**President’s Message**

Fall is one of my favorite times of the year. It’s not just because I love Halloween, the changing color of the leaves, and the crisp cooler weather that brings welcomed relief to the summer heat. I also love the fall because it means a new term for the North Springfield Civic Association.

We are coming off a year-long celebration of our community’s 60th anniversary, and we have several new priorities for the 2016-17 term:

- Working with the County on the Flag Run Restoration & cleanup of Flag Run Park
- Creating a “Shop Local” experts bureau/community guide
- Organizing a Welcome Wagon to greet new residents
- Increase outreach to renters to make the neighborhood more inclusive
- Compile an annual report of crime statistics
- Facilitate Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training for interested residents

While this year’s “agenda” may not be as ambitious as those of the previous two terms, it does give us the ability to strengthen some of the newer programs we’ve implemented over the last few years, including November 1st's Grand Illumination event and the NSCA Community Service Youth Awards (Sponsored by Eagle Bank).

In closing, NSCA’s work in the community can always be accomplished more efficiently with the help of more volunteers. The NSCA Board still has two positions open, a delegate to the Fairfax Federation of Citizens Associations and the PTA Liaison. There are also volunteer positions to lead other NSCA efforts, including cleaning up Flag Run Park and serving as a newsletter editor and/or graphic designer (must have knowledge of Adobe InDesign). Contact me (kenbalbuena@gmail.com) if you are interested in any of these positions. To quote Braddock Supervisor John C. Cook’s sign-off from his Channel 16 television program, “Look for ways to volunteer. Your community needs you.”

Very Respectfully,

Ken Balbuena
Civic Association President

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*All NSCA meetings are at the cafeteria of North Springfield Elementary School and start at 7:30pm unless otherwise noted.
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NEED A VOLUNTEER! - PTA Liaison  

Senior Outreach Committee: Keith Brown  
(703) 658-4141  
kwibrown@gmail.com  

**WHO DO I CONTACT IF…?**

1. I smell natural gas (inside or outside of the house)?  
   • Call Washington Gas at (703) 750-1400 or (800) 752-7520 immediately.

2. A street sign has fallen or isn’t facing the right direction?  
   • Street sign only: Call Fairfax County at (703) 877-2800 or fill out a form online at [https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/utilities/streetsignform.htm](https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/utilities/streetsignform.htm)  
   • All other signs (e.g. stop signs, dead end signs, speed limit signs, etc.):  
     Call VDOT at 1-800-FOR-ROAD or fill out a form at [https://my.vdot.virginia.gov/](https://my.vdot.virginia.gov/)

3. I want to call the police for a non-emergency?  
   • Call Fairfax County Police’s non-emergency number at (703) 691-2131.

4. A street light is out or the power is out?  

5. I see an animal (wild or domestic) roaming around?  
   • Call Fairfax County Animal Control via the Police’s non-emergency: (703) 691-2131.

6. I want to report a code violation to the County [after I have spoken to the resident] (e.g. high grass, junk in a neighbor’s yard)?  
   • Call the Fairfax County Department of Code Compliance at (703) 324-1300 or fill out a form at [http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code/).

7. I suspect there is a boarding house in the community?  
   • See question #6 above (Property Maintenance section of the online form).

8. There is a bad pothole in the road or if there is an issue with the sidewalk?  
   • Call VDOT at 1-800-FOR-ROAD or fill out a form at [https://my.vdot.virginia.gov/](https://my.vdot.virginia.gov/)

9. A sewer cover is missing or cracked?  
   • If in the middle of the road or labeled with Fairfax County markings, call Fairfax County’s Department of Public Works and Environmental Services (Wastewater Collection Division) at (703) 323-1211.  
     • For all other manhole covers and sewer inlets, see question #2 above (VDOT).

10. A tree has fallen in my yard?  
    • Homeowners are responsible for the removal of fallen trees and their debris, including trees fallen from land owned by the Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA).  
     • Call FCPA at (703) 324-8594 if a tree on their land is hanging over your property, hasn’t yet fallen, but poses a danger to the property.  
     • Call VDOT at 1-800-FOR-ROAD for fallen trees and debris in public roadways.

