



Volume 17

January 2010

West Springfield Village News . . .

From the President - John Cooley - 2009 was an interesting year for us and our West Springfield Village. We saw the landscape change as work began in the Engineer Proving Grounds for relocation of BRAC units and to connect the two segments of the Fairfax County Parkway. And, the associated project to widen our section of Rolling Road to four lanes of faster traffic was again delayed until at least 2014. Many of us do not want the road widened, but we're not sure how much more traffic will come to us once the Parkways are connected.

Fairfax County Public Schools (FPCS), Fairfax County and the Commonwealth had to tighten their belts to pass a balanced budget and will have to again this year or increase our tax burden or both. Some services were reduced or cut and spending was cut for equipment for other services such as snow plowing. The really bad news is that 2009 was only a preview of current budget woes. FCPS is about \$176 million short of a balanced budget; Fairfax County is about \$316 million short; and Virginia reports a shortfall of about \$4.2 billion for the rest of this fiscal year and the next. Even our Civic Association had to cut back on spending due to less membership revenue.

And, our first significant snow in December 2009 illustrated the impact on services that we had come to expect. We may have to do more for ourselves or simply wait until VDOT can get to our roads. We need to plan to help those who may need assistance shoveling the next snow and/or providing rides to

doctor visits and grocery shopping. Check with your neighbor to see if they need help or if they can possibly help you.

Our ability to communicate to Village residents continues to grow with e-mail and our website. We usually send at least one e-news each week to those who provided their e-mail addresses. Many have experienced timely news delivered to their inbox, but we still have about 80 homes not yet in the information loop. Even if you did not join the Civic Association, please provide your e-mail address to john.t.cooley@verizon.net so that you can be added to the e-news loop. If you do not receive the weekly news e-mail, check your suspected spam folder to see if your ISP considers me a spammer. Let me know if you need help white-listing my e-mail address to get the e-news delivered to your inbox instead of the suspected spam folder.

Upcoming Activities:

Civic Association General Membership Meeting, May 20, 7:30-9:00 p.m., at Rolling Valley Elementary School

Community Yard Sale, May 22, 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Rain date is June 5

Community Clean-up, June 19, 8:00-11:30 a.m.

2009 In Review - The following represents some West Springfield Village highlights of the past year: (To see related photos, go to picasaweb.google.com/john.t.cooley/WestSpringfieldVillage2009?authkey=Gv1sRgCLXmrs3Z8tWj1gE&feat=content_notification#)

December:

1. Holiday Decorating Contest - We had spectacular displays even though the snow buried some and the melting snow shorted out others. And the winners were:

- * 1st Place to **Russ & Kim Hilliard** at 8305 Wythe Lane
- * 2nd Place to **John & Carol Baccari** at 6808 Ontario Street
- * 3rd Place to **Don & Susan Cheney** at 6702 Ontario Street
- * Honorable Mention (in no particular order) goes to 6809 Ontario Street (**Mike & Carol Gallagher**), 6919 Rolling Road (**Dick & Pat Yost**), 6814 Ontario Street (**Robert Hartzell & Debra Campton**), 8137 & 8139 Edmonton Court (**Jason & Kerri Henry/Rudy Tarlosky**), 6811 Hathaway (**Kevin & Elees Anderson**) and to 8135 Springfield Village Drive (**Richard & Jule Ann Cheslock**). Special thanks to **Tim Royster** who took on this committee chair position in a very difficult year due to the snow.

2. Santa's Visit to our Village - Santa visited us at **Don & Susan Cheney's** Ontario Street home. Santa distributed gifts to our children; Don & Susan provided hot cider and a fire pit; participants brought gifts of Christmas treats to share. Thanks to the Cheney's for their holiday hospitality and to **Bernie Koehle** (Edmonton Court) and his lovely elf assistant, Miss **Stephanie Koehle**.

3. Christmas Caroling - **Jason & Kerri Henry** gathered carolers at their Edmonton Court home for their annual slow walk and song to the Cheney's home. Their singing helped us realize just how special our Village and its residents are.

4. Recycle Bank Grant Award - \$2,500 was approved for Rolling Valley Elementary School for habitat gardening and watershed protection projects.

All we need do is contribute 25,000 AAA recycle bank points to secure the funding of this project. That should be a cinch since we had over 15,000 points donated within one week. Look below for an article on how to donate your points.

5. Web Master - Thanks to **Russ Hilliard** (Wythe Lane) who agreed to take on the website management tasks. Special thanks to **Steve Stark**, who provided us a great service by establishing and maintaining our website. Take a few moments to look at the website (www.westspringfieldvillage.org/).and offer suggestions to Russ on what you'd like to see there.

