

September 2022

Volume 39, Issue 1

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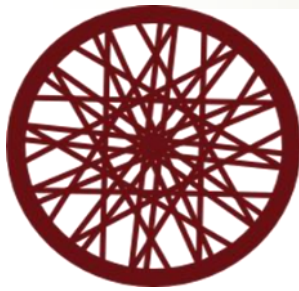
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Springfield Reporter



Springfield Civic Association

President's Message—Gail Nittle

Welcome back!

Please join us for our September 20th General Membership Meeting via Zoom.

We've invited representatives from two local real estate companies to speak to us about home as well as commercial real estate values and trends in Central Springfield. Supervisor Rodney Lusk will also be joining us. Now is your opportunity to get answers for all your questions about assessments, taxes and what's happening in our end of town!

September's meeting will be held via Zoom. How comfortable would you be attending our next meeting(s) in person? We're trying to gauge what the community would like. Let us know your preference by sending an email to springfieldcivic@yahoo.com or by coming to our September meeting and registering your opinion. Meanwhile, please mark your calendars for future SCA meetings: November 15, 2022; January 17, 2023; March 21, 2023; and May 16, 2023.



Memberships are traditionally renewed at our September meeting for the year September 1st – August 31st. Since we are going to meet via Zoom, please go to the last page of this newsletter to see the options for joining or renewing your family membership. The cost is just \$20 per family – a great investment in our community!

Looking forward to seeing you on September 20th!

~Gail

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September Is The Time to Pay SCA Dues!

The new membership year for the Springfield Civic Association (SCA) begins in September of each year so dues for the 2022-2023 program year are due NOW.

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

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

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

THANK YOU FOR YOUR MEMBERSHIP & SUPPORT!

**September Meeting
September 20, 2022
7:00pm**

**Topics:
Values and Trends in
Local Real Estate**

**Q & A with
Franconia District
Supervisor Lusk**

Supervisor Lusk Update

Dear Springfield Civic Association Members,



I'm happy to report that my Board Matter requesting to adopt "Franconia" as the new name of our district was approved. Throughout the three Name Change Town Halls my office organized, I've heard from many of our neighbors that our district invokes images of the Old Gravel Pits, Huntley Meadows, or Laurel Grove School. However, for others, the former district name Lee stood for the most recognizable confederate figure in history, General Robert E Lee.

The majority of those who participated in this year-long process supported changing the name of our district, and the name Franconia was the overwhelming preference for those who participated in the process. Franconia is a name that is synonymous with our community. From Franconia Road, the Franconia Springfield Metro, the Franconia Museum, and the Franconia Governmental Center, the name Franconia has always been central to our identity. It is also a name that memorializes a place and not a person.

Thank you to the hundreds of residents that wrote letters, sent emails, called our office, and participated in our three town halls. I look forward to sharing the next steps in the name change process soon.

Also, it was a pleasure to welcome Fairfax County Chief of Police Kevin to our virtual Franconia District Public Safety Town Hall. Guest panelists included Dr. Noah Fritz, the Director of Crime Control Strategies & Data Analytics, and officers from the Franconia and Mount Vernon District Stations. The focus of the town hall included a discussion on crime trends, specifically in the Franconia District, including an update on FCPD's latest crime prevention activities. Residents also participated in an open question-and-answer segment.

Thank you to the one-hundred and twenty-two residents that attended the Public Safety Town Hall! I was glad to see many familiar faces. I continue to be pleased with Chief Davis and the Fairfax County Police Department's dedication to engaging our community. If you missed the town hall, the entire program can be viewed on my YouTube page: <https://youtu.be/FVtJ1sArug>. You may also contact my office if you have any remaining public safety questions.

Lastly, progress continues to be made on two major projects in Springfield. The Springfield Community Business Center Commuter Parking Garage continues to be on track to be completed in the spring of 2023. Also, VDOT held a public hearing on the Frontier Drive Extension on July 12th. You can view the full public meeting here: https://youtu.be/NdCi1Rw2_s

For more information on these major projects, please visit:



Springfield Community Business Center Commuter Parking Garage: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/projects/springfield-garage>



Frontier Drive Extension: https://www.virginiadot.org/projects/northernvirginia/frontier_drive.asp#:~:text=This%20project%2C%20in%20partnership%20with,changes%20in%20limited%20access%20control.

Contact my office:

Email: leedist@fairfaxcounty.gov (My team is working on an updated email) Phone: 703-971-6262

It is an honor to be your Franconia District Supervisor, Rodney

Richard Byrd Library News

Greetings from Richard Byrd Library! The next time you visit the branch, don't be surprised when you see a few new faces. New Branch Manager Rebecca LaPlante joined the branch in May, and several other positions were filled over the summer. Please take a moment to say hello!

As of August 14, 2022, all regional and community Fairfax County Public Library (FCPL) branches moved to a modified schedule due to ongoing staff recruitment challenges. This schedule requires only one shift of staff a day, allowing FCPL to maintain all open days at its branches. With this change, Richard Byrd Library's hours of operation are:

Monday: 1 - 9 p.m.

