

# Springfield Civic Association

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## President's Message—Gail Nittle



May greetings to all of you and congratulations to all our graduates!

First, please note that our Lee District Supervisor Rodney Lusk will be our speaker at the May general membership meeting. In order to accommodate Supervisor Lusk's busy schedule, our meeting will be via zoom on **Wednesday evening, May 19<sup>th</sup>**. Please join us! There are lots of topics to cover with Supervisor Lusk such as: Who is the new Fairfax County police chief and what is his background? What's happening with the proposed self-storage building at Brandon Avenue? What is Zmod and what is the potential impact of the Board of Supervisors' Zmod vote on Crestwood/Lynbrook? What does the County budget look like and will our taxes be going up this year? How is our area doing with Covid vaccines/cases? Please send your questions to [springfieldcivic@yahoo.com](mailto:springfieldcivic@yahoo.com) before the meeting. In the interest of time, questions at the meeting will be submitted through the chat box.

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The SCA effort to raise the funds to restore the Crestwood's Springfield sign at the Amherst and Backlick junction with Highland was a resounding success! Over forty donors contributed gifts of every denomination from as far away as Colorado! Potts Brothers donated the paint and Bob Bloomquist, Bob Davis, Eric Jones, and Jason Planakis cleaned up the lot. The next step is to choose the landscaping plan. Stay tuned!



Looking forward to seeing you at our March 19<sup>th</sup> zoom meeting when we will hear from Supervisor Lusk and vote to approve the slate of candidates for the SCA Board. See you there.

~Gail

### May Meeting

May 19, 2021  
7:30 via ZOOM  
Instructions page 4

Topic:  
An Evening with  
Supervisor  
Rodney Lusk



### May SCA Meeting Date Change

Mark your calendars!

The May SCA meeting will be held on **WEDNESDAY, MAY 19** at 7:30.

To join the meeting via Zoom or phone, go to page 4

## *Notes From Supervisor Rodney Lusk*

The Board of Supervisors announced on Friday April 23rd the selection of Kevin Davis, former Police Commissioner of the Baltimore Police Department, as the new Fairfax County Chief of Police.

I believe Kevin Davis will bring a renewed commitment to data transparency, eliminating disparities in use of force, and other common-sense reforms to our police department and I look forward to working closely with him to meet the commitments and expectations that Fairfax County residents and public safety professionals have expressed in our county's Public Safety Community Input Matrix, and in the multiple forums that our Board has conducted.



Chief Davis began his position on May 3. Learn more about our new police chief [HERE](#)

On May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021, the FY2022 Fairfax County Budget was adopted by the board. Review it here [HERE](#). See the discussion and full board meeting [HERE](#).

If you have some time, please take this 10-minute survey today and make your voice heard about potential future transit enhancements between the Franconia-Springfield Metro station in Fairfax County and the Quantico Marine Base in Prince William County. The Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) is conducting this survey as part of a feasibility study of enhanced public transportation services which could include options such as additional express bus services, increased VRE commuter rail expansion, Bus Rapid Transit (BRT), or an extension of Metrorail. **This survey closes May 15, 2021.**

[bit.ly/DRPTSpringfieldQuantico](https://bit.ly/DRPTSpringfieldQuantico)

As always if you have any questions don't hesitate to reach out to our office.

I'm always appreciative of your continued engagement with our office and look forward to providing more updates in the future.

## *The Woman's Club of Springfield*

The Woman's Club of Springfield, an organization serving the Springfield and surrounding communities for over sixty-five years, continues efforts to overcome the blocks put into place by the pandemic.

We recently delivered layettes to both Fairfax and Alexandria Hospitals, along with car seats and diapers. These items are always well received and items that had been requested by the hospitals.

We also were able to send a donation to Trails for Youth, our wonderful local organization that provides healthy outlets for local children and teens to enjoy fresh air and sunshine.

We are looking forward to awarding a \$3,000.00 scholarship to a worthy young woman from John R. Lewis High School in June. Our Education Committee is in the process of making a selection.



We recently elected new officers for the 2021-2023 term. The officers were installed by Zoom by our Northern District Present, Mary Driver-Downs. They are: President, Beverly C. Stoltz; 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Carol Lee Barron; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Melody Corrigan; Recording Secretary, Sally Glover; Recording Secretary, Patty Toler and Treasurer, Valerie Turner. We are looking forward to working with these ladies in the next two years.

Our Pink Elephant Shop continues to operate on a scaled-down schedule. Business has picked up some, and we are hoping to be able to open on Thursdays sometime in June for sales only as more and more of our members receive their vaccinations. We want to assure everyone that the Shop is safe, with many safety measures in place for both our customers and our workers. We are very grateful for our consignors and our shoppers, so come in and see us and find one of our many treasures that you can't live without!



Any woman in the Springfield area is welcome to join us for a Zoom meeting. If you are interested in attending or in more information regarding joining our Club, please contact Melody Corrigan ([melmoz@hotmail.com](mailto:melmoz@hotmail.com) or 757/286-2426), our Membership Chairman.

# ECHO



ECHO is proud to announce two new programs to assist people who are struggling to succeed. Knowing that transportation problems keep people from getting or keeping jobs, ECHO is partnering with Cardinal Plaza Shell to assist clients who are in need of basic car repairs. This will not only help clients with employment issues, but it should enhance highway safety in our community. Secondly, because baby diapers constitute a major expense for families, ECHO, in another new initiative, is expanding its access to diapers for clients with young children. Through the work of volunteers and the generosity of donors, ECHO is now giving clients about a month's supply of diapers rather than a week's supply. This will represent significant economic help for families.

You can help ECHO with a couple of clicks! Volunteers serve local families who find themselves in financial difficulty usually because of an emergency situation. In addition to assistance with food and housing costs, ECHO currently helps families with growing children by providing children's clothing as well as with hygiene supplies. ECHO needs donations of baby diapers, feminine hygiene products, specific kinds of baby formula, and new or gently used children's and teen clothing, especially pajamas, sneakers, shorts, and hoodies. ECHO maintains a wishlist on the [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) site. Donors who wish to contribute items that are most urgently needed may purchase from the site and have those donations shipped directly to ECHO. Locating the wishlist on the Amazon site is challenging, so we suggest starting at ECHO's homepage at [www.echo-inc.org](http://www.echo-inc.org) and clicking on the link to Amazon.

This month, ECHO's Food Pantry needs canned meats, 2# bags of sugar or flour, cooking oil, jelly, canned tomatoes, shampoo, shaving cream, detergent, bath soap. ECHO welcomes the help of organizations or individuals who are interested in holding a food drive. There are suggestions for organizing a drive at [www.echo-inc.org](http://www.echo-inc.org). See "How to Hold a Donation Drive" under "Donate Goods." Our address is 7205 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield. We are open to accept donations Monday through Friday, 9:30 am to 12:30 pm and Tuesday and Thursday evenings, 7:00 to 9:00. Please drive to the west side of the building and stop at the Donation Door where volunteers (who are masked) will assist with your donation and offer written receipts.

