



# Neighborhood News

*WestCentralSpringfield.org*

Fall 2013

## Calendar of Activities

- Saturday, Nov. 9 — 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
**Neighborhood Clean-Up**  
Campbell Elementary  
Main St. & Mt. Vernon Ave.
- Tuesday, Nov. 26 — 6:30 p.m.  
**WCNA Board Meeting**  
807 W. Walnut
- Sunday, Dec. 1  
**WCNA Decorating Deadline**  
Hang Your Lights & Win!
- Saturday, Dec. 14 — 2 p.m.  
**2013 Christmas Parade**  
Park Central Square
- Tuesday, Dec. 17 — 6:30 p.m.  
**WCNA Christmas Party**  
807 W. Walnut
- Tuesday, Dec. 31 — 5:30 p.m.  
**First Night**  
10 Downtown Venues

## Numbers to Remember

- Neighborhood Police Officer  
David Walker, 874-9354
- Caring Communities  
Eric Sutton, 888-2020
- Health Department  
864-1438
- Building Development Services  
Permits, 864-1068

## Rake, Decorate, and Celebrate

The West Central Fall Clean-Up will be on Saturday, November 9, at Campbell Elementary School and is sponsored by the City of Springfield and Community Partnership. The leaves are falling quickly, and this clean-up has been scheduled to allow everyone to get rid of those leaves and other yard waste before the holidays. We will have volunteers that will make pick-ups throughout the neighborhood for those who don't have access to a truck. Please call 569-8866 to get on the list.

The Image Enhancement Committee will once again be coordinating a **Holiday Decorating Contest** this year. The group will tour through the neighborhood after **December 1** to determine the winners. Prizes will include gift certificates to Hollywood Theaters and other WCNA businesses as well as Downtown Dollars. The winners will be announced at the **WCNA Christmas Party on Tuesday, December 17, at 6:30 p.m. at Rusty and Teresa Worley's home (807 W. Walnut).**

After all the hard work of raking leaves and decorating your house or business with lights, you'll be ready to celebrate! The 2013 Springfield Christmas Parade will be on Saturday, December 14, at 2 p.m. at Park Central Square. Be sure to come out to see the high school marching bands, get lots of candy, and see Santa and Mrs. Claus. First Night, the community's alcohol-free New Year's Eve celebration, will be at 10 different venues including the YMCA, 1984, Gillioz Theatre, Discovery Center and Mediacom Ice Park, and will culminate in fireworks at Jordan Valley Park. Go to [www.itsalldowntown.com](http://www.itsalldowntown.com) for more information on these community events.

## WCNA Donates \$3,000 to Route 66 Park

The City of Springfield launched efforts on October 2 to build a roadside park celebrating the city's history as the birthplace of Route 66. Over \$10,000 in donations were announced at a kick-off party at Mother's Brewing Company's Backyard, including \$3,000 from WCNA's proceeds from the first three years of the Birthplace of Route 66 Festival. It is the largest donation to date toward the \$15,000 project.

The City is partnering with Springfield-based Crowd-It to crowdfund the major elements of the roadside park, which will be a key new landmark of historic Route 66 through the city. Springfield is the first municipality to use crowdfunding to help renovate the renowned national highway.

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

# See Something? Say Something!

## Get Involved with Neighborhood Watch

### *What is Neighborhood Watch?*

Neighborhood Watch is a voluntary program organized by concerned citizens to reduce crime in their communities. Working with local law enforcement, citizens can learn when and how to report suspicious activities, assist in property identification, conduct home security surveys, and implement home security measures and precautions.

### *What can I do to help my neighborhood?*

#### **1. Attend Neighborhood Watch Trainings offered by the Springfield Police Department**

These four-hour trainings are packed with good information and taught by enthusiastic officers. They are available on Saturday mornings or on Tuesday and Thursday nights. Go to [www.springfieldmo.gov/spd](http://www.springfieldmo.gov/spd) and click on Neighborhood Watch for more information. About 15 West Central residents have participated so far, and our goal is to have at least 20 participate by spring.

#### **2. Make time to walk or ride your bike through the neighborhood**

While you're getting your exercise, get to know the area and observe any suspicious activity. Depending on what you notice, call 9-1-1 or contact Officer David Walker (information below).

#### **3. Attend Neighborhood Watch meetings.**

We meet quarterly to share information on the latest hot spots (as identified by the number and severity of calls for service) and strategize on what can be done collaboratively between the neighborhood, property owners, management companies, Police, Building Development Services, Community Partnership, churches, and other nonprofits to address problem areas.

We need your help!

#### ***Rusty Worley***

WCNA President  
[rusty@itsalldowntown.com](mailto:rusty@itsalldowntown.com)  
(417) 569-8866

#### ***David Walker***

Police Area Representative  
[dwalker@springfieldmo.gov](mailto:dwalker@springfieldmo.gov)  
(417) 874-9354

## 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, College & Broadway, Campbell & State, Campbell & Lombard), had 15 residents participate in NW Training (goal is 20), and requested City reinstate its police car take home program.
- **Image Enhancement** — Ordered eight new gateway signs from the City. Worked with the City on the College Corridor project and the Route 66 crowd funding for a new 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. Examining stronger disincentives for meth houses and new inspections before occupancy.
- **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** — Advocate to City Council to incorporate home ownership initiatives in its 2014-15 budget. Work with banks and developers to explore down payment assistance programs and other incentives.
- **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.

### Tired of Paying High Rent and Utilities? Check out the house at 1040 W. Mt. Vernon.

Through the Springfield Community Land Trust (SCLT), all you need is to be income qualified, have a down payment of \$1,095, and a credit score of 640. It's that easy! SCLT homes are remodeled or new construction houses that have new appliances and are energy efficient, which means you could pay less in utilities – something to think about as we head into winter. The house at 1040 W. Mt. Vernon has a completely new interior. To find out more and see pictures of homes, visit the Springfield Community Land Trust website at [www.Springfieldclt.org](http://www.Springfieldclt.org) or contact LeeAnn at 417-888-2020.



### 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:

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Address:

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Phone:

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**COMMUNITY  
PARTNERSHIP**

OF THE OZARKS, INC.

330 N. Jefferson • Springfield, MO 65806

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## **West Central Neighborhood Clean-up**

Campbell Elementary  
506 South Grant Ave.

**Saturday, November 9**

8:00 am – 1:00 pm

**Rain or Shine!**



**COMMUNITY  
PARTNERSHIP**

*Working Together to Build Strong Communities*

This clean-up is funded through the  
Neighborhoods Office at the City of Springfield.

For residents who cannot haul items themselves,  
curbside pick-up will be provided. This service is first-come, first-  
serve and dependent upon the number of volunteers and trucks.

Please direct any questions or pick-up requests to  
569-8866 by Monday 11/4.

### **We CAN Accept**

Unwanted household items, metal, building materials,  
yard waste, leaves, and appliances  
*(\$3.00 charge for appliances containing Freon)*

### **We CANNOT Accept**

Hazardous waste (paint, oil, varnish, etc), tires, TVs, and  
computer monitors

**Please Note:** In the interest of the health and safety of Neighborhood Clean-up  
Volunteers, we reserve the right to refuse any junk, trash or waste, and/or  
refuse assistance with unloading junk, trash, or waste that would be a threat to  
the health or safety of a Neighborhood Clean-up volunteer or the public.

