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Springfield
Civic Association
Where we all come together

President's Message—Bruce Waggoner

Greetings to the Springfield Community!

The SCA is starting its 2016-2017 season. The SCA has stayed engaged over the summer continuing our outreach and partnering. The most tangible examples of our sustained efforts are the HAWK crossing signal on Backlick Road, National Night Out (NNO), the sale of 5900 Grayson St., and local road repaving efforts. Every example listed involved multiple Government and non-Government agencies.

Initiative, coordination, determination and patience paid off with success, achieving the first HAWK signal in Fairfax County.

Of the 45 NNOs in Lee District, 11 were hosted and supported by the SCA family; that's nearly 25 percent - WOW!

The blighted property at 5900 Grayson has been reborn and is for sale thanks to SCA intervention.

VDOT roads in our Community are in need of a much needed repaving and are promised for 2017. In the interim, our members helped with temporary fixes while we wait our turn for rejuvenation.

Our partnerships continue to build and strengthen. Principal among them are Lee

District Supervisor Jeff McKay and his terrific Constituent Staff. The Supervisor's Office is the SCA's most important ally linking us to all facets and echelons of local Government. We continue to build rapport with VDOT and the Greater Chamber of Commerce.

This SCA season we will join with realtors, ECHO, the Chamber of Commerce, the Fairfax Public School System and Supervisor McKay to bring you relevant programs during our five meetings—September, November, January, March and May.

On your behalf we will stay engaged on the Lee District Land Use Advisory Committee and monitor other events that impact our area and way of life.

While all this activity goes on month-after-month, the SCA Board and other advocates devote time to maintain the online newsletter, the *Springfield Reporter*, continue our shift to social media, gather advertisers, coordinate Board meetings, attend functions and participate in a myriad of activities that enhance local life.

My hat is off to ALL the unsung heroes that make a positive difference everyday in Springfield and beyond. On behalf of the SCA Board I wish you a happy and healthy

September Meeting
Tuesday Sept. 20
Crestwood ES

Social time starts at 7
Meeting begins at
7:30 sharp

Program:
Local Real Estate:
How is the Springfield
market trending?

Where Did the Newsletter Go?

Some of you may be wondering if the SCA is still around, or is still intending to put out a newsletter. The SCA is still very much alive and we have changed how we are putting out our newsletter. The SCA Board voted to end the paper production due to the costs of printing. In short, the SCA went digital.

You can still find the SCA online either by visiting our web site (www.springfieldcivic.org), or via our Fa-

cebook page (www.facebook.com/groups/springcivic/), as well as seeing posts via www.nextdoor.com.

The SCA will still be putting out its newsletter via email and social media posts.

Also, it will be available for viewing on our webpage. If you would like to sign up for the e-newsletter please visit our website and register.

A Message from Jeff Mckay

We are lucky to live in the safest jurisdiction of our size in the country. This is due in no small part to the hard-working, professional, and well-trained men and women of the Fairfax County Police Department.

Their commitment to keeping us safe and making Fairfax County a great place to live, work, and play is evident at every turn. We also know our active, engaged citizens play a major role in making our community safe. Community engagement with our public safety agencies is critical to ensuring our community stays safe.

Locally, in the last year, there has been a 15.79 percent decrease in reported cases of burglary/breaking & entering, a 16.4 percent decrease in destruction/damage/vandalism of property, as well as a 30.2 percent decrease in reported cases of fraud in the Franconia Police District. And that's not all.

Alcohol-related car accidents and arrests have been steadily decreasing, as well. Alcohol-related crashes are down 46 percent in the past five years from 719 in 2010 to 346 in 2015. That is a 46 percent decrease in a very short period of time - an encouraging statistic that did not happen by accident.

The work of the Fairfax County Police Department is impressive and should be celebrated. We also know that to continue to be the best statistically, we have to ensure we have the best practices and fully resource our public safety agencies.

In addition to the creation of the Ad Hoc Police Commission, the Board of Supervisors is also focusing on ways to help better equip our officers. As chairman of our Budget Committee, I was absolutely committed to dedicating funding to (1) hire more officers, (2) increase officer pay, (3) create a new police station and animal shelter here in South County, and (4) increase fund-services. This is the only way to ensure that we continue keeping our statistics going in the right direction.



Chamber of Commerce

Chamber to Recognize Area Citizens and Businesses

The Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual dinner Thursday, Dec. 8, 2016 at Embassy Suites Springfield. The black-tie-requested evening, open to the public, begins with a cocktail and networking reception at 6:30 p.m.

The dinner features local entertainment and a silent auction to raise funds for Chamber programs.