The annual Letter Carrier Food Drive, usually held in May, normally yields a lot of donations that help carry the ECHO Food Pantry through the lower donation months of summer. This year, however, that drive, also known as Stamp Out Hunger, will not take place. Community food drives such as the ones announced below give donors who can't come to ECHO during regular hours of operation an opportunity to be a part of ECHO's mission.

## Upcoming Food Drives

- Congregation Adat Reyim is holding a Food Drive for ECHO on Sunday, May 16, from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. Donors may simply look for the ECHO sign in the parking lot at 6500 Westbury Oaks Court, Springfield, open their cars for volunteers to take bags or boxes of non-perishable foods, and drive away without having to get out of their vehicles.
- Burke Presbyterian Church, 5690 Oak Leather Drive, Burke, will also have contactless transfer by masked volunteers during their donation event for ECHO on Sunday, May 23, from noon until 2:00 pm. Requested donations include non-perishable food, personal care items such as soap and detergent, and new children's underwear or child-sized sneakers.

## Congregational Food Drives

June - Westwood Baptist and St. Mark's Lutheran

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## Chairman McKay's Covid Vaccine Information

Governor Northam amended Executive Order 72 to adopt [new guidance](#) from the CDC on **mask use** in outdoor settings.

The CDC guidelines state that **fully vaccinated individuals** do not have to wear masks outdoors when alone or in small gatherings. Mask use is still required indoors and outdoors at large crowded events like concerts, sporting events, and graduation ceremonies. People are considered fully vaccinated two weeks after receiving the last required dose of vaccine. Read more [here](#).

And in case you haven't heard, Fairfax County residents 16 years and older are eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. I am pleased that there is enough vaccine for everyone who wants to be vaccinated.

With that said, we are also excited to [offer walk-in appointments at the Tysons Community Vaccination Center \(CVC\)](#). While appointments may still be scheduled ahead of time, the Tysons CVC is offering first-come, first-served walk-in appointments Monday-Saturday from 9am-4pm. The CVC is located in the former Lord & Taylor at 7950 Tysons Corner Center, McLean, VA, 22102.

To schedule an appointment, the CVC can be found on [VaccineFinder.org](#) or directly through the [Health Department's VAMS scheduling page](#).

If you aren't yet vaccinated or know someone who still needs to be vaccinated please know that **now is the time**. It is so important to protect yourself from illness and to protect your family. The vaccine is safe and effective and will be crucial to returning back to normal life.



## Lake Accotink Park

Lake Accotink Park staff would like to express their continued thanks to the community for the show of support for our programs, classes, camps, and park trails. It is nice to see more and more members of our community enjoying our park in so many different ways. Check out our upcoming programs, classes, events, and camps at: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lake-accotink/classes-camps>.

The Friends of Lake Accotink Park (FLAP) and park staff recently completed the Margaret Kinder Butterfly Interpretive Garden. On your next visit, please stop by and admire its beauty. On weekends, staff has been busy with our mini-golf and carousel operations.



Beginning May 29, Lake Accotink's marina will open for kayak and peddle boat rentals. Kayaks will be available daily and peddle boat rentals will be available on weekends only. See the six new kayak racks that Aiden Murata of Scout Troop 1865 designed and constructed to complete his Eagle Scout project. Visit

our website for the complete schedule of operations for the marina at: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lake-accotink/bike-boat-rentals>.

Research and data collection for the Lake Accotink Dredging Project has been in full swing since early spring. For information on this project, please contact [Charles.Smith@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Charles.Smith@fairfaxcounty.gov) of Stormwater Management.

We look forward to the community's continued support of Lake Accotink Park this summer.



### SCA General Membership Meeting

**\*\*Wednesday, May 19, 7:30pm\*\***

Join in the May 19 SCA Zoom Meeting by clicking here.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82304378202?pwd=TGdjY1RvSm9QcTlxQU03MytoNzZxZz09>

Meeting ID: 823 0437 8202  
Passcode: 893570

**No internet connection?**

Use one of these numbers to call into the meeting:

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)  
+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)  
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 823 0437 8202  
Passcode: 893570

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## News From FLAP (Friends of Lake Accotink Park)

### Margaret Kinder Education and Pollinator Garden – Lake Accotink Park

April 2021 marks five years since the initial conception of this educational pollinator garden. The original Lake Accotink Park Pollinator Garden was planted in the traffic circle and maintained there for years. In 2016 it was noted as a safety hazard, as the plants matured to over six feet tall, blocking the view from one side to the other of oncoming traffic. The garden relocation (from the traffic circle) and expansion (to its current location) were based on the need for an ADA accessible – educationally focused pollinator garden. A partnership between FCPA and the Friends of Lake Accotink Park (FLAP) made this happen. This has occurred through a myriad of tasks that included, but were not limited to: designing (garden, signs, brochure), planning, securing stakeholders and donors, ground preparation, planting, naming, scheduling, maintaining (weeding/watering /mulching) removing all the foliage, prepping, planting, installing soaker hoses, recruiting volunteers, designing signage, coordinating, and communicating. FCPA and FLAP volunteers made this garden a reality. FLAP dedicated resources and over 4,900 hours from April 2018 to its official dedication April 17 2021. The pollinator garden now showcases over 800 plants of 14 different varieties, attracting many varieties of birds, butterflies, bees, and yes, even humans.

In 2018 efforts to move forward took hold as both FCPA and FLAP committed time and effort to the project. FLAP leadership worked diligently to identify the new pollinator garden location, and further to identify it as an educational resource to raise environmental awareness to Lake Accotink Park patrons. We began our effort, requiring the garden to be large, include a good number of indigenous plant species, and be in an ADA accessible location. FLAP reached out to Merrifield Garden Center for help with designing the garden, and Ms. Kerri Blackman developed several designs for FCPA and FLAP review. After several months, the new location, and overall design was approved. This plan also included the removal and refurbishment of the traffic circle adjacent to the marina, by planting a single Sugar Maple Tree.

Throughout the following year, dozens of FLAP volunteers dedicated over 4,800 hours removing the foliage, rocks and debris from both locations and readying the soil for the installation of the watering system, mulching, and then planting 800+ plants - 14 varieties of indigenous plants, their name plaques development and placement.

The resolution to dedicate the garden to Margaret Kinder was presented by FLAP to the FCPA Board. The resolution was passed by the FCPA board to dedicate this garden to Margaret Kinder, honoring her decades of service to Lake Accotink Park, the Ravensworth Community, and the County of Fairfax.