Tuesday - Saturday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

The Fairfax County Health Department offers COVID-19 testing at Richard Byrd Library on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. through the end of September. Guests can get PCR testing without an appointment at a convenient kiosk located in the library's parking lot. More information can be found on the Health Department's website at <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/health/novel-coronavirus/coronavirus-covid-19-testing>

FCPL is also partnering with the Literacy Council of Northern Virginia and the Friends of the Richard Byrd Library to offer family literacy classes at Richard Byrd Library from September 20 through November 22. Participants can learn English for work, family, and community, and improve listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills! Please call 703-237-0866 or visit www.lcnv.org for more info.

Do you enjoy bird watching or live sporting events? Starting in September, FCPL has binoculars available to borrow as part of our Library of Things collection! Binoculars can be borrowed for up to 2 weeks and can be put on hold for pick up at any library branch. For more information about this and other items available through our Library of Things collection, please visit <https://research.fairfaxcounty.gov/lot>

As we say a final goodbye to summer, thank you to all those who participated in the Summer Reading Adventure program! At Richard Byrd Library, 304 readers of all ages started the program, and 127 finished. Across FCPL, 14,731 readers started the challenge, and 5,350 finished. These figures are the highest we've seen since 2019, and we expect them to continue to grow. We hope you join us for the Winter Reading Challenge planned for December 1 through January 31.



To complement the 2022 Summer Reading Adventure theme "Oceans of Possibilities", participants added their name to a fish for Richard Byrd Library's finishers wall.

John R. Lewis High School PTSA



John R. Lewis High School PTSA supports our students, school, and community by involving families directly. We provide volunteer and financial support to Lewis High School teachers and staff to benefit the community. All families should join the PTSA for our students. Together, we can help Lewis HS students thrive!

How can YOU make a difference? Support your local PTSA!

- ✓ Join the PTSA by September 30th, and you will be entered to win a **\$25 gift card!** Studies prove that when parents engage with their children's school, learning outcomes improve — So get engaged!
- ✓ Bookmark this Amazon URL — Support the PTSA every time you shop at Amazon. Use this link, shop normally, and Amazon directly donates to the Lewis PTSA: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/52-1289058>
- ✓ Sign up for SAT prep — The PTSA is sponsoring an SAT prep course Monday, October 3 (5-8pm) in the Lewis High School cafeteria. For just \$110 (discounted to \$105 for PTSA student members), students and parents alike will rest assured they're prepared for college admissions. This is a \$170 value! Sign up now for the best price because costs will increase! Register and find more information at: <https://sites.google.com/lewishsptsa.org/home/sat-prep>
- ✓ Follow us on social media:



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lewis_hs_ptsa



admin@lewishsptsa.org

Visit our website: <https://sites.google.com/lewishsptsa.org/home> to learn more!



SCA ZOOM Meeting Information

SCA General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, September 20

7:00pm

Join in the September 20 SCA Zoom Meeting by clicking here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83108822669?pwd=bn5ROER5WFNjcUF5TDN0M2I4WmY3dz09>

Meeting ID: 831 0882 2669
Passcode: 429152

No internet connection?

Use this number to call into the meeting:

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)



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Upcoming Metro Closures

Starting Saturday, September 10th, through October 22nd, all Blue and Yellow line stations south of Reagan National Airport will close to prep for the new Potomac Yard Station. The purpose of the closure is to rehabilitate the Yellow Line tunnel and bridge between Pentagon and L'Enfant Plaza stations and connect the new Potomac Yard Station to the mainline rail system.



More information: [Major Blue and Yellow Line Construction Plan](#)

Seven free shuttles will be offered during Phase One, including local and express shuttles in Virginia and three limited-stop shuttles crossing the Potomac River.

- Local shuttles will be available during all Metrorail operating hours.
- Blue Line Local
Local service between Franconia-Springfield, Van Dorn St, King St-Old Town, Braddock Rd, and Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport stations every 10-20 minutes
- Yellow Line Local
Local service between Huntington, Eisenhower Ave, King St-Old Town, Braddock Rd, and Crystal City stations every 10-15 minutes. Yellow Line shuttles do not stop at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport Station.
- Express shuttles will be available most of the day (from 4:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., 6:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. weekends).
- Blue Line Express: Franconia-Pentagon
Express service between Franconia-Springfield and Pentagon stations every 6 minutes
- Yellow Line Express: Huntington-Pentagon
Express service between Huntington and Pentagon stations every 6 minutes

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MORE INFORMATION ON ALL
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Friends of Richard Byrd Library Update

NEW Richard Byrd Library hours:

Mon, 1 – 9pm, Tue – Sat, 10am – 6pm, Sun, closed

Curbside Services Continue to be Offered

Mon 1 – 4pm and Tue – Sat, 10am – 4pm

In person programs are resuming at the library, be sure to check the website events calendar for regular updates: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/richard-byrd>

June Book Sale!!



It was again our pleasure to host another successful semiannual special book sale in early June!!! Bottom line upfront, we earned just over \$7,900!!

