creek.

Two bridges connecting art museum grounds to Brookside Drive will be replaced with pedestrian bridges. Vehicle access to the museum parking lot will then be redirected to Bennett Street.

"When all is complete, this section of trail will stretch from the art museum to Phelps Grove Park to Parkview High School and Fassnacht Park and will ultimately connect up with the future Grant Avenue Parkway BUILD grant project." – Joe Hamp

Under the current design, a third bridge at Kings Avenue is planned for removal and Kings Avenue to be closed to traffic at Bennett Street.

Following discussion and input gathered at a second public information session on June 9, the City plans to take neighborhood concerns regarding the removal of the bridge to City Council to ask for guidance before proceeding with the project.

"The Kings Avenue bridge acts as a stormwater bottleneck, backing the flow of water up into art museum grounds," explains Public Works project manager Kirkland Preston. "Removal of the bridge, thereby providing uninterrupted flow of the open channel, is the best way to provide the necessary capacity to help protect the museum and surrounding properties in times of heavy rain."

► Continued in the Phelps Grove section on page 20



Free training opportunities available at Missouri Job Center for those out of work

By Katherine Trombetta, Missouri Job Center, for SGFNN

The Missouri Job Center currently offers several career training opportunities for those who have experienced job loss. Training dollars and career services are available for the Missouri Works Together grants, as well as the Dislocated Worker Program for those who have been recently laid off due to the coronavirus. These trainings are at no cost to those who qualify.



"These training opportunities can help workers in the Ozarks region get back on their feet after experiencing the loss of a job and provide a pathway back to employment." – Sally Payne

The Missouri Works Together Grant addresses the opioid crisis in Missouri by offering free training and paid work experience to become a Certified Peer Specialist and work with those currently battling addiction. For more information on the program, contact Tasha Cook at 417-841-3382 or email acook@springfieldmo.gov.

If you have received unemployment benefits or experienced a lay off, you may qualify for paid tuition for short-term training as well as employment assistance through the dislocated worker program. Training is provided in one of five high growth career fields including health care, manufacturing, construction, transportation and logistics, or IT. It is important to note that you can attend these trainings while collecting unemployment benefits.

"These training opportunities can help workers in the Ozarks region get back on their feet after experiencing the loss of a job and provide a pathway back to employment," said Sally Payne, interim director of Workforce Development for the City of Springfield. "We are pleased to offer these programs and encourage anyone who is out of work to contact us and see if we can help," she said.



Police union establishes fund to assist Officer Mark Priebe

By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor

The Springfield Police Officers' Association (SPOA) has set up a fund (<https://www.spoarelieffund.com/officer-priebe-fundraising>) to support Springfield Police Officer Mark Priebe and his family during his recovery from injuries received during a June 9 incident at Springfield Police Headquarters. Officer Priebe served as the Neighborhood Watch coordinator for several Springfield neighborhoods.

On June 9 at approximately 9:30 a.m. officers were notified of a white male, later identified as 28-year-old Jon Tyler Franklin Routh, at the front entrance of Springfield Police Headquarters (321 E. Chestnut Expressway) causing a disturbance and urinating on the front door. Officers contacted him and asked him to leave.

Routh then got into a white SUV, drove away, then circled back through the parking lot, heading toward the front entrance of Police Headquarters.

He accelerated directly toward Officer Priebe,



Officer Mark Priebe

who was standing in front of the building. The officer attempted to get out of the way, but it appears the driver intentionally struck the officer who became trapped under the vehicle. The vehicle continued forward with the officer still trapped, striking a concrete bollard.

"This is a sad reminder of the danger our officers face on a daily basis in an attempt to mitigate situations."

– Mayor Ken McClure

A second officer yelled at the driver to stop and get out of the vehicle and when he refused and continued to drive forward, the officer fired shots striking the suspect and stopping the vehicle.

Officer Priebe and the suspect were sent to the hospital to be treated for their injuries. Routh was booked into the Greene County Jail later that day and has been charged with first-degree assault and armed criminal action.

Forward SGF comprehensive planning continues virtually

By Randall Whitman, City of Springfield Planning & Development, for SGFNN

In March, approximately 120 focus group participants from a number of community organizations, advisory boards and neighborhood groups met for the first of three workshops to narrow down a vision statement, as well as baseline goals, strategies, metrics and key community partners for the following eight planning themes:

- Arts, Culture and Historic Preservation
- Community Facilities and Infrastructure
- Community Physical Image
- Economic Development
- Health and Well-being
- Housing and Neighborhoods
- Parks, Greenways and Natural Resources
- Transportation and Transit.

However, like so many public projects and initiatives, Forward SGF was thrown for a loop when the virus put the brakes on this important input phase of the City's comprehensive planning process.

The second focus group workshop in April shifted to a virtual meeting format to allow participants to safely participate while continuing the planning process. While the input received to this point is good, the participation rate in the virtual workshops was not as high as expected. With large-group gathering restrictions easing, plans to return to a more traditional format in June, will resume.

Once completed, vision statements, goals and



supporting factors will be presented for community response and feedback. While a specific date has not been set, we anticipate releasing the results of the focus group workshops in early August.

In addition to work continuing with the overall plan, City staff and consultants Houseal Lavigne have been working to get the Center City component off the ground. With many of the same public engagement obstacles to navigate, we anticipate getting underway with this portion of the plan in July.

Citizens are encouraged to complete the online resident and business questionnaires and check out the latest results and resources at ForwardSGF.com. Please share your ideas, concerns or other input by contacting me at 417-864-2027 or rwhitman@springfieldmo.gov.

► **ROAD TO RECOVERY PHASE 3** from page 1

The formula is: (Square footage) / 30 x 50% = Occupancy limit.

For example, religious services, conferences, exhibitions, attractions and other enhanced-risk activities will be able to accommodate additional people, given certain safety parameters are followed. Occupancy allowances are determined by measuring the space where the activity is to occur, divide it by 30 and multiply that by 50%.

Entertainment venues that are ready to welcome back patrons, may do so by using the 50% occupancy formula and employing the CDC guidelines for physical distancing and hygiene.

“We continue to encourage individual and organizational responsibility when making plans to open or open further. Every person and every organization is different, and the risks are different, too.” – Mayor Ken McClure

“Not all businesses or religious congregations are ready for this step,” said Mayor Ken McClure. “We understand that and continue to encourage individual and organizational responsibility when making plans to open or open further. Every person and every organization is different, and the risks are different, too.”

Swimming pools are limited to 50% of the bather load of the pool. Playgrounds, parks and trails are open.

Noncontact and contact sports practices and games are allowed with a 50% occupancy limitation based on the square footage of fixed seating in the spectator area.

Essential retail establishments, businesses considered nonessential, restaurants and bars, entertainment venues and museums, gyms and fitness centers, religious services, weddings and funerals can operate with 50% occupancy based on square footage of indoor and outdoor seating areas, or with 35 people, whichever is greater. This number does not include employees.

Personal care services can operate with a 50% occupancy limitation based on square footage. The occupancy limitation includes employees, and masks are required on the part of the patron and the service provider if the distance between them during the service is less than 3 feet.

Gyms and fitness centers can operate with a 50% occupancy limitation based on square footage. Fitness classes are allowed with 50% of the occupancy limitation based on the square footage of the room being used.

Day cares can operate with no limitations. Day camps can operate if the primary role is child care with limitations of stable groups of 25. Private schools can reopen.

In-person religious services, weddings and funerals can operate with 50% of the occupancy limitation based on the square footage of the facility.

The City is again permitting special events on public property with a 25% occupancy limitation based on the square footage of the area designated as the event site. Event organizers are asked to

provide a mitigation plan that includes answering a few questions about how they plan to socially distance participants and organizers.

All residents should encourage senior citizens and vulnerable populations to stay at home. Working from home, if possible, is also encouraged. Physical distancing, increased cleaning and hand hygiene are also encouraged. Wearing masks is encouraged during travel and monitoring upon return from non high-risk travel. Quarantine is encouraged upon return from high-risk travel.

The City will be under the Phase 3 Order until July 15, but that may be shortened if the Mayor decides to amend or replace that order to move to Phase 4. The goal of the phased recovery plan is to reopen the community as quickly and safely as possible, while monitoring the spread of disease and taking action to keep the spread of disease to an acceptable level.

The Road to Recovery Plan is a “living” document that serves as a framework for Mayor Ken McClure’s future reopening orders. The plan allows community members and organizations to have a firmer understanding of what recovery looks like, when the spread of the disease is controlled and healthcare, public health and testing capabilities are strong.

Within this framework, community leaders will make decisions approximately every three weeks on whether the community is ready and prepared to take the step into the next phase or if it is prudent to remain in the current phase. Phases are fluid and based on dashboard indicators and state orders. To a large extent, the virus will dictate the timeline of recovery.

THE DASHBOARD COVERS FIVE AREAS, INCLUDING:

- detailed case information, including total and daily cases based on a person’s onset of symptoms and active, deceased and resolved cases.
- hospital capability, which is based on hospital staffing, supplies and space available to respond to COVID-19.
- public health capability, which is based on the capability to conduct epidemiological interviews and contact tracing, and risk pertaining to unmitigated community exposure for COVID-19.
- testing capability, which measures the estimated community testing capability for COVID-19. The index is based on the available testing and result turnaround time.
- regional data information, which measures the estimated public health capability and testing capability for surrounding counties.

BUSINESS QUESTIONS?

essentialbusiness@springfieldmo.gov or 417-799-1570 or 417-874-1211, option 3

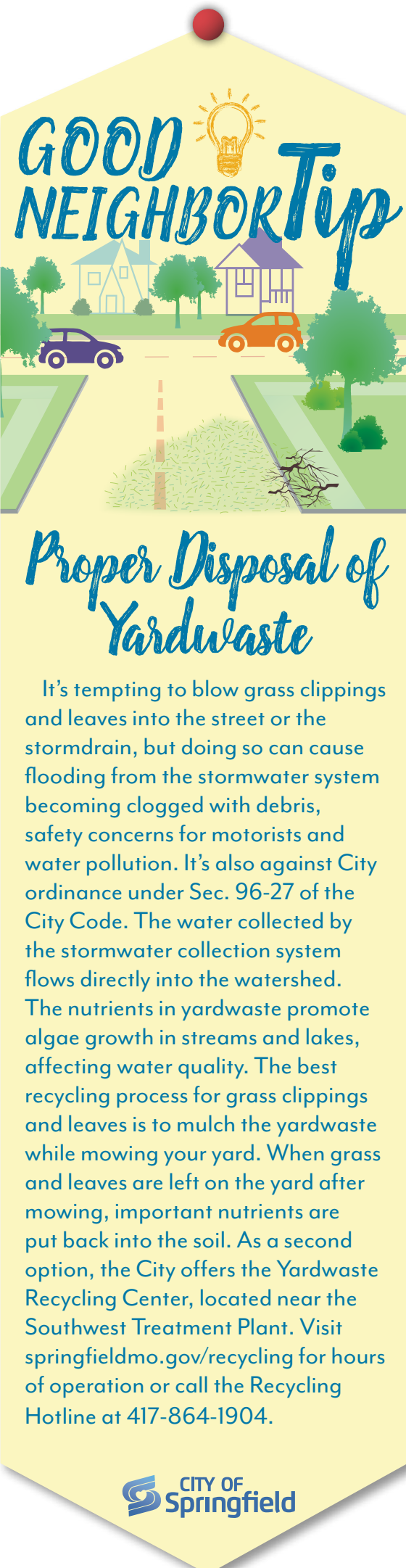
HEALTH OR GENERAL QUESTIONS?

coronavirus@springfieldmo.gov or 417-874-1211

COMPLAINTS OR SUGGESTIONS?

city@springfieldmo.gov or 417-864-1010


The decision to either remain in Phase 3 or to move to Phase 4 was determined after this publication’s print deadline. Please check springfieldmo.gov/coronavirusresponse for the latest information.



GOOD NEIGHBOR Tip

Proper Disposal of Yardwaste

It’s tempting to blow grass clippings and leaves into the street or the stormdrain, but doing so can cause flooding from the stormwater system becoming clogged with debris, safety concerns for motorists and water pollution. It’s also against City ordinance under Sec. 96-27 of the City Code. The water collected by the stormwater collection system flows directly into the watershed. The nutrients in yardwaste promote algae growth in streams and lakes, affecting water quality. The best recycling process for grass clippings and leaves is to mulch the yardwaste while mowing your yard. When grass and leaves are left on the yard after mowing, important nutrients are put back into the soil. As a second option, the City offers the Yardwaste Recycling Center, located near the Southwest Treatment Plant. Visit springfieldmo.gov/recycling for hours of operation or call the Recycling Hotline at 417-864-1904.

 **CITY OF Springfield**

Local African-American Heritage Trail gains four new markers

By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor

Four new markers have been installed at Springfield-Greene County African-American Heritage Trail sites: the Church Square South, Lincoln School, Graham's Rib Station and Alberta's Hotel.

CHURCH SQUARE SOUTH

In March, organizers unveiled the trail's third marker at Gibson Chapel, 536 E. Tampa, commemorating the Church Square South, which comprises two historically African-American Churches — Gibson Chapel Presbyterian Church and Pitts Chapel United Methodist Church.

The southern area of the Church Square includes Gibson Chapel, which was formed as the First Negro Cumberland Presbyterian Church in 1865 by freedman the Rev. Peter Lair (later spelled Lear), with aid from a white minister. The frame building was constructed on the south side of the Jordan River (Jordan Creek) at the foot of Washington Avenue.

In 1891, a new brick church was built on the corner of Washington Avenue and Pine (now 536 E. Tampa Street). The church was renamed Gibson Chapel after the death of the Rev. H. A. Gibson, who worked tirelessly to get the new structure erected. After the lynching of three innocent black men on the public square on Easter weekend, 1906, many families sought shelter in the chapel's basement while male church members guarded the building. The building was heavily damaged by fires in 1915 and 1935, but was rebuilt both times. After World War II, five members of the choir formed the singing group the Philharmonics. The group went on to regional and national fame.

Pitts Chapel United Methodist Church was constructed in 1865 after an arsonist burned the log cabin church along Jordan Creek. Fleming McCullah donated the land for the church that also housed the Freedmen's Bureau School and later the public school for black children. Edgar Pitts was the pastor of the chapel three times after the Civil War and when he died in 1889, the church was renamed Pitts Chapel. In 1911, the congregation built a new church structure on the corner of Benton and Pine (now Tampa).

ALBERTA'S HOTEL

Located in the parking lot between Jordan Valley Community Health Center and the Springfield Municipal Court building is the former site of Alberta's Hotel.

A three-story house that first served as the community hospital for the black community was remodeled by Ms. Alberta Ellis to include rooms for paying guests; a large dining room, a rumpus room,

beauty salon, barbershop and snack bar. The hotel, staffed by family members, was located three blocks north of historic Route 66. Alberta's Hotel was listed in The Negro Travelers' Green Book beginning in 1954. Over the years, Route 66 travelers from across the United States and other countries stayed at Alberta's Hotel.

LINCOLN SCHOOL

The Rosenwald Foundation in 1930 issued a grant to pay for a new school for Springfield's Negro students and a two-story redbrick school was dedicated on May 21, 1931. When it opened, teachers led students in a parade on Central Street to the new Lincoln School. Once there, students sang "Lift Every Voice and Sing." The new school had 15 rooms, including a gymnasium, mechanical arts shop, domestic science room and a library.

Lincoln School, described in the local newspaper as "one of the best equipped Negro schools in the state," was a community school. Teachers, administrators and parents sponsored scout troops; a community library and child care center; as well as held dances, plays, concerts, talent contests and fashion shows. When Springfield public schools integrated in 1954, Lincoln School became Eastwood Junior High school. It is now Lincoln Hall on the Ozarks Technical Community College campus.

GRAHAM'S RIB STATION AND MODERN TOURIST COURT

In 1932, Zelma and James Graham opened The Rib Station at the corner of Washington Avenue and Chestnut Street. The restaurant was open 11 a.m.-2 a.m., seven days a week until it closed in 1967. In the 1940s, the Grahams had six stone cottages built near the restaurant, which became Graham's Modern Tourist Court. Both Zelma and James became community leaders, as they served on administrative boards of the United Way, the Council of Churches and other civic organizations.



