



# Camp Springs Civic Association Community News

P. O. Box 1071, Camp Springs, MD 20757

## CSCA Meetings

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday

- Sep 11, 2013
- Nov 13, 2013
- Jan 8, 2014
- Mar 12, 2014
- May 14, 2014

New Web Site: [Campspringsca.org](http://Campspringsca.org)

## September 2013 Community Meeting

**CSCA CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO OUR SEPTEMBER  
COMMUNITY MEETING**

**Date:** Wednesday, September 11, 2013  
**Time:** 7:00 pm  
**Location:** Thurgood Marshall Middle School  
4909 Brinkley Rd., Camp Springs, MD 20748

## FEATURE TOPIC: Seeing Green \$\$\$ in more ways than one!

Did you know that the County gives residents, businesses, and organizations an opportunity to get money back for helping take care of our immediate environment? Did you know that the residential curbside yard waste collection will change starting January 2014? Do you know the rules for bulky trash collection? Have you gotten good results from County Click 311? Your questions will be answered and your issues addressed at our next community meeting on September 11. You will also have a chance to meet and hear from Acting Major Garrett, Prince George's County Police District IV.

## Dear Camp Springs Community:

Many of you are aware of the fact that the CSCA is diligently following the progress of the Pyles Lumber Company on Allentown Rd. There are two separate efforts on that front. First and foremost is the push to raze the old Pyles building; secondly, we're keeping our eye on a proposed project for that site.

### A little history

Pyles Lumber Company, once an iconic structure in Camp Springs from the 1950s on, was damaged in a fire in December 2000. The owner never rebuilt the structure and it appears until recently, they've had little luck in finding a new occupant for that land. It remains an eyesore in our community. The CSCA has constantly pressured the Department of Environmental Resources (DER) to demolish the building. Finally, under the leadership of its new director, Adam Ortiz, DER not only listened, but heard the community and took action. It issued an order to demolish Pyles Lumber, citing it as a hazard to the community. But, it's not that simple.

## Where we are now

The owners of Pyles Lumber filed a petition with the court to stay the demolition order. That temporarily stopped DER from demolishing the building. So, the fight continues. The CSCA attended one court hearing that continued until Sept. 20. We will continue to attend the court hearings, and we encourage as many residents as possible to attend as well.

## The proposed plan for Pyles land

While the CSCA continues the fight to demolish Pyles, we are also in discussions with representatives of Royal Farms. In our most recent testimony to the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Board on June 27, the CSCA submitted testimony stating that we would not oppose the Royal Farms proposal. That proposal consists of a convenience store, gas station and car wash. We have heard concerns from some of you about the construction of yet another gas station in that area, indeed we share those concerns. In

## Pyles Lumber *Cont from Pg 1*

discussions with the local developer of the Royal Farms and other developers not involved in the project, we've learned that that particular lot presents a challenge to construct many of the businesses we would like to see there – such as restaurants or mixed use residential. The proposals sound grand; however, the reality is that it is a 1.6 acre lot that abuts a highway. The reality is that in 10 years, Pyles has not proposed a viable business for that land, and few quality businesses have shown an interest and willingness to make a serious investment. The local developer has studied and approached various businesses to locate there but with little success. Our hope is that the construction of an active business on that site will raise the bar for the existing businesses in the area, some of which appear to care little about aesthetics, cleanliness or the community. We do not want to wait another 13 years with the possibility of a dilapidated structure there until it crumbles, or with a vacant lot that would become a prime dumping ground.

Royal Farms plans to make a significant investment in this property in these tough economic times. We expect that the local developer will continue to work with the community if the project proceeds. Our hope is that once the Pyles building has been razed and replaced with a new structure, it will be the impetus to move us towards revitalization in Camp Springs. I want you to know that we do hear you and we are all working together to build a better community.

*Tammy Jones*

## In Memory of Joan Law



The Camp Springs Civic Association is deeply saddened by the loss of Joan Law on July 11, 2013. Joan was a well-respected and dedicated member of the CSCA Board for many years. She served as Chairperson of the Community Affairs Committee, and with her determined work ethic and commitment, accomplished many victories for our community.

Joan kept a watchful eye on Camp Springs to ensure that the county enforced its own property standards. Instead of complaining, Joan jumped into action by taking photos of areas where people dumped trash and of properties that were not being properly cared for. She sent documentation to the county until the problems were resolved. She attended hearings and volunteered for numerous community activities including the annual National Night Out, neighborhood clean ups, and the Camp Springs Boys & Girls Club Parade. Joan was also an active member of the District V Citizens Advisory Council where she represented the Camp Spring Civic Association. Wherever Joan was asked to serve, she complied.

We have lost a true community activist. We will miss our colleague and friend. We will miss Joan's beautiful smile, quiet spirit, strength and determination that she held onto

until the very end. In the words of Emily Dickenson, "Because I could not stop for death, he kindly stopped for me. The carriage held but just ourselves and immortality."

## Prince George's County Sponsors 3rd Annual "Clean Up, Green Up" Beautification Initiative

The CSCA invites you to participate in the third annual Countywide "Clean Up, Green Up" event on Saturday, October 19. This initiative is designed to keep communities cleaner and greener by conducting individual neighborhood plantings and beautification activities throughout the County. The Prince George's County Department of Public Works and Transportation (DPW&T) will provide planting materials; instructions on planting trees, shrubs and flowers; and litter collection supplies. Landscape design assistance is available through the Neighborhood Design Center. If you're interested in beautifying your neighborhood, contact Samantha Vannaseng of DPW&T at (301) 499-8523. For information on the Planting Program, contact the Neighborhood Design Center at (301) 779-6010.

