Walkers, Cyclists Flock to New Mill Race Path

TEAM SPRINGFIELD | In just the few short months it’s been open, streams of people are already walking, running, skating and cycling Springfield’s Mill Race Path.

Willamalane and TEAM Springfield celebrated the completion of the Mill Race Path earlier this year. The project features three miles of paved bike path along the historic millrace, plus trailheads at Jasper Road and the Booth-Kelly site on fifth Street. “We constructed the Mill Race Path because of the history that it has for Springfield, the ecological education benefits for users of the path, and also to serve as a transportation option for people who want to travel from downtown Springfield to Thurston Hills,” said Vincent Martorello, Willamalane superintendent.

The millrace was instrumental in developing Springfield’s timber industry, supplying water for logging in the city’s early days. Now, the millrace is appreciated for its beauty and ecological diversity. “[The path] will be an amazing wildlife opportunity for folks,” said Gino Grimaldi, city manager for the City of Springfield. “You’ll see many deer, birds and native plants along the millrace. People can go just a short distance and see things they won’t get to see in an urban environment.”

The Mill Race Path, which connects the downtown area to the 4-mile Middle Fork Path, also offers a practical opportunity for bicycle commuters to make their way across town. Robin Mayall, a member of the Springfield Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee, lives a short distance from the Jasper Road Trailhead and works for Lane Transit District. “Normally when I commute by bike, I have to go by Main Street, which is a pretty high-traffic, high-speed street.” Mayall said the Mill Race Path will make her commute to work safer and more enjoyable.

Franklin Boulevard Construction Underway in Glenwood

CITY OF SPRINGFIELD | Franklin Boulevard has long served as a vital link connecting Springfield, Eugene and the University of Oregon. The Franklin Boulevard Redevelopment Project will increase that connection through modern urban-standard roadway improvements in the Glenwood area. Construction of the first phase of Franklin Boulevard improvements is underway and is anticipated to continue through fall 2018. Local firm Wildish Construction Co. is the contractor for the project.

The project will help move the vision for Glenwood forward as a vibrant Springfield neighborhood, promoting access to the river, and opportunities for employment, housing and recreation. The project will provide much needed improvements to make it safer for pedestrians, bicyclists and drivers to travel in the Glenwood area.

Safety Improvements Include:
• Lighting
• New sidewalks on both sides of the road
• Pedestrian islands
• Separated bike facilities
• Roundabouts

Help Us Get Better!
We invite readers of TEAM Springfield to take an online survey to tell us what we could do to improve this newsletter. Please visit this link:
The survey should take you about 10 minutes. Thank you for providing your feedback. We appreciate the time you take to answer our questions and will actively use it to improve our services to you.

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Together, we share ideas, energy and resources to deliver projects that benefit our community.
Mill Race Path
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Restoration of the millrace itself has been a high priority for Springfield leaders for decades, said Mayor Christine Lundberg. “It has scenic and recreational value for our community, and it’s an important water resource that supported agriculture, wood products, tourism activity and our environment,” she said.

Working closely with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the city of Springfield began millrace restoration in 2009 by creating a new inlet at Clearwater Park. This was followed by re-creating the millrace with a meandering channel, removal of the mill pond and dam and planting of native trees and shrubs. The city also built the new stormwater facility, located at South Fifth Street, and the start of the new path.

Franklin Boulevard
Continued from page 1

Travel Within the Construction Area
Franklin Boulevard will remain open with business and residential access during the project. In order for the construction to occur safely and efficiently, there will be detours and turn restrictions within the construction area. You may be required to take detours from your usual routes.

Questions?
Learn more about the project and read our Frequently Asked Questions at www.newfranklinblvd.org or call Project Manager Kristi Krueger at (541) 726-4584.

For bus route information during construction, go to www.ltd.org or call (541) 687-5555.

Did You Know?
Roundabouts reduce the incidents of collisions overall by 57 percent. When a collision does occur in a roundabout, the injuries are reduced by 75 percent and fatalities by 90 percent, due to the lower speed and reduced impact points. (Source: Federal Highway Administration and Insurance Institute for Highway Safety)

We want to keep you informed
Sign up for the project update list and receive periodic information by sending an email with your name to: info@newfranklinblvd.org

The stormwater facility is engineered to clean rainfall runoff from city streets before the water flows into the millrace.

