

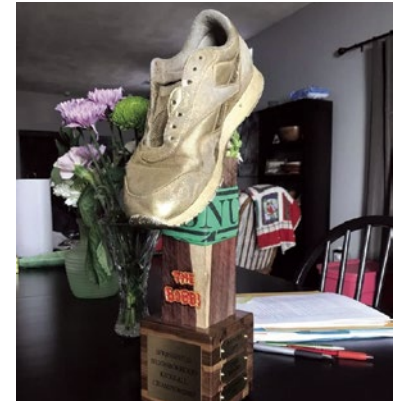


Doling 'kicks butt' at annual Neighborhood Kickball Tournament

By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor

Doling Neighborhood took home The Bobbie trophy at the annual Neighborhood Kickball Tournament held at Meador Park April 23.

"Thank you to all – we could not have done it without you," said Doling Neighborhood Association Treasurer Jean Ackley. "Noah Huskey and his great group (Tyler, Cody, Damon, Matt, Kaden, Chuck) and our wonderful Doling neighbors Alvin, Phillip, Addison, Cheryl, Luke and Nick Robinson, along with family and friends that came to cheer them on. It was a wonderful afternoon. Thank you all for making my dream come true of letting the south side know that the north side can kick butt!"



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Neighborhood Works funds 11 neighborhood capital improvement projects

By Kristen Milam, Public Information, for SGFNN

The City's Department of Public Works recently began work on the first project among many that will provide improvements to 11 registered neighborhoods through the second round of 2019-2024 Neighborhood Works program funding.

Funded through the ¼-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.

Public Works and their contractor recently completed construction of a sidewalk in the Greater



Parkcrest neighborhood that will help residents access Sanford Park from the east side.

The Springfield-Greene County Park Board has completed the playground installation for Kirkwood Park in the Brentwood neighborhood, which was a project approved in the 2021 Neighborhood Works funding cycle.

In June, crews began widening Glenn Avenue from Calhoun Street to Division Street, a safety improvement for the Bissett neighborhood. This work is targeted for completion in early August.

THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS WERE APPROVED IN APRIL FOR FUNDING THROUGH 2024:

- **Glenn Street Safety and Accessibility Improvements (Bissett), \$99,896** – Includes the widening of North Glenn Avenue between Calhoun and Hovey streets with curb and a crosswalk. Construction began in June.
- **Walkability and Accessibility Improvement Project (Delaware), \$72,718** – Sidewalk repair and ADA ramp improvements on multiple streets.

▶ See **NEIGHBORHOOD WORKS** on page 3

Three new City Council members sworn in April 17

By Cora Scott, Executive Editor

Mayor Ken McClure, Zone 1 Councilwoman Monica Horton, and Zone 2 Councilman Abe McGull were reelected and three new City Council members were chosen in the April 4 election.

- Mayor McClure was elected to the Springfield City Council in 2015, and then elected mayor in 2017. He was elected to a third term in April 2021 and now a final term. The Springfield City Charter allows a mayor to serve a maximum of four consecutive two-year terms.
- Councilwoman Monica Horton was appointed to City Council in April 2022 to fill an unexpired term. She was elected for the remainder of the term. She ran unopposed.
- Councilman Abe McGull was elected in April 2019. He will be starting his second term. He ran unopposed.
- Callie Carroll has been elected as General Seat C Councilwoman. Councilman Andy Lear did not seek reelection.
- Derek Lee has been elected as General Seat D Councilman. Councilman Richard Ollis did not seek reelection.
- Brandon Jenson has been elected as Zone 3 Councilman. Councilman Mike Schilling did not seek reelection.

The City of Springfield's three measures on the April 4 municipal ballot were approved by voters. Thank you to all who voted!

Question #1 asked voters to make several wording updates to the City Charter and allows the City to provide an entry hiring preference to all honorably discharged veterans who served active duty. Question 1's passage will alter the language in six sections of the Springfield City Charter regarding hiring, firing and employee management. Springfield switched the name of its "personnel department" to "human

resources department" in the 1990s, but the language in the Charter didn't reflect the name change, until now.

Moving forward, Springfield's Director of Human Resources has authority to terminate the employment of temporary, seasonal, contract workers and other non-regular and non-full-time transitional type of employees. Before this amendment, only the City Manager had such authority by Charter. The language change should also give City departments that rely on transitional workers with fluctuating hours more maneuverability in the future. Several departments, such as the Springfield-Greene County Park Board and Public Works both use seasonal employees, and sometimes adjust employees' hours depending on programming demands.

Question #1 also provides greater flexibility regarding the current reinstatement rule and allows the director of human resources to waive the entry competitive testing requirement for former employees who are eligible for consideration for reinstatement and have been separated from employment for less than a year.

Question #2 offers the Springfield City Council some flexibility with letting certain contracts out to bid and awarding them to contractors. The City Council may now opt to award contracts with a single bill reading at a single meeting, rather than reading a bill twice over a period of two meetings,



with two or three weeks' time in between.

Reducing the amount of time might increase the number of vendors who are willing to bid on City contracts, because they have to make less of a commitment of time regarding how long to hold their bid open. A notice to proceed could be issued more quickly if a decision could be made in one reading, rather than having to wait for a second City Council meeting.

Question #3 asked to repeal the existing 5% tourist lodging tax and replace it with a consolidated licensing tax at the same 5% rate for hotels, motels and tourist courts and add short-term rentals (Airbnbs, Vrbos). The replacement tax will continue at the same rate, but half of it will not expire. 2.5% of the existing tax expires when the bonds for the Jordan Valley Park are paid off. Removing the sunset and modifying the tax structure increases funding for sports, arts, and cultural tourism.

West Central resident Brandon Jenson now represents all of City Council's Zone 3

By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor

Recently elected Zone 3 City Councilman Brandon Jenson is no stranger to public service.

"I always had people telling me to run for office, and I finally decided to last year when the Forward SGF Comprehensive Plan was wrapping up," Jenson said. "It's an exciting time to be in Springfield. I think we have a really bright future ahead of us, but that will require collaboration and compromise to make our city the best it can be. We have the passion and the skills right here to see our community change for the better, and we need to start by being willing to listen to everybody."

Jenson's day job is serving as the program manager for the state of Missouri's Community Development Block Grant program. He previously served as the program's chief community engagement and planning officer. His work includes ensuring compliance across all CDBG funding streams operated by the state, as well as internal and external engagement opportunities to highlight the successes and opportunities offered by the CDBG program.

Jenson's community involvement includes serving as the co-chair of Community Partnership of the Ozarks' Housing Collaborative and as West

Central Neighborhood Alliance's president, as well as volunteering in the neighborhood garden. He graduated from Nixa High School, where he participated in soccer and speech and debate, and was voted "friendliest person in Nixa."

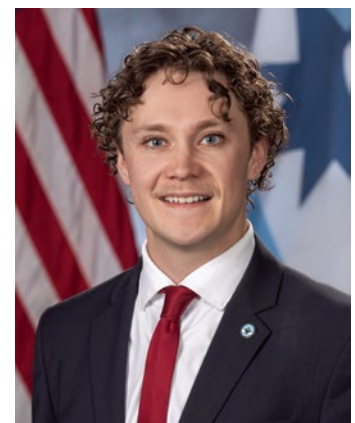
Jenson said he chose to live in the West Central neighborhood because of its walking distance to downtown.

"We have the passion and the skills right here to see our community change for the better, and we need to start by being willing to listen to everybody." – Brandon Jenson

"Before I moved to West Central, I lived in a loft downtown," he said. One of his favorite restaurants is downtown's Tinga Tacos, and he said he grabs tacos to go at least once a week. During his downtime, which these days isn't often, Jenson said he spends time with friends at another Zone 3 favorite: Nathanael Greene Park.

An American Institute of Certified Planners-certified planner, Jenson also worked for the Southwest Missouri Council of Governments,

providing economic development and long-range planning, as well as grant writing/administration services, to member communities in a 10-county area; as a long-range planner for Adams County, Colorado; and for the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment.



Jenson is a strong believer in government for and by the people, which speaks to his passions in public engagement and good government practices.

"Like any city, we have issues we need to deal with, like housing, homelessness and crime ... but I firmly believe that no issue is too big to tackle," Jenson said. "They just need to be broken down into bite-size, actionable pieces."

Councilman Jenson can be reached at brandon.jenson@springfieldmo.gov or by calling 417-306-3072.

Springfield selected to address vacant properties at Vacant Property Leadership Institute

By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor

Springfield is one of 10 municipalities across three states selected to send a delegation to the 2023 Vacant Property Leadership Institute (VPLI) Nov. 7-10 in Austin, Texas. Springfield's delegation will comprise:

- Brock Rowe, director of Building Development Services
- Maurice Jones, deputy city manager
- Duke McDonald, assistant city attorney
- Becky Volz, Neighborhood Advisory Council chair
- Allen Icet, Greene County collector.

Vacant and chronic nuisance properties continue to be among the biggest concerns of Springfield residents. The City's Building Development Services (BDS) department processed nearly 18,000 nuisance-related code enforcement cases between January 2015 and December 2021. Volz and former NAC chairs Rusty Worley and Pete Radecki presented the NAC's Chronic Nuisance Properties Workgroup Report to City Council on May 23. View the report at springfieldmo.gov/chronicnuisancereport and watch the presentation at vimeo.com/827367588.

"We continue to look for solutions for addressing chronic nuisance properties in Springfield," Rowe said. "We look forward to this opportunity to learn more from the VPLI and other delegations, as well as putting what we learn into practice with Greene County and the NAC."

VPLI is a training program that equips leaders with the skills to address vacant, abandoned, and deteriorated properties for the benefit of their communities. Made possible through the support of the Wells Fargo Foundation and the Truist Charitable Fund, VPLI is a program of the Center for Community Progress, a national nonprofit dedicated to tackling vacant and abandoned properties.

Delegations from each of the following municipalities will participate:

- Indiana: Gary, Kokomo, Muncie
- Missouri: Columbia, Springfield, St. Louis City, St. Louis County
- Ohio: Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dayton.

Cities were selected through a competitive application process. The selected cities include



rural, suburban and urban communities and range in population from about 60,000 to nearly 1 million. They also face similar challenges such as high rates of vacancy, faulty mortgage foreclosure processes, tax delinquency, ineffective property maintenance systems and other issues.

"Each municipality participating in this year's training program was selected because they demonstrated strong leadership, are committed to racial equity, and represent unique opportunities for developing new solutions to shifting the systems responsible for vacant, abandoned, and other problem properties," said Courtney Knox, interim president and CEO of the Center for Community Progress.

Delegations will receive hands-on training from top experts on urban policy and equitable community revitalization. Immediately following VPLI, Community Progress will invite participating cities to apply for a Technical Assistance Award to make the lessons from VPLI actionable. A total of 1,000 hours of customized, expert guidance from VPLI's technical assistance team will be divided among the awarded communities to help each community shape and sustain policy, practice, and process changes to address vacancy and abandonment.

Participants of past Vacant Property Leadership Institutes have gone on to pass state and local laws that enable them to fight problem properties more effectively, implemented comprehensive revitalization solutions in some of their most vulnerable communities, broken down agency and sector silos, and developed lasting, fruitful relationships with peers in their cities and states, and across the country, according to VPLI.

► NEIGHBORHOOD WORKS from page 1

- **Doling Neighborhood Sidewalk Improvements, \$6,703** – Sidewalk and ADA ramp repairs along Fremont Avenue where it intersects with Livingston, North and Nora streets.
- **Fassnight Park Safety and Accessibility Improvements, \$50,000** – Project includes signage and sidewalk repair in Fassnight Park.
- **Fassnight Park Playground Equipment, \$46,500** – Installation of a play structure for children in 2-5-year-old age range.
- **Galloway Creek Trail Solar Beacon Crosswalk Enhancement, \$27,368** – Installation of a new flashing beacon crosswalk signal at Lone Pine Avenue and Barton Street as well as a new stop sign for the Galloway Trail crossing. Construction is anticipated for fall.
- **Various Projects to Enhance Livability (Greater Parkcrest), \$78,524** – Project includes installation of picnic tables and benches in the existing gazebo in the park at Horace Mann Elementary. Also includes the construction of a pavilion, picnic tables and benches on the east side of the tennis court. A sidewalk connection from Danbury Avenue to Sanford Park was recently completed.
- **Ray Kelly Park Lighting Project (Meador Park), \$18,700** – Installation of lighting at Ray Kelly Park.
- **Improvements on and near City-owned sinkhole lots (Rountree), \$79,208** – Includes the removal of sinkhole fence, repair of sidewalk and construction of a new path, and construction of a foundation base for a public art piece. Will be landscaped with native plantings and a rain garden with the current channel expected to be replaced with a bioswale and plantings. Construction is anticipated for fall.
- **Hawthorn Park Reinvestment (West Central), \$22,000** – Park improvements to provide a butterfly garden and a sign.
- **Convert Westport Tennis Court to Pickleball (Westside), \$24,900.**
- **Lights for Westport and Zagonyi Courts (Westside), \$25,000.**
- **Crosswalk Improvement Projects at two intersections in Woodland Heights, \$98,824** – Curb extensions and crosswalks at Chase Street and Lyon Avenue. New crosswalks will be installed at Chase Street and Washington Avenue and at Chase Street and Grant Avenue. Construction at Chase and Lyon is anticipated for fall.



New playground equipment at Kirkwood Park in the Brentwood neighborhood

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Requirements for the City's standing boards and commissions vary.

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City Utilities awarded \$10 million for natural gas infrastructure projects

Provided by City Utilities

City Utilities has been awarded \$10 million from the U.S. Department of Transportation and Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) to partially fund the Legacy Pipe Replacement Project. City Utilities is one of 37 utilities, in almost 20 states, that will receive a portion of the nearly \$200 million in grant funding through the PHMSA program.

“The safety and reliability of the natural gas system is critical, and the ability to replace mains without additional costs for our customers is an economical benefit for the entire community.” – Gary Gibson

“This funding will allow CU to more rapidly replace aging natural gas infrastructure in the Zone 1 area of Springfield where older natural gas mains are scheduled for replacement,” said Gary Gibson, president, and CEO. “The safety and reliability of the natural gas system is critical, and the ability to replace mains without additional costs for our customers is an economical benefit for the entire community.”



