

News from the BID

The last jazz **concert at Stearns** will be on Sunday September 14th at 2pm featuring Ken Navarro. Come out and support the local restaurants that have opened specially on Sunday to support this new concert series. For more information go to <http://www.springfielddowntown.com/default.aspx?id=876>.

The next **Downtown Dine Around** will be on October 22nd. Check back at www.springfielddowntown.com in October for tickets and more information.

The BID received funding from the state to install public **safety cameras downtown**. There are a few changes you will see as a result of this investment. The first is that the Guides will be primarily dedicated to monitoring the cameras live seven-days a week from approximately 6pm to 6am. In conjunction with a specially connected radio to the police department, the Guides will be able to anticipate situations or have the police arrive within moments of witnessing a situation. This also means the Guides will not be doing as many walking patrols so you will not see them on the streets as often. If you have any questions or suggestion about this new program please email Chris@springfielddowntown.com.



140 Chestnut Street
Springfield, MA 01103

“Wall of Life” Mural Complete at Chestnut and Winter Streets

The mosaic mural, overseen by Ashfield artist Robert Markey, was installed by volunteers during the week of August 11th. The project was organized by AQCA and the Springfield Museums, and was funded with proceeds from the Second Saturday Walking Tours, a partnership between AQCA and the Museums. Thank you to everyone who helped out - especially the owners of the wall, Bruce, Diane, and Billy Miller. A complete list of volunteers and folks who made donations to support the project will be posted on the wall. Robert Markey is already seeking funding for another Downtown mural project, to take place next year. Contact the AQCA Office for more details, or to get involved in the next project!



AQCA Meeting

**Thursday, September 18
6:00pm**

(Please note change in time)

Classical Condominiums

***Economic Development
in our Neighborhood***

Speakers

David Panagore
Chief Development Officer

Ed Whitley
Deputy Director of Neighborhood Services

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Save The Date!
Sunday, October 19
4:00 ~ 7 pm

Springfield PreservationTrust
Twilight Tour of Historic Homes
~ McKnight ~

More information in next month's newsletter

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Check us out on the web at:
www.aqcaspringfield.org

The Armoury-Quadrangle
Civic Association
newsletter is published once a month.

President's Letter

Maybe Our City Really is Beautiful

Robert Louder

Summer is almost over and the sounds of school buses fill the air with a sigh of joy as the children head back to school. The New Year will bring us a new sight, as children will now have uniforms and a new Superintendent to guide them in their educational pursuits. I hope these changes will help to stimulate educational growth and create a new spirit of equality for all students.

I would like to thank all that have made the *Wednesday In the Park* concert series a very successful event for our neighborhood. These concerts have had help from friends such as the Springfield Museum and the Springfield Art Council. I need to thank some special people such as Meredith Ross and the wonderful work she has done to insure this project the success it deserved. I also would like to thank the wonderful people who performed and filled the sky up with their voices whether it is an instrument such as drums, sax, piano, guitar trombone, bass or voice. Thank-you! Special thanks to Jana Brydd and we will keep you in our hearts for all you have done for us.

The appearance of fall brings us the Mattoon Street Art Festival, which fills our neighborhood with people from all over the area and a group of wonderful artists who make and design items for purchase. It also brings us a chance to feature our lovely area and offers us a chance to brag to our friends what a beautiful place this is. The Kimball Tower Condo Association opened condo's for free during the festival. The Armoury Park may be done for the festival and it would be a great rebirth for this wonderful park, which needed to be refurbished. I must thank the City for the wonderful job of restoring this gem and giving back to us a friendly park, which will be better suited for our neighborhood. With the reopening of the park, you could visit Jose at the Spring Street Supermarket and get a grinder or lunch to eat in the shade of the trees. Say hello and welcome him to our neighborhood.

The summer also has captured our artist angel and we now have a new mural at the corner of Winter and Chestnut Streets. Thank you to all who stayed out in the summer sun and worked on creating this colorful project for our viewing pleasure ~ you may have started a renaissance of artist expression for our neighborhood! If you hit it right, the sunshine hits the mirror and it looks like water is running from the fountain.

