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NEXT MEETING --
WHEN AND WHERE

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE!

November 16, 2010

Springfield Mall--Biz Fair

Penny's Entrance

Lower Level

Biz Fair Hours: 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

November greetings to you all. I hope we all made it to the polls on November 2. It certainly was a beautiful day to be exercising our basic right and responsibility. There is something about voting day that makes me so excited and proud to be an American. My dear father would always take me with him to vote when he got home from work. I remember how he would still be wearing his policeman's uniform and we would drive to the nearby park recreation center that doubled as our polling place. He would take me in to the voting booth with him as he explained everything and how it worked. Big stuff for a little kid. What a great memory that's stuck with me all these years.

Speaking of exciting times and responsibilities, the 2010 BizFair is just around the corner! Join your fellow neighbors on Tuesday, November 16 from 6 pm to 8 pm at the Springfield Mall in supporting our local business community. We all know that a healthy community is a community that supports the local merchants and businesses. We'll have holiday hospitality, live music and free raffles on hand! Come win a gift card just in time for the holidays! What better way to kick off your holiday shopping? The Fairfax County police will have officers on hand to address personal safety as well as holiday safety.

Special Note: We were very frustrated in September when the postal service lost our September newsletter. It was delivered to the Burke post office with plenty of time for delivery; however, somehow it ended up in North Carolina. As most of you noticed it was not delivered until *after* our September meeting. I am in communication with the postal service about a credit for that postage. They have promised me resolution. What made this postal snafu even worse was this was our Candidates Night, we mail 2400 newsletters out once a year in an effort to reach new residents and there was a change in the meeting location from Crestwood Elementary School to Grace Presbyterian Church. Our apologies to you all, but it was out of our hands. We were as upset as anyone could be.

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Continued from page 1

Please come on out and visit with me on November 16 at the Springfield Mall. Bring some friends and share your newsletter with your neighbors.

Remember: Let's all strive to be that neighbor that we would like to have. Reach out to your neighbors as many are still in need in our community.

This is a time of year that we all count our blessings and I am wishing you all the very best this Thanksgiving!

Be well friends.

Tawny Hammond

BEAUTIFUL HOME CONTEST WINNERS

SCA's Beautiful Home Contest came to an exciting finish at the September 21 Membership Meeting. Neighbors oohed and aaahed over the picture display of the homes nominated. There were even folks there from outside Central Springfield who were overheard saying, "Wow, this is wonderful! Why don't we have a Beautiful Home Contest in our Community?!"

We are so proud of all the homes nominated and their owners, a mix of long-time residents and more recent newcomers. The work they put into beautifying their homes makes our community more attractive for everyone. It's a pleasure to pass through a community with homes that make you smile rather than frown. Thank you, neighbors!

We're grateful to SCA's business friends, Diane and Jerry Margonies, owners of Jerry's Paint and Wallpaper on Backlick Road, and Jeremy McCluskey, General Manager of the new Marriott Residence Inn on Backlick and Old Keene Mill Roads, who so generously donated the terrific prizes we awarded the winners at the meeting. The Margonies also served once again as the contest judges. Thank you, judges and sponsors!

All three winners received a framed SCA certificate and a Beautiful Home yard sign.

The Beauty Award winner won a complimentary weekend stay with breakfast at the new Marriott Residence Inn and a \$100 gift certificate from Jerry's Paint and Wallpaper.

The two Star Award winners won a complimentary night's stay with breakfast at the new Marriott Residence Inn and a \$75 gift certificate from Jerry's Paint and Wallpaper.

To celebrate the beauty in our community created by our neighbors, pictures of the winning homes are on SCA's redeveloped website, www.springfieldcivic.org. Want to add some smiles to your day? Check them out!

GO GREEN!

Over half of our membership has made the commitment to a "green" newsletter by agreeing to receive the Springfield Reporter by e-mail. Let us know your preference by filling out the information below.

Name: _____

☐ Yes, I would like to help Springfield be "green" and receive my newsletter by e-mail. My e-mail address is: _____

(please print)

☐ No, thank you, I prefer my newsletter delivered by mail. My address is: _____

Send your preference to:

springfieldcivic@yahoo.com

or Springfield Civic Association, Box 842
Springfield, VA 22150

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH REPORT

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

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.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH!

One hour a month is all it takes to be part of the solution. Protect your community. Protect your home and your family.

SEVERAL INCIDENTS occurred in our neighborhoods involving solicitors that you should be aware of.

There is a group that is selling magazines in the area. While this is not a scam, they do not have solicitors' licenses. A citizen in the Woodfield Estates neighborhood (Franconia Rd/ S. Van Dorn St. area) called the non-emergency number (703) 691-2131. We responded and ended up fighting with one of the magazine sellers and arresting him on several charges. I would recommend calling for any solicitor. While there are legitimate solicitors, most are not. If you need a magazine or other service you can use the internet or yellow pages. Remember to check for business licenses and references.