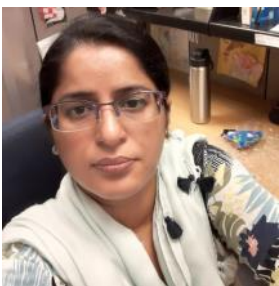
Pandemic restrictions were lifted, however, we continued with the well-received widely spaced tables to allow for physical distancing; patrons appreciated the extra space. Our renewed success is entirely due to the very best volunteers anyone could hope for, including: Al, Allyson, Anna, Barbara W., Barbara Z., Bev, Bob, Caitlin, Carol, Chris, Claudia, Coco, Darryl, Diane, Drew, Elizabeth, Emily, Fareehen, Fran, Helen, Jason, Kaitlyn, Katie, Keilani, Larry, Laurel, Loan, Lulya, Marjorie, Marta, Martha, Mary Catherine, Mavi, Mike, Nancy, Nim, Oriana, Pat, Patty, Paul, Richard, Sally, Stephanie, and Ummama. We hope you'll all come back to help in December!

Additionally, we resumed our practice of donating books to the programs at ECHO and Books are Food for Your Brain. Unsold inventory was donated to Velocity of Books (Maryland non-profit). Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!

Welcome new staff members!




Rebecca LaPlante, Branch Manager



Javaria Waheed, Page Manager

(Continued on pg. 7)

**PET
MEDICATION**
**COVID
TESTING**



**CBD
SOLD
HERE**

YOUR LOCAL PHARMACY

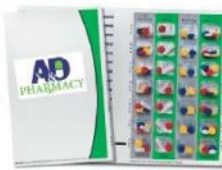
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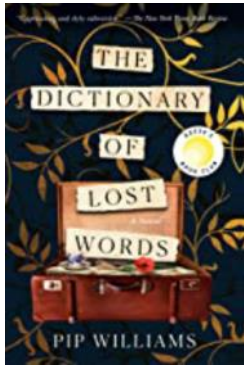
703-644-0060

www.aandd-pharmacy.com

Friends of Richard Byrd Library (cont'd)

Book Review: *The Dictionary of Lost Words*

by Claudia Moore



We know that stories are made of words, but do we think about the stories of the words themselves? In *The Dictionary of Lost Words* by Pip Williams, Esme does indeed think about the stories of the words in the early days of the 20th century. She grows up at her father's feet -- literally under the table in the scriptorium (official workroom) waiting for slips of paper listing words being discussed but dropped from consideration for the new Oxford English Dictionary. He is a professor and lexicographer hired to work on this new, thorough history and presentation of the evolution of the words in the English language. Words were suggested from around the world from educated volunteers. She sets aside some of the dropped words dismissed by the male editors as being termed vulgar and unimportant (too feminine). Later she goes out and interviews the street folk looking for words to add. Since she was raised in a prim and proper home of the 1800's, these scenes are delightfully comedic. Esme grows up and adds to this dignified volume. She develops a strong interest in suffrage and women's rights in this turbulent time. Based on true people and events (the word *bondmaid* was omitted from the original OED) this entertaining novel presents a part of our history that we take for granted but should not.

Book Review: *Home Before Dark*

by Rachel Lamantia



If you love horror, mystery and adventure books, *Home Before Dark* by Riley Sager might be the perfect chilling read for you this summer.

We've all heard that creak in the wood or that strange noise in the basement and thought, what is that? Am I haunted? Maggie Holt is no stranger to strange noises and haunted homes. Years ago, when her family spent several weeks at the famous Baneberry Hall house, it changed her life forever. They didn't last more than three weeks before fleeing in the middle of the night. As an adult she never thought she'd be back at the infamous haunted house--thanks to her father and his bestselling book. Can Maggie survive a summer there as she plans to renovate and sell the house? Or will she flee just as her parents did all those years ago. Fans of Ruth Ware will love this gripping horror story. Make sure you don't read it in the dark! And if you enjoy listening to books, it's even better when you download it on the Libby app as an audiobook!

Branches Accepting Credit/Debit Cards

The Friends' Daily Sale area is behind the Checkout Desk. Amazing bargain prices! Stop by to find your next great read! During the national coin shortage, the library is able to accept only credit/debit payments for purchases.

Follow us on Social Media outlets

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

Instagram at "[richardbyrdlibraryfriends](https://www.instagram.com/richardbyrdlibraryfriends)"

Twitter at "[ByrdLibFriends](https://twitter.com/ByrdLibFriends)"

Your engagement helps us reach an even broader audience!