November:

1. Birth Announcements - **Greg & Sheree Drummond** (Springfield Village Drive) are happy to announce the birth of a son. **Nicholas Jermaine Drummond** was born Nov. 9. His three sisters are truly enjoying him. Nicholas is healthy and has settled in nicely with his family.

Mary & Larry Mark are pleased to announce the arrival of their daughter's seventh child, a boy, **Boaz Joshua Nelson**, at 7 lb., 12 oz. and 20 inches long who was born on Thanksgiving Day.

2. Dr. Debra Lane Named Environmental Educator of the Year - Dr. Lane, principal of Rolling Valley Elementary School, was honored with this award by the Chesapeake Bay Foundation for promoting environmental education and including more outdoor experiences into the school's curricula. She was also cited for being key to the creation of a teacher professional development program "Chesapeake Classrooms," which promotes environmental education.

3. We re-elected Dave Albo as our Delegate to the Virginia Assembly and our former State Senator **Ken Cuccenelli** to become the State Attorney General.

October:

1. Wedding Announcement - **Dan Geary & Trish DeJesus** were married on Oct. 24 at the Airlie Center in Warrenton, Va. Mr. and Mrs. Geary reside in their home on Bluefield Court.

2. Noah Christopher Pappas was born on Oct.17 to **Chris & Heidi Pappas** (Wythe Lane). Noah, Heidi and even Chris are doing well with lots of help from Noah's grandparents.

3. Civic Association General Membership Meeting on Oct. 15 - The fiscal year 2009 audit report was ratified, the budget proposal for the next fiscal year was adopted and a new Board of Directors were elected. Congratulations to **Donnie Walker** (Edmonton Court) for his election to serve as Vice President. Special thanks to **Bridget Simpkins** who has held that position for more than a few years now. Look for the minutes on our website (www.westspringfieldvillage.org/).

4. Halloween Party - It was the best ever! Not even the rain showers could dampen the enthusiasm for this event. **Wendi Dorey** hosted a fun and entertaining picnic/party. We had a lot of very good food, costumes, games and candy. Thanks to Village West Pool President **Kerri Henry** (Edmonton Court) for allowing us to use the pool parking lot plus their picnic tables and benches.

5. Village Food Drive - Christine Birden (Smyth Street) collected food at the Halloween party and wanted to thank all who made donations. She managed to fill the back of her mini-van and will give the food to ECHO on Old Keene Mill Road. ECHO provides emergency basic human needs assistance to needy residents of Burke and Springfield.

6. Marine Corps Marathon - Congratulations to **Patty Rader** (Ontario Street), **Kelle Motsko**

(Vancouver Road) and **Todd Serres** for their successful completion of the marathon.

September:

1. Annual Membership Drive commenced via e-mail, website and direct mailing.

2. School - Not sure if the kids or us parents were more excited for the opening school bell, but we are lucky to have great community schools for our children.

August:

1. Happy Birthday Katrina Cooley!

2. Lyme Disease - We had confirmed cases in our Village; several residents were undergoing treatment. It is not a contagious disease, but the number of ticks and the incidence of cases are increasing year after year. Lyme disease is not curable; but most cases are treatable with antibiotics over a few weeks and in some cases over several months.

July:

1. 4th of July Parade, Pool Party and Back Yard Barbeque - co-sponsored with the Village West Pool - Festivities started with a patriotic theme parade from Rolling Valley Elementary School to the Village West Pool. The pool was open without charge to all who wanted to spend the afternoon keeping cool in the pool. Food was served at nominal fees and many of our residents brought side dishes to make it truly a back yard barbeque. Thanks to **Sarah Chey** (Springfield Village Drive) and her family for coordinating the event and to all who helped protect the parade as road guards and setting up and cleaning up at the pool.

June:

1. Community Cleanup - June 6 at the Rolling Valley Elementary School Parking Lot. Many Association members took advantage of this free event to get rid of old grills, lawn mowers, appliances, mattresses, old sheds and furniture. We can only hope that Fairfax County's budget will allow us to continue this annual event. **John Hoffman** set up and ran the Last Chance Corral for useful items to be taken by residents before being fed to the "Jaws of Junk."

May:

1. Community Yard Sales - we actually got two in for the price of one. The first one was on May 16 and we ran the 2nd one on May 30. Thanks to **Ed Wyse** for taking the lead on getting the signs placed and picked up after the sales.

