

Springfield Reporter

Over 50 Years Serving Central Springfield

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THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Our March meeting is one that you don't want to miss! The new command of the Franconia Police Sub-station, Captain Shawn Bennett and Lt. Paul Thompson, will be joining us on Tuesday, March 16 at Crestwood Elementary School. The official program begins at 7:30 pm as usual and the social meet and greet kicks off at 7 pm. This is our opportunity to meet the Captain and Lieutenant and get our pressing public safety questions answered!

What a great way to meet your neighbors. Reach out to them today and invite them to the March meeting with our new Franconia Captain. Offer them a ride to the meeting? Give them a copy of your newsletter or a save the date note.

Would you like to support your community more, but don't always have the time to attend meetings? Here is your chance to make a difference. We are seeking a *membership information coordinator*. We need someone to assist us with a data base or spreadsheet that would allow us to keep our records current as people join, change contact information or move out of the area. You can do this on your own time from home! Please consider assisting with this important opportunity: springfieldcivic@yahoo.com.

SCA Secretary, Alice Merrill, has stepped up to the plate and volunteered to chair the Beautiful Home Contest this year. Thank you Alice! Please stay tuned for more details to come. This fun contest that recognizes home improvements and well maintained homes runs from May through July with the winners announced at the September meeting.

On Tuesday, May 18 the Fairfax County Lee District Supervisor, Jeff McKay will be our guest speaker at the civic association meeting at Crestwood Elementary.

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NEXT MEETING — WHEN AND WHERE

March 16, 2010
Crestwood Elementary School

Meet and Greet: 7 p.m.
Meeting: 7:30 p.m.

Meet Captain Shawn Bennett
and Lt. Paul Thompson of the
Franconia Police Sub-Station

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The President's Corner (Continued)

Join your neighbors for a very special evening with *our* Board of Supervisor representative. The county budget will be officially adopted on April 27th and Mr. McKay will also brief us progress related to some of our community challenges.

The following is the time line for the county budget:

FY2011 Budget Approval Timeline

Fairfax County Executive **Anthony H. Griffin presented his proposed fiscal plan** for FY 2011 to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors (BOS) on **Tuesday, February 23, 2010** during the scheduled board meeting.

BOS **Budget Committee** meetings are scheduled for **Tuesday, March 16, at 1 p.m.; Friday, March 26, at 2 p.m.; and Friday, April 16, at 2 p.m.** in the Government Center, Conference Rooms 9 and 10.

Public Hearings on the FY 2011 fiscal

plan have been set for **Tuesday, April 6, at 6 p.m.; Wednesday, April 7, at 3 p.m.; and Thursday, April 8, at 3 p.m.** Public wishing to speak at any of the three hearings should contact the Office of the Clerk to the Board at 703-324-3151, TTY 703-324-3903, to place their name on the speakers list or sign up online.

The Board of Supervisors has scheduled the **budget markup session** for Tuesday, April 20, at 10 a.m. **The formal adoption of the FY 2011 budget is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, April 27, at 10 a.m.** during the regularly scheduled board meeting.

Many of you have inquired about Lake Accotink Park and the status of the budget as it affects this jewel in our community. I can provide you with the link that lists the specific reductions for the Park Authority as well as other agencies: http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb/fy2011/advertised/agency_reductions.pdf ..

The Springfield Swim and Racquet Club is in the process of approval for a cell phone tower (mono-pole) to be erected on their property. Rental income from this structure would aid the organization financially. Several of you have contacted me asking for more information. This specific issue will be part of the Board of Zoning and Appeals hearing on March 24. A representative of the club may be at our March 16 meeting and you can get more of your questions answered. The tower will be constructed to resemble a tree. The following information below is from the FCC on the health concerns regarding cell phone towers:

**CHILD CARE AVAILABLE**

Do you want to attend Springfield Civic Association meetings but wonder what to do with the children? Our trained child care staff can provide videos, coloring books, and some light crafts in the school while you enjoy the company and informative discussion.