“Across America, old natural gas pipes—some installed in the 1800s—pose a higher risk of serious injury and fatalities—in addition to being prone to leak harmful methane emissions—which have up to 80 times the global warming potential as carbon dioxide,” said Linda Daugherty, deputy associate administrator for field operations. “We’re excited about the ability of this program to help City Utilities improve the lives of Americans in your community, Missouri, and across the country.”

PHMSA grant funding will allow CU to replace approximately 11 miles of legacy gas main and associated services in the Zone 1 area of the service territory. Phase 1 of the Legacy Pipe Replacement Program has approximately 39 miles of plastic main and services. CU will apply for additional funding to continue the replacement project in several Zone 1 locations of Springfield. Work on the project is expected to begin during the last quarter of 2023.

Work to plan future of Lake Springfield area continues

By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor

More than 300 people interested in the future of Lake Springfield attended the second public engagement meeting at the Lake Springfield Boathouse May 4. About 100 people took advantage of the power plant tours hosted by City Utilities prior to the meeting. Additional tours are planned for the fall. Those interested can sign up on the Get Involved page at lakesgfplan.com



Mayor Ken McClure kicked off the meeting by encouraging those in attendance to learn more by visiting information stations about the project's economic development goals; site concepts and uses/recreation; hydraulics, potential dam alternatives and water quality; and transportation and mobility. Participants were then invited to take a second public input survey.

The plan, projected to be complete by 2024, will be a catalyst for new economic development and recreational opportunities.

The May 4 event was the latest in a series of community engagement opportunities to outline the community's vision for the Lake Springfield area, which was identified as a redevelopment opportunity area during the City's Forward SGF comprehensive planning process.

Residents, neighbors, business owners, developers, schools, parks, non-profit agencies and more will collectively take part in identifying the areas of opportunity and challenges in the area. A third round of public engagement is planned for October.

The plan, projected to be complete by 2024, will be a catalyst for new economic development and recreational opportunities. Components 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.



PREVIOUS ENGAGEMENTS

- Nearly 100 people turned out for the first Lake SGF Plan meeting Nov. 17, 2022 at the Springfield Art Museum. The meeting included an online survey, which was available for two weeks after the event for those who couldn't attend. Nearly 150 surveys were completed.
- The Lake SGF Plan Community Advisory Team held its first meeting with 32 attendees Nov. 15, 2022. The CAT represents various stakeholders and provides input on materials and concepts prior to the public community engagement events. A follow-up meeting was held March 21, 2023.
- A meeting held exclusively for Lake Springfield-area residents was held Oct. 12, 2022 to fill them in about the project and solicit initial feedback. More than 100 neighbors turned out for that event, which was held at the boathouse.

Additional engagements included a presence at the Chadwick Flyer Trail Showcase and engagements with Springfield-Greene County Parks, the Springfield Convention & Visitors Bureau, the Springfield Sports Commission, the Watershed Committee of the Ozarks, Empower: Abilities and Encompass Academy, Greene County, the River Access Coalition and the Missouri Department of Conservation.



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 is funding 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.

SGF NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

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

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

Volunteers turn out for spring Clean Green SGF campaign

By Kristen Milam, Public Information, for SGFNN

Springfield is more beautiful than ever, thanks to the volunteers and households who took part in the City's Clean Green Springfield initiative this spring.

Nearly 1,500 individuals registered to volunteer in one or more volunteer cleanup or beautification opportunities in April and May.

Volunteer opportunities included one-time street and stream cleanups, various beautification projects at sites throughout the city, two Point of Pride Cleanups, and provided volunteer support for many of the scheduled Neighborhood Cleanups hosted by Community Partnership of the Ozarks.

Nearly 1,000 followed up on their registration, completing one or more of their volunteer commitments.



Assuming an average of 2.5 hours of volunteer work per registrant, it's estimated that Clean Green volunteers logged more than 2,500 volunteer hours through the initiative.

Nearly 1,500 bags of trash were collected by Clean Green volunteers throughout the campaign.

The Tire Toss collected 1,587 tires and served 297 households. Tires will be recycled through Prime Trucking's Eco Shred service. These tires will be turned into rubber mulch and other products.

Clean Green also provided opportunities for 485 mattresses and 242 TVs to be recycled.

WHY THIS MATTERS!

What goes on our streets ends up in our streams. Keeping water resources clean starts with putting trash in its place – the trash can!

Litter in our community gets washed into storm drains when it rains and ends up in our streams. Based on local stream assessments, it's estimated that there are over 600,000 pieces of trash in Springfield streams, 60% of which is plastic. Cigarette butts are also a commonly littered item with an estimated 50,000 butts in local streams.

Trash affects the use and enjoyment of waterways and trails for popular recreational activities and is a source of pollution that impacts water quality, aquatic life and animals.



SPONSORS

The City would like to thank the following sponsors/partners for their continued support of Clean Green Springfield: Community Partnership of the Ozarks, KY3/KSPR/CW; Missouri Department of Transportation; and Ozark Greenways.



Nearly 150 volunteers joined in to help clean up Kansas Expressway during the Clean Green Springfield Point of Pride event in April. Shout out to Crossway Baptist Church, the Connecting Grounds, and Drury University Greek Life for rallying their teams to pitch in!



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Second housing study community meeting offers insight into SGF housing conditions

By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor

As the City's housing study wraps up this fall with a report and recommendations from consultant APD Urban Planning + Management expected in October, the Restore SGF initiative to improve housing conditions and raise residential property values in Springfield's historic neighborhoods continues to move forward.

APD and the City's Planning & Development department hosted a second housing study community meeting in June to provide an opportunity for residents to learn the results of APD's "windshield survey" of the city.

Earlier this year, APD drove Springfield neighborhoods with a 360-degree camera, surveying nearly 48,000 housing structures to gather information about housing conditions, age and values; vacant buildings and lots; characteristics of the neighborhoods in each City Council zone; the gap between housing/rental prices and incomes; and the types of housing in Springfield.

MAJOR TAKEAWAYS

- 92% of housing in Springfield are single family residential.
- The most common multifamily housing type is duplex.
- Multifamily homes are primarily located near Missouri State University.
- 97% of all housing structures are occupied.
- Vacant residential lots can be found in most neighborhoods.
- 77% of all housing is in good condition.
- 21% of all housing structures are in fair to worse condition.
- 44% of all housing structures were built between 1950 and 1970.
- 21% were built between 1980 and 2020.
- 30% were built between 1840 and 1940.
- Housing structures in Zone 1 (northwest quadrant of the city) have a broader range of conditions.
- Attendees of the February housing study community meeting listed townhomes, starter homes, workforce housing and tiny homes as housing types missing from Springfield neighborhoods.
- Attendees of the February community meeting listed the following as strengths of Springfield neighborhoods: neighborhood establishment, community engagement, historic homes, diversity in housing, neighborhood character, accessible/walkable communities, affordable homes, transit-oriented development, quality schools and parks/greenspace.
- Weaknesses were ineffective landlords, unaffordable housing, lack of viable rental housing, lack of variety in housing types, vacant housing, blight and decay, walkability/connectivity, development/preservation.

APD's full presentation from the June meeting can be viewed at springfieldmo.gov/housingstudy. APD will ultimately provide recommendations on how the City can improve housing metrics through policy changes. Zoning code recommendations could include rules on what type of housing can be built, parking requirements, minimum lot sizes and density restrictions.



Restore SGF is following the housing study closely, as its findings will help identify initial target neighborhoods for programming.

"We have established our Neighborhood Selection Committee to begin working on a recommendation on the initial four neighborhoods we'll begin work in," said Richard Ollis. "Committee members are Interim Executive Director Dana Elwell, Nancy Williams (Habitat for Humanity), Amy Blansit (Drew Lewis Foundation at The Fairbanks), Barbra Wallace (Central Bank), state Rep. Bill Owen, Andrew Doolittle (Everett Homes) and Becky Volz (NAC chair). They will be working over the next 60 days and will present their recommendation to our full board on Aug. 17."

Elwell began his role with Restore SGF in June and has extensive experience in lending, having served in leadership roles with Guaranty Bank, First City National Bank, Boatmen's Bank and Central Mortgage Bancshares. He is also a founding member of Springfield Community Land Trust and continues to serve on its board. Elwell has also served on the Habitat for Humanity Springfield board of directors, as chair of Community Partnership of the Ozarks' Housing Collaborative, was a founding member and board president of the Affordable Housing Action Board, a founding member and board president for the Nixa Community Foundation and chair and board member of the Nixa Planning & Zoning Commission.

In addition to gaining Elwell, as of July 1, Restore SGF will have a home of its own at 1409 W. Sunshine, near Elfindale.

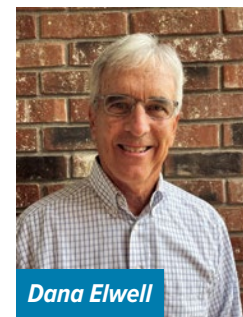
Watch RestoreSGF.com for additional updates.

FUNDING COMMITMENTS

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, OMB Bank, Great Southern Bank, Guaranty Bank, Arvest Bank, Legacy Bank, Mid-Missouri Bank and Regent Bank have 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, Central Bank and Regent 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.



Dana Elwell

WIC program lays foundation for healthier and more prosperous future

By Aaron Schekorra, Health Department, for SGFNN

In our community, access to proper nutrition is essential for the well-being and development of families and children. Fortunately, the Springfield-Greene County Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) family health and nutrition program has been playing a crucial role in addressing this need.

The WIC program is designed to provide nutrition assistance to members during pregnancy and for the first five years of the child's life. WIC ensures that vulnerable populations receive essential nutrients during critical stages of growth. They do this by offering families a range of nutritious foods. These include fruits, vegetables, whole grains, dairy products, and protein sources. This support promotes healthy development and reduces the risk of birth complications. By nourishing our community's youngest members, WIC lays a foundation for a healthier and more prosperous future.

The WIC family health and nutrition program goes beyond just providing food. They also offer nutrition education, breastfeeding education and support, and referrals for health care and other services. This is crucial for the well-being of both parents and children. By connecting families to resources, WIC helps identify and address health issues early on. This improves birth outcomes and enhances the overall health of families in our neighborhoods.

Access to proper nutrition is directly linked to academic success. Hungry children struggle to concentrate and perform well in school. WIC ensures that children have the nutrients they need to thrive in the classroom by providing them with nourishing meals. Additionally, WIC helps connect families to programs at organizations like Parents as Teachers and the Springfield-Greene County Library District. Studies have shown that WIC

participation leads to improved cognitive development and better educational outcomes, such as higher test scores and lower rates of grade repetition. Better educational outcomes, in turn, lead to even better health outcomes. By supporting the educational journey of our community's children, WIC contributes to a brighter and more promising future.

The WIC program also has positive economic effects on our neighborhoods. By alleviating the financial burden of purchasing nutritious foods, WIC frees up resources for other essential needs, such as housing and education. Moreover, WIC has a multiplier effect on the local economy. Every dollar invested in WIC generates additional economic activity, as families spend their benefits at local grocery stores, farmers' markets, and food suppliers, stimulating business growth and creating jobs.

The WIC program is important to our neighborhoods by ensuring access to proper nutrition, improving health outcomes, supporting academic success, and providing economic benefits. Its impact on the lives of parents and young children is immeasurable. By enrolling more eligible families in the WIC program, we contribute to the well-being and future prosperity of our community, creating a nurturing environment for all residents. To enroll in WIC, call 417-864-1540 or text: 888-754-0693. For more information about WIC, visit health.springfieldmo.gov/wic.



Approval of SPS' Proposition S paves way for new and improved schools

By SPS Communications, for SGFNN

On April 4, 77.67% of Springfield voters approved a request to issue general obligation bonds in the amount of \$220 million to fund critical school improvements prioritized by a citizen task force that will impact every school in the district. This no-tax rate increase to the debt service levy will fund multiple high-priority projects that include safety and security upgrades at all school facilities, new construction for Pipkin and Reed middle schools, renovation of Pershing School, and construction of storm shelters at Cowden, Holland, Mann, Pittman, Watkins, and Wilder elementary schools. Storm shelter gymnasiums are built to withstand tornadoes and will help protect students and staff during the school day. The full-size gymnasiums will also provide greater flexibility for PE, music classes and special events, since the cafeteria will no longer serve as a multi-purpose space.



PROJECT	PROJECT DETAILS	ESTIMATED COST
Safety & Security Upgrades at All Schools	Protective glass film for ground-floor windows at all schools. Security cameras and door and roof sensors/alarms added based on identified needs	\$6,969,000
Pipkin Middle School	New Construction	\$53,080,00
Reed Academy	New Construction	\$59,480,000
Pershing School	Renovation/Reconstruction	\$50,420,000
Cowden Elementary	Storm Shelter Gymnasium	\$5,105,000
Holland Elementary	Storm Shelter Gymnasium	\$5,105,000
Mann Elementary	Storm Shelter Gymnasium	\$4,950,000
Pittman Elementary	Storm Shelter Gymnasium	\$5,105,000
Watkins Elementary	Storm Shelter Gymnasium	\$5,105,000
Wilder Elementary	Storm Shelter Gymnasium	\$4,950,000
Cost Variance	Allocations for cost variance will be invested to offset inflation of construction, labor, and/or materials \$ to fund priority Phase 3 projects, if possible.	\$19,731,000
TOTAL BOND PROPOSAL		\$220,000,000

Make commitment to be a responsible gun owner

By Cris Swaters, Springfield Police Department, for SGFNN

You made an investment in a firearm. Being a responsible gun owner is essential to keeping your community safe.



In 2022, 180 handguns were stolen from vehicles because an irresponsible gun owner left their firearm unattended in a vehicle. As a responsible gun owner, you should never leave your firearm in your vehicle's glove box, center console or under the front seat.

Handguns that are stolen from vehicles are commonly used to commit other crimes in the community.

Make it a best practice in your life to always secure your firearm before you leave the house.

There are many options available for making your firearm secure at home. Invest in a gun locker for individual handguns or a large gun safe capable of

securely storing multiple firearms.


It is important to never leave an unsecured firearm in a drawer or under your bed. These are places where children or untrained individuals may find it and cause accidental harm to themselves or others. You can use a gun lock to make the gun inoperable to someone other than yourself.

Help us keep Springfield safe. Make a commitment to be a responsible gun owner.