The Mill Race Path has been a true collaborative project among Willamalane Park and Recreation District, the city of Springfield, Springfield Public Schools and Springfield Utility Board. Each agency contributed to bring the path from concept to reality. Sue Rieke-Smith, superintendent of Springfield Public Schools, says the construction of the path behind Agnes Stewart Middle School provided educational opportunities for local youth.

 “[The staff] realized this was a great opportunity to have our students engage with them as the path was designed and built,” Rieke-Smith said. “It provided our students with an opportunity to observe work that can be done in both an ecologically sensitive area, but in an ecologically sustainable way.”

Have you and your family been enjoying the new path? Tag any pictures on social media with #SpringfieldProud – we’d love to see your adventures in action!

Know What’s Below
BEFORE You Dig

Call 811 if Your Project Moves More Than Foot Dirt

SPRINGFIELD UTILITY BOARD | Springtime is prime time for digging into landscape projects. If your project involves digging down more than a foot—and many do—give the Oregon Utility Notification Center a call (just dial 811) at least two days before you wield your shovel. It’s free, and it’s the law.

A lot of people are surprised to learn that the Call Before You Dig program isn’t just a good idea, but is required for projects that excavate more than a foot of dirt. This could mean planting a tree, setting fence posts, building a deck or adding a sprinkler system.

The reason is simple. Just about everywhere you go, buried beneath your feet is a web of utility lines—electric, gas, fiber-optic, telephone, cable, water, sewer—all providing critical services. But out of sight should never be out of mind. Hit one of these lines, and you might disrupt vital services to yourself and your neighbors. Worse, you could be injured.

Remember, by the time you’ve hit something with that shovel, it’s usually too late. Call first.

So what happens when you call? An operator will ask you several questions to help pinpoint the area of your excavation and determine any utility services beneath. Within the next two days, locators from various utilities will come to your property and mark your services with spray paint. Usually, they will mark it from your house to where your private service connects to the main system. That’s it.

So, avoid fines, avoid disruptions and stay safe. A simple call to 811 does it all.

SPRINGFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
With Springfield Public Schools offices moving to 640 A St. this year, the district is seeking help capturing memories of the old Mill Street facility.

The site at 525 Mill St. housed the district’s second school in 1888, and the building was expanded over time and eventually replaced with the current building in 1921, when it was used as a high school. When the original Springfield Union High was built on 10th Street in 1942, the Mill Street school became a junior high for a time. Then, in the early 1950s, when a new junior high was built at 1084 G St. (now Two Rivers-Dos Rios Elementary), the Mill Street building was used for a variety of other purposes, including another stant as an elementary school, before being converted to the district’s Administration Building in 1964.

“So many students have graced these halls over the years,” says Community Engagement Officer Jenna McCulley. “We’d love to try to capture some of those images and stories from community members. Using your phone to take a picture of a photo is one way to share it. Those with a scanner can send them electronically. Or, we can scan them here.”

If you have stories or photos to share but aren’t sure how best to share them, call the district at (541) 747-3331 or email millstreetmemories@springfield.k12.or.us to discuss it.

The stormwater facility is engineered to clean rain- fall runoff from city streets before the water flows into the millrace.

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Health Services Team Helps Students and Families

SPRINGFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS | What happens if a child gets sick at school? Although the days of having a school nurse in each school are gone, students still have access to a wide range of health services available through the Health Services Team. The clinic is staffed by a family nurse practitioner, two nurses and two mental health practitioners, and is open Monday through Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. year-round. The clinic is available to all Springfield Public Schools students and their families, insured or not.

A Dedicated Nursing Team Provides Care

SPS has a team of four dedicated nurses who together provide coverage for all 22 schools. At each school, a health aide serves as the point of contact for students, and as such, the “eyes and ears” for the nurses. The health aides are trained in basic first aid, CPR, anesthesia and more, as needed. They can also distribute medication if families have pre-authorized it and checked it into the school’s health room. For example, nurses can’t give out Tylenol for a headache unless a parent has provided it.

Anything beyond that scope generally gets referred to a nurse. With just four nurses for nearly 11,000 students, each nurse’s day is quite busy.