“We look forward to educating the community, concerning the benefits of a pollinator garden, by encouraging our youth to attend our upcoming classes and planting their own pollinator garden, maintaining this beautiful garden and providing classes and starter plants. We could not have accomplished the first and only ADA approved Educational Pollinator Garden, designed, maintained and funded by a friends group, FLAP, without our partnership with FCPA, Lake Accotink Park and our Community of dedicated Volunteers and Donors.”



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## REPORT BIAS CRIME

The Fairfax County Police Department recognizes the harm of bias crimes (also known as hate crimes) and bias incidents and encourages you to report them.

All bias crimes and incidents are investigated thoroughly.

If you are a victim or know of a bias crime or bias incident call:



- 911 for a crime in progress.
- 703-691-2131 to report a crime that has previously occurred.



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## *Friends of the Richard Byrd Library Update*

### **Still No Book Donations**

No book donations can be received until further notice and no volunteers will be needed until we are up and running again. We promise to keep you updated. Please continue to stay safe and stay well.

Richard Byrd Library is open for express service  
Mon – Tue, 10am – 8pm, Wed – Sat, 10am – 6pm

### **COVID-19 Testing at Library**

Mon & Fri 9am - 3:30pm  
Wed 12pm - 6:30pm

Testing not performed for travel, return to work or school, or for documentation of a negative test for other purposes.

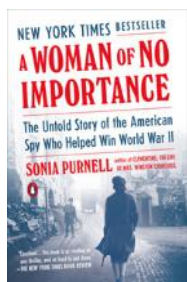
- No registration required.
- No ID required.
- Testing does not affect public charge determination (immigration status).
- No insurance required.
- Must be 2 years old or older.
- Spanish speakers on site.
- Contact information will only be used to provide test results.
- You may be eligible for assistance if you test positive.
- Who should get tested? People near those with symptoms or those who have tested positive within the last 10 days.

Questions 703-267-3511

Fairfax County COVID-19 Website: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/health/novel-coronavirus>

### **Book Review: *A Woman of No Importance (The Untold Story of the American Spy Who Helped Win WW II)***

**By Barbara Gilchrist**



Published in 2019 this is yet another New York Times bestseller, this true history reads like a traditional spy novel – covert operations, guerilla warfare, infiltrating the enemy, cover names, masterful disguises – it’s all in there! What makes this riveting culmination of years of research truly interesting is the protagonist is a female – a spy, who in true American fashion for women and minorities, had to leave the country to realize her potential and truly use her talents. Virginia Hall, born into the upper crust of Baltimore society, rejected the societal expectations of a young lady of her station and, instead, chose to pursue the life of a spy. Despite having a prosthetic leg (she lost her leg as a result of a hunting accident in Turkey), Virginia was so effective in working behind enemy lines, the Gestapo in 1942 issued an urgent command across France: “She is the most dangerous of all Allied spies. We must find and destroy her.” They never did.

Masterfully, author Sonia Purnell, takes the reader behind enemy lines and deep into the covert operations Virginia led in Nazi-occupied France. Virginia’s fierce resistance, strong determination and willingness to kill if needed helped the Allies liberate France and win WWII. She was never given the salary nor the recognition she deserved. In fact, she waged an ongoing battle against male chauvinism, jealousy and sexism simply to do her job. She persevered anyway.

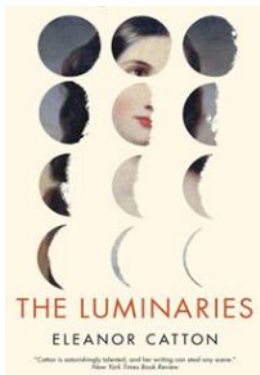
This book is well worth reading, and I encourage the reader to dig in and solve the mystery of “Cuthbert” as well as dig into the intricacies and difficulties of operating behind enemy lines where death could be slow and painful if discovered. It depicts the true life of a spy.

Virginia Hall never cared about recognition (but you can find her recognized in the CIA Museum) or salary. She simply followed her “calling” to work for those who were significantly oppressed. While slow at times, I found *A Woman of No Importance* well worth reading. “Check it out” today! (cont’d on pg. 8)



## Friends of Robert Byrd Library (cont'd)

**Book Review: *The Luminaries***  
by Janet Cameron



We have been living in times when a novel of Victorian proportions can be a welcome way to brighten long days spent at home. If you love a gripping plot, a wide array of colorful characters, and the unerring command of words and detail that distinguished great novelists of a previous century, this is the read for you! This 2013 Booker Prize winner delivers all of these things but with a twist. While set in the late 1800s, it is the work of young New Zealand author, Eleanor Catton, and the location is her home country. I did not know that there had been a goldrush in New Zealand, but it is a New Zealand goldrush town that is the setting for this marvelous yarn. It is populated by the diverse assortment of protagonists, rogues, and oddballs one might expect in such a turbulent place, each personality revealed through their own actions, thoughts, and words. As the plot unfolds through the eyes of each character in turn, it never fails to intrigue, drawing the reader in ever deeper. The author's language is a delight, and many meticulously-researched details paint the sights and sounds forming the backdrop to this absorbing tale.

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## Springfield Swim Club

### More than just a Pool - Community at Springfield Swimming Club

By Julianna Castro

It's hard to believe we've lived here for six years now. We moved to Springfield when our children were babies, not knowing anyone nearby. By that first summer, we had a one year old and a three year old, who were very mobile, and hardly ever in the same direction. We heard some commotion at the nearby pool as they were preparing for the new season, and my husband went to check it out. After a lot of hemming and hawing on my part, we decided to sign up for a family membership. Oh, I am so happy we did - truly! What we found was not just an activity for the children, but a community for all of us.



That first summer, as I watched kids splashing around and having fun, I couldn't help but notice how the older ones naturally were being mindful and looking out for my babies. Once my kids were old enough to join the swim and dive teams, the older kids were incredibly welcoming and encouraging of the younger ones.

Now six years on, I've watched the neighborhood children grow from kids to young adults, continuing to help out the younger ones along the way. Some of those neighborhood kids are even lifeguards now! And my own children, through all their goofing off and splashing around, are keeping an eye out for the little ones too.

Last year tested us all, but the commitment of the board to open, and do so safely gave my family a little outlet in the lockdown world. The bonds we've forged over the years were strengthened last summer, as we sought out community amongst all the isolation. The pool became our refuge, our gathering place. And in a little less than a month, we'll be back. Oh, I can't wait!

For information on Springfield Swimming Club, visit us online at <https://www.swimspringfield.org>, or contact our Membership Director, Jennifer Killmer, at [membership@swimspringfield.org](mailto:membership@swimspringfield.org).

**Springfield Swimming Club**  
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Do you have a question for the SCA? Contact us via email at [springfieldcivic@yahoo.com](mailto:springfieldcivic@yahoo.com).

