# SGF NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS.com

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

#### **WINTER 2023**

**VOLUME 7 • ISSUE 1** 



#### **IN THIS ISSUE**

- 3 City awarded \$17M in state grants to fund 14 stormwater projects
- 4 Applications for Neighborhood Works funding due in January
- 8 Make plans for 2023 Citywide Kickball Tournament in April

# **GET TO KNOW SGF NEIGHBORHOODS**

- 9 BISSETT
- 11 BRADFORD PARK
- 10 BRENTWOOD
- 11 DELAWARE
- 14 DOLING
- 12 FASSNIGHT
- 13 GALLOWAY VILLAGE
- 14 GRANT BEACH
- 15 GREATER PARKCREST
- 15 HEART OF THE WESTSIDE
- 15 MARK TWAIN
- 16 MEADOR PARK
- 17 MIDTOWN
- 17 OAK GROVE
- 18 PHELPS GROVE
- 19 ROBBERSON
- 20 ROUNTREE
- 22 SEMINOLE HOLLAND NEW
- 21 TOM WATKINS
- 22 UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS
- 22 WELLER
- 23 WEST CENTRAL
- 23 WESTSIDE
- 24 WOODLAND HEIGHTS

# 16th annual NOVAs recognizes 17 volunteers, 3 businesses, two churches and adds Inspiration Award

By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor

Community Partnership of the Ozarks and sponsor Air Services Heating & Cooling hosted the 16th annual Neighborhood Organization Volunteer Awards (NOVA) ceremony, Dec. 7, 2022 at The Oasis to recognize and reward outstanding neighborhood volunteers who work tirelessly to improve and revitalize their communities.

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

Former Neighborhood Advisory Council Chair Rusty Worley presented the keynote address about creating positive change in the community, one neighborhood at a time, which was the theme of the banquet.



"We chose this theme because over the last 18 months, we've all been required to reimagine how we do life, to make changes — both voluntary and involuntary, and to embrace a new normal," said CPO Caring Communities Director Brooke Ash. "We've learned that even through a difficult season, there were still bright spots and positive moments. We've come through the unexpected season stronger and more resilient than before. We wanted to make tonight about acknowledging the challenges, reflecting on the good, and inspiring hope for the future."

#### **REACHING FOR THE STARS AWARD**

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

The 2022 Reaching for the Stars Award went to Bass Pro Shops for the Bass Pro Marathon Cheering Challenge.

"Bass Pro values the work that neighborhoods do to make our city a safer and friendlier place to live and work. They have sponsored, and participated in neighborhood night out events, National Night Out events and NOVA banquets. Because of their continued dedication and support of neighborhoods and CPO, we would like to honor them as the 2022 Reaching for the Stars recipient and thank them for their partnership," Ash said.

#### **INSPIRATION AWARD**

This year, CPO introduced a new award at the NOVAs – the Inspiration Award. This award goes to a neighborhood association that inspires others in



our community to create lasting positive change, and the awarded neighborhood association will receive \$500 thanks to the sponsor of this award — University of Missouri Extension - Greene County (with special thanks to David Burton, MU Extension County Engagement and Community Development Specialist).

"We want to recognize a neighborhood association that is innovative and are leaders in Springfield. They set a truly inspiring example of what a neighborhood association can accomplish. This neighborhood created a resource that allows for residents of their neighborhood to view development, real estate, crime, and nuisance data. They have successfully organized and hosted a family-friendly event in partnership with several organizations for eight years running, known as Dirt Day, and they engage many, many volunteers for their annual cleanup day, which they branded "Dumpster Day" (last year was "Dumpster Days"). If you haven't been to Woodland Heights Neighborhood's website, I highly encourage you do – it's fantastic: woodlandheightsneighborhood.org. And I'd be remiss if I didn't mention that this neighborhood association's president, Becky Volz, is the current chair of the Neighborhood Advisory Council," Ash said.

#### **INDIVIDUAL NOVAS**

- Bissett: Rob Sorbo
- Brentwood: Pamela Buhr
- Delaware: Cynthia Yarbrough
- Fassnight: Nathan Cook
- Galloway Village: Stuart and Bobbie Venable
- · Grant Beach: Life 360 Fairbanks Church
- Greater Parkcrest: Joe Stokes
- Heart of the Westside: Dr. Lora Hopper
- · Mark Twain: Sunset Church of Christ
- Meador Park: Donna Clarkson
- Midtown: Dylan Chorice
- Oak Grove: Enterprise LanesPhelps Grove: Ginger Tarrasch
- Robberson: Malcolm Green
- Rountree: Nancy Evans
- · University Heights: Brandon Biskup
- West Central: Caroline Murski
- Westside: Cornell Pierce
- Woodland Heights: Chance Parish.

▶ See NOVAs on page 2

#### NOVAs from page 1

# BASS PRO MARATHON NEIGHBORHOOD CHALLENGE AWARDS

Concluding the evening were the Great Neighborhoods grants to neighborhoods and the Bass Pro Marathon cheering section awards.

"On behalf of Bass Pro, thank you to those who were able to participate in the cheering challenge. They report that they got great feedback from runners and having you all at the event cheering your hearts out was a true gift," Ash said.

Galloway Village and Woodland Heights tied for first place and took home \$1,000 in the cheering section competition. Delaware, Brentwood, West Central and Rountree tied for second place and each took home \$900. Meador and Mark Twain placed third and took home \$800. Robberson took fourth and \$700. Weller, Greater Parkcrest, University Heights, Westside and Midtown tied for fifth and took home \$500.

#### **GREAT NEIGHBORHOODS GRANTS**

Alana Owen from the City's Planning & Development department awarded \$500 Great Neighborhoods grant checks to eight neighborhoods in recognition of their efforts in 2022.

"This year, we again awarded eligible neighborhoods a Recognition Grant regardless of points earned due to the impact of COVID-19 on neighborhood activities. Some neighborhoods have resumed normal activities, while other neighborhoods are still struggling to get back on their feet and to be consistent with those that received awards last year. Next year the awards program will resume as normal with neighborhoods earning points through activities," Owen said.

Those eligible for grants were:

- · Oak Grove Neighborhood Association
- Doling Neighborhood Association
- $\bullet \ \ Delaware \ Neighborhood \ Association$
- Mark Twain Neighborhood Association
- Heart of the Westside Neighborhood Association
- Rountree Neighborhood Association
- · Midtown Neighborhood Association
- Fassnight Neighborhood Association.

The Great Neighborhoods program encourages clean, safe, and friendly neighborhoods through activities that develop relationships between neighbors and their neighborhood association.

→ See NOVAs CONTINUED on page 4

# APD Urban Planning + Management begins Springfield housing study

By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor

City-selected APD Urban Planning + Management has begun a comprehensive housing condition study of Springfield. Members of the consultant team are driving through north-side neighborhoods to review conditions, although they will review the entire city. The team will collect information on housing types, condition and unit counts of each housing unit. They will also evaluate neighborhoods for amenities, such as green space, sidewalks and trails.

A community engagement event will take place in February. Watch the City's social media sites and springfieldmo.gov for updates.

"This will be a data driven study which will be used to identify citywide and neighborhood focused housing priorities and provide policy alternatives and intervention strategies to guide the City in decision making for future housing needs," said Brendan Griesemer, assistant director of Planning & Development. "APD specializes in neighborhood planning/revitalization with an emphasis on housing. Their services are built around identifying existing strengths and assets and creating a vision and road map for improving the existing housing market and making permanent, high-quality housing achievable for residents."

The assessment will be beneficial to Restore SGF, an initiative to increase home ownership, by providing important data needed to tailor programming to Springfield's needs, including a detailed assessment of current housing conditions, demographics, market demands, housing gaps and strategies to mitigate these gaps. It will culminate with a written report with detailed recommendations and strategies for a neighborhood revitalization strategy/program and process to select and prioritize neighborhoods and corridors for planning work, resource allocation, plan implementation and progress measurement.

At its July 25, 2022 meeting, City Council approved Restore SGF's \$1 million request from the City's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) fund.

The ARPA funding, along with a \$300,000 allocation from the City's 2022-2023 fiscal year budget and



investments totaling \$240,000 disbursed over three years from Community Foundation of the Ozarks and several banking industry partners, will allow Restore SGF to hire staff and begin programming in the second quarter of 2023 with two grant programs — the Block Challenge Program and the Homeowner Improvement Program.

These programs are based on proven models in Des Moines, Iowa (Invest DSM) and other cities and will help residents make needed repairs, updates and renovations and improve the curb appeal of their properties, while at the same time encouraging them to engage with their neighbors.

Community Foundation of the Ozarks has pledged \$20,000 over five years (\$100,000 total) in grant funding for Restore SGF, plus \$500,000 for the initiative's revolving loan fund.

OakStar Bank, Commerce Bank, Old Missouri Bank, Great Southern Bank, Guaranty Bank, Arvest Bank and Legacy Bank have all committed \$10,000 over three years (\$30,000 total) in grant funding, while Central Bank has committed \$20,000 over three years (\$60,000 total) in grant funding. Great Southern Bank, Legacy Bank and Central Bank have each committed \$250,000 for the revolving loan fund.

In addition to these commitments, many financial institutions have agreed to commit loan and mortgage dollars to Restore SGF's targeted neighborhoods.

# Federal grant injects funding into local registered apprenticeship program

By Katherine Trombetta, Missouri Job Center, for SGFNN

Thanks to a \$3 million Apprenticeship Building America grant from the U.S. Department of Labor, the City's Department of Workforce Development, located at the Missouri Job Center at 2900 E. Sunshine, has expanded its registered apprenticeship program to provide career pathways in five industries: public safety, manufacturing, IT, health care and education.

The apprenticeship program is available to anyone living in Barry, Christian, Dade, Dallas, Greene, Lawrence, Polk, Stone, Taney and Webster counties.

Those interested in participating in the program are

asked to apply at springfield mo.gov/apprenticeships.

"Missouri ranks as one of the top states in the nation for registered apprenticeships in all industries. This grant will help us focus on five key areas that have been hit the hardest by labor shortages stemming from the pandemic," said Ericka Schmeeckle, interim director of Workforce Development.

The department was one of 39 organizations nationwide, and the only one in Missouri, to be awarded the grant funding last summer.

"The registered apprenticeship model has been widely successful in other sectors, and we look to further expand opportunities through this grant," Schmeeckle said.



In addition to individuals, the department is seeking both public entities and private companies to offer registered apprenticeships. Interested organizations are asked to contact, Haley Sides at haley.sides@springfieldmo.gov or 417-841-3363.

To learn more about what a Registered Apprenticeship Program is see this story on SGFNeighborhoodNews.com.

# City awarded \$17M in state grants to fund 14 stormwater projects

By Kristen Milam, Public Information, for SGFNN

The City of Springfield was recently approved for nearly \$17 million in funding toward 14 individual stormwater improvement projects through the State American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Water Infrastructure Community Grant Program facilitated through the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR).

Gov. Mike Parson announced Nov. 18, 2022 that a total of \$410 million was being awarded to help improve drinking water, wastewater, stormwater infrastructure and lead service line inventories in communities across Missouri.

More than 1,000 applications were received, requesting more than \$2.4 billion in funding, according to a news release from Gov. Parson's office. Applications were scored based on the applicant's financial need, engineering capability, and necessity of the project.

#### **PROJECTS WILL INCLUDE:**

- Renew Jordan Creek from Main Avenue to Boonville Avenue — \$5 million
- Stormwater improvements near Division Street and O'Hara Avenue – \$555,000
- Stormwater and right of way improvements on Scenic Avenue (Catalpa Street to Sunshine Street) – \$2.2 million
- Stormwater and right of way improvements on Hilton Avenue (Mt. Vernon Street to near Walnut Street) – \$838,000
- Stormwater and right of way improvements along Pacific Street to Golden Avenue —\$605,000



- Stormwater and right of way improvements along Clifton Avenue (Kearney Street to High Street) — \$187,000
- Stormwater and right of way improvements along Nichols Street (Hutchinson Avenue to near Dickerson Avenue) – \$205,000 (Stormwater and right of way improvements on Scenic Avenue (Catalpa Street to Olive Street) – \$2.2 million
- Stormwater improvements near Roanoke Avenue and Delmar Street – \$608,000
- Stormwater improvements near Lone Pine Avenue and Catalpa Street – \$734,000
- Stormwater improvements from Bennett Street and Meadowview Avenue to Loren Street and Karla Avenue — \$838,000
- Chestnut Regional Stormwater Detention Basin – \$289,000
- Glenwood Regional Stormwater Detention Basin and Rockhurst Street stormwater improvements – \$2 million
- Fairgrounds Green Infrastructure Project — \$700,000.

# Lake Springfield planning process By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor The City of Springfield

City, CU kick off

The City o Springfield and City Utilities kicked off the process to plan the future of the



Lake Springfield area in November with a public event at the Springfield Art Museum. The Lake Springfield Plan is projected to be complete by summer 2024.

The plan will be a catalyst for new economic development and recreational opportunities for the Lake Springfield area, identified as a redevelopment opportunity area during the City's Forward SGF comprehensive planning process.

#### **LAKE SGF PLAN ELEMENTS WILL INCLUDE:**

- · recreational expansion opportunities
- adaptive reuse planning for the decommissioned power station
- hydrological studies
- water quality and ecological preservation planning
- economic development and workforce development opportunities
- · transportation, access and wayfinding
- · land use recommendations.

"The stage is set to create a truly innovative vision for Lake Springfield with water as the key element," said Senior Planner Olivia Hough, who is managing the project. "One of the main goals for this project is to improve access to this local water amenity while enhancing the natural environment. With CMT and the team Steve Prange has assembled, we now have top-notch experts in place and are ready to begin planning what Lake Springfield could be."

# Forward SGF Comprehensive Plan officially adopted

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

After nearly four years in development, the City's Comprehensive Plan, Forward SGF, has been officially adopted. The Planning and Zoning Commission and City Council adopted the Plan on Nov. 14, 2022, following public hearings and a series of final review sessions with the public.

So what's next? I get asked two questions these days: First, am I glad to have Forward SGF completed? Secondly, what's implementation going to look like? The answer to the first question is a resounding YES! While I am honored to have had the opportunity to lead such a historic process, I am very relieved to have it adopted and am looking forward to kicking off new projects on the road to implementation.

So what are we going to begin working on first? I've rehearsed this answer a hundred times now! Forward SGF isn't a City of Springfield-only plan. Implementation will require an all-hands-on-deck approach, and there will not be one or two key things that occur that make Springfield the city envisioned by Forward SGF. It will take an accumulation of large and small wins, both in the short and long term. Both the private and public sectors will need to step-up and channel our resources to make the most of every project and every effort.

