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\*\*\* Notice \*\*\*

December Luncheon  
Northside Gift Swap

December 9th  
11:30AM to 1:00PM  
DoubleTree Hotel  
Lunch Cost: \$12

We'll set tables of 8 for a White Elephant style exchange. Bring a gift valued at \$10-15 OR purchase gift cards (while supplies last) from a Board Member to help support the NSBA mission.

*Save-the-Date*

*January 13th*

*"All Things NSBA"*

Stay Connected

NSBACARES@GMAIL.COM  
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Stay Informed

# Northsider

Volume 30

December 2021

Issue 12

*Thinking about a Career Change, How About Police Work?*

The Springfield Police Department (SPD) is looking for a few good recruits. According to Greg Anderson, SPD Resource Management Officer/Recruitment, "there is plenty of opportunity for the right person(s) to join the force."

The local department is authorized for 368 officers, but they are currently looking at a shortfall of about 60 officers, due to attrition and difficulty finding the right candidates.

Springfield conducts its own Police Academy and has some pretty stringent qualifications. Anderson said, "the shortage is not from a lack for applicants, but

we're not about just hiring to fill a vacant chair." And while police work is physical, there are educational and mental aptitudes the department is looking for in candidates.

Anderson encourages all interested persons to apply, and talked about an interesting way a resident

might get a look into the day to day of a police officer - ride-a-longs. Anyone can apply to spend a shift with a local officer or people can inquire about the role of Community Policing as a way to share the experience.



Officer Greg Anderson with Springfield Police speaking at the November luncheon.



NSBA Board Members, Kim Rippy and Brent Gilstrap explained how the Northside Gift Swap will be conducted during our December luncheon. "Essentially it's a white elephant exchange, and a great way to help support our mission," said Rippy. "If you don't plan to bring your own gift valued at \$10-15, then you can purchase a gift card from one of our NSBA board members," explained Gilstrap.

## 8 Unique Ways To Give Back To Your Local Community

1. Natural Disaster Relief
2. Volunteer at a Homeless Shelter
3. Work with Woman's Centers
4. Donate Toys
5. Volunteer at an Animal Shelter
6. Adopt a Family at the Holidays
7. Donate Food & Clothing
8. Monetary Donations

Read the full article here: <https://www.thegoodtrade.com/features/how-to-give-back-during-holidays>

NSBA Notes

The partnership between NSBA and Springfield Public Schools has always emphasized school attendance. Now more than ever we need to encourage students "to show up on time everyday." Check out these attendance facts from our friends at Attendance Works.

- Absenteeism in the first month of school can predict poor attendance throughout the school year. Half the students who miss 2-4 days in September go on to miss nearly a month of school.
- An estimated 5 million to 7.5 million U.S. students miss nearly a month of school each year.
- Research shows that missing 10 percent of the school, or about 18 days in most school districts, negatively affects a student's academic performance. That's just two days a month and that's known as chronic absence.
- When students improve their attendance rates, they improve their academic prospects and chances for graduating
- Attendance improves when schools engage students and parents in positive ways and when schools provide mentors for chronically absent students.

**Become an NSBA Member Today!**  
**Membership Dues**

- Retired Individuals: \$25**
- Neighborhood Associations: \$25**
- Single Membership: \$75**
- Corporate for 2 individuals: \$125**
- Corporate for 3 individuals: \$150**

Plus 3-person Corporate Memberships will get to present a 10-minute company profile at an NSBA General Meeting

Contact any board member for more information.



A few members of our board recently displayed NSBA's 50th anniversary plaque at Cox North. For more than 30 years, NSBA held its luncheons at Cox North and that organization has long been a supporter of NSBA. We are proud to call them a northside friend and neighbor, and now those

who enter the newly renovated Cox College lobby will see a beautiful NSBA plaque on display. Pictured in the photo are NBSA Members (back row l-r) Andy Simmons, King Coltrin, Brandon Ayers, Matt Hudson, (front l-r) Rick Fay, Kim Rippy, Misty Schmitz and Roy Edge.



Our November award for Commercial Betterment went to Paul Romine, co-owner of Standard Seal LLC. Paul, pictured left, is seen accepting the award from NSBA member Helen Votaw.



If you'd like to nominate a property owner contact NSBA Board Member Brent Gilstrap.

Who We Are



**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.

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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**  
STEVE MILLER, EDITOR  
RICK FAY, PRODUCTION COORDINATOR

**HOW TO CONTACT US**  
Mail to: NSBA c/o Drury University,  
900 N. Benton,

A Message from NSBA President



I hope you were able to spend time with family and friends and count your blessings for Thanksgiving. The holiday season is in full gear and will be over in just a flash. Take a moment to make a special memory, call a friend, and of course, bring them to NSBA!

In December, we're taking a little different approach from our typical luncheon and meeting and we're going to have some fun. This is a great time to bring a friend. Kim Rippy and Brent Gilstrap, our program co-chairs, have designed a white elephant exchange and all you have to do is show up! Please consider bringing a gift card donation valued from \$10-\$15 from your favorite restaurant, a local store, or even the car wash! If you forget to bring one, we've got you covered so you can purchase one on the spot from us. This is a fundraising event for NSBA and that is something we badly need to do.

The past 20 months has been hard for most organizations since few fundraisers and events were able to be held. NSBA is no different and our bottom line is showing that. If you are in a position to make a year-end gift to our foundation in addition to bringing a gift card, please consider doing that, as well. The Foundation for NSBA is 501 (c)(3) designated so your contribution will provide a benefit to you when filing your 2021 tax return. You may contact King Coltrin, foundation president, at King.Coltrin.PE@gmail.com or send your donation to the North Springfield Betterment Foundation % Drury University, 900 N. Benton Ave., Springfield, MO 65802. In order to get a tax benefit, contributions must be postmarked by December 31st, 2021.

Seasons Greetings,

*Matt Hudson*  
NSBA President

**The Mission of NSBA**

Our purpose is to promote and encourage worthwhile and honorable endeavors, which make north Springfield a better place to work and live. Our intent is to be alert, well versed, and knowledgeable to our community's needs in order to take constructive action for community involvement.

Nate's Notes



"Reading for pleasure is done by only 25% of students, and yet reading for fun is a fundamental component of learning."

Challenge the youth in your life to engage in reading a book during the holidays!"

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**Have you thought about serving on a NSBA Committee?**

Here are the various committees you can be involved with: Attendance Party, Betterment, Fundraising, Glenstone Islands, Membership, Program and Public Communication.