I was advised that on Friday, October 15 there were some suspicious subjects going door to door in the Wilton Woods Neighborhood (Franconia Rd/Telegraph Rd area). These subjects advised a citizen that they were from Fairfax County. They advised the citizen that he needed to clean up his back yard or he would be fined. They also asked questions about one of the neighbors. These were two females wearing red shirts. They had lanyards around their necks with a card that said Fairfax County. They left no paperwork. Their purpose remains a mystery. I have checked with every possible county agency. I have been advised that no County employees would conduct themselves in this manner. Plus, no one that would go door to door was in this area. They were not soliciting and there were no break-ins in the area. Remember you can always inspect someone's ID. This goes for individuals from private companies like utilities as well. They should be able to provide you with a phone number that you can call and confirm that they are legitimately in your neighborhood. If something does not seem right, do not let them into your home, and call the police.

On Friday, October 22 we arrested a subject who was stealing money from an elderly woman in Lorton. They tricked her into writing checks for tree work that was not actually done. We were alerted to this case by a concerned neighbor. A great example of citizens and police working together. Once again, these people are required to have solicitors licenses, but rarely do. If you need tree work done you can use the internet or the yellow pages. The good price they give you may not be worth it. This is dangerous work and they may not have insurance. Once again, a good reason to call the police.

A final note on solicitors. These folks do not want to have contact with the police. They will leave the area if they see too many cruisers.

**RICHARD BYRD LIBRARY**

7250 Commerce Street

Springfield, VA 22150

703-451-8055

By Branch Manager Sandy Freund

In addition to the activities listed below, the library offers two ongoing programs *by appointment*. The first is free one-on-one personalized computer tutoring. Technology volunteers assist library customers with computers, common software applications, and navigating the Internet. In the second, Reading Buddies, students in grades 1-6 practice reading with an adult volunteer. Both programs are very popular and fill very quickly.

The Friends of the Library will be having their first large book sale in the new building on Friday, December 3 and Saturday, December 4. There will be a special preview sale for Friends members only on Thursday, December 2, from 5 to 9 p.m. All proceeds from the sale are used to support the library. For example, the Friends are currently sponsoring a monthly nature series presented by the Hidden Pond Nature Center for school age children. They are also sponsoring Read Yourself Silly, a special all-ages show on December 29.

Here is our activity calendar for November and December 2010:

Tuesdays in November, 7:00 PM

English Conversation Group. Practice and improve your English. Adults.*

Wednesday, November 10, 10:30 AM

Easy as Pie. What could be better than stories and activities about your favorite dessert – or breakfast! Join us for songs and stories. Age 2-5 with adult.

Monday, November 15, 2:30 PM**How Do Animals Get Ready for Winter?**

Learn what's going on all around us as animals get ready for winter. Presented by Hidden Pond Nature Center staff. Cosponsored by the Friends of the Richard Byrd Library. Ages 6-12.

Thursday, Nov. 18, 2:00 PM

P is for Pilgrims and Pumpkin Pie. Stories and activities to celebrate the season. Age 2-5 with adult.

Thursday, Nov. 18, 7:00 PM

Springfield Writers' Group. Share your work, give and receive feedback in a supportive environment.*

Wednesday, November 24, 1:00 PM

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

Friday, December 3, 10:00 AM – 5:30 PM**Saturday, December 4, 10:00 AM – 4:30 PM**

Used Book Sale. Sponsored by the Friends of the Richard Byrd Library. All ages.*

Tuesdays, December 7, 14, and 21 at 7:00 PM

English Conversation Group. Practice and improve your English. Age 2-5 with an adult.

Wednesday, December 8, 10:30 AM

Spice is Nice. A gingerbread baby? A cat with chili powder? A pipkin of pepper? Find out what these stories have in common. Join us for stories and activities. Age 2-5 with an adult.

Thursday, December 16, 2010, 2:00 PM

C Is For Candle. Join us for fun stories and activities celebrating the season. Age 2-5 with adult.

Thursday, December 16, 2010, 7:00 PM

Springfield Writers' Group. Share your work, give and receive feedback in a supportive setting. Adults.*

Monday, December 20, 2010, 2:30 PM

Going Green Inside and Out. Learn ways you can go green and help the environment this winter as well as how animals use the green of evergreens to survive. Presented by the staff of **Hidden Pond Nature Center.** Cosponsored by the Friends of Richard Byrd Library. Age 6-12.

Wednesday, December 22, 2010, 1:00 PM

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

Wednesday, December 29, 2010, 10:30 AM

Read Yourself Silly. A juggling and magic show presented by Flow Circus. Cosponsored by the Friends of Richard Byrd Library. All ages.