The highlight of the evening is to recognize area businesses and individuals with the presentation of the Chamber's [annual business and citizenship awards](#).

Nominations are being accepted until Nov. 17 for the following awards:

Arthur E. Morrissette "Top Hat" Service - given to a company exhibiting superior service to its customers and for its contributions to the Greater Springfield community.

Corporate Citizen - given to a company demonstrating strong involvement to better the quality of life in the Greater Springfield area.

Robert J. McDonough Businessperson of the Year - given to a business man or woman who excels in the promotion of his or her product or service.

Herb Hunter Citizen of the Year - given to an individual who has significantly contributed to improving the quality of life over a sustained number of years for the betterment of the Greater Springfield community.

Public Service - given to a staff member of the Fairfax County police, fire department or sheriff's office, or a Fairfax County teacher or government employee who has performed beyond the call of duty for the benefit of the Greater Springfield community.

Nominations from the community are the best sources for recognizing those in our community who make things happen. Who do you know worthy of a nomination? Nominate today.

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Woman's Club of Springfield



The Woman's Club of Springfield is kicking off its new Club year at its meeting on Tuesday, September 13, 2016, at Grace Presbyterian Church, beginning at 6:30 p.m. We begin our meetings with a social time that includes refreshments. At 7:00 p.m., we will have a speaker, which is then followed by a brief business meeting.

Our speaker at this meeting will be Eddie Garretson, President of Eddie's Club, a local non-profit organization geared towards giving kids, teens, and young adults that have any form of disability, an opportunity to participate in supervised, volunteered-based, activities and recreational programs.

Our meetings are open to guests and we invite all women in the Springfield and surrounding areas to attend.

Richard Byrd Library

Another busy summer is rapidly coming to an end. The Library's Summer Reading Challenge ended on Saturday, September 3. As of August, at least 1100 children completed this reading program at the Richard Byrd Library.

This fall the Richard Byrd Library will present a variety of programs for all ages. Events are free but space is limited, so please remember to register by calling the library at 703-451-8055 or going online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library.

Here are some highlights:

For children ages 2-3 years with their parents, we will have **Toddler StorytimePlus**, a series that uses books, songs and activities that encourage the development of early literacy skills. The series is in three parts on September 12, 13, and 14 at 10:30 am.

On Saturday, September 17, there will be a technology double-header. At 10:30, learn about Word 2016 at **Microsoft Word Basics**, a class for adults. At 1:00, we will have another session of our **Coder Dojo** coding program for children 7-17. Both programs will involve hands-on experience. For the Coder Dojo program we ask that participants bring their own laptop if they have one. The Coder Dojo program will be back the following month on Saturday, October 15 at 1:00 pm.

On Thursday, September 22 at 7:00 pm, **Getting Organized** will give you tips on dealing with overwhelming paperwork and an over-abundance of family photos and keepsakes. Learn where to start downsizing, decluttering and getting

We also encourage you to visit our Pink Elephant Shop in the Concord Plaza (by Aldi). We are open Monday-Thursday and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Consignments are taken from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon without an appointment. The Pink Elephant Shop has been part of the Springfield community for over 50 years.

All proceeds are returned to the Community in the form of grants and contributions. The Shop is run exclusively by the volunteer members of the Woman's Club of Springfield, a GFWC Club (www.gfwc.org).

We always welcome new members into our Club. To find out more about who we are and what we do, please visit www.womansclubofspringfield.org.

In addition to running the Pink Elephant Shop and enjoying our monthly meetings, there are lots of activi-

your home ready for sale.

We're pleased that once again the volunteers of **GIVE (Growth and Inspiration through Volunteering and Education)** will be holding free tutoring sessions at our library for students in kindergarten through sixth grade. An information and registration session will be held on Saturday, October 1st at 2:30 pm.

At 4:00 pm on Wednesday, October 26, sing and move with music and dance from Latin America with Andrés Salguero. **Uno, Dos, Tres con Andrés** is a family/all ages program.

Finally, we have two author events:

On Thursday, September 29 at 7:00 pm, Washington Post reporter and Pulitzer Prize winner Jody Warwick will talk about his book *Black Flags: The Rise of ISIS*. Books will be available for sale and signing.

Meet Author Jody Warwick is part of the annual Fall for the Book Festival.



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Springfield Acres Garden Club



You've probably seen our green thumb prints all over Springfield ... the plantings at the *Welcome to Springfield* sign on Backlick Road, the plant/flower arrangement behind the checkout desk of Richard Byrd Library as well as the plants outside, and the landscaping framing the Blue Star Memorial (across from St. Bernadette's Church).

