



Volume 16

April 2009

## West Springfield Village News . . .

**From the President - John Cooley** - Have you been able to follow the news about the Rolling Road project, the additions to the Cell Tower and the crime in our Village? If not, you must not be receiving the Village weekly e-news. Either I do not have an e-mail address for you or your Internet Service Provider may have blocked me – assuming I am a spammer. Take a look in your suspected spam folder for my [john.t.cooley@verizon.net](mailto:john.t.cooley@verizon.net) address. Below you'll see an article that addresses how you can approve certain senders from that list. If you are not receiving the weekly e-news, drop me an e-mail at [john.t.cooley@verizon.net](mailto:john.t.cooley@verizon.net).

Recently, I helped write a \$5,000 grant proposal for Rolling Valley Elementary School's Reading Literacy Program. In order to receive that money we have to reach 50,000 donated, recyclebank points by April 15 (that's only two more collection dates).

We are almost there with about 40,000 points, but will need your donated points to put us over the top. I'll sound the alarm when we do receive 50,000 points so we can save recycling points for the next grant from West Springfield Elementary or any other school that our children attend.

To donate your points, go to [www.recyclebank.com](http://www.recyclebank.com) and sign in with your e-mail address and password (upper left). Now click on "Redeem Rewards" and then click on "Donations." Scroll to the bottom to go to page 2 or "view all" and there you will see Rolling Valley Elementary School PTA. Click on it and you'll get a screen where you can say how many gifts you want to give (each gift is 100

points). And then when you've done that – checkout and you should receive an e-mail confirmation of your gift. **Marion Evans** (Cabot Court) reported that she did her thing and donated points for RV school. She added that "this is indeed easy and such a great project."

We'd hope to support other schools that our children attend, so please activate your account. Call AAA at 1-888-727-2978 to activate and start accumulating points.

Principal **Debbie Lane**, Ed.D, Rolling Valley Elementary School, wrote to "thank the West Springfield Village Community for their generous contribution of recycling points. These points are donated towards the Recycle Grant which Mr. Cooley, PTA President, wrote to raise money for reading books. We thank the community for taking the time and energy to sign up and donate their points to a worthy cause to help children read. Please feel free to stop by Rolling Valley Elementary School and check out our reading room. We will be adding leveled books for our students to use while they are learning how to read. Keep recycling!"

### Upcoming Activities:

**May 16 - Community Yard Sale - 8 a.m.- 2 p.m. (Rain Date is May 30)**

**May 21 - Civic Association General Membership Meeting - 7:30 p.m. (Rolling Valley Elementary School)**

**June 6 - Community Cleanup**

**July 4 - Village Parade and Pool Party**

**Watch for updates in the Village e-news**

**Recycling Surcharge** - When the U.S. stock market fell, it also greatly affected the international commodities market. U.S. recyclables that were purchased internationally is what kept the disposal of recycling on a rebate basis. Now, since international buyers are purchasing less of our U.S. recyclables, the recycling centers have to stock-pile this material, causing a fee to dispose of this recycling for all trash haulers. AAA Trash & Recycling will impose a \$1.60 Commodity Surcharge to help offset their costs for recycling, effective April 1. Hopefully this will be temporary and the commodities markets will rebound. The surcharge will be added to all AAA subscription customers no matter whether you recycle or not.

**Crime** - We had another report of a young man wandering our streets very late at night and very early in the morning. He was showing interest in parked cars, homes and items left on carports. Police were notified.

\* Please lock your unattended cars and don't leave valuables inside parked cars in plain sight. Check your carport to see what items may attract a thief or provide an opportunity for one of our own children to make a bad decision. Secure those items as well. Should be enough said; right?

\* A package was stolen from a Wythe Lane home. It was valued at about \$200. The postman delivered it, the homeowner signed for it, but left it on the porch for a quick visit to a neighbor's home. In her half-hour absence, someone committed a crime by stealing the package. A police report was made.

\* Police were called to Glover Court for a disturbance in which people were hurt in a fight that spilled into the court.

