



# The Neighborhood Engagement Newsletter!

*"Helping Neighbors Connect"*

*June 2026*

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



## Upcoming engagement events!

- **June 14: Out & About in Your Neighborhood**
- **May through October "The Mayor's Block Party Challenge"**
- **June: Show Me Neighborhood Art Month**
- **July 3-4: America's Block Party**
- **July 5: America's Potluck**
- **All summer: America250 Block Parties**
- **All summer: Nominations accepted for Curb Appeal Properties**



### out&about OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

**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](http://outabout.org)

© Neighborhood Out&About





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## THRIVE EXCELSIOR CURB APPEAL CONTEST



Congratulations to Kevin and Kristi of 114 Ross!!



Thank you to McClendon Seamless Guttering and Exteriors for sponsoring the May contest!

Nominate beautiful properties here: [Curb Appeal Nomination Form](#)





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## AND THE WINNER IS...

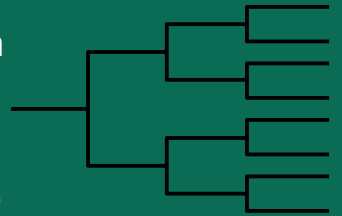
# Learn 8 Neighbors' Names

**HELLO  
MY NAME IS**

*Laura*

The Tournament of Neighboring introduced us to 64 unique ideas on how to be an engaged neighbor.

How are you doing on the challenge to learn 8 neighbor's names?



Coffee in the driveway was another popular idea! If you have implemented this practice to meet your neighbors, please share pics with the Neighborhood Specialist at <https://cityofesmo.com/community/>.





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## America's Block Party July 3rd and 4th

**The biggest Fourth of July in American history starts with you.** America's Block Party will unite communities nationwide on July 3 and 4 for live music, local celebration, and something new: a call to give back. This year, we're launching Giving 4th – a movement to transform Independence Day into the largest single day of charitable giving in U.S. history.

**Bring the celebration home.** Pick a cause. Make it count. Register to host an official America's Block Party and get a digital toolkit with everything you need to plan your event. Then give to a charity that means something to you because July 4th has always been more than fireworks.





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America's Potluck is an opportunity for neighbors to join with one another to share a fun, communal meal, creating a sense of connection and belonging and fostering interactions among people from all walks of life.

If you participate in a potluck with your neighbors, please register it at <https://cityofesmo.com/community/block-parties/> so we can count it for the Mayor's Block Party Challenge!





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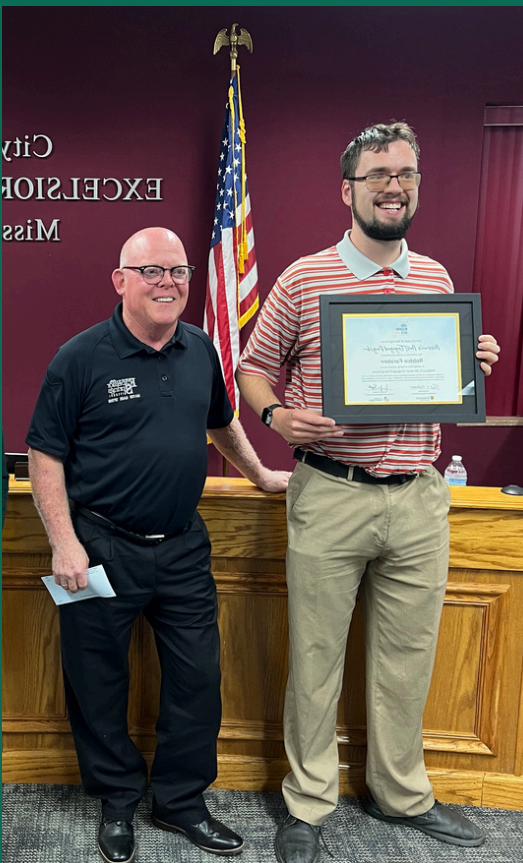
*June 2026*

## MISSOURI GOOD NEIGHBOR WEEK SEPT 28 - OCT 4

Have you noticed a good deed done by a neighbor?

Nominations can be made to the Missouri Good Neighbor Week  
Website:

[Report an Act of Neighboring](#)



Robbie Farabee, recognized as  
one of Missouri's Most  
Engaged Neighbors in 2025!





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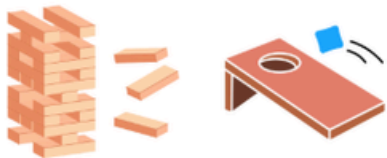
*June 2026*

## The Mayor's Block Party Challenge

Mayor Sonya Morgan is challenging residents to have at least one block party or neighbor gathering in each subdivision between May 1 and Halloween!



A yard game kit is available to reserve for free!



Go to [www.CityofESMO.com/Community/](http://www.CityofESMO.com/Community/) to reserve the game kit, view the map of neighborhoods, and register your event for free!

Customizable door hanger invitations like this one can be printed with details about your event!



Please call Laura Mize, Neighborhood Specialist, at 816-629-7011 with questions.

At the City Council meeting on May 4th, Mayor Sonya Morgan issued a challenge to the residents of Excelsior Springs to have at least one block party or neighbor gathering in every subdivision or neighborhood.

Find tools and ideas, and register your block party at [www.CityofESMO.com/Community/](http://www.CityofESMO.com/Community/).

Thank you to Mayor Sonya Morgan for supporting neighboring in Excelsior Springs!



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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](mailto:Neighborhoods@ExcelsiorSprings.gov). Thank you!!





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Extension  
*University of Missouri*

**June 2026!**

Go to: [ShowMe Neighborhood Art Month](https://showmeartmonth.com) to view neighborhood art around the state. If you are participating, please let me know at <https://cityofesmo.com/community/> and we will share out your Neighborhood Art!!





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From block parties to potlucks, the America 250 Commission has created many ways to celebrate this summer!

Go to: [www.America250.org](http://www.America250.org) to learn more!



Block Party USA is sponsoring American Summer! The Block Party USA website has lots of ideas and tools for making your block party a meaningful event.

Go to: [www.BlockPartyUSA.org](http://www.BlockPartyUSA.org) to learn more!



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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: The Mayor's Block Party Challenge begins
- May-August: Block Parties
- June: Show Me Neighborhood Art Month
- July: America 250 Celebration!
- September: Missouri Good Neighbor Week Sept 28-Oct 4
- October: Halloween ends The Mayor's Block Party Challenge
- November: Friendsgiving
- December: Advent Neighboring, 31 Days of Neighboring



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[Longer Tables](#)

[Block Party USA](#)

[City of Excelsior Springs](#)

[Neighboring 101](#)

[Recipes for Connection](#)

[Excelsior Springs Community Foundation](#)