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Springfield Civic Association

Where we all come together

President's Message—Bruce Waggoner

Seasons' Greetings to All:

We hope you have noticed that Springfield is undergoing a physical revival of late. For instance, the McDonalds has been refurbished and the Backlick Road Shell has begun its renovations. The local Five Guys restaurant is undergoing a similar upgrade.

Construction on the new headquarters (HQ) for the Transportation Security Administration has begun while construction of The St. James Sports Complex on Industrial Drive (former Washington Gas HQ) continues apace with a promised opening in September. Hampton Hotels is planning to build on the former Merv's Auto Repair site near the Motel Six, and LIDL is moving ahead with their plan to build a grocery store on the corner of Brandon and Commerce Street (formerly Safford Dodge). The Town Center is also involved as Dave & Buster's is looking to expand along with Maggiano's. The County, Lee District Supervisor McKay and his Staff are working to

facilitate and keep this momentum. Most encouraging of all is the private equity investment in Springfield, a definite nod to Springfield's future commercial viability.

The Springfield Civic Association (SCA) next meets on Tuesday, January 16th at Crestwood Elementary. Our social begins at 7pm with business beginning promptly at 7:30pm. January's topic is local clubs and associations who wish to inform and recruit. In that spirit we have invited staff from **The St. James Sports Complex** to explain what their facility is all about and tell us of the planned amenities at this world-class fitness facility.

If you are interested in showing off your club or association please contact the SCA to make arrangements.

On behalf of the SCA Board, we wish you and yours a healthy and happy New Year!
Sincerely,
Bruce Waggoner

Richard Byrd Library News

Happy New Year!

VITA returns to Richard Byrd to provide free tax assistance to taxpayers earning up to \$54,000/year. They will be here every Saturday from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm beginning January 27. Since the library opens at 10:00, customers seeking tax help only will be admitted into the meeting room from 9:30 to 10:00.

Spotlight Series: Morningstar will show you how to use the Morningstar resource to access independent investment research and analysis and discover tools to build and analyze a portfolio. This program will be held on Monday, January 22 at 7:00 pm.

Beginning in January, Richard Byrd will present an occasional Saturday storytime for children age 0 to 5 years with adult. The first one is January 20 at 10:30 am and is called **Saturday Stories**.

In partnership with Andrews Federal Credit Union and the Friends of the Richard Byrd Library, the library will once again present financial literacy workshops. **Financial Literacy: Basic Banking** will be held Thursday, January 25 and **Financial Literacy: Credit and Fraud** on Thursday, February 15, both from 7:00 to 8:30 pm.

Drop in at the library on Saturday, February 3 for **Take Your Child to the Library Day**. Crafts, stories and activities for all ages will run from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Celebrate with **Happy Lunar New Year!** on Monday, February 12 at 4:30 pm, a program for ages 6-12.

January Meeting
Tuesday, Jan. 16th
Crestwood ES

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

Program:
Volunteer
Opportunities
and
Update on the
St. James Sports
Complex

Supervisor McKay's Year in Review

Many big changes came to Lee District and Fairfax County this year, and many of those changes benefit our ongoing revitalization efforts and improve the way we deliver services to residents. Thanks in no small part to our community's hard work, it was overall a strong year for Lee District and Fairfax County as a whole.

My proudest legislative accomplishment was the passage of the OneFairfax Resolution; an affirmation by the Board of Supervisors to improve equity of access to opportunity for all residents regardless of their background. In my mind, this was one of the most important resolutions that has come across my desk in my term as Supervisor, and there has never been a more important time to commit to reducing inequalities in our community. The resolution first began to develop during one of my meetings with the Successful Children and Youth Policy Team, and grew from there to be an unwavering commitment to a better future for all residents. After all, much of Fairfax's economic success has been because we are inclusive and we need to enhance that further.

Even in the wake of the FBI cancelling its headquarters relocation, I was confident that we would be able to attract other federal agencies to Springfield. That paid off when I learned that the Transportation Security Administration had chosen to build their new headquarters near the GSA warehouse, a testament to our hard work. In just the past few years, Springfield has become a major economic powerhouse in the region with the Springfield Town Center becoming the third most valuable property in Fairfax.

I also was able to work together with Mount Vernon Supervisor Dan Storck to get transportation projects in Lee District and along the Route One Corridor put at the top of the priority funding request the Board of Supervisors recently approved. In all, projects in Lee District made up 43.8% of the total projects listed on the countywide funding request. This request is a major step forward in that direction. We were also able to get many Lee District roads on the VDOT paving plan, ensuring that residents would be able to travel on well-maintained and safe roads.