I hope you all have a chance to visit us and join us at the next meeting of the AQCA at Classical Condominiums on September 18, 2008, for a very important meeting on the economic development of our area. We must tell the city what we want and to develop this area into a continue future. We can't afford to let the past rule us we must step up to a future of development and we have to direct the shape that we want this area to go. Mr. David Panagore and Mr. Ed Whitley will be joining us for

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Federal Courthouse Tour ~ An AQCA Special

by Carol Costa

On September 18, the AQCA neighborhood was invited by Congressman Richard Neal to a special tour of the new federal courthouse on State Street. This was a terrific gesture on the part of Congressman Neal, and a crowd of 100 strong showed up for the invitation-only tour. Everyone in attendance was impressed by the new structure and its unique architecture. The crowd especially enjoyed the beautiful glass of the expansive State Street foyer, the lovely wood paneling and handmade quilts in the Hampden County Courtroom, and Congressman Neal's spacious new suite of offices. Many thanks to Congressman Neal for making the event possible. Richie Neal has been a great advocate for our neighborhood, ensuring that Springfield would receive the funds necessary for this great courthouse and for the reconstruction of the State Street Corridor.



I have lived in this neighborhood for nearly 20 years. I am proud to be a resident of historic Classical and to be a part of the Armoury-Quadrangle Civic Association. I know too well what the worst of times have looked like — and what they have felt like. But, like so many of us, I have believed in this

neighborhood and in this City, even in the worst of times. We all know what Springfield can be. We know that a vibrant downtown is essential to the future of this City. We know that our neighborhood is a gem that needs preserving and developing. It is time to end the 22 years of Tech's blighted existence. It is only right that the fire-ravaged structure at 27 Elliot Street should be saved. All of us need to be relentless in advocating for preservation and development, for a better neighborhood and a new downtown.

Today this new courthouse stands as a symbol of transition — from a proud and historic past to a new and exciting future. Everything in the courthouse design, from the preservation of two majestic trees, to the curved embrace of its front steps and columns, to the openness and light afforded by magnificent panes of glass, to its impressive stone work, to its sweeping and powerful stance — makes a strong, yet inviting, statement. A statement of beauty and peace and justice and commitment. A statement that conveys the dignity of our place and the energy of our potential.

This is a new beginning for our neighborhood and for downtown Springfield. Surely, seeing this building is believing, but we must continue to believe that there is more to come, that there will be more to see. We need to breathe in the excitement of this time — of this dazzling structure — and turn our excitement into action, into real momentum that will drive the renaissance of our wonderful and essential neighborhood.

Thank you to Congressman Richard Neal and to the architect Moshe Safdie for making this day possible. A new day, ripe with imagination and forward motion.

FALCONS SINGLE GAME TICKETS ON SALE SEPTEMBER 29 — Preseason Tickets Available Starting September 27 —

The Springfield Falcons announced that single game tickets for the 2008-09 regular season go on sale Monday, September 29 at 10:00 am at the MassMutual Center Box Office and online at ticketmaster.com. Tickets for the Falcons' two preseason games at the MassMutual Center go on sale on Saturday, September 27.

President's Letter

the meeting at a special time of 6:00 PM. Please come with your concerns and dreams so that we can rebuild our area into a model of urban living.

September 19 and 20 the Student Prince and Fort Restaurant with the New England Farmer Works Council are having an October Festival downtown on Hampden Street. Tickets are \$9.00 in advance or \$10.00 at the door. You get a stein and beer for the price so join your neighbors for a stein of Oktoberfest and visit the oldest restaurant in the city.

Say hello to a stranger and smile and you may have a friend and a neighbor.