For 35 years, the thriving business served as a social hub for Springfield's African American community. Every weekend, cars would be lined up along Washington and Chestnut. You could find almost anybody on Friday and Saturday nights at Graham's.

The Grahams' daughter, Elaine, helped run the business, and she attributed its success to three primary factors: high-quality food, great service and location. James was an excellent cook, and he visited local packing houses, selecting only the best meats. Employees got to know customers and would personally call them by name. The restaurant, barbecue sauce and catering business served the public at large. Chestnut Street was a Route 66 bypass and many travelers would stop to eat and to sleep. It was close to O'Reilly Army Hospital where families of patients would stay and where staff would eat, and it was near the Shrine Mosque.



Many famous entertainers ate and stayed at Graham's, including Duke Ellington, Pearl Bailey, Lionel Hampton, Louie Bellson and Harry Belafonte.

COMING SOON

Ceremonies are planned to dedicate the markers for Alberta's Hotel, Lincoln School and Graham's Rib Station and Modern Motel Court. The next markers to be installed in the trail include Lincoln Memorial Cemetery and the Church Square North, which includes Washington Avenue Baptist Church and Benton Avenue African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church.

ABOUT THE SPRINGFIELD-GREENE COUNTY AFRICAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE TRAIL

The organizers of the Springfield-Greene County African-American Heritage Trail are a committee of citizens dedicated to the research and dissemination of the history of the African American people of Springfield and Greene County. The committee identifies sites and provides markers honoring locations deeply significant to the story of people of color.

The organizers, which include business owner Lyle Foster, Missouri State University Chief Diversity Officer Wes Pratt, MSU faculty member Tim Knapp, former NAACP Springfield President Cheryl Clay, Carolyn Hembree, Jack Hembree and City of Springfield Director of Public Information & Civic Engagement Cora Scott, plan to designate as many as 20 sites on the trail with distinctive, historical markers partnered with the City of Springfield, Springfield-Greene County Park Board, Ozark Greenways, Missouri State and Drury universities to make the project a reality.

The mission of the trail is to continue to research and publish previously undocumented history and to involve the Springfield community in the identification and celebration of the contributions made by people of color to the community. In pursuit of that goal, the trail's initial sites will follow along Jordan Creek Greenway and The Link with historical markers in partnership with sponsors, such as Bass Pro Shops, City of Springfield, Community Foundation of the Ozarks, Missouri State University, Ozark Greenways and Springfield-Greene County Park Board.

The first marker in the trail is at Silver Springs Park, once Springfield's only public park open to black citizens during segregation. The second was at Park Central Square, to commemorate the 1906 lynchings of three innocent black men — Horace. B. Duncan, Fred Coker and William Allen — in partnership with the Equal Justice Initiative.

Donations to the trail project are welcome and encouraged, and can be sent to the Springfield-Greene County African-American Heritage Trail c/o of the Community Foundation of the Ozarks. Visit the trail's website at africanamericanheritagetrailsqf.org.



Alberta's Hotel — Alberta's Hotel Collection, Special Collections and Archives, Missouri State University

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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grant avenue parkway

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

City asks community to help set the vision for the future Grant Avenue Parkway

By Kristen Milam, Public Information, for SGFNN

The City of Springfield is beginning a major public engagement initiative, asking the community to help set the vision for the upcoming Grant Avenue Parkway project. A series of in-person and virtual public engagement events is set to kick off this summer.

The city-wide visioning phase of the project will begin with a live GAP Community Engagement Kickoff event hosted at the Springfield Art Museum. The combination in-person and virtual event will reintroduce the community to the project and involve them in interactive input exercises to identify issues and opportunities along the route.

"Each neighborhood segment has unique needs and character that will give this corridor life and make it 100% Springfield." – Tim Rosenbury

Following the kickoff, similar engagement sessions will focus specifically on the residents, businesses and agencies located directly along the planned corridor. One session will focus on the Fassnacht Neighborhood, located roughly between Sunshine Street and Grand Street, and another will target the West Central Neighborhood, located between Grand Street and Chestnut Expressway.

Both sessions will be held in person with the opportunity to also participate virtually via Facebook live at Facebook.com/CityofSGF or at springfieldmo.gov/grantavenueparkway.

A downtown focus session targeting the planned downtown loop and Jordan Creek daylighting project site is tentatively planned in late summer.

"It is imperative that we work together with the neighborhoods, business and agencies along this stretch of Grant Avenue throughout this process," says Director of Quality of Place Initiatives Tim Rosenbury. "Each neighborhood segment has unique needs and character that will give this

corridor life and make it 100% Springfield. We cannot call this project a success in the end if this hasn't impacted the residents' lives for the better."

Funded primarily by a \$21 million federal Better Utilizing Investment to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant, the Grant Avenue Parkway will provide major multi-modal transportation improvements along Grant Avenue in the heart of Springfield.

The 3.3-mile stretch of "parkway" will 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.

Input from neighborhoods, residents and stakeholders along the route as well as the community-at-large will be used to provide guidance to subject matter experts completing the upcoming preliminary design phase for the project.

Since receiving notification of the grant in late 2019, the City has been working closely with the Missouri Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration to map out the steps and timeline required to implement the project. In March, the City hired Director of Quality of Place Tim Rosenbury, to aid in the intentional development of the parkway and other large capital projects.

The public engagement process began in February with a series of primary stakeholder and community interest group meetings. Plans to begin extensive outreach to the general public were put on hold during the pandemic.

"COVID-19 hugely impacted and continues to impact the lives of our citizens and their outlook toward the future," says City Department of Public Information and Civic Engagement Director Cora Scott. "Now that we are beginning to settle into a new normal, we believe the community is ready to plan for the future and dream once again."

For more information on the Grant Avenue Parkway project, visit springfieldmo.gov/grantavenueparkway.

SGF drivers getting better at yielding to pedestrians at crosswalks

By Kristen Milam, Public Information, for SGFNN

SGF Yields, the City of Springfield's pedestrian safety program, reports a 37% average driver compliance rate at Springfield crosswalks for the first quarter of 2020, a rate 12 percentage points up from the first quarter of 2019.

"With a 35% average in fourth quarter, our first quarter 2020 results show the improvement in compliance is continuing to inch up," says Traffic Safety Professional Mandy Buettgen-Quinn. "Of course, our ultimate goal is to see 100% driver compliance. The community isn't there yet, but the improvement over the last year shows that drivers are taking notice. We began our quarterly assessments in 2019 with only 25% stopping for a pedestrian waiting to cross. We hope to see continued progress in crosswalk awareness and safety throughout 2020."

"We're focused on continuing these crosswalk assessments and believe driver awareness and compliance is key to increasing safety in our community."
– Mandy Buettgen-Quinn

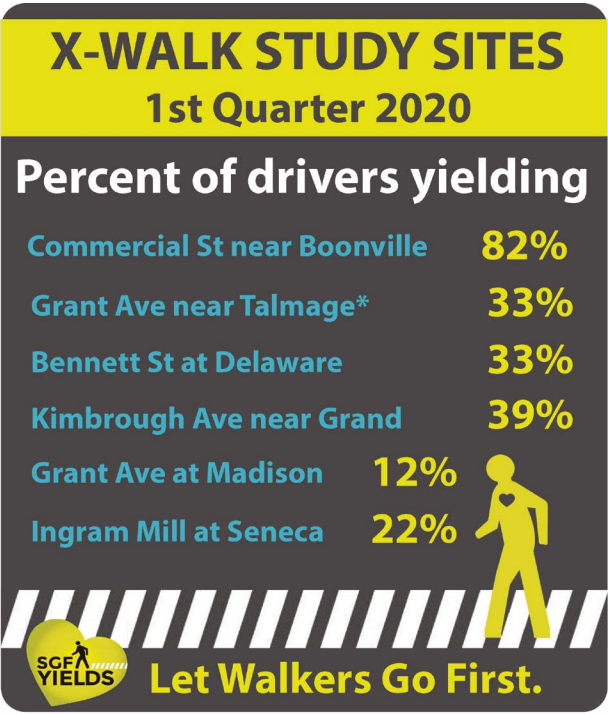
The quarterly assessment, performed by the Public Works Traffic Operations division since 2017, evaluates driver compliance at six crosswalk sites with similar traffic speeds and characteristics. Two locations are studied every quarter as a control group. The remaining sites are selected from each of the four City Council zones. Results from each location are averaged to produce a snapshot of driver compliance across town.



In the first quarter of 2020, along with control locations at Grant Avenue near Talmage Street and Bennett Street at Delaware Avenue, Traffic Operations staff tested crosswalks on Commercial Street near Boonville Avenue, Kimbrough Avenue near Grand Street, Grant Avenue at Madison Street and Ingram Mill at Seneca Street.

Second quarter assessments were canceled due to COVID-19, but Public Works plans to proceed with third quarter assessments in early July.

"We believe traffic patterns are beginning to normalize after the impacts of the pandemic," says Buettgen-Quinn. "We're focused on continuing these crosswalk assessments and believe driver awareness and compliance is key to increasing safety in our community."



* Grant Ave near Talmage was counted during the Stay-Home order.

HOW ARE THE QUARTERLY ASSESSMENTS PERFORMED?

Traffic Operations staff stages crosswalk compliance assessments at either mid-block or two-way stop intersections with a clearly marked crosswalk. A staff member poses as a crossing pedestrian, timing their approach to the crosswalk so he or she stops at the edge of the street when an approaching motorist is a safe stopping distance away. The pedestrian subject places one foot in the roadway or bike lane and makes eye contact with the on-coming motorist, clearly demonstrating their intent to cross as is stipulated by City ordinance. Staff then keep a count of how many drivers yield or do not yield to the test pedestrian. Each site is assessed for roughly an hour, tallying the behavior of between 100 and 150 drivers.

In an effort to raise public awareness, yard signs are placed at each study location to let the neighborhood know how they are doing. City-wide assessment results are posted on a set of educational boards located at the intersections of Glenstone Avenue and Division Street and at Campbell Avenue and Walnut Lawn Street. The boards are quarterly to reflect the community's performance.

For more information on the City's SGF Yields pedestrian safety program, visit springfieldmo.gov/sgef-yields.



New flashing beacons may be coming to a crosswalk near you this fall

By Kristen Milam, Public Information, for SGFNN

SGF Yields, the City's pedestrian safety education program, is spreading the word about new pedestrian safety devices coming soon to several Springfield neighborhoods.

Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs) are pedestrian-activated flashing devices that can be easily seen by drivers from longer distances. According to the Federal Highway Administration, RRFBs can enhance safety by reducing crashes between vehicles and pedestrians at unsignalized intersections and mid-block pedestrian crossings by increasing driver awareness of potential pedestrian conflicts.

"RRFBs are used to supplement standard pedestrian crossing warning signs," explains Traffic Safety Professional Mandy Buettgen-Quinn. "They provide another level of warning that has been seen to be effective at grabbing driver's attention so they know to stop."

Three sets of the flashing beacons are planned for installation this fall at crosswalks located on Blackman Road across from Dan Kinney Park, Walnut Lawn and Broadway Avenue, and at Grant Avenue and Calhoun Street.

"These locations are all on higher speed roadways where we have received safety concerns in the past," says Buettgen-Quinn. "We have installed regular crosswalks, but feel walkers at these locations will benefit from pedestrian-activated signals."

Educational resources will be provided to schools, neighborhoods and agencies nearby the planned RRFB locations so both pedestrians and drivers know to recognize the new devices and how to respond, added Buettgen-Quinn.

HOW THEY WORK

Walkers must press the button to activate the lights and signal to drivers of their intent to cross. Pedestrians should wait until traffic stops and make eye contact with drivers before stepping into the crosswalk.

"The activation of the beacons does not give drivers a red light, but rather the lights blink to alert drivers that a person is trying to cross," says Buettgen-Quinn. "A pedestrian will still have to wait at the edge of the street to make sure drivers are yielding as they should and then only proceed when all drivers in all lanes have stopped."

Drivers should always be on the lookout for pedestrians when approaching mid-block crosswalks or intersections. Remember to stop for walkers trying to cross, even if RRFB lights are not flashing. Also, remember to give pedestrians plenty of space and stop at the stop bar or yield triangles marked on the roadway.





Costco membership warehouse considering locating in Springfield in 2021

By Cora Scott, Executive Editor

Springfield Mayor Ken McClure announced in May that Costco Wholesale Corporation is considering a membership warehouse retail store in east Springfield. Costco operates membership warehouses that carry quality brand name merchandise at discounted prices.

Costco warehouses offer a large category of selections under a single roof. Categories range from groceries and appliances to optical and travel services. Members can also shop for private label Kirkland Signature products, including juice, coffee, cookies, housewares, luggage, clothing and detergent.

"I am positive that Costco will expand our retail base, bringing new customers to Springfield who will surely shop elsewhere while they're in town. In addition, Costco has a reputation for being a quality employer, offering some of the highest retail wages and a robust benefits package." – Mayor Ken McClure

"I'm pleased to announce and also confirm the rumors are true that Costco Wholesale Corporation is considering a membership warehouse retail store in Springfield," said Mayor Ken McClure. "We are so pleased to welcome Costco to our community. We know that there has been a strong interest from our citizens for this store and, in fact, that some Springfieldians drive the 150 miles to get to the nearest Costco. I am positive that Costco will expand our retail base, bringing new customers to Springfield who will surely shop elsewhere while they're in town. In addition, Costco has a reputation for being a quality employer, offering some of the highest retail wages and a robust benefits package."

Costco expects to hire a minimum of 125 people in Springfield – a figure that could rise well above 200 because the company's model is for employment to grow as sales grow. The average

hourly rate of pay for Costco employees is \$25.50. A full-time cashier's annual salary after five years is \$52,944. Costco also provides a benefit package including medical, dental, vision, pharmacy, mental health, life insurance, disability, long-term care, employee assistance program, flexible spending accounts, employee stock purchase program, 11 holidays per year, college student retention program and free Costco membership with 2% reward and 401(k). Part-time employees working more than 23 hours per week receive core medical, dental and vacation benefits after six months.

Costco is committed to giving back to the communities in which they do business, donating 1% of pre-tax profit to local charitable organizations. The company also participates in many philanthropic programs corporately and at the warehouse level and employees are given several volunteer opportunities and encouraged to be involved in the community.

On June 4 the Springfield Planning and Zoning Commission considered a preliminary plat for Kirkland Commons as well as a Final Development Plan for Planned Development 298, the first steps in the development of the Costco site, generally located south of Chestnut Expressway at Eastgate and Hwy 65. In order to provide an adequate building site for Costco, Eastgate south of Chestnut Expressway will need to be relocated and other street and stormwater improvements are required.

At its June 1 meeting, City Council considered an ordinance authorizing an access and infrastructure agreement for the required public improvements, which are anticipated to cost \$4.8 million. Costco will pay for these improvements and the City will reimburse Costco using a portion of the local sales taxes generated by their facility. This agreement will reimburse Costco using one-half of the 1-cent general sales tax, ¼-cent capital improvements sales tax and 1/8-cent transportation sales tax. The agreement has a term not to exceed 15 years, however, it is anticipated that reimbursement will occur earlier. In any event, any expenditures not reimbursed at the end of 15 years will be the developer's responsibility. The City will pay the developer interest on the unpaid balance at a rate of 5%.

If things progress as planned, Costco would break ground in spring 2021 and open in fall 2021.



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LeAnn Nichole Gaffery
Jessica Alene Graff
Megan Marie Hammer
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Hollie Holderfield
Jennifer S. Isenberg

Nathaniel Levi Kenady
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Bethany Meghan Martin
Kristin Reane Mitchell
Ashley Lynn Murray
Donna Leanne Porter
Alyssa Nicole Reeves
Mayra Lizbeth Watson
Kayla Jean Rhoads
Lacey Lynnette Zanzie

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING NURSE EDUCATOR

Sabrina Pendergrass

POST-MASTER CERTIFICATE PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER

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** Summer 2020 Graduate

Changing Lives. Saving Lives.
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Bears, Badges & Kids events to connect Missouri State University basketball players, local law enforcement and area youth

For the first time, local youth will have the opportunity to interact with Missouri State basketball players and local law enforcement officials in monthly basketball games throughout the Springfield community. Bears head coach Dana Ford has organized the events with collaboration from the Springfield Police Department, the City of Springfield, the Community Partnership of the Ozarks, and the Springfield Dream Center to create this unique opportunity.