We also had big developments in our parks this year. Franconia Park, a stone's throw from my office, is currently having its master plan re-evaluated, a major step in adding new facilities and features to one of our favorite neighborhood parks. We also brought back the carousel to Lee District Park, a childhood favorite of mine and a staple of summers in Lee District.

In public safety news, police in the Mount Vernon Station will begin wearing body-worn cameras for a pilot program in the next few months, after the Police Ad Hoc Commission made a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors. A research team will evaluate the impact of the cameras and report back after the three month pilot program, after which we will make a decision on whether to keep the cameras as a permanent program. Many agencies and organizations were involved in this exciting project, including our own police department and sheriff's office, the Fairfax NAACP, the Independent Auditor's Office, and many community organizations.

Even more is on the horizon for Lee District and its residents. As we move into 2018, I am already hard at work looking for opportunities to continue to improve our quality of life and offer even more great services. It was a pleasure serving as your District Supervisor this year.



American Association of University Women

The next meeting of the AAUW will take place January 20, 2018 at 1:00 p.m.

Dr. Johari Rashad presents "Inside Look at National Museum of African-American History and Culture"

Meetings are held at the Kings Park Library, Large Meeting Room, 9002 Burke Lake Road, Burke, VA 22015

All programs are free of charge.

Presented by the Springfield-Annandale and Fairfax Branches of the American Association of University Women

For more information 703-764-8061

For more information about the Springfield-Annandale and Fairfax branches of the American Association of University Women, go to <http://Sprann-va.aauw.net>

Lake Accotink News

Lake Accotink Park hosted approximately 200 people for its annual Holiday Horse-drawn Hayrides, held on December 9, 2017 amidst a light snowfall and a landscape worthy of a holiday greeting card. A flatbed wagon pulled by two Belgian draft horses picked up 15 to 20 passengers every 20 minutes and carted them along the park road past the lake and the dam. Participants also enjoyed visits with Santa in his cozy cottage that other times of year serves as the park's camp office. A crackling campfire by the lake with plenty of s'mores to go around warmed the spirits of attendees as they listened to music of the season that was playing over the carousel sound system. We are extremely grateful to *Friends of Lake Accotink Park* for providing volunteers to help with the event.



With the holiday event behind us, park staff are working on plans for a *"Birds and Bats"* event that is scheduled for Saturday, April 28, 2018. The program is designed to celebrate the important roles that birds and bats play in the ecosystem. Details will be shared in the coming months, but for now we ask that anyone interested in volunteering for the event, please contact park staff at 703-569-0285. We especially seek volunteers able to help with children's activities at the event and to help prepare materials in the days leading up to the event.

In the meantime, here's an important announcement regarding the master planning process for the park:

The process for future planning of Lake Accotink Park continues this month with another opportunity to provide your thoughts and ideas. The Park Authority will host a community meeting to continue to gain input regarding management options for Lake Accotink as well as a few key design issues. Please join us on **Monday, January 22, from 7 to 8:30 pm** at

**North Springfield Elementary School
7602 Heming Court, Springfield, VA**

Please note, if inclement weather results in the closure of Fairfax County Public Schools or the cancellation of evening events, the meeting will be held on February 5, 2018 at the same time and location.

Wondering what ideas have been put forward to date? You can view meeting notes, workshop summaries, community input results, and other documents that support the planning process. Visit <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/planning-development/lakeaccotink>

If you have any questions or comments to share with park staff, please give us a call at 703-569-0285 or 703-569-3464. Or stop by and warm up at the park office. Hours are Monday through Friday, 10 to 5 pm.

Hope to see you in the park!



News from the Chamber of Commerce

Chamber Honors Meg Brantley with Herb Hunter Award

An executive director who oversees approximately 400 workers – for free – is the Greater Springfield Chamber's Herb Hunter Citizen of the Year. Meg Brantley, the Chamber's 2017 Herb Hunter recipient, is executive director of the nonprofit Ecumenical Community Helping Others (ECHO).

Others recognized by the Greater Springfield Chamber for their community dedication were Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Master Technician Michael Guck, Public Service Award; April Pinch-Keeler, Business Person of the Year; and Andrews Federal Credit Union, Corporate Citizen.

After having served as a co-chair of ECHO's clothing services for 10 years, Brantley accepted the challenging job of executive director in 2009. Since then, she has guided ECHO's mission of providing food, clothing and emergency financial help to people in need. Because ECHO is staffed entirely by volunteers, Brantley's full-time job has been without remuneration.