Human Exposure To Radio Frequency Fields: Guidelines For Cellular & PCS Sites

FCC Consumer Facts

Background

Primary antennas for transmitting wireless telephone service, including cellular and Personal Communications Service (PCS), are usually located outdoors on towers, water tanks, and other elevated structures like rooftops and sides of buildings. The combination of antenna towers and associated electronic equipment is referred to as a "cellular or PCS cell site" or "base station." Cellular or PCS cell site towers are typically 50-200 feet high. Antennas are usually arranged in groups of three, with one antenna in each group used to transmit signals to mobile units, and the other two antennas used to receive signals from mobile units.

At a cell site, the total radio frequency (RF) power that can be transmitted from each transmitting antenna depends on the number of radio channels (transmitters) that have been authorized by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the power of each transmitter. Although the FCC permits an effective radiated power (ERP) of up to 500 watts per channel (depending on the tower height), the majority of cellular or PCS cell sites in urban and suburban areas operate at an ERP of 100 watts per channel or less.

An ERP of 100 watts corresponds to an actual radiated power of 5-10 watts, depending on the type of antenna used. In urban areas, cell sites commonly emit an ERP of 10 watts per channel or less. For PCS cell sites, even lower ERPs are typical. As with all forms of electromagnetic energy, the power density from a cellular or PCS transmitter rapidly decreases as distance from the antenna increases.

Consequently, normal ground-level exposure is much less than the exposure that might be encountered if one were very close to the antenna and in its main transmitted beam. Measurements made near typical cellular and PCS cell sites have shown that ground-level power densities are well below the exposure limits recommended by RF/microwave safety standards used by the FCC.

Guidelines

In 1996, the FCC adopted updated guidelines for evaluating human exposure to RF fields from fixed transmitting antennas such as those used for cellular and PCS cell sites. The FCC's guidelines are identical to those recommended by the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements (NCRP), a non-profit corporation chartered by Congress to develop information and recommendations concerning radiation protection. The FCC's guidelines also resemble the 1992 guidelines recommended by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), a non-profit technical and professional engineering society, and endorsed by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), a non-profit, privately-

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funded, membership organization that coordinates development of voluntary national standards in the United States.

In the case of cellular and PCS cell site transmitters, the FCC's RF exposure guidelines recommend a maximum permissible exposure level to the general public of approximately 580 microwatts per square centimeter. This limit is many times greater than RF levels typically found near the base of cellular or PCS cell site towers or in the vicinity of other, lower-powered cell site transmitters.

Calculations corresponding to a "worst-case" situation (all transmitters operating simultaneously and continuously at the maximum licensed power) show that, in order to be exposed to RF levels near the FCC's guidelines, an individual would essentially have to remain in the main transmitting beam and within a few feet of the antenna for several minutes or longer. Thus, the possibility that a member of the general public could be exposed to RF levels in excess of the FCC guidelines is extremely remote.

When cellular and PCS antennas are mounted on rooftops, RF emissions could exceed higher than desirable guideline levels on the rooftop itself, even though rooftop antennas usually operate at lower power levels than free-standing power antennas. Such levels might become an issue for maintenance or other personnel working on the rooftop. Exposures exceeding the guidelines levels, however, are only likely to be encountered very close to, and directly in front of, the antennas. In such cases, precautions such as time limits can avoid exposure in excess of the guidelines. Individuals living or working within the building are not at risk.

For More Information

For more information on this issue, visit the FCC's RF Safety Web site at www.fcc.gov/oet/rfsafety. For further information about any other telecommunications-related issues, visit the FCC's Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau Web site at www.fcc.gov/cgb, or contact the FCC's Consumer Center by e-mailing fccinfo@fcc.gov; calling 1-888-CALL-FCC (1-888-225-5322) voice or 1-888-TELL-FCC (1-888-835-5322) TTY; faxing 1-866-418-0232; or writing to:

Federal Communications Commission
Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau
Consumer Information and Complaints Division
445 12 St. SW
Washington, DC 20554.

For this or any other consumer publication in an accessible format (electronic ASCII text, Braille, large print, or audio) please write or call us at the address or phone number below, or send an e-mail to FCC504@fcc.gov.

To receive information on this and other FCC consumer topics through the Commission's electronic subscriber service, click on <http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/contacts/>.

This document is for consumer education purposes only and is not intended to affect any proceeding or cases involving this subject matter or related issues.