Quality of place has been declared our plan's official barometer and our guiding principle to champion. Ensuring we acclimate our everyday actions to align will be our first step. The City has

already begun the process of updating our development codes, and we are engaging in a comprehensive housing and neighborhood revitalization study. City Utilities is studying the public transportation system,



and soon we'll start looking closer at key corridors and neighborhoods for opportunities to improve public investment and quality of life. We will need public support and involvement to hold our feet to the fire and remain vigilant to make Springfield the community we've set our sights on.

Lastly, education and awareness will play a big role in implementing the comprehensive plan. The City is dedicated to making ourselves available to meet with citizens and organized groups to coordinate and continue the discussion about impacting the future of our city.

I would like to pass on my appreciation to all the members of the advisory teams, focus groups, City Council, the Planning & Zoning Commission, neighborhoods and our staff at the City who spent so much time making the most of this opportunity. I would like to recognize the members of the City's Planning and Development Department, particularly Senior Planner Alana Owen and Associate Planner Ben Tegeler from the Planning and Neighborhoods team, for their hard work and devotion to Forward SGF.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Through an \$800,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration (EDA), and \$200,000 from the Hatch Foundation, City Utilities of Springfield and the City of Springfield's Environmental Services Department will fund the development of a master plan for the area, including and surrounding the former coal-powered plant (James River Power Station). Redevelopment will complement Lake Springfield Park and Boathouse, which are jointly operated by CU and the Springfield-Greene County Park Board.

#### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

A community visioning process for the future of Lake Springfield includes public engagement events, a presentation tour and a city-wide survey.

The community engagement process will outline what the community sees for this area of Lake Springfield. Residents, neighbors, business owners, developers, schools, parks, non-profit agencies and more will collectively take part in identifying the areas of opportunity and concern in the area. This process will help the team zero in on a list of specific goals for the project.

Visit lakesgfplan.com for updates about the plan and how you can get involved.





# Be a Responsible Pet Owner

Being a responsible pet owner is tantamount to being a good neighbor. Animals are covered in Section 18 of the City Code, which you can view on the City's website at springfieldmo.gov/code.

- Make sure your pets are properly vaccinated and tagged.
- Don't let dogs run at large or bark incessantly. Tethering dogs for more than 30 minutes at a time is against the City Code.
- Make sure outside animals have plenty of food, clean water and shade.
- Carry supplies with you on walks to clean up pet waste. Pick up waste from your own yard regularly to control odors.



# **Applications for second round of** 2019-2024 Neighborhood Works program funding due in January

By Kristen Milam, Public Information, for SGFNN

Applications are being accepted through Jan. 26 for approximately \$600,000 in funds remaining through the 2019-2024 allocation of the City's Neighborhood Works program funding.

Funded through the 1/4-cent Capital Improvement Sales Tax, the Neighborhood Works program is intended to fund small-scale capital improvements within officially registered neighborhoods. The program gives residents the opportunity to identify projects they believe will offer the greatest benefit to their area including small-scale stormwater drainage improvements, sidewalk and trail connections, public parking and alleyway improvements and updates to parks. Individual projects are limited to \$100,000 or less and must take place on city-owned property or right-of-way.

Neighborhood representatives must attend one of two mandatory application workshops scheduled in November and December to learn more about program requirements and develop project applications.

#### **SCHEDULE**

- Oct. 26, 2022 City solicits registered neighborhoods for applications
- Nov. 15, 2022 Application Workshop #1
- Dec. 8, 2022 Application Workshop #2
- Jan. 26 APPLICATION DEADLINE
- Jan.-March City staff review applications for project eligibility and feasibility and prepare cost
- Early March Neighborhood Advisory Council evaluation and scoring period begins
- April NAC recommendations to City Manager for approval
- Late spring Projects expected to be awarded.

#### **STATUS UPDATES FOR 2019-2024 PROJECTS STILL UNDER CONSTRUCTION:**

#### **Bissett**

#### Hillcrest/Nichols Pedestrian Safety and Accessibility Improvements - \$78,000

Various pedestrian safety and accessibility improvements in the Bissett neighborhood are now under contract with Liming Concrete with construction expected to be complete by July.

#### → NOVAs CONTINUED from page 2

This is a voluntary program in which registered neighborhoods can participate and earn points toward designation as a City of Springfield Great Neighborhood, along with grant money to be used toward a neighborhood program or activity.

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

- Residents must lead the process.
- A long-term commitment is expected.
- · All neighbors interested in participating must be included.

The project will include radius improvements at the intersection of Hillcrest Avenue and

Nichols Street, ADA sidewalk replacement on Hillcrest Avenue from Nichols Street to Brower Street and a concrete landing at the bus stop along Nichols Street near

**NEIGHBORHOOD** 

#### L.A. Wise Park. **Brentwood**

#### Improvements to Kirkwood Park - \$99,000

Installation of new accessible playground equipment at Kirkwood Park (2201 E. Seminole), including concrete base and rubber surfacing, is expected to take place this winter.

#### **Grant Beach**

#### Richard Napieralski Community Garden improvements - \$3,810

Install a freeze-proof yard hydrant within the west end of the garden area and new water service, scheduled for winter.

#### **Greater Parkcrest**

#### Stormwater and Sanford Park improvements -\$47,259

Stormwater improvements including new concrete channel, manhole adjustments and other improvements expected for completion in December.

#### **Mark Twain**

# Tree planting, landscaping and fence removal -

Public Works street operations division is working to remove fencing and install trees and landscaping along City-owned property in the southeast corner of Kansas Expressway and Sunshine Street. The project is expected to be complete by July.

#### Rountree

#### ADA-compliant sidewalks and ramps - \$85,499

This project will rehabilitate and replace noncompliant sidewalks and curb ramps in the Rountree neighborhood in various locations along Kentwood Avenue, Fairway Avenue, Catalpa Street, Delmar Street and Weller Avenue.

The project is under contract with Liming Concrete with construction expected by July.

· Continual activities that engage everyone in the neighborhood.

Neighborhoods can earn up to:

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



#### SGF NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

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

#### Volume 7 • Issue 1 • Winter 2023

SGFNeighborhoodNews.com

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Produced by the Department of Public Information, City of Springfield, MO.

# Park Board kicks off \$25M in Cooper Park Sports Complex improvements

By Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Park Board, for SGFNN

The Springfield-Greene County Park Board, in partnership with Lake Country Soccer, kicked off \$25 million in sports facility renovations at Cooper Park, including artificial turf upgrades on 19 sports fields, Nov. 3, 2023. at Lake Country Soccer Dome, 2334 E. Pythian St.

This celebration, held in lieu of a groundbreaking, also served to thank state and local lawmakers who helped secure \$20.8 million in ARPA funding for the project, as well as local partners and donors who are closing the funding gap.

"We are so thankful that this project is more than 85% funded by ARPA funds awarded by the Missouri General Assembly and Springfield City Council, along with a significant contribution by the Springfield CVB," said Bob Belote, Director of Parks. "Lake Country Soccer and the Park Board are working hard to fill the balance through partnership organizations, private donations and sponsorships. Naming rights are available."

The project calls for installation of synthetic turf at 19 soccer, baseball and softball fields at Cooper Park. All but one of these are currently grass fields, which have limited playability following weather events and heavy usage. The project also calls for stadium enhancements, additional spectator seating, locker rooms, restrooms, concessions stands, accessible pathways and parking.

When complete, Cooper Park will be home to three anchor sports facilities: Cooper Tennis Complex, Lake Country Soccer Complex and the 11 baseball/softball fields which comprise the Cooper and Killian sports complexes. Each of these will be capable of hosting local, state and national tournaments.

Belote said the transformation will serve residents and visitors alike.

"First and foremost, upgrading Cooper Park by turfing 19 sports fields will give local athletes and their families a state-of-the-art place to play, right here in our own community," said Belote. "Adding turf and other amenities restores Lake Country Soccer to destination status and creates a new baseball/softball anchor facility with Cooper and Killian. Both these facilities will attract and host larger tournaments in all kinds of weather, bringing thousands of visitors to Springfield every year, just like at Cooper Tennis Complex, which is already the best of the best."

In October 2022 alone, Cooper Park hosted three consecutive weekends of Missouri State High School Association (MSHSAA) State Championship tournaments: Girls Individual Tennis and Girls Team Tennis at Cooper Tennis Complex, and Girls Softball at Killian Softball Complex.

The renovation project is planned to be completed in two phases over the next three years:

#### **PHASE 1, ANTICIPATED FOR 2024 OPENING**

- Synthetic turf installed on eight Cooper Park/ Lake Country Soccer fields on the north side of Pythian Street, including upgrading the Greenwood Championship field
- Development of new Soccer Stadium environment



- New soccer field restrooms, concessions and locker rooms
- ADA-accessible walkways
- · Additional soccer parking
- · Additional shade and fan-friendly areas

#### **PHASE 2. ANTICIPATED FOR 2025 OPENING**

- Synthetic turf installed on six fields at Killian Softball Complex and five fields at Cooper Youth Baseball Complex allowing for conversion between baseball and softball games on a total 11 turf fields
- Additional seating at Killian Softball Stadium
- · New concessions and restrooms at Killian
- Conversion of one Cooper Youth field to a stadium-style environment
- Renovated Cooper Youth restrooms and concessions
- · Additional shade and fan-friendly areas

# FUNDING SECURED FOR THE PROJECT INCLUDES:

- \$13.5 million in ARPA funding awarded by the State of Missouri
- \$7.3 million in ARPA funding awarded by the City of Springfield
- \$631,274 contributed by the Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau
- An accompanying project fundraising campaign is currently being spearheaded by Lake Country Soccer, in conjunction with the Park Board, partner user organizations and private donors. Field/facility naming rights are available.

Reinvestment in Cooper Park, Lake Country Soccer and Killian Softball Complex was recommended in the Springfield Sports Commission's oft-cited 2019 Sports Tourism Strategic Planning Project, a.k.a the "Huddle Up" study, and the related Indoor Sports Facility Report and 2021 Facility Impact Analysis.

This fall, the Park Board is investing \$500,000 in outdoor court resurfacing at Cooper Tennis Complex, on the heels of \$600,000 of indoor court renovations financed by donation from the Cooper Family Foundation in 2019.

The 127-acre Cooper Park was established in 1983 on land donated by the late Harry Cooper and his family. Cooper Park is now the largest sports development in the Park Board system, including Lake Country Soccer (opened in 1984), Cooper Youth Baseball Complex (opened 1988), Killian Softball Complex (acquired in 1994), Cooper Tennis Complex (opened 1994), as well as a walking trail and extensive playground. Cooper Park currently plays a primary role in hosting more than 50 regional, state and national tournaments a year in Springfield.

# Health Department's community health advocates here to help

By Brooke Pawling, Health Department, for SGFNN

As many people focus on putting COVID-19 in the rear-view mirror, others continue to struggle with its aftermath. Millions of Americans were left without jobs, unable to pay for housing, unable to attend school, and lost reliable transportation due to financial instability. Many of these obstacles are still felt throughout communities. Here in Greene County, we're still seeing the effect of the pandemic on a daily basis.



Fortunately, there are many programs available to help those of us still struggling.

From free COVID-19 testing to mental health resources for those still grappling with the effects of the pandemic, there are hundreds of programs available in our community. But navigating them can be difficult. From qualifications to cost, accessing our plethora of resources can be overwhelming. Fortunately, Springfield-Greene County Health is here to help.

With the help of the community health advocate initiative, Springfield-Greene County Health is proud to provide trained team members who can connect people still dealing with the aftermath of COVID-19 to community resources, medical services and lifestyle change programs. Our community health advocates are able to recognize the diverse needs of our community and then serve as a bridge between individuals and families and the programs and resources that are the best fit for their individual needs.

Community health advocates are here to help with whatever your needs may be — even if they seem too great to overcome.

For example, let's meet Maya.

Maya has been dealing with anxiety and is unable to afford quality mental health care since she lost her restaurant job at the beginning of the pandemic. She found out about a program through a local counseling center that may be able to help. Unfortunately, she is not within walking distance and does not have access to reliable transportation. Unsure of what to do next, she confides in her friend about her situation. Her friend tells her about a program the Health Department has that helped him find some relief in his mental health struggles.

#### ▶ See HEALTH ADVOCATES on page 7

# **Telling the story of COVID-19**

By Lauren Stockham, Health Department, for SGFNN

As we approach three years since COVID-19 became a household name, the COVID-19 emergency still sits fresh in our minds. We may still remember where we were or what we were doing when the Springfield-Greene County Health Department announced its first COVID-19 case. We still have stacks of masks in our homes. Our vaccine cards still have fresh ink from recent booster doses.

The pandemic won't always be a fresh memory, though, which is why Springfield-Greene County Health developed a tool to help future generations learn about our local, national and global pandemic response.

The COVID-19 Response Timeline highlights eight phases of key events, milestones and Springfield-Greene County Health's response during the COVID-19 emergency. You can view it at health.springfieldmo.gov/COVIDtimeline.

#### WHY DID WE BUILD A COVID-19 TIMELINE?

We decided to build a public COVID-19 response timeline for a few reasons. First, documenting our community's response to COVID-19 creates a guidepost for a future pandemic response in our community, should we need it again. Secondly, looking through the timeline allows us to acknowledge and reflect on the events, both good and bad, we experienced individually and as a community. Finally, education is a significant product of the COVID-19 emergency. It's how we persevere. We hope the response timeline can be a beneficial tool as you tell the story of COVID-19 for generations to come.

# SHARING THE COVID-19 STORY FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

As more time grows between the start of the COVID-19 emergency and the present day, people will have less recollection of what life was like during the pandemic years. In the distant future, stories of the pandemic for young people may feel like stories our grandparents tell us—vivid for them, but hard to grasp for us since we didn't experience it firsthand.

Ultimately, Springfield-Greene County Health wants to help our community to learn and grow from the events we experienced during the COVID-19 emergency. We hope our response timeline is a helpful tool in the process.

With the Springfield-Greene County response timeline, young and old people alike will be able to immerse themselves in the events and stories that spanned the COVID-19 emergency. In the time frame from January 2020 to June 2022, you can explore real-time case data, read primary documents from federal, state and local governments and hear first-hand accounts from community members.

We empathize and connect with people, past and present, through stories. It is our hope that by providing this storytelling tool, future generations will understand how the public health system responded, the toll the COVID-19 emergency took on our community and how they can help the community during a future public health crisis.



COVID-19 is a heavy topic. Understanding the events of the COVID-19 emergency is a heavy task. To some degree, we all experienced trauma. This is important to acknowledge while highlighting the significant role the pandemic will play in our history.

