

March 2024

Volume 41, Issue 4

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Springfield Reporter



# Springfield Civic Association

## *President's Message—Gail Nittle*

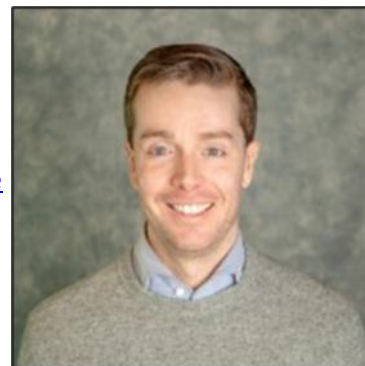
Is it Winter or Spring?!



The daffodils donated by Gayle Parsons that were planted in December by Charlie Lewis, Ed Morrissey and Ryan Morrissey at the Crestwood's Springfield sign have decided it's close enough to Spring to make an appearance!



While the weather is trying to make up its mind, put March 19<sup>th</sup> on your calendar for the next SCA General Membership meeting. Our speaker will be Ben Aiken, Deputy Director of Fairfax County Department of Code Compliance. If you'd like to see the type of issues the Department of Code Compliance deals with (on a complaint driven basis now), go to [DCC Who Are We and What Do We Do? \(fairfaxcounty.gov\)](https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dcc/who-are-we-and-what-do-we-do). Their goal is "To promote, protect, and maintain a healthy and desirable living environment in Fairfax County." Ben plans to bring Investigator Manny Felipe who will assist with any Spanish-speaking needs. For general translation during the Power Point presentation, he will use automatic translation in subtitles that will appear on the screen. Come and invite your friends!



If you're wondering what's going on next to the Springfield Town Center, check out our Land Use Representative's report on page 11.

Another item of interest is the potential redevelopment of the current Franconia Governmental Center once the new Franconia Government Center is completed and the police and Supervisor's office are relocated there. There will be three community meetings in partnership with a variety of County agencies including Neighborhood and Community Services and Supervisor Lusk's office. The meetings will be held at John Lewis High School on the following dates: Saturday, April 13th from 12 to 2:00pm (receive input from community) Monday, April 22nd from 6 to 8:00 pm (receive input from community) Monday, May 6th from 6 to 8:00 pm (report back to community).



The SCA has lawn signs to announce our meetings. If you would be willing to have a lawn sign at your home, please contact the SCA at [springfieldcivic@yahoo.com](mailto:springfieldcivic@yahoo.com)

Looking forward to seeing you on Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>! ~Gail



### March Meeting

#### Tuesday

**March 19, 2024**

**7:00pm—Social**

**7:30pm—Meeting**

**Crestwood Elementary  
School**

#### **Topic:**

**Code Compliance**

**Ben Aiken**

**Deputy Director of Fairfax  
County Department of  
Code Compliance**

## ECHO



### ECHO Yard Sale Scheduled for April 6

ECHO's popular Spring Yard Sale is slated for Saturday, April 6, at St. Bernadette's School Gym, 7602 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield. Proceeds from the sale benefit ECHO which makes shopping a good deed! It is fun to browse through a whole gymnasium filled with electronics, fashion accessories, holiday decorations, toys, games, home accessories, and more, to search for treasures at bargain prices. Mark your calendar now!

### Food Needs Outstrip Food Donations

While ECHO is determined to combat hunger in our community, requests for food assistance continue to be at record levels. Recently, ECHO has been distributing about a thousand pounds of food more per month than the amount donated. ECHO must make up the shortfall by purchasing food. Every donation counts. Please donate food if you can. There are food drop-off boxes at the West Springfield and Braddock District Government offices as well as in four Giant Food stores in Springfield. Our most-needed items at this time are dried beans, canned fruits, boxed pasta, spaghetti sauce, shampoo, dish detergent and laundry detergent.

### Hand towels, blue jeans, and pinched toes

ECHO distributes towels to those we serve by giving sets consisting of washcloth, hand towel and bath towel, tied together for convenience. The ECHO Housewares Program is out of, or very low on, hand towels and washcloths. We don't require new or matching towels. We just need donations. We'll take care of the rest. Bathmats, shower curtains and all sizes of comforters are on our list of needs, too. Our Clothing Room needs men's winter coats, men's sweatpants in any size and, always, men's jeans in 30- or 32- inch waist sizes. We're short of boys' sneakers sizes 1 through 4, and girls' sneakers sizes 1 through 6. If you have growing young feet at your house and can share their outgrown shoes, ECHO will be happy to find the little feet that have grown into those sizes and pass them along!

