

Springfield Reporter

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Summer in Springfield



David Floyd got to try out a real police radio at an SCA Front Yard Barbecue held in August as part of National Night Out.

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President’s Corner

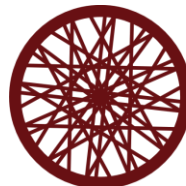
Our next membership meeting is Tuesday, 20 September at Crestwood Elementary School. September’s meeting is “Candidates’ Night,” so please get your questions ready and let your neighbors know this is a grand opportunity to get better acquainted with the candidates. Of note, the SCA is now in the Commonwealth’s 35th Senate District (incumbent: Dick Saslaw).

Land Use Highlights

1. No news to report on the Springfield Mall.

2. The Chick-fil-A is still coming to Backlick Road (Outback Steakhouse plaza). There had been rumors to the contrary.
3. An Embassy Suites (Hilton) is planned for the Hunter Motel site on Loisdale Road.
4. Homewood Suites (Hilton) is still on track for the former Chi-Chi’s location on Old Keene Mill Road and will effectively mirror the Marriott

(continued on page 2)



Est. 1953

Springfield Civic Association

Where we all come together

Residence Inn on the other side of the Veterans Bridge.

5. The restaurant construction on the adjacent site to the Homewood Suites is progressing. The Supervisor's Office says that three restaurants will be housed in the one building. Details to follow once we learn them.
6. Nothing to report on the Commerce Street Garden Apartments.

The public is welcome at Land Use Committee meetings and SCA has at least one representative at each meeting. For more information, see www.fairfaxcounty.gov/lee/landuse.htm.

SCA Committees and Projects: Don't get frustrated, get involved!

- Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) to the Fairfax County Police Department
- Lee District Land Use Advisory Committee
- Lee District Association of Civic Organizations (LDACO)
- National Night Out (NNO)
- Neighborhood Watch
- Newsletter Committee
- Springfield Community Education Alliance (SCEA)
- Transportation Committee

Thanks

Of special note, I would be remiss and ungrateful if I didn't thank the outgoing and incoming members of the SCA Board for their cooperation, support, skills and hard work during transition. My respect and admiration to: Tawny Hammond, Lee Paulson, Bill Gaylord, Michele Duell, Merry Macke, Richard Duffy, Alice Merrill, Bonnie Pritchard, Gail Nittle, Sara Martin, Loida Gonzalez, Rick Gonzalez, Diane Boughton, Sandra Frieswyck, Maureen Gibson, Al McAloon, Rick Renninger, Joe and Betty McGowan, and others who work to improve our community day-to-day.

On behalf of the 2011-12 SCA Board, I look forward to seeing you at the September 20 meeting.

All the best,

Bruce Waggoner
President, Springfield Civic Association

Children at SCA Meetings

Due to liability issues, SCA will not be providing childcare during meetings. However, you are welcome to bring children to meetings. There are tables in the back of the room where they can do homework, color, or read. Plus SCA meetings are a great place to learn about community involvement.

Bogus Blue Bins

Friends of the Richard Byrd Library reports that for-profit companies are placing blue donation bins in local parking lots. Please drive past the bins and donate your books to Friends of the Richard Byrd Library. The non-profit sells donated used books and all the money goes to Richard Byrd Library to buy new library materials and sponsor programs in our community. Even the leftovers are donated to charities.



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Neighborhood Watch

Interested in joining the Neighborhood Watch? One hour a month is all it takes to be part of the solution.

Contact the Crime Prevention Officer at 703-922-8263 or SCA at springfieldcivic@yahoo.com.



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Burglary/Abduction/Assault in Franconia

The Franconia Police District reports that a 5-year-old girl was abducted from her home and assaulted.

Police were called to a townhouse in the 7000 block of Brocton Court for the report of a break-in shortly after 4 am on Saturday, August 27. During the preliminary investigation, officers and detectives determined that an unknown male forced entry into the home, went upstairs and took a 5-year-old girl from her bed. The victim's parents were alerted to the crime when the little girl made her way back to the home. According to initial information, the victim was taken to a nearby location sometime between midnight and 4 am. There are indications that she sustained trauma to the upper body before being released by the suspect. She was transported to a local hospital where she was examined and treated for non life-threatening injuries.

A K-9 team responded along with detectives and crime scene technicians. There is no further description of the suspect at this time.

Police are asking for the public's assistance in providing any information about possible suspicious activity and or persons in the area of this crime. Please be vigilant in locking your doors and windows and leave outside lights on whenever possible.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Crime Solvers by phone at 1-866-411-TIPS/8477, e-mail at www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org or text "TIP187" plus your message to CRIMES/274637 or call Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131.