11. I want to check when my street will be snowplowed?  
    • Visit VDOT’s online status tracking to see current snow plow activity: [http://novasnowplowing.virginia.gov/](http://novasnowplowing.virginia.gov/)  

12. Ask for a special trash pickup collection (for bulk items)?  
    • Republic Services (formerly AAA Trash): Call (703) 818-8222 or fill out a form online at [http://www.republicservices.com/residents/bulk-waste](http://www.republicservices.com/residents/bulk-waste) (Service fees apply).  
    • American Disposal Services: Call (866) 884-8700 or fill out a form online at [https://www.americandisposal.com/customer-support/request-a-pickup](https://www.americandisposal.com/customer-support/request-a-pickup) (Service fees apply).  
    • Bates Truck Trash Removal: Call 301-773-2069.  
    • NSCA also coordinates an annual bulk collection day called Clean Up Day each May or June.
NSCA SUMMER RECAP

Despite the summer recess, NSCA showed no signs of slowing down and had several events. One of the final events for the 60th anniversary was a time capsule burying ceremony. Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chair Sharon Bulova and Braddock District Supervisor John Cook assisted with the ceremony that was live streamed on our Facebook page. (Search for “time capsule” on our page to view the video). The Civic Association and the North Springfield Swim Club co-hosted two events, the Community Day at the Pool, which kicked off the summer season, and the 3rd annual National Night Out event. The NSCA Community Service Youth Awards (Sponsored by Eagle Bank) were presented during the latter. Its three winners (pictured below) were: Charlotte Moore (elementary school category), Armando Reyes Tackaberry (middle school category), and Emma Marcois (high school category). Lastly, NSCA also held its most successful Clean Up Day in recent memory with approximately five bulk trash truckloads hauled away. Many thanks to NSCA Board members Ron Kinzer and Tricia Barnes as well as their cadre of volunteers for coordinating this popular annual event.

TRAFFIC CALMING UPDATE by Ken Balbuena

It has often been said that every vote counts, and while that usually applies to politics, it can also be said that it also applies to Traffic Calming. As you are most likely aware, last year NSCA authorized an Ad-Hoc Traffic Calming Committee to explore traffic calming measures. After a year of discussion and community input, the NSCA Board and the Committee gave neighborhood residents the opportunity to weigh in on whether to advance the plan for five speed tables along Leesville to the ballot phase of the process where those in a ballot area pre-designated by the Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) would have the final say on whether to accept the traffic calming plan. This added community-wide vote was above and beyond FCDOT’s usual process. The community vote, held at the March NSCA meeting, resulted in a 55-48 decision in favor of advancing to the ballot phase.

During the ballot phase, there needed to be a 50% response rate and a 60% approval rate (of that 50%) in order for the measure to continue to a pretty much pro-forma vote by the Board of Supervisors. In total, 264 ballots were disseminated, so at least 132 ballots needed to be returned. When all the responses were tallied, the measure was 4 votes short of meeting that 50% threshold, so the traffic calming plan for Leesville Boulevard will NOT be advanced forward.

Again, the traffic calming plan for Leesville Boulevard will NOT be advanced forward.

Although the plan did not meet the response requirements, I would like to share some of the results of the votes that came in. Of the 128 ballots that were returned, 66% (85 households) voted in favor of the measure (meaning that it would have passed had the response rate requirement been met) and 34% (43 households) voted against the measure — almost a 2-1 ratio.

Approximately 45% of the residents who live on Leesville (40 households) replied, and of the 40 households, 35 voted in favor and 5 opposed for an 88%-12% split.

While there was not an overall 50% response rate, I am impressed with the number of people who did reply. For those who took the time to do so, there does seem to be a great interest in calming traffic. Since the measure did not carry, I do ask that you examine your own speed to ensure you are going the speed limit and encourage others to do the same. Although the traffic calming plan did not pass, we are still obligated to follow the law and adhere to the speed limit. Self awareness and peer encouragement are now our only method of traffic calming measure along Leesville Boulevard.