ECHO, 7205 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield, is open from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm on weekdays and from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays.

### Volunteer Positions Open

ECHO has a few volunteer positions open. If you are looking for a great way to use your time and talent, one of these areas might appeal to you: working directly with clients to determine what they need; administrative support; food distribution; clothing assessment; grant writing; housewares assessment. If you are interested in finding out more, contact [volunteercoordinator@echo-inc.org](mailto:volunteercoordinator@echo-inc.org) by email.

### Upcoming Dates to Note

March 28 - Closed in the evening  
 March 29 - Closed for Good Friday  
 April 6 - Saturday Opening  
 April 6 - Yard Sale, St. Bernadette's Gym


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## Richard Byrd Library

### Greetings from Richard Byrd Library!

Spring is just around the corner. As the weather gets warmer and your activities move outdoors, we hope you continue to include Richard Byrd Library in your plans.

### Women's History Month



Enjoy a book about women in history.

Richard Byrd Library is commemorating Women's History Month in March! Help us celebrate by writing a note about a woman who has made your life better either historically or personally and we will add it to our board. Then, try our **Women Creating History** quiz to match the achievement with the amazing woman. Help others by donating unopened boxes of menstrual products such as tampons or sanitary pads at the library until March 29. All supplies will be donated to local nonprofit organizations benefitting the people of Fairfax County. Finally, check out a book celebrating women in history or enjoy an event around the county by visiting [bit.ly/FCPL\\_WomensHistoryMonth](http://bit.ly/FCPL_WomensHistoryMonth).



Challenge yourself with a women's history quiz.

### Out and About

Young readers 'checking out' the library at the Springfield Estates Elementary School book fair.



We're always excited to visit our community schools and organizations. [Springfield Estates Elementary School](http://SpringfieldEstatesElementarySchool) invited us to participate in their book fair event on Saturday, March 2. We had a great time meeting local readers, sharing camping-themed book-marks for guests to color, promoting our [I Love Virginia State Parks nature backpacks](http://ILoveVirginiaStateParks.org) and helping families sign up for library cards. We also made our annual visit to [Grace Preschool](http://GracePreschool) for a special Dr. Seuss storytime on February 29 – an event we look forward to every year. As we plan additional tours and visits to schools, English language learning groups and other organizations over the spring, please let us know if you'd like us to participate in your event by emailing [librb@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:librb@fairfaxcounty.gov) or calling the branch at 703-451-8055

(continued on next page)

## Richard Byrd Library News (continued)

Join us on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 7pm at the Richard Byrd Library for the Novel Idea Book Club. Upcoming titles are:

March 19: **The Japanese Lover** by Isabel Allende

April 16: **Readers of the Broken Wheel Recommend** by Katerina Bivald

May 21: **Girl at War** by Sara Novic

Copies of the books are available at the circulation desk.

For information on this and other Richard Byrd Library programs, visit [bit.ly/RB\\_Programs](http://bit.ly/RB_Programs).

We hope to see you soon!



**Farfax County Public Library**  
Imagine • Discover • Connect  
1200B Government Center Parkway  
Suite 204  
Fairfax, VA 22036  
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library




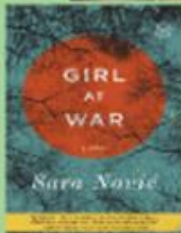

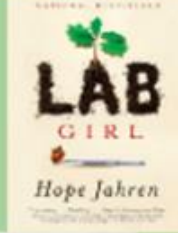



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TTY 703-224-5245

**RICHARD BYRD  
LIBRARY**  
7250 Commerce St.  
Springfield, VA 22150

# NOVEL IDEA Book Club

## Tuesdays @ 7pm

Books available behind  
the circulation desk.

 <p><b>March 19</b> The Japanese Lover Isabel Allende</p>	<p><b>July 16</b> The Great Believers Rebecca Makai</p> 	 <p><b>April 16</b> Readers of the Broken Wheel Recommend Katerina Bivald</p>
 <p><b>May 21</b> Girl at War Sara Novic</p>	<p><b>August 20</b> The Seven Rules of Elvira Carr Frances Maynard</p> 	 <p><b>September 17</b> Lab Girl Hope Jahren</p>
 <p><b>June 18</b> The Nightingale Kristin Hannah</p>	<p><b>October 15</b> We Were the Lucky Ones Georgia Hunter</p> 	 <p><b>November 19</b> A Council of Dolls Mona Susan Power</p>

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month, 50% of the night's sales  
go to the chosen charity

## *Friends of Richard Byrd Library Update*

### **Richard Byrd Library hours:**

Mon - Tue 10am – 9pm, Wed – Sat, 10am – 6pm, Sun, closed

Be sure to check the Richard Byrd Library website events calendar for regular updates: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/richard-byrd>

### **Next Book Sale!!**

Look for our next book sale in late May, after Memorial Day...lots of summer reading bargains!