New Rabies Door-to-Door Notification Plan

In an effort to better inform residents about rabid animals in their communities, Animal Control officers are starting a new door-to-door notification process each time a rabid animal is discovered nearby.

Beginning September 2, officers will knock on doors to alert residents that they should take precautions to protect their family pets from exposure to wildlife when an animal in their neighborhood tested positive for the rabies virus. If no one is home, officers will leave a flyer at the door.

The goal of the new Animal Control Division-sponsored program is to prevent human exposure to rabies through education. Officers remind residents that they should report unusual or suspicious wildlife behavior at 703-691-2131. For example, officers recently received a report of a skunk that was making unusually loud noises in the Herndon area. The skunk went under the complainant's porch and physically pulled another skunk out and attacked it, repeatedly pouncing on the badly injured body. According to animal control officers, this is not typical of skunk behavior and rabies was strongly suspected, posing a threat to any animal (or resident) that may have been walking outside in that area.

Rabies is a deadly disease caused by a virus that attacks the central nervous system and kills almost any mammal or human that gets sick from it. The rabies virus is mainly in the saliva of rabid animals and can be transmitted through a bite or by getting saliva in a wound or in the eye or mouth. As of mid-August, 30 animals tested positive for rabies in Fairfax County. In 2010, there were 50. These animals include raccoons, skunks, foxes, bats and groundhogs, among others.

Rabies vaccinations are mandatory for all cats and dogs that reside in Fairfax County. All dogs four

months of age and older must also have a dog license; failure to license your dog or inoculate pets against rabies may result in fines of up to \$250.00.

For more information on rabies, visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/living/animals> or www.vdh.virginia.gov/epidemiology/DEE/Rabies/.

Summer in Springfield (continued)



Joe and Betty McGowan and Bruce Waggoner carried the SCA banner at the 10th Annual BridgeWalk.



Troops from Fort Belvoir, local citizens, and their dogs enjoyed the presentations, prizes, and booths at the BridgeWalk.

Community Calendar

How can you get involved in your community? There's something on the calendar for everyone. All events are open to the public unless noted otherwise.

Sat., Sept. 17, 7-8 pm - **Sunset Cruise**, Lake Accotink Park. 18 yrs and up, \$7 per person, registration required.

Tues., Sept. 20, 7 pm - **SCA Meeting** at Crestwood Elementary, 6010 Hanover Ave.

Weds., Sept. 21, 8 am-9 pm - **Shop at Whole Foods Market** in Springfield, 8402 Old Keene Mill Rd., and 5% of net profit goes to Friends of the Richard Byrd Library.

Weds., Sept 21, 7:30 pm - **Citizen's Advisory Committee**, Franconia District Police Station, 6121 Franconia Rd. Polygraph presentation at 6:30 pm.

Thurs., Sept. 22, 6:30 pm - **Lynbrook Elementary PTA Meeting**, 5801 Backlick Rd.

Sat., Sept. 24, 9 am-12 pm - **Lee District Resource Fair**, Franconia Governmental Center, 6121 Franconia Rd. An opportunity to meet with staff from the county and Supervisor McKay's office for assistance with difficult neighborhood issues. Leedist@fairfaxcounty.gov for more info.

Sun., Sept. 25, 10 am-3 pm - **Electric Sunday**. Bring your electronics for recycling to the I-95 Complex, 9850 Furnace Rd., Lorton, VA.

Weds., Sept. 28, 5-8 pm - **HOT Lanes Public Information Meeting**, Waterford at Springfield, 6715 Commerce St.

Weds., Sept. 28, 7:30 pm - **Lee District Association of Civic Organizations**, Franconia Governmental Center, 6121 Franconia Rd.

Mon., Oct. 3, 7 pm - **Lee District Land Use Committee**, Franconia Governmental Center, 6121 Franconia Rd.

Fri., Oct. 7, 1 pm - **Friends of the Richard Byrd Library board meeting** at the library, 7250 Commerce St.

Tues, Oct. 18, 2-7 pm - **Blood drive** at American Legion Post 176, 6520 Amherst Ave. Contact Joe Finch at 703-569-1552 or seppl1552@aol.com.

Tues., Oct. 18, 7 pm - **SCA Board Meeting**, Lake Accotink Park office.

Weds., Oct. 19, 7:30 pm - **Citizen's Advisory Committee**, Franconia District Police Station, 6121 Franconia Rd. Special presentation starts at 6:30 pm.

Weds., Oct. 26, 7:30 pm - **Lee District Association of Civic Organizations**, Franconia Governmental Center, 6121 Franconia Rd.

Sat., Oct. 29, 2-4 pm - **"Howloween" Dog Costume Contest and Boneyard Hunt**, Lake Accotink Park. \$6 per dog, registration required.