Finally, at the September NSCA Board meeting, the Board decided to defer any future traffic calming discussions until at least the 2017-18 term.
BREAK-INS

July and August were unfortunately laden with higher-than-usual amounts of crime, mostly vehicular “break-ins” in both the North Springfield and the Ravensworth Farm communities. In most cases, the doors were unlocked, so it became a crime of opportunity rather than a crime of premeditation with specific targets in mind. We all forget to lock our doors from time to time, but please remember to check, double check, and triple check that your cars are locked. Please remember to also remove any valuables from the car such as cameras, laptops/mobile devices, GPS systems, etc.

Additionally, please secure your home’s also accompanied the wave of vehicular break-ins with thieves attempting to gain entry from open/unlocked doors and windows in the rear of houses.

Here is what the NSCA Board has done to respond:

• Step up our Neighborhood Watch efforts
• Seek bulk-purchasing preferred pricing agreements for security cameras, home alarm systems, and even electricians for installation of these devices when not included.
• Reach out to the VDOT paving subcontractor’s administrative offices to see if there had been complaints following neighborhood-wide repaving efforts in other communities.
• Work with the Franconia Station Crime Prevention Officer to pass on leads or tips we have received for her to forward detectives in a streamlined process, especially since there have often been different responding officers at many of the cases.

Please refer to the items to the right for helpful tips on what you can do to better protect yourself against theft.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO PREVENT CRIME?

1. Sign up for Neighborhood Watch.
2. Lock all doors (vehicles & homes) and windows late at night and when you leave. Also shut your blinds, so burglars can’t see if you’re home.
3. Take keys out of your door. Locked your deadbolt but having your key in it, doesn’t do much good, particularly if you have glass panes.
4. Turn on porch lights, so you can see neighbors. Don’t answer the door late at night.
5. Don’t be afraid to call 911 if you have a legitimate fear of something happening to your home or your neighbor’s home. (“I heard a noise” isn’t necessarily an appropriate concern.) No report is too small. If you see something, say something. Try to be as specific as possible (description of person, type of vehicle, smells, etc.).
6. Consider investing in home security devices. This could be motion sensor lights, home alarms, security cameras...even dogs.
7. Get to know your neighbors and look out for one another. We are, afterall, a neighborhood.
8. Report crime. The police can string together patterns, but they can’t string a pattern if a crime isn’t reported. Every little bit helps.
9. Put some lights, radios, or TVs on timers to come on when you are not home.

Use caution when sharing vacation photos on social media (Facebook, Instagram, etc.).

Try to break down boxes from high value purchases like TVs, computers, etc. and put them in recycling bins instead of leaving them on the curb during trash/recycling days. If the box is visible, criminals can assume the items are in your home.

No one thing will stop crime, so let’s work together and do what we can to help minimize the amount of incidents occurring in our community.
SECURITY DEVICE NEGOTIATIONS

Because of the recent neighborhood break-in issues, NSCA researched options for outside lighting and security systems. NOTE: NSCA is not endorsing these firms, just providing information. There are other options and we encourage you to do your own research to determine what option is right for you. If you have any comments on this information or would like to add additional options for the next newsletter, please email Nancy Moore at NancyMoore.NSCA@gmail.com.

SECURITY LIGHTING OPTIONS: Quality Electric Service: This company is located in Annandale and received a 94% approval rating (out of 125 ratings) in the 2015 Checkbook Magazine with an A+ Better Business Bureau rating. A family owned business since 1969 - we spoke to Matt, who lives in North Springfield himself. The website is www.qualityelectricservices.net and there are discount coupons on the site, phone 703-642-1880.

ALARMS AND SECURITY OPTIONS: FRONTPOINT: This is a self install (peel and stick) security system. They state there are no hidden fees, and they include a free trial period. In addition they’ve offered North Springfield two months free monitoring. www.FrontpointSecurity.com. Vivint: Any NSCA homeowner will be able to take advantage of $198 activation fee waived. They provide up to $1,500 in equipment free of charge and install the equipment for you. Contact Chris Scurti at 877-649-9077 extension 0695 for the NSCA free activation offer. www.Vivint.com

ADT: ADT will come to your home and evaluate your security options and quote you an installation price. The monthly rates begin at $28.99 per month. They offer a wireless option so that if there is a power outage your system is still operational. Other companies may provide this option as well, if this appeals to you be sure to ask whatever company you choose. www.adt.com. SimpliSafe: There are no annual contracts, intrusive installations, or costly middlemen. They sell direct to you, online. Their system is easy to self-install, and they pass the savings onto you with excellent equipment pricing and monthly monitoring for just $14.99/month. A+BBB Rating, Angie’s List Super Service Award and Editor’s Choice on CNet in 2013. www.simplisafe.com.

