

# GUM SPRINGS COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Volume 4, Issue 4

MAY 2013

## Community Meeting on May 14<sup>th</sup>

Reminder that the monthly community meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. at the Community Center.

## Thanks to Bryan and Ursula Birch

Bryan and Ursula once again led the way for the annual clean up of Little Hunting Creek on April 6<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for a job well done!

## Proposed Community Center Expansion

During the April 9<sup>th</sup> community meeting, Fairfax County staff “quickly” briefed the community about a proposal to expand the Community Center for HeadStart. Gum Springs currently houses two locations for HeadStart—one in the Gum Springs Community Center and one in Gum Springs Glen, the senior housing apartments. Although the highest demand for service is Annandale, Falls Church, Baileys Crossroads and Reston, Fairfax County staff selected the Gum Springs Community Center for the “retrofit” because it was more convenient for Fairfax County. However, the end result is that it will displace current programs and activities for the Gum Springs community. HeadStart currently has the predominant space in the building to include the basement space that once was used for community



*Gum Springs Community Center*

*8100 Fordson Road*

*703-360-6088*

## Community Meetings

The Civic Association is the voice for the Gum Springs community. You should support your community organization if you live, work or worship in the Gum Springs community. Community meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Gum Springs Community Center. No meetings are held during July and August. The next Civic Association **meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 14, 2013.**

Dues are \$5 per person. Your dues are used solely for community purposes to a community newsletter, flyers, membership dues in the MVCCA, fees to maintain our 501(c)(4) tax exempt status with the IRS and registration fees with the Commonwealth of Virginia State Corporation.

We also use the funds to support special programs and activities for community residents.

If you would like to support the Civic Association by making a monetary, make your check or money order payable to NGSCA and mail to: NGSCA; P.O. Box 6112; Alexandria, VA 22306 or bring to a meeting.

The Civic Association is here for the community it serves!

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recreational youth activities and planned use for its teen center. The community was informed that it was not useable space. However, Fairfax County later converted the space for HeadStart office use. What's important to note is that this proposed retrofit was presented to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors so that it would not go through the normal public hearing process for community residents to voice their opinion. Nor did HeadStaff staff, to include Anne-Marie Twohie, Director, Office for Children, reach out to the Gum Springs community for their comments or to inform them about this proposed retrofit. The Gum Springs community fully supports HeadStart since Gum Springs housed the first HeadStart in Fairfax County during 1965 and continues to do so. However, Fairfax County should not expect one small community to continue to take on the weight for servicing a vast majority of Fairfax County's needs for social services. For more information about the community's opposition to HeadStart's retrofit proposal that would result in the taking of additional space from the community, the community letter to Mount Vernon Supervisor Hyland is posted on the community website: [www.gumspingscivicasociation.com](http://www.gumspingscivicasociation.com).

## **New Cub Scout Pack in Gum Springs is looking for Young Boys**

The Civic Association is looking for boys rising in grades 1 through 5 by June 1<sup>st</sup> for its new Cub Scout Pack. Boys may sign up during Community Day on June 15<sup>th</sup> or online on the community website. We will also host an Open House with BSA on June 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Center. In addition, we are in need of a Cub Master and Den Leaders. You too may attend the Open House and sign up during Community Day or online.

## **Fordson Place construction underway**

By now you've seen a lot of construction activity at the intersection of Fordson Road and Richmond Highway. This will be the newest strip mall along Richmond Highway called Fordson Place. It is also at a main entrance to the Gum Springs community. So far, it will house Verizon, a vitamin store, a pizza store (Paisano's) and coffee house (Caribou Coffee).

## **Gum Springs Community Day**

Gum Springs Community Day will be held on Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup> in the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Park (8115 Fordson Road) in the Gum Springs community. It will be a family fun filled day of activities, entertainment and music. CASIO, a steel pan drum band, will return to provide easy listening and dancing music. CASIO provided the music during last year's Community Day. Fairfax County Sheriff Office will be providing children identification and finger printing services. There will be a vendor fair and a doggy fashion show. Confirmed vendors as of March—list will be updated for Community Day:

**Accessories:** J'Adore Diva; Paparazzi and Thirty-One

**Cosmetics:** MaryKay and Style Envy by Sherdina

**Fragrance:** For Every Home and Scentsy

**Jewelry:** CorseCrafts; Lucky Girl; Origami Owl; Stellar Silver; and Tracy Lynn

**Specialty:** Ami Ami Creations; Audrey Dittmann (TOTO Audrey); GSCC Advisory Board; and SB Moon Senior Citizens Club

**Food:** Paulie's Italian Ice; GSYAA; and DNCS

**Health Care:** Bethlehem Baptist Church; Doctors Express; INOVA Mount Vernon; and Mt. Calvary BC

**Community/Public Services:** Fairfax County Park Authority; Fairfax County Sheriff; Fairfax NAACP; Adolescent & Family Growth; and Bethlehem BC.

## **Save-the-Date(s)**

**June 11, 2013** – Civic Association meeting – last meeting until September 10, 2013.

**June 15, 2013** – Gum Springs Community Day

**September 10, 2013** – Civic Association meeting

***Support the Gum Springs Community and its Newsletter!***

***Attend monthly community meetings!***

***Pay your dues!***