11/08/07

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Sect. 18-110 of the Zoning Ordinance that, at a meeting to be held in the Board Room, Government Center Building, 12000 Government Center Parkway, March 10, 2010, the Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a public hearing on the following applications at the time indicated. At the said public hearing any and all interested persons will be given an opportunity to express their views regarding the application. If you desire to be placed on the speakers' list, or to check on whether the status of the public hearing has changed, call the Zoning Evaluation Division at 324-1280. The following information is a descriptive summary only of the application. Interested parties may review the application or pick up a copy of the staff report at the Zoning Evaluation Division of the Department of Planning and Zoning, 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 801. In addition, copies of the staff report are available at the office of the member of the Board of Supervisors in whose district the application property is located. ADA: Reasonable accommodation is available upon 7 days advance notice. For additional information on ADA call (703) 324-1334 (TTY 711 Virginia Relay Center). MATTERS PRESENTED BY BOARD MEMBERS

9:00 A.M. T-MOBILE NORTHEAST LLC & SPRINGFIELD SWIMMING AND RACQUET CLUB, INCORPORATED, SPA 81-S-017 Appl. under Sect(s). 3-303 of the Zoning Ordinance to BC amend SP 81-S-017 previously approved for community swimming pool and tennis courts Admin. to permit addition of telecommunications facility. Located at 7400 Highland St. on approx. Moved to 3.75 ac. of land zoned R-3. Lee District. Tax Map 80-1 ((5)) (52) 1. (in association with 3/24/10 at SE 2009-LE-016) appl. req.9:00

This is a reminder that we will be electing the officers for the Springfield Civic Association board at the May meeting. Interested in serving? Contact us at springfieldcivic@yahoo.com . Committee positions also available!

See you soon!

Tawny Hammond, President



Springfield Civic Association has been working to save the cost of printing and mailing your newsletter. Over half of our membership now receives The Springfield Reporter by e-mail. If you would like the SCA to spend your dues on community improvement projects rather than printing and postage to mail the newsletter, you can choose to receive your newsletter electronically. Send your e-mail address, name and street address to springfieldcivic@yahoo.com today!

The Springfield Civic Association is dedicated to promoting community involvement and improvement. It comprises 2,400 homes in the area bound by Old Keene Mill Road on the south, I-95 on the east, I-495/Evanston Road on the north, and Lake Accotink Park boundaries on the west.

Meetings are held the third Tuesday of every other month from September through May at Crestwood Elementary School on Hanover Avenue.

Association dues are \$15 per year. Those interested in joining should contact President Tawny Hammond at (703) 569-0923 or springfieldcivic@yahoo.com

United States
**Census
2010**

IT'S IN OUR HANDS

Are you up for the "Take 10" challenge? On behalf of the U.S. Census Bureau, we are asking our partners to join us in making history by helping to boost the mail back participation rates across the Nation and in your community during the 2010 Census. During each Decennial Census, the Census Bureau undertakes the count of every person residing in the United States, as mandated by Article 1, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution. To encourage everyone to take 10 minutes to answer the 10 simple questions on the 2010 Census form, we are launching the "Take 10" campaign. Through "Take 10," you can visit <http://2010.census.gov/2010census/take10map/> to get updates on the proportion of households that have mailed back the 2010 Census forms. You also will be able to view differences between your community's participation rates and those of neighboring communities or other areas across the country. **The "Take 10" Challenge - Tools to Inspire the Mail Back Participation Rates for the 2010 Census** During the 2000 Census, 72 percent of occupied households mailed back their forms. In 2010, we are challenging communities to do even better. The Census Bureau's "Take 10" campaign gives you a wide range of tools to inspire your community to meet our challenge. These include:

- An interactive, map-based, "Take 10" Web site that allows local areas to track and compare their 2010 Census mail back participation rates, which will be updated on a daily basis at <http://2010.census.gov/2010census/take10map/>, and to look up their 2000 Census participation rates.
- An electronic toolkit is available which includes talking points, sample speeches, new releases, newsletter copy, event suggestions, flyers, stickers, and doorknob hanger templates, and more.
- Suggestions on how to use friendly competition with other communities to inspire participation in the census.