It may be difficult for people, now or in the future, to learn about the COVID-19 emergency. When using the response timeline, you can ensure people are not overwhelmed as they learn by taking actions like: taking breaks between each phase, reflecting on one encouraging and one difficult milestone during each phase and discussing how difficult events and milestones make them feel.

Ultimately, Springfield-Greene County Health wants to help our community to learn and grow from the events we experienced during the COVID-19 emergency. We hope our response timeline is a helpful tool in the process.

#### **MOVING FORWARD**

The eighth and final phase of the COVID-19 timeline is titled "Moving Forward." As a department, as individuals and as a community, we are committed to taking steps toward the future. But this is only possible when we acknowledge what happened in our past.

Your mental health may have taken a hard hit during the COVID-19 emergency. It did for many people around the world. In the aftermath, we want you to know it's brave to ask for help. You are not alone in your struggle and in your desire to move forward. If you're ready, visit Springfield-Greene County Health's mental health resources page to take your first step: SGFMentalHealth.com.



### Scan to view:

Springfield-Greene County Health COVID-19 Response Timeline

# empower: abilities offers variety of assistance to help disabled people live independently as long as possible

By Shelby Butler, empower:abilities, for SGFNN

As all of us are navigating life and getting older, supporting aging parents, or maybe taking care of children with special needs; you can quickly find yourself in uncharted territory. Sometimes life throws you a curve ball and you may end up with an unexpected illness or injury, and you don't know where to turn. Empower: abilities is your community resource center for disability services and assistance. Although you may not have heard of them, they've been serving our community since 1985. Located on the southwest side of Springfield, they provide free services to anyone with a disability, with no age requirement. If you are living with a disability or know someone who is, this is the place to call.

Empower: abilities offers help in a wide range of areas, such as assistance applying for Social Security benefits, Medicare and Medicaid eligibility, and they offer a youth program for disabled students and families to plan for life after high school. Individuals who receive Medicaid, or are able to self-pay, may be eligible for in-home services to receive help with household chores or personal care in their home. They even help with relocating individuals out of nursing facilities and back into the community so they can regain their independence.

Empower: abilities' location includes a large assistive technology department with hundreds of devices that you can try for yourself. Trained staff can help make your life



easier with adaptive aids and equipment to help with everyday tasks that may be hard or impossible due to conditions such as arthritis, Parkinson's or stroke. They have items that help with vision loss, such as magnifiers, large print products and talking clocks. For people with hearing loss, they have devices that help with hearing the television, doorbells and smoke detectors with strobe lights. They have many items that can help with getting dressed, opening doors and jars, cooking and other daily tasks. Their staff can help you apply for a free phone program and obtain computer related accessories through Missouri's Telecommunications Assistance Program. They offer a large assortment of durable medical

equipment to keep you safe and prevent injuries in the home, such as bath benches, shower chairs and walkers. If you have equipment you no longer need, they also take in donations of durable medical equipment and donate them back out to those who need it

Empower: abilities provides simple home modifications such as ramps, grab bars and door widening for low-income individuals and for those who don't qualify at an affordable rate. Their location also has a lift-chair showroom where you can try out a variety of styles and features. They are a Golden Technologies Lift Chair vendor and offer very competitive prices!

Empower: abilities works to educate builders and contractors on the urgent need for more accessible and universally designed housing so that apartments and homes don't have to be adapted when a person's abilities change. There is a universal design apartment within their office space that highlights the simple changes that can be made when building that allow for aging in the home and also convenience of living that everyone can benefit from. Universal Design means at least one entrance to the home with no steps, wider doors and hallways, more space in the bathroom, and appliances and kitchen areas that allow someone who uses a walker or wheelchair to move easily about and still have the ability to cook and use their home to the fullest. The universal design apartment at empower: abilities is available for viewing by the public and has been used as a tool to educate builders and developers, students, future professionals and potential homebuyers

If you want to get involved, empower: abilities is always looking for volunteers to help build ramps (no experience needed), help with social events, or help move people out of nursing homes, they would love to hear from you. Call 417-886-1188 to be connected with the right staff. Office hours are Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., at 1450 W. Cambridge.

#### ▶ HEALTH ADVOCATES from page 6

He connects her with a community health advocate who can help. Maya works closely with her community health advocate to build an individualized plan that works for her.

Community health advocate programs around the country are providing unique interventions to the diverse struggles Americans face today. These individualized plans could include:

- Referrals to substance use treatment programs
- · Telehealth mental health resources
- · Debt relief programs

- Educational opportunities
- Information about free COVID-19 vaccine and testing opportunities and more.

There is no plan or problem too difficult that we can't face together. Here at Springfield-Greene County Health, we want to hear your story in an effort to leave no one alone to face their struggles.

If you or someone you love is experiencing hardship as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, help is available. Contact one of our community health advocates to get the assistance you need. You can reach out via email at healthoutreach@springfieldmo. gov or call 417-874-1211 to speak to us.

# Springfield Public Schools announces Fly SPS program

By SPS Communication, for SGFNN

Starting with the 2023-2024 school year, 10 high school students from Springfield Public Schools will have the opportunity to work toward earning their private pilot's license through a new choice program offered in cooperation with Ozarks Technical Community College. The new program was announced during the opening session of SPS University on Thursday.

Fly SPS is a new half-day program, currently being developed, that will provide students instruction in aviation. Year 1 of the program will focus on completing the requirements to obtain a private pilot's license. During Year 2, students will receive advanced training in flight and aviation.



"We are thrilled to be able to continue to expand our choice options for SPS students," said Dr. Grenita Lathan, superintendent. "When I came to Springfield, I saw our choice programs as an opportunity for growth for Springfield Public Schools."

Expansion would not be possible without the collaboration of generous partners like Ozarks Technical Community College. "Dr. Hal Higdon and the OTC team are eager to take this journey with us," said Dr. Lathan. "Their commitment to exploring new ways to serve our students, especially in the area of career and workforce development, will benefit not just our students but our community."

Initially, two students from each SPS high school will be selected through a random lottery process to participate in Fly SPS. To be eligible, they must meet all FAA screening requirements. More details about the timeline, application process and classes will be posted at sps.org/FlySPS in spring 2023.

"We believe this program has great potential to serve more students in the future and to expand to include other aviation careers," said Dr. Hal Higdon, OTC chancellor. "Students who participate in Fly SPS will be well positioned to continue their education at OTC and earn an associate degree in aviation flight technology and a commercial pilot's license."

Potential aviation careers include commercial, corporate and airline pilots, as well as flight engineers.

Fly SPS expands the career and technical education (CTE) options available to SPS students, which currently include agricultural education, business and marketing, computer science and engineering, among others. Read more about SPS CTE programs at sps.org/Page/2383. Read more about all SPS choice programs at sps.org/choice.

# Make plans for 2023 Citywide Kickball Tournament in April

By Peggy Wise, for SGFNN

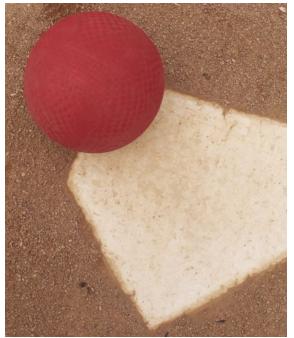
Have you heard about SGF Kickball? If not, here's what you need to know. SGF Kickball is the brain child of Meador Park Neighborhood Association President Bobbi Ream and Delaware Neighborhood Association former President Kevin Evans. It was born out of a desire to foster deeper connections between Springfield neighborhood associations. During a round of friendly smack talking about whose neighborhood was better, Kevin threw down the gauntlet and Bobbi accepted, suggesting matters be settled with a game of kickball. The two brought in Rountree and Phelps Grove Park neighborhoods and in the spring of 2019 the neighborhoods went head to head at Meador Park. Rountree took home "The Bobbi" that year which is the trophy aptly named after Bobbi Ream.

The following year, SGF Kickball invited all neighborhood associations to participate. More than 10 associations signed up. Right before the 2020 tournament was scheduled, the pandemic hit. Kickball was put on the back burner, but kept simmering for a couple of years.

The spring of 2022 saw the second SGF Kickball tournament of neighborhood associations. This year Woodland Heights came in like a lion and dominated the tournament! The Bobbi was passed to the new champions who have plans to display the trophy at the schools in Woodland Heights.

Planning for the 2023 tournament is already underway and the date has already been secured from the parks department. Teams will once again meet on the field in a friendly competition on April 23 at Meador Park. All Springfield neighborhood associations are invited and encouraged to come out and share in the fun.

The planning committee is happy to attend neighborhood association meetings to answer any questions about SGF Kickball, give suggestions on how to get a team together, and talk about the experience of coming together with other neighborhoods to build the bonds of community that will take this generation forward. Contact sgfnakickball@gmail.com for more information.



# NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL UPDATE

# **HOA vs. NA: What's the difference?**

By Becky Volz, NAC Chair, for SGFNN

Over the years as a neighborhood association leader, I've had a number of phone calls from real estate agents and title companies asking if a property in question owed any fees or dues to the homeowners association. I was always happy to report that our neighborhood association does not have covenants, fees or benefits the homeowner had to pay for. It was an answer the agent was always happy to hear. So, what is the difference between the two associations? Why would an agent be asking that question?

Some of our neighbors hesitate to join our NA for fear of control and/or rules, or simply because they don't know what an NA is all about. It's important to clarify what an NA is, and that it can vary depending on the focus, activities and amenities of each neighborhood.

I came across an article on the website for the City of Vancouver, Washington spelling out the difference between a NA and an HOA. Vancouver did a great job of breaking this down and I would like to share it with you.

Because of their similarity in names, some might confuse a neighborhood association and a homeowner's association. However, the two entities are quite different.

A homeowner's association is formed by a developer and pertains to a specific subdivision or project. The association provides the framework for the future maintenance of the development's common grounds and amenities, for instance a pool, clubhouse or common area landscaping. All homeowners are compelled to follow the codes, covenants and restrictions (CC&Rs) governing the development and pay association dues.

A neighborhood association is a section of a

city with a common identity. Neighborhood associations offer a place to meet friends, exchange information, create projects and priorities, propose solutions, and have fun.

A neighborhood association is formed based on the needs and desires of its residents.



The association gives residents a forum to discuss common concerns and to brainstorm possible solutions. Some potential outcomes may be: improved street lighting, bike paths, sidewalks, traffic calming devices, parks and open spaces, zoning and land-use planning, park amenities, beautification projects and neighborhood cleanups. Many neighborhood associations have summer picnics, holiday parties and other special events in order to have fun as well as to keep the lines of communication open with neighbors.

Organized neighborhood associations give citizens a voice and an advocate. Neighborhood associations greatly improve the two-way communication between the City and its residents.

Organizing also opens the door to increased communications with city government.

Neighborhood association leaders serve as liaisons between City staff, City Council and other neighborhood associations. This increased communication can be a resource for upcoming meetings or other community opportunities.

Some of the information contained in this article was first published by the City of Vancouver, Washington.

# Follow these tips to prevent auto theft

By Cris Swaters, Springfield Police Department, for SGFNN

You can't mistake that Missouri winter chill in the air. Mornings are frosty. Windshields are icy. Car interiors are bitter cold. Weather like this creates prime opportunities for a criminal to steal your vehicle.

Think your car is safe defrosting in your driveway or apartment parking lot? Think again. Many vehicles each year are stolen from right in front of the victim's home.

Are you stopping at your favorite convenience store for your morning cup of coffee? Even though it's cold outside and you want to keep your vehicle warm, leaving the vehicle idling with the keys inside is a criminal's dream.

These are common scenarios in most cases when vehicles are reported stolen during the winter. The vehicle owner briefly let their guard down and an opportunistic criminal took advantage. It only takes five seconds for someone to slip into your vehicle and drive away.

To prevent this crime from happening to you, here are some tips:

- Never leave your vehicle idling unattended with the keys inside.
- Never leave your keys in your vehicle.



· Always lock your doors.

In addition to being a huge risk factor in your car getting stolen, it is also a violation of Springfield city code to leave your vehicle idling with the keys inside. However, if you can remote start your vehicle with the doors locked and the keys with you, it is OK to leave your vehicle idling.

If your vehicle is stolen, please call the Springfield Police Department as soon as possible to file a report at 417-864-1810 or visit us in the lobby during business hours at 321 E. Chestnut Expressway.



# A look back on 2022 in Bissett

By Pete Radecki, for SGFNN

BNA activities for 2022 continue to grow. In 2022, we held 10 general membership meetings with speakers, great Q&A sessions with our PAR officer, and pot luck dinners. Zone 1 City Councilwoman Monica Horton graciously came to several of our meetings, and her insights have been most helpful to our residents. With Monica, we have a great advocate on City Council.

Our annual neighborhood cleanup was held in June with over 50 households served, tons of refuse removed, and many curb-side pickups. Our annual neighborhood-wide yard sale was held in July, and while temperatures were sweltering that day, a great many participants reported having good sales. We conducted a cleanup in L.A. Wise Park, and recently conducted a needs survey of our residents leading to a new proposal for the Neighborhood Works Grant Program to be submitted in early January.

Our work with NAC continued with major efforts devoted to the Chronic Nuisance Properties Task Force. We look forward to seeing how the many recommendations from the group may be implemented by the City.

The year was capped off by our annual Christmas

Many of these activities were greatly enhanced by our continuing partnership with the staff and residents of Eden Village 2. In addition, we want to thank Walmart Neighborhood Market and Little Caesar's Pizza for generous food donations for some

#### L.A. WISE PARK MULTI-COURT CONSTRUCTION **NEARS COMPLETION**

Thanks to a Neighborhood Works grant from the City of Springfield, work began to construct a new



Pictured: Patty Goss (front), (left to right): Cherie Croney, Sheila Radecki, Rob Sorbo, Louise Buck, Pete Radecki, Vickie Grinde.

multi-sport court in the park. This project is the centerpiece of a proposal that BNA submitted to this successful and important funding program. In the past, the program was the source of funds for the pavilion, picnic tables and benches in the park, and in 2023, will feature major intersection and sidewalk improvements at the corner of Nichols and Hillcrest.

#### **2023 BOARD**

Many thanks to each of our officers and board members from past years. Our officers for 2023 are:

- · President: Rob Sorbo
- · Vice President: Vickie Grinde
- · Secretary: Pete Radecki
- Treasurer: Sheila Radecki
- · Board Members: Louise Buck, Patty Goss and Cherie Croney.

We welcome Cherie Croney to our board for the first time. Among her many duties, she manages the Eden Village 2 property for The Gathering Tree. She has been a great help for us this past year, and we expect our relationship with the residents and staff of EV2 to continue to flourish.

