



The Neighborhood Engagement Newsletter!

"Helping Neighbors Connect"

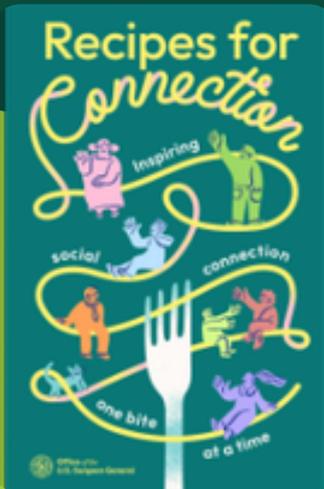
February 2026

Contact Neighborhood Specialist, Laura Mize, for assistance and tools in planning your neighborhood gathering!
816-629-7011



Upcoming engagement events!

- **March 1st: Out & About in Your Neighborhood:** Take a walk in your neighborhood on the first Sunday evening every month.



Recipes for Connection is a great tool from the Surgeon General's Office on gathering and food!



JOIN US...

for a walk, stroll, or roll through our neighborhood on the first Sunday evening of each month (weather permitting). Bring your family, bring your friends, even bring your furry friends!

TWO WAYS TO PARTICIPATE

1. Go around the neighborhood visiting friends old and new
2. Sit outside greeting those passing by, offer a seat or treat

Communities are stronger when people know each other. You can make a difference by helping to establish the Out&About tradition in our neighborhood. **It's fun!**

see map at
outabout.org

© Neighborhood Out&About



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What is Out & About?

Out & About in Your Neighborhood was created by Matt Evans in Draper, Utah.

OutAbout is working to establish a new tradition: on the first Sunday evening of every month, everyone goes outside to stroll their neighborhood and visit their neighbors.

It's an easy but powerful tool to build social capital and combat loneliness and polarization.





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There are two ways to participate in Out & About:

1. Neighbors can go for a walk in their neighborhood and greet other walkers.
2. Neighbors can sit out front and offer a seat or treat to those who are passing by.



If you would be willing to spread the news by hanging door hangers in your neighborhood, please email Laura Mize at Neighborhoods@ExcelsiorSprings.gov. Thank you!!





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A Proclamation

"Visit Your Neighbors Day in Excelsior Springs"

Whereas, it is important to encourage a culture of connection, compassion, friendliness, kindness and neighborliness among the residents of Excelsior Springs; and

Whereas, the relationships we build with our neighbors are essential to the health and vitality of our community, promoting a sense of belonging, safety and mutual support; and

Whereas, connected communities are more resilient in times of crisis and disaster, and experience lower rates of crime and higher rates of social mobility; and

Whereas, dedicating a coordinated time to gather as neighbors can increase community interaction; and

Whereas, OutAbout.org is establishing the tradition of visiting our neighbors on the first Sunday evening of every month; and

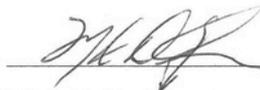
Whereas, we encourage the people of Excelsior Springs to forge relationships with their neighbors and communities.

Now, therefore, I, Mark Spohn, Mayor of the City of Excelsior Springs, do hereby declare the first Sunday of each month in the year 2026 as

Visit Your Neighbors Day in Excelsior Springs

And I encourage all our residents to take a walk in their neighborhoods on the first Sunday evening of every month.

Dated this 17th day of February, 2026



Mark Spohn, Mayor





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A YEAR OF NEIGHBORING

- **January:** Neighboring resolutions
- **February:** “Dear Excelsior Springs,” Write down a favorite memory, place, event, or tell about a kind neighbor (coming in 2027!)
- **March:** March Neighborliness Bracket
- **March-November:** Out & About in Your Neighborhood
- **April:** Easter begins The Mayor’s Block Party Challenge
- **May-August:** Block Parties
- **June:** Show Me Neighborhood Art Week
- **September:** Missouri Good Neighbor Week
- **October:** Halloween ends The Mayor’s Block Party Challenge
- **November:** Friendsgiving
- **December:** Advent Neighboring, 31 Days of Neighboring



The Neighborhood Engagement Team!

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March Neighborliness

March Neighborliness concludes on March 20, the birthday of Mister Fred Rogers!

Tell us what you decide is the champion act of neighborliness worth your time by emailing burtond@missouri.edu

1 Share food or goodies

16 Host driveway chat

9 Help an elderly neighbor

8 Loan a tool

12 Donate to little free library

5 Start a book club

13 Neighborhood potluck

4 Help with a chore

3 Pickup neighborhood trash

14 Walk with a neighbor

11 Use a neighbors name

6 Sidewalk chalk art

7 Deliver handwritten note

10 Deliver flowers

15 Host ice cream social

2 Host a coffee social

Champion

Join the Neighboring Movement

Your act of kindness toward a neighbor helps create healthy neighborhoods & communities.

Become an Engaged Neighbor:

<http://engagedneighbor.com>

Pursue the Common Good

with The Hopeful Neighborhood:

<https://www.hopefulneighborhood.org/>



Helpful Links:

[Longer Tables](#)

[Block Party USA](#)

[City of Excelsior Springs](#)

[Neighboring 101](#)

[Recipes for Connection](#)

[Excelsior Springs Community Foundation](#)