You can play an important leadership role in encouraging your community to mail back their forms. Most 2010 Census questionnaires are delivered from March 15-17, 2010. From the time the forms are delivered until the closing of the mail campaign at the end of April, you have the opportunity to remind your area residents of the importance of mailing back their census forms. We believe that you can encourage participation through speeches, special events, and challenges. The stakes are high; an accurate count of the local population helps to ensure that your community receives its fair share of federal funding. This funding includes resources for services, such as health care, education, and roads. **Your constituents must complete and mail back their census forms between March 15, 2010 and April 15, 2010. The good news is that the 2010 Census questionnaire is one of the shortest in history-just 10 questions that only take about 10 minutes to complete.** We hope we can count on you to encourage participation in the 2010 Census. Visit <http://2010.census.gov/2010census/take10map/> now to see your area's 2000 Census mail participation rate and check the site daily for updates beginning March 22. **The 2010 Census: It's in our Hands.**

Sincerely, Robert M. Groves
Director
U.S. Census Bureau

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH REPORT

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH	
Lynbrook	East of Backlick
Captain:	Bruce Waggoner
North	North of Floyd, between Backlick and Hanover
Captain:	Chris Colovos
Central	South of Floyd, between Backlick and Hanover
Captain:	Maureen Gibson
West	North of Floyd, west of Hanover
Captain:	Gail Nittle
South	South of Floyd, west of Hanover
Captain:	Debbie Mays

Crime	Jan. – Dec. 2008	Jan.– Dec. 2009
Murder	22	14
Rape	95	105
Robbery	450	386
Aggravated Assault	386	309
Burglary	1,438	1,385
Larceny	16,244	15,643
Motor Vehicle Theft	1,288	1,096
Total	19,923	18,938

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CRIME SOLVERS OF FAIRFAX COUNTY

Your Board of Directors was contacted recently by CRIME SOLVERS of Fairfax County and asked to consider in aiding that organization in their efforts to fight crime in our immediate neighborhoods. The Board opted to make a cash contribution to help in the fight against crime.

CRIME SOLVERS is a board of volunteers who raise money to pay tips to confidential informants who provide information contributing to solving crimes or apprehension of fugitives. FAIRFAX COUNTY CRIME SOLVERS has actively worked with the Fairfax County Police Department and Washington, D. C. - area news media since their beginnings in 1979. During that time they have paid out over \$223,000 in rewards for tips leading to the resolution of more than 1,700 crimes and the arrest of more than 800 criminals, including the apprehension of at least 200 fugitives.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR
NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH!**

If you would like to join the Neighborhood Watch team, call the Crime Prevention Officer at 703-922-8263 or e-mail Springfield Civic Association at springfieldcivic@yahoo.com. One hour a month is all it takes to be part of the solution. Protect your community. Protect your home and your family.



OVERALL CRIME DROPS IN 2009

Fairfax County ended 2009 with an overall drop of nearly 5 percent in index crimes compared with 2008. Index crimes, reported monthly to federal authorities, include murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny and motor vehicle theft.

Violent crimes (murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault) decreased by 14.6 percent; property crimes (burglary, larceny and motor vehicle theft) decreased by 4.5 percent.

"I'm pleased to see the drop in overall crime and especially the nearly 15 percent decline in violent crime," said Colonel Dave Rohrer, Chief of the Fairfax County Police Department.

"One of our key anti-crime strategies is our focus on repeat offenders. Historically, a small percentage of offenders commit a high percentage of crimes, and we have made it a priority to focus on them."



***The Taffetas*, Springfield Community Theatre's Second Show of the Season, Opens March 12.**

Springfield Community Theatre is pleased to present the second production of our 2009-10 season, *The Taffetas*, playwright Rick Lewis's sentimental salute to the great girl groups of the 1950s. Opening night is Friday, March 12, with further performances on Sunday, March 14, and Friday-Sunday, March 19-21 and 26-28. The Friday and Saturday performances begin at 8:00 PM. The Sunday shows on March 14 and March 28 are matinees starting at 2:00 PM, while the March 21 show is an evening performance that begins at 7:00 PM. Springfield Community Theatre performs at the John Swayze Theatre at the New School, 9431 Silver King Court, Fairfax, VA 22031, off Pickett Street between Routes 50 and 236.