Ring Doorbell: This is a video camera doorbell that is motion activated from which you can talk to the person at your door from anywhere on your phone. There are two options – one of you do not have a door bell already installed ($199) and one if you have a hardwired door bell ($249). There are color options – bronze, brass and nickel. There is also a stick up camera that is weather resistant and wire free for $199.00 where you can see, hear and speak with your visitors. Use promo code 3NSCA (All caps) for a $25.00 discount. www.ring.com

WALK TO SCHOOL

On October 5th, North Springfield Elementary School (NSES) students will join more than 5,000 schools across the world in the 19th annual Walk to School Day. This event, first held in 1997, is “aimed at building awareness for the need for walkable communities” and “safe [pedestrian] routes to school” according to its website. NSES students will be meeting in two locations shortly before 8am:

- Heming & Gresham Streets
- Leesville & Earlehurst Streets

If you live on Heming & Leesville between the cross streets above and the school, NSCA asks that you help support this effort by ensuring your vehicles are parked on the street or pulled up in your driveway, so the sidewalks are not obstructed. Also, please understand that because students will walk en masse, they may slightly walk on your property (particularly near the gathering points). Please show your support by cheering them on as they proudly show that our North Springfield neighborhood is a walkable community.
STREET REPAVING

All of the streets in North Springfield and Ravensworth Farm are all now fully repaved and a quarter of a year ahead of the promised delivery date! The process of repaving began almost a year and a half ago when several NSCA board members, Delegate Vivian Watts, and her legislative aide, Deb Sherman (a North Springfield resident), met with representatives from VDOT to get both communities added to the FY17 repaving schedule. Originally, Heming and Leesville were added to the schedule, then nine additional streets were added, before the entire community was added.

NSCA would like to publicly recognize and thank past board member Maryann Germaine, Delegate Watts, and Delegate Watts’ legislative aide Sherman for their instrumental work in getting our roads repaved, restriped, and reusable again.

Photo Courtesy of erinnicolebrown.com. Used with Permission.

FLAG RUN RESTORATION

Fairfax County has identified the Flag Run body of water as a restoration project included in 2011’s Accotink Creek Watershed Management Plan (AC9229). Residents along the run will receive a letter in the mail shortly that goes over many of the details. Please be advised there will be a lot of equipment in and out of the neighborhood, and surveyors may be required to take equipment onto your property. The goal of this project is increase the flow of water along Flag Run, which will inevitably improve the health of Lake Accotink. For more information, please email the Project Manager, Vivian Bui, at vivian.bui@fairfaxcounty.gov or visit http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/watersheds/accotinkcreek.htm.

This restoration project also coincides with NSCA’s efforts to clean up the adjacent Flag Run Park on Elgar St. between Ravensworth Rd. and Juliet St. The park was once a usable gathering spot for community events and an open field for children to play. Today, it is overtaken by invasive plants. A few volunteers who have stepped up to lead projects, but with busy schedules, this cleanup has not yet become a reality. If you are interested in learning how you can help with the park clean up, please email Ken Balbuena at kenbalbuena@gmail.com or Chet McLaren at cmclaren3@cox.net.
NEW NSCA WEBSITE COMING SOON

NSCA’s website, nscivic.org, is getting a makeover for the first time since its inception in 2004. Keep check back to see if the new design is live. Suggestions on new sections or must have content? Email kenbalbuena@gmail.com.

SENIOR OUTREACH COMMITTEE by Keith Brown

The North Springfield Senior Outreach Committee is working on identifying the needs of our older residents and providing information on how to access available resources. For example, there is one Fairfax County phone number that provides information and assistance for all kinds of older adults services – (703) 324-7948.

Our goal is to connect residents of all ages so that together we can make our neighborhood an even better place to live. Everyone can participate and most of us already do. Checking on your neighbors that live alone, offering to give them a ride to the store or bringing them groceries, shoveling their walkway or just spending time chatting, and getting to know one another are all great ways to help make our neighborhood better connected.

