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**NORTH SPRINGFIELD BETTERMENT ASSOCIATION**  
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# Northsider

Volume 17 August 2009 Number 8

## OnTheAgenda

**AUGUST MEETING THURSDAY AUGUST 13, 2009 11:45 A.M. FOUNTAIN PLAZA ROOM COX MEDICAL CENTER NORTH**

**TOPIC: BUSINESS PARTNERS IN EDUCATION**

**PRESENTATION: A PARTNERSHIP FOR THE FUTURE**

## OnTheMenu

- TOSSED SALAD**
- MEAT LOAF**
- MASHED POTATOES WITH GRAVY**
- GREEN BEANS GARLIC ROLLS**
- ASSORTED DESSERTS**
- COFFEE, TEA & WATER**
- COST: \$8**

## InTheFuture

**SEPTEMBER MEETING THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 10, 2009**

**TOPIC: NETWORK OF NEIGHBORHOODS**

**PRESENTATION: TAKIN' BACK THE HOOD**

## Local Crime Lab Analyzes Evidence of Thousands of Cases

The scientists and other staff of the new crime lab in Springfield analyze evidence in each of the lab's departments which would fascinate any "CSI" fan.

At least, that is the impression Matthew Lepper, criminalist / drug chemistry, Crime Laboratory Division, Missouri State Highway Patrol, gave when he spoke at the July general meeting.

According to Lepper, the lab employs more than 100 people, many of them scientists, and assists about 500 agencies with approximately 25,000 cases per year.

Finding qualified employees to operate the lab and analyze case evidence was not so easy until about October 2000 when the television show "CSI" hit the scene.

"CSI" came to TV and changed our whole world," Lepper said. The show sparked interest in many young people looking for careers. It also made many of them somewhat familiar with what a criminalist does.

Much like the show, the crime lab has different departments. Some of these include latent prints, firearms and toolmarks, drug chemistry, toxicology, DNA and trace evidence.

Of course, unlike the show, the evidence is not analyzed and cases not solved in less than an hour.

The existence of the current lab did not happen in a short amount of time, either, according to Lepper. It started in 1936 in Jefferson City and the FBI lab was created a few years later.

Then, in the early 90s, a lab was opened on the grounds of Missouri State University. This original lab analyzed blood evidence only and everything else had to be driven to Jefferson City for analysis, costing a lot of time and money for investigations.

Within the last few weeks, the DNA section has earned accreditation and is tapping into the national system to begin operating.

### 2010 Dates Have Been Set!

- Please mark your calendar for these upcoming NSBA events.
- NSBA Showcase, the annual business expo, March 11, 2010, at Ramada Oasis Inn & Convention Center
  - The Annual Attendance Party May 11, 2010, at Ozark Empire Fairgrounds

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## MeetYourMember

**Carol Erwin** has been attending NSBA meetings for more than six years. Much of that time has been spent assisting Judy Spencer and others with meeting and membership organization. She runs many of the reports necessary for Spencer to fulfill her treasurer duties with NSBA and NSBF.

NSBA benefits the Springfield area in many ways, according to Erwin.

"Because of NSBA, I know there's a community out there that cares about itself," she said. "It makes my heart swell to know there are so many people in our community who care so deeply about these kids. It is a great opportunity for the kids that NSBA spends time with them, especially through the Attendance Program. This not only helps keep them in school, but also helps keep them interested in school.

"I know it can be very uplifting for children because some of them do fall through the cracks, whether at home or not at home" she said.

"Thankfully, I also know the positive influence of NSBA can last a lifetime with many of these kids."

Erwin also is happy that NSBA focuses on the area's north side since she lives there.

"I think the north side focus is beneficial to the organization and to the community as a whole," she said.

Volunteering to help the community she lives in is enjoyable for Erwin. She said she is a people person and volunteering has always been good for her, whether up front with a group or behind the scenes. Besides helping NSBA, Erwin also serves as the treasurer for Antioch United Methodist Church where she has been a member for more than 20 years.

She and her husband, Louis, have been married nearly 22 years and share four children between them, ranging from 44- to 51-years old. Erwin is glad she and her husband share so much with their home and community.

"We have a great church family and a great family," she said.

## WhoWeAre



### Our Purpose:

To encourage and promote worthwhile and honorable endeavors which will make North Springfield a better place in which to work and live. Our intent is to be alert to our community's needs and well-versed and knowledgeable in order to take constructive action for community betterment.

### NSBA BOARD OF DIRECTORS / OFFICERS

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*Northsider* is published monthly and intended to encourage North Springfield business owners and residents to engage in activities which better their community. All articles should be submitted to the editor three weeks prior to the scheduled luncheon.

**NORTHSIDER STAFF**  
JACQUÉ HARNNESS, EDITOR

#### How to Contact Us

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900 N. Benton, Springfield, MO 65802  
E-mail: litho-stat@att.net Attn: Jacqué Harness

## Green Landscape, Green University Receive Awards

The July Residential Beautification Award was presented to Tony Kriner for the landscaping work completed at his home located in Beverly Hills subdivision at 1140 W. Vancouver Drive.

According to Kriner, the flower beds and other plant life growing in his yard were a labor of love which add beauty to the area nearly all year.

"If you know the Ozarks area, it's very hard to plant anything," he said. "But we pretty much have something blooming all the way

from March through now."

Kriner was appreciative of the honor and invited all members to go view his landscaping work at some point.

"We thank you for this recognition and hope you drive by to see it sometime," he said.

The July Commercial Beautification Award was given to Drury University's Stone Chapel. This building has recently gone green, which is something Drury has been striving to focus on in all of its campus.

University President Todd Parnell and Director of Sustainability Wendy Anderson accepted the honor on behalf of the university.

According to Parnell, after recent updates and renovations to Stone Chapel, it is now one of the most energy efficient buildings in the community.

Anderson agreed and explained exactly how Stone Chapel fits that description. She said the building no longer uses any fossil fuels for heating purposes. Instead, it uses a combination of renewable energy and geothermal heating. The energy cost savings alone, according to Anderson, will add up to between \$5 and \$10 thousand per year.

Anderson is glad Drury is playing such a vital environmental role in sustainability efforts with the completion of the Stone Chapel project.

"We're excited about what it's doing for the environment, Springfield and for Drury," she said.



## Nate's Numbers

Did you know?...

Being late for school

hurts a child's learning.

A student who is 10 minutes late every day will miss 30 hours of instruction during the year.

## NSBANostalgia

Ralph Slavens invited a group of businessmen to attend a meeting April 30, 1970, at First City Bank to form a civic improvement club. At this meeting, the name North Side Betterment Association was chosen for this club.

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