Need a good read immediately? Stop by the daily sale at the library (behind Check-out Desk); look for the specialty cart too.

### **CoderDojo Workshops**

Bring the young ones to the monthly CoderDojo workshops! Children ages 7 - 12 years old learn to code using curriculum developed jointly by MIT and Harvard graduate students specifically designed to teach children how to code. Workshops are held 1 – 3 PM on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month. Register in advance on the FCPL website.

### **Legos in the Library**



Photos courtesy of the Friends of Richard Byrd Library

Join us for the next monthly session of Legos in the Library on March 28<sup>th</sup>. Children and parents have loads of fun creating engineering marvels from hundreds of little plastic blocks. What will you build?

### **Coffee and a Classic Movie / Apr 5, 10:30 AM**

Come by the library on the first Friday of every month at 10:30 AM to have coffee and watch a classic movie. Due to copyright restrictions, we cannot publish the title but here's a clue...1931 gangster film starring James Cagney and Jean Harlow.



Photos courtesy of the Friends of Richard Byrd Library

### **Did you know the Friends raise funds to support:**

Children's performers at the library.

New York Times, Scientific America and 14 other publications.

Summer reading programs and all hands-on programming.

Fall for the Book author presentations.

Special seasonal celebrations at the library.

And much more!

**Donations:** As always, we welcome all donations of gently used books (print and audio), DVDs, CDs and LPs. Donation receipts provided upon request.

**Volunteer:** Looking for your next volunteer ? Come join the Friends of the Richard Byrd Library! Contact us at: [rbfriends@gmail.com](mailto:rbfriends@gmail.com).

### **Follow us on Social Media:**

Friends on Facebook at "[FriendsofRichardByrdLibrary](https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofRichardByrdLibrary)"

Your engagement helps us reach an even broader audience!

## *Franconia CAC Spotlight—Kim Barber*

Some Community members may know Kim Barber from her 21 years helping protect students as Crossing Guard at Island Creek Elementary and Lane Elementary Schools. Where, she says, she loves “the close relationships I have built over the years with the administration, parents and especially the students.”

Others may know her from work in the Franconia Community Advisory Committee where she began as Secretary in 2019 and took over as Chair in 2020.

As CAC Chair, Ms. Barber goes above and beyond in setting up the Winter Holiday lunch for all station staff and visitors and in decorating the station itself for all the major holidays. On top of that, she ensures that there are meals at the station on Christmas, Thanksgiving, New Year, July 4th, and the other holidays that find officers at work instead of with family. Outside of holidays, she frequently coordinates with community organizations that donate snacks and food in appreciation of law enforcement.

Perhaps the most widely appreciated of Ms. Barber’s projects has been the complete rehabilitation of the station break room. The break room serves an important morale and nutrition function in providing snacks, food, and beverages for officers and station staff. It had fallen to minimal functionality before she took over. Now it is a fully stocked and equipped show piece – the envy of the entire Department.

In recognition of all she does, she was recently presented with a coveted reserved parking spot at the station. In announcing the award, Captain Shaw wrote: “I am pleased to announce Kim Barber's new designated parking spot. ... Her support has boosted our morale and strengthened our sense of family. I believe this parking spot helps demonstrate our gratitude and recognizes Kim's significant contributions to our team. We hope this gesture will make Kim's daily contributions a little more convenient and remind her that her support does not go unnoticed.”



*Thank  
You*

## *Cherry Blossoms Are Blooming Soon*



Nothing signifies the arrival of spring in the nation's capital quite like the blooming of the cherry blossom trees and the National Cherry Blossom Festival to celebrate the occasion. Visitors descend upon Washington, DC each year to admire the 3,000-plus trees. The Festival, which runs from March 20 – April 14, 2024, is full of events that honor American and Japanese cultures and represents a close bond forged between the two countries that began with Tokyo Mayor Yukio Ozaki’s gift of the trees back in 1912.

Although it is always difficult to predict exactly when the blooms will be at their peak, the National Park Service announced that they think the 2024 peak blooming time will be between March 23 thru March 26.