# Find your game.





ParkBoard.org/Sports



#### **Connect**

- Rob Sorbo, President
- · Vickie Grinde, Vice President
- · Pete Radecki, Secretary
- · Sheila Radecki, Treasurer
- · BissettNA@yahoo.com



Jan. 10 • March 14: 6:30 p.m./Potluck at 6 p.m. @ Eden Village 2 (3155 W. Brower St.)

Please confirm neighborhood meeting dates and locations with your neighborhood representatives.

#### **Neighborhood PAR Officer**

Officer Josiah Overton: 417-874-2536 joverton@springfieldmo.gov



**Bissett Elementary School** 3014 W. Calhoun St

Follow Bissett on 📢 📲



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

Let your neighborhood president or other representative know!





# Pamela Buhr wins statewide neighboring award

By David Burton, for SGFNN

The first statewide awards for Missouri Good Neighbor Week were announced on Oct. 20, 2022, by the joint sponsors of the campaign: University of Missouri Extension Greene County and The Hopeful Neighborhood Project headquartered in St. Louis.

Rountree Neighborhood Association's Sharon Taylor Gullett and Brentwood Neighborhood Association's Pamela Buhr were among those recognized.

Buhr received the Most Engaged Neighbor Award for Springfield.

"She continued to check in on me regularly. When new neighbors arrived, she would welcome them with a plate of fresh cookies.

After my husband died last year, she visited or called me weekly, which has been instrumental to my ability to stay in my home." – Johanna Cunningham

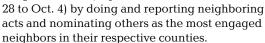
"When Pam moved into my neighborhood in 2014, she invited neighbors to her home so she and her husband could get to know everyone," said Buhr's neighbor, Johanna Cunningham, 84. "She continued to check in on me regularly. When new neighbors arrived, she would welcome them with a plate of fresh cookies. After my husband died last year, she visited or called me weekly, which has been instrumental to my ability to stay in my home."

Buhr helped organize the Brentwood Neighborhood Association, where she formally served as treasurer. Last year, she applied for a grant from the City of Springfield for new playground equipment for Kirkwood Park, which was approved. She worked with the neighborhood association president to host a business festival in the park on Sept. 24, 2022.

"The day after the business festival, Pam and her husband Dave hosted a barbecue for all residents living on Rochelle Avenue. I believe 26 of the 34 neighbors were able to attend," Cunningham said. "They used the event to introduce neighbors and handed each family a map of our street showing all

the homes, addresses, names of homeowners, and telephone numbers of each adult in the household. This information has proven beneficial for many reasons. I can't say enough about Pam and all the things she does for our neighborhood."

Missourians celebrated the first Missouri Good Neighbor Week (Sept.



The goal for the week was to document 10,000 acts of neighboring. But instead, Missourians reported 12,594 acts of neighboring during Missouri Good Neighbor Week. Greene County had the most submissions, accounting for nearly 4,000 of the acts of neighboring.

I love discussing these acts of neighboring. These are the stories that do not normally make the news but are the behaviors that are impactful to our own health, community, and democracy.

For the first time, participants also had the opportunity to nominate their neighbors as the most engaged neighbor in Missouri. By the end of the week, organizers had received nominations or reports of neighboring from 63 of Missouri's 114 counties.

With 115 nominations, the judges decided to expand the awards to the top 10% of nominations. Every person nominated received a \$10 Amazon card and some neighboring items from The Hopeful Neighborhood Project.

When judging the statewide nominations, the committee leaned heavily toward individuals that received more than one nomination.

The quality of the nominations exceeded our expectations which is why we could not narrow them down to just the top three statewide. We know some individuals will also be honored at the county level, but the example of these top 11 nominations are worthy as examples to all of us statewide as we strive to become more engaged neighbors.

David Burton is the community development specialist at the University of Missouri Extension.





#### Connect

- Mert Seaton, President
- Brent Rinker, Vice President
- · Lisa Meeks, Secretary
- · Jane Augustine, Treasurer
- brentwoodsgf@gmail.com



#### **Neighborhood Association Meetings**

Jan. 30 • Feb. 27 • March 27: 6:30 p.m. @ Schweitzer Brentwood Branch Library (2214 S. Brentwood Blvd.) Check Brentwoodsgf.org for updates.

#### **Neighborhood PAR Officer**

**Officer Lauren Witty:** 417-864-1321 lwitty@springfieldmo.gov



Field Elementary School 2120 E. Barataria St.

Follow Brentwood on

brentwoodsgf.org



# Fire Station 7 replacement to get under way soon

Construction to replace Fire Station 7, which was built in 1958 at 2129 E. Sunshine, will begin this year. The new station will be operational in 2023.

The total budget for the project is just over \$4.2 million.



# **First Brentwood Business Festival** a success

By Mert Seaton, for SGFNN

The first-ever Brentwood Business Festival was held at Kirkwood Park on Sept. 21, 2022. The event was presented by the Brentwood Neighborhood Association and gave businesses and business owners located within the Brentwood boundaries a chance to promote themselves to their neighbors



We noticed that there were a lot of businesses in our neighborhood still trying to recover from the effects of the pandemic and we wanted to find a way to help them out, so we decided to create an event where we could bring together the businesses in our neighborhood and the people who live here."

Over 20 businesses and business owners located in Brentwood set up booths around Kirkwood Park during the business festival. When attendees arrived at the event they were given a card with the name of each business in attendance. If they visited each booth and had the business initial their cards, their names were entered into a drawing for free prizes



With events like this you worry about people not going by and talking to the people at the booths, so we created the cards as a way to encourage the interactions. It worked really well and everyone seemed to love the idea. We had a large number of prizes to give away that were all donated by businesses in the neighborhood. Some of them were from businesses that could not be there in person but wanted to help out in some way.

Although the main purpose of the business festival was to promote local businesses, it also served as a social event for the Brentwood neighbors. The event included free food, bouncy houses for kids and live music performed by Brentwood resident Reverend Paul the Red Shoe Picker.

It was so great to see our neighbors enjoying the event and each other's company. We had over 100 people come and go throughout the day. It has been a long time since we have had a chance to get together like this. This went so well, we may just do it again.

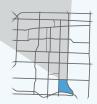


### **BRADFORD PARK NEIGHBORHOOD**



#### **Connect**

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



#### **Neighborhood Association Meetings**

March 14 (Tentative): 6:30 p.m. @ Immaculate Conception Church (3555 S. Fremont Ave.) Please check the Bradford Park Newsletter or contact President Rex Johnson for upcoming meetings.

#### **Neighborhood PAR Officer**

Officer John Van Gorden: 417-864-1140 jvangorden@springfieldmo.gov



Follow Bradford Park on



#### **Neighborhood cleanup and** pancakes close out 2022 for **Bradford Park**

By Rex Johnson, for SGFNN

Bradford Park closed out the year with two events, a successful mid-week cleanup on Nov. 2, 2022 and a Pancake Supper on Nov. 15, 2022. The response for the cleanup was very good and many neighbors took advantage of the great weather to fill up five dumpsters with leaves and grass, brush and limbs, and all kinds of household disposables.

A large number of electronic recyclables were handled and a good amount of metal recyclables were collected. Several student volunteers from Missouri State and Evangel helped out and their efforts were very much appreciated.

The final social event of 2022 was a Pancake Supper held at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church. Hot pancakes with all the trimmings and sausage were enjoyed by all who attended. The election of new officers and board for Bradford Park will take place during the first meeting of the new year, tentatively set for March 14 at Immaculate Conception at 6:30 p.m. Watch for more details and information in the first neighborhood newsletter which will go out around the first of March.



### **DELAWARE NEIGHBORHOOD**



#### Connect

- Jeff Brossard-Sims, President: delawareneighborhood@gmail.com or 417-830-3711
- Carroll Neyrey, Vice President
- · Cynthia Yarborough, Treasurer

### **Neighborhood Association Meetings**

Feb. 7 • March 7 • April 4: 6 p.m. @ Delaware Elementary Community Room (1505 S. Delaware Ave.)

Please confirm neighborhood meeting dates and locations with your neighborhood representatives.

#### **Neighborhood PAR Officer**

Officer Lauren Witty: 417-864-1321 lwitty@springfieldmo.gov



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

Follow Delaware on 🚯 👚



Delaware neighbors held an SGF Yields Lantern Walk in October 2022 for National Pedestrian Safety Month.



Volunteer of the Year

2022



# **City Council approves Grant Avenue** Parkway Redevelopment Plan

By Kristen Milam, Public Information, for SGFNN

On Nov. 18, 2022, City Council approved the redevelopment plan for the Grant Avenue Parkway redevelopment area, generally bounded by Olive Street to the north, Catalpa Street to the south, Campbell Avenue to the east and Douglas Avenue to the west. The goals of the plan are to provide financial assistance programs to support private economic development and neighborhood revitalization along the Grant Avenue Parkway improvement corridor and into the surrounding neighborhoods.

City of Springfield Department of Economic Vitality staff, along with planning consultants Peckham, Guyton, Alberts & Viets (PGAV) outlined the economic development and neighborhood revitalization resources along the Grant Avenue Parkway corridor.

The redevelopment plan will enable property owners and developers in the redevelopment area to request partial real property tax abatement through the Land Clearance for Redevelopment Authority (LCRA) Law ("Chapter 99") or Urban Redevelopment Corporations Law ("Chapter 353").

- Under the LCRA option, the taxable value of a property essentially becomes "frozen" for a a 10-year period so that property owners who choose to renovate, add on or construct new on their property are protected from the increase in property tax associated with the rise in the value of their property. This program can help facilitate all qualifying redevelopment projects within the Redevelopment Area.
- Under Chapter 353, real property taxes may be abated for a period of up to 25 years. Real property taxes are abated during the first 10 years, based on 100% of the increase in assessed value of land and improvements. During the

remaining 15 years, real property taxes are abated based on 50% of the assessed value of land and improvements. This program can help facilitate larger redevelopment projects within the identified Redevelopment Area.

As per state statute, both tax abatement mechanisms require the preparation of a blight study and a redevelopment plan. The approval of the Redevelopment Plan and accompanying blight study will fulfill this role in either process and take two major steps out of the way, saving property owners and investors time and money.

Redevelopment area property owners or developers seeking tax abatement will still be required to go through an application process and provide certain financial information about their proposed project. The process to use the Chapter 99 incentive takes approximately 22 days, including an application step and review by the LCRA. To use Chapter 353 requires an approximate 60-day process involving conferring with City Staff, completing an application, and seeking City Council approval. Both processes require an application fee.

"Neighborhood revitalization and economic development tools are vital as we work alongside the upcoming roadway improvement construction to transform the Grant Avenue Parkway corridor," explained Economic Vitality Director Amanda Ohlensehlen. "This redevelopment plan will coordinate with the previously established Grant Avenue Corridor Plan to help support the type of development and revitalization envisioned by the community through this project."

For more information and to view examples of how these programs could work for residential and commercial uses, visit grantavenueparkway.com/ revitalization.



#### **Connect**

- · Nathan Cook, President: nathancurtiscook@gmail.com
- Trent Condellone, Vice President
- Renee Culver, Secretary/Treasurer

#### **Neighborhood Association Meetings**

Feb. 7 • March 7 • April 4: 6:30 p.m. @ Parkview High School Cafeteria (516 W. Meadowmere St.)

Please confirm neighborhood meeting dates and locations with your neighborhood representatives.

#### **Neighborhood PAR Officer**

Officer Brandon Greathouse: 417-864-1138 bgreathouse@springfieldmo.gov







Volunteer of the Year

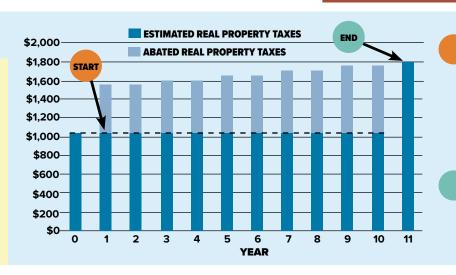


#### **GAP REDEVELOPMENT PLAN LCRA RESIDENTIAL EXAMPLE**

You own a home located within the Grant Avenue Parkway Redevelopment Area that is valued at about \$100,000. You decide to invest about \$50,000 into a home renovation or improvement. This graph illustrates the change in property tax rate (based on the current tax levy\*) you might expect from that improvement and how applying for the LCRA program might impact you.

In this example, if you applied for Chapter 99 real property tax abatement, the assessed value of your home would be frozen at the level prior to renovation. You could save approximately \$6,100 in real property taxes on your residential property over a 10-year period.

\*Levies are set annually and are subject to change



START of 10-year abatement period. Taxes on the increase assessed valuation are abated while owner continues paying taxes on the initial assessed valuation (prior to renovation).

END of 10-year abatement period. **Owner resumes** payment of taxes on the full assessed value



# Sociology Class at Sequiota Park

By Melanie Bach, for SGFNN

Recently, Missouri State University professor Dr. Lyle Foster contacted the Galloway Village Neighborhood Association to request that someone from our association meet with his sociology class to discuss community building and answer questions regarding the upcoming ballot measure. We met on a gorgeous autumn day with fall foliage at its peak, and engaged in a wonderful conversation that proved to be a huge inspiration to me personally.

Dr. Foster's class wanted to know EVERYTHING, from the history of Galloway Village and Sequiota Park, to our four-year zoning battle, to the formation of our association, and even general tips on community building.

Until this sociology class graced me with their fresh faces and questions, it had not quite dawned on me how much of our slogan "Preserve, Connect and Protect" has actually been embraced and achieved by our membership over the last four-plus years.

I realized during and after this discussion just how much I have learned and gained since this community galvanized around a rezoning request in July 2018. Five years ago I would not have been able to answer any of their questions. Even though I have lived a half-mile from Sequoita Park since 2004, I did not know any more about the history of Galloway Village or the park than what you would find on the placard at the park's entrance. I did not know any neighbors other than a few on my street and one or two on adjacent streets. I had never participated in an event for the benefit of our local community.

Until this sociology class graced me with their fresh faces and questions, it had not quite dawned on me how much of our slogan "Preserve, Connect and Protect" has actually been embraced and achieved by our membership over the last four-plus years.

The mission of the Galloway Village Neighborhood Association is:

"We, the members of the Galloway Village Neighborhood Association, sharing a love for the area we call 'home', will work to preserve the area's natural qualities, protect the overall character,



history, and quality of life in our neighborhood, and connect by fostering positive engagement among neighbors.'

Since our formation in October 2018, GVNA has grown our membership to over 150 households and businesses and hosted 50-75 events centered around the general goal of keeping our neighborhood clean, safe and friendly. Just a few of these include undertaking a survey of area historic buildings, forming the largest neighborhood watch in the city, adopting a stream and conducting three stream cleanups per year, and fundraising almost \$70,000 through various events. We have grown our public unofficial neighbors Facebook page to over 1.7k members, and formed new ties within our community that are serving to make us stronger, healthier and happier.