Check out our website at [www.springfieldcivic.org](http://www.springfieldcivic.org)

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Springfield Civic Association

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## Covid-19 Updates: May 2021

Below are a few updates we've published about COVID-19 in our community. When you have a moment, please open each link to read the details. Please keep up protective actions (and get a vaccine) to keep those numbers down. Here is what you need to know:

**COVID-19 Vaccine is Readily Available and Free:** <https://fairfaxcountyemergency.wpcomstaging.com/2021/05/06/hey-fairfax-county-covid-19-vaccine-is-readily-available-and-free-here-is-what-you-need-to-know/>

**COVID-19 Vaccine and 12- to 15-Year-Old Children:** <https://fairfaxcountyemergency.wpcomstaging.com/2021/05/07/covid-19-vaccine-and-12-to-15-year-old-children/>

**Experiencing a Financial Hardship Due to COVID-19? Fairfax Water Can Help You Explore Options for Paying Your Bill:**

<https://fairfaxcountyemergency.wpcomstaging.com/2021/05/06/experiencing-a-financial-hardship-due-to-covid-19-fairfax-water-can-help-you-explore-options-for-paying-your-bill/>

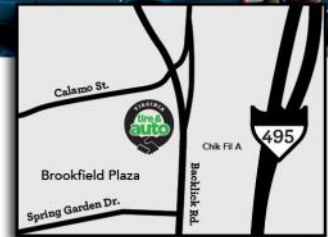
**Revitalization Fund and Shuttered Venue Operators Grant Now Open and Available to Help Businesses:**

<https://fairfaxcountyemergency.wpcomstaging.com/2021/05/06/restaurant-revitalization-fund-and-shuttered-venue-operators-grant-now-open-and-available-to-help-businesses/>

For additional COVID-19 information, visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/covid19](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/covid19), call our vaccine hotline at 703-324-7404 or email us at [fxcovid@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:fxcovid@fairfaxcounty.gov).



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 EXP: 07/31/21 | COUPSCALOF5

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## Springfield Art Guild



# PLEASE JOIN THE SPRINGFIELD ART GUILD FOR OUR VIRTUAL 2021 GUEST SPEAKER SERIES!! \* MAY 12 \*

**We hold our Monthly meetings on Zoom  
the 2nd Wed of each month at 7:00 p.m.**

**All are welcome,  
and we'd love to have you join us!!!!**

**Virtual Monthly Meetings:** SAG's board is lining up great Guest Speakers who will bring their art into your homes until we can meet in person again.

**6:45 p.m.** Zoom "doors" open - Please join us ahead of the program.

**7:00PM:** Donnalynne Lefever, Acting President will conduct a short business meeting

**\*\* Immediately** following conclusion of the business meeting, **the guest speaker** will begin her presentation

**Zoom:** If you don't have an account you can sign up for **FREE** at <https://zoom.us/>. If you haven't participated in a Zoom meeting it's really easy on your computers or tablets. Please contact Elaine Sevy, SAG board member at [Yorkiemum.sevy95@gmail.com](mailto:Yorkiemum.sevy95@gmail.com) for the Zoom link to our programs.

### **Our Guest Speaker for May is Botanical Artist Lara Call Gastinger**

Join Lara Call Gastinger as she talks about her experience as a botanical artist. She will speak about her early career as a botanical illustrator for the *Flora of Virginia* which led to her profession as a botanical artist.

She will go through the process of creating and maintaining a perpetual journal and how she creates detailed watercolor paintings.

She has her undergraduate degree in Biology from the University of Virginia and a master's degree in plant ecology from Virginia Tech. She has been awarded two gold medals (2007, 2018) at the Royal Horticultural Society Botanical Art shows in London and her work is in the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Her artwork appears in the latest *Peterson's Field Guide to Mushrooms* and *ASBA's Botanical Art Techniques Handbook*.

The subjects of her art are artifacts of the natural world, and reveal detailed evidence of the natural processes of growth, reproduction, and decay. She finds inspiration in a carrot that has gone to flower, a broken seedpod, twisted roots or insect damage to a leaf. She strives to make a plant portrait in such a way that it reveals its character and uniqueness. Her focus on the small details and celebration of the everyday hopefully inspires others to look a bit deeper and linger a bit longer. She has gained international recognition with the creation of her "perpetual journal" that has inspired naturalists around the world to start their own.

[laracallgastinger.com](http://laracallgastinger.com)

[laragastinger@gmail.com](mailto:laragastinger@gmail.com)

[instagram.com/laragastinger](https://www.instagram.com/laragastinger)

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*We are so thankful for such a wonderful experience and highly recommend her to anyone thinking about selling a home.*



*His team did a wonderful job selling the house that had been our home of 27 years. He and his recommended stager gave spot-on advice about where to concentrate our efforts freshening up the house to maximize its appeal. His skill as a negotiator came to the fore when the **house sold the first weekend for well over the asking price with multiple offers.***

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## Trails for Youth

### Brookfield Park NEW Mountain Bike Skills Area – Great Addition to a Wonderful Park.

After a year of planning and fundraising, it took just two and half days and a forklift to build the Brookfield Park mountain bike skills area. This is a wonderful addition to the existing pump track and the park as a whole. The first Saturday it was available, local families spent the day learning new mountain biking skills that will translate to making them better, safer, mountain bikers. So far the youngest rider has been age 3 and ½ and the oldest age 60. Perhaps more importantly youth and families now have another place to gather and talk and play. As one local parent said, “This is so fun, and a wonderful gem for our community. We love it!”

TrailsforYouth.Org knew the potential this new addition to the park would add and it exceeds our expectations. We are so happy to see neighborhood youth and full families coming down and exploring the park to see what it’s all about. The kids in our program not only enjoy the new equipment but recognize the hard work it took to get it built. They stepped up on Saturday to help new riders learn, and when they weren’t doing that, they grabbed a bag and started picking up trash. TYO will be continuing to hold organized skills sessions for local youth on Tuesdays (5:30 pm weather permitting), but it's bigger than just TYO. There was talk of holding a women’s specific skills session on Wednesdays and Family Fun Friday nights. The good news is the equipment is part of the park, just like the playground, and is there for everyone to safely enjoy. Children 15 and under are required to wear a helmet (and we recommend adults do too).

Already our partners at the Mid-Atlantic Off-Road Enthusiasts (MORE) are working with us to plan a workday to improve the trail between Brookfield Park and the Cross County Trail. With this trail walkers and bikers can continue to explore the surrounding parks and enjoy nature. It just keeps getting better and better, just like our little SCA neighborhood. See you in the Park!

For more information about TrailsforYouth.Org follow us on Facebook.com/TrailsforYouth.org

Thank you for your support. I'm happy to report the new bike skills area is fantastic at Brookfield!

