President’s Message  
Norma Heck

The topic for the April 11th 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 May meeting will be our annual legislative review presented by our elected state representatives.

We continue to receive complaints about speeding in the neighborhood; particularly on Heming, Leesville, Ferndale and Queensberry. Residents are reminded that this is a family community and that there are a number of children playing in the area. There are also a number of vehicles parked on the street which obstruct a driver’s view of pedestrians. As the weather warms there will be more people outside and it is important that everyone obey the speed laws in our community. Two years ago we addressed the issue of additional stop signs and Traffic Calming measures in the neighborhood. The following website details the requirements to install these measures.

http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot/rtap.htm

Teen Job List

Sign up now for the Spring & Summer Teen job list. A mail-in form is in this newsletter or sign up on-line at www.NSCIVIC.org. The list will be published in the May newsletter.

Neighborhood Watch

Ron & Kathy Kinzer

A set of keys was recently found near the intersection of Heming Avenue and Dunston Street. The set contains several unique features that would be known only to the owner. Please call Ron or Kathy Kinzer at 703-941-6415 if you lost your key set.

The meeting related to neighborhood security that was recently canceled do to weather will be rescheduled immediately. Some of you have expressed concerned about speeding on Queensbury Ave. We have requested extra patrols and plan to monitor the area.

If you would like more information on the neighborhood watch program 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 from 8am - noon at the North Springfield Elementary School parking lot. On that day the County of Fairfax will provide trash trucks to haul away those unwanted
appliances, lawnmowers, sheds, swing sets and other bulky items. The county will not accept paint, shrubbery, large glass panels or anything that might be potentially dangerous. The county reserves the right to reject any item but rarely does so. We will be seeking volunteers to help those people unable to get rid of items due to physical impairments to drive and to provide pickup trucks to pick up those items. Please do not drop off items before the trucks arrive.

While we’re on the topic of community clean-up we remind those who walk their dogs to pick up after them. We still have too many residents who leave their dog’s waste in their neighbor’s yard. Also remember that this waste washes into the storm drains which feed into Lake Accotink whenever it rains.

**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 Aloha Cubs themed Blue and Gold banquet, celebrating the birthday of Scouting, was postponed due to the “Blizzard of ‘07”. But when we had it two weeks later, it was really steaming. The US Navy Ceremonial Drill Team gave a fantastic presentation with precision accuracy, the Kamaka Hawaiian Dance Team set the mood of the islands, and we learned how to Hula. We also had the world premier of our new Pack slide show, highlighting all the adventures and excitement we have had in the last year. It was a fun-filled evening for the entire family.

Our next pack meeting, Thursday, April 19, is Bring a Friend to Cub Scout Night. Any boys currently in Kindergarten through 4th grade, interested in joining Cub Scouts are welcome to come and see what all the Fun is about and view our exciting new slide show. The meeting is at 7 pm in the North Springfield Elementary School Cafeteria. You may also contact our Cubmaster, Bill Wilson at 703-642-2236 for more information.

We would again like to thank the North Springfield neighborhood for continuing to support our monthly Newspaper Drives. 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.

**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. 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.

**North Springfield Elementary School**
Christina Hayashida

PTA Calendar Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 30th</td>
<td>Annual Kindergarten Orientation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 28th</td>
<td>Memorial Day Holiday <em>(No School)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 18th</td>
<td>Last Day of School</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“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](http://www.Giantfood.com) NSES ID No. 02079
- [www.HarrisTeeter.com](http://www.HarrisTeeter.com) NSES ID No. 4530
- [www.Escrip.com](http://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](http://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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Business Card</td>
<td>$25 (3.5” x 2”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quarter Page</td>
<td>$45 (3.75” x 5”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half Page</td>
<td>$90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full Page</td>
<td>$180</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Business Card</td>
<td>$5 (3.5” x 2”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quarter Page</td>
<td>$10 (3.75” x 5”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half Page</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full Page</td>
<td>$40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note that this service is only available to those who have advertised in the newsletter.
12 Tips for Hiring a Remodeling Contractor

1. Get at least three written estimates.

2. Get references and call to check on the work. If possible go by and visit earlier jobs.

3. Check with the local Chamber of Commerce or Better Business Bureau for complaints.

4. Be sure that the contract states exactly what is to be done and how change orders will be handled.

5. Make as small a down payment as possible so you won’t lose a lot if the contractor fails to complete the job.

6. Be sure that the contractor has the necessary permits, licenses, and insurance.

7. Be sure that the contract states when the work will be completed and what recourse you have if it isn’t. Also remember that in many instances you can cancel a contract within three business days of signing it.