“A good chunk of each nurse’s day is spent traveling to different schools administering insulin at meal times,” says Kassie Nelson, the health services secretary who is charged with maintaining that schedule. “They also field questions from the aides on things like falls, head bumps and rashes.”

In between, the nurses speak with families about health concerns, work with doctors and specialists, create health plans and protocols and train staff. Nurses are often called upon for help with students who come to school with a health problem that for whatever reason is not being treated.

“There are a lot of kids whose families don’t have the wherewithal, or the resources, to access regular health care,” says District Nurse Joanne Broh. “A large part of what we do is connecting families with resources.”

All Students Are Cared For

For example, families without health insurance are referred to an insurance access specialist. Broh emphasizes that all students are cared for. “When we encounter a student who doesn’t have a regular doctor or insurance, we are very often able to refer them to our clinic,” she says. “I’d like to see more students taking advantage of this clinic. For example, many people don’t know that our nurse practitioner can be chosen as someone’s primary care provider for ongoing visits. Michelle can do pretty much anything a doctor can do. She can prescribe medication, administer immunizations and assess urgent needs. She’s fantastic.”

While appointments are encouraged, walk-ins with emergent needs are accepted. Broh told of situations where having ready access to the clinic may have saved students’ lives.

“I remember a student we referred to the clinic with high blood pressure,” says Broh. “It wasn’t anything that justified a 911 call, but Michelle quickly diagnosed it as a cardiac issue and the student was referred on for additional care. Another student I recall was fainting during PE class. He had a non-English-speaking parent who was having trouble navigating the health care system. We got him into the clinic, where he was found to have a cardiac issue and quickly went on to open heart surgery that probably saved his life.”

“Once students connect dots to get both their basic and their urgent needs taken care of,” Broh added.

Urgent Needs and Basic Health

In addition to urgent care, the clinic works hand in hand with the district nurses to address student needs in a timely manner, for example, they recently provided more than 70 students with immunizations in one week as the state’s immunization deadline loomed. They also schedule sports physical clinics during key times of the year.

“Students 15 and older can authorize their own treatment, and students 14 and older can access mental health services. The mental health practitioners on site give students more availability to seek services,” says Broh.

Broh gives a great deal of credit to the Community Health Centers of Lane County for the breadth and quality of the care that is provided. “They are beyond fabulous,” she says.

For more information about SPS health services, visit www.springfield.k12.or.us/healthservices.

Dental and Vision Services

The Health Services team coordinates with area providers to provide basic dental and vision screening that is required by the Oregon Department of Education but which many families cannot afford.

This year, for the first time, Health Services teamed with Community Health Centers of Lane County to conduct free dental screenings for children in grades K-2 in conjunction with the scheduled vision screening that has been provided thanks to the Oregon Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation the last few years. All elementary students can receive more extensive services if authorized by parents, including sealants and twice-yearly cleanings.

SPRINGFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS | District Nurse Joanne Broh, one of four nurses serving the district’s 22 schools, tends to a student patient.

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Springfield Schools Health Center

1050 10th St. (between G Street and Centennial Boulevard on the SHS campus)
Open 7:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday year-round | (541) 682-3550

Total health care is provided, including immunizations, preventative health care, sports physicals, mental health, reproductive health and ongoing medical needs. Insurance access specialists are available the first Wednesday of each month; call for an appointment. Private insurance, OHP and Medicare available; sliding scale discounts for uninsured.

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Springfield Proud

Are you Springfield Proud? Tell it to the world! Pick up a Springfield Proud t-shirt at any Willamalane facility for only $12. Wear it around town, wear it in other towns, wear it on social media (#SpringfieldProud), wear it PROUD! For more info, visit willamalane.org.

“I honestly love the people here. They tend to be pretty down-to-earth, hardworking and honest.”
—Christian Brown, musician

“I love living and working where residents take an active role in making our community welcoming, safe and vibrant.”
—Amy Orre, library technician

“I like the diverse population of Springfield. You meet people from all over and learn about different walks of life.”
—Joelle Otterstedt, Willamalane Swim Club member

How are you Springfield Proud?
Join the conversation with the hashtag #SpringfieldProud on Instagram and Twitter.