HANDGUNS STOLEN FROM VEHICLES

2018	190
2019	187
2020	228
2021	219
2022	180
2023	32 (through April)

PROUDLY CELEBRATING



AUG. 1 | 5-7 P.M.

MEADOR PARK
2500 S. FREMONT AVE.

National Night Out brings together police officers, firefighters, park rangers, friends and neighbors to build camaraderie in a positive environment.

Games, Food, Ice Cream!

Meet Law Enforcement officers

Police vs. Fire
Softball Game, 7-8 p.m.

NATIONAL
TEDDY BEAR
Picnic




MON., JULY 10
6-6:45 p.m. or 7:15-8 p.m.

Peace Through People Pavilion at
Nathanael Greene/Close Memorial Park
2400 S. Scenic Ave., Springfield, MO 65807

FREE ADMISSION! (registration required)




ParkBoard.org/TeddyBearPicnic

NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL UPDATE

Volunteers are the glue that holds neighborhoods together

By Becky Volz, for SGFNN

Our neighborhoods thrive on the volunteers who give their time and talents to our neighborhoods. When we volunteer in our neighborhoods, on projects and events (like cleanups, painting fences, cleaning gutters, landscaping, ice cream socials, Neighborhood Night Out, etc.), everyone matters and every hour volunteered makes a difference. To make improvements that we desire to have around us, we have to come together. That's where a neighborhood association comes in. Volunteer-leaders are the glue and the strength of our neighborhood associations. Many voices collaborating get things done.

A more connected community stems from volunteers. To commit our time, the value of the result has to be important to each of us. A result that is important to me is when my neighbors have a place to be heard; a place that is safe for them to share a concern or share an idea. You will discover some brilliant and talented neighbors when you sit together and talk about what's going on around your homes.

It can be daunting to find the volunteers needed to build up your neighborhood association. So, how do we get people to volunteer? Ask them!

Few people will volunteer for something all on their own. They need to be asked. In fact, some of your neighbors are just waiting to be asked! It may be old-fashioned, but there is no substitute for talking face-to-face. When and how do you do that? We can sit down and talk about this, and it will vary from neighborhood to neighborhood.

When you do ask, be clear what you are asking for. If you have open seats on committees, or board

positions, develop a short description of what the committee or the position does and what is required. It's always good to be specific. I'm guilty of "whatever you want to do will be great and appreciated." Well, that doesn't give anyone an idea of what they could do or where they are needed. Also, don't be afraid to ask a neighbor what they enjoy doing. Some people have a lot to offer and are looking for opportunities to share what they do or know. To have a successful association we need a wide variety of interests and skills. We can sit and talk about this too.

When you are volunteering, you meet new people who sometimes become your new best friend! This is truly one of the best benefits of volunteering. If you feel stuck in the same routine, or lonely, consider checking the calendar for an event in your neighborhood, or even a nearby neighborhood, and sign up to help, or just attend the event or the meeting. The only qualification required to volunteer with your neighborhood association is a willing heart. Smiles are welcome too.

Let us know if we can help connect you to your neighborhood association leaders. A few years ago, the City's Planning & Development department implemented a program called Great Neighborhoods. Learn about the program at springfieldmo.gov/greatneighborhoods and ask at your next neighborhood meeting if the program's principles are being implemented in your neighborhood.



NAC Chair
Becky Volz

Citizen survey results to be available in late summer

By Cora Scott, Executive Editor

The City of Springfield conducted citizen satisfaction and long-term planning surveys in May. The surveys were mailed to 12,000 randomly selected households in the city limits of Springfield.

"The purpose of our Citizen Satisfaction Survey is to gather feedback on City programs and services," said City Manager Jason Gage. "It's a valuable tool that we'll use to measure the progress of our City Council and staff priorities, and will help us plan for the future. We appreciate our citizens taking the time to let us know how we're serving them," he added. "The long-term planning survey will provide guidance on more specific types of projects."

Springfield residents were asked about their level of satisfaction and priorities for a wide range of community services, including public safety, parks and recreation, code enforcement, public works, communication and customer service. Any personal information residents provide in their responses will remain confidential.

The surveys were conducted by ETC Institute. Based in Olathe, Kansas, ETC is a national leader in market research that has administered more than 700 surveys in cities and counties across the



U.S. According to its website, ETC has conducted research for more major U.S. cities than any other firm, surveying more than 2 million people since 2006 in more than 850 cities in 49 states.

ETC performed the City's 2014, 2011 and 2019 citizen surveys and was awarded the 2023 contract through a competitive bidding process.

Survey results will be presented to the City Council later this summer and made available to the public.

"Actively engaging citizens helps us identify areas where we can improve. I look forward to citizens' feedback," Gage said.

BISSETT NEIGHBORHOOD



Pickleball, anyone? New multi-court at L.A. Wise Park ready for play

By Pete Radecki, for SGFNN

Thanks to funding via the Neighborhood Works Program, the new multi-sport court at L.A. Wise Park is finished. The court is lined for many sports, with basketball being played there almost as soon as the paint was dry! Importantly, the court is also set up for Pickleball. A sort of cross between ping pong and tennis, it is the fastest-growing sport in the U.S. Given the smaller size of the court than tennis, and underhand style of serving, it is less physically taxing to play than tennis, and thus accessible to a much wider variety of players. The game involves a net, paddles and balls similar to wiffle balls.



Want to play? Well, BNA has you covered! All BNA members can borrow a full game set including portable net, paddles and balls, so for no more than an annual membership fee (\$5 per person/\$10 family), you can borrow the set and check it out. You might find out why folks like Leonardo DiCaprio, Matthew Perry, Jenna Bush Hager, George and Amal Clooney and even the Kardashians are playing!

Bissett neighborhood-wide yard sale planned for Saturday, July 15

By Pete Radecki, for SGFNN

Bissett's "Yard-Zale" is set for Saturday, July 15, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. We're expecting quite a few neighbors to be selling good stuff, so come out to find bargains and enjoy meeting neighbors. We especially want to invite those from outside Bissett to come out. It's always fun to meet new folks and learn about other neighborhoods. If you live in Bissett and would like to hold a sale in your yard, contact Sheila at 417-988-2840 and she'll get your sale on the list for day-of-sale flyers and to get a yard sale sign put up in your yard. BNA will also handle promotions of the event. If you are from outside Bissett and would like to come out for the sale, just drive into the Bissett neighborhood and look for a "Yard-Zale" yard sign in any of the participating sales. In addition to looking at the cool stuff for sale, you can pick up a map showing addresses of all participating sales. In previous years, there have typically been more than 25 sales, so well worth the drive if you happen to live on the other end of town.



Connect

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

Neighborhood Association Meetings

July 11 • Sept. 12: 6:30 p.m./Potluck at 6 p.m.
@ Eden Village 2 (3155 W. Brower St.)

Neighborhood PAR Officer

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

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

Follow Bissett on  



Bissett Neighborhood Cleanup a success

By Pete Radecki, for SGFNN

BNA held its annual cleanup on Wednesday and Thursday, June 7-8. This was our first cleanup hosted by Complete Electronics Recycling (CER) in their facility located at 2935 W. Chestnut Expressway. Their facility had plenty of room and with access ways directly off Hillcrest. Many thanks to all who helped and in particular CER for hosting, the City of Springfield for funding, Community Partnership of the Ozarks for coordinating and providing postcards, and all volunteers, especially Eden Village 2 staff and residents. In all, more than seven dumpsters were filled and more than 50 homes benefited.



BRADFORD PARK NEIGHBORHOOD



Connect

- Dellene Nelson, President:
dellene007@aol.com
- Marilyn Kemper, Vice President
- Barb York, Secretary
- Larry Nelson, Treasurer

Neighborhood Association Meetings

July 11: 6 p.m. (Law Enforcement Rally) @ Fremont and Primrose. Aug. 8 • Sept. 12: 6:30 p.m. @ Immaculate Conception Church (3555 S. Fremont Ave.)

Neighborhood PAR Officer

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

Follow Bradford Park on  



Bradford Park's annual Rally for Law Enforcement July 11

By Dellene Nelson, for SGFNN

On July 11 at 6 p.m., we will be lining up along Fremont at Primrose to show our support for police and firefighters. We will be in red, white and blue flying flags and tooting horns for the guys and gals that protect our safety. After the rally we will have an ice cream social and meeting at Immaculate Conception.

Bradford Park's Great Neighbor Awards for March and April were Jerry and Barbara Wood, Rex and Mary Anne Johnson, Kris Sutliff, and Jacque Ford. Thanks to great neighbors that go above and beyond so we can have a friendly neighborhood!



BRENTWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD

Left to right: Mattie, Jackson, Ali, Ryan and Amy Williams



Brentwood resident seeks to share stories of neighbors

By Amy Hunsaker-Williams, for SGFNN

My family moved to Brentwood Oct. 1, 2006. My husband and I had been married for just over two years, and we had an eight-month-old son. We had just relocated back to Springfield after many years away, and we were excited to be reunited with family and friends.

At the time, my dad was a Realtor but also had an extensive background in remodeling homes. Being the kind of guy he is, he showed us over 40 homes. Yes! That was a very different housing market than we are currently experiencing; and there were that many homes available in our price range. But I had my eye on a very specific neighborhood, so most of the homes we saw simply didn't measure up. On the last possible weekend we could search, we visited a home that we were "OK" with but certainly didn't love. But it was crunch time. We had to make a decision that weekend, because Ryan's new job would be starting within 30 days. And, unlike me, he wasn't willing to sleep on an air mattress on the floor of my parents' living room so the baby could have the guest bedroom. We needed a home.

I will be interviewing residents of the neighborhood that still hold the memories of a lost Brentwood. I look forward to relaying the history to our neighbors and to all of you reading this.

So we resolved to write an offer on this home that we were "OK" with, but certainly didn't love. It was nice enough and had a lot of interest so we headed home to put the offer together quickly. However, as we came to the light at Battlefield and Luster, we saw a "For Sale by Owner" sign pointing into the Brentwood neighborhood. I literally yelled, "Wait! Follow that sign!" We followed the signs until we reached the end of a cul-de-sac, called the number, and asked if we could view right then and there.

The sellers were kind enough to let us in. It would need some work to make it home. The walls were covered in wall paper. Green, red, purple, and gold. Florals in the kitchen, animal print in the bedroom, and a Grecian vineyard mural in the dining room. But we loved the layout. And when we stepped into

the backyard, it was filled with flowers and the most beautiful English style garden (which I killed within the first year). But what sealed the deal was looking out over the back fence to see the school yard. That was it. This was the one.

In my memory, that school yard was filled with children laughing and playing; which couldn't possibly have been because it was a Sunday. But after 17 years of watching children play and listening to the sounds of their laughter, it is burned into my mind and has become part of that memory. Shortly after standing in that backyard, we were all sitting together praying over the terms of the contract and the home that this house would be for the family we would create.

Over 17 years, we've brought home two more babies. We've had a million conversations over the fence with neighbors. Our kids have played in the yards of friends, rode bikes in the street, and spent hundreds of hours in that school yard that "sealed the deal."

We've held barbecues, birthdays, game nights and sleepovers. I joined the PTA, served on the background program, and became PTA president. And I have walked the streets of this neighborhood a thousand times. The trees, the homes, the faces are burned into my heart.

Brentwood became the home we couldn't have even imagined at the time. It has given more to us than we have ever given back. Which is why, after 17 years, I finally joined the Brentwood Neighborhood Association as a board member, where I was assigned to write our articles for the SGF Neighborhood News. But that is just the beginning. We have also formed a new social committee tasked with revitalizing the events and activities that Brentwood has always been known for.

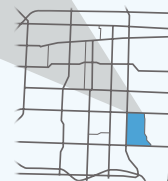
Over the next several months, I will be interviewing residents of the neighborhood that still hold the memories of a lost Brentwood. I look forward to relaying the history to our neighbors and to all of you reading this. And our social committee looks forward to reestablishing some of the old traditions that are shared with us along with brand new ones.

This is just one story of one family that has been blessed to live in Brentwood. I look forward to telling the stories of many more and helping our current residents connect and create an even greater community over the years to come. So, stay tuned!



Connect

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




Neighborhood Association Meetings

The meeting schedule varies. Please check brentwoodsgf.org or contact an officer to find out the details of the next meeting.

Neighborhood PAR Officer

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



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

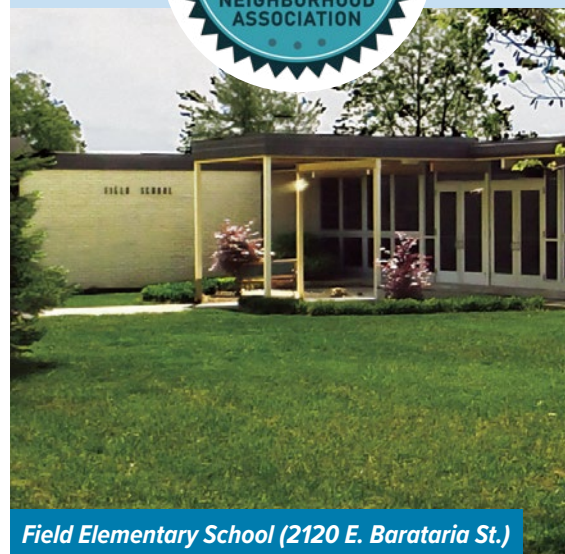
Follow Brentwood on  
brentwoodsgf.org

Tuesday Morning Book Club

Tuesdays: 10 a.m.

Unity of Springfield (2214 E. Seminole St.)

Facilitated by Correne Craig. The class chooses their book, which is read aloud during class time, with open discussion. Everyone is welcome to join the discussion at any time!
No purchase necessary to participate.



Field Elementary School (2120 E. Barataria St.)

DELAWARE NEIGHBORHOOD



Delaware and Meador neighbors celebrate end of school by volunteering at elementary school's Family Fun Night

By Jill Hoener, for SGFNN

On May 13, Delaware Elementary hosted its annual Family Fun Night event. What originally started out as their PTA's biggest fundraiser has evolved into a community-building event. It is a celebration for the end of the school year.

"FFN is so much fun!! It's a great opportunity for our Delaware Neighborhood Association to volunteer with our amazing neighborhood elementary school and meet the teachers and have fun with the kids." – Marianne Jones

The PTA wanted to bring it back after the pandemic and thought it would be great to make it a free event. The PTA asked the community if they would chip in and help. Delaware Neighborhood Association agreed to do the cake walk booth and provided the snack cake prizes. Marianne Jones has volunteered the two years that DNA has been involved.