## *Accessible Parking Survey Now Available*

Fairfax county staff is looking to assess accessible parking supply in off-street parking areas. To assist in gathering data for this, a survey was created to gain perspectives from drivers who use off-street accessible parking. The survey is now available on the Engage Fairfax County webpage at:

<https://publicinput.com/accessibleparking#tab-47991>

**This survey will be available until April 15.** Please take any action you can to publicize the survey to maximize response to this important concern.



*Need Information?*

### **Contact the SCA**

Do you have a question for the SCA?

Contact us via email at

[springfieldcivic@yahoo.com](mailto:springfieldcivic@yahoo.com).

Check out our website at

[www.springfieldcivic.org](http://www.springfieldcivic.org).

We're on Facebook ! Check us out at

Springfield Civic Association.

### **Time to Pay SCA Dues!**

The new membership year for the Springfield Civic Association (SCA) begins in September of each year so dues for the 2023-2024 program year are due now.

**Due to increased activities and expenses, dues for one year were increased to \$20.00 per household.**

The funds raised from dues go directly to help support the SCA and its programs which directly benefit our community. If you have supported the SCA in the past by being a member, thank you! We hope you'll renew your membership now. If you have attended meetings or joined in activities as a non-paying participant, please consider becoming a paid member. One of the SCA's goals is to bring people together and encourage them to be active in community affairs. We advocate for our community's interests and concerns through local government and other entities. Please partner with us by renewing or starting your paid membership NOW and by getting involved!

Dues can be paid via PayPal, using our website at [www.springfieldcivic.org](http://www.springfieldcivic.org), or by sending a check to SCA, P.O. Box 842, Springfield, VA 22150. Thank you in advance for supporting the SCA in its effort to enhance the quality of life in Springfield.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR MEMBERSHIP & SUPPORT!**

### **Upcoming SCA Membership Meetings:**

\* **Tuesday, March 19, 2024**

\* **Tuesday, May 21, 2024**



## Lake Accotink Park Events

**Lake Accotink happenings. Click on the links for more information.**

### Campfire Fridays

03/15/2024 7:00 pm

(5-Adult) Join us for an evening campfire the whole family can enjoy. Explore the wonders of our natural world through nature walks, interactive activities and animal presentations. Includes S'mores. Topics vary by date. Children must be accompanied by a registered adult.

[Campfire Fridays](#)

### Beginning Birdwatching

03/16/2024 9:00 am

(4-Adult) Learn identification tips by sight and sound and how to make your yard more attractive to native species. Borrow binoculars for a view of outdoor bird feeding stations. Registration required for children and adults.

[Beginning Birdwatching](#)

### Using Technology in Nature

03/16/2024 12:00 pm

(12-Adult) Learn how to use your phone to enhance your outdoor experiences. Assist in community science and join a bustling community of online scientists and nature enthusiasts.

[Using Technology in Nature](#)

### Learning to Sketch in Nature

03/16/2024 2:00 pm

(12-Adult) Join a park naturalist for a short hike as we observe and capture images of nature using pencil and paper. Improve your sketching and nature journaling as we practice shading, form, and other skills. Each session will include a different theme or topic depending on the season. You are encouraged to bring your own journal/notebook and materials, but paper and...

[Learning to Sketch in Nature](#)



## Woman's Club of Springfield—Pink Elephant News

After 60 years we have lost our lease and must close. Our future plans are currently unknown as we will need to find an affordable and safe shop of approximately 890 sq.ft. at ground level. Our consignors and our volunteers are heartbroken, but who knows what might happen.

We will still be The Woman's Club of Springfield, supporting the schools, the hospitals and awarding our scholarships. We meet monthly at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church.

That is where we hold our big SPRING FAIRE on Saturday May 11, perfect for Mother's Day shopping. So, stay tuned.