We plan to have a presentation on this at the NSCA general membership meeting on November 2nd. We hope to see you there. If you have any suggestions about how the committee can better serve our community, please contact NSCASeniorOutreach@gmail.com or PO Box 1007 Springfield, VA 22151 ATTN: Senior Outreach. We look forward to hearing from you!

COMMUNITY TRUNK ‘N TREAT

North Springfield community families are invited to join in Ravensworth Baptist Church’s Trunk ‘N Treat on Sat., Oct. 29 from 10:30am-12:30pm. Church members will be in the parking lot with decorated cars and Halloween treats. Bring your children in their Halloween costumes and go “Trunk and Treating” from car to car. Then visit the patio and lawn for games, activities, and grilled hot dogs, courtesy the Ravensworth Bristow Civic Association. It will be a great way to get to know your neighbors and to get more use out of those costumes. Questions? Contact Cathy at (703) 941-4113 or rbc@ravensworthbaptist.org.

PROPOSED BYLAW REVISIONS

There will be three proposed revisions to the current bylaws that will be discussed at NSCA’s general membership meeting on October 5th. They will lay on the table and be voted upon at November’s meeting.

1. REVISION: Article II, Section 5 calls for the hard copy record retention of bank statements for a 7-year period and for electronic file storage to be an acceptable form of record keeping.

   JUSTIFICATION: NSCA still holds on to bank statements from the 1980s. There have been several audits since then, and there is no longer just cause to keep these records. Additionally, electronic file storage for NSCA Secretarial records was approved by membership during the 2015 bylaw revisions. This proposed revision calls for a similar approval for NSCA Treasurer’s records.

2. REVISION: Article III, Section 3 calls for the Nominating Committee to be formed a month earlier than the current bylaws (from April to March).

   JUSTIFICATION: This revision provides the Nominating Committee additional time to identify qualified candidates for vacant officer positions (i.e. President, Vice President, Secretary, & Treasurer).

3. REVISION: Article III, Section 5 clarifies that the July 1st transfer of records correlates with the beginning of the fiscal year.

   JUSTIFICATION: This adds additional clarification to an identical reference in Article V, Section 1. This question arose during the financial audit for the 2015-16 term and during the transition from the outgoing to the incoming NSCA Treasurer.

The currently approved NSCA bylaws can be found here: http://nscivic.org/NewBylaws.pdf.
**NSCA MEMBERSHIP** by Tricia Barnes

Welcome all new residents to our North Springfield community. If you have moved to the neighborhood, we want you to feel welcome. Please contact me and someone from our Welcome Wagon program will stop by to provide you helpful information for new residents. If someone new has moved in on your block, please be friendly; introduce yourself and welcome them to our community.

The civic association helps better our community by keeping North Springfield a well-kept, safe area; keeping residents informed through our newsletters, Facebook page, and civic association website. We are also a liaison between residents and county government. Our association is a member of the Federation of Citizen Associations which represents all civic and homeowner associations and serves as a united voice to local government representatives for our common concerns in Fairfax County.

It would be great if you let us know 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, and we do have opportunities for you available. If you are not sure if you have already joined for 2016, please email me tbarnesva@cox.net, and I can let you know.

In addition to the above mentioned benefits of NSCA to the community, the web site www.nscivic.org has the Teen job list and copies of the Newsletters available. If you haven’t already, please fill out a membership form. There is a place on it for your email address. If there is something happening in the community we think is important for you to know, you will receive an email. Please make sure to print your email address clearly.

**MEMBERSHIP DUES**

As the 2016-17 NSCA term is about to ramp up, NSCA wants to remind you that membership dues actually run on a calendar year, January-December. We do appreciate any dues that come in throughout the year, and we’ve found that residents like to pay at three peak periods:

- From November-February to (pre)pay for their dues according to the membership cycle
- At Clean Up Day (usually in May)
- At the October meeting

The NSCA Board isn’t currently discussing whether or not to change when dues are...well...due to align with NSCA’s fiscal year (July 1-June 30).