At a public hearing in 2018, a prominent architect told City Council that fighting development was not a good reason to form a neighborhood association, and that it was too late for Galloway. My counter to that is ANY reason is a great reason to form a neighborhood association. The benefits of neighborhood engagement are too numerous to list, but if you set out to preserve the best defining features of your neighborhood, connect the residents and businesses into one close-knit involved community, and protect the unique characteristics of your neighborhood, those who live and do business there, as well as those who visit, will reap the benefits for generations.

I am eternally grateful to Dr. Foster and his class for helping me to realize how thankful I am to have been a part of this amazing neighborhood association's formation and how much we have truly benefited from what at first seemed like a negative situation. It wasn't too late for Galloway in 2018 and it's still not. Galloway Village is alive and well, more united than ever, and ready to continue our mission to preserve, connect, and protect far into the future.



#### Connect

- · Melanie Bach, President
- Ron Boles, Vice President
- Jacque Thummel, Secretary
- Wendy Huscher, Treasurer
- gallowayvillage@gmail.com

#### **Neighborhood Association Meetings**

Jan. 17 • April 18 • July 18 • Oct. 17: 6:30 p.m. @ Galloway Baptist Church (2816 E. Republic Rd.) Meetings are quarterly. Special meetings may be called as needed.

#### **Neighborhood PAR Officer**

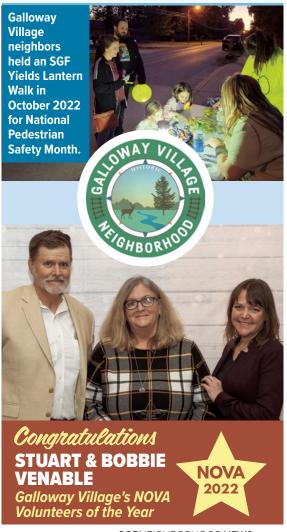
Officer John Van Gorden: 417-864-1140 jvangorden@springfieldmo.gov



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

Follow Galloway Village on gallowayvillage.org





# **DOLING**NEIGHBORHOOD



#### **Connect**

- Nick Robinson, Acting President
- · Hannah Sartin, Secretary
- Jean Ackley. Treasurer
- dolingna@gmail.com



#### **Neighborhood Association Meetings**

Jan. 10 • Feb. 14 • March 14: 6:30 p.m. @ Hillcrest Presbyterian Church (818 E. Norton Rd.)

Please confirm neighborhood meeting dates and locations with your neighborhood representatives.

#### **Neighborhood PAR Officer**

**Officer Nathan Fetters:** 417-874-2537 nfetters@springfieldmo.gov



Fremont Elementary School 2814 N. Fremont Ave.



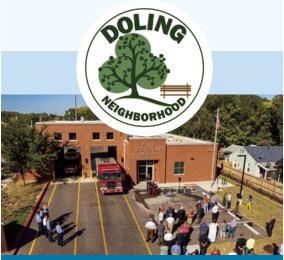
Watkins Elementary School 732 W. Talmage St.

# MoDOT set to begin Kearney Street Corridor improvements in 2023

Kearney Street is expected to get a facelift in the spring, as the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) southwest division proposes plans to repave and make various



improvements along the corridor from the Springfield-Branson National Airport to LeCompte Avenue. For more information and to sign up for project updates, visit modot.org/Kearney-street-corridor-project.



The Springfield Fire Department cut the ribbon on the rebuilt Fire Station 4 Oct. 6, 2022 at 2423 N. Delaware. Read more about it in the Robberson Neighborhood section on page 19.

## **GRANT BEACH NEIGHBORHOOD**



# Sign up for Grant Beach spring soccer in February

By Kevin L. Carter, for SGFNN

Sign-up dates for spring soccer will be held at Hovey House (800 W. Hovey St.) 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on the following dates:

- · Saturday, Feb. 18
- · Saturday, Feb. 25
- Saturday, March 4.

There will be a skills camp on March 11 starting at 9 a.m. at Grant Beach Park, which is also the last day of early bird registration.

Games will begin April 1 at Grant Beach Park and run through May 6. Makeup games will be held on practice nights. Practice days/times are set by the coaches. There will be an end-of-season celebration 2-4 p.m. Sunday, May 7.

Registration forms and background check forms will be on the door at Hovey House if you do not receive one.

If you are interested in coaching or refereeing, please contact Pauletta Dunn at 417-880-2453.

For more information, check out our Facebook Page: facebook.com/GrantBeachSports or contact Pauletta.





#### Connect

- Pauletta Dunn, President: Pauletta.Dunn@gmail.com
- Bruce Lutz, Vice President: 417-501-8878
- Kathy Lutz, Secretary: GBNA.email@gmail.com
- Fred Ellison, Treasurer
- · Hovey House: 417-942-2456

#### **Neighborhood Association Meetings**

Jan. 16 • Feb. 20 • March 20: 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 Ben Wilson: 417-874-2535 bwilson@springfieldmo.gov







Follow Great Beach on 😝 👚



LIFE 360 FAIRBANKS
CHURCH
Grant Beach's NOVA

Volunteer of the Year





# **HOME & ENVIRONMENT**

# WINTER GUIDE





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 integrated management of stormwater, wastewater and solid waste.







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

STORMWATER QUALITY
SPRINGFIELDMO.GOV/STORMWATER
417-864-1996



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

SEWER EMERGENCIES & ISSUES SPRINGFIELDMO.GOV/SEWER 417-864-1923



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

RECYCLING HOTLINE SPRINGFIELDMO.GOV/SOLIDWASTE 417-864-1904



It's officially wintertime! It's important for residents to know how Environmental Services' operations may be impacted by winter weather and what they can do to be prepared at home. Here's a bit of what you can expect from each of our services as well as tips to help you prepare as the temps drop and snow falls.





# **Wastewater Treatment & Collection**

Did you know that as it gets colder, your sump pump vents can become frozen or covered in snow? Even if a sump pump discharges to underground pits, there is still risk of this. Plugged frozen lines might lead to a flood event inside a basement in the right scenario if the sump pump doesn't pump water out.

Daily wastewater maintenance operations get more difficult in winter just like your morning commute! Snow gets plowed or shoveled right on top of manhole covers which makes sewer repairs and maintenance a challenge.

Keep an eye on your sump pump and drains so you can make sure there isn't a plugged frozen line. Freezing can cause burst pipes and slip hazards outdoors from freezing water that pools. To learn more about a no-cost plumbing evaluation to check your sewer connections, visit springfieldmo.gov/PrivateSewerRepair.

As you shovel your driveway and sidewalks, keep those manholes clear of snow and shovel them off so we can maintain and repair the sewer quickly when needed.

# **Stormwater Quality**

City staff receive a lot of citizen reports of improper disposal of leaves this time of year. Remember, it is a city code violation to blow, rake, or dump leaves, grass clippings or other yardwaste into the street, ditch, or storm drain. Disposal at the landfill is also prohibited.

Winter weather makes us wash our car more often to remove salt picked up from roadways. If it's a warm winter day you might be tempted to wash it at home. Washing cars in the driveway leads to soapy, salty water going down storm drains, which is untreated and goes directly into our waterways.

Mulch mowed leaves or dispose of them at City recycling centers where they are turned into beneficial compost.

If your car needs to be washed this winter, go to a commercial car wash. Commercial car washes use half the water you might use at home and their water is cleaned at the wastewater treatment plant before being released into our waterways.





# Solid Waste Services

When conditions are cold, the landfill doesn't stop operations! This means that our employees have to work in colder and potentially hazardous conditions such as rain, snow, ice, etc.

When Springfield is covered in snow or ice, we have to clear driveways and steps to make it safe and clear for our recyclers. This also means that our recycling center attendants must brave the cold, snow and ice as they help our citizens recycle safely and efficiently!

The Household Chemical Collection Center is open year round but we do have to clear the driveway before people can enter! Appointments are required even when it's warm but it's especially important during the winter months so we can make sure it's safe for you!

Check the weather before you come to the landfill. It's better to wait a day or two until travel is safer than brave risky conditions on the roads. Landfill staff are not available to help unload, so bundle up and prepare to dispose of your solid waste in cold temperatures!

If Springfield Public Schools are closed due to snow or ice, our recycling facilities will also be closed. If conditions improve during the day, they may open back up! The best tip is: When in doubt, wait it out!

If you need to dispose of household chemicals, schedule an appointment by calling (417) 864-2000 or learn more at springfieldmo. gov/HCCC. During an appointment, we will collect your chemicals under a covered receiving area and let you stay toasty warm in your vehicle!

# Helpful Winter Tips



#### Be proactive

Make sure your habits around the house are not making your risk of sewer line backup greater, leading to large, unnecessary costs.

- Don't put grease down the drain
- Don't put anything large down the garbage disposal
- Don't flush items down the toilet like "flushable wipes," feminine products, etc.

- Clear snow off the top of your sewer vents.
- Work with a plumbing professional to winterproof your plumbing and address your home's sewer line situation.
- Keep your manholes clear of snow. If you have issues, this makes finding and getting to the issue much simpler and faster.



#### Keep an eye (and an ear and nose) out for signs of sewer line backups.

Some indicators can include:

- Bad smells in your home, particularly from drains
- Gurgling noises when you flush toilets or when water drains
- Slowly draining tubs, sinks, laundry lines, and showers.

With winter weather comes icy and snowy sidewalks! It might be tempting to dump the whole bag of salt on your front step, but less is actually more! Here are some winter tips:

# Salt your sidewalks sparingly

Adding lots of salt doesn't mean you'll have less ice or snow. Use less than 4 lbs. per 1,000 square feet and be patient if it doesn't work immediately! Less salt means healthier waterways that are less likely to harm fish and plants.



#### Sweep up the extra

If you see extra salt on clear pavement, sweep up the excess and throw it away or save it to use the next time! The salt is no longer working on dry pavement and will only wash away.

#### Wait for warmer weather

Most salts stop working efficiently when the temperature is below 15 degrees. Use sand for traction when it gets this cold!





# The landfill doesn't stop operations just because it's cold!

Things to remember before heading out to the landfill to dispose of trash.

- Rain, snow and ice impact the roads while traveling to the landfill, as well as upon arrival at the landfill. If hazardous conditions exist, it's best to wait a day or two for travel to be safer.
- Landfill staff are not available to assist with unloading, so be prepared to dispose of your solid waste in cold temperatures.
- Snow and ice impact all vehicles trash trucks included. Check with your hauler to find out if your service is delayed or postponed due to winter weather road conditions.



# Cold temperatures make a trip to the recycling center challenging as well!

Minimize your exposure to the cold by doing the following before you arrive at the facility:

- Pre-sort your recyclable materials at home, and have them ready to deposit into the bins before you arrive.
- Dress for the weather! Bundle up wear your winter cap, coat, gloves and shoes with non-skid soles.
- Practice defensive driving while navigating through the facility. Be aware of other drivers as well as your fellow recyclers who are wandering from bin to bin to dispose of their recycling!



WASTE to recycle an item?

WIZARD

Ask the Wizard!

springfieldmo.gov/recycling



Read about local and industry topics on the

# ESBLOGI

springfieldmo.gov/ESBlog

# Bypass The Bowl. Just Trash It!

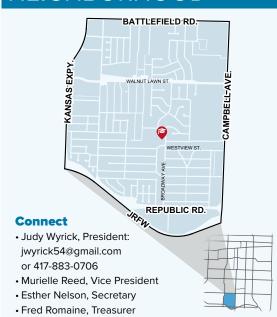
Learn more at springfieldmo.gov/sewer



Learn about what not to flush & why!



## **GREATER PARKCREST NEIGHBORHOOD**



#### **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 Brandon Greathouse: 417-864-1138 bgreathouse@springfieldmo.gov



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





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

Let your neighborhood president or other representative know!



### **HEART OF THE WESTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD**



#### Connect

- · Anna Pageler, President: 417-343-8290
- Billy Cockrum, Vice President
- Glenn Gohr, Secretary/Treasurer
- theheartofthewestside@gmail.com

#### **Neighborhood Association Meetings**

Jan. 10 • March 14: 6 – 7 p.m. @ Passion Assembly of God Church (806 N. Forest Ave.)

Please confirm neighborhood meeting dates and locations with your neighborhood representatives.

#### **Neighborhood PAR Officer**

Officer Josiah Overton: 417-874-2536 joverton@springfieldmo.gov

2100 W. Nichols St.







**DR. LORA HOPPER** 

Heart of the Westside's NOVA

**NOVA** 2022

### **MARK TWAIN NEIGHBORHOOD**



#### **Connect**

- · Samantha Spartan, President: 417-812-6067 or marktwainassociation@gmail.com
- Kim Holloway, Vice President
- Rebecca Welsh, Treasurer

#### **Neighborhood Association Meetings**

Jan. 10 • Feb. 14 • March 14: 7 p.m. @ Sunset Church of Christ (1222 W. Sunset St.)

Please confirm neighborhood meeting dates and locations with your neighborhood representatives.

#### **Neighborhood PAR Officer**

Officer Brandon Greathouse: 417-864-1138 bgreathouse@springfieldmo.gov



Mark Twain Elementary 2352 S. Weaver Ave

Follow Mark Twain on 📳







# **Meador Park president and VP look** back on a busy 2022

By Bobbi Ream and Brian Miller for SGFNN

#### THANKS AND FAREWELL TO SARA **AND FELISITY**

We want to thank Sara Stubbins for her service to Meador Park Neighborhood Association and wish her well as she leaves Springfield to be closer to her children and grandchildren. Sara was a charter member of MPNA, served as our secretary and managed a variety of projects. She was the winner of MPNA's 2019 Nova award and hosted many of our most fun social events. We will miss her and wish her well in her next chapter.

Felisity Cordell also had to step back from the board to give more time to rearing our next generation. She and wife Layne are parents to four young children. We will miss her and look forward to having her with us as her time allows. Thanks, Felisity!

#### **ANNUAL CLEANUP**

MPNA's annual cleanup proved to be of help to some, but participation was decreased by the weekday schedule. We do appreciate being able to get rid of a quantity of trash. Thank you to the City and Community Partnership of the Ozarks. Without help from the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity from MSU we would have been short on help with the unloading. Thanks to all!