Sat., Oct. 29, 6-9 pm - **Halloween Goblin Golf and Bonfire**, Lake Accotink Park. \$7 per person, registration required.

Sat., Nov. 5, 7 pm - **Murder mystery** at Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce St., reservations required.

Tues., Nov. 8, 6 am-7 pm - **General election** to elect members to the Virginia Senate, the House of Delegates, Soil and Water commissioners, the Commonwealth's Attorney, the Sheriff, and members of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, and the Fairfax County School Board.

Mon., Nov. 14, 7 pm - **Lee District Land Use Committee**, Franconia Governmental Center, 6121 Franconia Rd.

Shoulder Tap Operation

On Wednesday, August 17, officers from the Franconia District Station, along with a member of the Traffic Safety Services Unit, conducted a “Shoulder Tap” operation at several locations in the Franconia area of the county. This undercover operation was conducted using two teams, each consisting of one cadet, two plainclothes officers and two uniformed officers serving as a security team. As a result of this operation, 43 adults were approached. Four arrests were made for illegal purchase of alcohol and one additional arrest for possession and use of a false identification at the following locations:

- Express 2 Food Market, 6969 Hechinger Plaza, 4 Approached, 2 Arrested
- 7-Eleven Store, 7000 Brookfield Plaza, 8 Approached, 1 Arrested
- Express 1 Food Market, 4713 Backlick Road, 12 Approached, 1 Arrested

The “Shoulder Tap” operation is part of the ongoing Youth Alcohol/Business Compliance enforcement campaign, managed by the Traffic Safety Division. Fairfax County police cadets, who are all under 21 years of age, dress in plainclothes and portray underage drinkers who rely on willing adults to purchase alcohol for them. Purchasing alcohol for someone under 21 years of age is a violation of Virginia State Code 4.1-306.

Back-to-School Safety Reminders

Fairfax County Police urge motorists to be extra watchful for pedestrians and bicyclists as county schools resume classes. Police have investigated 112 crashes in school zones so far in 2011.

Police remind drivers that when bus lights and stop signs are activated, vehicles must stop in both directions, unless they are separated from the bus by a median. In 2010, officers issued 266 citations for motorists improperly passing school buses. Typically, these infractions occur between 6 and 8 am and 2 and 4 pm. Officers also issued 1,371 summonses for speeding in school zones.

SCA Board of Directors

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Supervisor Jeff McKay on Safe Streets

As your local elected official, I take sidewalk level issues seriously and make a point to spend time in our neighborhoods. While I often tour my district with the police, it's usually daytime, in a police cruiser. Recently, I hopped on a police mountain bike and peddled for miles with the Mount Vernon bike team on a 9 pm to midnight ride-along. (The Mount Vernon station includes a good part of Lee District.)

The ride-along included much of the Route One corridor, focusing on neighborhoods where residents requested additional police presence or where there were numerous calls for service. (That's why it's important for you to call the police if you see or hear something worrisome in your neighborhood—police resources are allocated partly by calls for service.) The ride-along included patrolling shopping centers and neighborhoods; clearly the bike team knows every inch of our district. With a sidewalk-level perspective and the flexibility and mobility of a bicycle, the team can do things that police in cars cannot. It's one of the reasons why our police

officers are on a first name basis with many of our residents—good ones and bad ones. The officers know how to get to every corridor neighborhood—by trail, sidewalk, woods, or what have you.

During the ride-along, we approached a seemingly innocent parked car and found it held individuals high on PCP. The officers knew one of the miscreants by name—a criminal frequent flyer. This stop resulted in three arrests and valuable intelligence for our war on illegal drugs.

Overall, Fairfax County and Lee District are very safe —among the safest communities in the entire country. As we patrolled, residents waved, wished us a good evening, and were happy to see officers out of their cars and on the sidewalk.

Safe streets don't happen by accident and this ride-along has renewed my appreciation for our public safety forces and their dedication and commitment. We are fortunate to have these men and women. (That's why I've insisted that our budget reductions spare our public safety forces as much as possible.)

Delegate Vivian Watts on Traffic

I'm delighted Sara Martin has picked up on Lee Paulson's invaluable dedication to put this newsletter together. It is an important part of

what keeps this community together. It's not just what's communicated. It's also reading about how many people are involved in big and little ways that underscores the message: We're all in it together!

With the changes in House of Delegate districts that happen after every census, I now represent all 4 sides of the Beltway / I-95 interchange. It gives me a great focus on working with Supervisor McKay (who represents outside the Beltway) and Supervisor Gross (who represents inside the Beltway) to bring forth the most rational transportation decisions we can.