“We are proud to partner with the Springfield Police Department and other organizations who care about making Springfield the best it can be for generations to come.” – Dana Ford

The events are free for children in grades K-6 and will take place from 10:30 a.m. to noon on the fourth Saturday of every month, starting June 27 and ending May 22, 2021. The complete event schedule and locations are as follows:

- **Saturday, July 25** – Nichols Park (1900 W. Nichols St.)
- **Saturday, Aug. 22** – Grant Beach Park & Pool (1401 N. Grant Ave.)
- **Saturday, Sept. 26** – Reed Academy (2000 N. Lyon Ave.)
- **Saturday, April 24, 2021** – Pipkin Middle School (1215 N. Boonville, Ave.)
- **Saturday, May 22, 2021** – Silver Springs Park (1100 N. Hampton Ave.)

“It is our goal as leaders in the Springfield community to assist in bridging the gap between young people and the men and women who serve and protect our city,” said Ford. “We are proud to partner with the Springfield Police Department



Missouri State Bears Men's Basketball Head Coach Dana Ford

and other organizations who care about making Springfield the best it can be for generations to come.”

Springfield Chief of Police Paul Williams noted his enthusiasm for this initiative to reach more young people in the Springfield community. “The Springfield Police Department is proud to partner with MSU on this new initiative,” said Williams. “I think this is a natural extension of the successful ‘SPD in PE’ program we started with SPS seventh graders this past school year, and provides another opportunity for police officers and kids in our community to interact in a positive way.”

Each participating child will receive a free lunch, T-shirt and replica badge. There is no cost to sign up, but advance registration is required to ensure that all participants are adequately rewarded for participating.

Registration form available online at https://missouristatebears.com/sb_output.aspx?form=9.

Springfield Police Department names Lt. Jennifer Charleston as LGBTQ+ liaison

By Jasmine Bailey, Springfield Police Department, for SGFNN

The Springfield Police Department has named Lieutenant Jennifer Charleston as the Springfield Police Department's LGBTQ+ liaison.

In this role, which has been in place since early this year, Lt. Charleston acts as a direct point of contact for community members to help foster positive relationships and address unique safety concerns within the LGBTQ+ community, among other roles. Lt. Charleston is a 20-year veteran of SPD who serves as the commander over the Community Services Section, center city zone and special events.



Lt. Jennifer Charleston

We want to reassure the citizens of Springfield that the SPD values and respects all members of our community.

We want to reassure the citizens of Springfield that the SPD values and respects all members of our community, whether it's the citizens we serve or the officers within our ranks. We also recognize the tumultuous past between law enforcement and the LGBTQ+ community in our country and will continue working together to further the level of trust and cooperation between the police and members of the LGBTQ+ community. As part of those efforts, SPD implemented the “Interaction with LGBTQ+ Individuals Policy” in February.

Find more information about Lt. Charleston, and the new policy, visit springfieldmo.gov/spd.



FRIENDS
OF THE
LIBRARY

**FALL
BOOK
SALE**

Sept. 16-20

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

Wed.-Fri. 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.—Half-Price Day

Sun. 1-5 p.m.—Bag Day

(Bag Day—everything you can pack in a sack is \$1, or \$5 from the “Better Books” side.)

Adult, young adult and children’s books and most audiovisuals are \$1 or less; better books are \$2 and up.

Cash or Check ONLY!

Questions call 417-887-9524 or email friends@thelibrary.org.

Check the Friends of Springfield-Greene County Library District Facebook page for the latest updates.

Register for Bass Pro Marathon Neighborhood Challenge by Aug. 28

By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor

The Bass Pro Marathon is right around the corner on Sunday, Nov. 1, and it's time for neighborhoods to start planning their themes and assigning volunteers.

Bass Pro is again setting aside \$10,000 to reward the registered neighborhoods for their participation in cheering sections during the marathon. Awards will be chosen based on level of participation. This is a great way for registered neighborhoods to welcome the runners to Springfield and to earn money for neighborhood improvements and projects.

We recognize that the need to remain fluid in our actions and that we may need to do some things differently this year. The safety and health of our participants have always been a priority for us and that will not change. We will keep planning, we will depend on your support as we move forward and we will keep the lines of communication open," said Melissa Bondy, Bass Pro Shops Fitness Series program director, community and corporate wellbeing.

Please download the entry form (see this story on SGFNeighborhoodNews.com) and email, mail or bring it in to Alana Owen in the City's

Neighborhoods and Planning Office by Aug. 28. The mailing address is 840 Boonville 65803.

We recommend that each neighborhood have a strong theme that represents their station. This should include signage, costumes, food/beverage options, and so forth. For example, say your neighborhood had an 80's theme and your team dressed in 80's as your runner's fuel — clothes, big hair — you could theme your stop in any number of ways. Having a consistent theme will help runners and walkers identify you and will provide your team with a better opportunity to win. **Possible theme ideas:** KC Chiefs Fans, sporting team, Missouri, hillbillies, Star Wars, Back to the Future, Fast and Furious, Harry Potter, nuns, race cars, pajamas, aliens, etc.

Your neighborhood is required to have at least 10 participants for your cheering section (you may consider shifts throughout the race if all 10 participants cannot stay the entire time). Neighborhoods may partner together at a cheering section if unable to get the required participants on their own.

Time required on race day will depend on where each neighborhood will be located on the course. The locations will be determined once there is a



The "De L'Aware Pyrratts and Pyxies" during the Bass Pro Marathon Neighborhood Challenge in November 2019.

final count of all neighborhoods participating. Most groups will be on the course a minimum of 6 hours, but again, the participants can take shifts to cover the cheering section for the entire allotted time.

If you plan to hand out food and/or beverages, please keep in mind that runners will want foods that are easy to digest and quick to grab.

Suggestions: orange slices (real oranges — not the candy), gummy bears, jelly beans, coconut water, water flavored with real fruit slices, iced green tea with honey, raisins, dates, dried cherries, pretzels, marshmallows, energy gels. Most are available at Fleet Feet Sports or on Amazon.

Questions? Please contact Alana Owen at 417-864-1831 or aowen@springfieldmo.gov. Thanks to CenturyLink for sponsoring the Bass Pro Marathon Neighborhood Challenge this year.

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NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL UPDATE

Rusty Worley, Jeff Barber to serve as NAC chair, vice chair through February 2021

By Rusty Worley, for SGFNN

What a difference a couple of months can make.

At the February Neighborhood Advisory Council meeting, we began our biannual process of selecting a new chair and vice chair for the new fiscal year. Then the pandemic struck and by mid-March all in-person meetings stopped. The May quarterly meeting for NAC was canceled. A couple of weeks later Pete Radecki, the chair of our nominating committee and past NAC Chair, recommended to the group that Jeff Barber and I continue serving in our posts for another year and the group approved it through an online vote. So instead of handing the reins off to a couple of our colleagues, Jeff and I have an unexpected opportunity for another 12 months to lead our fellow neighborhood advocates from across the city. NAC has raised the profile of our 22 registered neighborhoods over the past decade and demonstrated strength in numbers. However, we realize that there remains much that needs to be done, especially in these unprecedented times of COVID-19.

Here are three priorities to enhance our neighborhoods over the next year.

RESTORE SGF

Suburban communities ringing the city limits of Springfield have experienced significant growth over the past two decades with many doubling their populations. The historic business districts of Downtown, C-Street and Galloway have realized millions of dollars in mixed-use redevelopment over that time frame. However, there has been just one new subdivision built in the city limits those twenty years, the percentage of owner-occupied housing has decreased, and the number of chronic nuisance properties has grown throughout our community.

I presented information to City Council in April

on a new initiative called Restore SGF designed to encourage home ownership and enhance the housing stock. This would be a collaborative effort to provide a central resource for all residential programs, more effectively market residential programs, stimulate the creation of rehabilitation and financing, and provide resources to reduce barriers to home ownership. It will engage neighborhood residents, banks, developers, realtors, non-profits, area businesses, major employers, and other stakeholders.

Stay tuned for more information this summer on this new endeavor.

HELP NEIGHBORS IN NEW WAYS

A statewide unemployment rate of 9.7%, over 150 cases of coronavirus in Greene County, at-risk residents quarantining themselves for weeks at a time. These are the times neighbors can find small, yet vitally important ways to look out for one another. Neighborhoods have a rich history of block parties and social gatherings. These new challenges will require everyone to re-examine what services are provided and different ways to meet those needs.

Neighborhoods are uniquely positioned to offer assistance at a grassroots level. While you find yourself with a little more time on your hands, take a few minutes to introduce yourself to a new neighbor, call someone on your block you've not heard from in a while, volunteer to pick up groceries or mow a lawn. Little acts of kindness pay huge dividends while the world is in an unfamiliar place.

CREATE MORE SOCIAL HUBS

Sporting events are on hold. Major festivals and concerts have been canceled. Exotic travel is venturing out to the Mark Twain National Forest.

This is a natural time to create experiences at a smaller, more intimate scale that can imaginatively incorporate social distancing. Initial feedback from thousands of citizens participating in the Forward SGF comprehensive planning process calls for more neighborhood social hubs like the Cherry and Pickwick area in Rountree. There is a strong desire for more sidewalk cafes, coffee shops, local retailers, breweries and galleries within walking and biking distance.

NAC will look to promote development and financial incentives to expand those mixed-use amenities to neighborhoods across Springfield so everyone can have places with character and local history to enjoy with their neighbors, friends and family as a point of pride. A recent example of this is budding in my West Central neighborhood with new additions to the Brewery District — Classic Rock Coffee, BillyNeck Sandwiches and The Bonzai Guy — transforming the intersection of Walnut and Main to add to the already fun options of Springfield Brew Co., Mother's Brewery and Lost Signal Brewery.

The next 12 months will inevitably make history. By reinvesting in our neighborhoods, finding new ways to help one another and creating more social hubs, we can emerge from this crisis stronger than ever.



NAC Chair Rusty Worley



NAC Vice Chair Jeff Barber



Eden Village II to open in Bissett this fall

By Pete Radecki, for SGFNN

In the fall of 2019, the developers of Eden Village, a tiny-home community for the chronically homeless located on East Division, began efforts to build a second community on the site of the former Fairfield Mobile Home Park at 3155 W. Brower in the Bissett neighborhood. This article outlines the engagement between The Gathering Tree (EV developers) and the Bissett Neighborhood Association. BNA's goal in the process has been to become informed about the project and assure that neighborhood questions and concerns are addressed. BNA feels it is better to establish good communications at the outset in order to facilitate better outcomes.

By late February 2020, the former trailer park had been cleared out and cleaned up, a 6-foot perimeter screening and security fence had been erected and site improvements were under way. On a March Saturday, a volunteer group numbering about 75 came to help with site cleanup and to spread mulch.

"BNA representatives feel that The Gathering Tree is genuinely committed to developing a quality community and is in it for the long haul. ... They also demonstrate a commitment to ensure EVII becomes a valued feature of the Bissett neighborhood."

The first residents of Eden Village II are slated for occupancy in the fall, with the eventual build-out expected to have 24 tiny homes, similar in construction to Eden Village I. As was the case with EVI, the developers expect many of the homes' initial costs to be covered by donations from companies, foundations, churches and individuals committed to expanding this pathway to end homelessness. As reported in the News-Leader in late May, the first tiny home was delivered, and was manufactured in Neosho by a local company instead of in Texas as was the case for the homes in EVI. The NL also reported that the developers are well on their way to raising the full amount of money they need for the project.

BNA ENGAGEMENT

In January, the Bissett Neighborhood Association reached out to The Gathering Tree to learn about

their plans for a second village in Bissett. The goal was (and is) to predict the neighborhood impacts, and in particular, what the residents along Brower Street might experience.

Impacts could be both positive and negative. Accordingly, BNA sought to learn how project outcomes, including neighborhood impacts, might be advantaged through collaborative efforts between Eden Village, its future residents, BNA and Bissett residents. We believe that being welcoming, neighborly and engaging could result in better outcomes.

BNA's engagement with The Gathering Tree began with an initial meeting and tour of EVI by BNA representatives. This was followed with efforts to learn the concerns of Bissett residents. These concerns were obtained from informal conversations as well as discussion at a BNA general membership meeting in mid-February. BNA representatives then discussed these concerns with The Gathering Tree. Below is a summary of what BNA representatives learned during our engagement with The Gathering Tree.

LOCATION AND PEDESTRIAN ACCESS

There is a bus stop on site at Eden Village I. In contrast, EVII is located near the end of a dead-end residential street without sidewalks. The nearest bus stop is almost a half-mile walk away, and about half of the trek is on a poorly maintained sidewalk.

Our discussions with The Gathering Tree about this centered on the fact that most residents of EVI do not use the bus. If this holds for EVII, then pedestrian transit will be much less of a concern than Bissett neighbors had assumed. In addition, we hope to work together with the City to address the critical sidewalk issues along this route, and in the Bissett neighborhood in general.

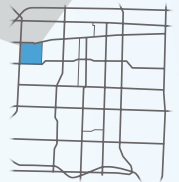
SAFETY CONCERNS

Another concern of some Bissett neighbors was the fear that some residents of EVII might be dangerous. Related to this concern was whether the screening process for EVII would deny residence to registered sex offenders. EVI was required to have this restriction because of its proximity to a Head Start program. While The Gathering Tree was not inclined to impose this same restriction for EVII, they indicated that there were currently no registered sex offenders on the waiting list for EVII, and that if any were offered residence they would comprise a small number of its total residents and their offenses would not have been recent or habitual. The Gathering Tree emphasized that in ►



Connect

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




Neighborhood Association Meetings

July 14 • Sept. 8: 6:30-7:30 p.m., 6 p.m. optional potluck @ L.A. Wise Park Pavilion (3100 W. Nichols).

Neighborhood PAR Officer

Officer Zach Pugh: 417-874-2536
zpugh@springfieldmo.gov



 **Bissett Elementary School**
3014 W. Calhoun

Follow Bissett on  

Rescheduled Spring Neighborhood Cleanup

Sept. 12: 8 a.m.-Noon

Bissett Elementary (3014 W. Calhoun)

Accepted: Trash, Brush, & Metal

Contact: Russ Moore at 417-988-7146
or russtmoore@hotmail.com



Interior of Eden Village I tiny house on East Division

▶ selecting residents, they are intent on looking at the whole person — who s/he is today — and not dwell inordinately on any one particular aspect of an individual's past.

We learned that while physical and mental conditions of the homeless population cover a broad spectrum, the screening process for selecting EVII residents appears to be solid and is intended in part to screen out individuals with extreme disabilities who might require more care than EVII will be set up to provide.

The success of Eden Village's screening process is proven with the low rate of police calls for service to Eden Village I.

LACK OF 24/7 ON-SITE SERVICES AND STAFF

Some neighbors were fearful that without case workers and other mental and physical health professionals on-site at all times, the disabilities of some EVII residents might get worse or even spiral out of control. As previously described, in looking at the EVI experience, this issue is significantly mitigated by the resident screening process, by the support of the volunteer "home teams" that create

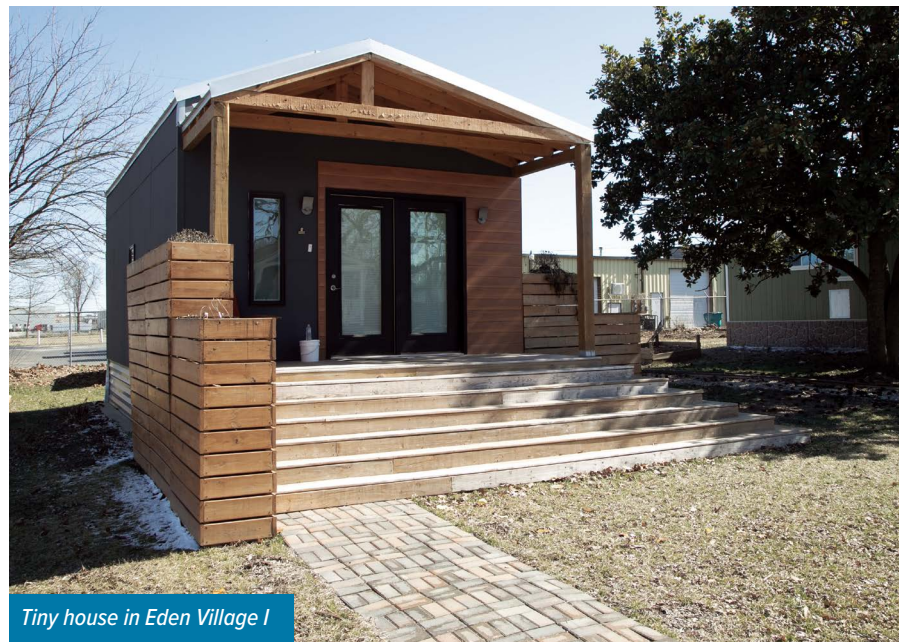
a family-like support environment for the residents, and by the frequent interactions with residents by case workers and others, both on-site and in various support facilities around Springfield.