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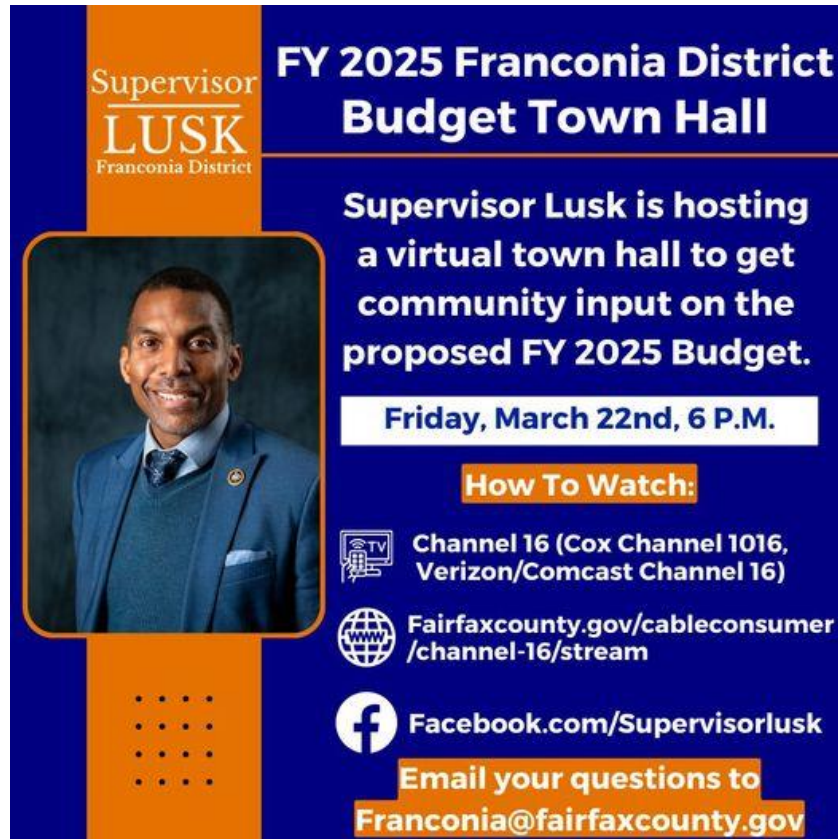
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(703) 451-1655**

## *Franconia District News*

From Supervisor Lusk:

"Many of you have already heard the proposed budget presented last week by County Executive Bryan Hill. I want to hear from you with any questions or concerns you might have. You will be able to express your concerns at the budget public hearings starting in April. I will also be hosting a Budget Town Hall on March 22nd at 6pm. This will be broadcast on Channel 16 and live on Facebook. You can submit your questions by calling my office or by email at [Franconia@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Franconia@fairfaxcounty.gov) .






**Supervisor LUSK**  
Franconia District

### FY 2025 Franconia District Budget Town Hall

**Supervisor Lusk is hosting a virtual town hall to get community input on the proposed FY 2025 Budget.**

**Friday, March 22nd, 6 P.M.**

**How To Watch:**

-  **Channel 16 (Cox Channel 1016, Verizon/Comcast Channel 16)**
-  **[Fairfaxcounty.gov/cableconsumer/channel-16/stream](http://Fairfaxcounty.gov/cableconsumer/channel-16/stream)**
-  **[Facebook.com/Supervisorlusk](https://Facebook.com/Supervisorlusk)**

**Email your questions to [Franconia@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Franconia@fairfaxcounty.gov)**

## *Concerned About the Impact of Yearly Tax Increases?*

Many residents are concerned about the impact of taxes and fees on their lives and their ability to stay in Fairfax County. You are encouraged to share your thoughts with the entire Board. Simply telling the Board of the impact of taxes on your life and plans can be impactful. You can email the Board at [clerktothebos@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:clerktothebos@fairfaxcounty.gov) and plan to attend or call into the Budget Public Hearings on April 16, 17 or 18<sup>th</sup>. Click [here](#) for more info.

## *Crestwood Elementary School*

**Mark your calendars for these upcoming Crestwood Elementary School events:**



- ◆ Thursday, March 14: Math Night (NEW DATE)
- ◆ SPRING BREAK: March 25-March 29
- ◆ Tuesday, April 16: Science Night
- ◆ Friday, April 26: International Night



# THE FACTS ABOUT FENTANYL

Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid that is up to 50 times stronger than heroin and 100 times stronger than morphine. It is a major contributor to fatal and nonfatal overdoses in the U.S.

There are two types of fentanyl: **pharmaceutical fentanyl** and **illegally made fentanyl**. Both are considered synthetic opioids. Pharmaceutical fentanyl is prescribed by doctors to treat severe pain, especially after surgery and for advanced-stage cancer.

However, most recent cases of fentanyl-related overdose are linked to illegally made fentanyl, which is distributed through illegal drug markets for its heroin-like effect. It is often added to other drugs because of its extreme potency, which makes drugs cheaper, more powerful, more addictive, and more dangerous.

Illegally made fentanyl (IMF) is available on the drug market in different forms, including liquid and powder.

Powdered fentanyl looks just like many other drugs. It is commonly mixed with drugs like heroin, cocaine, and methamphetamine and made into pills that are made to resemble other prescription opioids. Fentanyl-laced drugs are extremely dangerous, and many people may be unaware that their drugs are laced with fentanyl. Drugs may contain deadly levels of fentanyl, and you wouldn't be able to see it, taste it, or smell it.