City of Springfield’s 29th Annual Spring Clean Up

CITY OF SPRINGFIELD | With spring officially here consider taking advantage of the city of Springfield’s free annual Spring Clean Up event available to Springfield residents within the city limits. Spring is a great time to consider what you could get rid of around the house and yard to help beautify your neighborhood. Do you have an old freezer or refrigerator that no longer runs? Scrap lumber or metal you don’t need? Brush left from trimming trees and shrubs? These are just some of the items that can be recycled during this free community event.

At the heart of Spring Clean Up rests the commitment by city leaders to say “thank you” to residents by giving back at this annual event. It is an opportunity to recycle large items and hard-to-recycle materials in one convenient place. Spring Clean Up is truly a community event thousands of residents have enthusiastically taken advantage of throughout the years. So when and where is it?

Saturday, May 20, 2017, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
1600 S B St., Springfield

This free event is exclusively for City of Springfield residents within city limits. Proof of residency will be required. No businesses please.

This community event would not be possible without support by many local businesses, non profits and volunteers. This year’s event supporters are Sanipac, Lane County Waste Management, St. Vincent de Paul, Lane Forest Products, Next Step Recycling, Habitat for Humanity ReStore, and Lane County Master Recycling Program.

For more information about Spring Clean Up, visit springfield-or.gov/dpw/SpringCleanup.htm or call (541) 726-3637. You can also email your questions to springcleanup@springfield-or.gov.

During the 2016 Spring Clean Up, 344 tires were recycled. A single car could drive all of Springfield’s streets almost 16,000 times using those tires for a total of 3,456,000 miles!
Spring 2017
Willamalane Park and Recreation District • Springfield Public Schools • City of Springfield • Springfield Utility Board

**Got a Water Leak?**
Find It. Fix It. Save Money.

**SPRINGFIELD UTILITY BOARD** If your household is like most, at one time or another, your plumbing system will spring a leak. It pays to take them seriously.

Wasted water hits your wallet twice—you pay SUB for the water delivered to your home, and you pay the city of Springfield for the water that went into the sewer system.

So, if you suspect but don't see a leak, where do you start?

First, locate your water meter. It should be in your front yard, probably close to the street or sidewalk. Write down the numbers shown on all the dials. For a detailed look at how to read water meters, see SUB's website at www.subutil.com.

Second, don't use any water for at least two hours, longer if possible. Then check the meter again. If the meter dials have changed, you may have a leak.

The next step is to determine whether the leak is inside or outside your home. You can do this if your particular plumbing system has a water shut off valve for your house, usually located either on an outside wall where your water line enters the house, or near the water heater. (This is different from the valves on your water meter.)

Go another two hours without water use. If your meter is still whirring away, your leak is likely outside the home. If you have a sprinkler system, check for standing pools of water near sprinkler heads or soggy sod between heads, which could indicate a leak in one of the irrigation lines.

If your meter doesn’t move, your problem is likely inside the house—most likely a faucet, showerhead or toilet.

Put paper under your faucets before you leave for work and see if they are wet when you come back— that will catch slow leaks, which still add up. For your toilet, put a few drops of food coloring in your tank. After 15 minutes, if you see colored water in your bowl, you might have a bad flapper valve.

**Explore Springfield on Storywalks**

Storywalks are completely free and open to the public. The program runs from March to October. The hope is that participants will enjoy some physical activity and discover Springfield parks as well as the library. While some libraries in Oregon have done storywalks before, this is the first time Springfield Public Library has participated. All dates are Saturdays and all Storywalks begin at 10:30 a.m.

“This was so much fun! I had no idea the library had programs like this. It’s perfect for my kids,” said a parent who participated in the March Storywalk.

**Striving for Balance?**
Sign Up for SUB’s Average Payment Plan Today

**SPRINGFIELD UTILITY BOARD** If you like knowing in advance what your monthly heating bills will be, sign up for SUB’s Average Payment Plan. With APP you build up credit in spring and summer that helps pay down higher heating costs in fall and winter.

It’s a great budgeting tool that allows you to pay about the same each month. Without APP, customers in our area typically pay much more during the winter heating season, while summertime bills are quite low. With APP, you get stability and predictability.

**Here’s How it Works:**
When you sign up for APP, SUB continues to read your meters each month. But instead of billing you for your actual usage, SUB bills you each month for the average of your previous 12 months’ charges. This kind of billing, called a “rolling average,” reflects your average use and SUB’s current rates.