"FFN is so much fun!! It's a great opportunity

for our Delaware Neighborhood Association to volunteer with our amazing neighborhood elementary school and meet the teachers and have fun with the kids," Jones said.

Meador Park Neighborhood Association has also helped out the last couple of years too. They provided the two-liter soda bottles and ran the ring toss game. It's great to see smiles on the kids' faces when they win the soda! MPNA has approximately half of Delaware Elementary School's boundaries within their boundaries. They are always happy to participate in this event. Jason Gish, owner of Sterling Shamrock Entertainment, donates his DJ services for the event.

It's a fun time to see families all get together to play and visit. We couldn't do it without the teachers and staff who volunteer at the event. The school's secretary, Carolann and her daughter, painted faces and stayed until every child who wanted their face painted was served. The PTA is happy to organize this event and provide a bounce house, games and prizes for the rest of the carnival-like booths. We couldn't do it without the volunteers from the community and staff from the school. FFN has turned into a great neighborhood building event of fun, family and community.

Delaware Community Garden needs volunteers

Provided by Delaware Neighborhood Association

The Delaware Community Garden could use some volunteers. We donate produce to folks who serve unsheltered people as well as other organizations. If you know anyone in our neighborhood who is food insecure please help us serve them as well. Volunteers at the garden are welcome to take fresh produce. We welcome you if you can only work one or two hours. Hope to see Delaware neighbors at the garden!



Connect

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



Neighborhood Association Meetings

Aug. 1 • Sept. 5 • Oct. 3: 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  

DNA Women GET OUT!

Day and location change each month.

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



DOLING NEIGHBORHOOD



Sanitary sewer improvements near Doling Park to begin this summer

By Kristen Milam, Public Information, for SGFNN

The City of Springfield's Department of Environmental Services is set to begin sanitary sewer construction north of Doling Park this summer as part of a major effort to improve sewer capacity and reduce overflows along Pea Ridge Creek in north Springfield.

Sanitary sewer improvements in the area will be split into two projects with the first stretching from Maranatha Lane to the northwest corner of Doling Park. The Doling Park Sanitary Sewer Project will replace roughly 6,900 feet of existing sanitary sewer main with larger diameter pipe, increasing the sewage capacity of the sewer collection system in the area. The path of the sewer main replacement will also require boring underneath Norton Road and I-44.

"We expect them to begin with the extensive boring work on the north side of the project, then work their way south to the park." – Kim Brown

"Rosetta Construction was selected as the contractor for this project," says project manager Kim Brown. "While a full construction schedule has not yet been determined, we expect them to begin with the extensive boring work on the north side of the project, then work their way south to the park."

Traffic impacts during the project are expected to be minimal, with the boring work not anticipated to impact traffic on Norton Road or I-44. Major sewer service impacts are also not expected.

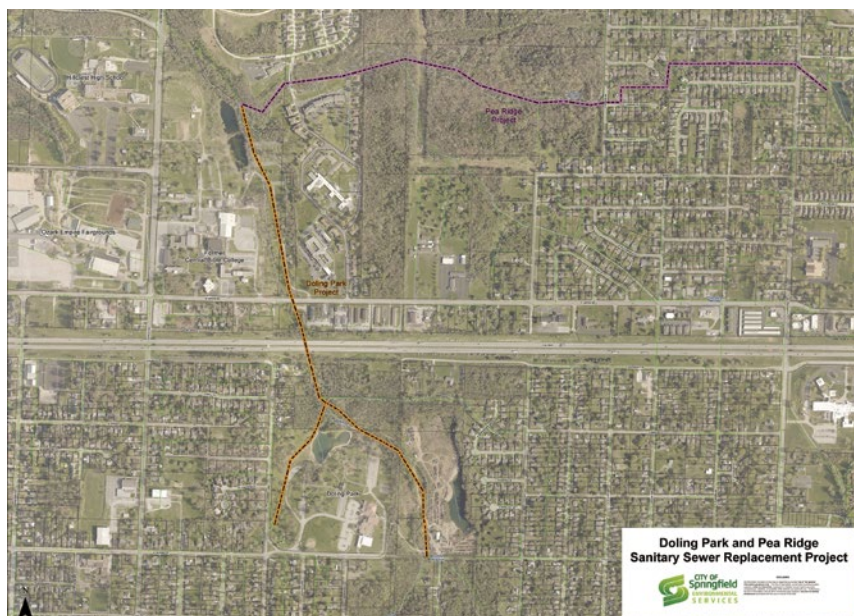
Work in the northeastern

portion of Doling Park is not expected to take place until winter of 2023 or spring of 2024. When construction reaches park property, the walking trail loop located north of the pond may be closed for a time and the southeast parking lot and sidewalk in the area may be impacted. The public will be notified of construction impacts as the project progresses and details become available.

The second project in the area, the Pea Ridge Sanitary Sewer project, is anticipated to bid out later this summer and begin construction after the Doling project wraps up. The project is planned to connect to the north section of the Doling Park Project, and follow along the north fork of the Pea Ridge Creek roughly between Heritage Avenue and National Avenue. The work will involve replacing approximately 5,500 feet of existing 12-inch sewer main with a new 24-inch main and 1,200 feet of 18-inch main will also be added to run parallel to an existing pipe to help add sewer capacity.

The combined cost of the projects is estimated at \$8.6 million and will be funded using sanitary sewer reserve funds as outlined in the City's Supplemental Overflow Control Plan.

For more information, visit the project webpage at springfieldmo.gov/pearidge.



Connect

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



Neighborhood Association Meetings

July 18 • Aug. 15 • Sept. 19: 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 Thieman: 417-874-2537
nthieman@springfieldmo.gov



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

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

Follow Doling on  

Mobile Library Stop

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

Wednesdays: 2:45-3:15 p.m.

Glenwood Manor (2540 N. Delaware Ave.)



Congratulations to the Doling Neighborhood for winning this year's SGF Kickball Tournament!

FASSNIGHT NEIGHBORHOOD

Grant Avenue to reopen to two-way traffic between Sunshine and Ildereen this summer

By Kristen Milam, Public Information, for SGFNN

Construction continues along the Grant Avenue Parkway as crews are expanding work north of Grand Street and into the West Central neighborhood. Utility work is currently ongoing between Grand and State streets with traffic limited to one-way southbound only. Northbound traffic is advised to follow the posted detours generally utilizing Campbell Avenue.

Work in the south portion of the route, between Sunshine Street and Ildereen Street is nearing completion and the reopening of Grant Avenue to two-way traffic in this segment is anticipated for summer. Below is a list of FAQs about the parkway's construction.

Q: When will construction be completed in the various sections of the parkway?

The right-of-way acquisition process makes it difficult to give specific timelines for this project. The completion of construction in each section is dependent on the completion of the right-of-way acquisition for that section. The City's construction contractor is working diligently within existing right-of-way and already acquired right-of-way in each section to complete the work. With that, the following is timeline information we can provide:

Section 1 (Ildereen to Meadowmere) –

Transportation improvements are complete. Utility change-overs from above ground to underground lines and landscaping are still yet to come.

Section 2 (Sunshine to Ildereen) – The multi-use path on the east side, new pavement, sidewalk on the west side, curb and gutter, and driveways are almost all constructed from University to Ildereen. Utility relocations are still ongoing. Sunshine Street to University Street improvements will be completed at a later date once necessary right-of-way is acquired.

Sections 3 & 4 (Catalpa to State) – Utilities within existing right-of-way are being relocated. Right-of-way acquisition is in the beginning stages. Property owners directly impacted by the project along Grant Avenue could receive communication via mail beginning in early



summer. Some property owners may not receive letters until later in the summer as right-of-way outreach will be conducted in phases.

Section 5 (State to Walnut) – This section will begin as soon as feasible based on improvements constructed in other sections.

Section 6 (Downtown Loop) – This section is mainly pavement striping other than Mill Street from Main to Campbell. The striping will most likely occur with the other striping near the end of the project. On Mill Street, between Main and Campbell, new pavement has been placed and sidewalk and street lights on the north side will be installed once right-of-way acquisition is complete.

Q: Are there any additional right-of-way or temporary construction easements planned?

A: There are proposed right-of-way and temporary construction easements in each section. The design-build team worked hard to design the Parkway with minimal acquisition needs.

Preliminary concept plans were completed for all the sections, however, right-of-way and temporary construction easements are not fully determined in each section until the final engineering plans are complete for that section.

As right-of-way acquisition and construction are underway in the early sections, the design-build team is working on finalizing right-of-way plans for the next sections. Once plans are finalized with right-of-way and easements determined, then the plans get submitted to the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) for approval to begin right-of-way acquisition in that section.

The first step after MoDOT approval to begin is to have a third-party agency complete appraisals on the properties where right-of-way or easements are needed. When appraisals are complete, property owners will be sent offers based on the appraisals for any needed right-of-way/easements. When the property owner and the City have come to an agreement, the contract between the two is executed and the property owner is compensated and the deeds



Connect

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



Neighborhood Association Meetings

Aug. 1 • Sept. 5 • Oct. 3: 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 Stevin Cisneros: 417-864-1138
scisneros@springfieldmo.gov



 **Parkview High School**
516 W. Meadowmere St.

 **Jarrett Middle School**
906 W. Portland St.

Follow Fassnight on   

are recorded. Once recorded, all the acquisition information is sent to MoDOT for another approval to then begin construction in that newly acquired area.

It's important to mention each part of the acquisition process because there are several steps where time to complete those steps could vary greatly based on several factors. This process illustrates why providing a specific timeline for construction in each section is difficult.

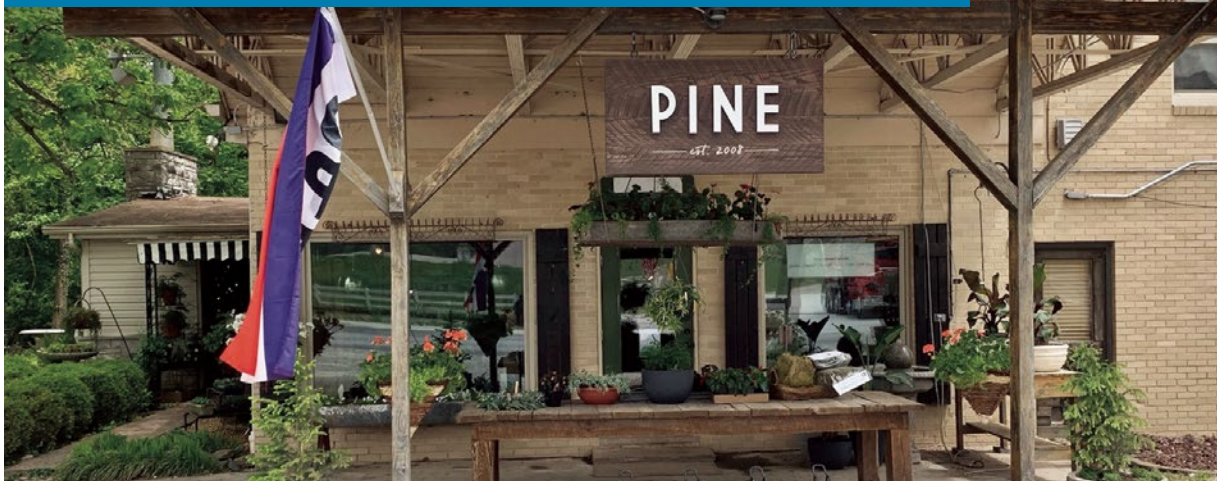
Q: Where can I find more information about the project and construction process?

A: GrantAvenueParkway.com is a great resource for general construction timeline information. Under the construction tab, the sections are listed with a brief description of work happening and any known timelines.

The City also encourages residents and property owners to sign up to receive project email updates by filling out the "Contact Us" form at GrantAvenueParkway.com. The e-blast communicates a variety of information regarding traffic impacts, construction progress and any other important information regarding the project.



GALLOWAY VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD



Galloway Village 'hot spots' offer something for everyone

By Reva McVay, for SGFNN

While most people are familiar with the commercial districts that border Galloway Village on Glenstone and Battlefield, there's plenty to do on South Lone Pine in the heart of Galloway. If you haven't had a chance to explore the area, read on to get the scoop on some of the hot spots to check out.

If you are a foodie, four locally owned restaurants are a must try. The first and oldest is Galloway Grill. Don't forget to ask about their "secret menu" featuring their Frito pie made with homemade chili and topped with creamy white queso. Niji Sushi Bar & Grill is next on the list and features a light and airy atmosphere, sushi, hibachi and their unique pineapple fried rice served in a pineapple bowl and a full bar with many specialty cocktails. The Rock Food and Friends is a choice hangout with great patio seating, fire pit, and an array of menu items from pizza to gluten-free options. This restaurant is also perfect for our fur-baby parents as they are pet-friendly on their patio! Last but not least, if you are a fan of gourmet Italian food, Bambino's is your source for delicious pasta dishes and sandwiches. Be sure to try their homemade fire-roasted red pepper Caesar salad dressing!

From food and drinks to shopping and art or simply enjoying the great outdoors, there is something for everyone in Galloway's Lone Pine valley.

After trying all that delicious food, you may want to get some exercise. Pure Hot Yoga, Sequiota Park and the Galloway Creek Greenway Trail have you covered. The trails not only connect directly to the Springfield Conservation Nature Center, but they also feature a five-mile bike route that passes by Lake Springfield. The scenery is top notch and offers several great spots for kids to play, have a picnic, or get some steps in.

Next up on the hot spots list are for the beer and coffee connoisseurs. Locally owned and operated by four couples of the 417, 4 By 4 Brewing has a great selection of beers, Kombucha, boozy slushies



and non-alcoholic options. There are lots of games to choose from, a great room to watch sports, patio seating, rotating food trucks, complimentary popcorn, and best of all, they are pet friendly indoor and outdoor! They also host fun events like bingo and bunco with prizes, live music, and craft nights. Great Escapes Beer Works, another great Galloway brewery, has great beer options as well as wine and ciders, modern indoor and outdoor seating and is also pet friendly in both areas. Finally, for our coffee lovers, visit Black Lab Coffee Company and delight in their dog themed menu. Try the Goldendoodle made with caramel and brown sugar or the German Shepherd made with chocolate and coconut. Not a coffee drinker? No problem, try one of their delicious fruit smoothies.