## Signs of Overdose

Recognizing the signs of opioid overdose can save a life. Here are some things to look for:

- Small, constricted "pinpoint pupils"
- Falling asleep or losing consciousness
- Slow, weak, or no breathing
- Choking or gurgling sounds
- Limp body
- Cold and/or clammy skin
- Discolored skin (especially in lips and nails)

Article written by Center for Disease Control (CDC)

## What To Do if You Think Someone is Overdosing

It may be hard to tell whether a person is high or experiencing an overdose. If you aren't sure, treat it like an overdose—you could save a life.

- Call 911 immediately\*
- Administer naloxone, if available\*\*
- Try to keep the person awake and breathing
- Lay the person on their side to keep from choking
- Stay with the person until emergency assistance arrives

*\*Most states have laws that may protect a person who is overdosing or the person who called for help from legal trouble.*

*\*\* Naloxone is a life-saving medication that can reverse the effects of opioid overdose and save lives. It is available in all 50 states and can be purchased from a local pharmacy without a prescription in most states.*

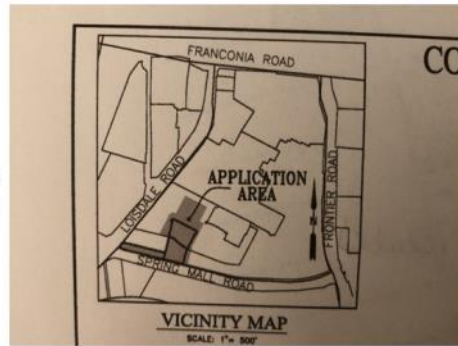


*If you know or think someone is struggling with addiction, ask them if you can help. Your concern might be just what they need to start their recovery journey, and your support could make all the difference in their success.*

## Springfield Town Center Update

### What's Happening At Springfield Town Center?

You've probably noticed the construction at the SW corner of the Springfield Town Center. After decades of waiting, we have the start of phase two for our Town Center. What is happening now is the expansion of the JC Penny garage to add a fifth floor.



Also, Hanover Residential at Springfield Town Center is underway. Originally, there were to be two residential buildings, but they have been combined to make one large building which will connect to the JC Penny parking garage via bridges on levels 2, 3 and 4. The Hanover will be eight stories tall, providing 460 residential units. Most (60-70%) of the units will be one bedroom units.

A narrow park will be built along Spring Mall Road near the intersection with Loisdale Road. It will be open to the public. This project received approval of the land use committee in a 23-5-1 vote. Springfield Town Center is one of the only malls in the country right now to see this kind of development and enjoy a hardy retail store occupancy rate.



**Go Springfield!**

### *Please Support Our Advertisers!*

Sandwich Republic, Grace Presbyterian Church, LA Mart, Malek's Pizza Palace, Springfield Swim Club, Springfield Laundromat & Cleaners, Janet Buckley Realtor, Dr. Sina Malekuti, Springfield Butcher, Eddie Greenan Jewelers, Debbie Dogrul Realtor, Kaitlyn Morrissey Mary Kay, Virginia Tire and Auto, Interstate Movers, Dr. Dulac, I Book Travel, Potomac River Running & Walk, and Restoration 1.

## *It's Almost Time for Farmers Markets to Open!*



### ***Volunteer at the Farmers Markets!***



#### **Bring Healthy, Fresh Food to Your Neighborhood**

Support local farms and small businesses while connecting with your community by volunteering at an FCPA Farmers Market in your neighborhood!

- Weekday and weekend opportunities are available.
- Great for active retirees, adults with flexible schedules, or college students.
- Markets are located in Annandale, Burke Herndon, Kingstowne, Lorton, McLean, Mount Vernon, Oakton and Reston.

Learn More at: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/market-masters>

#### ***Opening Days at the Farmers Markets***

Mount Vernon: April 17  
 Burke: April 20  
 Reston: April 27  
 Oakmont: May 1 (previously called Oak Marr)  
 Wakefield: May 1  
 Annandale: May 2  
 Herndon: May 2 (new hours 8 a.m -12p.m.)  
 McLean: May 3  
 Kingstowne: May 3  
 Lorton: May 5 (new hours 8 a.m.-12 p.m.)