Eden Village staff are anticipated to be on site during business hours, but this leaves about three quarters of the time without paid staff. Could the EVII residents be in danger, or could the nearby neighborhood residents have some risk? Like so many of the concerns raised, a key mitigation comes from the resident screening process. The residents themselves should be at very low risk to becoming dangerous and likely no more of a risk than the general population. As for the safety of the EVII residents, the site will be outfitted with secured access only open to the residents themselves and certain staff.

Monitored security cameras will surveil the well-lit site and staff will be on call. The Gathering Tree also expects to share their contact information with BNA, so that should a Bissett neighbor detect a condition arising after hours that needs attention, a contact can be made. And if that fails, there is always 911, which in the case of the former trailer park, was frequently called. We believe that EVI's track record thus far indicates that lack of 24/7 on-site staff has not posed an issue.

LONG-TERM VIABILITY

Long-time Bissett residents watched for over four decades how the former mobile home park went from a very nice retirement village to a ramshackle site infested with drugs, dilapidated buildings and other dangers. It was reasonable to ask what would keep history from repeating itself with EVII. Could we expect that fund raising would be a permanent feature of the operating plan, since rent is only expected to cover about half of the EVII cost of operation? Will The Gathering Tree have succession planning in place for key staff? It appears that long-term financial stewardship, succession and growth planning, and continuous volunteer engagement are all in place for EVI, and



Tiny house in Eden Village I

it appears The Gathering Tree is committed to the same for EVII.

CONCLUSIONS

BNA representatives feel that The Gathering Tree is genuinely committed to developing a quality community and is in it for the long haul. Based on how rapidly they responded to BNA's requests for information and engagement — and on their frankness in discussions — they have also demonstrated a commitment to ensure EVII becomes a valued feature of the Bissett neighborhood. As a step in this direction, they recently made the commitment to adopt a portion of Nichols Street for cleanup. This helps our entire neighborhood.

Like any long-term relationship, good relations will take effort and communication from EVII staff and leadership, but also from the BNA, Bissett neighbors and the many professional and volunteer organizations who support The Gathering Tree and the Eden Village communities.

Christ said, "Whatever you do for the least of my brethren, you do it for me."

Whether one is a Christian or not, helping those in need and making them feel a part of our neighborhoods make for a better, more sharing community, and ultimately a better Springfield. The Bissett neighborhood will soon become an important test case for the Eden Village model and vision, and the BNA is intent on welcoming our new neighbors and partnering with them in this endeavor.



Interior of Eden Village I tiny house on East Division

Upcoming activities for Bissett Neighborhood Association

By Pete Radecki, for SGFNN

No doubt the coronavirus has really hurt our ability to hold many activities, but we are optimistic that things will gradually pick back up as the year goes on. First and foremost is the ever-popular Neighborhood Cleanup. It has been rescheduled for Saturday, Sept. 12, 8 a.m.-noon at the Bissett Elementary west parking lot. Complete Electronics Recycling will be at the cleanup to accept your old appliance, TV or fridge (small fees for the some of these items.)

We plan to hold two regular neighborhood association meetings: Tuesday, July 14 and Tuesday, Sept. 8. Both will be held in the L.A. Wise Park Pavilion, so there will be plenty of room to

spread out if social distancing is still in effect. Meetings will begin at 6:30 p.m. with an optional pot luck beforehand at 6 p.m.

Unfortunately, the annual neighborhood-wide yard sale has been cancelled due to concerns about COVID-19. We'll plan to get back on our annual cycle for this event in July 2021. We have the



Pete Radecki

same situation with the Neighborhood Night Out. In recent years, we have held this even in conjunction with the Bissett Elementary Open House in August. We may still try to hold a similar event later this year, but for now, you can assume the normal August event will not happen.

If there is one thing we have all learned these last several months is the benefit of staying flexible, so we encourage you to keep tabs with our Facebook, or drop an email or call to keep up BNA and to learn of any changes to the above schedule should conditions warrant them. We hope that each resident of our neighborhood is staying safe and healthy — not only related to the virus, but also with all the stress it has caused.

BRADFORD PARK NEIGHBORHOOD



Connect

- Rex Johnson, President:
mo.turkey@sbcglobal.net
- Marilyn Kemper, Vice President:
marilynrmkemper@sbcglobal.net
- Jacque Ford, Secretary
- Larry Nelson, Treasurer

Neighborhood Association Meetings

July 15 • Aug. 19 • Sept. 16: 6:30 p.m. @ Immaculate Conception Church (3555 S. Fremont Ave.)

Neighborhood PAR Officer

Officer Jacob Boomgaarden: 417-864-1321
jboomgaarden@springfieldmo.gov



Follow Bradford Park on

Rescheduled Spring Neighborhood Cleanup

Aug. 22: 8 a.m.-Noon

End of Walnut Lawn (1370 E. Walnut Lawn)

Accepted: Trash, Brush, Leaves

No Curbside Pickup

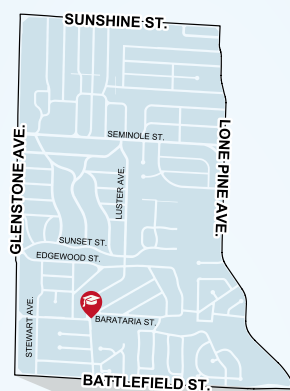
Contact: Rex Johnson at 417-887-0365
or mo.turkey@sbcglobal.net



**Want to submit an
article about your
neighborhood?**

*Let your neighborhood
president or other
representative know!*

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

Meeting schedule varies. Please check the website
or contact an officer for dates, times and locations.

Neighborhood PAR Officer

Officer Jacob Boomgaarden: 417-864-1321
jboomgaarden@springfieldmo.gov



Field Elementary School
2120 E. Barataria St.

Follow Brentwood on
brentwoodsgf.org

Planet Unity Earth Day 2020: Climate Action

Oct. 9: 6-9 p.m.

Oct. 10: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Unity of Springfield Church
(2214 E. Seminole)

Our vision is to create a connection with
our community by raising awareness
of the importance of the environment
through education, food, fun, and music.



From Jeff Munzinger's Twitter page: On June 7, concerned citizens in Springfield's Brentwood neighborhood held their own kid-friendly rally to support Black Lives Matter. The group also raised funds for NAACP. Adults setting a good example for kiddos!

DELAWARE NEIGHBORHOOD



Connect

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

Neighborhood Association Meetings

July 7 • Sept. 1 • Nov. 3: 6 p.m. @ Westminster Presbyterian Church (1551 E. Portland)

We will use social distancing and meet
in the parking lot and greenspace.

Neighborhood PAR Officer

Officer Jacob Boomgaarden: 417-864-1321
jboomgaarden@springfieldmo.gov



Delaware Elementary School
1505 S. Delaware Ave.

Follow Delaware on

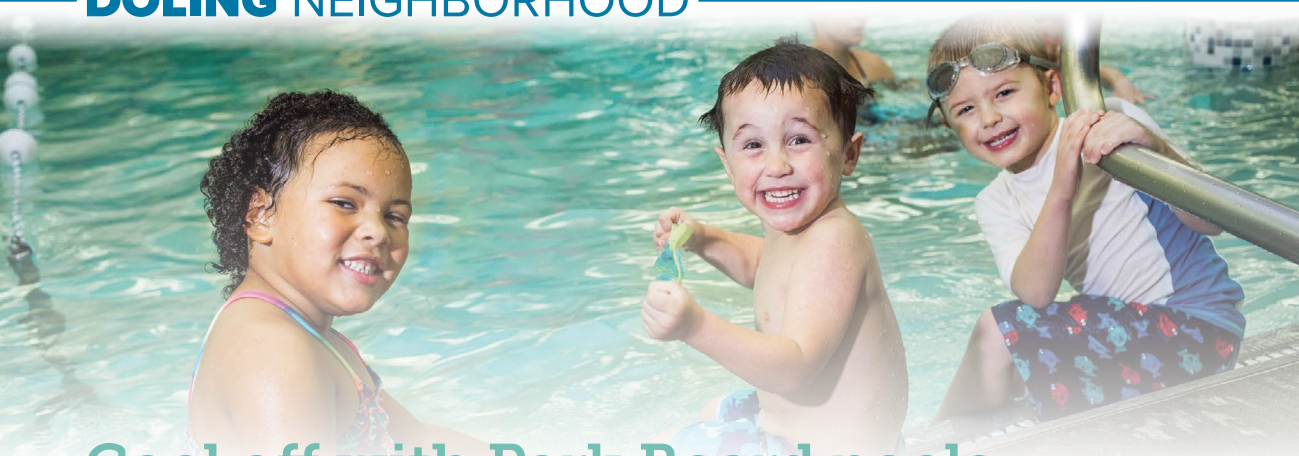
Delaware Women's Group

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!



Marianne Jones and Jill Hoener deliver donations collected during the Delaware Neighborhood Association Food Drive to Crosslines May 22. (Courtesy: Delaware Neighborhood Association Facebook Group)



Cool off with Park Board pools and fountains

By Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Park Board, for SGFNN

Jordan Valley Park's Ozark Stream and Fountain is now open for the season in downtown Springfield, providing a refreshing interactive water feature for all ages. Opening was postponed due to previous City of Springfield COVID-prevention orders, now expired.

The meandering Ozarks Stream runs continuously throughout the day. The jumping fountain show takes place every hour, on the hours, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m., for about 30 minutes. The fountains also run continuously 11 a.m. through 1:30 p.m. The schedule is subject to change due to fountain maintenance, park rentals or community events.

Admission to Jordan Valley Park is free, and parking is available at Jordan Valley Ice Park, 635 E Trafficway. More information at ParkBoard.org/JordanValley.

Indoor pools are open at Chesterfield and Doling family centers, each with a lap pool, recreation pool and splash features.

Both pools offer daily All Ages Open Swim at discounted rates: \$4/adults, \$3/youth and seniors. Adults Only admission is the normal Day Pass rate:

\$8/adults, \$6/youth and seniors. Admission is free to members of Chesterfield and Doling Family Centers.

The weekly schedule (subject to change) is:

- Monday-Friday, 6-11 a.m., Adults only
- Monday-Friday 1-6 p.m., All ages open swim
- Saturday, 8 a.m.-noon, Adults only
- Saturday, Noon-3:30, All ages open swim
- Sunday, Noon-4 p.m., All ages open swim

Capacity is limited at both indoor pools, according to city orders. No shared kickboards, noodles and weights are provided. Swim lessons, water aerobics, swim team and the whirlpool spa are currently unavailable.

The Park Board plans to open at least one outdoor swimming pool by early July. Visit ParkBoard.org/Aquatics for schedules and updates.

All visitors to any park, trail or pool are asked to keep a minimum six-foot distance from others, make sure they wash their hands frequently, avoid touching their faces, cover any coughs or sneezes, and please stay home if they are feeling any symptoms of illness.

SPS summer Grab & Go meals now available

On May 27, Springfield Public Schools began providing summer meals for children ages 18 and younger.

Grab & Go meal pick-up is available at 15 Springfield Public Schools sites, listed below. Meals will be available between the hours of 10 a.m. - noon, on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday of each week, May 27 - July 31.

- Bingham - 2126 E. Cherry
- Bowerman - 2148 N. Douglas
- Central - 423 E. Central
- Fremont - 2814 N. Fremont
- Glendale - 2727 S. Ingram Mill Rd.
- Gray - 2101 W. Farm Road 182
- Jeffries - 4051 S. Scenic
- McGregor - 1221 W. Madison
- Parkview - 516 W. Meadowmere
- Reed - 2000 N. Lyon
- Sherwood - 2524 S. Golden
- Truman - 3850 N. Farm Road 159
- Twain - 2352 S. Weaver
- Weller - 1630 N. Weller

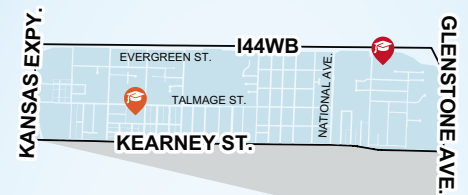


- Westport - 415 S. Golden

Please note, we have reduced the number of days per week you have to pick up meals to three times a week and have increased the number of days we will be providing meals for to seven days a week.

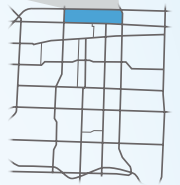
- On Monday, you will pick up meals for Monday and Tuesday
- On Wednesday, you will pick up meals for Wednesday and Thursday
- On Friday, you will pick up meals for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

We hope that these changes will be beneficial to your family.



Connect

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



Neighborhood Association Meetings

July 14 • Aug. 11 • Sept. 8: 6:45 - 8 p.m.

6 p.m. optional potluck @ Hillcrest Presbyterian Church (818 E. Norton Road)

Neighborhood PAR Officer

Officer Evan Nicholson: 417-874-2537
enicholson@springfieldmo.gov



 **Fremont Elementary School**
2814 N. Fremont Ave.

 **Watkins Elementary School**
732 W. Talmage St.

Follow Doling on  
dolingneighborhood.com

Adopt-A-Street Cleanups

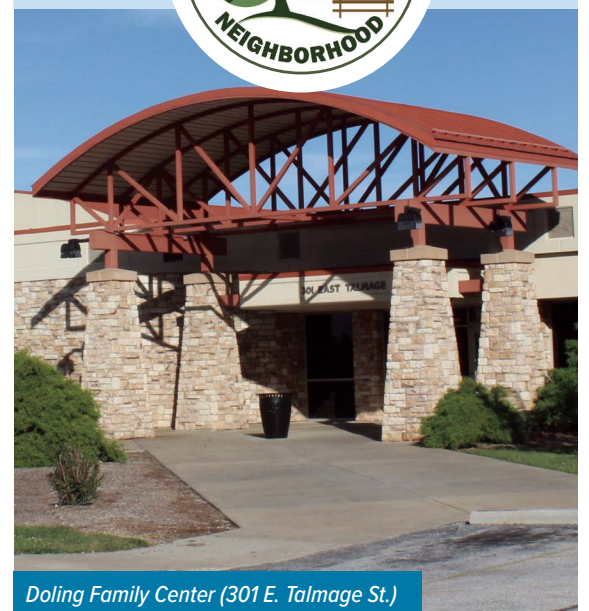
July 11 • Oct. 17: 9-10 a.m.

Help us clean up the neighborhood. Meet in the parking lot of Kansas Expressway Church of Christ at the corner of Kansas Expressway and Talmage at 9 a.m. We'll pick up trash along Talmage between Kansas and Broadway.

If we have enough volunteers, we'll also tackle

Livingston between Kansas and the Livingston Dip. DNA will provide trash bags.

Bring your own gloves.



Doling Family Center (301 E. Talmage St.)

Galloway Community Improvement District appoints Green Circle Projects as CID manager/administrator

By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor

At its May 29 meeting, the newly formed Galloway Community Improvement District board named Green Circle Projects as its manager/administrator.

Board members in attendance at the meeting include:

- Amie VanDamme (Firehouse Pottery) – President
- Jarad Johnson (Mostly Serious) – Vice President
- Jaime Kurucz (Galloway Village Veterinary LLC) – Treasurer
- Jessica Pearson (Green Circle Projects) – Secretary
- Sam Coryell (TLC Properties)
- Rhett Smillie (Rhett Smillie Real Estate)
- Kelly Smillie (Rhett Smillie Real Estate)
- Richard Kennedy (Acacia Spa)
- Melanie Bach.