As a reminder, dues are an extremely affordable $15 per year and help NSCA care for the common areas, print newsletters, and provide relevant social activity programs for community engagement. Donations are always welcome. Dues can be paid at any NSCA meeting, mailed to the NSCA PO Box, or paid online at mkt.com/nscivic. (Checks payable to NSCA.) Thanks for your support and generosity.

**NEIGHBORHOOD STANDARDS**

A list of *Recommended Neighborhood Standards* appeared in the April and May 2016 newsletters. Since NSCA is not an HOA, we can only work with the County to enforce County Code. We have no regulatory authority to create and mandate neighborhood requirements. This list was developed to remind residents of various codes/regulations to help keep our neighborhood attractive and property values high. If you believe there is a resident whose home falls below these standards, please share the list with them. The full list can be found on page 10: http://nscivic.org/newsletters/documents/2016-05NEWSLETTER.
North Springfield Civic Association 2016 Membership Drive
Calendar Year: January – December 2016
NSCA, P.O. Box 1007, Springfield, VA 22151
$15.00 Membership, Contributions Welcome

You may also pay online at: mkt.com/nscivic

MEMBERSHIP
Thank you to everyone who has already paid their $15 dues. If you have not joined yet, we hope you will soon. We greatly appreciate the extra contributions that have been made to the association and the $6 for 60 campaign.

Name: __________________________
Address: ________________________

Phone: (____) ___________ Date: ___________ Amount Paid: ___________________

email (Only if your email is new or not already on our list): _______________________

New Resident? □ Yes

North Springfield Civic Association 2016 Volunteer Drive
NSCA, P.O. Box 1007, Springfield, VA 22151

Name: __________________________
Address: ________________________

Phone: (____) ___________ email: _______________________

Please Check Committees or Positions of Interest:

□ Beautification
□ Federation of Citizen Associations
□ Membership
□ Neighborhood Watch
□ Planning and Zoning
□ Community Social Events
□ Special Interest Programs

Suggestions:
Other Committees:

Topics for programs:

Visit us online! NORTH SPRINGFIELD CIVIC ASSOCIATION
Meeting the Common Needs of Your Community

Español Utilice "Google Translate" para ver nuestro sitio web en español.
Sử dụng "Google Translate" để xem trang web của chúng tôi ở Việt Nam.

Việt hangug- eo web saiteu leul ilg-go “ gugeul “eul sayonghayeo

한국의 한국어 웹 사이트를 읽고 "구글"을 사용하여
NEWSLETTER & ADVERTISING

The NSCA Board is discussing revising its advertising rates with special incentives for repeat advertisers and North Springfield residents. NSCA newsletters are hand-delivered to each of the 2,480 residents in the community, so advertisers are guaranteed at least that many delivered impressions. The Board is also discussing ways to make the newsletter more cost efficient, including shifting it to an online-only format.* Please contact NSCA Treasurer Nancy Moore at nancymoore.nsca@gmail.com for more information on the advertising rate proposal, and email NSCA President at kenbalbuena@gmail.com with your thoughts on switching to an online-only format. *A limited number of paper copies would be available FOR those without internet access who request one. Please note this shift to an online-only format is only being discussed, and no final decision has been made.

3RD ANNUAL POST-HALLOWEEN GRAND ILLUMINATION by Margaret Panik

Save your Halloween Pumpkins for November 1’st Grand Illumination!

For the third consecutive year, NSCA will host the annual day-after-Halloween event: Grand Illumination.

We invite the neighborhood to enjoy this festive display! Bring your jack-o-lantern to the North Springfield Pool (on Earlehurrst St) between 6:45-7:10pm on Tuesday, November 1. Volunteers will incorporate your pumpkin with those brought by others. You then can return anytime between 7:30-8:30 PM to enjoy the glowing display!

In order to make this a success we need:

1. Volunteers to help collect/set up the pumpkin display
2. Two fire pits with a few pieces of wood to burn (along with two gallons of water)
3. Votive Candles/matches or electric votive lights (we will need about 200 of them)
4. Imaginative display items to put pumpkins on so they do not have to sit on the ground (like two ladders and some wooden boards). These will need to be dropped off about 6:15 PM on November 1.

if you would like to help, or have something to donate, please contact Margaret Panik at mspanik@gmail.com.