2. General Membership Meeting -May 21 - **Frank Stearns** from Verizon briefed us about Verizon's intent to put a fourth bank of antennae on the Cell Phone Tower at the Village West Pool. We

also discussed the possible need to increase our Civic Association dues to offset the cost of operations. We kept the dues at the same \$10 annual rate.

3. American Flag Retirement Ceremony - May 17 - Jake Moffatt, a member of Boy Scout Troop 1501, retired U.S. flags for his Eagle Scout project.

April:

“Vision Walk” Lemonade Stand - Wendi Dorey (Barnack Drive) operated her annual “Vision Walk” lemonade stand on April 25 to raise more than \$350 for this charitable program.

March:

1. Rolling Valley Elementary School's PTA received \$5,000 from AAA's Recycle Bank for its reading literacy program. Thanks to all who donated their recycle bank points for this cause.

2. Pohick Stream Park/Hidden Pond March 28 Cleanup - We cleaned the Pohick Stream Park from just below the Village West Swimming Pool upstream to just short of the Hidden Pond Nature Center. Our kids had a blast and some saw deer and other wildlife as they contributed to protection of our environment.

February:

1. Adam Dao Chey joined his parents **Sarah & Tommy Chey** (Springfield Village Drive) on Feb. 24.

2. Chairman of the Board of Supervisors - In a special election, **Sharon Bulova** was elected to serve as Chairman, replacing **Gerry Connelly** who had been elected to the U.S. Congress.

January :

1. Brendan James Cooley - My son, USAF Captain **Glenn Cooley**, and his wife, **Kerry**, announced the birth of their son on Jan. 11. Glenn, Kerry and now Brendan live now in Las Vegas, Nev., with their wonder dog Max. Brendan is my second grandson; **Julian Paul Briggs** joined our family in November 2008. He and my oldest daughter **Elizabeth** live with her husband **Tom** in

California.

2009 was a memorable year for us and we can only hope for more in 2010. It will take all of us working together to offset the negative impact of budgets. Take care of yourself, your family, your property and then see what you can do for your neighbors and the greater community we call West Springfield Village.

Heroism - by **Henry Butler** (Rolling Road) - Once again, residents along Rolling Road were treated to the indifference of a drunk driver early morning on Jan.1, 2010. A very inebriated gentleman of 26 slammed his car into the **Teweldemedhin's** son's car parked curbside in front of their house. Mrs. Teweldemedhin reached the car to discover the driver passed out and strapped in his seat with the airbag in his face. Flames appeared and Mrs. Teweldemedhin managed to undo the seatbelt and pull the drunk out of the car. Moments later the car was engulfed in flames that reached more than 20 feet high. Fire & Rescue and the Police arrived, put out the fire, and hauled the New Year's celebrant away to the pokie.

An officer asked Mrs. Teweldemedhin her name so that he could send it to the proper authorities for recognition of her heroism, but she declined. She was more concerned that the young man was ok. She undoubtedly saved him from serious injury and possibly even death.

Winter Trash Schedules - AAA will be removing Christmas Trees on the day AAA removes your yard waste for the first two weeks in January. Please place tree at the curb with all the trimmings removed. Trees in excess of 8 feet in length need to be cut in half in order to be removed by the crews. After Friday, Jan. 15, trees will be removed with household trash. Yard trash will be removed with household trash from Dec. 24 to March 1, 2010. Your Civic Association has a discount, fixed-price agreement with AAA, but we have individual accounts with them.

Residential Parking Restrictions - On Dec. 7, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors approved changes that prohibit parking of commercial vehicles in residential districts. The effective date of these changes is Feb. 1, 2010, followed by a 30-day warning period. These restrictions include any

vehicle licensed as a common or contract carrier or limousine. However, one resident of each single family dwelling unit may park one vehicle licensed and registered in the Commonwealth of Virginia as a taxicab or limousine. Go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot/parkingcodechanges.htm to see other restrictions.

Community Parking District - Will the entire Springfield Magisterial District become a Community Parking District (CPD)? It appears that Supervisor **Pat Herrity** will move ahead in pursuing a CPD for all of the Springfield District. A Public Hearing is tentatively set for Feb. 9. If approved, the CPD will ban curbside parking of:

- * Boat trailers
- * Watercraft
- * Motor homes
- * Camping trailers
- * A trailer or semi-trailer, even if attached to a vehicle
- * Vehicles with three or more axles
- * Vehicles weighing 12,000 pounds or more
- * Vehicles capable of transporting 16 or more passengers (except school busses)
- * Taxis and limousines (One taxicab/limousine will be allowed per dwelling unit as long as it is registered in Virginia)

Other Parking Restrictions - While researching information for the above article, I ran across the following that may be important to us.