**2009 Community Directory** - New neighbors who moved into our Village after Nov. 1, 2008, are entitled to free, voting-rights membership for the rest of this membership year that ends on Sept. 30, as well as to a copy of the Community Directory, also free. If you joined or renewed your membership in our Civic Association, but did not receive a copy of the Directory, let me know ([john.t.cooley@verizon.net](mailto:john.t.cooley@verizon.net)).

If you use the services of the advertisers who helped cover the costs of the directories, please tell them

that you saw their ad in our West Springfield Village Directory. It will certainly help them decide to continue investing in Directory advertisements.

**Village Residents' Directory Advertisements** - We'd like to feature our neighbors who advertised in our 2009 Community Directory and by doing so helped defray the costs of publication. Look for their ads and consider using the services of **Jeff Snyder** (Ontario Street), EverCool Heating & Cooling business; **John Hoffman** (Landor Lane), Ministerial Services; **Robert Davis** (Springfield Village Drive), Jewelry by da Vis; **Bob Havey** (Rolling Road), D2D Computer Services; and **Norah Wilson** (Glover Court), Real Estate Agent. Also notice that Printing Ideas (which does our Directory) has an ad for those who may want to advertise in next year's Directory.

**Conversion to All-Digital TV Format** - This is now scheduled to take effect on June 12. You can still put yourself on the waiting list for a \$40 coupon to offset the cost of converter boxes. To apply, go to [www.DTV2009.gov](http://www.DTV2009.gov) or call 1-888-DTV-2009 (1-888-388-2009). Coupons will not be distributed until funds become available.

Other options are:

\* Purchase a TV converter box without a coupon (cost varies from \$40-\$80).

\* Buy a TV with a digital tuner.

\* Subscribe to cable, satellite or another pay service.

**Village Crier Delivery** - Thanks to all who volunteered to help deliver the January *Village Crier* and the 2009 Community Directory: **Kim Brown, Liz Greene, Julia Hale, Walter Lin, Charles Young, Ed Wyse, Mark Lord, Steve Johnson** and **Mary & Larry Mark** (your editor). Also thanks to **Anne Carter** who coordinates the delivery and often walks a route herself. We had two children (**Sarah Carter** and **Katrina Cooley**) and a couple of teenagers (**Rebecca Greene** and **Daniela Aunon**) who earned community service credit by helping. We're always looking for substitutes; let **Anne Carter** (703/569-8784) know if you are willing to help.

**Random Acts of Kindness - Jeff Carter** (Ontario Street) single handedly cleared the sidewalks in front of his neighbors' homes during the big winter storm of '09. Thanks Jeff!

The **Mark family** would like to thank their neighbors, the **Pastors** (especially **Max**), for clearing sidewalks in both our snowfalls.

#### **Pohick Stream Park/Hidden Pond Cleanup -**

Last Saturday, March 28, we had some hearty souls report for the Spring Cleanup of our neighboring Pohick Stream Park. **Liz & Becca Greene; Peter & Ethan Taylor; David, Charles & Christopher Scharf; Susan, Alyssa & Rachel Burkhalter; Stephen Johnson; Jake Moffatt; Nick Jones; Beth & Megan Marhanka; Shawn, Cora & Lily Klimek; Christine, Catherine & Michael Birden, Susanna Horner** (PE Teacher at Rolling Valley Elementary School) and my family – **Suzanne, Katrina & Wonder Dog Fritz.**

**West Springfield Post Office (22152)** has a new phone number (703/569-0378). Given all the mail problems we have experienced recently, you may want to make a pen and ink change to your Directory. If you have mail delivery problems, **Walter Honchar**, our Springfield Post Master, asks that you to send him an e-mail about the circumstances. He promises corrective action. He can be reached at [walter.w.honchar@usps.gov](mailto:walter.w.honchar@usps.gov).