*Indicates that no registration is required. Otherwise, registration opens two weeks before each event.

**CHILD CARE AVAILABLE**

Do you want 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.

A FUNDRAISING EVENT FOR LAKE ACCOTINK PARK

Everyone is invited to run/walk laps around the lake to benefit Lake Accotink Park!

Springfield, Virginia, October 22th: 'Lap for Lake Accotink Park' or LAP 4 LAP will be held at the Lake Accotink Park marina Friday, November 5th through Sunday, November 7th. The main event, the community lap, is scheduled for November 7th, 9 a.m.

Lake Accotink Park is a hidden jewel – just a half-mile from I-495!

- ☒ 493 acres of wooded beauty
- ☒ A 55 acre lake with a beach, boat rentals, and fishing
- ☒ A 3.8 mile mixed surface loop trail, which includes the Cross County Trail
- ☒ 30+ recreation programs scheduled for the fall
- ☒ The oldest operating carousel in Fairfax County
- ☒ A picturesque train trestle with history dating to the civil war

☒ Mini-golf, picnic shelters, party areas, and more!

This is a low-key, noncompetitive event meant to be fun for the whole family. Many of the participants will walk and/or run one 3.8 mile lap at Sunday 9a.m., but hardy citizenry are encouraged to strive for more laps. The weekend long lap challenge includes start times of Friday 12-5, Saturday 9-5, and Sunday 9-4, and a lap status board will keep track of individual and total lap counts.

The LAP 4 LAP HQ will be the small shelter at the lake marina. Laps are best started on the hour, so groups can form. Participant registration will be for 15 minutes before each hour, and 30 minutes before the main event on Sunday morning.

100% of LAP 4 LAP registration fees will go toward park improvements and recreation programs and are fully tax deductible. The first lap is \$20, the second and third laps are \$10, and the rest are free. T-shirts can be ordered at registration for an additional \$15.

Email : metrorunwalk.mark@gmail.com

Website: <http://metrorunwalkspringfield.com/featuredevents/lap4lap.html>

Blog:<http://metrorunwalkspringfiled.wordpress.com/2010/10/18/lake-accotink-fundraiser/#more-665>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=159209384114051&index=1>

Park: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/accotink> or call 703-569-0285

Event management and costs donated by Metro Run & Walk: www.MetroRunWalk.com

The Springfield Reporter regrets that due to printing schedules, the above information is applicable to our electronic delivery recipients only.

**SCHOOL NEWS****CRESTWOOD ELEMENTARY
TIM KASIK, PRINCIPAL**

The school year is in full swing and it is hard to believe that we are nearing Thanksgiving. We at Crestwood Elementary School are continuing to work hard to help our students become life-long learners and responsible members of the community. One of the areas of focus we've chosen for this year is on setting and achieving goals. On multiple occasions, I have shared with the students some of the goals I have set for myself. One of these goals is getting to know each child's name. With nearly 600 students, this is an ambitious undertaking. I keep telling the children that it is OK to ask for help when working toward a goal and that I need their help as I am learning their names. One story I'd like to share is that a first grade child came to me and said that he and his family are working hard on their goal. They want to read with each other every night during the month of October. Not only has this family set a goal, but they are monitoring themselves on a daily basis. This particular first grader loves to share his news with me and I keep telling him how proud he and his family should be for working toward their goal.

We recently had our second PTA meeting of the year on October 21. There were more than 80 people in attendance and the energy in the room was nothing short of amazing. Our goal is to keep our momentum going and to continue to involve the community with the happenings of the school.

Have a terrific month.

Timothy Kasik

A MESSAGE FROM SUPERVISOR MCKAY

Preserving our neighborhoods' quality of life has always been one of my priorities and since taking office I've focused on making improvements to how the County handles these issues. While there's been real progress over the past few years, we still had a ways to go. For example, if there's a code violation that needs to be resolved, it shouldn't be hard for residents to make a complaint and it shouldn't be hard for County staff to handle that complaint.

Until July 1, that was not always the case. The County had a stovepipe system that worked well years ago but was no longer flexible or robust enough to handle the complaints typical of our growing County. Different types of violations were handled by different agencies so someone living next to a house with multiple violations had to contact several different departments, reporting the appropriate violation to each one. Two years ago when the recession hit and we looked at County agencies for budget savings, I insisted that our code enforcement programs be preserved and made more efficient and responsive to neighborhood needs.