Centering on the adventures of a sister act from Muncie, Indiana, trying to make it big on a network television talent show, *The Taffetas* blends delightful comedy with sweet harmonies as it showcases a medley of songs made popular by groups like The McGuire Sisters and The Chordettes as well as such solo artists of the era as Patti Page, Debbie Reynolds, Connie Francis, Annette Funicello and Pat Boone. Directed by Donald Neal with musical direction by Chris Borton, *The Taffetas* stars Courtney Basich, Brodie Evans, Patricia Tinder and Jolene Vettese as the singing sisters. In addition to the regular shows, Springfield Community Theatre will also present a private performance of *The Taffetas* to resi-

dents and guests at the Greenspring Center on Saturday, March 13.

Springfield Community Theatre will follow *The Taffetas* with its final production of the 2009-10 season, *Radio Drama*, in June. *Radio Drama* harkens back to the golden age of radio, taking audiences into the studio for reenactments of such legendary broadcasts as *The Shadow* and *War of the Worlds*.

General admission ticket prices for Springfield Community Theatre productions are \$18 for adults and \$15 for senior and students; discounts for season tickets and groups are also available. For information on tickets and reservations - and information on memberships and corporate sponsorships - please contact Springfield Community Theatre at 703-866-6238 or online at www.sctonline.org. Springfield Community Theatre has been offering audiences top-quality dramas, comedies and musical productions for more than 50 years. That tradition of theatre excellence continues with our 2009-10 season.

“THE TAFFETAS” Springfield Community Theatre presents a musical comedy about four sisters trying to make it big on a 1950s television variety show. March 12, 14, 19, 20, 21, 26, 27 & 28. Fridays & Saturday shows at 8:00; Sunday March 14 & 28 shows at 2:00; Sunday March 21 show at 7:00. The John Swayze Theatre at the New School, 9431 Silver King Court, Fairfax, VA 22031. 703-866-6238 or www.sctonline.org. \$18 general admission, \$15 seniors & students.

SCHOOL NEWS

CRESTWOOD ELEMENTARY
MARY PERSON,
PRINCIPAL



February was a great month at Crestwood. We just passed the mid-year point for learning and instruction for the 2009-2010 school year. Teachers have assessed learning for students and report cards have gone home. We still continue to ask parents to sit down with their child (children) and review their academic and personal goals for the year. Make sure they are completing homework every day. Talk to them about school and what they are learning. Discuss goals that will help them be successful. A very important goal is to make sure they do homework every night. Continue to review the Thursday folder and the calendar that we include in the monthly newsletter.

Cold Weather Safety: Fairfax County Public Schools Office of Safety and Security publishes a document called “Cold Weather Safety”. In this document the question is answered...”How cold is too cold to allow students to play outdoors?” We consider several factors when making this decision. We look at the wind chill factor, whether the ground is frozen, if the sun is shining, if the children are dressed appropriately, the length of time to be spent outside, and of course the temperature plays a factor. If the temperature is less than 32 degrees or the wind chill factor causes the temperature to feel like it is less than 32 degrees, we cancel outside recess. On the days of no outside recess, the teachers are encouraged to have indoor recess for students. Children should always wear hats, gloves, coats and long pants because they may still walk outside to get around the school on a daily basis. We count on parents to help us make sure that children are properly dressed for the weather. To stay informed regarding weather conditions, you may go to WeatherNet4 (<http://www.nbc4.com>), the National Weather Service (www.nws.noaa.gov/) and the Weather Channel (www.weather.com .)

With the recent bout of snow storms, we will need to make up a number of days that have been missed due to snow and ice. Crestwood, as well as all Fairfax County Schools will be checking the calendar to make sure that we get the maximum instruction and learning that the school year allows. Always remember, however, spring is just around the corner!

ATTEND A MEETING, WIN A DOOR PRIZE!

Attend the March 16th meeting and be eligible to win a Gift Certificate graciously donated by some of our own Springfield merchants.

Once again, we are pleased to award a gift certificate from Lorraine Hancock’s Massage Center for Women, a frequent and generous contributor.

A new business in Springfield Plaza has made a generous donation for our March Meeting! Eddie Greenan Jewelers, Inc. (next to the Springfield Butcher) has donated a pair of 14kt Blue Topaz Earrings that has a value of \$75. For our May meeting he has donated a “free written appraisal of one jewelry item” for insurance purposes which is a \$50 value. Please say thank you to him if you happen to be shopping in that area.

