



July/August 2011  
Volume 5, Issue 7



# COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

## Caring Communities Initiative

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

#### School Starting

Summer is drawing to a close, and the first day of school is right around the corner. Springfield Public School students will return on Thursday, August 25th.

#### Neighborhood Night Out

Friday August 26th is Neighborhood Night Out! This event is a city-wide community safety event held at the neighborhood parks. Be sure to find a site near you and be a part of it!

### CARING COMMUNITIES SCHOOLS

#### ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS:

Bissett	Weaver
Bowerman	Weller
Boyd	Westport
Campbell	Williams
McGregor	Willard
Robberson	York

#### MIDDLE SCHOOLS:

Study	Pipkin
Reed	Willard

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## Summer Neighborhood Events

This summer has been a busy one for many of the Caring Communities neighborhoods. For several neighborhoods, this summer has been filled with first time events, while others have continued longstanding traditions. Below are a few highlights from this summer.

### Grant Beach Baseball League

On July 23rd, the Grant Beach baseball league concluded a busy 8 week season. This league gave 230 kids from around the city a chance to play baseball for just \$5.



*The "Orange Dragons" pose for a picture.*

### Heart of the Westside Concert

On July 23rd, Heart of the Westside hosted a concert in Nichols Park with 70 people in attendance. The band, "Howlin Mercy," played a mix of country, rock, and blues music while people picnicked and listened.



### Midtown Old Fashioned 4th of July

On July 4th, the Midtown Neighborhood Association hosted their 21st annual Independence Day parade and celebration. The event drew in over 1,500 spectators and 400 participants. The parade concluded with refreshments and activities at Washington Park.

### Mid-Summer Weller Wide Picnic in the Park

On July 7th, the Weller Neighborhood Association hosted a neighborhood wide picnic at Smith Park. Weller Neighborhood Association board members grilled hotdogs and prepared food for over 40 individuals.

# National Night Out is Friday August 26, 2011



National Night out was started in 1984 by the National Association of Town Watch, a nonprofit crime prevention organization. Over the years, National Night Out activities have included front porch vigils, block parties, cookouts, parades, visits from police, festivals, neighborhood walks, safety fairs, contests, rallies and meetings. The goals have remained the same. National Night Out is designed to: 1) heighten crime prevention awareness; 2) generate support for, and participation in, local crime prevention programs; 3) strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and 4) send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and willing to work together to stop crime in their neighborhood.

In Springfield, National Night Out is held at the end of August by each neighborhood that chooses to participate. The date for National Night Out in Springfield this year is Friday, August 26<sup>th</sup>. The most recent list of Springfield neighborhoods participating in National Night Out is below. Any neighborhood group that is interested in starting their own, or registering their neighborhood event, can **call 888-2020 for more information.**

## EVENTS FOR NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2011 WILL BE HOSTED BY:

1. Doling Neighborhood Association, Doling Park, 301 E. Talmage
2. Fulbright Springs, off Old Highway 13
3. Grant Beach Neighborhood Association, Grant Beach Park, 833 W. Calhoun
4. Heart of the Westside Association & Bissett Neighborhood Association, Nichols Park, 1900 W. Nichols
5. Lakewood Village Association, Association Club House, 2110 E. Lakewood St. 6pm - 8:30pm
6. Midtown Neighborhood Association, Washington Park, 1600 N. Summitt
7. Robberson, Robberson Elementary, 1100 E. Kearney
8. Tom Watkins Neighborhood Association, Tom Watkins Park, 2100 W. High
9. Weller Neighborhood Association, Smith Park, 1536 E. Division
10. West Central Neighborhood Alliance, McGregor School Park, 1200 W. State
11. Westside Betterment Association, Westport Park, 3100 W. Mt. Vernon
12. Woodland Heights Neighborhood Association, Lafayette Park, 202 E. Atlantic



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## Neighborhood Improvement Projects Transitioning

### Grant Beach and Robberson Neighborhood Improvement Projects Close

Community Partnership has wrapped up an exciting year of neighborhood improvement programs in the Grant Beach and Robberson. Each neighborhood was provided educational workshops and support for their neighborhood associations. In addition, neighborhood clean ups were organized, two prescription drug take backs were conducted, several homes received emergency home repair loans, and over 20 homes had a service projects were completed within these neighborhoods. This has been an exciting year for these two neighborhoods!

### New Neighborhood Improvement Project Starts in Weller



On July 12th, nearly 30 individuals, including neighborhood residents, city officials, the Springfield Police Department, and other community organizations, met to discuss and assess the Weller neighborhood. Individuals from all areas of the neighborhood attended to learn more about the Community Development Block Grant, its different facets, and the goals of the Weller Neighborhood Improvement Program. From the discussion, neighborhood assets and concerns were

recorded. Committee groups were also formed to address neighborhood crime and blight. This is just the beginning of what looks to be an exciting year in the Weller neighborhood. For more information about this program, please call **Katie Scott** at 417.864.6020.

### MEET OUR STAFF

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