Along with a penchant for hard work, Brantley has brought a commitment to the ideal that clients, donors and volunteers be treated with dignity and fairness. She works with and supervises approximately 400 volunteers whose tasks include everything from packing bags of food, to sorting thousands of donated clothing items and household goods, to making sure the physical plant works properly. Directing the work of volunteers requires a measure of grace and tact, qualities Brantley possesses in abundance. In addition, Brantley works closely with the ECHO board and community and government officials. Her outstanding organizational abilities are matched with a great sense of humor and touching personal warmth – qualities that have helped ECHO increase its volunteer staff and its number of donors during her tenure and qualities that earned Brantley this year's prestigious Herb Hunter Citizen of the Year award.

Guck, the Public Service Award recipient, has been the driver/operator of Franconia Tower Ladder 405 since June of 2014, is the master technician on B-shift and takes the lead on most of the training at the station. He is an EMT-Intermediate and a Hazardous Materials Technician on the county's Hazardous Materials Response Team and holds instructor certifications in multiple disciplines. Within the past three years Guck has been involved in the technical rescue of trapped riders on a roller coaster at Six Flags Amusement Park in Prince Georges County, MD, assisted in the fire suppression and rescue of trapped occupants at a garden apartment fire on Mary Caroline Circle, and assisted in the delivery of two babies as a Firefighter/Medic on both Tower 405 and Medic 405.

Under Pinch-Keeler's leadership, MVLE has forged partnerships with more than 125 business, government and community organizations across our region to support individuals with disabilities, expanded to three Community Centers and launched countless new programs and business lines. Among her many accomplishments, Pinch-Keeler's vision, energy and persistence resulted in MVLE becoming the first nonprofit accepted into the national Department of Defense Mentor Protégé Program, with Northrup Grumman Corp. as MVLE's mentor. MVLE's participation in the DoD Mentor Protégé Program is trailblazing as it is the first-ever acceptance of a nonprofit into the program. By accomplishing entry into the Mentor Protégé program, Business Person of the Year Pinch-Keeler has opened the doors for the national AbilityOne Program and all non-profits to secure employment for people with disabilities within the DoD.

Founded in 1948, Corporate Citizen of the Year recipient Andrews Federal Credit Union has gone above and beyond to be involved in and support the Greater Springfield community since it opened its first branch in the Springfield Town Center in 2014. Andrews staff is encouraged to participate in civic organizations and support community causes – and they do. Among their community involvement is partnering with the Friends of Richard Byrd Library to lead free, financial education seminars; volunteering with Lorton Community Action Center service projects; volunteering for Fairfax County's Summer Lunch Bunch program; and scraping, cleaning and repainting 12 fire hydrants along King Street in Alexandria. In addition, Andrews was the presenting sponsor of Springfield Days 2017, our community's all-volunteer run and supported annual festival. Andrews also served as a community sponsor for the Tots2Twins Back2School Bash at the Springfield Town Center.



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Friends of Richard Byrd Library Update

Winter/Holiday Sale Results

Thanks to loyal patrons and generous volunteers we had another very successful winter book sale raising over \$9,100 to support Richard Byrd Library programs! Special thanks to talented artists Barbara Aigen and Mary Rose Janya of the Springfield Art Guild for designing and painting the conference room window...a snowy winter scene! (Library patrons will continue to enjoy it for weeks to come.) Thanks also to all who volunteered to set up for, organize and clear out after the sale. We maintained our stellar reputation for a well-organized and friendly sale. There were many very happy shoppers who got just the special gift they were searching for.

And again, we supported ECHO and the county jail with donations from our unsold inventory. The county jail is beginning the process to set up a small children's library...we gave them enough material to make a great start. All the leftovers were donated to Velocity of Books, a nonprofit agency in Maryland working to get books into underserved neighborhoods.

Join Us - Be a Friend

Time to Renew Membership.

We appreciate our volunteers, and if you aren't already a volunteer - please join us. If you'd like to do more, become a dues paying member of the Friends. A \$10 individual or \$20 family annual membership provides you with reserved seating for Friends events, a 4X a year newsletter, and preview shopping at our sales. Why is it important to volunteer and/or become a member? Well, did you know?

- Friends pay for all the children's performers at the library.
- Friends pay for the New York Times, Scientific America and 14 other publications.
- Friends provide volunteers for summer reading programs, Reading Buddies, and all or hands on programming. Friends run Educators' Night - our program to bring books to our school's classroom libraries.