A Community Improvement District (CID) is a non-profit corporation or a separate political subdivision of the state that may be created for the purpose of issuing bonds, levying taxes, and applying special assessments to finance public improvements, public services, and blight removal within a defined area. The Galloway CID's stated purpose is:

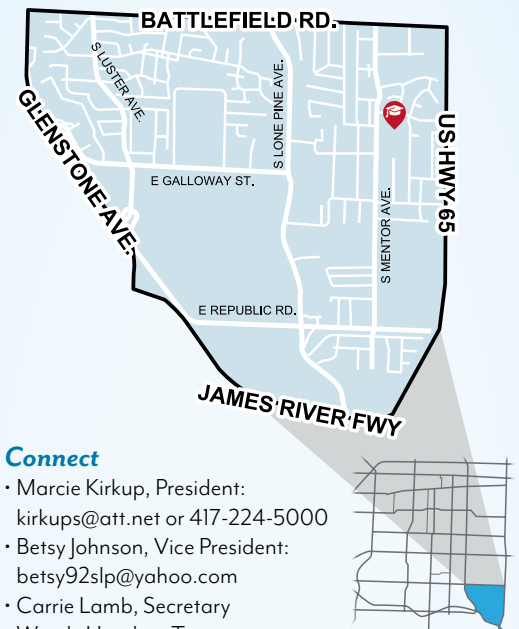
- Renovation or new construction of public right-of-way improvements along and adjacent to South Lone Pine Avenue such as
 - signage
 - lighting

- street furniture
- sidewalks
- pedestrian crossings
- and trail connections.
- Construction of additional public parking; Installation and maintenance of holiday lighting and decorations.
- Cleaning and maintenance of public sidewalks, alleys and parking lots.
- Removal of trash from public sidewalk receptacles.
- Mowing and landscaping of public right of ways and district-owned property.
- Additional police, safety and security services.
- Public parking enforcement.
- Marketing and image enhancements, such as:
 - maintaining a website
 - publishing visitor guides and maps
 - and installing banners on public property.

In January, the qualified voters within the district approved a 1% sales and use tax. The board passed a resolution at the May meeting adopting the sales tax.

The Galloway CID will be in effect for 20 years upon its approval by Springfield City Council, which will be until August 2039.

Springfield has several Community Improvement Districts. Learn more about them by visiting <http://cosmo.maps.arcgis.com/home/index.html> and choosing the Community Improvement Districts map.



Connect

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

Neighborhood Association Meetings

July 21 • Oct. 20: 6:30 p.m. @ Galloway Baptist Church (2816 E. Republic Rd.) Meetings are quarterly. Special meetings may be called as needed.

Neighborhood PAR Officer

Officer Jacob Boomgaarden: 417-864-1321
jboomgaarden@springfieldmo.gov



 Sequiota Elementary School
3414 S. Mentor Ave.

Follow Galloway Village on 
gallowayvillage.org

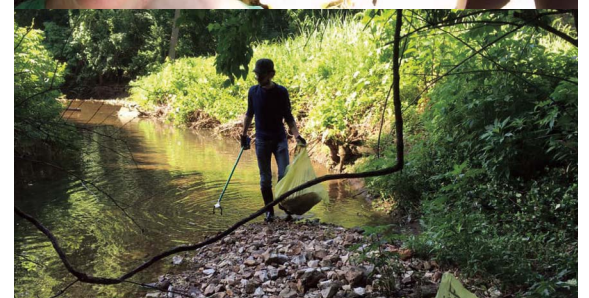


Zoning hearing on Lone Pine and Galloway properties tabled to July 16



By Melissa Haase, for SGFNN

Developer Elevation Development Co. requested that the Planning & Zoning Commission table zoning case Planned Development No. 374 to the July 16 P&Z meeting to address and make revisions to the design as a result of the neighborhood comments. This case proposes rezoning approximately 4.2 acres of properties at 3503, 3521, 3527 and 3535 S. Lone Pine Ave. across the street from Sequiota Park for a mixed-use development.



Galloway neighbors clean up creek: We were a small but mighty crew for the cleanup the morning of June 14. It's always fun to explore the creek and leave it better than we found it!



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

SUMMER SHAPE UP

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES EDITION

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

CLEAN



STORM WATER

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

STORMWATER QUALITY
(417) 864.1996

springfieldmo.gov/stormwater
yardethic.com



WASTE WATER

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

SEWER EMERGENCIES & ISSUES
(417) 864.1010
AFTER HOURS SEWER EMERGENCY (417) 864.1923

springfieldmo.gov/sewer



SOLID WASTE

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

RECYCLING HOTLINE
(417) 864.1904

springfieldmo.gov/solidwaste

**WATERWAY
WELLNESS**

PAGE 2

**SEWER
SATISFACTION**

PAGE 3

**RECYCLE
RIGHT**

PAGE 4

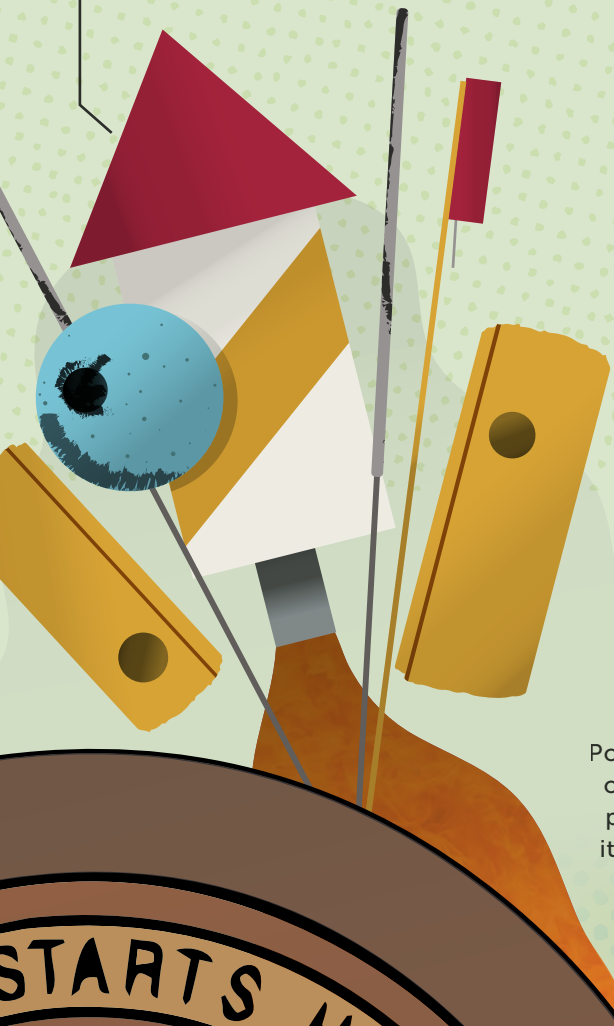
WATERWAY WELLNESS

From our streams and to our sinks. Practicing responsible water stewardship helps to minimize and reduce the amount of pollutants that enter our waterways through the groundwater and our storm drains. This is important because the water that goes into our storm drains is not sent to a treatment plant to be cleaned and treated. In fact, that water will go downstream and be someone else's drinking water.

Learn more at springfieldmo.gov/stormwater

Fun on the Fourth!

Have a blast this Independence Day but make sure to clean up your used fireworks and debris! Get out the broom and dust pan and sweep them into a container with a little water to eliminate any fire potential before placing in your trash can. We don't want these swept into our waterways via a storm drain (pictured below).



No Butts About It

If you smoke, don't flick your butt. Put it out and place in an ash tray or can. Once the fire potential is eliminated, these should be disposed of in the trash. This is better than polluting our streets, sidewalks and streams with litter. In fact, cigarette butts are considered the highest volume form of litter.

Pick Up After Your Pets!

Poo-lution exists! Pet waste can be seen as "part of nature" but not only can it take awhile to decompose, it is smelly, an eye sore and potentially a breeding ground of bacteria and disease. Simply put, it's just not safe to leave on the ground. Take a bag with when you go on a walk and remember to *Scoop the Poop!*



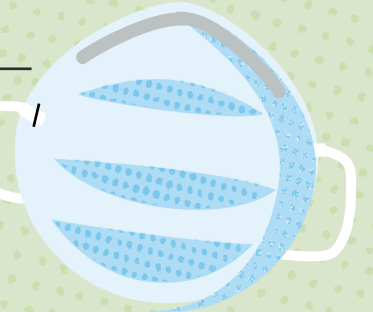
Rake & Bag that Yard Waste

Leaves, trimmed grass, branches (big or small) and even dirt are not intended to be collected and channeled to our waterways via the City's storm drain system. Rake your yard waste and bring it to one of our three recycling centers. Larger branches are only accepted at the Yardwaste Recycling Center located at 3790 S. Farm Rd. 119.



No PPE on the Street

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) including disposable face masks and gloves recently became a part of our daily lives. Protect those around you and the environment by tossing these in the trash!



Storm Drain Covers

At first glance, it looks like a sewer manhole cover. Look again. These are generally located near curbs with open inlets for stormwater to collect and be channeled to a local waterway. Another way to tell our storm drain covers from sewer covers is the slogan "Upstream Starts Here. Protect Our Waterways."

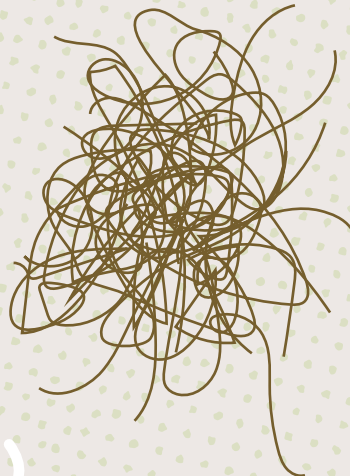




SEWER SATISFACTION

From our sinks and into our streams. We send a lot of icky things down our pipes and drains. Human waste and toilet paper are gross, but our sewers and treatment plants are designed for these sorts of pollutants. However, many more items make their way to the treatment plants or in many cases, get clogged and congealed on their way. Of course, the water that carries those things to our treatment plants is a resource that we work hard to clean and disinfect for release back into our waterways for future use.

Learn more at springfieldmo.gov/wastewater



Found from the Flusher

It's easy to flush things down the drain and forget about them. A lot of times, those forgotten memories resurface in the form of a wet mess of overflowed water from a clogged sanitary sewer line (the pipe that connects a property owner's home to the City's sewer system).

At each of the wastewater treatment plants we find a variety of items that are filtered out during the process that should have never been flushed.

DO NOT FLUSH THE FOLLOWING:

- Feminine hygiene products
- Flushable wipes
- Cotton swabs
- Toothpaste containers
- Dental floss & picks
- Medication & pills
- Forms of birth control
- Pet fish (or any pet)
- Hair

No Wipes in the Pipes!

They say they are flushable; and technically, that is true. However, once they are flushed, they have a tendency to not go away and can take years to decompose. This can cause clogs in the property owner's sewer lateral and also the City's sewer main. When mixed with greases, fats and oils in the sewer, they will congeal and harden and create serious blockages and infrastructure damage. The best way to avoid these issues is by throwing them in the trash along with household cleaning wipes, diapers, and feminine hygiene products.



RECYCLE RIGHT

We say it every day “Throw that away”! In terms of waste, there is no away! Everything that is placed inside your trash can ends up in a landfill, presumably forever. In fact, nearly 70% of the materials sent to our City landfill could have been recycled. Recycling is a vital step in waste reduction, and it's up to each of us to ensure that we're recycling and recycling right. Sometimes items make their way into the recycle bin when they don't belong or are too dirty to be recycled. This causes contamination, ruining an entire batch of recyclables. Knowing what is recyclable and the steps to recycle right will help to ensure that your items can be processed and on their way to a new life!

Learn more at springfieldmo.gov/recycle

Get Tangled Up in Recycling!

Just don't allow the recycling to get tangled up. “Tanglers” is the name we give to items like plastic bags, hoses, electrical cords, strung lighting and textiles. These items are not recyclable and are a major source of machine malfunctions at recycling facilities. These are best disposed of in the trash or can be taken to one of the local electronic recyclers. Call before arrival.

Rinse Before Recycling

Current estimates suggest that only about 1/5 of plastic is recycled. Worse yet is the fact that so much of the material can't be recycled because of contamination. One way to help our community eliminate this problem is if it had food or drink in it and can be recycled, then give it a rinse to remove the food before tossing in the bin.

Not All Plastic is Recyclable

Sure, it looks like plastic, smells like plastic and maybe it even tastes like plastic. First of all, do not taste the plastic! Secondly, if there is no recycling symbol with the numbers 1-7, then sadly, it can't be recycled. This includes some summer fun items we use regularly, like hoses, kids' sprinklers, squirt guns, lawn chairs, 6-pack rings and even plastic kiddie pools.

Don't Guess when it comes to Recycling !

Wish-cycling is the practice of tossing questionable items into the recycle bin, hoping they are recyclable. This wastes time and money in the processing of recyclables, and inevitably can create more waste as these items can contaminate an entire load of recyclables. Common wish-cycling items include paper plates, shredded paper, pizza boxes, tissue paper, drinking glasses, stemware, deli meats and cheese bags, ceramic and porcelain dishware.

HERE'S WHERE YOU CAN RECYCLE!



**YARDWASTE
RECYCLING CENTER**

3790 S. FARM RD 119



FRANKLIN AVE

731 N. FRANKLIN AVE.



LONE PINE

3020 S. LONE PINE AVE.



**HOUSEHOLD CHEMICAL
COLLECTION CENTER**

1226 W. NICHOLS ST.

Pipkin Middle School (1215 N. Boonville Ave.) pictured below



Pipkin seventh-grader designs green space built by SPS maintenance

By SPS Communications, for SGFNN

Timmy Atkins, a seventh-grader at Pipkin Middle School, visited the Watershed Center two times this school year. The park, lake and environmental sciences center open for all SPS seventh-graders to explore their world during a special science unit, Greener Greenspaces.

Atkins completed the unit, along with every other Pipkin seventh-grader. But he was inspired to do something special: a green gathering space, right by Pipkin's cafeteria.

"It's definitely different than what I expected," said Timmy. "But I really like how useful the space is going to be."

"I'm excited to see other kids use it. I'm glad it's going to be here not just for us, but also the neighborhood." – Timmy Atkins

The culminating project of Greener Greenspaces is to design a special space that has a purpose and supports the health of the community's waterways. Students apply all of the biology, chemistry and environmental science concepts they've learned to design a green space for their school.

Hundreds of student-designed projects were reviewed in classrooms across Springfield. And at each school, a winner was chosen — and Timmy's project was selected as the districtwide winner in February.

His prize: his design would be built by SPS maintenance team members with materials



provided by Menard's featuring plants grown at the Watershed Center.

"This is a true collaborative partnership with three different organizations all for one goal, which is to make Timmy's vision become reality," said Ann Wallenmeyer, coordinator of science curriculum. "His design was selected because of its emphasis in sustainable design and practical use for the Pipkin community, and he was so proud when we told him he won."

Originally, the Greener Greenspace project was to be constructed in March — but with COVID-19, its construction was delayed until May 28. Timmy spent most of the day guiding design decisions, working alongside the SPS maintenance team and Kelly Owens from the Watershed Committee of the Ozarks.

"These plants we're using in Timmy's garden were actually harvested by Timmy and other Pipkin students, and then Hillcrest students started the seeds and took care of the seedlings," said Owens. "I think it's really cool to have students in one part of the city learning and doing work that then impacts another group of students in the same city. They can come and see their garden grow, and that community impact is so powerful."

At the end of the garden's construction, Timmy determined where two picnic tables, built by Kickapoo High School construction students, would be placed near the garden. It was the last decision, but it won't be the last time he's in the garden, he says.

"I'm excited to see other kids use it," he says. "I'm glad it's going to be here not just for us, but also the neighborhood. People come and watch practices at the school by the field. Now, they have a place to sit."



Connect

- Kathy Lutz, President:
gbna.email@gmail.com
or 417-306-8421
- Pauletta Dunn, Vice President
- Samantha Hunter, Secretary
- Doris Hunter, Treasurer
- Hovey House: 417-942-2456



Neighborhood Association Meetings

July 20 • Aug. 17 • Sept. 21: 6:30 – 7:30 p.m./
6 p.m. optional potluck @ St. Joseph Catholic Church
Parish Hall (1115 N. Campbell Ave.)