Cheers -

Julie



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## Recycle Fairfax

**Update on Food Waste Pilot Program**—The good waste drop off center at the Transfer Station on West Ox Road in Fairfax and the I-95 Landfill Complex in Lorton are doing well. As of last month we have recycled over **20,000 lbs. of compostable organics (more than 10 tons!)**.

**Specialty Wastes Accepted at County Facilities**— Some waste should never be placed in your trash can, and not in your recycling bin either. We are talking about items such as [household hazardous waste](#) (HHW) and [electronics](#). Unwanted electronics and common household hazardous materials have potentially dangerous components and chemicals that should be kept out of our environment and regular trash.

Fairfax County offers HHW and electronics drop off at our [facilities](#) at the I-66 Transfer Station and the I-95 Landfill Complex. HHW will be disposed of properly, as will electronic components that are not able to be recycled/refurbished. Hours of operations and materials accepted can be found [here](#). These services are free of charge for household items from County residents.

There are also opportunities for businesses that generate small quantities of hazardous waste to properly recycle or dispose of these items through the county's [very small quantity generator \(VSQG\)](#) program.

**Refuse, Reduce, and Reuse**— Here are some ideas on how to practice these new, even better “Three R’s”.

- **Reuse What You Don’t Need.** Some ideas: Bring your own Tupperware to restaurants and refuse plastic straws. Remove yourself from junk mail lists. Carry a reusable bag in your purse or in your car. Request no plastic utensils when getting takeout and carry your own reusable water bottle.
- **Buy Used.** You can find everything from clothing to building materials at consignment shops and reuse centers. Items are less expensive and in good condition.
- **Look for products that use less packaging.** Less packaging means less use of raw materials. This reduces costs and the savings can be passed along to the consumer. Buying in bulk can reduce packaging and save money.
- **Buy reusable over disposable items.** For example try bringing your own utensils to work to each lunch rather than using plastic forks and spoons. Try to bring your own container to the restaurant for taking food home.
- **Maintain and repair products** like clothing, furniture, and appliances.
- **Borrow, rent, or share items that are used infrequently** like party decorations, or tools.

**Oyster Shell Recycling**— Yes, you can recycle oyster shells! Oyster shells are the most natural material to rebuild oyster reefs, but they are in very short supply. Restaurants and other seafood businesses can help in this important endeavor by donating their used oyster shells. At the [I-95 Landfill Complex](#) in Lorton there is a **blue** dumpster for collecting oyster shells. Just remember that this particular dumpster is for oyster shells only – no glass! The glass recycling dumpsters are painted **purple**.

## New Fairfax County Police Chief



Kevin Davis is the new Chief of the Fairfax County Police Department effective May 3<sup>rd</sup>. He takes over from Deputy County Executive for Public Safety Dave Rohrer, who has been acting as Interim Chief since the retirement of Chief Edwin C. Roessler in February.

Chief Davis served as the City of Baltimore’s Police Commissioner from 2015 to 2018. He had previously served as Chief of Police of Anne Arundel County, MD, from 2013 to 2014 and as Assistant Chief of the Prince George’s County, MD Police Department from 1992 to 2013. He has recently worked as Director of Consulting services for GardaWorld, the world’s largest privately owned security services company.

On May 7, Chief Kevin Davis held his first press conference at the Public Safety Headquarters highlighting his first week in Fairfax County. During the busy week, he met with local government officials, Department senior leadership and officers at the Mount Vernon District Station. He discussed his family legacy in policing which led him to become a fourth-generation public servant. The values he learned in his early years inspired him to a life of service to the community.

“I think 2021 is the perfect opportunity for me to return to what I love.” – Chief Kevin Davis



## Richard Byrd Library

By Valerie Sutte, Branch Manager

Greetings from Richard Byrd Library!

We are open for Express Services offering customers the opportunity to visit the library for 30 minutes a day to look for books and other materials, pick up items on hold, use the computers or copy and print documents. Our daily Friends of the Library book sale continues in the lobby. We are still unable to accept book donations. Thank you for thinking of us!

All Fairfax County Public Library branches are open Monday and Tuesday from 10am-8pm and Wednesday-Saturday from 10am-6pm. Curbside services are offered Monday-Saturday from 10am-4pm.

Our Youth Services Staff has been busy creating ways to engage with our youngest customers with interactive games and activities including craft Take & Makes, voting games, a bilingual adventure walk and a rainbow to reading path, and more!



We have a Take & Makes for adults and teens, too! Stop by and pick up a Lucky Stars Jar kit!

Visit the YA area to determine your YA Book Title!



To stay up to date on what is offered for Take & Makes as well as request Grab Bags of titles selected especially for you, visit the You're Gonna Make It! page on the FCPL website. [Richard Byrd - You're Gonna Make It! - FCPL Curated Content at Fairfax County Government](#)

The library offers many digital programs on everything from trivia to crafts. Upcoming events include weekly English Conversation Group, Organizing Your Digital Files and Around the World with Thread. To register for one of these programs or to discover other programs please go to the library's event page at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/events](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/events).

For on-demand program videos, be sure to check out the library's YouTube channel at [www.youtube.com/user/FairfaxLibrary](http://www.youtube.com/user/FairfaxLibrary)

Don't miss our quarterly magazine Branch Out, you can get the latest issue in the branch or read it all online at: [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branch-out](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branch-out)

Stay safe and take care. We hope to see you in the library again soon!



## John R. Lewis High School Renaming Ceremony



On Friday, April 23, the John R. Lewis High School community of students and staff held a rededication ceremony to celebrate the renaming of the school. Local, state, and federal leaders, including members of the US Senate and House of Representatives, Virginia state delegates, members of the Board of Supervisors, the entire FCPS school board, and other FCPS administrative staff participated in the festivities, as local broadcast media covered the event.

During the ceremony, past and current Lewis students told intimate and powerful stories about their efforts that led to this historic name change. They all exemplify what civic engagement means in our country, by using their voices to participate in the democratic process. These students are but a glimpse of the talent and potential of the entire student body of the school. Other speakers described their interactions with Congressman Lewis and others who inspired them to a life of public service. Our Lee District Supervisor, Rodney Lusk announced his support to bring an academy program to the school, featuring curriculum centered on leadership, government, public policy and human rights. An academy program in the heart of central Springfield will certainly be a desirable addition to our community.

The ceremony was lived-streamed, but in case you missed it, you can watch the entire proceedings right here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1QLHA7k-8nI>.

And please take a moment to read about John R. Lewis High School's mission, vision, and community agreements here: <https://lewishs.fcps.edu/about>



Esther Berg, Chair, Lewis Academy NOW  
Liz Murphy, Communications Director, Lewis Academy NOW  
Mark Heinitz, Treasurer, Lewis Academy NOW  
Michele Duell, Operations Director, Lewis Academy NOW  
[www.lewisacademyNOW.org](http://www.lewisacademyNOW.org)



Exciting news!

