



# Camp Springs Civic Association Community News

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

## CSCA Meetings

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday

- Mar. 14, 2018
- May 9, 2018
- Sept 12, 2018
- Nov. 14, 2018

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

## January 2018 Community Meeting

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE JANUARY COMMUNITY MEETING**

**Date:** Wednesday January 10, 2018  
**Time:** 7:00 pm  
**Location:** Thurgood Marshall Middle School  
4909 Brinkley Road, Camp Springs, MD 20748

Note: If Prince George's County Public Schools are closed for any reason on the meeting date, go to the CSCA website or contact a Board of Director listed on the newsletter, for an update on the scheduled meetings.

## HAPPY NEW YEAR

**Feature Topic:** Prince George's County Department of Permitting, Inspections, & Enforcement (DPIE): Daniel Dornan, Special Assistant to the Director of DPIE, will be the guest speaker at the Jan. 10, 2018 community meeting. He will provide an overview of its key services including property standards and snow/ice removal and answer questions. The Police and Fire Depts. will give updates. We also expect an update on the Allentown Gateway Project.

## Update on Medical Marijuana Dispensaries

*By Tammy Jones*

In the November edition of CSCA News, we reported on the activism of CSCA board members on the medical marijuana issue. CSCA board members, pastors and other concerned citizens worked together to encourage the County Council to take responsible action on the zoning bill for medical marijuana establishments. In November, we staged a protest at the County Administration building in advance of a Council hearing on the zoning law. Our advocacy was instrumental in getting County Council to increase the distance dispensaries can locate near schools and parks. We were successful with the help of Councilman Patterson who introduced an amendment to include daycares, recreational programs and before and aftercare school uses. However, we were also working with Connect Church in Camp Springs to



*CSCA Board member Leon Turner spoke at a rally at the Prince George's County Administration Building in November.*

encourage the County to include churches in the zoning bill. A medical marijuana dispensary plans to open shop next door to Connect Church. Instead of including churches in the bill, the County suggests they open daycares to avoid having dispensaries nearby.

## Progress in Prince George's County



*Artist rendering of the USCIS building under construction at the Branch Ave. Metro Station.*

We're starting to see a lot of progress in Prince George's County, particularly in commercial development. The County [led the state in job creation](#) last year, creating more than 10,600 net new jobs. That's more than any other Maryland jurisdiction, ranking 21st in the nation among large counties for job growth, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The County broke ground in Camp Springs on the [newest federal agency headquarters](#) to come to our County in over a decade. The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) will bring jobs, and is expected to spur new shops and restaurants. You will soon see new development along Allentown Rd., near the Branch Ave. exit. The Allentown Gateway project will include a Lidl grocer, WAWA, townhomes and other small businesses. Other areas near us are the beneficiaries of new development as well, they include [a major redevelopment in Suitland](#), and [a new Regional Medical Center](#) in Largo.



*Prince George's County Council members attend the groundbreaking of the USCIS building that is being constructed at the Camp Springs Town Center. The federal building will be in walking distance to the Branch Ave. Metro station. Councilman Obie Patterson is joined by colleagues Karen Toles, Dannielle Glaros, Derrick Davis, and Mel Franklin. Sen. Anthony Brown and County Executive Rushern Baker, among others also attended the ground-breaking event.*



*Members of the Camp Springs Civic Assoc., Connect Church and citizens of Camp Springs demonstrate against the Prince George's County Council's zoning bill at a rally in Upper Marlboro in November.*

## Stop Price Gouging Prescription Drugs

Maryland passed a landmark new law prohibiting price gouging by manufacturers of generic and off-patent prescription drugs. The law is designed to help make generic and off patent prescription drugs more affordable.

Maryland residents are encouraged to visit [www.healthcareforall.com/hearmystory](http://www.healthcareforall.com/hearmystory) to share how escalating drug prices have hurt them or their families.

## Prince George's County Council Leadership

The Prince George's County Council elected Council Member Dannielle Glaros (D) District 3 to serve as Chair for Legislative Year 2018. Council Member Todd Turner (D) District 4 was elected to serve as Vice Chair. The newly confirmed Council Leadership team presided over the first session of the Legislative Year 2018 on December 5, 2017. Chair Glaros and Vice Chair Turner will serve in leadership through December 4, 2018. Camp Springs is in District 8 and our Council member is Obie Patterson.

## Smoke Detector Law in Effect Now

Maryland implemented a new law on Jan. 1, 2018 that requires homeowners or renters to replace their smoke detectors that are more than 10 years old and operated only by batteries, with a unit that is powered by a sealed-in, 10-year battery that has a "hush" button feature. The smoke alarms are required for each floor of the house, primarily outside of bedrooms and kitchen areas. Residents can obtain a free smoke alarm by calling 311, or contacting the fire department to see if they will install one for you.

## New Olive Garden Restaurant Nearby

Prince George's County's newest Olive Garden location opened at Ritchie Station Marketplace in Capitol Heights at 1681 Ritchie Station Court. The grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony was held in December 2017. The Ritchie Station Marketplace Olive Garden is the county's fourth location, joining Bowie Town Center, The Mall at Prince George's in Hyattsville, and Towne Center Laurel.

This new location will create approximately 150 new jobs for the surrounding community. Other businesses at Ritchie Station Court include Dave & Buster's, BJ's Wholesale Club, Bed Bath & Beyond, Ashley and Regency Furniture showrooms, DSW and Pohanka's Hyundai and Volkswagen.



*CSCA President John Bailey and Board members Beverly Taylor and Leon Turner, demonstrating support for our community, attended Councilman Obie Patterson's Prayer Breakfast in November 2017.*



### Keep your pets safe when the temperature drops

Cold weather can pose serious threats to the health of your four-legged family members, which is why it's recommended to keep your pets inside. When you do take them out for a walk, the Prince George's County Animal Services Division encourages pet owners to closely monitor their exposure to winter elements throughout the season and to remember the law.

For more information about pet care, visit [www.princegeorgespets4us.com](http://www.princegeorgespets4us.com) or contact the Animal Services Facility at (301) 780-7200.



**IMPORTANT NUMBERS TO KNOW**

Prince George's County **311** for general PG Gov. info  
 Police Non-Emergency **301-352-1200**  
 Emergencies only..... **9-1-1**  
 Police, Fire, EMS or Sheriff  
 9-1-1- is **NOT** equipped to accept text messages.  
 District IV Police Station **301-749-4900**  
 District V Police Station **301-856-3130**  
 WSSC Emergency **301-206-4002**

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

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*Check out the CSCA Website for county and community news & events and to volunteer:  
<http://www.Campspringsca.org>*

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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, 2017 – August 31, 2018

**Membership Dues:** \$15.00 (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.

<b>Yes</b>	<input style="width: 100%; height: 100%;" type="checkbox"/>	<b>No</b>	<input style="width: 100%; height: 100%;" 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):

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