Remember: Please bring flashlights, folding chairs, and snacks to share. Also, the parking lot has cars coming in and out, so children MUST be with a parent at all times!

STREET PARKING

Just as a reminder to all residents, the Commonwealth of Virginia and Fairfax County have specific ordinances pertaining to street parking. A few of them include:

• Vehicles must be parked facing the direction of the travel lane.
• Parking is not allowed within 10 feet of driveways.
• Parking is not allowed within 15 feet of a fire hydrant.
• Parking is not allowed within 30 feet of a stop sign.
• Parking is not allowed within 20 feet of an intersection.
• Parking is not allowed on the sidewalk (which includes the curb, per Virginia Code § 46.2-100)

Please visit http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot/parking/parking_restrictions.htm for a detailed list of parking regulations. NSCA Board members have observed residents who have violated many of these regulations, including cars facing the wrong direction on the street, parking too close to driveways, and two wheels parked on the curb to avoid traffic on main thoroughfares like Leesville Boulevard. Residents should make every effort to park in their driveways if possible but definitely not on the grass of their front yards; that is a violation of Fairfax County Zoning Ordinance 11-100.
SCHOOL RENOVATION & GETTING TO NSCA MEETINGS

If you have not been to North Springfield Elementary School recently, please take a visit. The school’s renovation is moving along quickly with the interior scheduled to be completed by the end of the year. The school purchased all new furniture for each grade level and has created a new tech lab and a new Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) lab.

There is also a brand new main entrance. The old entrance is now fully integrated as an extension of the cafeteria, which means there may be a new way to access the building for civic association meetings. NSCA is working with the school to help our community group access the public meeting space with as little hassle as possible; however, residents may still need to use the new front entrance to access the cafeteria.

This is a little bit of a longer walk than you may be accustomed to when coming to meetings. That being said, there will be accommodations for seniors and those with difficulty walking. NSCA will have someone on-site and possibly signage to help direct people during the next few civic association meetings. Please note that the renovation will also affect November voting. Details on where to go to reach the polls will be announced in next months’ newsletter.

NSES VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The school has volunteer opportunities in the library during school hours as well as help with framing art work in the evening.

POOL REDEDICATION by Dana Cibulski

NSSC President

The North Springfield Swim Club (NSSC) motto this year became: built in 1957 and rebuilt in 2016! As many of you know, the community swim club completely renovated the bath house. It transitioned from a cinder block open roof structure to a sleek, new bath house with a roof, new plumbing, electrical and handicapped accessibility. All local contractors were used to help our neighborhood businesses.

Opening day, Memorial Day, was a heart-warming, huge event with local politicians attending, a ribbon cutting ceremony, local musicians, the local girl scout troop raising the flag, free ice cream and hot dogs—co-sponsored by the NSCA. Our pool has many long time members (some 40 and 50 years!) and they were honored during the ceremony.

In keeping with its community spirit, the pool opened its doors to the entire neighborhood, including non-members, this day and “National Night Out” August 2. Social events throughout the summer season kept the members happy and busy: chili cook off; making tie dye t-shirts; cardboard regatta; ‘dive in’ movie nights; poker nights; and “Food Truck Fridays” —which our pool was the first to start in our area.

Also, our pool is known for its long hours—opened until 9:30pm every night. Our season ended with the traditional ‘Dog Swim’ and a special flag-lowering ceremony and sing-a-long during our extra weekend on September 11. It was sad to see our summer season come to a close. But we will see you next year!

If you would like more information about the pool or are interested in becoming a member, please contact Dana Cibulski at danacibulski@cox.net.
WHERE ARE MY ADS?  
I WANT MY ADS!

Ok, so you probably weren’t saying that, but if you notice, there is not a single ad in this month’s newsletter. That’s because no one has chosen to advertise with us. As you read through all of the great work your North Springfield Civic Association is doing, please consider advertising with us if you own your own business, or ask your friends who own businesses to do the same. NSCA cannot provide the social activities and tend to the needs of community without financial support. Please do not let us go adless again. See page 10 of this newsletter for some positive changes that may be coming to our advertising structure. Thanks!

Your ad goes here!
2,480 print impressions guaranteed.

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