#### **BOO-NANZA EVENT A HIT**

On Oct. 29, 2022, Meador Park Neighborhood Association held our first Boo-Nanza at Cowden Elementary School. We were able to beat the ghoulish weather and had a great turnout! We provided hot dogs, chips and cinnamon rolls to those in attendance. All the



Meador Park Boo-Nanza Event Oct. 29, 2022 (Photo Courtesy Donna Clarkson)

kids who attended were able to pick a pumpkin from the patch and were also able to paint and decorate their pumpkin to take home with them. Big thanks to Jason Gish DJ services, Food 4 Less for their donation, Great American Title for the use of



their grill, Springfield-Greene County Park Board, Cowden PTA and the Miller family, Camp Bow Wow, Cowden Elementary as well as all others who participated. Looking forward to our second-annual Boo-Nanza in 2023!

#### **BASS PRO MARATHON CHEERING CHALLENGE**

MPNA got together on Sunday morning, Nov. 6, 2022, to cheer on the participants in the Bass Pro Shop Marathon. We had a great turnout and enjoyed a great breakfast, cooked on site, of pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs and coffee! It was a great party atmosphere as we gave our support, enjoyed the time together and met new neighbors!



#### **LOOKING FORWARD TO 2023 KICKBALL**

The 2023 Citywide Kickball Tournament will be played at Meador Park Sports Fields Sunday, April 23. Rain date is Sunday, April 30.

We need coaches and players. We will have time to form a team and work with a coach this year. Let's all have some fun playing with other Springfield neighborhoods. Ages 8 and up.



#### Connect

- · Bobbi Ream, President: 417-883-3438
- Brian Miller, Vice President
- · Christine Fish, Secretary
- Donna Clarkson, Treasurer
- · meadorparkna@gmail.com



#### **Neighborhood Association Meetings**

Jan. 26 • Feb. 23 • March 23: 6:30 p.m. @ Cowden Elementary School (2927 S. Kimbrough Ave.) if school is in session. Other locations will be noted on the Meador Park Neighborhood Facebook page.

#### **Neighborhood PAR Officer**

Officer John Van Gorden: 417-864-1140 jvangorden@springfieldmo.gov



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

Follow Meador Park on 📢 👚



#### **Mobile Library Stop**

Delivering books, movies and CDs to your neighborhood. Service is limited to Holds Pickup and Returns

Tuesdays: 1:20-2 p.m.

Battlefield Towers (1451 E. Woodland St.)

Wednesdays: 6:45-7:15 p.m.

S. Dollison Ave. & E. Downing St.



### MIDTOWN NEIGHBORHOOD



#### Connect

- · Dylan Chorice, President
- Brian Shipman, Vice President
- · Ronald Ives, Secretary
- Marie Wood, Treasurer
- midtown.sgf@gmail.com 417-501-9732



#### **Neighborhood Association Meetings**

Jan. 9 • Feb. 13 • March 13: Board meeting (open to the public) 5:30-6:30 p.m. General membership meeting 6:30-7:30 p.m. We are currently meeting via ZOOM. If you would like a link to attend a meeting, send an email to midtown.sgf@gmail.com.

#### **Neighborhood PAR Officer**

**Officer Ben Wilson:** 417-874-2535 bwilson@springfieldmo.gov

**Boyd Elementary School** 



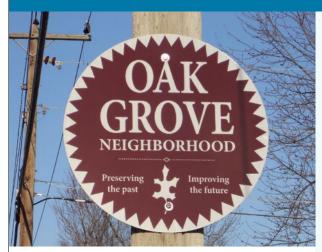








### **OAK GROVE NEIGHBORHOOD**



# Oak Grove's fall activities remind writer of famous anthropologist's musings

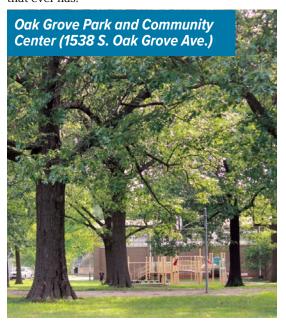
By Monta Montgomery, for SGFNN

Oak Grove Neighborhood Association's Adopta-Street cleanup was like the postal service — not heat, nor rain, nor cold will keep us from cleaning up the street. It was a good way to meet neighbors, and families brought children for a community outing.

Our July meeting was kept short so we could enjoy a potluck dinner and visit with our neighbors. Thank you to Schweitzer United Methodist Church for being congenial to work with and providing comfortable accommodations for our gatherings.

The yearly neighborhood cleanup was held at Enterprise Park Lanes. We were able to offer curbside pickup this year as three generous neighbors supplied their trucks and trailers. It's amazing what a group can do together!

Margaret Mead was right: "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."





#### Connect

- Wendell Royster, President: oakgrove1538@gmail.com or 417-840-7630
- · Lena Sample, Vice President
- Melissa Young & Lisa Napoli, Secretaries
- Cindy Cooper, Treasurer

#### **Neighborhood Association Meetings**

General meetings are held on the last Tuesday of alternating months March through September at Oak Grove Community Center (1538 S. Oak Grove Ave.) Contact Wendell Royster for more details. Watch for meeting announcements on Facebook & Nextdoor.

#### **Neighborhood PAR Officer**

**Officer Lauren Witty:** 417-864-1321 lwitty@springfieldmo.gov



Pittman Elementary School 2934 E. Bennett St.

Follow Oak Grove on ogna.weebly.com

### **Mobile Library Stop**

Delivering books, movies and CDs to your neighborhood. Service is limited to Holds Pickup and Returns

#### Wednesdays: 6-6:30 p.m.

Country Club Village Apartments (Wildan & Cinderella Streets)





# Many hands make light work for yard cleanup in Phelps Grove

By Eric Pauly, for SGFNN

Sometimes the creation of a sense of place is driven by a small group of neighbors — those smaller projects that end up paying big dividends. Such was the case on a recent fall afternoon when several neighbors from the Phelps Neighborhood Association got together to help a long-term neighbor with yard cleanup.

After the growing season of the past summer along with a few years of neglect, the growth of some unwanted brush, vines, and a few bushes which had gotten out of hand needed to be addressed. While growth of up to 10 or 12 feet in height is a testament to the fantastic soil in the neighborhood, it created a loss of flower gardens as well as an unsightly potential security issue for our neighbor. This was a job too overwhelming for one individual to address. In step the neighbors. Within a few hours the yard was manicured back to a pleasant and beautiful area, which our neighbor has planned to create new flower gardens, and accent the beauty of the place she calls home.

Our neighbor wasn't the only one to benefit from this work; those who joined her also strengthened the bonds between friends and neighbors. With the giving of a little time the neighborhood now has an even stronger sense of place. Much has been talked and written about regarding many hands making light work, but when those words are put into action amazing things can happen.









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



Phelps Grove Neighborhood Association meets the second Tuesday of the month at Fire Station 1 community room. Contact a neighborhood officer to find out the time.

#### **Neighborhood PAR Officer**

**Officer Scott Wallace:** 417-864-1194 swallace@springfieldmo.gov

phelpsgrove.com



swallace@springfieldmo.gov

Follow Phelps Grove on

The new Fassnight Trail connection through Phelps Grove Park is complete and now connects bicycles and pedestrians from Clay Avenue through the park to Art Museum grounds. Construction crews have yet to install the pedestrian bridge near the

entrance to the Art Museum. This portion of the

project is expected for completion in the spring.







# **Springfield Fire Department cuts** ribbon for rebuilt Fire Station 4

By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor

The Springfield Fire Department hosted a ribboncutting ceremony for the rebuilt Fire Station 4 on Oct. 6, 2022 at 2423 N. Delaware. Fire Station 4 is located on the boundary of the Doling and Robberson neighborhoods. The old station was demolished in March 2021 to make way for the rebuilt station. The old station, which was built in 1968, had long exceeded its usefulness. The new station has been operational since Sept. 5, 2022.

Funding for the new station, which cost just under \$3 million, was provided by the voter-approved Level Property Tax.

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

The tax, which generates about \$8.5 million per year, funded or is funding:

• Improvements to Fire Station 10 at 2245 E. Galloway St., which was built in 1979. The newly renovated station became operational earlier this year. The \$644,000 renovation included improvements to the station's kitchen, dining and living room spaces, physical fitness areas and sleeping quarters. The laundry area was

updated to allow for the proper inspection, cleaning, drying and storage of turnout gear (firefighter protective clothing).

- the replacement of Fire Station 7, which was built in 1958 at 2129 E. Sunshine. The Landmarks Board approved the demolition of the old station at its Oct. 5, 2022 meeting. The estimated \$3 million rebuilt station will be operational in 2023.
- the brand-new estimated \$3 million Fire Station 13 in the 1900 block of West College in the Westside neighborhood. Currently under construction, Fire Station 13 will be operational in January.
- · the brand-new Fire Station 14 at the northeast corner of West Chestnut Expressway and North Duke Avenue. Construction for station 14 is planned as part of a 2026 bond package made possible by the Level Property Tax.

"We were ecstatic to be able to replace these old stations with modern facilities and equipment, and equally excited to build two new stations in underserved areas of Springfield, both of which have high fire risk," Pennington said. "These new stations will reduce the amount of travel time for our fire crews to reach emergencies in these areas."

# **MoDOT** set to begin Kearney Street **Corridor improvements in 2023**

By Kristen Milam, Public Information, for SGFNN

Kearney Street is expected to get a facelift in the spring, as the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) southwest division proposes plans to repave and make various improvements along the corridor from the Springfield-Branson National Airport to LeCompte Avenue.

Along with resurfacing and pavement markings along the entire stretch, the estimated \$13.3 million project proposes to make traffic signal and intersection improvements as well as Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant sidewalk and pedestrian enhancements at various locations along the corridor. The project will also seek to improve safety and traffic flow by eliminating some driveway access off of Kearney.

The project proposes signal and/or pedestrian facility improvements along Kearney Street at Cresthaven Avenue, Fulbright Avenue, Broadway Avenue, Grant Avenue, Summit Avenue, National Avenue, Delaware Avenue, Barnes Avenue, Neergard Avenue, Packer Road, Mayfair Avenue, and LeCompte Avenue.



New signalized mid-block pedestrian crossing is also proposed on Kearney Street between Boonville and Robberson avenues.

Motorists are advised to anticipate possible delays and expect narrowed lanes, traffic shifts and complete lane closings along Kearney Street at times throughout construction.

For more information and to sign up for project updates, visit modot.org/Kearney-street-corridorproject.



#### Connect

- Phyllis Evans, Secretary: 417-693-4023 or symbroomrider@att.net
- · Dolly Vranka, Treasurer
- · Lillie Beal, Member-at-Large



#### **Neighborhood Association Meetings**

Jan. 26 • Feb. 23 • March 23: 6:30 - 8 p.m. @ Pathways United Methodist Church (1232 E. Dale St.)

Please confirm neighborhood meeting dates and locations with your neighborhood representatives.

#### **Neighborhood PAR Officer**

Officer Trenton Herr: 417-864-1320 therr@springfieldmo.gov



**Robberson Community School** 1100 E. Kearney St.

Follow Robberson on 🚹 👚







# **Sharon Taylor Gullet wins statewide** neighboring award

By David Burton, for SGFNN

The first statewide awards for Missouri Good Neighbor Week were announced on Oct. 20, 2022, by the joint sponsors of the campaign: University of Missouri Extension Greene County and The Hopeful Neighborhood Project headquartered in St. Louis.

Rountree Neighborhood Association's Sharon Taylor Gullett and Brentwood Neighborhood Association's Pamela Buhr were among those recognized.

Gullett received a Top Act of Neighboring Best of Missouri Award for leading her Rountree neighbors in their participation in the City of Springfield's Lantern Walk Oct. 1. Gullett gathered neighbors to prep 500 luminaries to line a one-mile section of sidewalk leading to Rountree Elementary School and community garden. Lantern Walks encourage neighbors, schools, and families to build their lanterns and walk together along a designated route through the neighborhood beginning at sunset. The idea is to show off the lanterns and learn about safety at various stations along the way.

Missourians celebrated the first Missouri Good Neighbor Week (Sept. 28-Oct. 4) by doing and reporting neighboring acts and nominating others as the most engaged neighbors in their counties.

The goal for the week was to document 10,000 acts of neighboring. But instead, Missourians reported 12,594 acts of neighboring during Missouri Good Neighbor Week. Greene County had the most submissions, accounting for nearly 4,000 of the acts of neighboring.

I love discussing these acts of neighboring. These are the stories that do not normally make the news but are the behaviors that are impactful to our own health, community, and democracy.

For the first time, participants also had the

opportunity to nominate their neighbors as the most engaged neighbor in Missouri. By the end of the week, organizers had received nominations or reports of neighboring from 63 of Missouri's 114 counties.

With 115 nominations, the judges decided to expand the awards to the top 10 percent of nominations. Every person nominated received a \$10 Amazon card and some neighboring items from The Hopeful Neighborhood Project.

When judging the statewide nominations, the committee leaned heavily toward individuals that received more than one nomination.

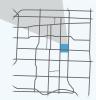
The quality of the nominations exceeded our expectations which is why we could not narrow them down to just the top three statewide. We know some individuals will also be honored at the county level, but the example of these top 11 nominations are worthy as examples to all of us statewide as we strive to become more engaged neighbors.

David Burton is the community development specialist at the University of Missouri Extension.



#### Connect

- · Peggy Wise, President: wise1peggy@gmail.com or 417-860-8990
- · Laurel Bryant, Vice President
- Jeff Bromberger, Secretary



#### **Neighborhood Association Meetings**

Jan. 17 • Feb. 21 • March 21: 7-8 p.m. @ University Heights Baptist Church (1010 S. National Ave.) Please confirm neighborhood meeting dates and locations with your neighborhood representatives.

#### **Neighborhood PAR Officer**

Officer Lauren Witty: 417-864-1321 lwitty@springfieldmo.gov





Congratulations

**NANCY EVANS** 

Volunteer of the Year

Rountree's NOVA



neighbors held an SGF Yields Lantern Walk in October 2022 for **National** Pedestrian Safety Month.



**NOVA** 

2022

# Rountree 'recycles' Halloween for Bass **Pro Marathon**

By Peggy Wise, for SGFNN

The Rountree Owls joined in the fun with a Halloween Recycled cheering station for the Bass Pro Marathon on Nov. 6, 2022. This is an event the neighborhood enjoys participating in each year











# The Gathering Tree Inc. breaks ground for Eden Village 3 in Tom Watkins

By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor

Work is set to begin this summer on Springfield's third community to house the chronically homeless. The Gathering Tree Inc. broke ground for Eden Village 3 Nov. 30, 2022 in the Tom Watkins neighborhood.

The Gathering Tree Inc.'s Eden Village 3 will be a duplex tiny home community located at 2419 W. High Street. The site is already zoned for duplexes, said Chief Visionary Officer Nate Schlueter.

"We'll hopefully start clearing land in July and complete the first phase, which will be 24 400-square-foot units," by the end of 2023," said Chief Visionary Officer Nate Schlueter.