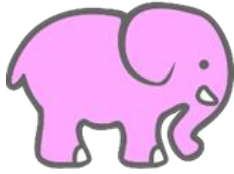
Watershed Clean Up Days

Sign Up for a Watershed Cleanup Day. Grab a bag and go on a trash scavenger hunt as the Park Authority hosts Watershed Cleanup Days once again this fall. Join with family, friends, neighbors or colleagues to lend a hand to the Earth. We need your help to remove tires, bottles, cans and other debris from local waterways. Helping to clear the Earth's vital arteries is a great community volunteer project for service groups and students. All ages are welcome. **Sunday, Sept. 18, at Lake Fairfax Park from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 24, at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park from 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 1, at Oak Marr Rec Center from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 9, at Lake Accotink Park from 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 15, at Scott's Run Nature Preserve from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 20, at Providence Rec Center from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.** Additional sites may still be added. For a complete listing and to sign up as an individual volunteer, visit the Volunteer in Parks webpage: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/volunteer>



Woman's Club of Springfield News

The Woman's Club of Springfield



Back from its summer hiatus, the Woman's Club of Springfield (WCS) will resume its monthly meetings starting the second Tuesday of September, but our volunteer work, running the Pink Elephant Thrift Shop, has never stopped. Proceeds from sales benefit the local community. Aside from our Thrift Shop, there are many social aspects of our organization. Club members have found our volunteering extremely rewarding.

The Pink Elephant shop is open in the Concord Center, near Aldi's, on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday from 9:30 am to 3pm. We accept consignments on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday from 9:30 am to 10:45 am. Our website, www.womansclubofspringfield.org will keep you updated on our activities, and the items that we are currently accepting for sale at the Pink Elephant.

Thanks to funds earned at the Pink Elephant Shop, the Scholarship committee is proud to announce our selection of a grant to **Shannon Brown**. Shannon, the recipient of the 2022 WCS Scholarship for \$3,000.00, is an Edison High School International Baccalaureate student and a member of the National Honor Society. This fall, Shannon plans to attend James Madison University where she will study psychology.

We invite any woman in the Springfield or surrounding areas to join us at one of our meetings to see what we are all about. Check out our website at www.womansclubofspringfield.org, www.gfwc.org, Facebook, Instagram, or LinkedIn. If you are interested in learning more, please feel free to contact our Membership Chairman, Melody Corrigan, at melmoz@hotmail.com. Or, stop by the Pink Elephant Thrift Shop and speak to one of our ladies to learn more about our mission, attending a meeting, and possibly joining the Woman's Club of Springfield.



Exciting news!

Now more than ever, you need the help of a real estate professional. After almost 20 years as your local Springfield agent and now as part of one of Virginia's best producing teams, I am even better situated to help you get the most out of your home sale or purchase. And as your neighbor for over 25 years, I have a vested interest in our shared property values.

If you are thinking about buying or selling, call me!

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Children's Consignment Sale

Grace Weekday Preschool is having a Children's Consignment Sale on Saturday, October 15, 2022. Our sale will make it simple for you to sell your new and gently used children's and maternity items. Shopping for all types of infant & children's clothing, toys, furniture and maternity items at affordable prices couldn't be easier!

You do not have to be a consignor or a volunteer to shop the sale. Get there early -- the doors will open from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm on Saturday. Better yet, volunteer and you can come Friday! Be sure to check both the boys' and girls' sections even if you are looking for one gender, as many clothes are in unisex styles. Contact us at 703-451-3314 or preschool@gracepresby.org
All sales are final and there are no returns. All items are sold as-is.

Grace Weekday Preschool is not responsible for lost, damaged or stolen items.

We will provide shopping bags for use during the sale. No outside shopping bags will be permitted.

NO Credit cards will be accepted. We will accept cash and in-state personal checks with a current in-state driver's license or valid military ID only.



Children's Consignment Sale

Saturday,
October 15, 2022

8am—12pm

Grace Presbyterian Church
7434 Bath Street
Springfield, VA

Come shop for gently used and like-new maternity and children's items at GREAT prices! We'll also have some baked goods to purchase on your way out! Please note that we are unable to accept \$100 bills.

Do you have children's and maternity items to sell? If you are interested in selling your items, call Grace Weekday Preschool at 703-451-3314 or email preschool@gracepresby.org for more information

Sponsored by Grace Weekday Preschool

Friends of Lake Accotink Park—FLAP




Help Lake Accotink VOLUNTEER

Volunteers Needed **SERVICE HOURS**

WHAT: Clean-Up, Garden Weeding
WHEN: 2nd Sun of every **Month**
TIME: 9:00am -11:00ish
WHERE: Lake Accotink Marina

Register: https://volunteer.fairfaxcounty.gov/custom/1380/#/organization_details/71653

ACTIVITIES: Pick-up or bring your own trash bags from FLAP Volunteer and hit the trail to fill your trash bags with debris carelessly dumped, dropped

Note: Long sleeves, gloves, boots and long pants are encouraged COVID Protocols are in place.

Tax Deductible Donations: www.flapaccotink.org
contact@flapaccotink.org

facebook.com/friendsoflakeaccotinkpark/
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www.flapaccotink.org




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Virtual Active Shooter Training

While we all hope it never happens, an active violence event can take place anywhere in the world. The community needs to be prepared with how to respond, and FCPD is here to help with that training.