Upcoming Events

Saturday, January 20, 2 - 4pm: **CoderDojo**

Thursday, January 25, 7pm (pizza at 6:30pm): **Financial Literacy - Basic Banking**

Thursday, February 15, 7pm (pizza at 6:30pm): **Financial Literacy - Credit & Fraud**

Saturday, February 17, 2 - 4pm: **CoderDojo**

Saturday, March 17, 2 - 4pm: **CoderDojo**

Thursday, March 29, 7pm (pizza at 6:30pm): **Financial Literacy - Saving for College & Retirement**

Follow us on Social Media outlets

Friends on Facebook at "[FriendsOfRichardByrdLibrary](#)"

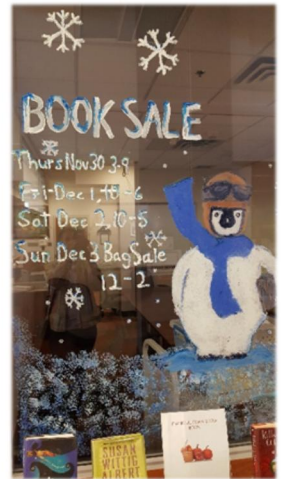
Instagram at "[bowtiethelibrarypenguin](#)"

Twitter at "[ByrdLibFriends](#)"

Your engagement helps us reach an even broader audience!

Volunteer: Looking for a volunteer opportunity...come join the Friends of the Richard Byrd Library! Contact us at: rbfriends@gmail.com.

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



Photos Courtesy of the Friends of Richard Byrd Library



Eddie Greenan
GIA GRADUATE GEMOLOGIST

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Citizens Advisory Committee—CAC

CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE FRANCONIA DISTRICT POLICE PARTNERSHIP WITH THE COMMUNITY

To enhance its ability to communicate with and better serve the community, the Fairfax County Police Department (FCPD) established a program in 1979 which took the form of advisory groups known as Citizens' Advisory Committees (CAC).

The purpose of the CAC is to:

- ◆ provide an organized forum for direct communication between the Police Department and the community on emergencies and matters of community and/or personal concern.
- ◆ help the Police Department and the community work toward a common goal of crime prevention through citizen concern and improved police services.
- ◆ support the Police Department, where appropriate, before pertinent legislative bodies and government agencies.



The Franconia Citizens' Advisory Committee meets the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm at the Franconia Government Center. After a presentation/program by someone from a department of the FCPD and a short break, the Chair conducts a brief information-sharing and business meeting. The "Officer of the Quarter" (after being selected by the CAC membership) is recognized for his or her outstanding service followed by "Tell It to the Captain".... the point where communication happens between the police and the community.

There is no annual fee to be a member of the CAC. However, Civic Associations, Homeowners Associations, and individuals often make donations to the CAC which help with special meals we provide to officers who have to work on holidays; the CAC also makes contributions to the station for items that their budget may not cover. These donations are wonderful but secondary; primary is the communication and connection between the police and each of the communities.

Note: The CAC organized meals for those officers working on Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, and Christmas Day. With huge food contributions from GreenSprings, donations from Civic Associations like North Springfield and the SCA, and volunteers from the CAC, the officers didn't go hungry or have to be alone on the holidays!

ARMS OUTSTRETCHED MINISTRY, INC. WOUNDED WARRIOR PROGRAM DONATION LIST

****All items are for men and women****

- Medium size gift bags (white or various colors)
- Hygiene Items (full size items please)
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 - o deodorant
 - o shave cream (no razors allowed)
 - o combs
 - o hair brushes
 - o soap (bar or liquid)
 - o Toothpaste
 - o Toothbrushes
 - o Floss
 - o Mouthwash
 - o Cologne or body sprays
 - o Any other hygiene item not mentioned.
- Crossword puzzle books, paperback books
- Pens, pencils, paper or stationary
- Postage stamps
- Bibles, inspirational documents

- International calling cards (so they can call back to their units)
- DVD's, CD's
- Blankets
- Homemade greeting cards from kids
- Small stuffed bears (for wounded warrior to give their significant other or child)
- Candy, chewing gum, mints
- Girl Scout cookies (all varieties)
- White plain T-shirts or tank tops
- Neck and back warmers
- Visa Gift cards for families who stay long periods of time with the wounded warriors
- Stuffed bears (small to medium sizes)
- Monetary donations for meals, emergency transportation and lodging needs, clothing, baby essentials, etc of wounded warriors and their family members.

Sue Hotto—Chair, Franconia CAC
sahotto63@gmail.com

Lake Accotink Park Master Plan Community Meeting



Please join us on **Monday, January 22, 2018 from 7 until 8:30 p.m.** at **North Springfield Elementary School** located at 7602 Heming Court in Springfield when the Park Authority will host a community meeting to continue to gain public input towards developing a vision for the future of Lake Accotink Park. This meeting will focus on management of the lake and a few key design ideas. Please note that if inclement weather results in the closure of Fairfax County Public Schools or the cancellation of evening events, this meeting will be held on Monday, February 5, 2018 instead - same time and location.