#### **Rolling Road Widening "May" Again be**

**Delayed -** It seems that the construction date for Rolling Road is on "indefinite" hold. VDOT does not plan to begin right-of-way acquisition until there is a funding stream for the construction. Then again, Fairfax County does have significant transportation funds from the Commercial and Industrial Tax and it also has a large bond program. Will they fund Rolling Road from these sources? If they do, it will take some juggling of the county's priorities. There is no money on the horizon from VDOT until something changes causing the General Assembly to add funds for transportation. It looks like it is off again until at least 2014.

**Fairfax County Parkway Extension -** The "Pardon Our Dust Meeting" is scheduled for Tuesday, April 14, from 6 to 8 p.m. at West Springfield High School, 6100 Rolling Road.

Cherry Hill Construction, Inc., has been selected to design and build the extension of the Fairfax County Parkway from Rolling Road to Fullerton Road. Construction of the extension is scheduled to begin in April 2009.

Please join representatives from the company's Design/Build Team to participate in the "Pardon Our Dust" meeting to discuss this project. Topics to be discussed include: The overall project plan; the preliminary construction schedule; plans to minimize traffic impacts during construction; and safety improvements such as new intersections and continuation of the shared-use path.

Note: The northern interchange between what we now know as Rolling Road traffic onto the westbound Parkway is still not addressed in this plan. The northbound, new Parkway traffic and southbound Rolling Road traffic will have to merge onto that single lane ramp to continue west and north toward Dulles and the County Government Center.

**Cell Phone Tower -** Have you noticed the racks for a third bank of antennae that are now installed on the cell tower at Village West Pool? Apparently, they will support Cricket, a pre-aid cellular service, but we're not sure if they are operational yet.

**Frank Stearns** also called to announce that Verizon will request a Special Exception amendment to allow that 120-foot monopole tower to have a fourth wireless provider. The original approval was for only three providers so Fairfax County has required Verizon to amend the Special Exception to allow a fourth provider. Verizon would install 12 panel antennas at the 80-foot mark on the monopole. No height extension of the existing pole will be needed. The panel antenna would be of the same candelabra design as is currently on the pole. Stearns offered to join us at our May General Membership meeting if we have questions or would like to hear what he has to say. If Verizon is granted the amendment, work would not start until after the pool closes next fall.

**Canadian Reference Street Names - John Brown** (Rolling Road) asked a question that has me stumped. John noticed that many of our Village street names have a Canadian source. John suggests that since our Village was built starting in the late 60's – and that coincided with Canada's Centennial

year (1967) – they may have been so named in honor of Canada. Then John also suggests it may have been one heck of coincidence. Does anyone have a better answer?

**Computing Corner - by Bob Havey** (Rolling Road) - Scan your wallet's contents. Most folks have access to a scanner. If you scan the contents of your wallet into PDF or JPG format, it would be easy to burn the files onto a CD for safekeeping. Another advantage is that the scanned image can be blown up to make it easier to read.

I have run into it several times: A notice on someone's screen that you have hundreds of infections and if you send \$40 to the folks that wrote the software that detected them, they will fix it for you. The notice is a fake as is the supposed antivirus. They won't clean up your computer, but they might clean out your credit card.

I had been using manual methods – AVG, Panda and Adaware – to defeat this software, but it kept getting worse. The free AVG won't take out a root kit, and the others are almost worthless in this situation, including Norton and McAfee.

Out of desperation I tried Malware bytes on a machine where Housecall, Adaware and Bit Defender had failed to kill it. Instead of taking hours Malwarebytes ran in about 20 minutes, and the machine was clean. I have used it successfully several times since then. I suggest that everyone go to [www.malwarebytes.org](http://www.malwarebytes.org), download their version 1.34, and run it – even if you don't see any current evidence of a virus. It's a freebie, and it will take out the Antivirus 2009 and other Fake Alert viruses. Malwarebytes even removes the root kit portion. If you have a version of the virus that causes your computer to “do tricks” (disable Task Manager, regedit, gpedit.msc, block antivirus web sites, block Malwarebytes from installing or running), let me know at 703/569-8195. There are some tricks that make Malwarebytes work again. Because I run into this so often, I have to stay on top of it. If the situation changes and Malwarebytes stops working, I will let you know.

