



AQCA Meeting

Thursday, February 19

7:00pm

122 Chestnut

Please use Hillman Street entrance

Special Guest Speaker

**Police Commissioner
William Fitchet**

Refreshments will be served

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***AQCA Welcomes its
Newest Members***

**Ann Lewin
Kimball Towers**

**Cynthia Green
Sunderland**

AQCA BOARD

PRESIDENT

Robert Louder
dogman102@verizon.net

VICE PRESIDENT

Arax Charkoudian
arax3@comcast.net

SECRETARY

Lynn Hallowell

TREASURER

Gerry Enright
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PROGRAM

Steve Baribeau

MEMBERSHIP

NEWSLETTER

Dianne Little
info@122chestnut.com

COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT

Carol Costa
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Springfield, MA 01103
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aqca@kimballtowers.com

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

This last month has provided us with a few shining moments in the economic upheaval which has been a continuous toll on our lives. The Old Tech High has been officially chosen as the new Data Center. Yes, it is not high profile but it is a piece of property that we have seen empty for 20 years and will again be used for something. This Center will be a continuing source of employment and will provide a little stability to the neighborhood. We should all thank Representative Richard Neal for the hard work and effort he has put into this project. This project has been a bitter three year struggle that gave us something concrete for a future in our neighborhood, so please drop him a note because the project would have been abandoned if it was not for his hard work and determination to see this project go where it would best serve the city and state.

We must also thank our Governor Deval Patrick for signing into law the Springfield Law, which in this time of upheaval has helped us as a city to spread out our loan payments over the next 15 years. Thank you for your support of our city and for being one of the few Governors to have ever realized we are part of the state. He has visited the area more than any Governor that I know of in my time in this state, providing a real interest in our well being.

I would like to welcome some new people to offices for the AQCA: Arax Charkoudian is the new Vice President and Lynn Hallowell is the new Secretary. I would like to thank Robert Glasgrov for his term of office and Anna Brandenburg for her wonderful help and the work she still will be doing for us as our web master.

I need to thank the Pellegrino Family for the wonderful work they are doing and still helping to revitalize our neighborhood. They have been working to reclaim buildings in our area and to provide businesses that will be a benefit for us and our community. I must say their vision and commitment should be shared by others in the community. The vision that they have has sparked more interest in our area and provided a good working arrangement with the neighborhood.

I also want to thank Springfield Forward and Ellen Pappas for the work that they have been doing for the city. This group is dedicated to providing education for our students, preservation for our neighborhoods and having people stand up for the quality of life issues. I wish more people were as interested in our city as this group. May 2 will be the annual clean up for the city and it would be

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Open Letter *(continued)*

reasonable, well thought through alternative? Am I capable of articulating my objection and my plan clearly and succinctly? If not, where should I seek assistance?

Too many times neighborhood associations develop a profile as being “against everything and for nothing.” Avoid that profile at all cost. It will inhibit your ability to make progress.

I think it was Benjamin Franklin who said; “In a democracy, people don’t always get the government they want, they get the government they deserve.” We deserve a better Springfield . Our elderly deserve a better Springfield. Our children and grandchildren deserve a better Springfield . I believe together we can make that better Springfield a reality.

Nominees Being Sought for Annual Uboru Award

The African Hall Subcommittee of the Springfield Museums is seeking nominations for the 18th annual Uboru Award. The award is presented to an African-American individual who has demonstrated a commitment to the Springfield community and exhibited excellence in the fields of community service, science, education, humanities or the arts. **Nominations must be received by March 31, 2009.**

The candidate must be of African descent and a current or former resident of the Greater Springfield area. The African Hall Subcommittee is a volunteer group comprised of educators, business people and community leaders from the African-American community.

The award ceremony will be held in September. For more information or a nomination form, please call 413-263-6800, ext. 325 or email jmbeebe@springfieldmuseums.org. Nominations may also be mailed to:
African Hall Subcommittee
c/o Jean Beebe
Springfield Museums
21 Edwards St.
Springfield, MA 01103

Citizens Police Academy

The Springfield Citizen Police Academy is a [ten week program](#) that offers citizens insight into how police officers perform their duties and how the department serves the community. Everyone benefits from enhancing citizen understanding of the role and function of the police.

Contact Citizen Liaison, [Kathleen Brown](#) for more information. The next class starts on Wednesdays in February, 2008 at the Public Safety Complex 1212 Carew Street (next to the Van Sickle Middle School). There is no charge and is open to all residents of Springfield. The academy will meet on Wednesday evenings from 6:00pm until 9:00pm. The course will run for 10 weeks. Your attendance is welcome. You can download the application [form](#) and sign-up now.



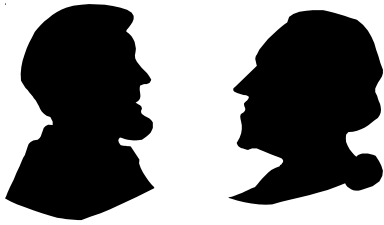
The Springfield Citizens Police Academy is available to all Springfield residents, ages eighteen and over, interested in a detailed view of the Springfield Police Department. Kathleen Brown coordinates classes and discussions each week on such topics as the Organization of the SPD and subdivisions, including Traffic, Narcotics, Internal Investigations, Crime Prevention, Community Policing, the Criminal Justice System, Criminal Law, issues and policies on Diversity, Use of Authority and Use of Force, issues relating to Elder Abuse, Gangs, Community Involvement, Values, Ethics, Integrity in Law Enforcement, and much more.

Encourage friends and neighbors to attend and consider become a member of your local [Beat Management Team](#) in your community. Classes start soon, so return the application or contact [Kathleen Brown](#). If you have not yet filled out an [application](#) to attend the Springfield Citizens Police Academy or need one for a friend, please print the application, fill it out, and send it to the address at the bottom of the application form.

Would You Like To Receive a 10% Discount?

Both Tyre Trak and Chestnut Liquors offer a 10% discount to card-carrying AQCA members. Not only will you receive the discount but you will have the knowledge that you are helping your civic association in protecting our precious neighborhood. Membership is only \$10 a year for an individual/family and \$20 a year for a business.

Presidents Day
Monday, February 16



140 Chestnut Street
Springfield, MA 01103

Winter Yoga Classes at 122 Chestnut

Where: 122 Chestnut Community Room
When: Wednesdays 7-8pm
February 18 and 25

\$10 per class

Instructor Karoun is a certified yoga instructor who has been practicing for six years and studies energy, healing and spirituality.



For more information:
charkoudian@gmail.com
or 713-299-8090