Neighborhood PAR Officer

Officer Jimmy Andela: 417-874-2535
jandela@springfieldmo.gov



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

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

Follow Grant Beach on  
grantbeachneighborhood.org

Bass Pro Marathon Neighborhood Challenge

Register by Aug. 28

The Bass Pro Marathon is right around the corner on Sunday, Nov. 1, and it's time for neighborhoods to start planning their themes and assigning volunteers.

Learn more on page 9.



Hovey House (800 W. Hovey St.)

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

Meetings are held on an as-needed basis at 6:30 p.m. Contact a neighborhood officer to find out the next scheduled meeting.

Neighborhood PAR Officer

Officer Eric Luebbert: 417-864-1138
eluebbert@springfieldmo.gov



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

Follow Greater Parkcrest on  



**Want to submit an
article about your
neighborhood?**

*Let your neighborhood
president or other
representative know!*

**Attend neighborhood
association meetings to learn
more about**

*what's going on in your area,
neighborhood projects,
programs offered, and more!*

HEART OF THE WESTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD



Connect

- Cody Parsons, President:
codycodemparsons@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

July 9 • Sept. 10: 6 – 7 p.m. @ Passion Assembly of God
(806 N. Forest)

Neighborhood PAR Officer

Officer Zach Pugh: 417-874-2536
zpugh@springfieldmo.gov



 **York Elementary School**
2100 W. Nichols St.

Follow Heart of the Westside on  



Nichols Park (1900 W. Nichols)

MARK TWAIN NEIGHBORHOOD



Connect

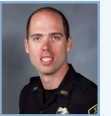
- Samantha Spartan, President:
marktwainassociation@gmail.com
or 417-343-3702
- Steve Koehler, Vice President
- Michael Georg, Treasurer

Neighborhood Association Meetings

July 14 • Aug. 11 • Sept. 8: 6:30 p.m. @ South
Haven Baptist Church (2353 S. Campbell Ave.)

Neighborhood PAR Officer

Officer Eric Luebbert: 417-864-1138
eluebbert@springfieldmo.gov



 **Mark Twain Elementary**
2352 S. Weaver Ave.

Follow Mark Twain on  

Rescheduled Spring Neighborhood Cleanup

July 25: 8 a.m.-Noon

South Haven Baptist Church
(2353 S. Campbell Ave.)

Accepted: Trash, Brush, Metal

Contact: Samantha Spartan
at 417-343-3702 or
marktwainassociation@gmail.com

Bass Pro Marathon Neighborhood Challenge

Register by Aug. 28

The Bass Pro Marathon is right around
the corner on Sunday, Nov. 1, and it's
time for neighborhoods to start planning
their themes and assigning volunteers.
Learn more on page 9.





Battlefield and Fremont improvement project underway

By Kristen Milam, Public Information, for SGFNN

Construction began for the Battlefield Road and Fremont Avenue Intersection and Roadway Improvement Project May 20.

Approved by voters in 2016, the project will involve the widening of Fremont Avenue to five lanes between Battlefield Road and Sunset Street. Improvements will also be made at the Battlefield Road and Fremont Avenue intersection, with traffic signal upgrades and additional turn lanes.

“Widening Fremont north of Battlefield and providing an additional northbound lane is expected to help reduce the bottlenecks along Battlefield.” – Jonathan Peitz

“The overall goal of the project is to increase capacity and improve traffic flow in one of our busiest retail areas,” explains Public Works project manager Jonathan Peitz. “Widening Fremont north of Battlefield and providing an additional northbound lane is expected to help reduce the bottlenecks along Battlefield.”

Pedestrian improvements will include new

Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant sidewalks along the east side of Fremont Avenue and a multi-use path on the west side. City Utilities will install new steel streetlight poles on the east side of Fremont Avenue in conjunction with the roadway project.

City Utilities completed preliminary electrical work in 2019, replacing deteriorating wood transmission poles with new steel poles.

Construction contractors have been working on locating utilities and relocating gas and water lines around Meador Park for the last few weeks.

“We’re hoping to limit full closures to night-time hours to impact traffic as little as possible,” says Peitz. “Motorists can still expect lane shifts and lane closures as construction progresses, but we hope to keep traffic moving and will maintain access to all businesses.”

Traffic impacts will be communicated as early as possible via public notice and social media. Digital message boards will be placed to communicate closure details to motorists.

The public can expect construction in the area to begin to ramp up in June with project completion expected in November. The estimated construction cost for this phase of the project is \$3.1 million, funded through the City’s ¼-cent Capital Improvement Sales Tax.



Connect

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

Neighborhood Association Meetings


July 23: 6 p.m. @ Cowden Elementary School Park (2927 S. Kimbrough Ave.) Water and packaged snacks will be provided. Social distancing in your own lawn chair or sitting on your own blanket of 6 feet will be followed. Let’s chat about what is going on in our community and see each other again after so many months apart!

Aug. 27 • Sept. 24: 6 p.m. @ Cowden Elementary School (2927 S. Kimbrough Ave.)

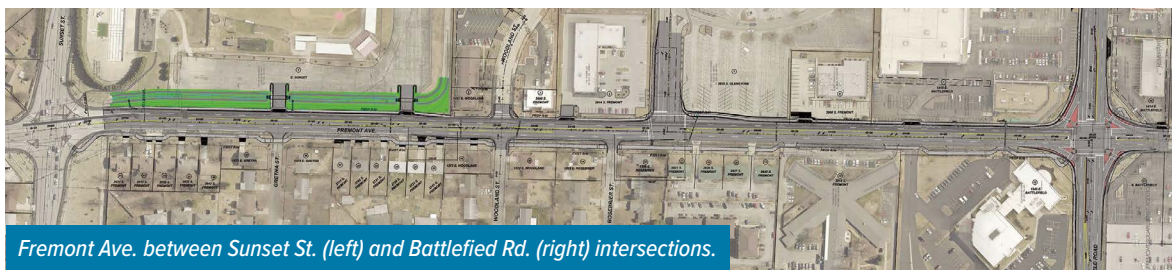
Neighborhood PAR Officer

Officer Jacob Boomgaarden: 417-864-1321
jboomgaarden@springfieldmo.gov



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

Follow Meador Park on  



Fremont Ave. between Sunset St. (left) and Battlefield Rd. (right) intersections.



SUMMER FUN

FISH AT RUTLEDGE-WILSON FARM PARK

Open daily 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Catch and release fishing only, no license required. \$5/person for bait and fishing pole rental or \$1.50 if you bring your own.
▶ ParkBoard.org/FarmPark




FLOAT AT LAKE SPRINGFIELD PARK AND BOATHOUSE

Mon.-Sat., 9 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sun., 11 a.m.-6 p.m.
Rent a kayak, canoe or paddleboard at the Boathouse for \$10/hour or \$30/4-hours.
▶ ParkBoard.org/LakeSpringfield



SPEND A WILD DAY AT DICKERSON PARK ZOO

Open daily 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Home to 500 animals! Admission: \$15 /Adults and teenagers; \$12 /60 yrs.+; \$10 /Children (age 3-12).
▶ DickersonParkZoo.org

Coronavirus prevention may impact schedules. For the latest information, visit ParkBoard.org/Coronavirus



Meador Park (2500 S. Fremont Ave.)



Groundbreaking begins construction of new Boyd Elementary School

By SPS Communications, for SGFNN

Construction officially began on the new Boyd Elementary School on Wednesday, June 3.

A special groundbreaking ceremony was held to mark the occasion, with Midtown community members, Boyd students and staff and SPS leaders joining together to celebrate.

“We believe that by investing in our students and schools, we are investing not only in Boyd’s future but in the best interests of Springfield, too.” – Dr. Alina Lehnert

“We have much gratitude for this new building,” said Dr. Angela Holloway-Payne, Boyd principal. “This building will open so many opportunities for our students. One of the most important to our students is ample restrooms in close proximity to classrooms. I really don’t think our kids realize that this means less time out of the classroom and more instructional time.”

The new elementary school will be built on the campus of the former Berry Elementary School on the corner of Division Street and Sherman Avenue. The new \$20 million facility is located less than a



Four Boyd Elementary principals were present at the groundbreaking: Dr. Angela Holloway-Payne (2019-present), Andrea Fraser (2015-2019), Dr. James Grandon (2002-2015) and Alana Lyles (1991-2002)

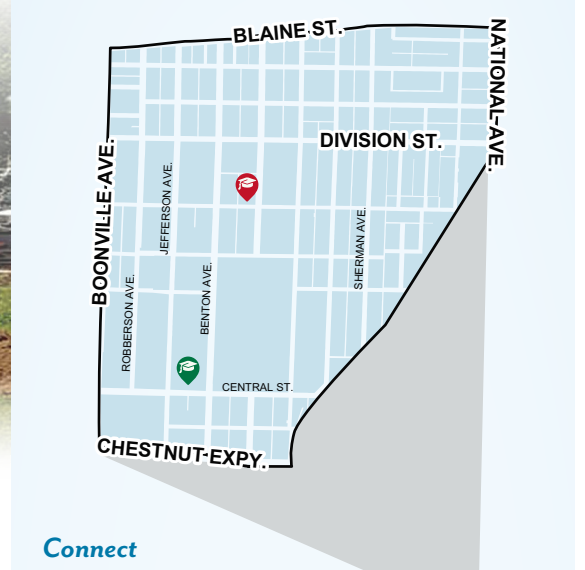
mile from the current Boyd Elementary School site, while also providing innovative spaces for learning, separate gym and cafeteria spaces and a safe room for Boyd students and staff.

“The new school to be constructed on this site is an example of the Springfield School Board’s commitment to doing what is best for students,” said Dr. Alina Lehnert, school board president. “We believe that by investing in our students and schools, we are investing not only in Boyd’s future but in the best interests of Springfield, too.”

Midtown neighbor thanks nurses

Provided by the Midtown Neighborhood Association Facebook page

Back in April our neighbor Larry put up this sign in front of his house at Calhoun and Clay for neighbors to sign and show their appreciation for all the nurses working to keep us safe and make people better. Thanks, Larry!



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


July 13 • Aug. 10 • Sept. 14: 6 – 7 p.m. @ Urban Neighborhood Alliance, on Cox North Hospital parking lot (918 E. Calhoun St.)

Neighborhood PAR Officer

Officer Jimmy Andela: 417-874-2535
jandela@springfieldmo.gov



Follow Midtown on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/midtown.sgf) [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/midtown.sgf)

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

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

*The annual Midtown Old-Fashioned 4th of July Parade has been canceled this year.
See you July 4, 2021!*



Washington Park (1600 N. Summit Ave.)



Beechwood Heights stormwater improvement project to begin this summer

By Kristen Milam, Public Information, for SGFNN

Residents in the Beechwood Heights subdivision north of the Oak Grove neighborhood can expect construction to begin in late July on a stormwater improvement project meant to relieve flooding to streets and private property in their neighborhood.

"The Beechwood Heights Subdivision was originally developed in the 1960s and didn't include any underground stormwater conveyance."

– Kirkland Preston

The project will replace the current assembly of shallow roadside ditches with a new system of underground pipes and inlets along East Walnut Street from South Elmwood Drive to Monte Vista Avenue and along East Horning Street from the western dead-end to South Elmwood Drive. The new pipe network will discharge to an open channel located west of the neighborhood, following the existing flow path of stormwater runoff. The project also includes City Utilities gas and water relocation and renewal work.

"The Beechwood Heights Subdivision was



originally developed in the 1960s and didn't include any underground stormwater conveyance," explains Public Works stormwater project manager Kirkland Preston. "The project is a result of documented, localized street, yard and structure flooding in this area — particularly during heavy spring rain events."

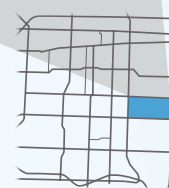
Neighborhood traffic flow will be impacted during the second half of the project, with the closure of East Walnut Street to through traffic between Monte Vista Avenue and Elmwood Avenue. Local traffic will be allowed and residents will maintain access to their properties throughout construction. Details on the timing of this closure will be provided as soon as they are available.

Construction is estimated to last approximately nine months with project completion anticipated in spring 2021. The estimated cost of this project is \$1.5 million, funded through the ¼-cent Capital Improvement Sales Tax.



Connect

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



Neighborhood Association Meetings

Meetings are generally held at 6 p.m. on the last Tuesday of alternating months. Contact Gerald Clary for specific information.

Neighborhood PAR Officer

Officer Jacob Boomgaarden: 417-864-1321
jboomgaarden@springfieldmo.gov



Pittman Elementary School
2934 E. Bennett St.

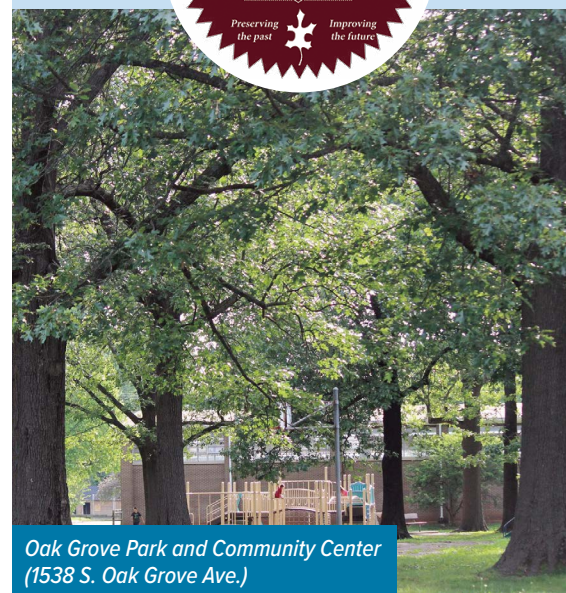
Follow Oak Grove on  
ogna.weebly.com

Bass Pro Marathon Neighborhood Challenge

Register by Aug. 28

The Bass Pro Marathon is right around the corner on Sunday, Nov. 1, and it's time for neighborhoods to start planning their themes and assigning volunteers.

Learn more on page 9.



Oak Grove Park and Community Center
(1538 S. Oak Grove Ave.)



Connect with us!



@TheParkBoard
#SGFPARKS



Rendering of the new Jarrett Middle School pictured below.



New Jarrett Middle School to open on site of Portland Elementary in 2022

By SPS Communications, for SGFNN

Jarrett Middle School has stood in the same spot for 95 years. But in a century, its surroundings have changed. And in 2018, a group of citizens from across Springfield recommended that the middle school move.

"In its current location, Jarrett is being enveloped by the MSU campus and nearby student housing," says Rob Kroll, principal of Jarrett Middle School. "By building a new Jarrett on Portland Elementary's current site (906 W. Portland St.) just 1.5 miles away, we will be able to better serve students in their own neighborhood."

In addition to its location, the size of the middle school's current campus poses many challenges for providing adequate outdoor space for physical education, athletic competitions and extracurricular activities, says Tom Prater, member of the Community Task Force on Facilities.

"The new location will provide the space and facilities middle school students need to participate in these important programs, which keep them

engaged in school," said Dr. Prater.

A new secure entrance and storm-shelter gymnasium will also help keep students and staff safe.

"By building a new Jarrett on Portland Elementary's current site just 1.5 miles away, we will be able to better serve students in their own neighborhood." – Rob Kroll

"The new building will address the school's accessibility and safety challenges, leading to a safer school for all students," said Dr. Prater. "Plus, a new Jarrett will serve up to 725 students in grades 6-8, expanding the number of students attending the school."

A new Jarrett will address all of these and other facility problems, with the total cost of a new Jarrett estimated at \$41.54 million. SPS plans for it to open in August 2022.

Springfield Art Museum Stormwater Improvement project to begin in late summer (continued from front page)

Carrying on average 400 cars per day, this stretch of Kings Avenue is also classified as a low-volume roadway with around one-sixth the daily traffic as surrounding streets, added Preston.

"Stormwater improvements are the first step in the realization of the art museum's Master Plan," says Springfield Art Museum Director Nick Nelson. "The removal of the property from the floodplain will allow us to continue operating as an AAM Accredited art museum and will also help us move forward improving the building and grounds to increase the museum's presence and value in the community."

The project is currently out for bid and is expected to be awarded to a construction contractor in July. Construction is expected to begin late this summer and is expected to last nine to 12 months.

Funding for the Fassnacht Creek Stormwater Improvement Project will be provided in part by a Missouri Department of Natural Resources Stormwater grant, a federal Environmental Protection Agency 319 grant and a Missouri Conservation Department native planting grant.

