



NORTH SPRINGFIELD CIVIC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Need local info 24-7? Try www.NSCIVIC.org

General Meeting – **March 7, 2007**

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

Guest Speaker: James Nida, Crime Prevention Officer, Fairfax County Police

President's Message

Norma Heck

The topic for the March 7th General Meeting is Crime Prevention Safety. As most residents are aware, last year there were two murders within 3 miles of our community; both were women in their early 70's who lived alone. The Fairfax County Police have put together a program for residents to ensure that we are all aware of the precautions one should take to keep themselves safe in their community. James Nida, the Crime Protection Officer for our area will present this program at our next meeting; we encourage everyone to attend.

The April meeting will be on a similar theme. Ms. Verda Johnson, an investigator with the Fairfax County Office of Consumer Protection will speak to us about identity theft. The May meeting will be our annual legislative review presented by our elected state representatives.

Board members received a number of calls following the ice storm February 13th. Of concern was the number of neighbors who did not clear their sidewalk or their cars parked on the street. Residents are reminded that it is the home occupant's responsibility to clear the sidewalk in front of their home. Residents are also expected to clear off their cars and if necessary move them so that the roads can be plowed. Some of our neighborhood streets were not plowed because so many cars were left on both sides of the street that the plow trucks were unable to safely travel down the center of

the road. We understand that the need for snow removal is a difficult task that does not happen too often. When it does, it is important that every resident do their part to ensure the safety of us all. If you need assistance the Civic Association maintains a list of teenagers who'll help you clear the snow.

Some residents have asked if more postal mailboxes could be located in the community. The post office is not putting any more boxes in communities; they do not get a lot of use and collection costs are high. You can put outgoing letters by your mail box and the mail person will pick them up. The post office has a new program for package pickups from your home. You can check with the North Springfield Post Office for more information.

We've also received many inquiries as to the rules for "Mc-Mansions" in the community. As long as a new or a remodeled house meets Fairfax County Zoning Regulations, then the house can be built. The zoning regulations cover among other items house height, building lot size and set back requirements.

Neighborhood Watch

Ron & Kathy Kinzer

Some of you have graciously and recently volunteered to join your neighborhood watch program. In an attempt to expand the program we are still seeking volunteers and old friends for the positions of observer, scheduler, captain, and co-director. We are currently

waiting to accumulate enough volunteers to start the process. Those of you who have volunteered to date you will be hearing about organizational plans soon.

The purpose of the Watch Program is to keep the neighborhood safe and to provide assistance to the Civic Association during emergencies. The patrol travels throughout the neighborhood communicating via cell phone ensuring that property and vehicles are being maintained in a safe manor and complying with county zoning requirements. The program also observes houses while owners are on vacation.

Your Neighborhood Watch Program has a proud history of being one of the first watch programs in the county, operating since the late 1960's and early 1970's.

If you would like more information or to volunteer please call us at 703-941-6415 or email Ron at RKinzer@fairfaxva.gov

Yard Sale and Clean-Up Day

Our annual community yard sale is scheduled for May 5, 2007; Clean-Up Day is scheduled for May 12, 2007. On that day the County of Fairfax will provide trash trucks to haul away your debris. Clean-Up Day will take place from 8am - noon at the North Springfield Elementary School parking lot. Dangerous materials, paint, yard debris and excessive amounts of logs are not permitted. We will be publishing further instructions in April and May.

BSA Boy Scout Troop 990

Skip Chaples

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 for a \$5 donation to the troop. Anyone interested in this service should call Skip Chaples at (703) 644-1311.

Boys between the ages of 10½ 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

CJ Sidener

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. Our membership is male and female young adults, ages 14 to 20, and adult advisors. The Crew young adults plan, schedule, arrange, and lead the activities. We are always ready to welcome new members. 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).

Cub Scout Pack 890

Bill Wilson

Our Blue and Gold Banquet in February was canceled due the ice storm; it will be rescheduled. At our March 15th Pack meeting we will be bridging the Second Year Webelos to Boy scouts.