See you next month " Maybe our city is beautiful. "

Second Saturday Walking Tour September 13

Architect Stephen Jablonski will lead the *Second Saturday Walking Tour* in the area of the new Federal Court House. Steve will discuss the history and architecture of the new Court House and when the nice brick sidewalk is set to be installed. As of press time, we were still waiting to hear if we would be allowed inside. Come on the tour and find out! Tours happen rain or shine, and start and end at the Springfield Museums Welcome Center. The tours begin at 10:30 AM and end around noon. Admission is FREE for AQCA and Museums members, \$5.00 for all others.

AQCA Welcomes Its Newest Members

* Ali Mourad - owner of Cedar Auto Sales, planning to open soon at the corner of Spring and Taylor Streets.

* Linda Barnet of Westfield

Freedom of Speeches

Springfield Public Forum

2008 Series

Symphony Hall

Great Speakers ~ Great Discourse

**All events are FREE
to the public**

Dances with Robots

Sunday, September 14 at 2pm

James McLurkin, Robotician

Bring the whole family for this interactive investigation of "swarm robots." Kids will also enjoy the Ben & Jerry's Scoop-A-Thon.

South Pole Views

Tuesday, October 7 at 7:30pm

Maria Stenzel, National Graphic photographer

The terrifying beauty and surprising variety of the Antarctic illustrate a firsthand view of how climate change is affecting "The Deep South."

The Glory Days of TV News

Tuesday, October 14 at 7:30pm

Roger Mudd, veteran journalist

The Emmy Award-winning journalist presents *The Place to Be: Washington, CBS and the Glory Days of Television News*, based on his memoirs.

China Road

Thursday, November 13 at 7:30pm

Rob Gifford, author of *China Road*

The ultimate "insider's view" of China, past and present. Drawing from years of covering China for NPR and his historic trek along China's 3,000 mile "silk road," Gifford will discuss China's rise to power, and its impact on the global stage.

Wednesday, November 19 at 7:30pm

Nina Totenberg, NPR correspondent

The veteran journalist who revolutionized Washington political reporting will give her expert, insider's perspective on the court's future under the next U.S. president.

Springfield Museums Host Car and Motorcycle Show

The Springfield Museums will pay tribute to Springfield's role in transportation history with the *Springfield's World of Wheels* car and motorcycle show on Saturday, September 27, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., on the museum grounds at the Quadrangle. Cars dating from the late 1800s to more recent models will be on display, along with vintage motorcycles.

Admission to the car show is \$4 for adults and \$2 for children ages 3 to 17.

The event is sponsored by AAA Pioneer Valley. Family Programs at the Museums are sponsored by TD Banknorth; MassMutual Financial Group; and the Horace A. Moses Charitable Foundation, Bank of America, Trustee.



Among the vehicles on display will be a 1911 Cole touring car, a 1930 Rolls Royce Phantom I, and a 1931 Ford Model A. Newer vehicles will include a 1968 Ford Mustang convertible, a 1965 Chevrolet Corvair Corsa, and a 1978 Cadillac Coupe DeVille.

A highlight of the event will be a preview of the partially-completed Indian Motorcycle exhibit in the new Museum of Springfield History, including a 1903 Indian, one of the earliest models. Also on display in the new museum are an experimental roadster made by the Indian company, an original copy of the 1893 Duryea, an 1899 three-wheeled Knox car made in Springfield, and a 1928 Springfield-built Rolls-Royce. The Indian collection was donated to the Museums by Esta Manthos, who was director and owner of the former Indian Motorcycle Museum.

Ongoing activities include:

- Demonstrations of high-wheel bicycles by The Wheelmen, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
- Children's craft workshop to make a license plate photo frame, noon-3:45 p.m.
- Scavenger hunt to look for special features on the vehicles, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
- Have your picture taken with a classic car, 10 a.m.-3:45 p.m.
- Vote for your favorite vehicle in the People's Choice award trophy contest, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

A deejay will spin classic oldies from the '50s and '60s, and lunch will be available for purchase from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.



The Springfield Museums are located at the Quadrangle at 21 Edwards Street in downtown Springfield. Free parking is available in the Edwards Street lots.

For more information about the event, call 413-263-6800, ext. 379.