The remainder will be provided by ¼-cent Capital Improvements Sales Tax reinvestment funds.

FUTURE TRAIL AND RECREATION IMPROVEMENTS

In conjunction with the stormwater project, transportation and recreation opportunities to Phelps Grove Park and the art museum will be improved through the construction of a new multi-use trail connection, planned to begin in fall 2021. The connection will begin at Clay Avenue, continue east through Phelps Grove Park and end at Brookside Drive, directly south of the art museum's main entrance. The new 1,650-linear-foot path will include a bike repair station, ADA ramps and will connect to shared bike lanes along Brookside Drive via a new three-span bicycle and pedestrian bridge.

The trail project will be funded through federal Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) grants with the City funding a 20% match through the ⅛-cent Transportation Sales Tax.

"This trail project will begin construction following the completion of a separate stretch of



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.

Neighborhood PAR Officer

Officer Jacob Boomgaarden: 417-864-1321
jboomgaarden@springfieldmo.gov



Follow Phelps Grove on  
phelpsgrove.com



Rendering of Fassnacht Creek outside of the Springfield Art Museum as part of the art museum Master Plan.

trail further to the west, from Jefferson Avenue to Clay Avenue," explains Public Works project manager Joe Hamp. "When all is complete, this section of trail will stretch from the art museum to Phelps Grove Park to Parkview High School and Fassnacht Park and will ultimately connect up with the future Grant Avenue Parkway BUILD grant project."

RECORDINGS AVAILABLE

View recordings of the engagement sessions and learn more as the project progresses by visiting springfieldmo.gov/SAMstormwater.

ROBBERSON NEIGHBORHOOD



Connect

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



Neighborhood Association Meetings

July 23 • Aug. 27 • Sept. 24: 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
@ Pathways United Methodist Church (1232 E. Dale St.)

Neighborhood PAR Officer

Officer Evan Nicholson: 417-874-2537
enicholson@springfieldmo.gov



Robberson Community School
1100 E. Kearney St.

Follow Robberson on

Rescheduled Spring Neighborhood Cleanup

Sept. 19: 7 a.m.-Noon

Location TBD

Accepted: Trash, Brush, Metal

Contact: Phyllis Evans
at 417-693-4023 or
svmbroomrider@att.net



ROUNTREE NEIGHBORHOOD



Connect

- Mike Brothers, Chair:
mikebrothers@drury.edu
or 417-894-9064
- Peggy Wise, Vice Chair
- Laurel Bryant, Past Chair
- Jeremy Tuck, Treasurer
- Nancy Evans, Secretary



Neighborhood Association Meetings

July 21 • Aug. 18 • Sept. 15: 7 – 8 p.m. @ University
Heights Baptist Church (1010 S. National Ave.)

Neighborhood PAR Officer

Officer Eric Luebbert: 417-864-1138
eluebbert@springfieldmo.gov



Rountree Elementary School
1333 Grand St.

Follow Rountree on
routreenews.org



The Delaware-Rountree Dragons baseball season will begin the first week of August. We will begin practices in July and have batting practices "old school style" at the Fun Acres batting cages. GO DRAGONS! Contact Phil Barber at 417-880-3740 if your child is interested in playing.

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

July 2 • Aug. 6 • Sept. 3 • Oct. 1: 6 – 7 p.m. @ Weller
Community Church (1722 E. Blaine)

Neighborhood PAR Officer

Officer Evan Nicholson: 417-874-2537
enicholson@springfieldmo.gov



Weller Elementary School
1630 N. Weller Ave.

Follow Weller on

Weller Food Distribution

Wednesdays: 1-2 p.m.

(Except on holidays and
during inclement weather.)

Weller Community Church

(1624 E Blaine St.)



Rendering of the renovated Williams Elementary School pictured below.



Renovated Williams Elementary to open in 2021

By SPS Communications, for SGFNN

Williams Elementary School is the heart of its neighborhood. Renovating and expanding the school is one of 39 high-priority projects recommended by a group of citizens from across Springfield who came together to study Springfield Public Schools' facility needs.

"Our students and staff currently have to cope with a variety of issues, including plumbing issues and aging infrastructure," said Jenn Webb, principal of Williams Elementary School. "We are excited about the possibility of renovating our school to address these issues."

"By adding an early childhood mini-hub, up to 100 preschoolers will receive a free, quality preschool experience at Williams every day, helping them to be ready to learn when they start kindergarten." – Mark Dixon

A renovation of Williams would feature classroom improvements campus wide and the addition of a storm-shelter gymnasium, providing space that enhances learning experiences, says Webb.

"A new gymnasium will also mean we no longer have to use our cafeteria for P.E. classes and special events, making meal service and event scheduling more efficient."

The new facility, one of seven major projects funded by Proposition S, will include dedicated space for before- and after-school programming provided by Boys & Girls Clubs of Springfield. A portion of the construction costs of the school will be funded by the Boys & Girls Clubs of Springfield.

A renovated Williams would also serve more students with the addition of five preschool classes in an early childhood mini-hub, providing free, all-day preschool for 100 eligible preschoolers in Northwest Springfield.

"Early childhood education helps students and their communities thrive," says Mark Dixon, member of the Community Task Force on Facilities. "By adding an early childhood mini-hub, up to 100 preschoolers will receive a free, quality preschool experience at Williams every day, helping them to be ready to learn when they start kindergarten."

The total cost of a renovated Williams and expansion for early childhood classrooms is estimated at \$17.97 million. Demolition on the existing building is expected to begin in August, with an opening date of August 2021.



Connect

- Paula Reeves, President
- Ryan Dalton, Vice President/
Treasurer
- Denver Tindell, Secretary
- twna2020@gmail.com
or 417-597-4108



Neighborhood Association Meetings

Sept. 15: 7–8 p.m. @ Tom Watkins Park Community Center (2100 W. High St.)

Neighborhood PAR Officer

Officer Zach Pugh: 417-874-2536
zpugh@springfieldmo.gov



 **Williams Elementary School**
2205 W. Kearney St.

Follow Tom Watkins on  

Rescheduled Spring Neighborhood Cleanup

July 18: 8 a.m.-Noon

Faith Assembly Church
(3001 W. Division St.)

Accepted: Trash, Brush, Metal, Leaves

Contact: Paula Reeves at
twna2020@gmail.com

LAI D OFF OR REORGANIZED OUT OF A JOB? ASK ABOUT OUR DISLOCATED WORKER PROGRAM!



If you have received unemployment benefits or experienced a lay off, you may qualify for paid tuition for short-term training as well as employment assistance. Let us help you plan your next step!



Call the Missouri Job Center and talk to a member of the Skills team.
Virtual enrollment options available!

MISSOURI JOB CENTER

JOBS.MO.GOV | 417-887-4343



Tom Watkins Park (2100 W. High St.)



University Heights elects new treasurer

By Jan Peterson, for SGFNN

University Heights Neighborhood Association welcomed a new member to its board of directors on May 6.

Donelle Blubaugh was unanimously elected to fill the role of treasurer, vacated in April by Joel Thomas. Thomas has been instrumental in keeping the spark of UHNA going through a couple of incarnations of the neighborhood association and said he was saddened to leave but felt the demands of his personal and professional life wouldn't allow him to continue to help lead UHNA at the level he would prefer.

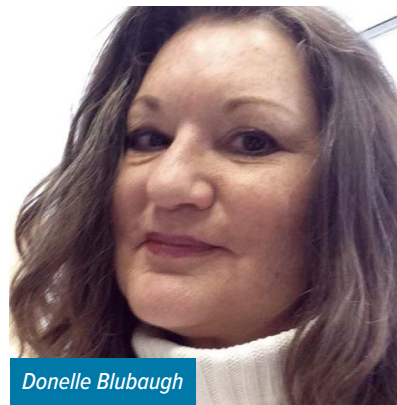
Blubaugh moved to Springfield from Washington, D.C., in June 2019 and joined UHNA almost immediately thereafter. Her professional background includes managing programs and budgets for nonprofit organizations such as PBS and the Software and Information Industry Association. After years of working on national initiatives, she is eager to spend more time engaged with local activities and issues.

Blubaugh says she found welcoming connections to her neighborhood through the University Heights Neighborhood Association. "UHNA is a catalyst for preserving the neighborhood's unique character and for connecting its residents with the

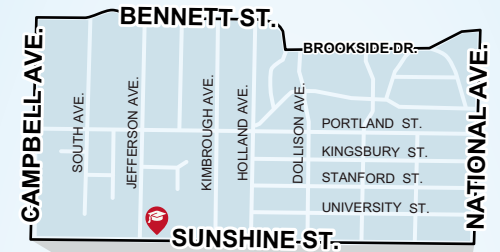
city at large as Springfield moves forward. I am delighted to contribute," she says.

The board is eager to move forward on initiatives put on hold by the pandemic and explore new ways to pursue its mission statement to "celebrate, preserve and enhance the qualities that make University Heights unique, maintaining the neighborhood as a vibrant, desirable community for living and playing."

UHNA continues to meet at 5:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month (except July, which was pushed to July 8 for the holiday) via Zoom until further notice. Anyone interested in joining the monthly board meeting online is welcome to email universityheightsneighborhood@gmail.com for login info.



Donelle Blubaugh



Connect

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



Neighborhood Association Meetings


July 8 • Aug. 5 • Sept. 2 • Oct. 7: 5:30 p.m.

Meetings held via Zoom until further notice. Anyone interested in joining the monthly meeting is welcome to email universityheightsneighborhood@gmail.com for login information.

Neighborhood PAR Officer

Officer Jacob Boomgaarden: 417-864-1321
jboomgaarden@springfieldmo.gov



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

Follow University Heights on  
[universityheights-sgf.org](https://www.facebook.com/universityheights-sgf.org)

University Heights board springs into action to assist neighbors during pandemic

By Jan Peterson, for SGFNN

University Heights Neighborhood Association sprang into action when COVID-19 arrived in Springfield.

Board members scrambled to create a postcard to alert every neighbor within its boundaries of Brookside/Bennett, Campbell, Sunshine and National that volunteers were willing and ready to help them get whatever support they needed to safely navigate the health crisis. Groceries, prescriptions, help finding food or rent assistance — UHNA residents remain willing to help any way they can.

Community Partnership of the Ozarks provided invaluable support in creating the mailer, getting it published and securing a discount on postage costs. UHNA gives special thanks to Doug Schlottman, CPO's community development specialist, for enthusiastically lending his support and expertise. Because of Schlottman's assistance, it took only one week to take the project from concept to mailbox.

Response to the mailer has been good, though few have asked for any services. Most calls were simply to express gratitude for the support. UHNA



also received several new memberships through the initiative.

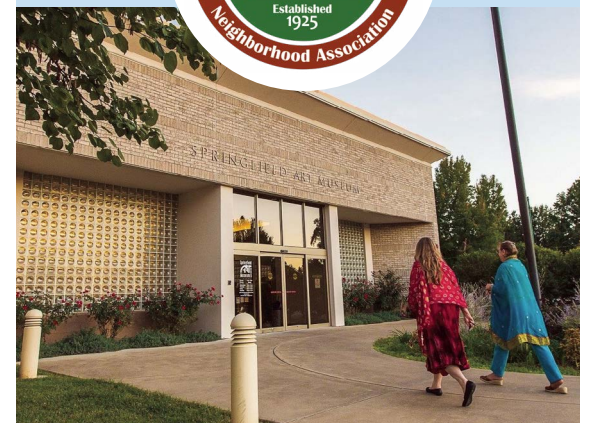
As the pandemic slogs on, UHNA remains focused on keeping our neighbors united and supported while we have physically keep our distance. We are finding new ways to accomplish long-standing goals and looking for new goals to achieve while we await an end to our present limitations.

Bass Pro Marathon Neighborhood Challenge

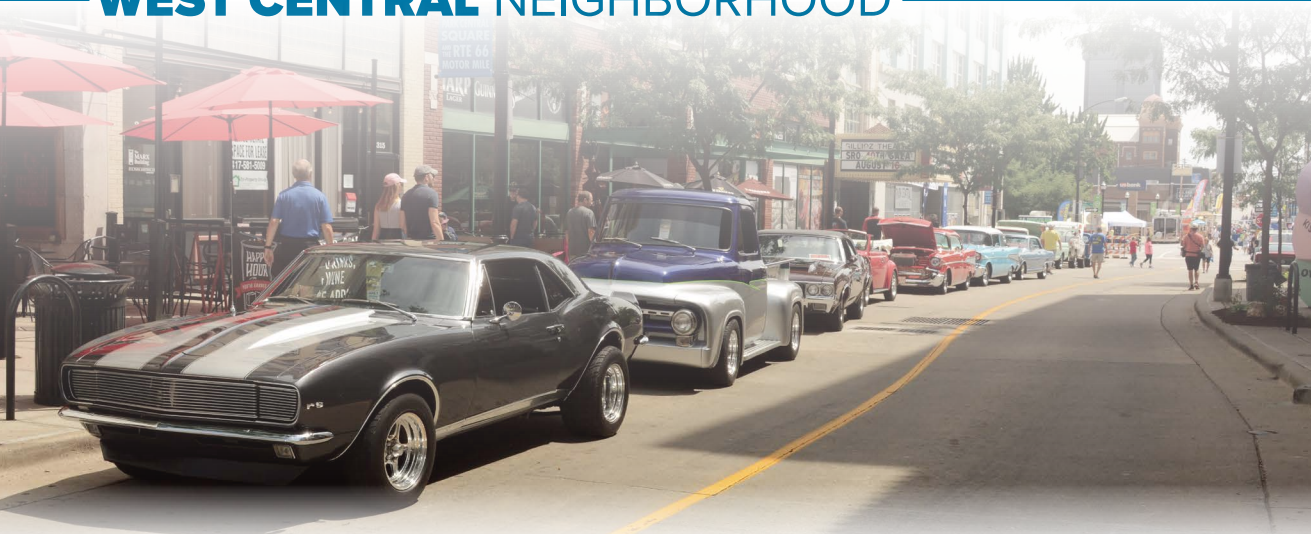
Register by Aug. 28

The Bass Pro Marathon is right around the corner on Sunday, Nov. 1, and it's time for neighborhoods to start planning their themes and assigning volunteers.

Learn more on page 9.



The Springfield Art Museum (1111 E. Brookside Dr.) reopened to limited walk-in traffic on June 9, and limited on-site public programming is tentatively scheduled to resume on or after Tuesday, July 7.



Birthplace of Route 66 Festival canceled due to COVID-19 concerns

By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor

The steering committee for the Birthplace of Route 66 Festival has unanimously decided to cancel the 2020 festival, due to COVID-19 concerns. The 2020 festival was planned for Aug. 14-15.

"Last year's attendance was 65,000 over two days and we were projecting to top 75,000 this year, based on tempo of registrations," said Cora Scott, director of Public Information & Civic Engagement for the City of Springfield and festival steering committee member. "We think this is the right thing to do to protect participants, staff, spectators (who come from all around the world) and our community. We will offer full refunds or the option to apply fees toward the 2021 festival."

"I am very impressed with fellow committee members because this cancellation is no easy thing," she added. "We are looking forward to celebrating the Birthplace of Route 66 next year and hope to make the 2021 festival the best one yet."

Car and motorcycle show participants, musical acts, vendors and exhibitors should have been notified about the cancellation, but if they have not, contact information is below.

"I am very impressed with fellow committee members because this cancellation is no easy thing. We are looking forward to celebrating the Birthplace of Route 66 next year and hope to make the 2021 festival the best one yet." – Cora Scott

Car show participants who registered online with a credit card should log in to the festival's EventBrite page and request a refund or roll over their registration to the 2021 festival. Those who choose the roll over option will be able to keep their display spots. Participants who registered with cash or a check and want a refund should email springfieldroute66carshow@gmail.com to request the refund. Participants have until Aug. 1 to request a refund or it is assumed they want to roll their

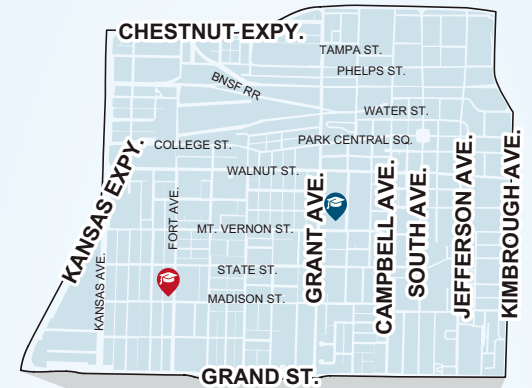


registration over to 2021 and keep their spots.