After 17 years of helping clients in the Northern VA market, I've joined Compass, a technology-driven real estate company. With innovative tools and exclusive programs like Compass Concierge - where we front all of your home improvement and staging services at no initial cost to you until closing, Compass empowers me to redefine the buying and selling process for my clients. As your fellow neighbor for over 25 years, I have a vested interest in our shared property values. Where you live has never been more important, so connect with me today to get started!



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## *Potomac River Running*

### **Comfort Your Walk at Potomac River Running**

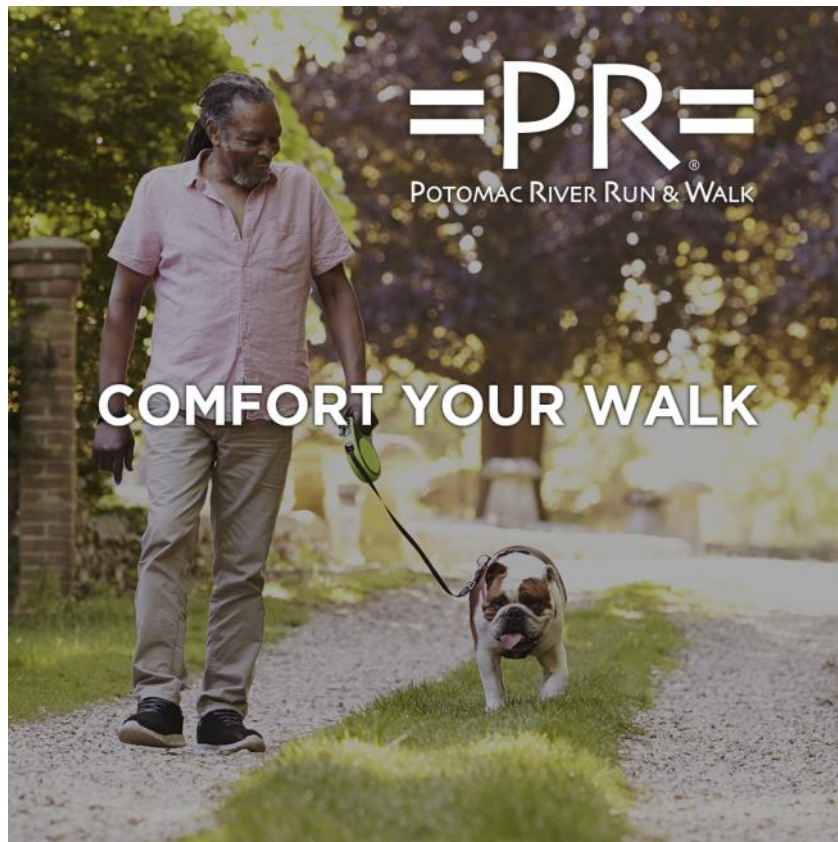
Over the past year Americans have found themselves stuck at home more due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Many have turned to exercise as a way to cope with boredom, stress, or simply to just get out of the house!

Walking is one of the easiest ways to relieve stress and get exercise all at once. All you need is a good pair of shoes and you are good to go! Whether you like to walk in your neighborhood or enjoy hitting the local trails, the most important factor to a good walk is a comfortable pair of shoes. Did you know that shoes start to wear out at around 300 miles of use? If you don't keep track of your mileage and you are a frequent walker, you should be looking to replace your walking shoes every 6 months to a year. Here are some signs your walking shoes might be in need of a replacement:

- You are experiencing new aches and pains when you walk (ex: knee pain, sore feet, etc.)
- Worn down tread on the bottom of the shoe
- Torn mesh on the upper part of the shoe
- Heel is soft and collapses with pressure
- Wrinkled midsole

If you are experiencing any of these things, it's time to stop by Potomac River Running in Springfield. We are your local walking and running specialty store and are here to make sure you can keep walking comfortably.

Visit our Springfield location anytime or one of our other 8 stores in the northern Virginia/DC area to experience the walking fitting experience. Also, you can go to our shopping hub at [www.potomacriverrunning.com/shopping-hub](http://www.potomacriverrunning.com/shopping-hub) to schedule an in-store or virtual walking shoe fitting appointment. Our expert staff will guide you through a fitting process to help you pick the perfect shoe for your foot. We can also help you find insoles, socks, and apparel to make your walks even more comfortable. Whether you picked up a walking hobby during the pandemic or you've been a walker for years, keep your feet healthy and happy by replacing your shoes on a consistent basis.







*AL Post 176*



*Kentucky Country*

*Music Dinner/Dance*

**FABULOUS SOUTHERN BUFFET  
BY THE TENNESSEE  RANCH**

**CASH BAR**



**CASH BAR**

**NATIONAL POPPY DAY**

**NATIONAL POPPY DAY**

May 28, 2021  
5:00 PM  
Country Music  
The OLD Time  
Southern Music  
Presented by:  
Legion Arts Production



**Community Welcome**



12th Annual  
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**CAR SHOW**  
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*Hosted By*  
**Springfield American  
Legion Post 176**