Galloway has much more than food and drinks to offer. Shop while making a difference at Inspired Boutique, where proceeds benefit developmentally disabled community members. Unique home decor items can be found at Pine at Galloway, Acacia Spa offers a great selection of self-care products and services, and the Polish Pottery Shoppe features practical, quality imported pottery with an artistic flair. If you would rather try your hand at an original piece, Firehouse Pottery and Splatter Art Studio both offer opportunities to feed your creative side.

From food and drinks to shopping and art or simply enjoying the great outdoors, there is something for everyone in Galloway's Lone Pine valley. These are just a handful of the hot spots to check out, so be sure to explore the area and support our local businesses!



Connect

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

Neighborhood Association Meetings

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

Pasta Express Night

Tues., July 25: 4-9 p.m.
(3250 E. Battlefield Rd.)

Stream Cleanup

Sat., Sept. 30: 10 a.m.
Sequiota Park
(3500 S. Lone Pine Ave.)

Let's keep our natural areas beautiful
and protect our beloved wildlife.
Trash impacts them too!



Galloway Creek Greenway Trail

HOME & ENVIRONMENT

SUMMER 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.



CITY OF
Springfield
ENVIRONMENTAL
SERVICES



Learn more about what we do for the citizens of Springfield!



**STORM
WATER**

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



**WASTE
WATER**

SPRINGFIELDMO.GOV/SEWER
SEWER EMERGENCIES & ISSUES
417-864-1923
AFTER HOURS SEWER
EMERGENCY
417-864-1920



**SOLID
WASTE**

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



Follow us on social:



@sgfenvironmentalservices

Learn more about
SGF Environmental Services:
springfieldmo.gov/environment

Take Care of Storm Drains!

Water that goes down storm drains goes directly to our waterways. Take care that it is clean water that goes down. If washing your car at home, direct the soapy water into your yard to naturally filter. Take care to keep grass clippings out of streets and storm drains. Keep an eye on storm drains in your neighborhood and help us keep them clean by picking up trash and debris.

Report pollution in streets, storm drains or waterways by calling (417) 864-1010.

Education

School is out but beat boredom by scheduling group tours or presentations for a club or organization. **Learn more at springfieldmo.gov/environment and click on "education."**

Recycle Right Springfield

Due to rapid changes in markets and information, we recommend that you check the Waste Wizard for the most updated info as you recycle your items. **Visit springfieldmo.gov/wastewizard to search your items needing responsible disposal.** The Waste Wizard will tell you where you can recycle or dispose of your item and give you contact information for the facility so you can verify availability and details before you go!



Glass bottles

All three city recycling centers accept glass bottles and containers. Make sure they are empty and rinsed. Remove metal or plastic lids. Labels can stay on.



Paint

Dry out latex paint by adding cat litter to the paint can and place in curbside trash once the paint is fully dried out. Oil-based paint can be brought to the HCCC. **Schedule an appointment by calling (417) 864-2000 before bringing to the facility.**



Helium Tanks

The Household Chemical Collection Center (HCCC) will accept this item — be sure to call ahead to (417) 864-2000 and schedule an appointment.



Barbecue Grills

Metal and appliance recycling locations are listed in the Waste Wizard. Propane tanks must be recycled separately. Locations for propane tank recycling includes Computer Recycling Center and Amerigas.



Plastic Garden Pots

No black plastic garden pots—in fact no black plastic at all! Black plastic in the recycling bin is a big no-no. It discolors the rest of the plastic during the recycling process. Consider saving garden pots for next year's batch of seedlings!

Air Quality and Summer Activities

Cooking s'mores over a backyard fire pit is a popular summer time activity! Keep these tips in mind when firing up the firepit: firepits or fire rings are allowed as a recreational fire inside the City of Springfield but only with dimensions no larger than a two by two-foot pile burning only seasoned firewood, charcoal or tree limbs. Cooking, grilling or smoking food is allowed by burning firewood or charcoal in a grill or a small firepit.

Prohibited items listed may not be burned:

- plants or tree leaves (any time during year)
- fence line weeds/grass
- household trash/rubbish
- vehicles
- tires
- plastics
- furniture
- electronics
- carpeting
- bedding
- treated lumber
- painted lumber (latex, lacquers, enamels or stains)
- fiberglass (boat, bathroom fixture or satellite dish)
- buildings or detached structures (to be demolished)
- roofing asphalt shingles
- asbestos-containing materials
- medications
- fireworks/explosives
- fossil fuels from storage containers

Air quality is a concern at any time of the year but as you spend more time outside, you might wonder what the outdoor air quality is like in Springfield. **To find the current air quality and to view information on air pollutants and information about their levels in the state of Missouri or locally, visit springfieldmo.gov/airquality.**

Yard Ethic



Support a healthy community of people, wildlife and plants. Join the Yard Ethic community by implementing practices that save money, beautify your yard, conserve water, reduce stormwater

pollution and create habitat. You can be eligible to be Yard Ethic certified by completing three or more of the items listed below:

- ☐ Test your soil
- ☐ Plant for pollinators
- ☐ Harvest the rain
- ☐ Plant a tree
- ☐ Build a rain garden
- ☐ Compost

You will receive a free Yard Ethic sign for your yard by achieving gold or silver certification. You can also utilize other programs that help you work toward Yard Ethic certification such as Blooming Boulevards, Right-as-Rain, Pollinator Garden Grant program, and more. **Learn more about the program and apply for certification at YardEthic.com.**

APPLICATIONS OPEN JULY 1



The Pollinator Garden Grant Program provides free native plants for qualifying applicants. Applications open July 1 for fall garden installations. Locations must be highly visible to the public in City right-of-way or front yards.

Native plants are well adapted to the local climate and soil conditions and are ideal choices when it comes to supporting and preserving biodiversity of native organisms. Native plants provide seeds and insects for wildlife, especially songbirds. Native plants also have deep root systems, allowing rainwater to infiltrate into the soil rather than becoming runoff. **To apply, contact Clarissa Hatley at (417) 864-2005.**



Blooming Boulevards provides free installation of a rain garden in the right-of-way of suitable locations. Rain gardens are small, shallow depressions planted

with vegetation that collect the "first flush" of runoff after a rainstorm. This first flush is usually the most polluted. Deeply rooted vegetation and healthy, well-structured soil allow runoff to be filtered and soak into the ground.

Right as Rain currently offers a rain barrel rebate which pays 50 cents per gallon of storage capacity up to a maximum of \$300. To help conserve the public water supply, it is a good idea to capture rainwater for use in watering landscapes. Rainwater is soft and very good for plants and rainwater systems are simple and easy to install.



Sanitary Sewer Laterals

What are sanitary sewer laterals?

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

Why is this important?

The sewer lateral is actually the property owner's responsibility. When a lateral is broken or blocked, the owner is required to manage the repairs and maintenance. In fact, Environmental Services highly recommends that all homebuyers schedule a sewer lateral inspection.

Learn more at springfieldmo.gov/SewerLaterals

Private Sewer Repair Program

City records show a history of sanitary sewer manhole overflows (SSOs) and basement backups in various Springfield neighborhoods. These can be relieved by repairing improper connections to the sanitary sewer often found on private property. Basement drains, downspouts, sump pumps and uncapped cleanouts all

contribute to SSOs by allowing excess rainwater into the sanitary sewer system.

In an effort to combat overflows, Environmental Services offers the Private Sewer Repair Program which is a voluntary program that offers property owners the opportunity to have improper connections repaired at no charge. Residents are asked to schedule a no-cost plumbing evaluation to identify improper connections to the sewer system.

When improper connections are found, property owners are asked to allow qualified local plumbers, paid by the City, to make the repairs.

Learn more at springfieldmo.gov/PrivateSewerRepair

Lateral Loan Program

City of Springfield Environmental Services provides the Sanitary Sewer Lateral Loan program for necessary connections or repairs to the privately owned sanitary sewer laterals that might not otherwise be financially feasible for property owners.

Learn more at springfieldmo.gov/SewerLaterals



clean green

SPRINGFIELD



2023 QUICK FACTS

- ★ Nearly 1,500 individuals registered to volunteer in one or more cleanup or beautification opportunities in April and May.
- ★ About 1,500 trash bags were collected by Clean Green volunteers.
- ★ The Tire Toss collected 1,587 tires and served 297 households.
- ★ Mattress Recycling collected a total of 485 mattresses—300 collected at Lone Pine, 145 collected at Franklin Ave., and 27 collected at the landfill.
- ★ TV Recycling collected 242 TVs in partnership with the Computer Recycling Center.
- ★ Clean Green volunteers logged an estimated 2,500 volunteer hours.



GREATER PARKCREST NEIGHBORHOOD



Republic Road Widening at Campbell Avenue on schedule for completion in December

By Kristen Milam, Public Information, for SGFNN

Construction on the final phase of roadway widening along Republic Road is on schedule with gas and water utility relocations and stormwater infrastructure installation underway ahead of roadway work.

"So far the contractor has kept traffic impacts to a minimum and traffic flow has been maintained in all directions. We expect to keep lane closures limited to overnight hours so we can keep this busy area moving during the day." – **Nicholas Edelman**

The project involves the widening of Republic Road from three lanes to five lanes between Fairview Avenue and the traffic signal at Chase, including sidewalk and Americans with Disabilities Act upgrades, stormwater improvements and the addition of bike lanes. At the intersection of Campbell Avenue and Republic Road, traffic signals will be upgraded and additional turn lanes will be added. Signal upgrades will also be completed at Republic Road and the driveway at Chase. Construction will extend north on



Campbell Avenue, including updates to stormwater and utility infrastructure. The project is designed to provide better integration between Campbell Avenue, Republic Road and James River Freeway.

Construction on the project began in March. General contractor Capital Paving & Excavating has focused on utility relocations and stormwater installation east of the Campbell Avenue and Republic Road intersection. Utility work west of Campbell Avenue began in June and will last approximately 60 days.



Over the next few months, residents can expect to see the construction of curb and gutter, sidewalk and driveway work on Republic Road east of Campbell and a new traffic signal at Chase.

"So far the contractor has kept traffic impacts to a minimum and traffic flow has been maintained in all directions," explains Project Manager Nicholas Edelman. "We expect to keep lane closures limited to overnight hours so we can keep this busy area moving during the day." Nighttime single lane closures began earlier this summer.

The project is expected to be complete in December. The \$5.4 million project is funded through the 1/8-cent Transportation Sales Tax, Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funds and is also a cost-share with the Missouri Department of Transportation.



Connect

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



Neighborhood Association Meetings

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

Neighborhood PAR Officer

Officer Stevin Cisneros: 417-864-1138
scisneros@springfieldmo.gov



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

Follow Greater Parkcrest on  



Work on the sidewalk connecting Danbury Avenue to the walking trail at Sanford Park is nearing completion.

GRANT BEACH NEIGHBORHOOD



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

July 17 • Aug. 21 • Sept. 18: 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



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

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

Follow Grant Beach on  



Weaver Elementary School (1461 W. Douglas Ave.)

HEART OF THE WESTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD



New York Elementary celebrated with ribbon-cutting ceremony

By SPS Communications, for SGFNN

Since 1911, York Elementary School has been the heart of Nichols Street. The school's impact and history were on full display at a special ribbon-cutting ceremony March 27.

"As we appreciate this new building, we want to commemorate York's legacy in this community and celebrate its transformation," said Superintendent Grenita Lathan. "We look forward to serving generations of students here in the future."

Standing on the steps of the new school's entrance, more than 150 community members gathered to celebrate the official opening of the new York Elementary School. Students participated in the ribbon-cutting ceremony that marked the beginning of the next chapter for York.

"This school was designed and built with York learners in mind, and in this new building, learning has already begun," said Shondra Fetter, York principal. "Our teachers worked tirelessly over Spring Break to ensure that on students' first day in this new building, it was ready for them to learn. You'll be so impressed to see that this school looks like we've been here for years, and I'm so grateful to the York staff for their commitment to students and their learning, wherever they are."

The \$21 million facility features a variety of modern, collaborative spaces designed for interactive learning, as well as spaces for the York school community. All of these spaces were completed years before it might have been. Thanks to careful fiscal management and lower than budgeted overall costs on the 2019 Proposition S projects, SPS was able to expedite the construction of the new York Elementary.

"The Board of Education has prioritized quality learning environments for all our students, and through Proposition S, we were able to make that a reality," said Dr. Denise Fredrick, Board of Education president.



Connect

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



Neighborhood Association Meetings

July 11 • Sept. 12 • Nov. 14 (elections): 6-7 p.m.
@ Passion Assembly of God Church
(806 N. Forest Ave.)

Neighborhood PAR Officer

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



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

Follow Heart of the Westside on  

Food Pantries

Nichols Park Food Pantry

July 5 • Aug. 2 • Sept. 6 • Oct. 4: 9:30-11 a.m.,
1900 W. Nichols St.

New Growth Food Pantry

July 15 • Aug. 19 • Sept. 16: 9:30 a.m.- Noon,
1351 N. Marion Ave.

College Street Baptist Food Pantry

July 15 • Aug. 19 • Sept. 16: 10-11 a.m.,
2216 W. College St.



Neighborhood Cleanup March 28: nine dumpsters filled and 25 volunteers. Thanks to all who made the cleanup a success.

MEADOR PARK NEIGHBORHOOD



Meador Park neighbors plant seeds for community involvement in spring

By Donna Clarkson, for SGFNN

If you live in Meador Park you know of the many benefits of our neighborhood. We are home to Cowden Elementary School, Mercy Hospital, Meador Park, the Battlefield Mall and numerous other great businesses. Meador Park by the Mall is where several neighborhood activities are held throughout the year, including kickball and National Night Out.

Additionally, we have many in our neighborhood who work tirelessly to make the place we call home the best it can be. Creating and maintaining a great neighborhood takes work and community involvement on an ongoing basis, which is why we encourage everyone to become active in supporting our local neighborhood association and the leaders of our community who help us achieve the goals we have for our neighborhood.

Meador Park NA is participating in the Adopt-a-Street program for the second year. This year we have also registered with Clean Green Springfield and hope to help in activities that will help keep Springfield clean.