A lot of analysis has gone into investigating options for managing Lake Accotink and the long-standing issue of sediment accumulation. This topic and some options for addressing the sediment problem were shared with the community in May 2016. We would like to provide an update to our research and gauge the community's preference for the future of Lake Accotink. Like to read ahead? The Lake Accotink Sustainability Plan has been posted to the project website for you to review. Too much on your plate to review the full report? Don't worry. We'll provide a summary at the meeting with time to consider the options.

If you are unable to join us at this meeting, the presentation will be shared online after the meeting with an opportunity to provide your comments. You can always find presentations and comment summaries from previous community meetings at [Lake Accotink Park Master Plan Revision](#).

If you have questions please contact Gayle Hooper, Project Manager, at 703-324-8741 or by email at Park-mail@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Springfield Acres Garden Club

If you've driven down Old Keene Mill Road, you've noticed this Blue Star Memorial (across the road from St. Bernadette's). Springfield Acres Garden Club maintains this memorial, as well as the area in back of the bike racks at Richard Byrd Library.

We invite you to come and join us at our monthly meeting on Tuesday, January 23rd at Grace Presbyterian Church at 10 am. Don Hyatt of Stone House Creek Nursery will be our speaker. His topic "Bucket List of Gardens to Visit"! You won't want to miss it!

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

We meet once a month (September through May) at Grace Presbyterian Church located at 7434 Bath Street, Springfield, Virginia. It's a great opportunity to make new friends, learn more about gardening at all stages of life, participate in workshops, and take tours. We have an outreach to school children as well as an outreach to those in a nursing home. We can even help you have your own green thumb!

We'd love to have you come and see what we're all about! Questions? Contact Gail Nittle at gnittle@gmail.com





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Sponsor Spotlight: Malek's Pizza Palace

Interview conducted by Barbara Coder, SCA Secretary

The Springfield Civic Association (SCA) is proud to continue to shine a spotlight on its generous sponsors whose financial support helps the SCA to serve the central Springfield community. This edition of the Sponsor Spotlight shines on Malek's Pizza Palace located in the Springfield Plaza. Malek's is a family restaurant that has been a fixture in central Springfield for nearly 40 years. Jonathan Malek, the owner and manager, noted that while Malek's is known for its pizza, the restaurant offers so much more with its many Greek and Italian specialties including popular sub sandwiches, cheese steaks and gyros.

Jonathan credits the success of Malek's to good food, a hard-working team that provides friendly service, listening to feedback from customers, and ability to change with the times including a willingness to incorporate technology and social media. Malek's operates three shifts covering lunch, dinner and late-night (3am weekdays and 4am weekends). It offers dine-in, carry out, delivery and catering. For those in a rush they also offer call-ahead dine-in. Over the years, Malek's has built a loyal customer base and is proud to call police, firefighters and other shift workers among its regular customers.

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Charity Night!
On the last Monday of every
month, 25% of the day's sales
go to the chosen charity.

In 2010, Malek's was inspired to launch a monthly charitable initiative as a means to help others and give back for its many blessings. Malek's supports a variety of local, national and international causes through its "Last Monday of the Month" charity which donates 25 percent of the day's sales to the cause of the month. In 2017 alone Malek's supported the Greater Springfield Volunteer Fire Department; Rise Against Hunger; Hope for the Destitute; Metro Women's Care; Lutheran Friends of the Deaf; Britepaths; Texas and Caribbean hurricane relief; Springfield's Ecumenical Community Helping Others (ECHO); and adult stem cell research. Since 2010, Malek's has raised over \$76,000 for charitable causes. On 29 January, Malek's cause will be K9's for Warriors which provides service dogs to American veterans and empowers them to return to civilian life with dignity and independence. Malek's also routinely supports local schools, churches and other non-profit organizations with fundraising events.

The Springfield Civic Association is grateful for the continued support of Malek's Pizza Palace and all of its sponsors. As you visit our sponsors, we ask that you thank them for their support as their contributions allow the SCA to achieve its goals to support the central Springfield community.

Please thank our advertisers when you visit them. Their investment in our community is greatly appreciated.