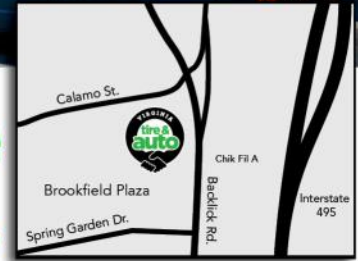
This hour and a half lecture, on Thursday, September 29, 2022, at 6:30PM, will help participants learn about attackers, disaster response, and how to prepare for and respond to being trapped in a building during an active violence event. They will review past events; the steps law enforcement takes to assist and limit casualties and be there to answer your questions.

This training is open to anyone in the community, but some of the material may be disturbing.

Please use the Zoom link below for the training.
[https://fairfaxcounty.zoom.us/j/82057262250?](https://fairfaxcounty.zoom.us/j/82057262250?pwd=d0x2UGxaZDgvRWdoT096aWhG)
[pwd=d0x2UGxaZDgvRWdoT096aWhG](https://fairfaxcounty.zoom.us/j/82057262250?pwd=d0x2UGxaZDgvRWdoT096aWhG)



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Some restrictions apply. Expires 9/30/22

Charity Night!
on the last Monday of every month, 50% of the night sales go to the chosen charity

SANDWICH REPUBLIC

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**7020-C Old Keene Mill Rd.
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ECHO—Changes in Food Distribution Methods



The need for food assistance in our community continues as one of ECHO's great challenges. Our volunteers have worked hard to redesign food distribution methods to allow for choice. Instead of handing out pre-packed bags of non-perishables that are the same for every household, clients are now able to choose foods that reflect their dietary needs. ECHO believes there is less waste and greater accommodation for health, religious and cultural needs. In making this change, ECHO has found that our list of most needed foods has changed. In addition to all varieties of personal care products such as toothpaste and deodorant, our list includes nuts, dried fruits, dried beans, honey, lentils, tomato paste, sugar, coffee (including instant), canned fish and masa flour.

We are grateful for the donors who will help us make these important changes, and perhaps take advantage of a **Shred and Share** event at Burke Presbyterian Church, 5690 Oak Leather Drive, Burke, on Saturday, September 17, 9:00 am to noon. Shelley Draheim, Realtor, has arranged for a shred truck to have documents securely destroyed for free. Volunteers will be collecting non-perishable food donations for ECHO at this event.

Also, on September 17, from 1:00 pm to 3:00, Springfield United Methodist, 7047 Old Keene Mill Road, is holding a **Food and Housewares Drive** for ECHO to collect non-perishable foods, as well as household goods that are clean and in good condition such as sheets, towels, saucepans with lids, flatware, toasters, coffee makers and electric mixers.

ECHO Now Collecting Winter Clothing

ECHO is now distributing fall and winter clothing. We are specifically hoping for donations of Adult and Children's winter coats, children's sneakers, boys jeans-sizes 14, 16, 18 and men's jeans-sizes 30/30, 30/32, 32/30 and 32/32. Clothing, household goods such as small appliances (that work), comforters and dishes, as well as food donations are accepted at ECHO's Donation Door, 7205 Old Keene Mill Road, on weekdays between 9:30 am and 12:30 pm, or Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings between 7:00 and 9:00 as well as one Saturday morning a month (check echo-inc.org for the date each month). Receipts are cheerfully provided.

Tutoring and Mentoring

If you enjoy working with children and are looking for a meaningful, and sometimes life-changing way to help kids, consider becoming a tutor or a mentor as a part of ECHO's School Partnership Program. During the previous school year, ECHO placed mentors in five local schools at levels from elementary to high school. No specific degree or qualification is required except for passing the Fairfax County Schools background check. People who are willing to listen to and encourage a child make great mentors, and usually get as much enjoyment from the program as the children do. Mentoring takes place during the student's lunch time; tutoring time is arranged between the tutor and the school, or after school at two local houses of worship. To find out more, please [email admin@echo-inc.org](mailto:admin@echo-inc.org).

Burke CROP Hunger Walk is Back

The 30th annual Burke CROP Walk will take place in person this year on Sunday, November 6, after a couple of years of Covid-adjustments. While the walk benefits the global projects of Church World Service, a large percentage of the proceeds benefit ECHO for its work right here in the community. To find out how you can start a CROP Walk team, or contribute, visit: www.crophungerwalk.org/burkeva.

Volunteer Openings

If the daily news is ruining your mood, the perfect antidote might be purposeful activity! ECHO volunteers do meaningful things to help local people who have immediate challenges. Join us! Make a difference! There are many types of activities from interviewing clients to assessing donations; from helping with our social media to changing the building's HVAC filters; from running our massive Yard Sale, to serving as photographer for special events from time to time.

Email volunteercoordinator@echo-inc.org to find out more.