On April 15, we had a small group that picked up trash along Cherokee Street from Fremont to Glenstone. Watch our Facebook group page for dates of future cleanups. Your participation is much appreciated and may result in freebies to be given away at the events.

In May, Meador Park NA hosted a plant/seed

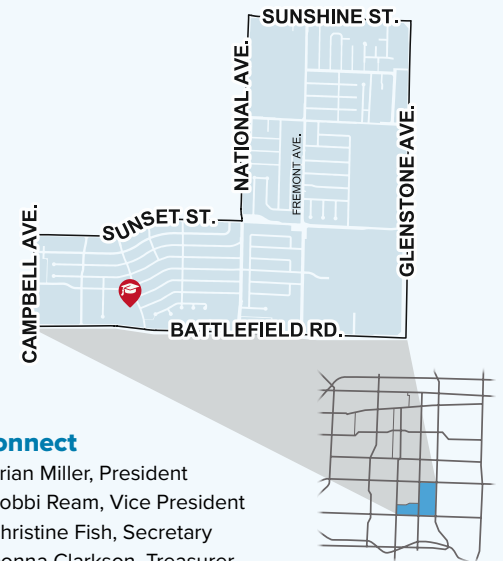


exchange. Neighbors were invited to bring plants, soil, pots, seeds and other gardening supplies to share/exchange with other neighbors. A table was set up for neighborhood children to create seed bombs which they were able to take home and plant. This first year was a small event which we hope will grow in the coming years.

Cowden Elementary is in the physical boundaries of Meador Park NA. Although Delaware Elementary is outside of the neighborhood boundaries, about half of the homes in Meador Park have students who attend Delaware. For that reason, we support both schools and participate in events they have throughout the school year. Several Meador Park members helped at the Delaware Family Fun Night on May 12 by supervising the ring toss at which students were able to throw rings in an attempt to ring a bottle of soda. If they were successful, the prize was the bottle of soda. The line was long as student after student tested their skills in an attempt to win the much-coveted prize.

Meador Park NA has also donated funds to Cowden which have been used to help with student needs throughout the school year.

During the second weekend in June, we once again had our annual garage sale. This is a neighborhood wide event which has grown each year it has been held. Neighbors conduct their own sale and the association advertises it by posting signs around the area.



Connect

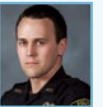
- Brian Miller, President
- Bobbi Ream, Vice President
- Christine Fish, Secretary
- Donna Clarkson, Treasurer
- meadorparkna@gmail.com

Neighborhood Association Meetings

July 27 • Aug. 24 • Sept. 28: 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

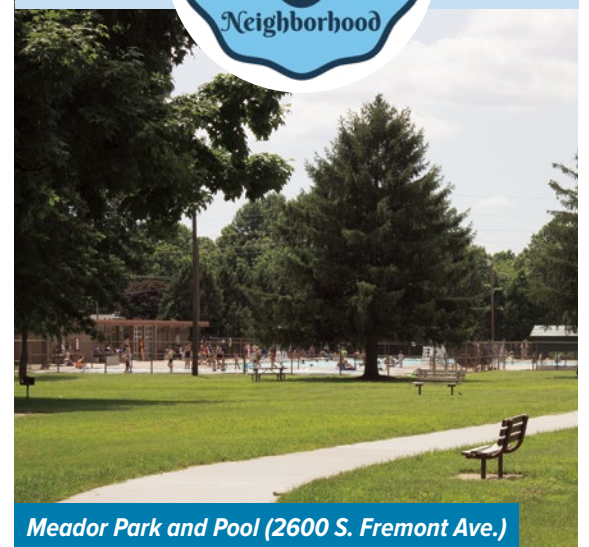
Delivering books, movies and CDs to your neighborhood. Service is limited to Holds Pickup and Returns

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.



Meador Park and Pool (2600 S. Fremont Ave.)



Green for Greene
-An EPA-funded Grant

This FREE five-week training program provides certifications in 13 areas needed for "green" jobs.

For more Information and to apply online contact the Missouri Job Center at 417-887-4343 or visit springfieldmo.gov/GreenForGreene.



REGISTRATION REQUIRED
The PARK
Springfield-Greene County Park Board
Register by Sept. 1

TUES., SEPT. 5
FASSTNIGHT POOL

1300 S. Campbell Ave., Springfield, MO



TIME
4-7 p.m.

FEE
\$8/dog & human pair,
(Limit 1 dog per person);
\$3/additional human

ParkBoard.org/DogSwim

MARK TWAIN NEIGHBORHOOD



Connect

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

Neighborhood Association Meetings

July 11 • Aug. 8 • Sept. 12: 7 p.m. @ Sunset Church of Christ (1222 W. Sunset St.)

Neighborhood PAR Officer

Officer Stevin Cisneros: 417-864-1138
scisneros@springfieldmo.gov

Mark Twain Elementary
2352 S. Weaver Ave.

Follow Mark Twain on



Neighborhood cleanup services nearly 90 Mark Twain households

By Samantha Spartan, for SGFNN

We had a successful neighborhood cleanup while servicing 88 households! We, once again, had amazing support from the Sunset Church of Christ volunteers and from the church for letting us use their parking lot. The participants offered many thanks to Community Partnership of the Ozarks and the City of Springfield for the opportunity this offers.

It is election time in the Mark Twain Neighborhood! We will be holding elections at our Aug. 8 meeting. If you would like to be placed on the ballot or if you would like more information, please contact us at marktwainassociation@gmail.com.



MIDTOWN NEIGHBORHOOD



Connect

- Ran Cummings, President
- Brian Shipman, Vice President
- Ronald Ives, Secretary
- Marie Wood, Treasurer
- midtwn.sgf@gmail.com
- 417-501-9732

Neighborhood Association Meetings

July 10 • Aug. 14 • Sept. 11: 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 midtwn.sgf@gmail.com.

Neighborhood PAR Officer

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

Boyd Elementary School
833 E. Division St.

Central High School
423 E. Central St.

Follow Midtown on



Midtown Neighborhood Association's Fantastic 4th

An Annual Old-Fashioned 4th of July Parade and Celebration

Tuesday, July 4

Parade Starts at 10 a.m. at Benton & Central and concludes at Washington Park where the celebration continues with parade awards, music, games, food and more!



OAK GROVE NEIGHBORHOOD



Nifty yellow worker vests a perk for Adopt-a-Street volunteers

By Monta Montgomery, for SGNN

The volunteers for the spring Adopt-a-Street cleanup got to wear the new yellow worker's vests for the first time. These vests increase the safety of our volunteers and increase awareness of the Oak Grove Neighborhood Association. Thank you to everyone who came out and helped. Our next scheduled street cleanups are July 29 and Oct. 14. No advance sign up is needed – just show up at Holy Trinity Catholic Church on Bennett Street at 9 a.m. and meet your neighbors.

Schweitzer Church, Memorial Hall Entrance B, 2747 E. Sunshine, is now our permanent meeting location. Thank you, neighbor.

Thanks to all of you who came out for the Oak Grove Neighborhood Ice Cream Social in June!



Connect

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



Neighborhood Association Meetings

Meetings are held at Schweitzer Church (2747 E. Sunshine St.) entrance B, Room 101 at 6-7 p.m. the last Tuesday of the month January-October. Watch for meeting announcements on Facebook and 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)



PHELPS GROVE NEIGHBORHOOD



Connect

- Dave Trippe, President: d.trippe@mchsi.com or 417-569-5759
- Renee Tyson, Vice President/Secretary: 417-863-0246
- Nancy Danielsen, Treasurer

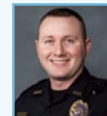


Neighborhood Association Meetings

Meetings are the second Tuesday of the month in the Fire Station 1 Community Room (720 E. Grand St.) Contact a neighborhood officer to find out the time.

Neighborhood PAR Officer

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



Follow Phelps Grove on
phelpsgrove.com

Want to submit an article about your neighborhood?

Let your neighborhood president or other representative know!



Springfield Art Museum (1111 E. Brookside Dr.)
along the Fasnacht Creek Greenway Trail

ROUNTREE NEIGHBORHOOD

Sinkhole property to become public greenspace in Rountree thanks to City program

By Nancy Evans, for SGFNN

Innovate, collaborate and educate! it's a beautiful thing. Literally!

Residents of Rountree have for many years been forward-thinking in their efforts to move into and embrace the future while retaining Rountree's vital past. We value community, diversity, history, and walkability. We value all forms of life, up to and including our trees, insects, butterflies, and birds. We value these things so much so that we lead conversations in our city to protect and enhance all that we value, in a manner that benefits everyone — residents and business owners.

The RNA board is pleased to announce that the Neighborhood Works Grant program has allowed us to "walk the talk." On April 11, Rountree Neighborhood Association was awarded a grant through this program that will convert the City-owned sinkhole properties at Fairway Avenue and Cherry Street into a public greenspace. Our goal is to create a beautiful, functional, safe, and educational space while improving water runoff and drainage without jeopardizing the natural flow of rainwater.

The plan is to:

- Remove the unsightly (and ineffective) chain link fence and the concrete channel that currently flows into the main sinkhole and replace the channel with a bioswale. (A bioswale is a channeled depression that guides the rainwater runoff and has vegetation and organic matter to slow water infiltration and filter out pollutants.)
- Add not just one but two rain gardens and tree box filters.



- Build a berm with dirt from the rain gardens and add a concrete walking path that winds through the parcel.
- Install native plantings throughout, with markers for the plants, pollinators and geology educational opportunities.
- Add public art at strategic locations.
- And shh ... there might be talk of a small amphitheater somewhere down the road.

This entire project is yet another Rountree collaboration. Together with the City and City-led programs — Planning & Development, Public Works, Environmental Services (Yard Ethic, Green Infrastructure), Neighborhood Works funding and local programs — Better Block, Missouri State University Geology Department, local artists, RNA residents, this project will continue the example that we have established. Not only will it benefit all Springfield residents by its mere availability, it benefits all by setting a precedent into thinking outside the box, outside of the "it's always been this way" thinking. Completion of this project in its full potential will benefit all citizens of Springfield by establishing a foundational path for non-conforming, biodiverse, ecologically sensible, and health-beneficial neighborhood nodes.

The Rountree Neighborhood Association Board and contributing members are very excited about this project and hope you are too!



Connect

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



Neighborhood Association Meetings

July 18 • Aug. 15 • Sept. 19: 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



 **Rountree Elementary School**
1333 Grand St.

Follow Rountree on  
routreenews.org

Organizers of Pickwick Street Fair offer thanks

By Nancy Evans, for SGFNN

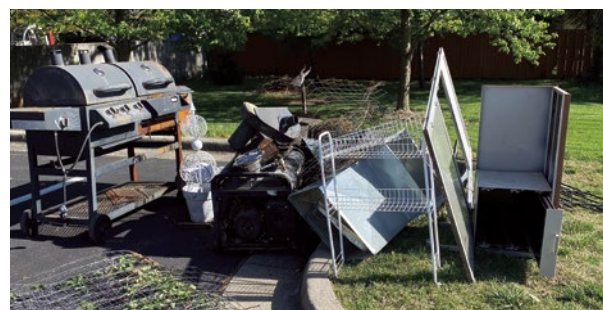
The 2023 Pickwick Street Fair was a great day in Rountree, and we want to thank all the amazing vendors, artists and volunteers for making it happen. Shout out to all the sponsors and coordinators for making it another great event on Pickwick.



Rountree cleanup serves 130 households

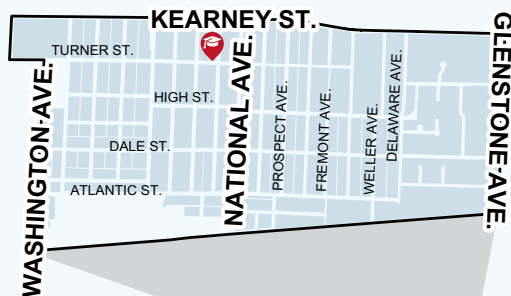
By Peggy Wise, for SGFNN

Rountree Neighborhood Association hosted their spring cleanup on May 2. Curbside pick up was available and the crews went out clearing brush and trash from the alleyways. It was delightful to have so many volunteers and provide a service that is so needed in the community. More than 130 homes were able to take advantage of the cleanup! Huge thank you to Community Partnership of the Ozarks, the City, Clean Green Springfield and Missouri State University and neighborhood volunteers!



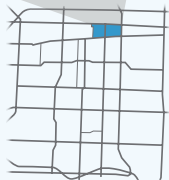
Pickwick Street Fair June 10

ROBBERSON NEIGHBORHOOD



Connect

- Mary Ann Bonetti, President:
ladyemage@msn.com
- Phyllis Evans, Secretary: 417-693-4023 or svmbroomrider@att.net
- Dolly Vranka, Treasurer



Neighborhood Association Meetings

July 27 • Aug. 24 • Sept. 28: 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



Want to submit an article about your neighborhood?

Let your neighborhood president or other representative know!

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

SEMINOLE HOLLAND NEIGHBORHOOD



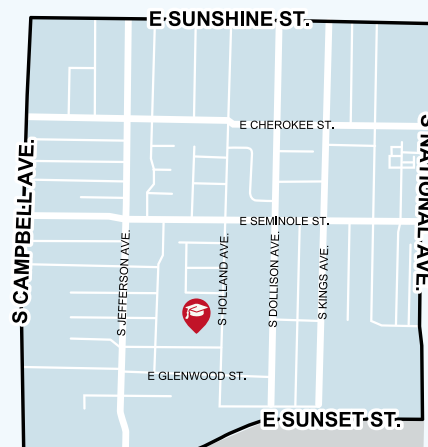
Seminole Holland neighbors come together to tackle crime and litter

By William Cooper, for SGFNN

On April 13, the Seminole Holland Neighborhood Association held a general membership event at Messiah Lutheran Church. The event brought neighbors together to discuss important community issues, and featured Neighborhood PAR Officer John Van Gorden as a speaker. Officer Van Gorden shared information about safety and crime prevention, and the role of the PAR officers. The event emphasized the importance of residents working together to make the neighborhood safer and more welcoming for everyone.

The Seminole Holland Neighborhood Association sponsored a neighborhood litter pick up event in partnership with Clean Green Springfield, the Audubon Society and the Sierra Club the weekend of April 22-23. Participants were entered into a drawing for a \$50 block party grant. Litter pickup is important because it can harm ecosystems, pollute waterways, disrupt natural habitats, and harm wildlife. Litter can also attract pests, leading to the spread of diseases and negatively impacting the appearance of a neighborhood. This can lead to a decrease in property values and local business patronage.