Then, each April, you’ll receive a “catch up” bill. If you used more electricity during the year than predicted, SUB will bill that amount on your April statement. If you used less, SUB owes you and will automatically apply the credit to your account!

**You Can Participate in SUB’s APP if:**

• Your account is paid in full, and
• You’ve been at your current address for at least one year.

Enrollment for this popular program ends June 1, so be sure to get your application in soon. You can download a form off SUB’s website at subutil.com, or if you have an online account, you can enroll electronically. (And if you don’t have an online account, it’s easy and fast! Just click on the SUB “log in” link on the front page of SUB’s website, and follow the instructions to “register my account.”) Of course, if you’d like more details, just call SUB at (541) 746-8451. We’re happy to help!

**Your Photos Wanted!**
TEAM SPRINGFIELD is looking for reader photos and story ideas for publication in a future issue. Snap photos of the people of Springfield or Oregon who should get some recognition for helping the community in some way! Let us know so we can talk with them for a future issue of TEAM Springfield. Email your photos and suggestions to Vanessa, at vsalvia@gmail.com. Thanks! Your TEAM Springfield newsletter is even better when YOU help create it.

**STORYWALKS**
Stories in Willamalane Parks • 2017 Season

Spring 2017
TEAM Springfield

Spring 2017
**Summer Event Calendar**

**Plank Town Presents SpringFilm: “The River Wild”**
Thursday, May 4, 6:30 p.m.,
Wildish Community Theater, free

**Vineyards & Violins**
Saturday, May 6, 5-8 p.m.,
Adult Activity Center, 215 W. C St.
Browse an array of silent auction items, including weekend getaways, restaurant gift certificates, golf, entertainment, gifts and much more. Listen to violinists serenade you while enjoying a buffet of delicious hors d’oeuvres, desserts and wine. All proceeds benefit Willamalane Adult Activity Center programs. $25 in advance, $30 day of event.

**Dorris Ranch Science Pub**
Tuesday, May 9, 6 p.m.,
Dorris Ranch Barn
Free. Learn about efforts to restore Oregon white oak habitat at Dorris Ranch and take a walking tour of the woodlands. Event hosted by the Middle Fork Watershed Council.

**Downtown Springfield Second Friday Artwalk**
May 12, 5-7 p.m., free.

**Mother’s Day Tea**
Saturday, May 13, 12-2 p.m.,
Dorris Ranch Barn
Enjoy sweet and savory treats in the historic Dorris Ranch Barn with that special lady in your life. Enjoy live music, photo booth, crafts. Register in advance at willamalane.org, $12.

**Family Safety Fair**
Saturday, May 13, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.,
Bob Keefer Center
Free. Learn to prevent incidents before they happen by understanding the hidden hazards around you and your kids.

**Spirit of the Mill Race 8K**
Saturday, May 20, 9 a.m.,
Booth-Kelly Trailhead, 307 S. 5th St.
Celebrate the history of Springfield’s Mill Race with this beautiful 8K run. Register by May 5 at 5 p.m. and get a free T-shirt! Sign up online at willamalane.org or eclecticgeracing.com. $35 in advance, $40 at packet pickup.

**Les Schwab Memorial Classic**
Soccer tournament featuring teams from throughout the Northwest.

**Plank Town presents SpringFilm: “Paint Your Wagon”**
Thursday, June 1, 6:30 p.m.,
Wildish Community Theater, free

**Dorris Ranch Discovery Day**
Sunday, June 4, 12-3 p.m.,
Dorris Ranch
Free. Use your know-how to navigate Oregon history in “The Amazing Race to Oregon.” Visit the Living History Village and discover what life was like for pioneers and native populations.

**Downtown Springfield Second Friday Artwalk**
June 9, 5-7 p.m., free.

**Roving Park Players present “The Rivals”**
June 10-11, 5 p.m.,
Douglas Gardens Park, 3455 S. Redwood Drive
Free. Can a man be his own worst enemy? Find out as The Roving Park Players present Richard Brinsley Sheridan’s rowdy satire “The Rivals.”

**Summer Reading Kickoff**
Tuesday, June 27, 1-3 p.m.,
Springfield Public Library, 225 N. 5th St.
Free. Featuring guest speaker Kacey McCallister of Rase Up.