*6520 Amherst Ave  
Springfield, VA*

**Sunday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021**

**9:00 AM o 3:00 PM**

**Rain Date: June 13, 2021**

**Registration is open from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM**

**And costs \$20.00 per vehicle**

**Spectators: \$3.00, Children Under 12 FREE!**

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**In Memory of: Joe Mizer**

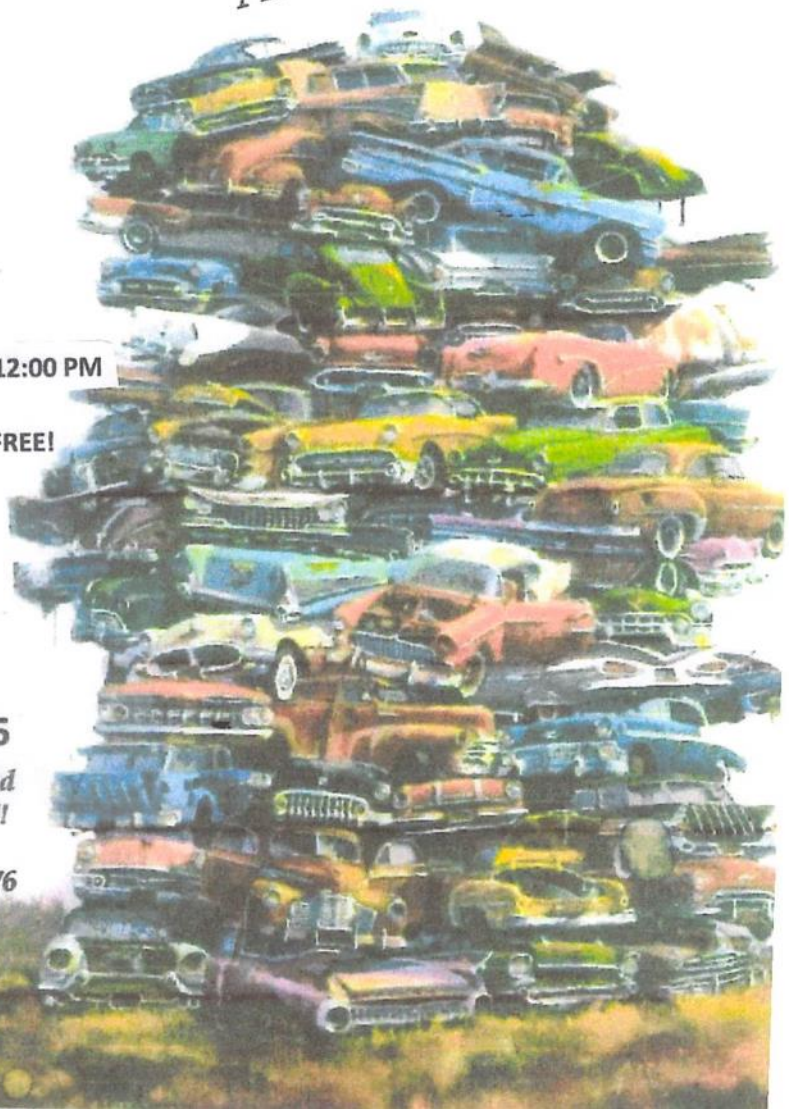
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***Alcohol, Illegal Substances, Loud Music and  
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## Thanks for Your Service, Al McAloon

At its March 18, 2021 meeting, the Fairfax County Redevelopment and Housing Authority (FCRHA) recognized Albert McAloon for his leadership and guidance as he completed his term of service as the Lee District Commissioner to the FCRHA. Mr. McAloon served as the Lee District Commissioner from July 1995 through January 2021.



Mr. McAloon distinguished himself as FCRHA Vice Chair for two terms and as a member of the FCRHA Planning and Development (P&D) Committee, the FCRHA Revitalization Committee, and the FCRHA Housing Ownership, Management, and Security Committee, also serving as Chair on the P&D and Revitalization Committees.

Mr. McAloon was a strong supporter and voice for senior citizens and persons with disabilities in Fairfax County and was committed to housing accessibility. He was the driving force behind the development of the FCRHA's Housing Accessibility Policy. He also played a critical role in a variety of FCRHA policy decisions and development projects affecting residents in the Lee District and across Fairfax County, including the Murraygate Village Apartments rehabilitation project in the Lee District, the FCRHA's designation as a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) "Moving to Work" agency, and many others.

During his tenure, Fairfax County has been recognized for its outstanding work on affordable housing projects by national organizations such as the National Association of Counties and the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials.

The FCRHA wishes Mr. McAloon great happiness, success, and prosperity in all his future endeavors.

## Update from Franconia District Station Commander Greg Fried

### Reality Check

On May 10, the Franconia District Station participated in the Reality Check program developed by INOVA Trauma Center. The three-hour program is designed for newly licensed teenage drivers, those who will soon become licensed to drive, and their parents or guardians. It is called Reality Check because it uses real-life experiences from EMS and the Emergency Room to educate young drivers and their parents on safety and distractions. It is offered via Zoom.

Register for the May 21 session at [www.inova.org/realitycheck](http://www.inova.org/realitycheck), call 703-776-3259, or email [linda.watkins@inova.org](mailto:linda.watkins@inova.org).

### Franconia District Station Contact Information

For crime prevention information or assistance contact:

Franconia District Station Community Outreach and Liaison Officer:  
MPO Eric Nelson [[eric.nelson@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:eric.nelson@fairfaxcounty.gov)]  
703-277-2490

Crime Prevention Officer:  
PFC Sean Corcoran [[Sean.Corcoran@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Sean.Corcoran@fairfaxcounty.gov)]  
703-277-2476

**Travel Safety Tips**  
From the National Crime Prevention Council  
And McGruff the Crime Dog

- Pack the least possible amount, and be sure your luggage stays under your control (or that of authorized personnel) at all times.
- Carry only the credit cards and ATM cards you absolutely need. Do not carry large amounts of money.
- Make sure your home is secure—all deadbolts locked, lights left on timers, and deliveries cancelled or being collected by a trusted neighbor who has your travel schedule.
- Make sure everyone in your party, adults, teens, and children, has the name, address, and phone number of the place you are staying and carries that information at all times.
- Never leave your room key out somewhere where it could be picked up by a stranger, such as at a restaurant or pool.
- Don't leave rooms unlocked in your lodgings. Insist that everyone carry his or her keys when outside the room.
- When traveling, lock your vehicle at all times, especially at gas stations, rest areas, or other public facilities.

Visit [www.npc.org](http://www.npc.org) Contact NPC: 202-466-6272



# Congratulations Graduates!

Way to Go Students!

Thank You Teachers!



Your friends and neighbors are proud of the  
work you've done this year.



## *History of Springfield*

By Robyn Carter

### **History of Springfield Part 5 - The Sign and Other Things.**

Hello Springfielders! Welcome to the spring season and all the beauty that it brings to the community!

During the years of sharing my research about Springfield's early development period on various Facebook groups and other media, I've often been asked a very logical question that has confounded residents and visitors alike. With the recent, glorious restoration of the historic "Crestwood's Springfield" sign, I thought this would be a good time to answer the often asked question of....."Why does the Crestwood's Springfield sign read the way it does?" Due to the possessive in the name it has often made folks wonder...."if it's "Crestwood" then why the 's'??

The reason has a multi-part back story, so here goes. First off, I'll start with the developer of the area, Mr. Edward R. Carr. As brilliant and forward thinking that he was, it seems he had one quirk that eventually led to the naming on that sign. The quirk was that, in some instances, Mr. Carr had a penchant for naming subdivisions with the same name as the geographical areas they were built in. In the case of what we now commonly call "Crestwood", it began about 1950 when Carr had laid out the first few blocks for single family homes along Backlick Rd and Amherst Ave prior to selling that land (and many more undeveloped acres to the west) to The Crestwood Construction Corporation in April 1951 to start building those first houses. In creating a name for that proposed first subdivision, Mr. Carr gave it the legal name "Springfield", and thus that name shows on the deeds for the homes in "Crestwood". The redundancy either didn't occur to Mr. Carr or he didn't think it was an issue but when you stop to think about it....just imagine how it would be for homeowners (when trying to narrow down their location) to have to say "I live in the Springfield subdivision in Springfield, Virginia."