Austin Grill has also donated \$15.00 gift certificates, one for March and one for May. Stop in and ask for “J.P.”, the manager to tell him “Thanks”. This is the third time Austin Grill has donated to us in the past several years.

The Springfield Civic Association offers door prizes at every meeting. Drawings are held at 9:00 P.M. You must be present to win.

We encourage you to patronize these generous, civic minded businesses.

RICHARD BYRD LIBRARY

6315 Backlick Road, Second Floor

Springfield, VA 22150

703-451-8055

By Branch Manager Sandy Freund



In spite of the snow, there are no major delays in the progress of the construction. I spoke to a county contact person and the most they anticipate is perhaps two days! A certain number of inclement weather days for February are already built into the contract. Work inside is going very well. There will be mechanical and electrical inspections the week of Feb. 15. Once those are done and we get those approvals, the remainder of the ceiling tiles will be installed. Most of the painting is done, and about 75% of the lighting is installed. Carpet and doors will follow soon afterward.

All of us at Richard Byrd were very curious about measures being taken to prevent leaks and roof damage during heavy snows. Although we seldom get this much snow, it does happen every once and a while. According to my contact, new buildings are designed for the snow load, and there have been no major issues recently at the site. County staff has been out to the site a couple of times since the two storms, specifically to look for things like that.

The roof of the tower is complete. The original windows that were shipped were the wrong size but the correct ones have arrived and been installed.

Another interesting detail about the new Richard Byrd: the shape of the roof is designed to look like an open book.

The following programs are scheduled for March and April at the Backlick Road site:

Wednesday, March 24, 1:00 p.m.

Travel Club. Bring lunch and enjoy a lively discussion. Adults.

Thursday, March 25, 10:30 a.m.

Spring Babies. Stories and activities. Age 2-5 with adult.

Thursday, April 22, 10:30 a.m.

Go Together Like Peas and Carrots. Songs and stories about friendship, trying new things and garden fun. Age 2-5 with adult.

Tuesday, April 27, 6:00 p.m.

Tell It Again. Enjoy a story and activities in English and Spanish. Age 4-12 with adult.

Wednesday, April 28, 1:00 p.m.

Travel Club. Bring lunch and enjoy a lively discussion. Adults.

Registration is required for all programs except the Travel Club. Beginning two weeks before each program, please register by calling the library at 703-451-8055 or online at the library's website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library.

METRO RUN & WALK ESTABLISHES FOOT-RACE FOR SPRINGFIELD DAYS

Metro Run & Walk, a local independent active-lifestyle retailer, is helping to take Springfield Days to the next level by establishing a signature footrace to be held each year on Sunday morning of Springfield Days weekend. We anticipate more than 500 participants this inaugural year, with a goal of 1000-2000 in the next few years. All proceeds from the event will be distributed to local organizations offering recreation and fitness programs for youth in need due to disability or low income

This year's date, June 6th, is extra special because it is the 66th anniversary of D-Day. We intend to mark this anniversary by honoring our World War II veterans, thanking all other service personnel, and reaching out to our Wounded Warriors to participate in our race.

Our course is terrific. We start and finish at Lee High School (a track finish!) The 5K does a Commerce Street, Old Keene Mill, and Backlick Road loop passing by many of the local businesses. The 15K splits off at the end of Commerce Street and circles through the Lake Accotink park trail, the lake marina, and the rolling hills of the Crestwood neighborhood, all before returning to the commercial district and then Lee High School.

We are reaching out to sponsors and individuals who can help make this event successful. If you or someone you know can help, please contact Mark Russell, race director, atMetroRun-Walk.Mark@gmail.com to receive more information. We are committed to building this event into one of the premier southern Fairfax County races, so please bring your resources, energies, and ideas to help us get started!



JOIN SPRINGFIELD SWIMMING & RACQUET CLUB (SSRC)

Summer really is coming, though it may be difficult to imagine! How will you and your family enjoy those hot summer days? Fortunately, we have a solution right here in our neighborhood - Springfield Swimming & Racquet Club (SSRC). SSRC will open on Memorial Day and offers swim lessons, developmental swim team, tennis and many other benefits for the community. For years, many neighbors faced waiting lists and were unable to join the Club. Now, however, memberships are available and you and your family can join SSRC. Information on membership dues and fees for 2010 will be posted after March 1 at www.swimspringfield.com.