Kindergarten age boys become eligible to join Cub Scouts on June 1st. Plan now to visit our Pack and see what all the fun is about. Our Pack meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7 pm in the North Springfield Elementary School Cafeteria. If you are interested, please join us at a pack meeting or contact our Cubmaster, Bill Wilson at (703) 642-2236 or Assistant Cubmaster, Dwight Sheppard at (703) 912-6367.

We would also like to thank the North Springfield neighborhood for continuing to support our monthly Newspaper Drives. Even though it is cold and snowy, we are still collecting. Please save your newspapers (no

magazines or phone books, please) and place them at your curb by 8 a.m. the third Saturday of each month. Collecting the newspapers is our primary fundraising activity for all of the Scouts' activities.

NSCA Website

Skip Chaples

Our website contains the newsletter as well as valuable information about the community and local government. 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 should be disseminated between newsletters.

Membership

Tricia Barnes

It is time to send in your \$15 dues for 2007. The Civic Association year runs from Jan-Dec 2007. Please fill out the membership form in the newsletter. Some residents think because they get the newsletter that means they are members of the association. That is not correct. You need to send in your \$15 dues to become a member.

It would be great if you checked off an area you are interested in helping with or any program topics you would like for a future meeting. None of the offices or committees takes a big amount of time, but it would be nice to have more people involved. Our biggest monthly expenses are the newsletter and maintenance of the common areas within North Springfield. The newsletter is an important communication tool to keep you updated on what is happening. The website www.NSCIVIC.org is another association service provided to let you know of any important happenings in the neighborhood.

North Springfield Elementary School

Christina Hayashida

The North Springfield Elementary students' experienced six straight days off from school

due to the February ice storm. The make up date is Friday March 30th.

PTA Calendar Events

| | |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| March 2 nd | Bingo Night in the Cafeteria |
| March 6 th | PTA meeting in the Library, 7 pm |
| March 23 rd | "Family Heritage Night" 6:30 pm |
| April 2 nd - 6 th | Spring Break (<i>No School</i>) |
| April 30 th | Annual Kindergarten Orientation |
| May 28 th | Memorial Day Holiday (<i>No School</i>) |
| June 18 th | Last Day of School |

"International Family Night" is now "Family Heritage Night". North Springfield is a rich and diverse school and would like everyone to come together to share a special evening of fun, food, and diverse entertainment.

Annual Kindergarten Orientation is an information session for rising kindergarten students; those who will turn 5 years of age by September 30, 2007. It begins at 1:00 in the cafeteria. Please call the school at (703) 658-5500 if you will have a child eligible for the school year.

For Safety reasons Students should leave their heelys at home; they are NOT ALLOWED in school. This rule applies to both during school AS WELL AS after school activities.

If you'd like to participate in the Bonus card program please re-register your Giant Bonus card, Safeway or your Harris Teeter VIC card at your local store or through the stores' website.

www.Giantfood.com NSES ID No. 02079
www.HarrisTeeter.com NSES ID No. 4530
www.Escrip.com (Safeway) NSES ID No. 6608321

The school is collecting box tops, labels and printer ink cartridges again this year. There is a box in the lobby where you may drop them off. Questions and arrangements for label collection can be directed to the NSES Program Coordinator Robin Hylton at 703-843-3358 or at www.LabelsforEducation.com for additional information and recipe ideas.

If you shop at Target, please register your target card and record us as your school.

Newsletter Advertising

Take advantage of our low prices and your ad will be seen in print and on our website 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 |

Mail your business card or camera-ready proof with a check for the appropriate amount by March 19th to:

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

Now you can have your ad posted on our website during those months that we do not publish a newsletter. 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.

Boy Scout Fundraiser

Need your House Number
painted on your curb?

Call Boy Scout Troop 990
(703) 644-1311

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.

NORTH SPRINGFIELD CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Calendar Year January – December 2007

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

\$15.00 Membership – Contributions Welcome

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____ Date: _____ Amount Paid: _____

Address: _____

- Circle committee(s) or position of interest -

MEMBERSHIP

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

PLANNING & ZONING

SPECIAL INTEREST PROGRAMS

SUGGESTIONS FOR:

Other Committees: _____

Topics for upcoming programs: _____