To volunteer with the CSCA, meet us in the parking lot of the Village Thrift Store, 6307 Allentown Rd. at 8 am. For questions related to the Clean Up, contact Arlene Wilson at (301) 899-3903.

## Camp Springs Civic Association – Front & Center – for National Night Out



*Board Members Arlene Wilson & Carolyn Fleming*

The clouds moved, people came, food was served, and fun was had. That was the scene and mood at Camp Springs Civic Association's National Night Out (NNO) event on August 6 at Thurgood Marshall Middle School. National Night Out is a recognized annually as a "take back our community" event. It's meant to put criminals on notice that the community will not tolerate crime. The civic association was supported this year by many Camp Springs businesses, community organizations, Neighborhood Watch groups, and

Prince George's County District IV police officers. We want to extend a special thanks to the many participants who donated food, services, goods, money or time to support our event. We encourage you support the following businesses for service and shopping needs because they continue to give back to the community:

- ❖ Aldi's Food Store
- ❖ Auto Zone
- ❖ Dominos Pizza
- ❖ Giant Food Store
- ❖ Infuse Restaurant (Yanny's Pizzeria)
- ❖ Midas
- ❖ McDonald's
- ❖ Norgetown Cleaners
- ❖ Red-Nelson Trophy World
- ❖ Roy's Car Wash
- ❖ Topolino's Restaurant
- ❖ Temple Hills Swim Club

- ❖ Prince George's County Family Services
- ❖ Boys Scout Troop 1005
- ❖ Neighborhood Watch - Middleton Lane
- ❖ COPS Officer and Explorers
- ❖ Southern MD Health Screening
- ❖ AFLCIO
- ❖ Concerned Black Men of Prince George's County
- ❖ Temple Hills Community Center
- ❖ Clear Water Nature Center
- ❖ Allentown Fire Department
- ❖ Fire Department Rescue Boat
- ❖ Sweetie the Clown
- ❖ Zumba dancing demo (Ky Powell)
- ❖ Mom n 'Em - Line dancers
- ❖ Music by Carson Turner
- ❖ Ida's Food Court
- ❖ Pat Spradlin, face painting
- ❖ States Attorney Alsobrook's office



## Announcements

Now open - the renovated Allentown Splash, Tennis & Fitness Park, 7210 Allentown Rd., Ft. Washington, MD 20744  
The following events will be held at the new Southern Regional Technology & Recreation Complex, 7007 Bock Rd., Ft. Washington, MD 20744.

- Congresswoman Donna Edwards' Minimum Wage Town Hall, Monday., Aug. 26, 6:30-8:00 p.m.  
Tanger Outlets Job Fair, Tuesday, Sept. 17, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. & Wed., Sept 18, 4-7 p.m.

The South County Democratic Club will sponsor a town hall meeting on The American Worker in the age of the Affordable Care Act, Saturday, Sept. 28, noon-2 p.m., Oxon Hill Library.

Graphic Design: Ky Powell bykydesigns@gmail.com

### CAMP SPRINGS CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: **Tammy Jones**  
301-437-4551  
Vice President: **John Bailey**  
202-277-1274  
Treasurer: **Arlene Wilson**  
301-899-3903  
Recording Secy: **Betty Kohut**  
301-449-9479  
Corresponding Secy: **Carolyn Fleming**  
301-248-5112  
Newsletter Editor: **Tammy Jones**



Swearing in of officers. From left to right - Tammy Jones, John Bailey, Betty Kohut, Carolyn Fleming, and Arlene Wilson

### IMPORTANT NUMBERS TO KNOW

Prince George's County	
Police Non-Emergency	<b>301-333-4000</b>
Bulky Items	<b>301-952-7600</b>
Community Standards	<b>301-883-6100</b>
Leaf Collection	<b>301-499-8576</b>
Refuse Collection	<b>301-952-7630</b>
Animal Control/Management	<b>301-780-7200</b>
Property Standards	<b>301-883-6100</b>
District IV Police Station	<b>301-749-4900</b>
(Non-Emergency # --Eastover)	
District V Police Station	<b>301-856-3130</b>
Potholes	<b>301-499-8520</b>



Delegation speaking at CSCA's Legislative Wrap Up in May. From left to right - Del. Aisha Braveboy, Del. Veronica Turner, Councilman Obie Patterson, Sen. C. Anthony Muse, and Del. Jay Walker

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## MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION AND RENEWAL

Please complete the following membership form and send it along with your check payable to the Camp Springs Civic Association, Inc. Attention Membership Chair, P.O. Box 1071, Camp Springs, Maryland 20757.

**Membership Period:** September 1, 2013 – August 31, 2014

**Membership Dues:** \$10.00 (per residential household)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Camp Springs, MD Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

If you would prefer an electronic version of the newsletter (improving our eco-friendly efforts) please check the yes box.

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
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I am already a member but would like to volunteer for one of the committees: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

I am interested in volunteering for one or more of the standing committees or activities listed below (check all that apply):

- |   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education          | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Works/Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety          | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> County Svcs        | <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Citizen Concerns     | <input type="checkbox"/> Zoning                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Environment     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adopt-A-Road       | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter/Communications   | <input type="checkbox"/> Distribution of Flyers | <input type="checkbox"/> IT/Social Media |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood Watch | <input type="checkbox"/> Local Business/Economic     | <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood Watch     |  |