



## NORTH SPRINGFIELD CIVIC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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General Meeting – **April 6, 2005**

7:30 p.m. – North Springfield Elementary School Cafeteria

**Guest Speakers:** Ms. Tessie Wilson, Braddock District School Board Representative; Ms. Alice Alexander, Principal NSES; and Mr. Rob Horvath, President NSES PTA

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### President's Message

Norma Heck

The April 6<sup>th</sup> general meeting will address our North Springfield Elementary School. Given the importance of education in our society and the fact that more than half of our real estate taxes are going to the schools we thought it appropriate to provide our residents a closer look at the trends within our school system. We have asked our School Board Representative, the school principal, and the PTA president to provide the community an overview of the school to include the diversity of the student population, student performance, a discussion of recent and planned changes, problems that the school faces, and any specific needs that may be filled by community volunteers.

At the February general meeting one of our concerned residents presented a disturbing newspaper article on the unnecessary removal of old growth trees in our community. A green flier has been included in this newsletter that summarizes the benefits of trees and provides residents a guide as to how we can all help preserve the beauty of our community.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to four residents who have volunteered to fill vacant positions on our board. Mr. Carey Campbell will serve as our liaison to the Fairfax Federation; Mr. Mike Dannholtz and Mr. Bernard Mejean will cover Planning and Zoning; and Mr. John Osipchak will serve as Secretary.

The date for our community yard sale is set for Saturday May 14, 2005; the date for our community clean up day is set for the following Saturday May 21, 2005. We need volunteers with small trucks or trailers that can assist residents in getting their junk to the drop-off location at the school. Also remember that the county will not accept hazardous materials (paint, batteries, chemicals, etc), yard waste, or contractor debris.

### Heming Beautification Project

In the Spring of 2001 we replaced a number of missing trees on Leesville median (the public land between the sidewalk and road). This year we would like to do the same on Heming Avenue. As on Leesville we want to plant spring flowering ornamental type trees that have no or small/minimal fruit. In the coming weeks we will be identifying the location to place these new trees. A flier explaining our plan will be left at each home that will have a tree planted in front of it. If you receive a flier and do not want a tree replaced on the median in front of your home you may contact the Civic Association and we will not plant one.

Most of the other streets in North Springfield do not have a median wide enough to plant trees. However, if you feel that there is room on the median in front of your home and would like us to consider replacing/adding a tree there please let us know and we'll try to accommodate you.

If you would like to help fund this project please send your donation in any amount made payable to NSCA. If you would like to dedicate a tree to someone you may do so by contributing the cost of one tree, \$150, and providing us the name of the person(s) to whom you are dedicating the tree. All contributions and dedications will be acknowledged in our newsletter and on the website.

### **NSCA Website**

Skip Chaples

[WWW.NSCIVIC.ORG](http://WWW.NSCIVIC.ORG) is online. Our website contains the newsletter as well as valuable information about the community and local government. We have also initiated e-mail notifications. Now you can submit your e-mail address to us and we will automatically notify you every time something new is added to the website or if there is important information that we believe should be disseminated prior to the next newsletter.

### **Membership**

Tricia Barnes

Thank you to everyone who has already sent in their dues and a special thank you to those members who also included a donation along with their dues. If you haven't gotten around to sending in your \$15 yearly membership, please use the form in the newsletter to send in your dues or bring them to the April 6 meeting.

### **Beautification**

Ed Stock

The landscaping along the new sound wall on Leesville Boulevard will be formally turned over to VDOT in April. We are working with VDOT to ensure that all dead shrubs are replaced; that all construction debris is removed; and that the construction entrance is appropriately blocked to prevent entry. VDOT will provide limited maintenance of the area; your Civic Association will make up the difference between whatever VDOT is able to do and that which is needed to keep the area looking good.

### **Community Volunteers Needed**

Skip Chaples

Fairfax County is looking for volunteers to support their Emergency Preparedness Plan within our community. There are four initiatives underway.

**Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** trains people in basic disaster response skills, such as fire suppression and search and rescue, and helps them take a more active role in emergency preparedness. We have three volunteers to date; more are needed.

**Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)** coordinates volunteer health professionals, as well as citizens with an interest in health issues, to assist with mass dispensing sites for vaccination or medication distribution.

**Neighborhood Watch** brings private citizens and law enforcement together to reduce crime and improve the quality of life in our neighborhoods. It's based on the concept of neighbors watching out for neighbors.

**Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS)** provides support for the police department by incorporating civilian volunteers so that law enforcement professionals have more time for frontline duty.

You can learn more about these programs at [www.fairfaxcountycitizencorps.org](http://www.fairfaxcountycitizencorps.org). If you are interested in participating in CERTS or MRC please contact Skip Chaples at (703) 644-1311 or at [SkipChaples@cox.net](mailto:SkipChaples@cox.net).

### **BSA Boy Scout Troop 990**

Skip Chaples

Troop and Crew 990 continue another exciting year of scouting. In March the scouts climbed Old Rag Mountain and camped in Shenandoah National Park. April will take us to either the District Camporee or Mountain Biking on the C&O Canal. We'll be camping at Virginia Beach in May and White Water Rafting in June. Weekly scout meetings address various scout skills and Eagle rank required merit badges.

The Boy Scouts of America is conducting their annual Friends of Scouting campaign. The funds collected are used to support the council programs and summer camp operations that all of the Boy Scouts enjoy. If you would like to donate to this worthy cause please send your tax deductible contribution made payable to BSA FOS 2005 to Skip Chaples, 7453 Long Pine Drive, Springfield, Virginia 22151.

We continue to raise funds for the operation of the Troop by recycling aluminum cans. Our collection trailer is parked at the North Springfield pool for anyone desiring to contribute their cans to the Troop. Please - aluminum only - no steel, glass, paper, plastic, or trash. We also paint house numbers on curbs (weather permitting) for a \$5 donation to the troop. Anyone interested in this service should call Skip Chaples at (703) 644-1311.

Now is a great time to come see what Scouting is all about. Five new scouts were recently inducted into the Troop. If your son is a 5<sup>th</sup> grader and wants to look us over now is a good time; he'd be joining with several of his classmates. Boys between the ages of 10-1/2 and 17 interested in the Troop can learn more about our programs by contacting Skip Chaples at (703) 644-1311 or by dropping by one of our Thursday night scout meetings - 7:30 PM at North Springfield Elementary School. No prior experience required.

### **BSA Venture Crew 990**

Skip Chaples

For those not familiar with the term, Venture Crew 990 is a group of young adults that do a wide variety of fun social, outdoor, and service activities. The Crew young adults plan, schedule, arrange, and lead these activities.

Our Venture Crew has planned a rock climbing outing for April and is getting ready for their summer trip to the BSA Sea Base High Adventure camp in the Bahamas. They've also started the planning process for their 2006 summer excursion; several fun and exciting possibilities are under consideration.

The Venture Crew is always ready to welcome new members. Our membership is male and female young adults, ages 14 to 20, and adult advisors. We are based in the North Springfield and Annandale areas. We are chartered by American Legion Post 1976 and are part of the National Capital Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

For more information on the Crew or how to contact a Crew young adult, please contact Mrs. Kathy Ichter (703)-354-3728 or Mr. Ed Komen (703)-256-5387.

### **Cub Scout Pack 890**

Steve Slough

Thanks for your continued support of our monthly newspaper drives. The next paper drive is scheduled for Saturday, April 16th beginning at 8AM. Please bundle newspapers only, no magazines or phone books, and place them curbside for pick up by the Cub Scouts. We do not collect newspapers that are placed on the curb in recycling bins from a trash company, or if they are in dark plastic bags. If we miss collection at your house that morning, please bring newspapers to the collection trailer at the far end of the North Springfield Elementary School parking lot before noon. Newspaper collection will take place the third Saturday of each month throughout the year.

The Pack is off to a great start and we have a fun packed as well as informative program set up for the boys this year. In March the Webelos had an overnight lock-in at the Maryland Science Center in Baltimore. Six 2<sup>nd</sup> year Webelos were awarded their Arrow of Light badge; Cub Scouting's highest award. Five of the boys then transitioned into Troop 990. The Pack is also initiating its camping program this spring and is scheduling a parent/son overnighter filled with fun activities. If your son is a student at North Springfield Elementary School and interested in having fun as he learns new skills and makes new friends why not give the Pack a look. A parent and son can attend any Pack function as a guest to see what it's all about with no obligation to join. If you're interested in joining the Pack or filling one of our open positions call Cubmaster Steve

Slough at (703) 451-4439, Committee Chairman Bob Wattenbarger at (703)-455-0027, or Chartered Organization Representative Skip Chaples at (703) 644-1311.

### **North Springfield Elementary School**

Christina Hayashida

Hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable spring break and you are refreshed and ready to work hard for the rest of the school year!