(continued)



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BRAC (Department of Defense Base Realignment And Closure) is a tremendous challenge. Most of us would have made different choices - especially to use the GSA warehouse behind the Springfield Metro station instead of Mark Center at I-395 and Seminary Rd. Nevertheless, we still have a number of opportunities to support good urban design or be stuck forever in traffic.

A crucial up-coming decision is whether and how HOT lanes will be constructed on I-95. There is a very important public information meeting coming up on Wednesday, September 28, 2011, 5-8 pm, at the Waterford at Springfield, 6715 Commerce St.

Please come and learn about what is proposed. While this is not a public hearing your comments and questions will be important.

I particularly want to bring to your attention that the public notice reads: "Find out about design plans for the proposed high occupancy vehicle (HOV) and high occupancy toll (HOT) lanes between Edsall Road in Fairfax County and Garrisonville Road in Stafford County."

I have been working with neighborhoods near Landmark, who are now in my district. We are VERY concerned for all of the region's traffic that the HOT lanes won't go to the new BRAC facility at Mark Center. Many assumed they would. It doesn't make sense to force single occupancy vehicles into regular commuter lanes which will be highly impacted by Mark Center traffic. (Note: Express buses and HOV-3 vehicles will continue on the existing HOV lanes.)

At this stage, public involvement can make a difference in extending added capacity on I-395 inside the Beltway as far as possible. The website for information is: <http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/publicinvolvement.asp>

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Crestwood Elementary Update

This summer has been very busy at Crestwood Elementary School and we are very excited to start the new school year. We are looking forward to getting to know your children and we are setting some very high expectations for each student that we serve.

As we begin the school year, it is important to remember a few things. First, breakfast will be served beginning at 8:25. The children can go to their classrooms beginning at 8:40 and instruction will begin at 9:00. Lastly, if your children come to school late, be sure to stop at the main office to sign them in, but keep in mind how important it is that your children begin their school day on time with the rest of the class.

Last year saw many successes at Crestwood. Our attendance at PTA meetings rose dramatically and we strengthened our partnerships within the community. As always, student achievement is our highest priority. To that end, we've installed SMARTBOARDS in all first through sixth grade classrooms this year, and we are looking to use them to better help our children learn. We also added another Headstart classroom. This will

double the number of children who receive a rigorous and productive pre-Kindergarten experience.

I encourage everyone to join the PTA and lend a hand with one of our many endeavors this year. If you have a special talent or hobby that you'd like to share with a group of students, please volunteer to lead an After School Program. We can work around your schedule and we'd like to offer as many after school opportunities for our children as possible. This can only happen with your help.

Crestwood is a fantastic community and I am grateful to be a part of it. Let's have a fantastic year!

Sincerely, Timothy Kasik, Principal

Printing Service

Thanks to the students of the Key Center for printing this newsletter. Their discounted services are open to the public. Contact jjglasser@fcps.edu for more information.

Join SCA

Annual dues of \$15 cover all adults in a household. Membership is open to all residents and non-resident property owners in the Crestwood and Lynbrook neighborhoods. Mail this form with your check to PO Box 842, Springfield, VA 22150 or bring it with you to the September 20th meeting. Please print clearly.

Join SCA Renew my membership Add or change contact information

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Interests _____

By providing your email address, you agree to receive the newsletter and monthly updates by email.



Springfield Civic Association

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SCA Meeting: Candidates' Night

Tuesday, September 20, 7:00 pm
Crestwood Elementary School
6010 Hanover Avenue

The social begins at 7 pm with business kick-off promptly at 7:30. Join your community to hear from candidates you will see on the ballot on Nov. 8. SCA has invited the candidates for State Delegate, County Chairmanship, and County Sheriff, as well as Lee District Supervisor Jeff McKay and Delegate Vivian Watts who are running unopposed.

Please submit your questions for the candidates to springfieldcivic@yahoo.com.

The drawing for door prizes, including a weekend stay at TowneSuites, is promptly at 9 pm. Pay your dues to be a member-in-good-standing for the drawing!

Queridos miembros de la comunidad hispana:



De la Asociación Civica de Springfield quisieramos invitarles a una reunión el dia 20 de Septiembre que tendra como objetivo el de ilegar a conocernos mayor y será una oportunidad en la que podamos escuchar sus opiniones. Esta reunión será en la escuela elementaria de Crestwood a las 7:00 de la tarde.

Esperamos contar con su valiosa presencia.

SCA Dues

Annual dues of \$15 cover all adults in a household. Your address label below shows your dues status. If you have not yet paid for 2011-12, please send your check or bring it with you to the next meeting. Use the form on page 7 to update your information.