Springfield Acres Garden Club is a local non-profit organization serving the Springfield community since 1955. Our dynamic members promote the love of gardening, floral design, and civic and environmental responsibility throughout our community.

We meet once a month (September through May) at 10am at Grace Presbyterian Church located at 7434 Bath Street, Springfield, Virginia.

It's a great opportunity to make new friends, learn more about gardening at all stages of life, participate in workshops, and take tours. We have an outreach to school children as well as an outreach to those in a nursing home. We'll can even help you have your own green thumb!

Questions? Contact Gail Nittle at gnittle@gmail.com or 703-569-6902

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A Message from Our Friends at CAC

What’s Going on in Our Schools? The CAC Knows!

Ever wonder what goes on in school? School Resource Officer Dan Pang, knows - it’s his job to know - and at the February CAC meeting, he shared the important work being done by SROs in Fairfax County schools.

School Resource Officers (SRO) play a vital role in keeping the learning environment throughout the Fairfax County Public School system safe and secure. Embedded within the school community, daily tasks for SRO’s may include: consulting with school staff about discipline issues, resolving minor conflicts between students- before they escalate into major conflicts, providing resources and advice to students, speaking to students about laws and how they apply specifically to students and the school community. SRO’s also are responsible for investigating criminal cases that may involve students, such as narcotics and gangs issues.

The Franconia Station Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) meets every third Wednesday of the month. in the Helen Wilson Community Room, located at the Lee District Government Center/Franconia District Police Station (6121 Franconia Rd., Alexandria, VA 22310).A special presentation or class begins at 6:30 p.m. and the actual meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m.



New HAWK Cross on Backlick Rd.

On August 30th, the HAWK pedestrian beacon was officially activated for operation. This crosswalk is the first high-intensity activated crosswalk in Fairfax County.

The signal’s placement on Backlick Rd close to Lynbrook Elementary School will help to make the neighborhood more accessible to area children. Until this time, all of the children attending the school have been bussed to Lynbrook because the area lacked a safe crossing for students across Backlick Rd.

For more information on the HAWK signal, and how to utilize and interpret it, please visit the Fairfax County web site:

(<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot/pedestrian/hawksignal-backlick.htm>).



Sina Malekuti, D.D.S.

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Update on the Property at Backlick/Amherst and Highland

The Springfield Civic Association (SCA) Board Members wanted to update the Community on the triangle property at Backlick/Amherst and Highland with the 'Crestwood' sign. A concerned citizen living in our vicinity purchased the property at a County auction several months ago.



Due to constraints placed on the property by County and State agencies, the buyer backed out of the purchase. As a result, the property will go up for bid again in the future; the County will provide 30-45 days of notice. Thanks to the SCA's longstanding partnerships with the Lee District Supervisor's Office and VDOT we have been able to glean more details on the property.

1. The bid price at the last auction covered the taxes due on the property (\$487), not including any recording tax for the deed.
2. The annual taxes for the property come to approximately \$44 per year.
3. The lot is non-buildable; the restrictions on building will be the same in any auction in Fairfax County which will include an easement for the maintenance for the existing sign and

would include language prohibiting any item or facility that might obstruct the operation or the maintenance of adjacent roadways and would require County approval for the placement of any item or facility.

4. Liability insurance may be a consideration for any purchaser.



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Crestwood Knitting Club



For students in the Crestwood Stitchery Club, there was an opportunity to continue knitting during the summer. GrandInvolve volunteers partnered with Grace Presbyterian Church to provide a four class session for the knitters. Grace Presbyterian church provided space for the classes and congregation members provided a snack and lunch for each session. They also joined the GrandInvolve volunteers to work with the students.

This summer session was an opportunity for the youth to learn new skills as well as participate in a project to give back to the community. Four young knitters made squares to be used for a blanket for the Linus Project which donates the blankets to local hospitals. When given an opportunity to select a project, they decided to make hats. It was amazing to watch them expand their skills to make something they can wear with pride. What better way to spend the summer than creating and giving back to the community!

The stitchery club offers children a chance to expand, build and supplement their knowledge of these skills (such as creative design, setting goals, project management, managing setbacks as well as successes, patience, and the thrill of accomplishment, etc.) without the structure and confines of the classroom. It fosters an environment of success, which carries over directly to each student's school performance.



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Public Hearing on I-95 Flyover Ramp

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) held a design public hearing on Tuesday, September 6, on plans to build a flyover ramp from northbound I-95 to northbound Fairfax County Parkway (Route 286). The existing loop ramp will be eliminated.

Other improvements at the interchange include building left-turn lanes at the end of the ramp at Fairfax County Parkway and Loisdale Road, and adding a third lane on southbound Fairfax County Parkway from I-95 to Terminal Road.