**Outdoor Movie in the Park: “Finding Dory”**
Friday, July 14, Douglas Gardens Park, 3455 Redwood Drive
Free movie in the park, rated PG, 103 minutes. Presented with Spanish subtitles. Movie starts at sunset, but 7:30 p.m. activities include learning about fish with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and an Acting Up Theater skit.

**Downtown Springfield Second Friday Artwalk**
July 14, 5-7 p.m., free

**The Cheeseburgers in concert**
Wednesday, July 19, 6:30-8 p.m.,
Island Park, 200 W. 8 St.
Free. Based on Jimmy Buffet and his Coral Reefer band, The Cheeseburgers are a breath of tropical wind.

**3 Man Slam in concert**
Wednesday, July 26, 6:30-8 p.m.,
Douglas Gardens Park, 3455 S. Redwood Drive
Free. 3 Man Slam delivers crowd-pleasing classic rock and pop from the late ’60s through the late ’70s.

**Outdoor Movie in the Park: “Ghost Busters”**
Friday, July 28, location TBA
Presented with Spanish subtitles. Movie starts at sunset, but 7:30 p.m. activities include a ghost hunting, mixing up slime, and a performance by Reign Dance Company.

**Los Cumbiamberos in concert**
Wednesday, Aug. 2, 6:30-8 p.m.,
Guy Lee Park, 890 Darlene Ave.
Free. Los Cumbiamberos plays authentic cumbia from Colombia and Mexico, including salsa, timba, merengue, bachata and cha cha.

**Plank Town Presents SpringFilm: “Night Moves”**
Thursday, July 6, 6:30 p.m.,
Wildish Community Theater, free

**Outdoor Movie in the Park: “42”**
Friday, Aug. 4, Jesse Maine Park, South 69th Place
Free movie in the park, rated PG. Contains sensitive language. Movie starts at sunset, but 7:30 p.m. activities include a meet and greet with Sluggo, mascot of the Eugene Emeralds.

**PLANK TOWN PRESENTS**

**Paint Your Wagon**
Village and discover what life was like for pioneers and native populations. $25 in advance, $30 day of event.

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**Outdoor Movie in the Park: “Ghost Busters”**
Friday, July 28, location TBA
Presented with Spanish subtitles. Movie starts at sunset, but 7:30 p.m. activities include a ghost hunting, mixing up slime, and a performance by Reign Dance Company.

**Los Cumbiamberos in concert**
Wednesday, Aug. 2, 6:30-8 p.m.,
Guy Lee Park, 890 Darlene Ave.
Free. Los Cumbiamberos plays authentic cumbia from Colombia and Mexico, including salsa, timba, merengue, bachata and cha cha.

**Plank Town Presents SpringFilm: “Night Moves”**
Thursday, July 6, 6:30 p.m.,
Wildish Community Theater, free

**Outdoor Movie in the Park: “42”**
Friday, Aug. 4, Jesse Maine Park, South 69th Place
Free movie in the park, rated PG. Contains sensitive language. Movie starts at sunset, but 7:30 p.m. activities include a meet and greet with Sluggo, mascot of the Eugene Emeralds.
Pedestrian Crossing Education & Enforcement

CITY OF SPRINGFIELD | SPRINGFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS | SPRINGFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT

Pedestrian safety is an ongoing priority for the city of Springfield, the Springfield Police Department and Springfield Public Schools. In order to continually make our city safer for pedestrians, we provide education and enforcement, which can be effective in reducing pedestrian injuries and fatalities.

The Springfield Police Department recently received a grant from Oregon Impact to conduct additional educational and enforcement involving pedestrian right-of-way in crosswalks and mitigate the causes of pedestrian crashes within Springfield. The city of Springfield’s Development and Public Works Department and Springfield Public Schools are providing support for these efforts with education materials and supplies, and outreach to let students, parents and the overall community know about the increased enforcement efforts.

The grant work started in March and will continue through September. Education and enforcement activities will be focused on school zone crosswalks and various crossings on Main Street, Harlow Road and Centennial and Gateway streets.

In the interest of fairness and to support a defensible citation, the Springfield Police Department will employ several measures including:

- Having the decoy pedestrian wear visible clothing;
- Notifying the media in advance with the time, date, and location for increased enforcement activities; and
- Conducting the work during daylight hours and in good weather.