Congregational and Other Food Drives

September - Burke Presbyterian, St. Andrew's Episcopal and Rolling Valley LDS (Governor's Day of Service)

October - First Baptist Springfield, St. Mark's Lutheran, Burke United Methodist

Find more information about ECHO at: <https://www.echo-inc.org>



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SATURDAY *****

SEPTEMBER 17

***** Noon—5 PM



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Outdoor Storage Regulations

Are there storage restrictions? Many of us have more “stuff” than places to put it, or want to keep materials and machines in our yards. However, to maintain a pleasant appearance in our neighborhoods in Fairfax County, outdoor storage is not permitted in any front yard, nor is it permitted to exceed 100 sq. ft. anywhere on your property, including the back yard.

What if I am in the process of building? There is an exception for residences undergoing construction or improvements as long as there is a valid building permit and work is in progress.

What if I am not in compliance? If a property is reported to the Department of Code Compliance (DCC), inspectors will come out to determine if a violation is taking place and then contact the property owner. There are several steps for remediation, but if a property is not brought up to code, a civil action and a court order could be imposed.

What if I see a property possibly out of compliance? You can contact the DCC at 703-324-1300 or fill out the [online form here](#).

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You're Invited: Community Events This Fall at Grace Presbyterian Church

Written by: Nicole Westphal, Congregational Care Elder and Crestwood Resident

Grace Presbyterian Church, nestled in the heart of Crestwood at the intersection of Grace and Bath Streets (7434 Bath Street), has been an active part of the community since its founding in 1953. As you pass by, you may have noticed that our sign says, "We Choose Welcome" and we do our best to live by it! We intend to make everyone feel comfortable worshiping, growing, learning, and serving with us—regardless of age, race, ethnicity, ability, gender, or sexual orientation.

During the last several years of the pandemic, we have worked to make the best use of our outdoor space by hosting events for all community members to enjoy. You may have joined us for an outdoor concert, visited our little library, or taken home some garden-grown vegetables from our Sunday *CROP* table in the summer months. This August, we hosted "Neighbor Nights" to collect and distribute school supplies for local kids returning to school.



As Fall is upon us, we have many fun events planned and meaningful opportunities to serve and support our local community. There is something for all ages, from kids to senior citizens! We not only welcome but encourage community members to join us, whether or not you ever step foot into our worship service.

September: Starting this Fall, we are launching *Grace Rising*, a "junior" youth group with a monthly gathering for fourth to seventh graders. The first *Grace Rising* is Sunday, September 18.

On Saturday, September 24, we will have our next gathering of *Help The Homeless*, a monthly (4th Saturday) gathering to assemble care packages for the homeless population in Washington, DC. It is a great opportunity to spend a morning doing something good for humanity that can even count for school "service hours!" *Help the Homeless* meets the fourth Saturday of every month.

In September, Grace members will continue our support of Afghan refugees settling into Northern Virginia, by preparing to move one of the four families Grace is sponsoring into a new apartment. We welcome volunteers to assist with the moves and donations of new/gently used household goods.

October: On Saturday, October 15, *Grace Preschool* is holding its biannual consignment sale, and anyone is welcome to consign, volunteer, and shop! That afternoon, we will be holding our annual *Oktoberfest* with root beer, grilled bratwurst, a German band, kids' activities, and a *Volksmarch* through Brookfield Park.

(Continued on pg. 16)



Community Events This Fall at Grace Presbyterian Church (cont'd)

November: On November 12, our *Aging with Grace* program for seniors is hosting an 80s-90s themed dance! After Thanksgiving, we will hold our *Alternative Gift Fair* with holiday gift opportunities that support local and global charities. Some perennial favorites are gifts in support of ECHO and Bethany House, a local women's shelter, as well as olive oil from Palestine and scone mixes from a women's co-operative workshop!

December: On December 3, our *Aging With Grace* program is taking a bus trip to Sight and Sound theater in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, to see a magical and unique production of "David" in this multimedia theater.

These are just some of the events happening at Grace this Fall. More are on the calendar below and on www.GracePresby.org. Please check our website for updates. We worship every Sunday at 10:30 am, and our Preschool, youth and adult education programs are in full swing. All events are open to the community, and we invite you to join us! At Grace, *We Choose Welcome* as we come together to serve and support each other, our community, and the world.

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Fall 2022 Events

Sunday, September 18; Depart at 12:00 pm — Nationals Baseball (1:30 pm Game)
 Sunday, September 18; 4:00 pm — Grace Rising
 Saturday, September 24; 9:30 am — Help the Homeless
 Saturday, September 24; 9:00 am — Antietam Battlefield Field Trip
 Sunday, October 9; 12:00 pm — Family Faith Formation Good Stories & the Great Story
 Saturday, October 15; 4:00 pm — Oktoberfest on the lawn
 Saturday, October 15; 8:00 am — Children's Consignment Sale
 Saturday, October 22; 9:30 am — Help the Homeless
 Sunday, October 23; 4:00 pm — Grace Rising
 Sunday, November 6; 1:00 pm — CROP Walk at Burke Presbyterian Church
 Saturday, November 12; 7:00 pm — Dance: Greatest Hits of the 80s and 90s!
 Sunday, November 13; 4:00 pm — Grace Rising
 Sunday, November 20; 4:00 pm — Ron Freeman Chorale concert
 Saturday, November 26; 9:30 am — Help the Homeless
 Saturday, December 3; 9:00 am – 8:00 pm — Trip to Sight & Sound in Lancaster Pennsylvania
 Sunday, December 4; 12:00 pm — Grace Rising, *George's Kids* service project (in honor of George Towery)
 Sunday, December 11; 12:00 pm — Family Faith Formation Advent Workshop
 Saturday, December 24 Christmas Eve!; 9:30 am — Help the Homeless