Springfield Art Guild

Springfield Art Guild (SAG)

Invites You to Our Guest Speaker Series

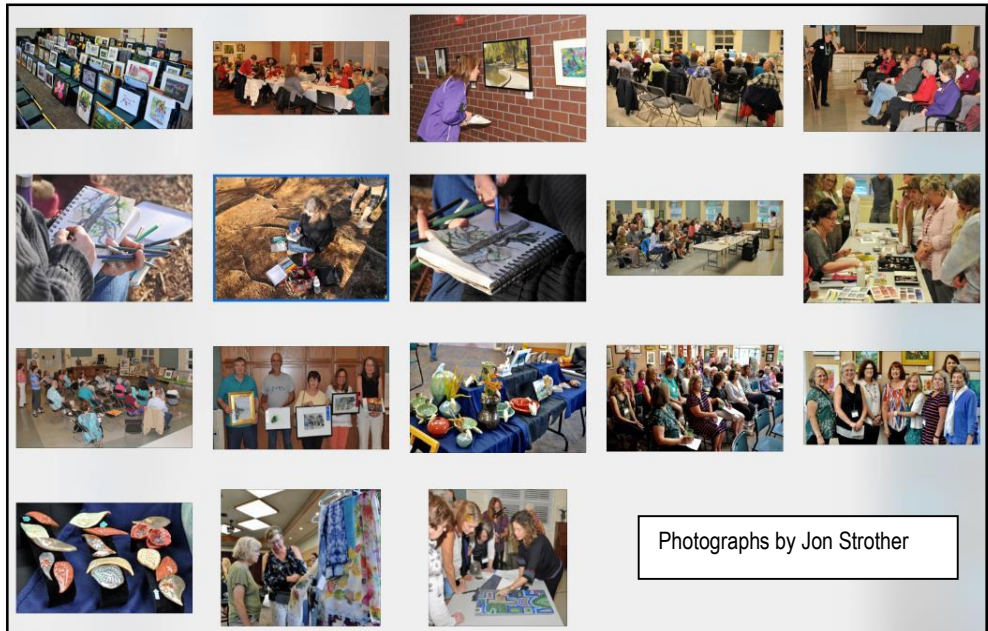
When: The 2nd Wed of the month (No meetings in July or Aug). Meetings are free and open to the public.

Where: The auditorium at Grace Presbyterian Church, [7434 Bath St, Springfield, 22150](https://www.google.com/maps/place/7434+Bath+St,+Springfield,+IL+62761).

6:00pm -Doors open with refreshments & socializing with other local artists.

7:00pm - Art talk and a Short business meeting

7:30-9:00. Guest speaker presentation



Who: All are welcome

What: Calendar of upcoming Guest Speakers:

January 10th	Member Critique - Tricia DeWeese, Speaker
February 14th	SAG artist participation - working in clay
March 14th	David Cochran, colored pencil
April 11th	Phoebe Twichell Peterson, collage and paint
May 9th	Jan Ponder, encaustics
June 13th	Members Art Show, Florence Setzer, Judge

SAG is a non-profit group that serves the community's interest in fine arts, fine crafts, and photography. It's a wonderful group of artists ranging hobbyists to professionals. SAG sponsors and supports educational programs, art exhibits, juried shows, classes for adults and children, art scholarships, and local art events. Along with showcasing guest speakers & events at monthly meetings, SAG invites everyone in our community to enjoy SAG's website, our online newsletter, members' gallery, and links to members' Web pages. By joining SAG, local artists can participate in the full range of SAG activities, shows, network with other artists, and help promote and enlarge our service to SAG members and the community at large.

For more information about the Springfield Art Guild our website is www.springfieldartguild.org where you will find newsletters with more information about SAG and its activities.

Woman's Club News

The Woman's Club of Springfield is looking forward to its meeting on February 13th, 2018, which will feature our 2018 Club Arts and Crafts Show. Many of our talented members participate in the Show which is judged by independent local artists. Blue Ribbon winners in each category are then sent to the Spring Northern District Meeting on March 25th to be judged there. Those Blue Ribbon winners are taken to the State GFWC Virginia Convention for final judging. We invite you to join us for this exciting evening. The festivities begin at 6:30 p.m. with refreshments and a brief meeting. Members are then encouraged to visit the various displays of entries.

Our Club has a number for fun activities planned for the Spring – the most exciting being our Annual Spring Faire to benefit Bethany House of Northern Virginia. This year, the event will be held on Saturday, April 14th, at Burke United Methodist Church. Mark your calendars now to join us. More information will follow in subsequent newsletters.

As always, if you have questions about our Club, please contact our Membership Chairman, Beverly Stoltz, at 703/941-4501. You may also visit us at www.womansclubofspringfield.org.

Trails for Youth

Brookfield Bicycle Pump Track is Open

TrailsforYouth.Org (TYO) is thrilled to announce that the bicycle pump track is built. (TYO) has been diligently working with the Park Authority and Supervisor McKay's office (when applicable) to complete the construction of the bicycle pump track at Brookfield Park.

For those of you not familiar with a bicycle pump track, it is an endless loop of rollers and berms where the riders propel themselves through the track by shifting their body weight, or "pumping", in conjunction with the track contours, rather than having to pedal. It creates a fun experience where riders can work on bike handling skills while gaining an all over body workout. Who can use a pump track? The short answer is anyone with a bicycle. It doesn't

matter how young or how old, users can be any age that already enjoy riding on trails.