The left-turn lanes will allow traffic to continue to access Boudinot Drive and northbound Backlick Road, while the additional southbound lane will add capacity and improve operations at the Loisdale intersection. Also, a shared-use path will be added through the interchange.

Anyone may submit comments to VDOT by October 6, 2016 via e-mail or mail comments to Mr. Zamir Mirza, Project Manager, Virginia Department of Transportation, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030.



The Springfield Bridge Walk

This year, the SCA participated in the 15th Annual Springfield Community Bridge Walk on Tuesday, August 30th, 2016 at Springfield’s Veteran’s Bridge. A crowd of approximately 200 residents began their walk at the American Legion Post 176, where local elected representatives signed a community covenant with the garrison commander at Fort Belvoir to commemorate the event and the partnership that Springfield and Fort Belvoir formed over the years.

Supervisor Jeff McKay (D-Lee District), the Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Sharon Bulova, Virginia Senator George Barker (D-39), Del. Vivian Watts (D-39), and members of our SCA were all in attendance for the event.



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Springfield Art Guild (SAG)

You are invited to enjoy an evening with the artists and guest speakers at the monthly Springfield Art Guild (SAG) meetings. The meetings are open and free to the public. They are held just around the corner at the Richard Byrd Library on the second Wednesday of the month. Doors open at 6:00pm for refreshments and a social time and the Guest Speakers begin between 7 & 7:30 after a short business meeting. The next SAG meeting will be on March 9th. Our guest speaker Rebecca Solow will discuss book illustrations.

On April 13th, Greg Staley will show us how to photograph art. You can learn more about SAG and enjoy their newsletters at www.springfieldartguild.org

New Noise Ordinance

There's a new noise ordinance on the books that will silence things like loud late night parties and early morning leaf blowing. The regulations became law on February 17, 2016. The new law prohibits noises during specific hours, including:

Loudspeakers/Amplifiers

-Using a loudspeaker or amplifier between 10 pm and 7 am.

Noise Heard in Other Homes

-Making noise that can be plainly heard in another person's home with the doors and windows closed between 10 pm and 7 am Sunday through Thursday, or between 11 p.m. and 7 am on Fridays, Saturdays, and the day before a federal holiday.

Collecting Trash, Fixing Cars, Power Lawn Equipment, or Loading/Unloading Trucks

-Collecting trash, Loading or unloading trucks or recycling within 100 yards of a residence between 9 pm and 6 am (7am for Fixing Cars and Power Lawn Equipment).

-Using dog parks Monday through Friday before 7 am or after dusk or before 8 am or after dusk on Saturday, Sunday or the day before a federal holiday.

Animal Barking, Howling, Etc.

-Barking, howling, meowing, squawking or quacking animals between 10 pm and 7 am when it can be heard inside a home with its doors and windows closed, or if these sounds can be heard 7 am and 10 pm for more than five minutes consecutively or non-consecutively during a 10-minute period.

Athletic Fields

- Noise from athletic fields is permitted between 7 am to 10 pm on Sunday through Thursday, or between 7 am and 11 pm on Friday, Saturday or the day before a Federal holiday. However, loudspeaker use remains prohibited between 10 pm and 7 am.

The new noise law also sets maximum decibel levels for residential, mixed use, commercial and industrial areas. Some noises are excluded from regulation, including generators used in emergencies, snow removal, cars on the road, Metro trains and police or fire sirens. For complaints, here's who to contact. During daytime hours (Monday - Thursday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Friday 9:15 am- 4 pm), you should contact the Department of Code Compliance at 703-324-1300, TTY 711. At night, call the Police Department's non-emergency number, 703-691-2131, TTY 711.

Find entire article at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news2/new-noise-ordinance-passed/>



Springfield
Civic Association
Where we all come together

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September Meeting
Tuesday September 20
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Social time starts at 7:00
Meeting begins at 7:30 sharp
Program:
Realtor Panel

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RENEW IN SEPTEMBER***



The Springfield Civic Association is a volunteer organization

dedicated to:

- Encouraging residents to be active in community affairs
- Promoting civic responsibility through education and advocacy
- Effectively interacting with local government and community organizations
- Enhancing the quality of life in Springfield.

We are the hub that links residents and organizations, enhances communications, and embraces diversity to create a vibrant Springfield community.

Join SCA

Annual dues of \$15 cover all adults in a household. Membership is open to all residents and non-resident property owners in the boundaries. Mail this form with your check to PO Box 842, Springfield, VA 22150 or bring it with you to the membership meeting, or visit www.springfieldcivic.org to join or renew online.

- Join SCA Renew my membership Add or change contact information
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