On the Verge

Is there a sidewalk that runs in front of your home? Is there grass between that sidewalk and the road? According to Wikipedia, that strip of grass is called a "road verge" but there are numerous regional terms for it as well. In Virginia, Maryland, Indiana and Tennessee, it is known as a "sidewalk plot".

Have you ever wondered who owns that strip of grass? The land is often public property, with maintenance usually being a municipal responsibility. Some municipal authorities, however, require that abutting property owners maintain their respective verge areas. That is the case in Fairfax County. Sidewalk maintenance is done by VDOT but the homeowner maintains that sidewalk plot as they do the rest of their lawn.



Other terms for these grassy areas include Besidewalk, Curb Lawn, Curb Strip, Devil Strip, Extension Lawn, Grass Bay, Hellstrip, Sidewalk Lawn, and Swale. Aren't you glad we live in Virginia?

Trash Company Consent Agreement and Potential New Service Model

The County is taking steps to address the ongoing trash service issues that many residents continue to face, especially those serviced by American Disposal. As they did back in 2018, the County is currently negotiating a consent agreement with American to address the breakdown in their operations that are resulting in repeatedly missed pickups. The last time the County did a consent agreement with American at the request of two Board of Supervisor members, many of the service issues cleared up. It is hoped that once this enforcement action/agreement is finalized it will resolve many of the issues residents are experiencing.

In addition to working to resolve the issues with American, County staff is in the early stages of developing a model that will allow residents to petition to receive contracted service as part of a sanitary district. Currently, residents can petition to be a sanitary district that, if approved by the Board, would be serviced by the County hauler. Due to the current labor and supply constraints on all trash haulers, including the County, County staff are temporarily not recommending that the Board approve new sanitary districts.

Under the model being developed, the Board could approve new sanitary districts that would then be serviced by a private hauler contracted by the County. This model would strengthen accountability for haulers to provide agreed to service levels or risk losing their contract. It would also help haulers operate more efficiently, serving entire areas instead of one-off homes which currently stretch their operational capabilities. The new model is not perfect, but the current system is inefficient and therefore expensive. While residents currently get to choose their provider, unless they are part of an HOA, they have little leverage with the provider. This model should result in better service for contracted areas, providing benefits for both haulers and residents – including fewer trash trucks running through neighborhoods.

Many have suggested the county franchise trash service as Arlington has done. Due to current state regulations, as well as time and cost constraints, a direct franchising model is not currently feasible for Fairfax County. That is why the alternative solution is being explored.

County staff continues to work with the private haulers to address the issues raised by our residents. If you are experiencing customer service issues with your hauler and they are unresponsive, contact the Solid Waste Management staff by emailing DPWESSWMP-Trashmail@fairfaxcounty.gov or calling 703-324-5230.

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Trails for Youth

Happy Anniversaries from TYO

We generally celebrate anniversaries as a recognition of success, and accomplishment. Recently two anniversaries took place that TYO celebrated. One was our own 20th year celebration and the other was Lake Accotink Park's 60th anniversary celebration.



Lake Accotink has played a big role in the success of TYO. We have utilized the trails and the lake to show youth the importance and freedoms found in nature. Many of our kids are transportation limited, so Lake Accotink and Brookfield Parks are the only nature areas they have regular access to. For the past 20 years we have had a great relationship with Fairfax County Park Authority and we were thrilled when Park leadership and Fairfax County Board of Supervisor, Chairman Jeff McKay came to our 20th anniversary celebration to support us. It was held at the local legendary pizza and sandwich shop Bozzelli's Deli, for us and 60 of our closest friends and supporters. Momma Bozzelli herself cooked for the families and young adults who had participated in our program over the past two decades. It was a night of joy, and memories, many of which were based upon our efforts at Lake Accotink.



More recently, we helped with the 60th anniversary of Lake Accotink park, where TYO plays an ongoing role in the park's success. Over the last two decades, TYO has maintained trails with our partners from Mid-Atlantic Off-Road Enthusiast (MORE) at Accotink, made bikes available for the park to rent to citizens, taught camps to hundreds of youth and beginner mountain bike classes for the park - raised funds for the park and awareness from the new riders on how to be a thoughtful trail user. Our Jr. Counselor program has been a training ground for several park employees, and we expect that to continue for years to come. We were thrilled when Chairman McKay once again highlighted our efforts during his opening remarks at the celebration. When we were asked to provide our successful mountain bike skills session for the lakes 60th anniversary, we said "Definitely, no problem". After all, we have many years of experience, and we had just completed weekly skills sessions there this summer for Accotink Camp attendees. During the anniversary event, it was wonderful as dozens of diverse youth and their family made their way up to McLaren Sgt. field and tried their hand at mountain biking using our mentoring and equipment. We had 2 Jr. Counselors up with us, helping to lead the way and keep it safe. We also provided our two fishing instructors to help with the fishing activities at the beach and creek area.