Learn More at: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets>

## *Fairfax County Land Development Services*

Land Development Services protects the health, safety, welfare, and environment for those who live in, work in, and visit Fairfax County by:

- Reviewing all site, subdivision and building plans, and issuing all applicable site and building permits
- Conducting all required inspections of new structures and alterations to existing ones
- Processing bonds and agreements
- Providing technical training
- Conducting customer outreach programs to help homeowners, builders, engineers and contractors comply with land development and building codes
- Taking action against non-compliant construction and land disturbing activities

**Land Development Services (LDS) recently introduced a new phone tree system.** This new phone tree system enhances the customer service experience for anyone calling LDS for assistance. Phone tree options changed from our previous phone tree system to enhance efficiency. See the below graphic for a list of the current calling options. If you are unsure which option is right for you, press 1 and then press 2 and the staff of the customer experience team will help guide you to the appropriate staff member.

## Want to reach Fairfax County's Land Development Services?



Call **703-222-0801**



Select the phone option that reflects your question or concern for Land Development Services (LDS).

<div style="border: 2px solid #00a086; border-radius: 50%; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Press <b>1</b> Permits</p> </div> </div>	<p><b>Press 1 for Permits and then:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Press 1</b> for LDS Hours/Location</li> <li>• <b>Press 2</b> for Building Permits, Site and Grading Plan Submission/Issuance, Bonds and Addressing</li> <li>• <b>Press 3</b> for Building Plan Review and Inspections</li> <li>• <b>Press 4</b> for Zoning Inquiries</li> </ul>
<div style="border: 2px solid #00a086; border-radius: 50%; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>2</b> Building</p> </div> </div>	<p><b>Press 2 for Building Division and then:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Press 1</b> for Inspections</li> <li>• <b>Press 2</b> for Building Permits, Site and Grading Plan Submission/Issuance, Bonds and Addressing</li> <li>• <b>Press 3</b> for Commercial Technical and Plan Review</li> <li>• <b>Press 4</b> for Elevators and Cross Connections</li> <li>• <b>Press 5</b> for Residential Technical and Plan Review</li> </ul>
<div style="border: 2px solid #00a086; border-radius: 50%; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>3</b> Site</p> </div> </div>	<p><b>Press 3 for Site Division and then:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Press 1</b> for Site and Grading Plan Review, Site Inspections</li> <li>• <b>Press 2</b> for Report a Violation on an Active Construction Site</li> </ul>

## *Pedestrian Safety Tips*



**What's happening?** Spring is just around the corner! As the weather heats up, we can expect more pedestrian activity throughout the County. As we shift into a more walkable and bikeable climate, make sure you take note of how this will impact our traffic and pedestrian safety.

**Tell me more!** FCPD has pulled together a list of safety tips for pedestrians and drivers to help keep our streets safe during the warmer months. Pedestrian safety is a shared responsibility. Whether you are driving or walking, prioritize caution and respect for others on the road. To read these tips, visit <https://fcpdnews.wordpress.com/2024/02/23/walk-this-way-fcpd-provides-pedestrians-with-safety-tips/>

## *It's Not Too Late to Get Help With Preparing Your Taxes*

### **Free Tax Preparation Help**

Tax season is officially underway — and so too is free tax preparation assistance by the [AARP Foundation's Tax-Aide program](#).

Fairfax County is partnering with the nonprofit to provide eight county facilities where residents can get no-cost help filling out their federal and state taxes through April 15.

Tax-Aide volunteers are trained and IRS-certified every year, according to AARP. At every location, volunteers can help you prepare your federal and Virginia state tax returns, and some locations can also assist you with District of Columbia and Maryland taxes. [Find a Tax Aide near you.](#)

Tax aides can help you with most — but not all — tax returns, including returns with:

- Wages, interest, dividends, capital gains or losses, pensions and Social Security benefits
- Self-employment income with limits
- Qualified business income deduction with limits
- 1099 income
- IRA contributions
- Health savings accounts

However, volunteers can't help with complicated tax returns that involve a small business with employees, rental income or alternative minimum tax.

Before you visit an assistance location, check what kinds of tax returns the program [can and can't prepare](#).

### **Do Taxes Yourself**

If you want to do your taxes yourself, the federal and state governments offer free online tax preparation and filing for people with certain income limits.

Learn more:

- [IRS Free File](#)
- [Virginia Free File](#)



## *Tax Relief Workshops at the Franconia Government Center*

On March 21 and April 15, join the Department of Tax Administration for Tax relief workshops at the Franconia Government Center from 10:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. for assistance with filling out the 2024 tax relief application forms, as well as answering questions. To ensure that individuals are assisted in a timely manner, all workshops will be utilizing appointment scheduling. For more information and to schedule an appointment, please click on this link: [Tax Relief Workshops | Tax Administration \(fairfaxcounty.gov\)](https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/tax-relief-workshops)



### **2024 Tax Relief Workshops Schedule**

Staff from the Department of Tax Administration will be at the locations listed below to assist with completing the 2024 tax relief application form, as well as answering questions. To ensure that we are assisting individuals in a timely manner, all workshops will be utilizing appointment scheduling.