A MESSAGE FROM SUPERVISOR JEFF MCKAY

Last year, our county budget was a wake up call to many of us who saw Fairfax as a land of plenty with quality of life for all. Slowly, we came to understand that we, too, were subject to the strong financial headwinds battering the national and state economies.

The county executive's proposed budget for the fiscal year that begins on July 1 reflects our new reality—one that is likely to continue for some time. Between the proposed budget's release and its adoption on April 27, my colleagues and I will be listening to constituents and working to fine tune the budget to align it as closely as possible with citizen priorities and economic reality. It will be a challenge to maintain our quality of life and our school system while reducing services and turning our backs on programs that might be wonderful but unaffordable. I will be participating in these budget deliberations believing that there are some government responsibilities that are not negotiable. Public safety and basic human services are more important than ever during this economic downturn.

At first read, this budget makes the best of a difficult situation. I am pleased that it recognizes the importance of zoning enforcement to our neighborhoods. Bringing together staff from different agencies into a centralized department of code enforcement (including the Strike Team) will let us respond to enforcement issues more quickly, efficiently, and cost-effectively. The budget also recognizes that we cannot use homeowners as a bottomless piggy bank for programs that we cannot afford. While the county executive's proposed budget has a property tax rate of \$1.09, because of declining property values, the

average homeowner's bill will be \$48 less than last year's. This budget also recognizes the need to find revenue sources other than homeowners and I note that my suggestion last year to reinstitute the vehicle registration fee has been included. The \$33 fee is estimated to raise \$27 million a year

Schools are the Board of Supervisors' priority and that's reflected in this budget with almost 54 percent of the General Fund. It may be possible to increase the school transfer but it's too early to make that call as we wait for more information about the impact of the state budget on K-12.

Right now, I am concerned by the proposed elimination of middle school SROs (school resource officers)—these police officers have made impressive inroads into eliminating gang activity in our schools. Eliminating them would cost us much more in the long run.

Our challenge is to find new ways of doing things: better and more efficient ways to stretch our revenue dollars, more partnerships with non-profits and the private sector, and diversified revenue sources to take the pressure off our homeowners.

You can find more detailed information on the county budget at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news/2010/county-executive-budget-proposal-fy2011.htm>.

You can reach Supervisor McKay at 703-971-6262 or by e-mail at leedist@fairfaxcounty.gov .

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President:	Tawny Hammond
1st Vice President:	Jennifer Moody
2nd Vice President:	Bruce Waggoner
Treasurer:.....	Bill Gaylord
Secretary:	Alice Merrill
Director-at-large:.....	Bonnie Pritchard
Director-at-large:.....	Gail Nittle
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Past President:	Rick Renninger
Web Site Administrator.....	Yasuko Riggs
Neighborhood Watch Coordinator	Maureen Gibson
Hospitality.....	Sandy Frieswyk
Newsletter Layout:.....	Lee Paulson

Springfield Civic Association Members: Have you paid your dues? Your support is necessary to the health of our association! Be a "Good Do-Bee" and Pay Your Dues!

SCA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Become a "Springfield Promoter" and help your association to improve our community; make Springfield an ideal place for you and your children. Join the Springfield Civic Association (SCA) - contribute your voice when local problems are discussed, publish your views in our newsletter, become a Committee Member and alert SCA to community issues. For a mere \$15.00 you can join!

Cut along the dotted line above, to maintain uniformity of size and filing ease, and send the bottom part with your check to:

The Springfield Civic Association

P.O. Box 842,
Springfield, VA 22150

Areas Of Interest (Circle One or More)

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| Parks | Membership |
| Land Use/ Zoning | SCA Management |
| Community Improvement | Newsletter |
| Neighborhood Watch | Web Site |
| Transportation | Other |

This will incorporate the address labels which contain our filing info. Membership is on an annual basis, with dues payable in September. Any excess amount over \$15.00 will be considered a donation unless indicated otherwise.

Please complete the label verification below, make any necessary corrections, and indicate your areas of interest in the SCA:

Label Verification

Address is OK. Renewal New
(Circle one)

Name _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____

E-mail Address _____

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