Each unit will have one bedroom and one bathroom. The community itself will be modeled after Eden Village 2 in the Bissett neighborhood, which is a gated community with security cameras, a community center, tornado shelter and a neighborhood council. Eden Village 2 is an active member of the Bissett Neighborhood Association, allowing the association to use its community center for neighborhood association meetings and participating in the annual neighborhood cleanups.

The Gathering Tree has a waiting list of more than 200 people for the tiny homes. The organization has a multistep process for determining who gets a home in the communities. Precedence is given to the terminally ill and veterans, Schlueter said.

"Our residents must have been homeless for a year and have the ability to pay rent," he said.

He noted that The Gathering Tree looks forward to building a relationship with Tom Watkins neighbors similar to how Eden Village 2, which opened in 2020, has with Bissett neighbors.



Eden Village 1 opened in 2018 at 2801 E. Division. Each unit costs about \$45,000. The Gathering Tree seeks sponsors for each home in the Eden Village communities, which are not limited to Springfield.

Schlueter said the organization has "franchised" communities in Wilmington, North Carolina; Kansas City, Kansas; Tulsa, Oklahoma; Mountain Home, Arkansas; Excelsior Springs; Phoenix, Arizona; Richmond, Virginia; Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; and Warrenton, Virginia.

"Our villages are now a proven model, so they have gotten easier and easier to bring forward," Schlueter said. "We look forward to working with our neighbors in Tom Watkins."





#### Connect

 Denver Tindell, Secretary: denver.tindell@freshwaterchurch.tv



#### **Neighborhood Association Meetings**

Meetings are held on an as-needed basis. Please contact neighborhood officers for meeting information.

#### **Neighborhood PAR Officer**

Officer Trenton Herr: 417-864-1320 therr@springfieldmo.gov



Williams Elementary School 2205 W. Kearney St.

Follow Tom Watkins on 🚹 👚

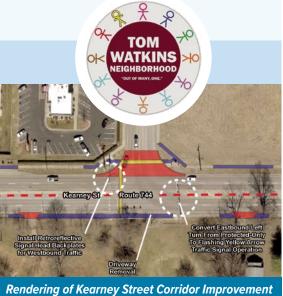


#### **MoDOT** set to begin Kearney Street Corridor improvements in 2023

Kearney Street is expected to get a facelift in the spring, as the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) southwest division proposes plans to repave and make various



improvements along the corridor from the Springfield-Branson National Airport to LeCompte Avenue. For more information and to sign up for project updates, visit modot.org/Kearney-streetcorridor-project.



## **SEMINOLE HOLLAND NEIGHBORHOOD**



#### **Connect**

- Willa Williams, President
- · Shanna Boyle, Vice President
- · William Cooper, Secretary
- · Amy Shelburn-Zarins, Treasurer
- · SeminoleHolland@gmail.com



Please contact an neighborhood officer for meeting dates, times, and locations.

#### **Neighborhood PAR Officer**

Officer John Van Gorden: 417-864-1140 jvangorden@springfieldmo.gov





**Holland Elementary School** 2403 S. Holland Ave.



#### **Seminole Holland becomes** Springfield's 24th registered neighborhood

The City of Springfield welcomes Seminole Holland as its 24th registered neighborhood.

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

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

Seminole Holland's boundaries are Sunshine Street on the north, Sunset Street on the south, Campbell Avenue on the west and National on the east.



### **UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD**



#### Connect

- Jan Peterson, President: janpetersoncreative@gmail.com or 417-838-6216
- · John Stinson, Vice President
- · Annette Hollon, Secretary
- Donelle Blubaugh, Treasurer

#### **Neighborhood Association Meetings**

Feb. 1 • March 1 • April 5: 5:30 p.m. Meetings held via Zoom. Anyone interested in joining the monthly meeting is welcome to email uhnasgf@gmail.com for login information.

#### **Neighborhood PAR Officer**

Officer Lauren Witty: 417-864-1321 lwitty@springfieldmo.gov





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

Follow University Heights on universityheights-sgf.org



### **WELLER NEIGHBORHOOD**



#### **Connect**

- Mark Maynard, President: doc@ceoradio.net or 918-231-4960
- Rosetta Clarida, Vice President

### **Neighborhood Association Meetings**

Feb. 2 • March 2 • April 6: 6 - 7 p.m. @ Weller Community Church (1624 E. Blaine St.)

Please confirm neighborhood meeting dates and locations with your neighborhood representatives.

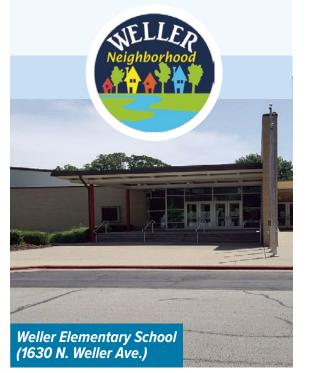
#### **Neighborhood PAR Officer**

Officer Ben Wilson: 417-874-2535 bwilson@springfieldmo.gov



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





### **WEST CENTRAL NEIGHBORHOOD**



#### **Connect**

- Brandon Jenson, President: brandonjenson8487@gmail.com
- Rand Youngblood, Vice President
- Rusty Worley, Treasurer: rusty@itsalldowntown.com
- Kathleen Cowens, Secretary



Jan. 24 • Feb. 28 • March 28: 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

@ Broadway United Methodist Church (545 S. Broadway

Ave.) Please confirm neighborhood meeting dates and locations with your neighborhood representatives.

#### **Neighborhood PAR Officer**

Officer Scott Wallace: 417-864-1194 swallace@springfieldmo.gov



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



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



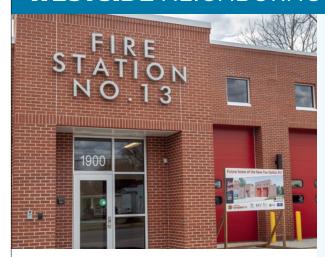


#### **City Council approves Grant Avenue Parkway Redevelopment Plan**

For more information about the plan and how it could affect you, read the full story in the Fassnight Neighborhood section on page 12.



# **WESTSIDE** NEIGHBORHOOD



# **New Fire Station 13** to open in January

By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor

The Springfield Fire Department's 13th fire station will be operational in January in the 1900 block of West College Street.

Funding for the new station, which has a project budget of \$3.15 million, was provided by the voterapproved Level Property Tax, which was renewed by Springfield voters in 2017.

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

The tax, which generates about \$8.5 million per year, also funded the replacements of fire stations 7 at 2129 E. Sunshine and 4 at 2423 N. Delaware, improvements to Fire Station 10 at 2245 E. Galloway St., and the brand-new Fire Station 14 at the northeast corner of West Chestnut Expressway and North Duke Avenue scheduled for construction in 2026.

#### **FIRE STATION 14**

Construction for the brand-new Fire Station 14 at the northeast corner of West Chestnut Expressway and North Duke Avenue is planned as part of a 2026 bond package made possible by the Level Property Tax. The estimated cost for the project is not yet known.

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





#### Connect

- · Lydia Austin, President: lydiaaustin@live.com or 417-459-9118
- · Sharon Brooks, Vice President
- · Sandi Huston, Treasurer
- · Peri Redfearn, Secretary

#### **Neighborhood Betterment Association Meetings**

Jan. 10 • Feb. 14 • March 14: 6:30 p.m., @ Golden Avenue Baptist Church (558 S. Golden Ave.)

Please confirm neighborhood meeting dates and locations with your neighborhood representatives.

#### **Neighborhood PAR Officer**

Officer Josiah Overton: 417-874-2536 joverton@springfieldmo.gov

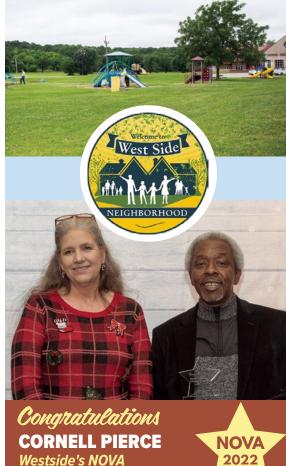


Westport Elementary School 415 S. Golden Ave.

Follow Westside on 🚹 👚







Volunteer of the Year



# Bench in memory of Woodland Heights neighbor encourages passersby to sit a spell

By Becky Volz, for SGFNN

Springfield-Greene County Park Board installed a memorial bench in Lafayette Park in Woodland Heights neighborhood at the request of friends and neighbors of Judy Bishop.

Judy, who lived across the street from Lafayette Park, passed away in August 2021. Grieving neighbors searched for something that could be done as a memorial to her.

One of the most common phrases she is remembered for is, "Come, sit a spell," encouraging those passing by to take a minute, sit and visit. A bench seemed like the perfect memorial.

One of the most common phrases she is remembered for is, "Come, sit a spell," encouraging those passing by to take a minute, sit and visit.

A bench seemed like the perfect memorial.

With the help of Habitat for Humanity Springfield (HFHS) and the Neighborhood Leadership Academy (NLA), funds were collected to engrave a bench to be installed in the park across from Judy's house where walkers could "sit a spell", catch their breath, read a book, or visit with a friend.

Our HFHS neighborhood liaison at the time, Kelsey Milholland, attended the NLA leadership classes and qualified for the Certificate from the Chancellor of the University of Missouri-St Louis. The certificate also came with \$250 donation toward a community project. She chose to apply it toward the memorial bench for Judy.

The Neighborhood Leadership Academy (NLA) provides in-depth leadership training that emphasizes community building principles and strategies, project planning, organizational leadership and management practices, and personal leadership skills. We are grateful to Kelsey, HFHS, and NLA for making this memorial bench a reality in Judy's memory.

# **Woodland Heights brings carnival atmosphere to Bass Pro Marathon**



Thanks to all of those who helped us cheer on the Bass Pro Marathon runners. Courtesy Becky Volz



#### Connect

- Becky Volz, President: woodlandhna@gmail.com or 417-880-4210
- Steve Sexton, Vice President
- · Chance Parish, Secretary
- · John Dilliard, Treasurer



#### **Neighborhood Association Meetings**

Jan. 17 • Feb. 21 • March 21: 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. @ Woodland Heights Presbyterian Church (722 W. Atlantic St.)

Please confirm neighborhood meeting dates and locations with your neighborhood representatives.

#### **Neighborhood PAR Officer**

**Officer Trenton Herr:** 417-864-1320 therr@springfieldmo.gov





Follow Woodland Heights on 
woodlandheightsneighborhood.org





Volunteer of the Year

# **Events**

January - March 2023

#### **EDUCATION & RESOURCES**

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

Springfield-Greene County Library District Mobile Library: The Mobile Library is a state-of-the-art bookmobile that delivers books, music, movies. Patrons of the Mobile Library may request delivery of materials from other branch libraries and return materials checked out at other libraries. Patrons may also register to vote on the Mobile Library. Learn more at thelibrary.org/mobilelibrary. The Mobile Library Schedule:

#### **MONDAYS**

- 2:30-3 p.m.: Cobblestone Apartments, 2865 S. Ingram Mill Rd.
- 3:20-3:50 p.m.: South Tower, 770 South Ave.
- **3:55-4:40 p.m.:** Madison Tower, 421 W. Madison Ave.
- 4:45-5:30 p.m.: Stillwell Columns, 525 S. Campbell Ave.
- **6:45-7:15 p.m.:** Woodgate Apartments, 2120 S. Ingram Mill Rd.

#### **TUESDAYS**

- 1:20-2 p.m.: Battlefield Towers Apartments, 1451 E. Woodland St.
- 2:20-2:50 p.m.: Jenny Lind Hall Apts., 711 S. Jefferson Ave.
- 3-3:30 p.m.: Grand Villa Community, 2526 W. Grand St.
- 3:35-4 p.m.: S. Clifton Ave. & W. Delmar St. off W. Grand St.
- **4:30-5 p.m.:** John B. Hughes Apartments, 2100 N. Clifton Ave.

#### WEDNESDAYS

- 2:45-3:15 p.m.: Glenwood Manor, 2540 N. Delaware Ave.
- 3:20-3:50 p.m.: North Terrance Apartments, 1646 E. North St.
- **4-4:30 p.m.:** Bartley-Decatur Neighborhood Center, 918 E. Calhoun St.
- 4:45-5:15 p.m.: Cedarbrook Apartments, 811 N. Cedarbrook Ave.
- 5:20-5:50 p.m.: Woodfield Park Apartments, 2759 E. Pythian St.
- 6-6:30 p.m.: Country Club Village, Wilden & Cinderella Streets
- THURSDAYS
   2-2:30 p.m.: Nu Elm Apartments, 440 S. New Ave.
- 2-2:30 p.m.: Nu Elm Apartmet
- **3:15-3:45 p.m.:** Westport Park Apts.,
- **3:15-3:45 p.m.:** Westport Park Apts., 250 N. Hilton Ave.
- 4-4:30 p.m.: Beacon Village, 639 N. Eldon Ave.
- $\bullet$  5-5:30 p.m.: Hattiesburg Hills, 4663 W. Portland St.
- 5:45-6:15 p.m.: Bent Tree Subdivision, 1015 Breckyln Road S.
- **6:45-7:15 p.m.:** Craigmont Place, 740 S. Lafontaine Ave.

**PTA Clothing Bank Shopping Dates:** The PTA Clothing Bank serves the needs of more than

2,000 students each school year through the entire Springfield school district for students K-12. It is located at the Study Alternative Center, 2343 W. Olive St. There is a separate entrance behind the school, on the northeast side of the building. Look for the double doors with the PTA Clothing Bank sign above the door. More information at facebook.com/ThePTAClothingBank.

- Thurs., Jan. 12: 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
- Thurs., Jan. 26: 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
- Thurs., Feb. 9: 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
- Thurs., Feb. 23: 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
- Thurs., March 30: 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
- Thurs., April 13: 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
- Thurs., April 27: 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
- Thurs., May 10: 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Fix-It Fair: Sat., Jan. 21: Noon-4 p.m., Midtown Carnegie Branch Library, 397 E. Central St. For adults in the upstairs meeting room. Give your household appliances, bikes and even clothes a new lease on life and reduce waste. Volunteer fixers will help you repair your fixable items. No oversized, gas-powered items or safety hazards. Presented with Community Partnership of the Ozarks. 'Note: The elevator from the basement to the second floor is not operational. Please contact us two weeks prior to a program if you need special accommodation. Call 417-862-0135.

National Seed Swap Day: Sat., Jan. 28: 1-3 p.m., Midtown Carnegie Branch Library, 397 E. Central St. For adults in the upstairs meeting room. Bring your seeds of any type to swap with other gardeners. Don't have seeds to share? You're still welcome to participate in the swap. Kids can make a garden craft; materials will be provided. \*Note: The elevator from the basement to the second floor is not operational. Please contact us two weeks prior to a program if you need special accommodation. Call 417-862-0135.