TYO will continue to work with the Park Authority, local organizations and individuals to maintain the track, if interested in helping out, email Julie@trailsforyouth.org.

TYO is currently planning a grand opening and hosting events this spring to showcase the pump track and offer instruction on how best to utilize it. The community will be invited to attend, stay tuned for more details and dates. For more information or upcoming events, visit the Brookfield Pump Track facebook page here: <https://www.facebook.com/brookfieldparkpumptrack/>

Please do not ride on the pump track when it is wet, it causes damage, thank you.



Have You Paid Your Dues Yet?

The SCA would like to remind its members that dues for the 2017-2018 program year are due NOW. The funds raised from dues go directly to help support the SCA and its programs.

If you've already renewed your SCA membership, thank you! The SCA would not be the strong and vibrant entity that it is without members like you.

If you haven't paid your dues yet, it's not too late. You can pay your dues either by cash or check at our next meeting on Tuesday, January 16th, or you can pay your dues anytime via our website, springfieldcivic.org. Dues are \$15 per household.

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Fairfax Water Tips

The freezing temperatures could lead to frozen pipes or frozen meters. Fairfax Water has offered these tips to keep you safe this winter.

Winter Water Tips

There are several measures that can be taken to prevent winter water disasters.

It is a good idea to locate and mark your main-line valve and check it for proper operation. This valve controls water flowing into your home and is usually found near where the water line that comes into your house. Marking the valve will allow you to quickly turn off the water if a pipe should burst or you have other water problems. You can request a tag to mark the valve at by calling 703-289-6019, TTY 711. You can also download and print a tag by going to <http://www.fairfaxwater.org/current/Main%20Line%20Water%20Valve%20tag%20for%20Web.pdf>.

- Make sure the water line to outside faucets is turned off and the line is drained. Drain each outdoor spigot after turning off the valve to prevent any remaining water from freezing and bursting the pipes. Some spigots have anti-siphon devices that must be opened to properly drain the line.
- Eliminate drafts. Check around the home for areas where water supply lines are located in unheated areas and take measures to prevent the flow of cold air in these areas. Look under the house, in the basement, crawl space, attic, garage, and under kitchen and bathroom cabinets. Both hot and cold water pipes in these areas should be insulated. A hot water supply line can freeze just as a cold water supply line can freeze if water is not running through the pipe, and the water temperature becomes cold. Insulation supplies are available at your local home improvement or hardware store.
- If your water pipes do freeze, never try to thaw a pipe with an open flame or torch. Always be careful of the potential for electric shock in and around standing water.
- If you will be away from your home, keep the thermostat at a reasonable temperature to make sure all areas with water pipes are kept above freezing. Insulate pipes in unheated spaces. Hardware or building supply stores carry insulation designed to keep pipes in these areas from freezing.

What if I lose the heat source in my home?

If you are staying in your home, or will be monitoring your home frequently, allow a faucet to drip cold water slowly. At a minimum, the dripping faucet should be the one that is the greatest distance from your main water cutoff valve. Also, consider allowing a slow drip in areas that are least protected from the cold, such as basements, crawl spaces, attics, the garage.

As mentioned above, if your water pipes do freeze, never try to thaw a pipe with an open flame or torch. Always be careful of the potential for electric shock in and around standing water.

What do I do if my water meter freezes?

If you suspect you have a frozen water meter, call us for help. Do not attempt to thaw the water meter yourself as this can result in extensive damage. You can reach our Customer Service Department at 703-698-5800, TTY 711 during normal business hours. After normal business hours, the emergency number is 703-698-5613, TTY 711.



Thanks To All of Our SCA Advertisers and Supporter!

Members of the SCA worked together to bake and deliver cookie boxes to all of the businesses and people who supported us and advertised with us in 2017. Every box contained two pounds of delicious, homemade cookies, brownies, toffee, brittle, and bark.



The SCA Cookie Thank you was also delivered to Delegate Vivian Watts' home (her husband promised he would share the cookies when she returned home). State Senator Dick Saslaw had already left for the holidays so his box was delivered to SCA Board member Mike and Sarah Slater to enjoy.



Crestwood Elementary School



Springfield Butcher



Dr. Malekuti



Franconia Police Station



Debbie Dogrul Associates



Jerry's Paint and Wallpaper



Eleni's Greek Taverna



Lake Accotink Staff



Grace Presbyterian Church



Malek's Pizza Palace



Supervisor Jeff McKay's Staff



Eddie Greenan Jeweler



Lynn Clark



Lynbrook Elementary School



Springfield Volunteer Fire Department

Thanks go to Jan Johnson for making all the bows again this year and to Jan Johnson, Jennifer Isenberg and Gail Nittle for packaging all the goodies.