Just a reminder that the Annual Kindergarten “round up” will be on Monday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, at 1:30pm in the North Springfield School cafeteria. If you have a child that will be turning 5 years old before September 30, 2005, they are eligible to begin kindergarten on September 2, 2005. This meeting includes children and parents and we encourage all eligible families to participate. Please call the school to place your name on the mailing list to receive more information about kindergarten.

### **NSES PTA Calendar Events—Please mark your calendar and if applicable plan to attend!**

Tuesday, April 5 <sup>th</sup>	<u>PTA Meeting</u> -NSES Library
Monday, April 26 <sup>th</sup>	<u>Annual Kindergarten Orientation</u> -NSES Cafeteria
Friday, May 16 <sup>th</sup>	SOL Testing Begins
Monday, May 30 <sup>th</sup>	Memorial Day Holiday

### **Fund Raising**

If you have not already done so, please re-register your Giant Bonus card, Harris Teeter VIC card, and Safeway Card so that North Springfield Elementary can receive credit through these very successful fund raising programs. Visit the stores’ website or register at your local store.

<u>Giantfood.com</u>	ID No. 02079
<u>HarrisTeeter.com</u>	ID No. 4530
<u>Escrip.com</u> (Safeway)	ID No. 6608321

The school is still collecting several items for the current school year: General Mills Box Tops for Education, Campbell’s Food Labels for Education and any and all ink jet and laser jet cartridges. These programs allow the school

to buy computers, software and other helpful things. There is a box in the lobby where you may drop off your box tops, labels and ink jets. (Please put ink jets in a plastic bag).

Additionally, if you shop at Target, please register your target card and record us as your school. We will then receive 1% of all purchases.

### **North Springfield Elementary School PTA Fundraiser**

**Do you shop at Giant?** If so, you can help NSES PTA fund school activities by purchasing Giant grocery cards.

Use the cards like cash at Giant. The school gets 4% from Giant for every dollar purchased. Buy \$20, \$50, or \$100 cards. They never expire.

Contact Tuanchai or Rob Horvath at 703-914-9492 to purchase the cards. We will deliver them to your door.

### **Boy Scout Fundraiser**

Need your House Number painted on your curb?

Call Boy Scout Troop 990  
(703) 644-1311

**Association Officers**

**President**

Norma Heck (703) 256-1332

**Vice President**

Jean Smith (703) 256-5895

**Secretary**

John Osipchak (703) 200-6400

**Treasurer**

Skip Chaples (703) 644-1311

**Beautification**

Ed Stock (703) 256-8174

**Federation of Citizens Associations**

Carey Campbell (703) 916-0945

**Legal/Registered Agent**

Dorene Haney (703) 256-1688

**Membership**

Patricia Barnes (703) 354-0134

**Neighborhood Watch**

Ron Kinzer (703) 941-6415

**Newsletter**

Sherry Chaples (703) 644-1311

**Parks**

Chet McLaren (703) 866-6494

**Planning and Zoning**

Mike Dannholtz (703) 941-9250

Bernard Mejean (703) 941-8836

**Braddock District Council**

Vacant

**Political Liaison**

Norma Heck (703) 256-1332

Jean Smith (703) 256-5895

**PTA Liaison**

Christina Hayashida (703) 582-3608

**Newsletter Advertising**

Take advantage of our low prices and your ad will be seen by over 2,200 households in October, November, February, March, April or May.

Business Card	\$25 (3.5" x 2")
Quarter Page	\$45 (3.75" x 5")
Half Page	\$90
Full Page	\$180

Your ad is also posted on our website and will remain there until the next newsletter is published. Mail your business card or camera-ready proof with a check for the appropriate amount by February 14th to:

N.S.C.A. Newsletter  
P.O. Box 1007  
Springfield, VA 22151

**Website Advertising**

Now you can have your ad posted on our website during those months that we do not publish a newsletter; June, July, August, September, December, and January. The monthly rates for this service are:

Business Card	\$5 (3.5" x 2")
Quarter Page	\$10 (3.75" x 5")
Half Page	\$20
Full Page	\$40

Please note that this service is only available to those who have advertised in the newsletter.

**NORTH SPRINGFIELD CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP DRIVE**

**Calendar Year January – December 2005**

NSCA, P.O. Box 1007, Springfield, VA 22151

\$15.00 Membership – Contributions Welcome

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Paid \_\_\_\_\_