Visit SeminoleHolland.com for more information about the Seminole Holland Neighborhood Association.



Connect

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



Neighborhood Association Meetings

Meeting schedule varies. Please check the website, Facebook page, or email us for the latest updates.

Neighborhood PAR Officer

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



Holland Elementary School
2403 S. Holland Ave.

Follow Seminole Holland on
seminoleholland.com



Let's Go Swimming!

Fassnacht,
Grant Beach,
Meador,
Silver Springs,
Westport and
McGee-McGregor
outdoor pools



Open select days,
1-6:30 p.m.

(McGee-McGregor Wading Pool is open 10 a.m.-12 p.m. and 3-6 p.m.)

Admission Fee:

\$5/adult,
\$4/youth & seniors

Full Schedule at ParkBoard.org/Aquatics

TOM WATKINS NEIGHBORHOOD



Tom Watkins Neighborhood Association relaunches in May

By Colby Wallace, for SGFNN

Without Tom Watkins it is hard to imagine what Springfield would be like. Our neighborhood is home to the Burlington-Northern-Santa Fe rail line. The earliest residents of the neighborhood built houses here to live close to the railyards where they worked. Without those workers, there'd be no railyard. And without the railyard, there would be no Springfield. Springfield was raised with the lumber that came in off the train.

Tom Watkins neighborhood didn't always have a name. We became an official neighborhood organization because our neighbors wanted to build something special in our neighborhood. They named our neighborhood after one of our greatest assets, Tom Watkins Park. The park's namesake, Tom Watkins himself, was a banker in Greene County during the Great Depression. He aided farmers and small-business owners during the most dire economic circumstances to ever face Springfieldians. Tom Watkins the man was not just resilient in the face of adversity, he was also beloved for his kindness. In his eulogy at his funeral, the speaker said "He had a twinkle in his eye as he approached you. He had a tender heart for all who were having a hard time."

Our neighbors who live and work in Tom Watkins neighborhood are mirrors of our rich history. Like the railroad that built our city and is always pulsing with energy, we are brimming with children who will build a new future for our city. Like our beloved



Tom Watkins Park (2100 W. High St.)

park, the gardens in our yards and art on our front porches make our neighborhood beautiful. Like our namesake, we are creating new ways to help our neighbors in need. Tom Watkins himself would be proud that our neighborhood will be home to Eden Village 3, an artfully planned community to provide permanent housing for our unsheltered neighbors.

If you are building a family here, have creative ideas about making our neighborhood more beautiful, or want to find ways to serve your neighbors, the Tom Watkins Neighborhood Association invites you to join us. There are no qualifications to attend — if you have a stake in our neighborhood you have a spot in our meetings. We'd also like you to consider joining the board of the neighborhood association. We are looking for a team of four individuals who are passionate about making our neighborhood a better place to live, work and play.

If you have questions about the neighborhood or are interested in becoming a board member, please contact Denver Tindell, at 417-207-0228, or dstindell@gmail.com.



Connect

- Colby Wallace, President:
colby.reid.wallace@gmail.com
- Denver Tindell: dstindell@gmail.com
or 417-207-0228



Neighborhood Association Meetings

Meetings are held quarterly. Please contact a neighborhood officer 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

Mobile Library Stop

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

Tuesdays: 4:30-5 p.m.

John B. Hughes Apts. (2100 N. Clifton Ave.)

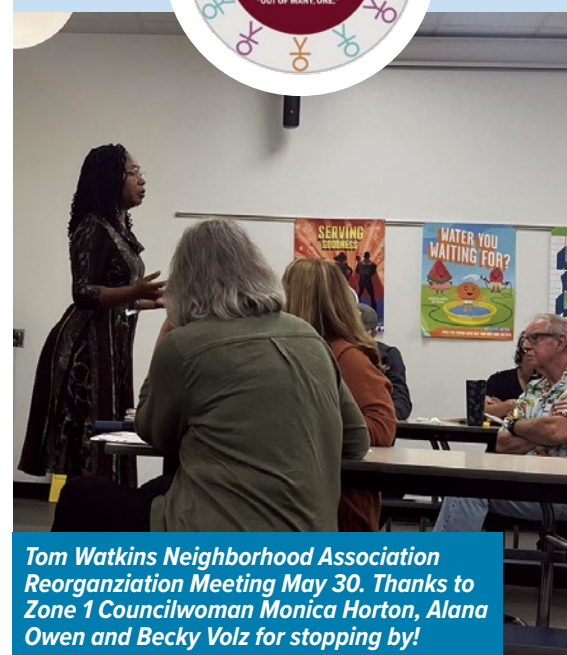


SPARC
schools+parcs=fun

The PARK
SPRINGFIELD-GREENE COUNTY PARK BOARD

DISCOVER MORE PARKBOARD.ORG/SPARC

- SUMMER DAY CAMPS
- BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS
- SPORTS: VOLLEYBALL, SOCCER AND BASKETBALL



Tom Watkins Neighborhood Association Reorganization Meeting May 30. Thanks to Zone 1 Councilwoman Monica Horton, Alana Owen and Becky Volz for stopping by!

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD



Connect

- Donna Hemann, President
- John Stinson, Vice President
- Susan Robinson, Secretary
- Donelle Blubaugh, Treasurer
- uhnsagf@gmail.com



Neighborhood Association Meetings

July 5 • Aug. 2 • Sept. 6 • Oct. 4: 5:30 p.m.
@ Springfield Art Museum Community Room
(1111 E. Brookside Dr.)

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

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



WEST CENTRAL NEIGHBORHOOD



City and neighbors collaborate to update West Central's Neighborhood Plan

By Melissa Haase, Managing Editor

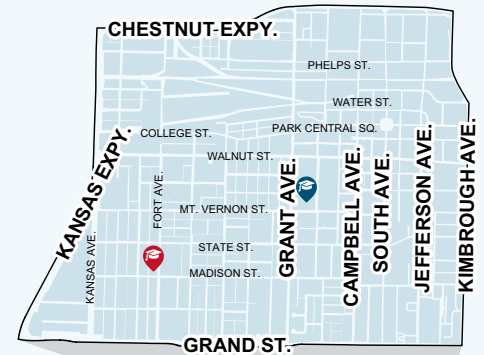
West Central's updated neighborhood plan is coming along. City Planning & Development staff hosted an open house May 16 at Broadway United Methodist Church to share information from the public input workshop held March 13 to gather additional input on housing, parks and trails, transportation and opportunities sites within the neighborhood. The open house was part of the process for developing a new neighborhood plan for West Central that will guide redevelopment, investment and revitalization in the neighborhood. View the presentation boards and the feedback from attendees at springfieldmo.gov/westcentral.

Demographics, data, and supporting information shared at the March 13 meeting can be accessed at springfieldmo.gov/westcentral. Participants provided valuable feedback during a facilitated mapping exercise, in which 11 neighborhood maps were generated from small resident and property owner group discussions.

In addition to the input gathered at the March 13 neighborhood workshop, City staff will be reviewing corresponding recommendations from past planning efforts, including The City's Comprehensive Plan Forward SGF and several supporting subarea and corridor plans, such as the College Street Corridor Plan, Grant Avenue Parkway Corridor Plan, Jordan Valley Concept Plan, and the 1998 West Central Neighborhood Strategic Plan. Census data, demographics, and other geographic data and surveys will also be evaluated to provide the framework for follow-up meetings, that will guide the development of goals, strategies, and recommendations for the West Central Neighborhood Plan.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADDITIONAL FEEDBACK

If you were unable to attend the neighborhood workshop, you still have an opportunity to provide feedback at springfieldmo.gov/westcentral. The interactive map will be accessible until the next neighborhood meeting, which will be held July 25 at the Birthplace of Route 66 Roadside Park.



Connect

- Duane Keys, President:
duane.keys@gmail.com
- Caroline Murski, Vice President
- Rusty Worley, Treasurer:
rusty@itsalldowntown.com
- Kathleen Cowens, Secretary



Neighborhood Alliance Meetings

July 25 (Ice Cream Social): 6:30 p.m. @ The Birthplace of Route 66 Roadside Park (1200 W. College St.)
Sept. 26: 6:30-7:30 p.m. @ Broadway United Methodist Church (545 S. Broadway Ave.)

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.

Follow West Central on  

Construction of the Grant Avenue Parkway is moving into the West Central neighborhood between Grand and State streets. Read more in the Fasnacht Neighborhood Section on page 13.



Thanks to everyone that came out for our Adopt-a-Street cleanup of Grant Avenue in May. As a reminder we do this three to four times a year. Check the Facebook page for updates!

WOODLAND HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD



Enjoy free music on neighbors' porches throughout Woodland Heights this summer

By Chance Parish, for SGFNN

On Sunday, May 21, the Woodland Heights Neighborhood Association launched its concert series Porch Pickin' in Woodland Heights at historic Lafayette Park.

The concert began at 3 p.m. with a performance by Paul Phariss. Neighbors gathered with lawn chairs and blankets to listen to music while children made use of playground equipment and games provided by the Springfield Greene-County



Park Board. Todd Osborn, of the band Hometown Tourist, played next. And Jack Bowden played the last set, closing the concert down at 7 p.m.

During the musical performances the crowd waxed and waned as neighbors stopped in for a few numbers before leaving again to fulfill obligations. More than 50 neighbors gathered together to enjoy the concert in all.

Porch Pickin' will return every third Sunday until Sept. 17. The plan is for neighbors to host future concerts on various porches throughout Woodland Heights. Hopefully, we'll bring our community together one performance at a time.

Stay tuned to our Facebook and website at woodlandheightsneighborhood.org for future Porch Pickin' locations. If you're interested in playing a concert on a porch in Woodland Heights, send us an email at woodlandhna@gmail.com.



Connect

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



Neighborhood Association Meetings

July 18 (Ice Cream Social) • Aug. 15 • Sept. 19:
6:30 p.m. @ Woodland Heights Presbyterian Church
(722 W. Atlantic St.)

Neighborhood PAR Officer

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



Bowerman Elementary School
2148 N. Douglas Ave.

Reed Academy
2000 N. Lyon Ave.

Follow Woodland Heights on [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#)

woodlandheightsneighborhood.org

Record turnout at ninth annual Dirt Day in Woodland Heights

By Jan Hutcherson, for SGFNN

We could not have had more perfect weather for our ninth annual Dirt Day in historic Lafayette Park May 20! Once again, Dirt Day was very well attended. It may have even been a record turnout, from what I hear!

I am newer to Woodland Heights and to this event. I heard about Dirt Day for years, but I always had conflicting gardening events taking place at the same time in the past. I had never attended until last year. I am a pretty hard-core gardener, though, so I had always been curious about Dirt Day.

When my husband, Murray, and I bought a house in the 'hood a few years ago, we got involved in the goings-on of Woodland Heights. Murray actually organized the live music at this year's Dirt Day and performed as well, along with our friends Murph and Jacob Moore (aka The Blue Milos), Paul Phariss, Martin Hill, David Hinson and Doug Loch. Thanks, guys! You really helped make the day special with your musical gifts.

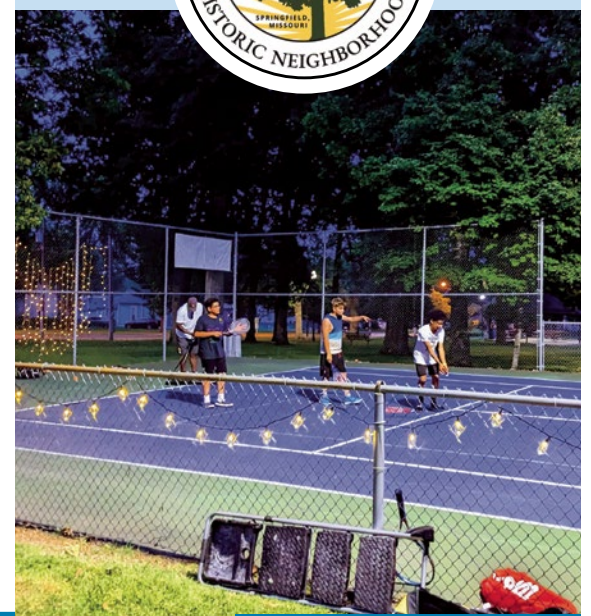
You may be reading all this and asking, what is Dirt Day? Well, Dirt Day is annual event in Woodland Heights. It's a day for community to come together to celebrate warm weather and each other. Nothing costs anything at Dirt Day. It is a completely free family-friendly event. Our "vendors" represent different City departments and/or civic organizations. Each vendor booth



provides one free activity or handout for kids. Some organizations/departments that were represented were SGF Yields, NeighborWoods, Springfield Tenants Unite, Beekeepers Association of the Ozarks, Habitat for Humanity, Master Gardeners of Greene County, the Springfield Greene-County Library (Heirloom Seed Library), the Springfield Fire Department and more.

Special thanks, of course, go out to The Fools Gladly for providing free clowning entertainment for all of the children. You clowns always make us smile!

▶ See DIRT DAY 2023 on page 25



Tennis Under the Lights June 9

► DIRT DAY 2023 from page 24

And an extra special thanks goes out to the Springfield Dream Center for providing free hotdogs to everyone who was hungry.

Even with food, and clowns, and everything else going on at the event, the plant table is one of the biggest parts of Dirt Day. It has been called an "exchange" but that part is not required at all. It's much more of a plant share/giveaway.



People brought daffodils, iris, day lilies and various house plants. Myself, Sarah Roberts and others started flowers and vegetables from seeds just for Dirt Day. I even brought the last of the tomato plants from the sale the Master Gardeners had at the end of April.

One lady brought seven red raspberry plants, some echinacea (coneflowers) and Jerusalem artichoke. They went fast! One lady I gave some of the Jerusalem artichoke to told me she had been buying it (for its edible root). She was so happy to get some to grow herself. Another woman brought more of a beautiful succulent she had given us last year. It made my day to get to tell her how well it had grown for me and to give to others again!

Some people offered to pay, and of course we didn't take their money! Dirt Day is free. This is just what neighbors do for each other, they share their plants! Others were shy about asking for a plant without having brought any to exchange. It reminded me of our church potlucks ... "it's OK if you didn't bring a dish, we always have plenty to share." And, boy did we share on Dirt Day!

