



# Neighborhood News

*WestCentralSpringfield.org*

Summer 2014

## WCNA Event Calendar

- Tuesday, May 27 — 6:30 pm  
**WCNA Board Meeting**  
807 W. Walnut
  
- Tuesday, June 24  
**WCNA General Membership**  
*Focus on Neighborhood Watch*  
McGregor Elementary  
Fort & Madison
  
- Tuesday, Aug 5 — 6—8 pm  
**National Night Out**  
Meador Park  
Sunset & Fremont
  
- Saturday, Aug 9 — 10 am—4 pm  
**Birthplace of Rt. 66 Festival**  
Park Central Square
  
- Friday, Aug 29 — 6-8 pm  
**Neighborhood Night Out**  
McGregor Park  
Fort & State

## Numbers to Remember

- Neighborhood Police Officer  
Mike Evans, 864-1194
  
- Caring Communities  
Eric Sutton, 888-2020
  
- Health Department & Building  
Development Services  
864-1438
  
- Community Resource Center  
864-1010
  
- Healthy Living Alliance  
862-8962

## Summer Activities Abound

The school year is almost over and warmer weather has finally arrived. One of the best things about being “Springfield’s Downtown Neighborhood” is the abundance of affordable and fun activities. So make plans now to venture out this summer!

### Community Events

Wednesdays at Founders Park	Wednesdays, May 21—June 25	FREE	12 noon
Yoga on the Square	Fridays, May 30—Aug. 1	FREE	12 noon
First Friday Artwalks	Fridays, June 6 & August 1	FREE	6-10 pm
Sounds on the Square	Fridays, June 6, 13, 20, & 27	FREE	7-9 pm
River Jam & Crawdad Boil	Saturday, June 14	FREE	5-11 pm
Fireworks at the Field	Saturday, June 28	\$6+	3-11 pm
Craft Beer Bash (Square)	Saturday, July 19	FREE	5-11 pm
Birthplace of Rt. 66 Festival	Saturday, August 9	FREE	10a-11p

### Springfield-Greene County Parks

McGregor Park	Fort & State	FREE
Jenny Lincoln Park	South & Harrison	FREE
Hawthorn Park	Market & Madison	FREE
Park Central Square	Park Central	FREE
Jubilee Park	Jefferson & St. Louis	FREE
Jordan Valley Park	Trafficway & Sherman	FREE
Fassnight Park	Grant & Catalpa	FREE

## Bike, Bus, and Walk to Work

Ozark Greenways, City Utilities, and the Ozarks Transportation Organization promote alternative modes of commuting each May. No other neighborhood is better positioned to bike, bus, and walk to work than West Central.

### 10 Reasons to Try Alternative Commuting:

1. It's fun
2. It's healthy
3. Conserves resources
4. Non-polluting
5. Keeps more money in your wallet
6. Relieves traffic congestion
7. Businesses get attention for participating
8. Saves time by combining exercise with commuting
9. Feeling invigorated and productive at work or school
10. Experiencing nature

*This newsletter supported by the Community Partnership's Caring Communities Initiative*

# Neighborhood Watch

Springfield Police Officer Ben Lord will be leading a session on Tuesday, June 24, at McGregor Elementary (Fort & Madison) at 6:30 pm on how we can get more residents involved in our Neighborhood Watch program. WCNA board member Wayne Rader coordinates our efforts and encourages you to attend. As you're out walking, running, or biking in the neighborhood, remember to "see something, say something!"

# NextDoor.com WCNA

Check out NextDoor.com — the latest social media tool to better connect neighbors. It's an easy and free way for to talk online and make all of your lives better in the real world.

Thousands of neighborhoods, including many across Springfield, are already using Nextdoor to build happier, safer places to call home.

People are using Nextdoor to:

- Quickly get the word out about a break-in
- Organize a Neighborhood Watch Group
- Track down a trustworthy babysitter
- Find out who does the best paint job in town
- Ask for help keeping an eye out for a lost dog
- Find a new home for an outgrown bike
- Finally call that nice man down the street by his first name

Help West Central use the power of technology to build a stronger and safer neighborhood!

# Garden Giveaway

Your choice of a FREE tomato or pepper plant  
(ready-to-go in a container) delivered to your door on May 17.

Register online at [www.springfieldvineyard.org/garden](http://www.springfieldvineyard.org/garden)

Supplies are limited, so register as soon as possible to reserve your plant.

Sponsored by Vineyard Church (634 W. Wall Street, just west of Main Street)

## West Central Neighborhood Action Plan Update

### Accomplishments This Year

- **Chronic Nuisance Properties** — Maintaining an active Neighborhood Team and encouraging the City to take more assertive action on chronic nuisance properties.
- **Safety and Security** — Identified “hot spots” and will focus efforts on those areas (Grant & Mt. Vernon, Campbell & State, Campbell & Lombard), and had 15 residents participate in NW Training (goal is 20).
- **Image Enhancement** — Installed eight new gateway signs from the City. Worked with the City on the College Corridor project and reached the crowdfunding goal for the new Route 66 roadside park.
- **Resident Activism**—Hosted Birthplace of Route 66 Festival and Neighborhood Night Out at McGregor Park. Michelle Ciesielski has volunteered to coordinate our website ([www.westcentralspringfield.org](http://www.westcentralspringfield.org)) and Facebook page (West Central Neighborhood Alliance).

### Current Initiatives

- **Chronic Nuisance Properties** — Gathering information on chronic nuisance properties and landlords. Strongly encouraged Council members to support Building Development Services on dealing with chronic properties.
- **Safety and Security** — Assist Police in monitoring hot spot locations and implementing strategies to address them. Encourage residents to attend Neighborhood Watch trainings. Will promote residents walking and biking their areas more.
- **Home Ownership** — Promote historically low mortgage rates to home owners who want to live near downtown.
- **Image Enhancement** — Promote the major redevelopment projects in WCNA and work with Campbell School to explore it becoming a “choice school.”
- **Resident Activism** — Increase WCNA membership to 100 residents, businesses, and supporters.

## Community Partnership Info



Working Together to Build Strong Communities





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# West Central Neighborhood Alliance Membership Form

Send Check to:  
**Shirley Robbins, Treasurer**  
1114 W. Walnut  
Springfield, MO 65806-1634  
Contact me at: [shirleyrobbins.wcna@hotmail.com](mailto:shirleyrobbins.wcna@hotmail.com)  
Make check payable to: WCNA  
Cost: \$10.00 per household

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_