The goal of the increased pedestrian crossing enforcement is to educate the community on being aware of their surroundings when driving, bicycling or walking, and the importance of following Oregon’s crosswalk and school zone laws.

What is the School Zone Law?

The speed limit is 20 mph in school zones and must be followed according to what the signs indicate for the specific school zone:

- Any time a yellow light on a school speed sign is flashing;
- Between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. on school days.
- Crosswalks near school grounds when children are present. This means when children are in the crosswalk, waiting on the curb or the shoulder of the roadway at a crosswalk, or when a crossing guard is present.

Improving pedestrian safety is a continuous effort that we all can actively participate in. Here are some general tips to follow to help improve roadway safety for everyone:

- Drivers, bicyclists and pedestrians should be aware of their surroundings and responsibilities while using the roadway. We rely on people looking out for each other to the best of their abilities.
- Everyone (pedestrians, bicyclists and drivers) should avoid distractions while traveling such as operating a cell phone and eating food.
- Pedestrians, bicyclists and drivers should not make assumptions about another vehicle or pedestrian stopping or crossing.
- Pedestrians, bicyclists and drivers should make eye contact before proceeding in any crossing situation.

Spread the word about the importance of improving pedestrian safety and lead by example!

- Stop for pedestrians in crosswalks, marked or unmarked.
- Watch the city’s pedestrian crossing educational videos on the city’s YouTube channel (see page 8 of this newsletter for all TEAM Springfield social media) and encourage your friends and family to watch them.
- Share this article with your neighbors.
- Talk with your kids or grandkids about roadway safety.

While there is no guarantee of roadway safety, collectively we all can do our part to improve it.
Students Build Tiny House for the Homeless

SPRINGFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS | WILLAMALANE PARK AND RECREATION DISTRICT | For the second year, Holly Ellingson’s big-hearted Gateways High School students are once again designing tiny houses for the homeless. This year’s project got a significant head start thanks to a $20,000 grant from the Springfield Rotary. With Springfield Education Foundation providing supplemental funds and acting as the fiscal agent, Ellingson can breathe a sigh of relief that the fundraising portion of the work is secure. “I’m very grateful for the Rotary’s help,” says Ellingson. “We have an incredible community.” Last year, Ellingson asked her students to brainstorm ways they could help the community through a STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) project, and they agreed to tackle homelessness. Ellingson connected with Backyard Bungalows’ Alex Daniell, one of the architects behind Eugene’s Resurrection in Eugene as part of Hospitality Village, a village of four tiny houses for the homeless. Students in Ellingson’s STEM class are now hard at work on this year’s design, which students decided would be a larger version suitable for a family, again with help from Daniell. Students worked in teams to create models, then voted on the design that would be built. This year’s tiny house will be placed at Catholic Community Services of Lane County in Springfield, at 10th & G streets, as part of their existing OASIS program for homeless families. OASIS is a partnership between a number of agencies, including the Willamalane Park and Recreation District, the school district’s Brattain House community hub and CCSLC. Together the partners provide a laundry service and kitchen/bathroom access, showers at the nearby pool and clothing and other needs. “It’s great that this home will end up in Springfield,” says Ellingson. By the time this story makes it to print, the full-scale version of the tiny house will be well underway, with students and Rotarians working to make it happen.

Summer Playground Program

WILLAMALANE’S free Summer Playground Program is ready to roll at a park near you starting July 5. Willamalane offers organized activities for kids at 10 neighborhood parks to help them stay active, socialize, sharpen literacy skills and exercise creativity. The program runs Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Parents may register their kids at Bob Keefer Center through June 22, or at the park sites beginning July 5. Many of the playground sites are supported by FOOD for Lane County and the USDA’s Summer Food Program. Call FOOD for Lane County at (541) 343-2822 for specific locations.

Connect with TEAM Springfield on Social Media

Ask questions, alert us to your concerns and get the scoop on interesting events when you connect with TEAM Springfield agencies on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

This newsletter is a twice-yearly publication of TEAM Springfield, a unique collaboration of the city’s four public agencies. Together, we share ideas, energy and resources to deliver projects that benefit our community. For more information, visit www.springfieldoregon.com.