Big thanks to Sarah Roberts, who once again, started a zillion seeds and literally brought a truck full of starts to share. Thank you to Susan as well, longtime friend of our neighborhood association president Becky Volz. Susan doesn't even live in our neighborhood, but comes to help "woman" the plant table with us. How cool is that?

Thanks also to Demita Gookin who had sewn upcycled dog and cat food bags into tote bags with handles. Our attendees got to take their plants home in them.

It was a fun day of plant swapping, face painting, digging in the dirt in hopes of winning prizes, birdhouse painting, hat making, listening to music, and just good times with friends old and new.

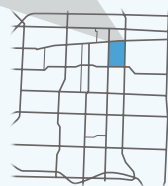
In Master Gardener training I learned never to call that stuff on the ground "dirt." It's SOIL. Still, I won't suggest we change our event name to "Soil Saturday." It can stay "Dirt Day." And in Woodland Heights we think Dirt Day is the best little event in Springfield. We'll be back at historic Lafayette Park to do it all again next year. And I'll be right there at the plant table to make more new friends! I got to talk plants for four hours, bring home some new ones for myself, and I made a lot of new friends. What's not to love about Dirt Day?!

WELLER NEIGHBORHOOD



Connect

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



Neighborhood Association Meetings

July 6 • Aug. 3 • Sept. 7 • Oct. 4: 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.

Follow Weller on   



Weller Neighborhood Cleanup April 13: Special thanks to all the sponsors that helped!

WESTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD



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

July 11 • Aug. 8 • Sept. 12: 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   

Mobile Library Stop

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

Thursdays: 3:15-3:45 p.m.

Westport Park Apts. (250 N. Hilton Ave.)

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

Craigmont Place (740 S. Lafontaine Ave.)



In May, members of the Westside Neighborhood Betterment Association spread mulch and helped get Zagonyi Park ready for the summer. (Photo courtesy Sandi Huston)

Events

July – September 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 and check out the schedule at thelibrary.org/mobilelibrary.

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.

Free Family Pass to the History Museum on the Square: Families can check out a free pass to explore all the hands-on exhibits about Springfield's early days and infamous characters. Become part of the story as you "ride" on the passenger train, encounter a Wild Bill Hickok shootout, and immerse yourself in the Birthplace of Route 66. All you need is your library card, and you can check out a pass at any Springfield-Greene County Library branch, the Mobile Library, or Library Express East and Library Express West 24-hour kiosks. Passes admit up to six people and are valid for seven days. For more information and guidelines, about the passes, visit thelibrary.org/passes. The History Museum on the Square is located at 154 Park Central Square.

Red, White and Zoo: Tues., July 4: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Dickerson Park Zoo, 1401 W. Norton Rd. Free zoo admission for active military or veterans and immediate family members. Must show military ID. All ages. *Fee: \$17/Adults 13-59 yrs., \$12/Children 3-12 yrs., \$14/Seniors 60 yrs. and up, Free/Kids 2 yrs. and younger and active military and veteran families with ID.*

Splash & Sizzle: July 4: 1-6:30 p.m., Fasnigh Pool (1301 S. Campbell Ave.) and Meador Pool (2500 S. Fremont Ave.) • Aug. 5 & 6: 1-6:30 p.m., Silver Springs Pool (1100 N. Hampton Ave.) • Sept. 4: 1-6:30 p.m., Fasnigh Pool (1301 S. Campbell Ave.) Enjoy Splash and Sizzle Discount pool admission at select pools on Independence Day and Labor Day and during the Park Day Reunion. Admission to the pools is \$1 or FREE with a canned food donation. Donations benefit Ozarks Food Harvest. View full outdoor pool schedule and learn more about daily Splash & Sizzle Discounts and holidays at ParkBoard.org/Aquatics.

First Friday at Founders: Fri., July 7: 6-8:30 p.m. Founders Park, 330 E. Water St. Visit Founders Park

during Downtown Springfield's First Friday Art Walk July for live music by Maximum Weekend and live art by Emma Renfroe and Marissa Bradley. *Free.*

Free Movies in the Park: Fri., July 7: Movie begins at dusk. Founders Park, 330 E. Water St. "Top Gun Maverick," at downtown Springfield's Founders Park. Free admission, concessions available, bring your own lawn chairs and blankets. Details at ParkBoard.org/Movies. *Free.*

Racquet, White and Blue: Fri., July 7: 2-4 p.m. Grant Beach Park, 1401 N. Grant Ave. Try Tennis with your neighbors at Grant Beach Park. Bring your family and friends for a patriotic-themed celebration on the court, with coaches sharing basic skills. This free event includes music, snacks and all equipment. A partnership with Grant Beach Neighborhood Association. All ages. *Free.*

Holding Space: Contemporary Enamel Vessels: Closes July 30: 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 group exhibition focuses on the enamel process through an examination of the vessel form, and features a core body of work by local Springfield artist Sarah Perkins – considered among the leading figures in the contemporary enameling field – as well as work by Beate Gegenwart, Tanya Crane, Harlan Butt, Helen Carnac, Jessica Calderwood, Kat Cole, Yi Chen, Barbara Minor, and the late June Schwarcz. Learn more at sgfmuseum.org/273/Holding-Space-Contemporary-Enamel-Vessel.

National Teddy Bear Picnic: Mon., July 10: 6-8 p.m. Springfield Botanical Gardens, 2400 S. Scenic Ave. Bring your favorite stuffed bear or toy, and a picnic blanket, and celebrate National Teddy Bear Picnic Day! Pack a picnic and enjoy crafts, games, story time, a teddy bear parade and frozen treat. Free, but registration is required by July 3 at ParkBoard.org. Ages 2-10 yrs. *Free.*

Family Fishing Night: Fri., July 14 & Aug. 11: 6-9 p.m., Rutledge-Wilson Farm Park, 3825 W. Farm Rd. 146. A relaxing evening of catch-and-release fishing, Cow Train, bounce house and a campfire – bring your own food to cook! Bring your fishing gear, limited rentals available. Registration required. ParkBoard.org/FarmPark. All ages. *Fee: \$10/Participant to use personal equipment, \$15/Participant to rent equipment.*

Dickerson Park Zoo 100th Birthday Party: Sat., July 15: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Dickerson Park Zoo, 1401 W. Norton Rd. Celebrate Dickerson Park Zoo's 100th Birthday! All ages. *Fee: \$17/Adults 13-59 yrs., \$12/Children 3-12 yrs., \$14/Seniors 60 yrs. and up, Free/Kids 2 yrs. and younger.*

Blue on White: July 22-Dec. 3: 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 the complex history of Chinese blue-white porcelain including its connection to Persia, the use of important Chinese symbols in its decoration, and its eventual cultural appropriation through imitative wares and exportation across Europe and North America. Learn more at sgfmuseum.org/274/Missouri-State-University-Collaborations.

National Night Out: Tues., Aug. 1: 5-7 p.m., Police vs. Fire Softball Game: 7-8 p.m. Meador Park, 2500 S. Fremont Ave. An annual community-

building campaign promoting police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie, making our neighborhoods safer, better places to live. Visit with local police officers, firefighters and park rangers, and enjoy Pickleball, swimming and special activities. A kick-off to individual Neighborhood Nights Out. All ages. *Free.*

Park Day Reunion: Aug. 4-6: Silver Springs Park, 1100 N. Hampton Ave. The Park Day Reunion brings together family and friends for a parade, picnic, socials, sports competitions, music and more. Many activities take place at Silver Springs Park, including the Saturday parade and picnic. Sponsored by the Springfield Reunion Club. Look for event details on Facebook @SpringfieldReunionClubInc. All ages. *Fee: Park events are free, off-site events and sports have a registration fee.*

2023 Birthplace of Route 66 Festival: Aug. 10-12, Downtown Springfield. A free festival along Historic Route 66, includes classic cars, motorcycles, music, artists, authors, food and activities for the whole family. More information at route66festivalsgf.com.

Tradition Interrupted: Aug. 19-Nov. 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. A traveling international group exhibition that explores the methods used by artists to conflate contemporary ideas with traditional art and craft in a range of media, from rugs and mosaics to metalwork and ceramics. Organized by Bedford Gallery, Walnut Creek, CA. Learn more at sgfmuseum.org/278/Tradition-Interrupted.

Watercolor USA: Closes Sept. 3: 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 is the 62nd exhibition of Watercolor USA, a national, annual juried exhibition recognizing contemporary American watermedia painting. Learn more at sgfmuseum.org/246/Watercolor-USA.

Dog Swim: Tues., Sept. 5: 4-7 p.m. Fasnigh Pool, 1301 S. Campbell Ave. Celebrate the end of summer by letting the dogs take over Fasnigh Pool (no humans allowed in the water.) Bring your furry friend for an evening of barking, swimming and scampering around the pool. Dogs must be 4 months or older with proof of current vaccination. Register by Sept. 1 at ParkBoard.org/DogSwim, or register on-site. Proceeds benefit Cruse Dog Park. *Fee: \$8/Dog and human pair, \$3/additional human.*

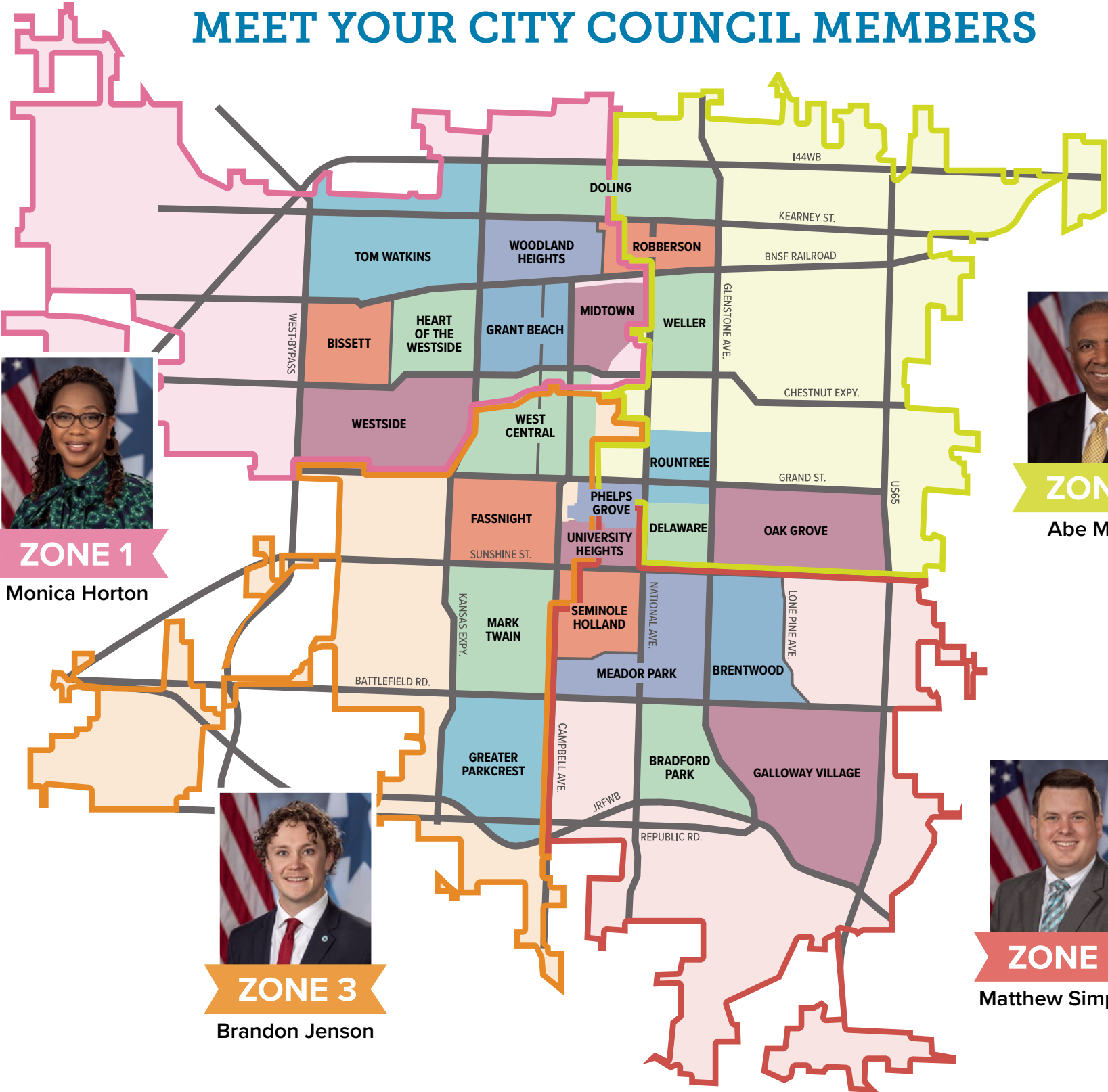
19th Annual Kid'Athlon: Sat., Sept. 9: 8 a.m., Chesterfield Park and Family Center, 2511 W. Republic Rd. Kids swim, bike and run their way to victory, taking home medals, t-shirts, goodies and the pride of finishing a triathlon! Event distances are customized per age group. Registration required by Sept. 7. Ages: 5-12 yrs. *Fee: \$35/child, \$25/addl. child (same household).*

Jordan Eagles: ONE BLOOD: Sept. 23-Feb. 18, 2023: 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. A solo exhibition with New York-based artist Jordan Eagles. Eagles explores the "visual power, and cultural uses of blood" through a wide range of media. Learn more at sgfmuseum.org/276/Jordan-Eagles-ONE-BLOOD.

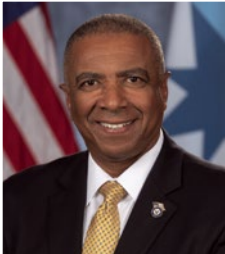
Find more local events on the Events Calendar at SGFNeighborhoodNews.com/Events or, for Springfield-Greene County Park Board events, visit ParkBoard.org/Events.

Springfield Zone Boundaries & Registered Neighborhoods

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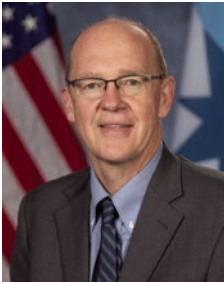
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