To request an appointment with our office at a designated workshop, please call (703) 324-3747 or email [TaxRelief@FairfaxCounty.gov](mailto:TaxRelief@FairfaxCounty.gov).

#### **Braddock District**

Hosted by Supervisor James Walkinshaw  
**March 12 and March 26, 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**  
Braddock Hall  
9002 Burke Lake Road, Burke

#### **Mount Vernon District**

Hosted by Supervisor Dan Storck  
**March 13 and March 27, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.**  
Mount Vernon Governmental Center  
2511 Parkers Lane, Mt. Vernon

#### **Dranesville District**

Hosted by Supervisor Jimmy Bierman  
**March 19 and April 2, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.**  
McLean Governmental Center  
1437 Balls Hill Road, McLean

#### **Providence District**

Hosted by Supervisor Dalia Palchik  
**March 15 and March 29, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**  
Providence Community Center  
3001 Vaden Drive, Fairfax

#### **Hunter Mill District**

Hosted by Supervisor Walter Alcorn  
**March 11 and March 25, 10:00 a.m. to 1 p.m.**  
North County Governmental Center  
1801 Cameron Glen Drive, Reston

#### **Springfield District**

Hosted by Supervisor Pat Herryty  
**March 14 and March 28, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**  
West Springfield Governmental Center  
6140 Rolling Road, Springfield

#### **Franconia District**

Hosted by Supervisor Rodney Lusk  
**March 21 and April 5, 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**  
Franconia Governmental Center  
6121 Franconia Road, Alexandria

#### **Sully District**

Hosted by Supervisor Kathy Smith  
**March 20 and April 3, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.**  
Sully District Governmental Center  
4900 Stonecroft Boulevard, Chantilly

#### **Mason District**

Hosted by Supervisor Andres Jimenez  
**March 7 and March 8, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.**  
**April 19, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**  
Mason District Governmental Center  
6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale  
\*To book an appointment, please contact the Mason Office at 703-256-7717



## *The Springfield Acres Garden Club*



The Springfield Acres Garden Club invites you to its March 26, 2024 meeting at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church 8304 Old Keene Mill Rd, Springfield, VA

The meeting begins at 10am. The program is Roses 101. Come, enjoy the program and stay for lunch.

**Presenter: Connie Hilker** – Owner of Hartwood Roses in Fredericksburg, VA

From Connie's blog: "My name is Connie, and I started Hartwood Roses...an educational rose garden in Virginia that specializes in rare and unusual antique roses. I know a lot about roses, old houses, carpentry and remodeling, and am an expert day dreamer. You will often find me working in the garden, planning a home project, building something, or hanging out in a cemetery...all of this has come in handy as my husband and I restore our historic home (built in 1848) renovate the outbuildings, and design the gardens."



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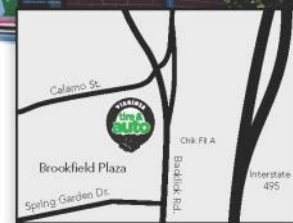
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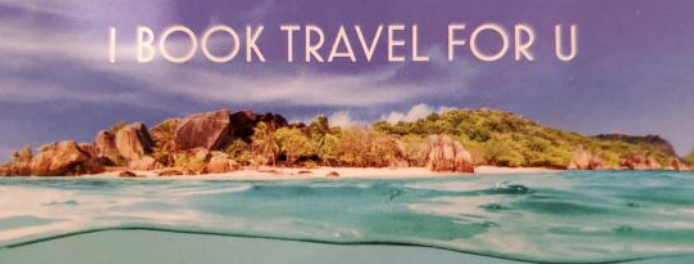
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## March Meeting

### Tuesday

March 19, 2024

7:00pm Social

7:30pm Meeting

### Crestwood Elementary School

**Topic:**  
**Code Compliance**

**Ben Aiken**

Deputy Director of Fairfax County  
Department of  
Code Compliance



**Springfield**  
Civic Association  
Where we all come together

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 \$20 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](http://www.springfieldcivic.org) to join or renew online.

- ☐ Join SCA ☐ Renew my membership ☐ Add or change contact information  
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