- * Parking is not allowed within 10 feet of driveways. Police will enforce this only upon enforcement request/complaint of the driveway owner(s). Note: Only driveway owners may park curbside blocking his/her driveway.
- * Parked vehicles cannot block sidewalks.
- * Parking is not allowed within 15 feet of fire hydrants. Police/Fire & Rescue will enforce on both public and private roads.
- * Parking is not allowed within 30 feet of a stop sign.
- * Parking is not allowed within the radius of an intersection. Radius is from where the pavement begins to curve for the cross street.
- * Parking is not allowed within 30 feet of a bus stop. Bus stops are designated by Fairfax Connector, WMATA and CUE.
- * Inoperable vehicles - Police may tow after being

left on road for four or more days.

* Parked vehicles must have valid Virginia safety inspection. Police may tow after being left on road four or more days.

* Vehicles parked curbside are required to have a current license plate. New residents to Virginia must register/license within 30 days of moving into the state. Military/diplomatic people are exempt from requiring Virginia tags, but still must have valid tags. Police may tow after being left on road four or more days.

* Parked vehicles must face direction of travel lane.
Bread for the City - Anne Carter (Ontario Street) worked to help garner a \$20,000 grant for this charitable organization in the Tom's of Maine 50 States for Good competition. Bread finished third in the voting. Anne again wanted to thank everyone who took time to vote for this very worthy cause.

Coat Drive Follow-up - Jeff Carter and his colleagues at work collected well over 200 coats and delivered them to homeless shelters in the area. Thanks to all who donated coats and to Jeff for giving back to the community of man.

Community Directory - Thanks to **Jane Ray** (Landor Lane) for yet another quality directory. If you do not receive your copy, please let Jane or **John Cooley** know. Also let either or both know if you find mistakes or corrections.

Tips for the Next Snow Storm - Fred Sanborn (Landor Lane) suggested the following tips to deal with the next heavy snow:

- * Park your cars bumper to bumper off the street on your driveway. This does two things: One, it gets the car off the street so the plows can clear the road from curb to curb. Two, you can then clear around the car(s); start the cars up to warm them up while clearing the snow from the cars and then shovel up that snow. Instead of shoveling the entire driveway, you only had to shovel around the cars. Plus the heat from the cars may melt some of the snow.
- * Another tip - Shovel as soon as the snow stops. The longer you wait the heavier the snow gets. Plus if it is real cold it might ice over, giving you a real problem.
- * Third tip - When clearing the driveway apron out to the street be sure to throw the snow to the right and not to the left. If you pile the snow on the left, the snow plow will come by and push it right back

into your driveway. Why? Because plows are slanted to the right.

* **Henry Butler** suggested we spray our snow shovels with a silicone spray to help keep the snow and ice from sticking.

* Icy road courtesy - if you are driving down hill and encounter a car heading up on icy roads - give the right of way to the car going uphill.

Help Needed - The Census Bureau needs to hire a large number of local residents on a short-term basis this winter and spring to complete the 2010 Census. Most of the positions will be for field workers (enumerators) who conduct follow-up visits to households that did not return a written Census questionnaire. The pay rate for enumerators in Fairfax County is \$20 per hour. Employment is on a short-term basis (usually a few weeks to two months) and may be either part-time or full-time, depending on Census needs. Most field work is done evenings and weekends, when people are likely to be at home. To see the qualifications for Census employment and to access additional information, visit 2010.census.gov/2010censusjobs/ or call the local Census office at 1-866/861-2010.

Random Acts of Kindness - There's nothing like a snow storm to bring out the best in ourselves and our neighbors. Neighbors want to thank **Steve Halfhill** (Springfield Village Drive); the **Wang family** (Edmonton Court); **Paul & Amy Taylor** (Edmonton Court); **Scott Creque** (Bluefield Court); **Glenn Cooley** (Las Vegas, Nev.); **Jeff Carter** (Ontario Street); **Bill Birden** (Smyth Street); **Robert Luttrell** (Loudoun Lane), **Randy Harmeyer** (Ontario Street) and **Kris Chillar** (Ontario Street); **Steve Cooley** (Pensacola, Fla.) and **Katrina Cooley** (Edmonton Court); and **Chuck Cook** and **Dave Branch** (Landor Lane) and **Max Pastor** (Vancouver Road) – all of whom voluntarily helped shovel out Village residents. There are many more who helped their neighbors clean up after that massive snowfall and we'd like to acknowledge everyone of them in e-news or in the next *Village Crier*.