These two anniversaries were perfect examples of our relationship with Accotink Park, and the Park Authority, working together for all citizens and helping those who need our help the most. Truly events and a relationship worth celebrating. See you on the trails.



American Legion Post 176 News



Willkommen!

AMERICAN LEGION POST 176
 6520 Amherst Ave, Springfield, VA
OKTOBERFEST Dinner/Dance

Thursday October 20, 2022

DINNER

5:00 PM to 8:00 PM

"OKTOBERFEST Music"

Presented By:

Kings Park German Band

6:00 PM to 7:00 PM

**BANQUET
HALL**

\$25.00

\$25.00



Door Prizes 50/50 Raffle

Dinner Provided by : WARRIOR CAFÉ

Tickets available in the TIER-1 Lounge



Crestwood Elementary School News

Crestwood Elementary



Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow!

The beginning of the school year is the best time to develop strong attendance habits! Students who attend school regularly are more likely to perform well in reading and math, develop strong social and emotional skills, and graduate from high school on time. Help prepare your child for future success. [Visit FCPS' Attendance web page for tips and strategies.](#)

Parent Information Line Available in 8 Languages

Parents who speak Amharic, Arabic, Chinese, Farsi, Korean, Spanish, Urdu, or Vietnamese [can call a telephone information line](#) for general information about FCPS and to receive support if they are having difficulty communicating with their children's schools due to a language barrier.

Safety Drills During the School Year

Keeping students and staff safe is a priority for all of us. Each school has an emergency preparedness plan to respond to incidents such as fires and tornadoes. Schools are required by state law to practice emergency drills, including lockdown drills, each year. Schools are required to notify parents and guardians at least 24 hours before a school conducts a lockdown drill. However, schools are not required to give the specific date and time of the drill in advance.

The first lockdown drill of the school year must take place within the first 20 days of school. Preschool and kindergarten students are exempt from practicing the first lockdown drill.

Your child may come home and talk about their experience during the drill. We encourage you to talk with your child about the importance of being prepared for emergencies. [Here are some helpful tips](#) for families to use to support their students before and after school lockdown drills.

Working together, we create a safe, secure environment for students to learn and grow in our schools.

Attendance Matters

In Virginia, students enrolled in public schools are required to attend school regularly, regardless of the type of instruction offered. Our students need to be present, engaged, and supported as they return for the 2021-22 school year.

Attendance Reminders:

- FCPS must record student attendance every school day.
- Parents should report their student's absences to school any day students are unable to participate in learning. They may report the absences by calling the school attendance line or emailing the school-designated attendance address.
- When parents do not report their students' absences, teachers and school personnel will call to identify the student's absence reasons.

American Association of University Women

Local author, Elisabeth Griffith, will be featured in a program at Pohick Regional Library on Saturday, September 17 at 1:00. She will be speaking about her new book, *FORMIDABLE: American Women and the Fight for Equality: 1920-2020*.

FORMIDABLE: American Women and the Fight for Equality: 1920-2020
Chronicles the efforts of women to advance sometimes competing causes.

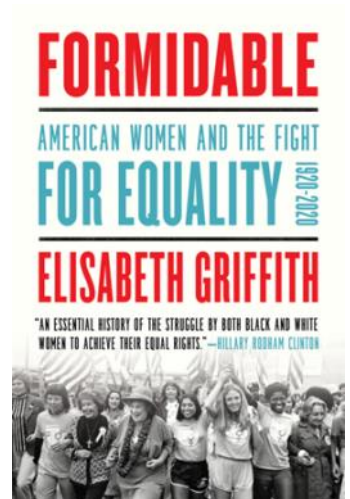
Black women wanted the rights enjoyed by whites. They wanted to protect their communities from racial violence and discrimination. White women wanted to be equal to white men. They sought equal legal rights, political power, safeguards for working women and immigrants, and an end to confining social strictures. There were also many white women who opposed any advances for any women.



FORMIDABLE will propel readers to continue their foremothers' fight to achieve equality for all.

Dr. Griffith has spent her career working for women's rights as an activist and an academic, teaching women's history at the secondary and college level and serving as the head of Madeira School. She currently teaches courses in women's history at the Smithsonian Associates and Politics and Prose.

Copies of the book will be for sale and can be signed by Dr. Griffith.



This community event is free and all are welcome to attend. The Springfield-Annandale Branch of the American Association of University Women and Pohick Regional Library are partnering to present this program

Pohick Regional Library is located at 6450 Sydenstricker Rd, Burke VA 22015.



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September Meeting

September 20, 2022

7:00pm

Topics:

Values and Trends in
Local Real Estate

Q & A with
Fanconia District
Supervisor Lusk

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- 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.

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