8. Ask if the contractor’s workers will do the entire job or whether subcontractors will do parts.

9. Get the contractor to indemnify you if work does not meet local building codes or regulations.

10. Be sure that the contract specifies that the contractor will clean up after the job and be responsible for any damage.

11. Guarantee that materials used meet your specifications.

12. Don’t make the final payment until you’re satisfied with the work.

Reprinted from REALTOR Magazine Online by permission of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS.
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
SUGGESTIONS FOR:
NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH
Other Committees: _________________________
PLANNING & ZONING
SPECIAL INTEREST PROGRAMS
Topics for upcoming programs: ______________________________

NORTH SPRINGFIELD SPRING/SUMMER TEEN JOB LIST
Fill out this application and mail to: NSCA, P.O. Box 1007, Springfield, VA 22151

Name: ______________________________________
Address: ______________________________________

Phone #: __________ Age: ____ Availability Dates: _________________________
Check jobs of interest: Babysitting ____ Yard Work ____ Mowing ____
House Sitting ____ Pet Care ____
A Trip Down Memory Lane
By Sam and Pauline West

In the summer of 1956 residents of Arlington and Alexandria referred to Springfield as being “out in the country” and they were not far wrong. Imagine North Springfield without a completed elementary school, without nearby shopping centers, without I-495 and with Braddock and Backlick Roads being narrow two lane affairs often obstructed due to a narrow bridge on Braddock Road and a railroad crossing on Backlick Road. There was the Springfield railroad station near the present Hechinger Plaza. It consisted of a large shed which was unattended and completely open on the side facing the railroad tracks. A few weeks after ordering a sofa from a company in North Carolina we received a postcard in the mail from the Railway Express Company stating that our sofa had been delivered to the Springfield railroad station. We immediately went to the “shed” and there was our sofa which apparently had been sitting there for several days.

The isolation of Springfield can be illustrated by the fact that in the late 1950’s one could travel south on Shirley Highway from Washington, D.C. at night and upon reaching the crest of the hill at the intersection of Seminary Road no lights would be visible further south. There was no Landmark Shopping Center and there were no high rise apartment buildings or townhouses to be seen.

We purchased our rambler with basement at 7316 Dunston Street in June 1956 and moved in on August 3 1956. Ramblers with basements and split levels sold for $18,950 and we had a choice of six or eight of each. One of our memories of 1956 is the large amount of mud abounding after a rain. The builder, Crestwood Construction Company, sodden the front lawn and an area ten feet from the house in the rear. The streets were not all paved in 1956 and as a result the streets and some of the back yards were a mess after a rain.

There were no street lights; doctors made house calls; and newspapers were delivered right to your front door instead of being thrown in the front yard or in the shrubbery. Milk, butter and eggs were also delivered to your door by a friendly dairy truck driver. Garbage collection was made at the rear of your house.

During the school year of 1956- 1957 the North Springfield Elementary School was under construction and classes were held in two houses on Axton Street and in several nearby trailers. The first principal was Todd Shirley who was followed by Boyd Collins. The school opened before the finishing touches were completed and we recall having our car stuck I the mud in the parking lot and being pulled out by a construction company truck.

North Springfield parents were mostly young couples with young children. Due to the new community and shared experiences there was a sense of togetherness between families that is lacking today. One of the principal social centers was the Annandale Fire Station on Columbia Pike which had a large room on the second floor where social events were held. Rent for the room, often referred to jokingly as the Flame Room, benefited the Annandale Volunteer Fire Department.

In the winter of 1958 a blizzard struck North Springfield and environs during which more than 20 inches of drifting snow covered the area. We were snowed in for three days and we joined the neighbors in cheering the snow plow operator who finally opened our street.

We have many fond memories of North Springfield and we believe it to be an excellent community in which to live.