Jennifer Isenberg and Gail Nittle

No photos were available for advertiser recipients LA Mart or Springfield Plaza Laundromat & Cleaners.

The SCA Cookie Thank You was also delivered to Delegate Vivian Watts' home (her husband promised he would share the cookies when she returned home). State Senator Dick Saslaw had already left for the holidays so his box was delivered to SCA Board member Mike and Sarah Slater to enjoy.

A heart-felt thank you to all of our SCA bakers: Mabel Bangs, Peggy Butenhoff, Michele Duell, Julie Embree, Susann Finch, Sandy Frieswyk, Phyllis Hyrcza, Jennifer Isenberg, Jan Johnson, Debbie Mays, Nancy Michie, Marta Morrissey, Gail Nittle, Gayle Parsons, Lee Paulson, Eileen Vaughan, and Marsha Waggoner.

Questions and Answers

Q - How could a sewage backup affect me?

A - Sewer backups result from a blockage in the county's sanitary sewer line or the private sewer line that connects your home to the county system. If a blockage occurs, wastewater may enter your home through floor drains, showers or toilets in the basement.

Q - What causes sewage backups?

A - Accumulation of fats. Oil and grease and root intrusion in both private and public sewer lines are major reasons for backups. Also, flushing items down the toilet that are too large for sewer lines to handle - such as toys and sanitary napkins - can cause backups. Another cause of blockages within the country's system is vandalism. Leave, sticks, rocks, bricks, clothing, toys and trash have been found in sanitary sewer manholes.

Q - What can I do to help?

A - Call the **Wastewater Collection Division (703-323-1211, TTY 711)** immediately if you notice any vandalism of sewer lines or manholes. This way, the debris can be removed before it causes a backup.

Avoid putting cooking oils and grease down your garbage disposal or any household drain. Not only could it accumulate in county lines, but also it could build up in your own lines, eventually requiring the services of a plumber.

Do not flush disposable diapers or sanitary napkins down the toilet even if the labels indicate that you can do so. Besides stopping your sewer lines, these items could damage your plumbing system.

Q - What should I do if sewage begins to back up into my home?

A - Call the **Wastewater Collection Division's 24-hour Trouble Response Center at 703-323-1211, TTY 711**. Our staff will inspect the county's sewer line. If the problem is in the county's sewer line, the county will take corrective action.

Q - What does the county do to prevent sewage backups?

A - Fairfax County's Wastewater Collection Division is responsible for operating and maintaining more than 3,300 miles of sanitary sewer, 65 pumping stations, and 59 flow meters. Our staff regularly clean the county's sewer lines to remove blockages caused by tree roots and greases - two major causes of sewer backups.

Q - Who is responsible if the blockage is located in a customer's service line?

A - Property owners are responsible for maintaining the private sewer line that extends from their property to the county sewer system, including the connections to the sewer. Therefore, property owners are responsible for any damages resulting from blockages in the private sewer line.

Q - Who is responsible if the blockage occurs in a county sewer system?

A - If the blockage occurs in a county sewer line, the Wastewater Collection Division will take corrective action. You may be reimbursed for any damage to private property, except in the case of vandalism to the county sanitary sewer system. Fairfax County's **Risk Management Division (703-324-3040, TTY 711)** handles all claims for reimbursement for damaged property.

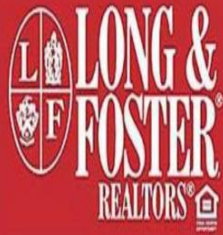
Q - Will my insurance cover any damage resulting from sewage backups?

A - In the majority of cases, a special rider is needed to your homeowner's or renter's insurance policy to cover damages related to sewage backups or water damage. This optional coverage is available from your insurance provider. However, you must usually request it, as it is not automatically included in most policies.

WHO SHOULD I CALL TO REPORT A SEWAGE BACKUP?

Emergency crews from the county are on call 24 hours a day to assist you. In an emergency such as wastewater line backup contact the Wastewater Collection Division.

Emergency	703-323-1211
TTY	711
Non-Emergency	703-250-2003
Fax	703-250-7632



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Springfield, VA 22150

January Meeting
Tuesday, January 16th

Crestwood Elementary
Social time starts at 7:00
Meeting begins at 7:30 sharp

Program:
Volunteer Opportunities
St. James Sports Complex

PLEASE JOIN US!



The Springfield Civic Association is a volunteer organization dedicated to:

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

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

Join SCA

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

- Join SCA Renew my membership Add or change contact information
- Add me to the email list, I will join later (**email list is FREE**)

Name(s) _____

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