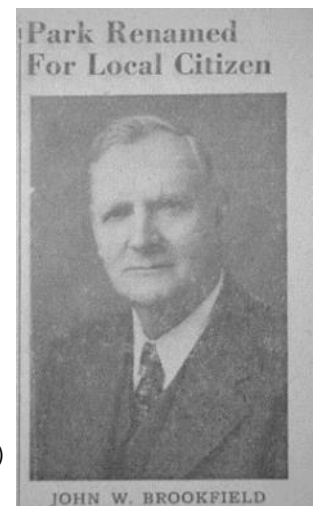
Apparently this anomaly did occur to the owners of Crestwood Construction. At this point it is unlikely that we will ever learn exactly whether they 1) could not change the legal description for the subdivision name upon their purchase of the land, or 2) it was an expense they felt wasn't worth it, and/or 3) their marketing minds kicked in. Whatever their reason(s) their solution was the wording of that sign. Adding their name as a possessive on the sign indicated that although the subdivision carries the name Springfield, the addition of their company name did indicate some differentiation between their subdivision and the community at large. Due to the wording of the sign and just convenient shorthand, the early residents in the area began simply calling the subdivision "Crestwood" and to most modern residents that is the identifier they use rather than the legal subdivision name. From a name recognition standpoint, the executives assured that the name of their company would live on far beyond its actual lifespan as a corporate entity in the home building business. The company capitalized on this idea from what can only be surmised as a purely marketing standpoint in a couple of their other subdivisions later on, which did not have the redundancy problem they had in that first subdivision. This is why we have Crestwood Park (in North Springfield), Crestwood Manor (in Annandale) still carrying the corporate name, long after the public at large has no idea who Crestwood Construction Corporation was, let alone realize the tremendous impact the firm had in the building of thousands of homes in Northern Virginia.

While on the subject of naming....with residents beginning to enjoy more of the local parks, I thought folks might like to know why the name "Brookfield" adorns both a local park but also a long standing local shopping center and post office location.

When it was decided that their owned land west of the Crestwood subdivision was too hilly & rocky for the company to build housing on, Crestwood Construction donated the land to Fairfax County for the use we know it to be today. Early reports showed that the park (based on proximity) would be named "Crestwood Park" (not to be confused with the later subdivision mentioned above) but in November of 1955 a decision was made by the county to honor a prominent local long term living resident, Mr. John W Brookfield Sr.

(Photo from The Springfield Independent, November 23, 1955, courtesy of The Nancy & Arthur Hughes Family Archives)

(continued on pg. 23)



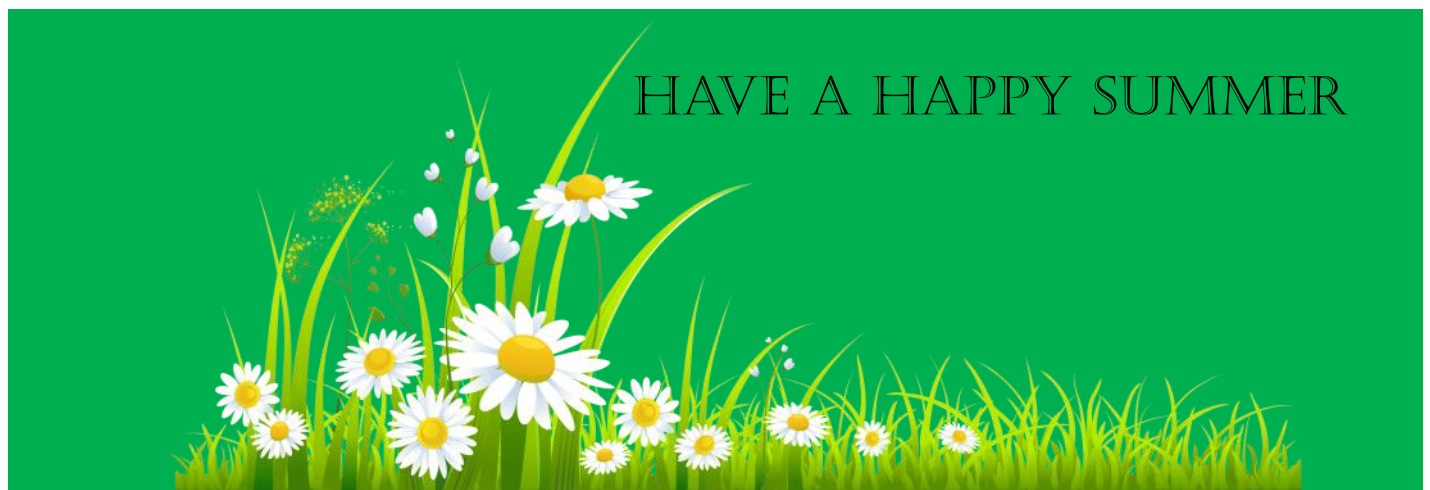
## *History of Springfield (cont'd)*

A Virginia native, Mr. Brookfield was born near The Plains on September 23, 1876, moving to the Springfield area in 1904. He remained an important and active citizen here until his death on October 3, 1958 at the age of 82. Mr. Brookfield worked for the first Springfield post office station from when it first opened until his retirement from there 30 years later. He served Fairfax County in various capacities such as being Chairman of The Fairfax County Park Authority and joined the first Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce as its president. In fact, Mr. Brookfield was with that Chamber of Commerce during the time they were instrumental in starting the county's early zoning and planning system. He held memberships in the Fairfax County Welfare Department, The Springfield Civic Association and several other important organizations before and during the early development of the Springfield area. Lastly I will mention that in addition to his many civic activities he was instrumental in the effort to get Gunston Hall willed to the state.

Because of his many decades of service to Fairfax County, it was only appropriate that his name was bestowed upon one of the community's first park areas.

Since the current post office location was planned to be included when the shopping center was built in the late 1950s, it's no big guess as to why the center was christened The Brookfield Shopping Center considering his long history with the old Springfield Post Office earlier in the century as well as his tremendous impact on Fairfax County as a whole.

Until the next edition of The Springfield Reporter, Ye Olde Historian bids you all a wonderful remainder of the spring season and a happy and healthy beginning of summer.





PO Box 842  
Springfield, VA 22150

**May Meeting**  
**May 19, 2021**  
**7:30 pm via ZOOM**  
Instructions page 4  
**Topic:**  
**An Evening with**  
**Supervisor**  
**Rodney Lusk**

**PLEASE JOIN US!**

**The Springfield Civic Association is a volunteer organization dedicated to:**

- 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](http://www.springfieldcivic.org) to join or renew online.

- Join SCA  Renew my membership  Add or change contact information
- Add me to the email list, I will join later (**email list is FREE**)

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By providing your email address, you agree to receive the newsletter and monthly updates by email.