Another question is how to unblock messages from our local super spammer. In Outlook Express there is no “Safe Senders” list, and there is no junk email folder. There is only a “Blocked Senders” list.

Outlook Express will throw away any e-mail from a blocked sender. To remove someone from the blocked senders list in Outlook Express, Click Tools on the menu bar, then click Message Rules, and then click the Blocked Senders tab. Now find the sender that should not be blocked and click the Remove button. Clicking OK will put you back in Outlook Express.

In Outlook, things are a little different. If a message is rejected, it will be sent to the “Junk E-mail” folder. Find the message in the Junk E-mail folder and right click it. Now roll the cursor over Junk E-Mail and click “Mark as not Junk”. Repeat the process; but this time end with “Add Sender to Safe Senders List.” You may have to drag the message back to the Inbox. This procedure will work even if you are using Spambayes. I don't know what will happen if you have another spam blocker.

Note that if the message is being blocked “upstream” – for instance, by your ISP – these procedures will not help. If anyone is having trouble with Verizon or Cox Webmail blocking real messages as spam, send me an e-mail and we will see what can be done.

**Springfield Youth Club Tackle Football Program - John Blevins**, Football Commissioner at Springfield/South County Youth Club wants us to mark our calendars for April 1. That is the first day of SYC Football registration. Register early and save money. The early registration period is April 1 to May 31. The website [www.sycva.com/football](http://www.sycva.com/football) has been updated with all the relevant information for the 2009 season. Any Fairfax County resident ages 7-16 is eligible to play SYC football and we typically have players from all parts of the County. Practices begin on August 10.

We are going to be offering two evening non-contact football camps on July 20-23 and August 3-6; you can find the camp registration forms on the website. We continue to be one of the largest football organizations in the Fairfax County Football League [www.fcyfl.com](http://www.fcyfl.com).

If you are interested in coaching or being an assistant coach, please contact our Commissioner of Coaches, **Pat Eckert**. We will be providing coaching clinics for all our returning and new coaches, so no experience is necessary.

### **Village Homes Floor Plans - Micah Killion**

(Vancouver Road) is trying to locate a copy of the floor plans for his family's home. They have the Duke model. Anybody have a copy that Micah can copy? Micah can be reached at 703/451-6222 or [dogpatchva2@verizon.net](mailto:dogpatchva2@verizon.net).

**Tool to Compare Nursing Homes** - There is a tool called "Nursing Home Compare" on the Medicare Website ([www.medicare.gov/NHCompare](http://www.medicare.gov/NHCompare)). It permits review of the most recent audit performances of every licensed Medicare and Medicaid nursing home in the United States.

**Economic Recovery Legislation - Dick Denny** (Edmonton Court) - The following information is provided from the Internal Revenue Service Website at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov). The IRS is implementing tax-related provisions of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 as quickly as possible. Here are some key highlights:

- \* First-Time Homebuyer Credit Expands. Homebuyers who purchase a home in 2009 can get a credit of up to \$8,000 with no payback requirement
- \* Payroll Checks Increase This Spring. The Make Work Pay Tax Credit will mean \$400 to \$800 for many Americans. The IRS has issued new withholding tables for employers.
- \* \$250 for Social Security Recipients, Veterans and Railroad Retirees.
- \* Money Back for New Vehicle Purchases. Taxpayers who buy certain new vehicles in 2009 can deduct the state and local sales taxes paid.

**Wall-to-Wall Carpet Scams** - Don't rely on verbal assurances or information you receive from retail carpet sources. Before you purchase new carpeting, you should become familiar with some of the tricks of that trade. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/aaa/pdf/gg0409.pdf](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/aaa/pdf/gg0409.pdf) to see what you need to know before purchasing carpet for your home or office.