From Seed to Table: Saving, Canning, and Preserving Your Harvest: Thurs., Feb. 9: 6:30 p.m., Schweitzer Brentwood Branch Library, 2214 Brentwood Blvd. For adults in the community. As the spring growing season approaches, learn about how you can maximize your gardening efforts through different methods such as seed saving, canning, fermentation, dehydration, storage and organization. Christina Raley, a gardening enthusiast and active member of the Springfield Community Gardens and Victory Mission Community Garden, will provide lots of information about techniques for minimizing waste and maximizing your gardening game. Learn how your growing efforts can help your family thrive year-round. A Seeding a Healthy Life event.

#### ARTS, CULTURE & FUN

Events are free unless otherwise noted.

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

Art In Motion: Jan. 21-July 9: Wed.-Fri. Noon-8 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sun. 1-5 p.m., Springfield Art Museum, 1111 E. Brookside Dr. Collaborative exhibition guest curated by Missouri State University Museum Studies students utilizing objects from the museum's permanent collection that highlight ways in which artists portray movement or motion within their work.

**Eagle Days:** Sat., Jan. 21: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sun., Jan. 22: Noon-4:30 p.m., Lake Springfield Boathouse, 5324 S. Kissick Ave. Learn about eagles



and other migratory birds visiting Lake Springfield this winter. Bring binoculars, telephoto cameras or small telescopes, or use equipment provided by the Missouri Department of Conservation. Indoor eagle programs, crafts and activities also offered by MDC staff and Dickerson Park Zoo at the Springfield Conservation Nature Center. All ages. *Free*.

Frosty Fun: Sat., Feb. 4: 10-11 a.m. or 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Northview Senior Center, 305 E. Talmage St. Enjoy hands on STEM activities, crafts, and games, all with a winter theme. Registration required, 417-864-1049. Ages: 5-12 yrs. Fee: \$5/Child.

"Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory": Sun., Feb. 5: 3:30-5:30 p.m., The Library Center, 4653 S. Campbell Ave. For all ages. Satisfy your sweet tooth by playing Candy Land with a showing of "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory," rated G.

Indoor Triathlon: Sat., Feb. 11: Staggered heats start at 8 a.m., Chesterfield Family Center, 2511 W. Republic Rd. A one-hour triathlon with a 10-minute swim, 30-minute spin bike ride and a 20-minute treadmill run. Competition is based on distance traveled. Begins in Chesterfield Activity Room. Chesterfield Family Center: 417-891-1616. Ages: 16 yrs. and up. Fee: \$40/Member, \$50/Non-member.

Humanities, Vol. 2 Exhibition: Closes Feb. 12: Wed.-Fri. Noon- 8 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sun. 1-5 p.m., Springfield Art Museum, 1111 E. Brookside Dr. What does the museum's collection mean to Springfieldians? What works in the collection speak to you? What do we mean when we talk about collection connections? To seek answers

▶ EVENTS CONTINUE on page 26

#### ▶ EVENTS CONTINUED from page 25

to these questions, our curator invited three local artists in different disciplines — musician Jin J X, poet Kate Murr, and dancer/choreographer Sarah Wilcoxon — to tour the museum's vaults and look at art together. These tours, and the conversations they produced, have resulted in an exhibition that begins to investigate that 'spark,' while also illustrating different ways in which we might connect with a work of art. Each artist has selected a group of objects from the collection, those works that spoke to them amongst the thousands we saw during our tours. Their selections are exhibited alongside new work each artist has created in their own medium in response to, and inspired by, the collection objects. More at sgfmuseum.org/266/Humanities-Vol-2.

Second Sunday Concerts: Chigger Creek Band: Sun., Feb. 12: 2 p.m., The Library Center, 4653 S. Campbell Ave. For adults. Chigger Creek Band, a high-energy, acoustic bluegrass band, performs a wide variety of bluegrass, country, folk and gospel music. Sponsored by Friends of the Library.

**Daddy Daughter Dance:** Sat., Feb. 25: 6-9 p.m., Doling Family Center, 301 E. Talmage. Girls, bring your dad, stepdad, grandpa, uncle, or special guy out for a night you'll always remember. This year's theme is Fairy Tale! Enjoy a catered dinner, music, dancing and special surprises. Event held in the Northview Center Ballroom, adjacent to Doling Family Center. Registration opens Jan. 15. Register early, space is limited. ParkBoard.org/Doling, 417-837-5900. Ages: 3 yrs. and up. *Fee: \$40/Couple, \$15/Additional qirl.* 

Rodney Frew: Through March 19: Wed.-Fri. Noon-8 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sun. 1-5 p.m., Springfield Art Museum, 1111 E. Brookside Dr. Rodney Frew, a longtime local artist and art educator, developed a reputation for not only his talent as a printmaker, but his "penchant for depicting the human condition in a no-holds-barred manner." This exhibition features a broad range of Frew's work pulled from the museum's permanent collection, thanks in large part to a generous gift from the artist's estate, facilitated by his son Morgan Frew, in 2019. Learn more at sgfmuseum. org/267/Rodney-Frew.

- Self-Portrait Workshop: Fri., Feb. 10: 5:45 p.m.
   This workshop includes basic drawing methods for portraits and self-portraits. No experience required. All skill levels welcome. Registration is required at sgfmuseum.org/267/Rodney-Frew.

   \$40 workshop fee includes all materials. Ages 16 and up.
- Slow-Viewing with Shauna LeAnn Smith: Sat., Feb. 11: 2 p.m. Guests spend an hour carefully observing and speaking about the works on view, resulting in a deeper understanding of how they and others relate to the artwork and to each other. Free, but space in-gallery is limited to preregistration at sgfmuseum.org/267/Rodney-Frew is required.

Frieda Logan: Swap Meet: Through March 19: Wed.-Fri. Noon- 8 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sun. 1-5 p.m., Springfield Art Museum, 1111 E. Brookside Dr. Frieda Logan was an active local Springfield artist. This exhibition includes paintings in both acrylic and watercolor, gifted to the museum in 2004 by Logan, featuring heartfelt renderings of daily life in the American Midwest during the 1980s. Learn more at sgfmuseum.org/269/Frieda-Logan-Swap-Meet.

Still Life Drawing Workshop: Fri., Jan. 20:
 5:45 p.m. Frieda Logan's slice of life paintings

serve as the inspiration for this two hour workshop. Registration is required at sgfmuseum. org/269/Frieda-Logan-Swap-Meet. \$40 workshop fee includes all materials. Ages 16 and up.

Lyrical Abstraction: Through March 19: Wed.-Fri. Noon- 8 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sun. 1-5 p.m., Springfield Art Museum, 1111 E. Brookside Dr. This exhibit features work by lyrical abstract artists in the museum's permanent collection including Poons, Natkin, Francis, Marlene Mueller, and Sharon Jesik, among others. Dubbed "lyrical abstractionists," these artists made work characterized by loose gestural brushstrokes, acrylic staining, an emphasis on rich color, monumental scale, occasional imagery, and a return to a physical and direct sensory experience of painting. Learn more at sgfmuseum.org/268/Lyrical-Abstraction.

• Slow-Viewing with Shauna LeAnn Smith: Sat., March 11: 2 p.m. Guests spend an hour carefully observing and speaking about the works on view, resulting in a deeper understanding of how they and others relate to the artwork and to each other. Free, but space in-gallery is limited to pre-registration at sgfmuseum.org/268/Lyrical-Abstraction is required.

All School Exhibition: March 4-April 23: Wed.-Fri. Noon-8 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sun. 1-5 p.m., Springfield Art Museum, 1111 E. Brookside Dr. Every March, the Springfield Art Museum invites student artists from across our community, in kindergarten through twelfth grades, to exhibit outstanding artworks in the All School Exhibition. A celebration of Youth Art Month, this highly anticipated show has been a staple of our exhibition schedule since 1932, making it our longest running exhibition initiative. By showcasing students' work in one of its primary gallery spaces, the Springfield

Art Museum seeks to highlight the importance of arts education and honor the accomplishments of your artists. This exhibit also reflects the work of the incredibly talented teachers in our community, many of whom are practicing artists themselves. Learn more at sgfmuseum.org/239/All-School-Exhibition.

Cherry Blossom Kite and Piñata Festival: Sat., April 1: 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Springfield Botanical Gardens, 2400 S. Scenic Ave. Celebrate culture and spring with Springfield Sister Cities Association. Bring a kite to fly or build one with us. Whack a piñata nearby or make your own mini piñata. Enjoy Japanese and Mexican performances and children's activities, and free admission to Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden as it reopens for the season. All ages. Free Admission, \$5/Kite or mini piñata kit.

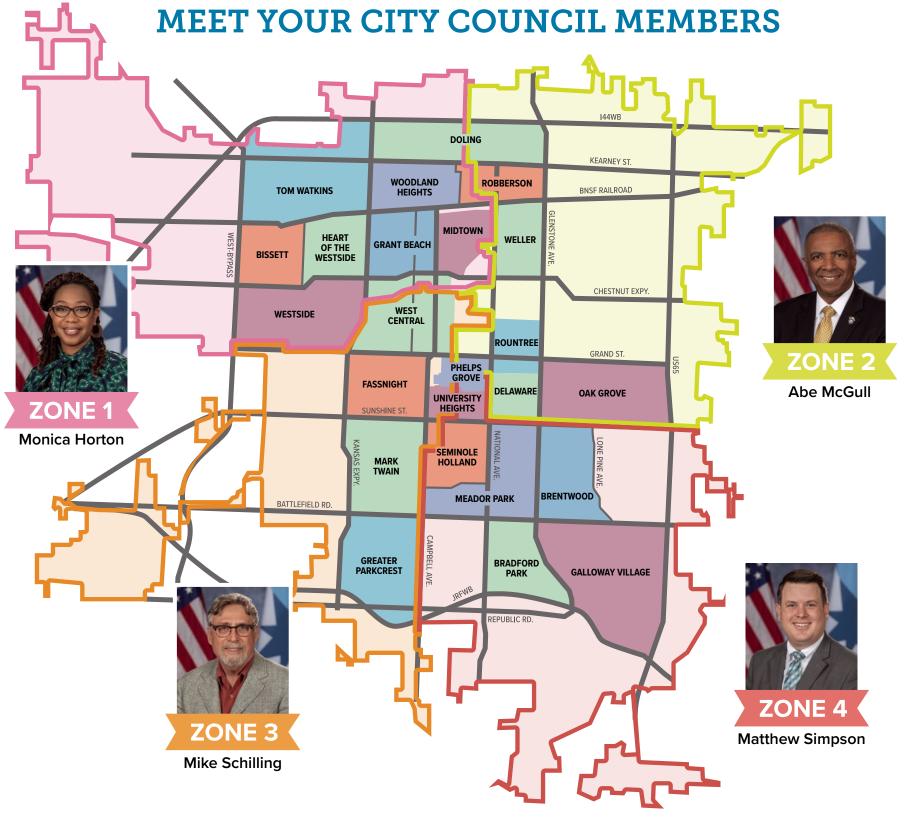
Easter at the Farm: Sat., April 1: 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Rutledge-Wilson Farm Park, 3825 W. Farm Rd 146. A day of family-oriented activities celebrating spring, including arts and crafts, games and the Easter Bunny. We'll have 20,000 candy-filled eggs with kids' hunts throughout the day. Kids are limited to 15 eggs each, while supplies last. Bring your Easter basket, but please no cellophane basket filler—it's bad for farm animals. Ages: 12 yrs. and under. Free admission, some activities have a small fee.

Floating Easter Egg Hunt: Sat., April 8: 6 months-4 yrs.: Noon-1 p.m., 5-8 yrs.: 1:30-2:30 p.m., 9-12 yrs.: 3-4 p.m., Chesterfield Family Center, 2511 W. Republic Rd. A hoppin' good time with a floating twist! We fill the pool with floating eggs for kids to splash, swim and plunge their way to gathering them up. Every participant receives a prize! Bring a waterproof basket to collect eggs. Children ages 8 and under must be accompanied by an adult in the water. Registration required. ParkBoard.org/Chesterfield. 417-891-1616. Fee: \$10/Member, \$20/Non-member.





# Springfield Zone Boundaries & Registered Neighborhoods



Ken McClure Mayor



Heather Hardinger General Seat A



Craig Hosmer General Seat B



Andrew Lear General Seat C



**Richard Ollis**General Seat D



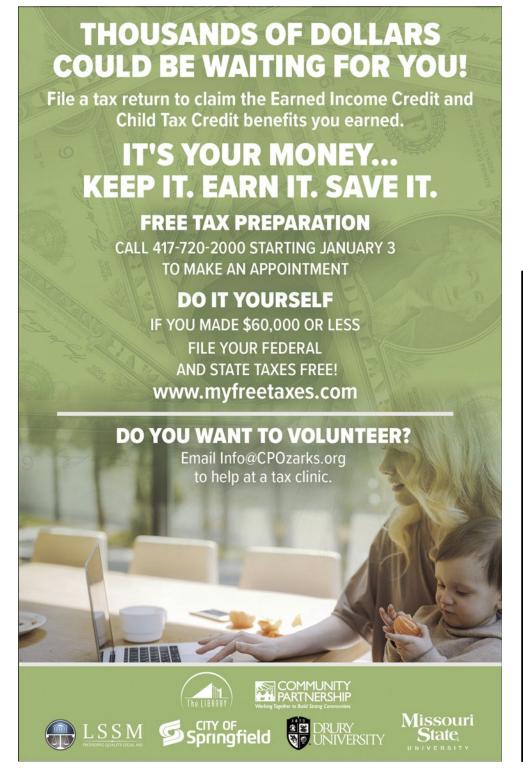
Watch City Council meetings on Facebook Live:

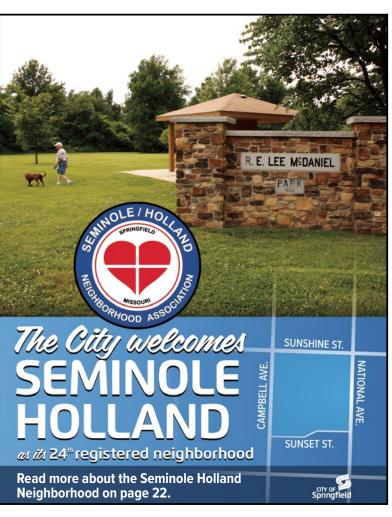
Mondays 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays 12 p.m.



springfieldmo.gov/CityCouncil Council@springfieldmo.gov

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