Also thanks to **Jeff & Anne Carter**, **Paul & Amy Taylor**, **Jason & Viktoria Greanya** and **Lee Fineman** for loaning me air beds and pack-n-plays to make our family gathering more comfortable.

Thanks also to **Dick Denny** (Edmonton Court) who

often volunteers to take Village neighbors to airports, to doctor's appointments, surgeries and shopping. Dick and all listed above are the type of neighbor and friend we all want to have. Thank you again!

Crime in the Village:

Tires were slashed on a vehicle parked along Ontario Street during the night of Dec. 3. Police were notified and the incident was investigated.

A van window was broken in what may have been an attempted theft of a satellite radio. The van was parked along Springfield Village Drive. A barking dog probably caused the thief to leave without the radio.

September/October Village Crier - Thanks to the following who delivered the *Crier*, especially those who stepped up to fill in on short notice: **Julia Hale**, **Dick Denny**, **Walter Lin**, **Katrina Cooley** (substitute), her mom **Suzanne McCormick** (substitute), **Sarah Carter**, **Anne Carter-Gray**, **Lisa Gibson** and her son, **Kathleen Cheney**, **Charles Young**, **Ed Wyse**, **Sue Trinka** (substitute), **Larry & Mary Mark** and **Kim Brown**.

H1N1 Vaccine Clinics - **Laura Bentley** (Barnack Drive) - Fairfax is now opening clinics to up to age 24. Go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/flu/ to get more information about the H1N1 vaccine clinics:

Board of Directors FY 2009

John Cooley, President	451-7055
Shawn Klimek, Past President	569-6328
Donnie Walker, Vice President	569-0438
Liz Greene, Treasurer	866-0445
Ed Wyse, Secretary	569-3372

High Efficiency Products Rebates - The State of Virginia recently approved a program that pays varying levels of rebates for high efficiency products (air conditioners, heat pumps, furnaces, boilers, water heaters, geothermal, storm windows and doors, etc) and services (insulation added, energy audits, etc.). Go to

www.dmme.virginia.gov/DE/ARRA-Public/SEPRebate.shtml to see the types of products covered and respective rebate amounts.

This program was allocated \$15 million, but that will go quickly. I suggest you first register your proposed upgrade on-line and have it approved. Then you have 180 days to actually complete the work and make your documentation submission. Make an online request to conditionally reserve energy efficiency rebate funds at epm.virginiainteractive.org/eerebate/.

In addition, the federal government offers up to 30 percent of costs as a tax credit not to exceed \$1,500. And, many of the original equipment manufacturers (OEM) also have rebates. **Jeff Snyder** - do you have information to share about OEM rebates?

Jeff Snyder (Ontario Street and owner/operator of Evercool Heating and Cooling, Inc) cautioned that the equipment has to meet a certain criteria. You can find more information on the ARI web site. Jeff offered to help walk us through to make sure we meet the criteria. Jeff can be reached at 703/451-5505 or by e-mail at evercool3@yahoo.com.

A Kitchen Apart - A local award-winning culinary expert (**Stacey Boyd**) opened a business that may interest you. She prepares gourmet cakes and cupcakes for birthdays, anniversaries, bridal and baby showers, and other special occasion-themed cakes. She also has a specialty line of cakes and gourmet cupcakes including such flavors as Snickerdoodle, Cookie Dough, Pretty n Pink, Cookies and Cream, Chocolate Caramel, Mississippi Mudd, Smores, and more. Stacey offers free delivery for Village residents. Call or e-mail her (703/569-9025; chefstacey@cox.net) for more details and a full list of flavors and pictures!

Massage Therapy - Julie Cook (Landor Lane), a licensed massage therapist, is offering gift cards for orthopedic, sports and relaxation muscle therapy as well as seaweed spa treatments to include wraps, hydrating facials, and paraffin hand treatments. Contact Julie at 210/883-8560.

Green Living - Patty Zevallos (Bluefield Court) has just published a web site on Green Living that

provides step-by-step instructions on drastically lowering expenses, increasing income, growing food, adding solar, and more. Go to www.pbzproductions.com/ and click on "Green Living."



Kriebel Family
703-644-1434
7007 Barnack Drive
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Serving our neighbors
in West Springfield Village
Residents since 1988

PET CARE
Mid-day walks
or while-you're-away

Civic Association of West
Springfield Village
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