Festival vendors should contact Tom Mast at masterfuleventsmo@gmail.com or 417-402-9876. Exhibitors should contact Shirley Robbins at 417-773-7714. Musical acts and motorcycle show vendors and exhibitors should contact Laura Dannegger at laurad@autoinjury.com or 417-889-1400.

HOW TO CELEBRATE ROUTE 66 BETWEEN NOW AND NEXT SUMMER:

- Explore local sections of Route 66 and support the local restaurants and retailers.
- Experience the new Route 66 Food Truck Park on St. Louis Street, just west of the Rail Haven Motel on Glenstone.
- Visit the History Museum on the Square with its outstanding exhibits, one of which is all about Route 66. The museum just reopened with new social distancing provisions and is a great outing with friends and family.
- Pay a visit to the Route 66 Car Museum at College Street and Kansas Expressway. Owner Guy Mace has assembled an incredible collection and it's available throughout the year in your own backyard.
- Check out the public art along Route 66. This includes fun 1950s neon, Springfield SculptureWalk through downtown and a new sculpture that will be added on College Street in early fall.
- Take a virtual trip down the Mother Road with the story map created by City of Springfield Geographic Information Systems staff located at maps.springfieldmo.gov/rt66.



Connect

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



Neighborhood Alliance Meetings

Neighborhood socials are being planned for July and August. Details still to be determined. Stay tuned!

Sept. 22: 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. @ Broadway United Methodist Church (545 S. Broadway Ave.)

Neighborhood PAR Officer

Officer Keith Wright: 417-864-1194
kwright@springfieldmo.gov



 **McGregor Elementary School**
1221 W. Madison St.

 **Campbell Early Childhood Center**
506 S. Grant Ave.

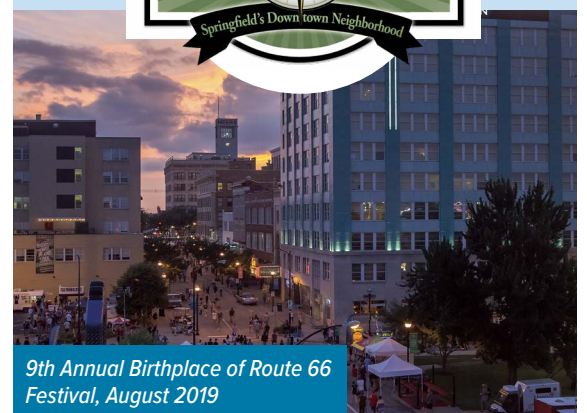
Follow West Central on  

Bass Pro Marathon Neighborhood Challenge

Register by Aug. 28

The Bass Pro Marathon is right around the corner on Sunday, Nov. 1, and it's time for neighborhoods to start planning their themes and assigning volunteers.

Learn more on page 9.





Little Free Library at Madison and West in the Westside Neighborhood pictured below.

Staying connected in a time of physical distancing

By Sandi Huston, for SGFNN

During these wild, crazy times we are all being creative with ways to stay connected with our family, friends and coworkers. I would like us all to take a few minutes to think about how we can also stay connected to our neighbors and community. We will need each other more and more as this situation evolves.

Here are a few of the ways that Westside Neighborhood Betterment Association has worked on this problem.

Thanks to Steve Sischo and Ken Sweetser for doing our Adopt-a-Street cleanup (Mt. Vernon between Park and Kansas Expressway) because we could not have a group event.

We were hoping to create a gardening group to help us create a beautiful garden at the monument at Zagonyi Park this spring. Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, Candy Smith and Sandi Huston spent

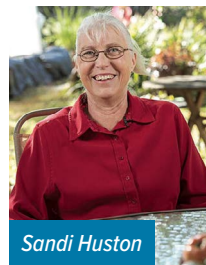
some time weeding while social distancing to try to keep it under control until things are back to normal.

The little library at Madison and West has been in heavy use since the libraries are closed.

Thank you to everyone who brought books, games and movies. We have also used it as a convenient exchange place for plant sharing. We should be able to do that all summer as we all work in our yards.

WNBA wants to participate in the recovery of our community. How do you think we can help? Please share your thoughts and comments to our Facebook page. If you would rather not comment publicly please feel free to contact me.

Neighborhood Night Out is tentatively scheduled for Sept. 19. We will post more information as that gets closer.



Sandi Huston



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

July 14 • Aug. 11 • Sept. 8: 6:30 p.m., @ Westport Park Apartments, Community Room (250 N. Hilton Ave.)

Neighborhood PAR Officer

Officer Zach Pugh: 417-874-2536
zpugh@springfieldmo.gov



 **Westport Elementary School**
415 S. Golden Ave.

Follow Westside on  

Working smoke alarm saves three lives in April 21 West College Street fire

By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor

Three lives were saved by a working smoke alarm April 21 when the residents of a West College Street home were alerted to a fire by a smoke alarm installed by the Springfield Fire Department last October, providing them time to escape safely.

Properly installed and maintained smoke alarms play a vital role in reducing injuries and deaths from a house fire. Smoke alarms should be installed on every level of the home, in each bedroom and outside each sleeping area.

While the alarm in the West College Street home was installed during a medical call, Springfield firefighters have installed 3,620 smoke alarms in area neighborhoods as a component of Project RED Zone, an initiative that began in 2017. They have visited 24,634 homes in the Rountree, Delaware, West Central, Grant Beach, Westside, Heart of the Westside, Robberson, Woodland Heights, Tom Watkins, Doling, Midtown, Bissett, Weller and Oak Grove neighborhoods as well as areas without organized neighborhood associations. In addition to the 3,600-plus installed alarms, firefighters have tested more than 6,800 alarms to ensure they are functioning properly and have replaced over 970 batteries in existing alarms as a part of the project.

Project RED Zone — a reference to the red areas on the Springfield Fire Department's map of fire

incidents — stands for Reduce, Educate, Deliver. It is part of SFD's Community Risk Reduction (CRR) program. The multifaceted campaign aims to ensure all homes in high-risk areas of the city have working smoke alarms.

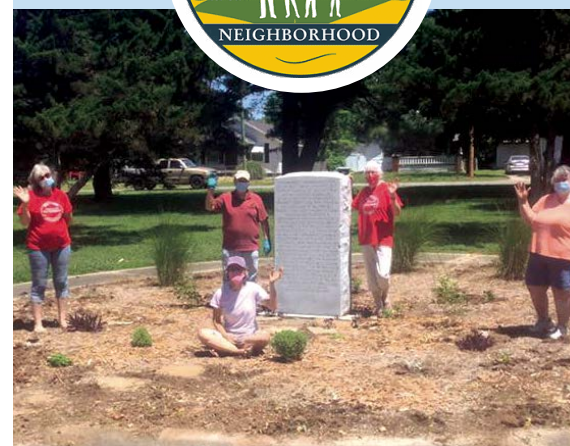
"Now approaching year 3 of Project RED Zone, we are starting to see the positive effects of these canvasses," said Fire Chief David Pennington. "We have responded to several house fires now in which the occupants of the home have safely escaped because of a working smoke alarm that we installed for them."

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. If you have questions or need smoke alarms or batteries, call the Fire Department at 417-874-2300 for assistance or to schedule an appointment for a free smoke alarm check or installation.



REDUCE • EDUCATE • DELIVER



WNBA sponsored a garden party at our garden in Zagonyi Park June 13. A small group gathered to weed, plant and chat. We had a great time and the garden looks so much better. Thank you to Candy and Regina for donating plants!

Woodland Heights resident creates neighborhood watchdog group on Facebook

By Jasmine Bailey, Springfield Police Department, for SGFNN

Woodland Heights neighbor Shanyn Wehde wanted to know why someone wasn't doing something more about the crime in her neighborhood. And then she says she realized she is that someone.

"You've got to get up and do something or else it's going to continue," she said.

"There can only be so many police officers in the neighborhood and we can't have officers on every street all the time, but there's enough citizens where we can have eyes on every corner at every street." – Shanyn Wehde

In July of 2019, Shanyn started the Northside Watchers of the Neighborhoods Facebook page. The goal of the page is to give her neighbors the tools to help themselves through communicating with each other. On the page, the more than 480 members are able to share details about suspicious activity or crime that has occurred in the area. She then takes that information to her Springfield Police Area Representative (PAR) Officer for follow-up investigation.

"There can only be so many police officers in the neighborhood, and we can't have officers on every street all the time, but there's enough citizens where we can have eyes on every corner at every street," Wehde said.

However, she says Northside Watchers of the Neighborhoods is different than other crime-fighting Facebook groups in our community. Wehde's goal is to work with local law enforcement and supplement programs currently in place, like Neighborhood Watch. She says she does not want to hinder law enforcement's efforts to fight crime and discourages group participants from taking the law into their own hands.

"Shanyn has been great about sharing information with SPD's Community Services Section via email, phone, and Woodland Heights Neighborhood Association," said SPD Lieutenant Jennifer Charleston, who oversees CSS.

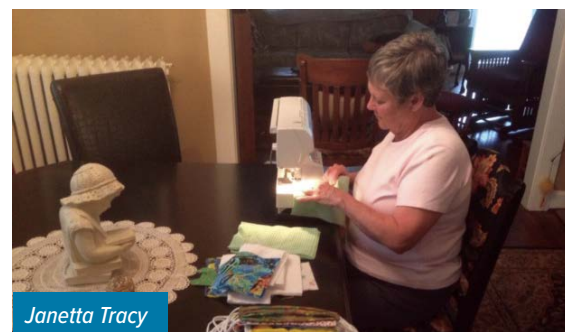
There are strict guidelines to join Northside Watchers of the Neighborhoods. Anyone requesting to join is thoroughly vetted. To be part of the Facebook group, you must be a Springfield resident living in Zone 1 or Zone 2.

If you don't live in Zone 1 or 2 but want to help keep an eye on crime in your neighborhood, Wehde encourages others to start pages like hers. Her biggest suggestion is that group administrators be picky about who they allow to join and to make sure group members feel safe in order to foster participation. Wehde says participation is the key.

Woodland Heights neighbors use sewing skills for masks

By Katie Bolt-Goeke, for SGFNN

I made 12 masks out of Christmas fabric, which was all I had in house. My neighbor Janetta Tracy made 10 masks for me, and I got 10 from Alterations by Jo Ann. I sent one to my aunt who is 88 and living in Pittsburg, Kansas. I gave one to my son here in Springfield, and kept three for my husband and I. The other 27 I sent to my friend who works at the Leavenworth, Kansas Veterans Administration facility. I retired from there in 2018. She works in the ER there and they are desperate for masks.

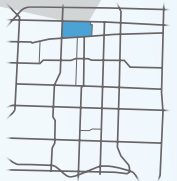


Janetta Tracy



Connect

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




Neighborhood Association Meetings


July 21 • Aug. 18 • Sept. 15: 6:30 – 7:30 p.m./
6 p.m. optional potluck dinner @ Woodland Heights
Presbyterian Church (722 W. Atlantic St.)

Neighborhood PAR Officer

Officer Evan Nicholson: 417-874-2537
enicholson@springfieldmo.gov



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

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

Follow Woodland Heights on  
woodlandheightsneighborhood.org

Bass Pro Marathon Neighborhood Challenge

Register by Aug. 28

The Bass Pro Marathon is right around the corner on Sunday, Nov. 1, and it's time for neighborhoods to start planning their themes and assigning volunteers.

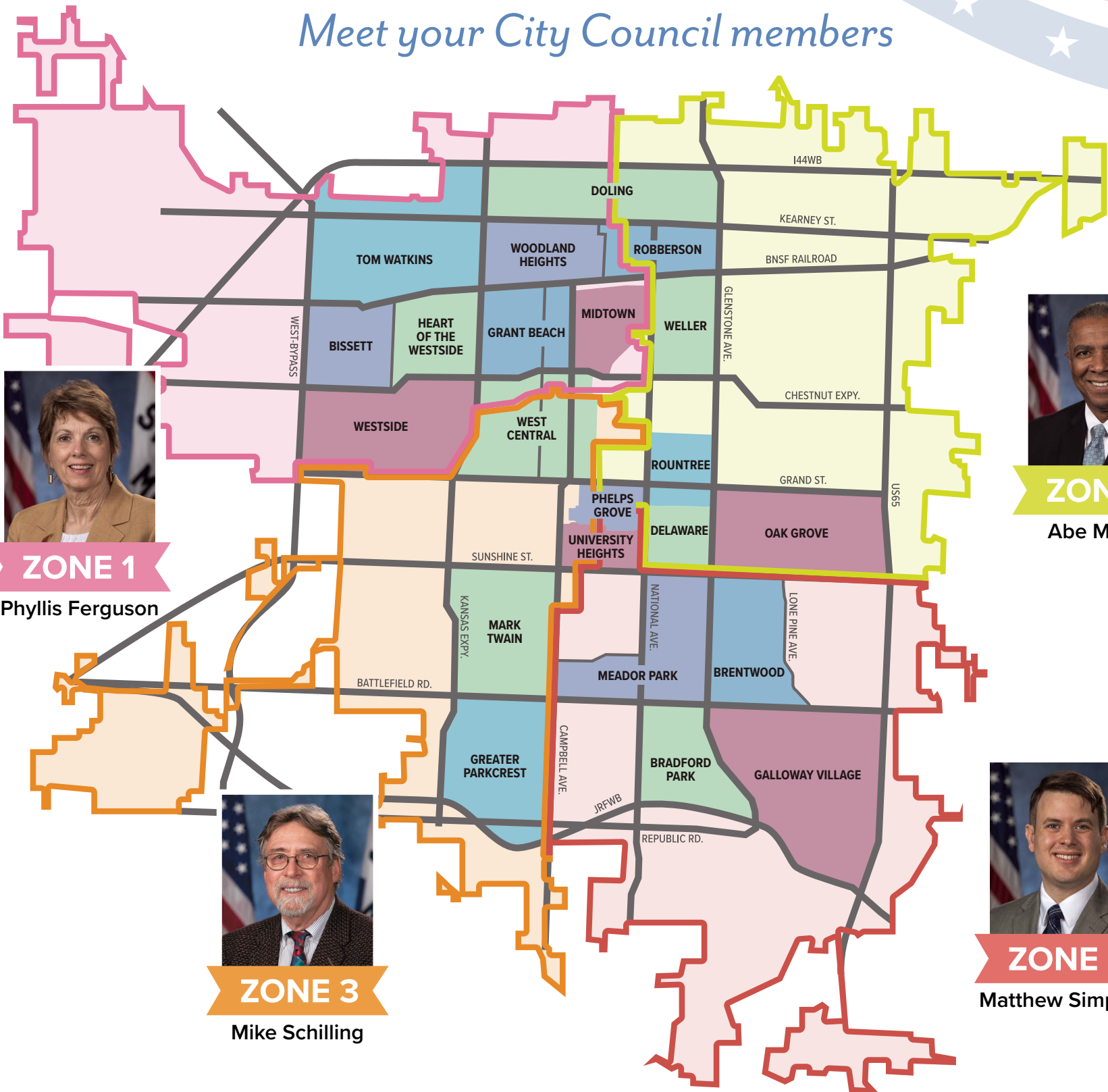
Learn more on page 9.



Katie Bolt-Goeke

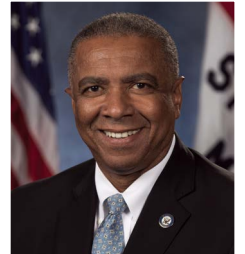
Springfield Zone Boundaries & Registered Neighborhoods

Meet your City Council members



ZONE 1

Phyllis Ferguson



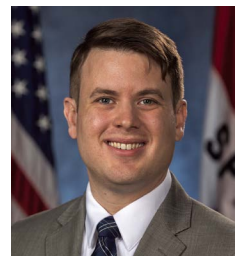
ZONE 2

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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Council@springfieldmo.gov

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Neighborhood Night Out Events Coming Soon!

Some neighborhoods are still planning Neighborhood Night Out events. Check with your neighborhood association for the latest information!





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