**Metro Run & Walk - by Margaret Kirk** - If you are in the market for a good running shoe or advice on how to handle sore feet and get your walking/running shoes fitted with comfortable

insoles please visit Metro Run & Walk owned by **Helen & Mark Russell**. The store is located at 7261 Commerce Street. The owners are very knowledgeable about fitting your foot to the right athletic shoe. They support our youth through participating in fundraisers and offer clinics in our community to explore how to enhance your personal fitness program. You can call or e-mail the Russells at 703/913-0313 or [metrorunwalk.springfield@gmail.com](mailto:metrorunwalk.springfield@gmail.com).

### **Board of Directors FY 2009**

John Cooley, President	451-7055
Shawn Klimek, Past President	569-6328
Bridget Simpkins, Vice President	569-6814
Liz Greene, Treasurer	866-0445
Ed Wyse, Secretary	569-3372

### **Village "People News" . . .**

**Adam Dao Chey** - joined his family and our West Springfield Village on Friday, Feb. 27. His mother, **Sarah Chey** (Springfield Village Drive), reported that Adam weighed in at 7 lbs, 3 oz and was 19 1/4 inches. She also said that Adam is beautiful and the first grandchild of her father, **Fred Zaiss**. Fred's family moved into their Village home when Sarah herself was only two years old. She grew up in that home and our Village and now looks forward to raising her son in the same amazing community.

**For Sale** - Master Tow Car Dolly, complete with all tie downs straps and hardware. Used once for short, local trip. \$700.00, OBO. Can be seen at 8135 Edmonton Court. Contact Jason or Kerri Henry at [evenstar96@msn.com](mailto:evenstar96@msn.com).

**For Sale - Paul & Joyce Kemp** will soon leave our West Springfield Village. They are looking to downsize their household inventory to better fit into their smaller, retirement home. They have many household items for sale, including a large sofa. Even if you aren't buying – stop by (6905 Smyth Street) to say hello to some very good neighbors and friends. The Kemp's can be reached at 703/569-2013.

**Pet Sitting** - Providing individualized care. Pet

medical background, geriatric specialty; First Aid/CPR certified. Top notch qualifications. Recommended by clients and veterinarians.

Call **Laura** (703-924-1616) and let her help plan a positive experience for your pets. Mention this ad and receive a no-charge initial consultation. Laura is licensed, bonded and insured.

**Village Realtor - Chris Creasi** (Rolling Road) is also a real estate agent and our neighbor. Chris asked that we check out his website [www.chriscreasi.com](http://www.chriscreasi.com).

**Lawn Work** - Young Jason Esquivel is working his way through school and college and wants to do yard work to help cover the costs of his education. This is the third year he has worked for Village residents and he is anxious to get back into the work as soon as the grass starts and landscaping is needed. He can be reached at 571/721-8343 or by e-mail at [esjjj@hotmail.com](mailto:esjjj@hotmail.com).

**Free - Don & Julia Hale** (Wythe Lane) have a highchair that they'd like to donate to someone in our Village who may need it. The Hale's can be reached at 703/569-3896.

**Free Doors** - Are you still babying along some of your original metal bi-fold closet doors? Could you use a replacement or two? I have three 36-inch-wide

doors and one 24-inch-wide door in good condition. First come, first gone! **Rich Allen** – 703-451-5096.

**Spring Break** - Our school-aged children will be on vacation starting on Friday, April 3 until April 13. Please drive more slowly and report those who drive too fast on our residential streets. We have observed several cars drive straight through stop sign without even slowing down. The aggressive driver/unbuckled child report can be filed anonymously online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/traffic/aggressive-driving.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/traffic/aggressive-driving.htm).

**Do Not Call Registry - Reminder** - The “Do Not Call Registry” is good for 5 years. If you were among the first to sign up in June 2003 or in the year following, you will need to re-register. You can verify your number is on the list at [www.donotcall.gov](http://www.donotcall.gov) (or call 1-888/382-1222). You can also report the name or phone numbers of violators to the Federal Trade Commission at the same website. Certain groups are exempt from the list – political operations, charities, telephone surveys and certain businesses you deal with.



**Kriebel Family**  
703-644-1434  
7007 Barnack Drive  
Springfield, VA 22152  
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  
Post Office Box 2204  
Springfield, VA 22152