The end result of my work is the Consolidated County Services program under the Department of Code Compliance that became operational on July 1. This new department investigates most neighborhood quality of life complaints including boarding houses (overcrowding), parking in the grass, junk in the yard, unmowed grass, graffiti, building without permits, and hoarding. Other violations handled by this department include blight, property maintenance, noise, residential fire code, and other zoning violations. The new arrangement streamlines code enforcement under one umbrella, including the former Strike Teams. It has only one purpose and one priority—to investigate and resolve code violations that diminish our collective quality of life.

How is this different from what we had before? For the County, it streamlines the system and allows complaints that fall under different sections of the County's code to be worked simultaneously. Residents no longer have to figure out which agency handles which

violation before they can report it. Now, you can go to the County's website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code/ to file a report online. You can also call 703-324-1300.

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



REPORT FROM RICHMOND DELEGATE VIVIAN WATTS

Despite these very difficult economic times, I hope that you find a moment to give thanks for living in the time and place we do. My father lost his favorite sister to scarlet fever, but when I got scarlet fever, penicillin just meant Mom had to burn the pictures I drew while isolated in bed. As my kids were growing up, I don't remember ever hearing about scarlet fever or most other childhood diseases. In so many aspects of our lives, we are the most uniquely fortunate in all of human history.

But, the challenges we face are very real. On the state level, we begin our annual legislative session January 12th. Even more importantly, by December 6th, I must request all but five of the bills I'll be allowed to introduce. Please, if you have any concerns that might be addressed through changing state law, contact me right away. It's best to email me at vwatts@erols.com so I can most accurately get a picture of the problem and/or your thoughts before we talk.

Major issues I hope we'll be wrestling with include critical Northern Virginia transportation needs (congestion, our aging transit system and inadequate road maintenance.) I have been working across the aisle with Joe May (Chair of the House Transportation Committee) and Tom Rust on a serious, comprehensive transportation package. It's finally obvious that selling the ABC stores for a quick dollar is no transportation fix.

Indeed, I appreciated all of you who shared your concerns with me about greatly increasing liquor sales, losing money that currently goes to education, loose enforcement, and questioning the financing that depended on Virginia having the highest liquor tax in the nation.

I do expect significant focus on cleaning up the Chesapeake Bay, as the long-standing deadlines under federal law are upon us. I also am working with those concerned about human trafficking and minors forced into prostitution. And, of course, I will continue to focus on mental health and fight for improved nursing home staffing and accessible veteran services.

However, the over-riding issue will be making sure the budget stays in balance. As I'm writing this, the latest data available are for just the first three months of the budget year through September. The good news is that Virginia's unemployment is down to 7% from the peak of 7.8% we reached in February. Although state government revenues grew 3.6%, the challenge is that the budget is based on a forecast of 4.2% growth. (See more at www.finance.virginia.gov)

I'll be watching the full range of Virginia's economic indicators very closely. A great deal is at stake, especially funding public education and restoring payments to Virginia's retirement fund. As tough as these times are, however, I'm more grateful than ever for having the opportunity to help find the best path forward.

Now, if my Thanksgiving rolls will just rise light and fluffy so I stay "awesome" in my grandson's eyes, I can't ask for more!

In session address:

General Assembly building, Room 406
Capitol Square
Richmond, Virginia 23219

e-mail: vwatts@erols.com

Phone: 1-804-698-1039

Deb Sherman, legislative aide

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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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 problems. For a mere \$15, you can join!

Cut along the line above 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

The block below will incorporate the address labels which contain our filing information. Membership is on an annual basis, with dues payable in September. Any excess amount over \$15 will be considered a donation unless indicated otherwise.

Please complete the coupon below, make any necessary corrections, and indicate your areas of interest in the SCA in the box on the left.

Membership and Newsletter Delivery Information

Enclosed is my check to

☐ Join SCA ☐ Renew my membership

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Address: _____

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Please deliver my newsletter by:

☐ E-mail ☐ U.S. Mail

Please PRINT all information.

COMMUNITY ADS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Springfield Reporter features a personal ad section for the community. The cost is \$45 a square. If you would like to place an ad of your own here, please contact Tawny Hammond at 703-569-0285

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Join the Voice
of Your Community!

BLOOD DRIVE SPONSORED BY THE
AMERICAN LEGION POST 176



The American Legion will host a **BLOOD DRIVE** on Tuesday, December 21, 2010 from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Springfield American Legion, 6520 Amherst Avenue. For more information, please contact:

Joe Finch, 703-569-1552
Email--SEPPL1552@AOL.COM

The Springfield Civic Association
would like to thank the students
and faculty at Key Center School
for printing the newsletter.

Thank you!

ANUNCIO

La Asociación Cívica de Springfield le invita a una FERIA DE NEGOCIOS el 16 de noviembre a las 7:00 p.m. en el Moll de Springfield, en el nivel inferior fuera de la entrada a JCPenney. Es una oportunidad para conocer y soportar los negociantes de Springfield.