



The FPCA is a volunteer organization dedicated to improving and maintaining the quality of life for Forest Park residents. We strive to build strong ties between our Forest Park residents, businesses, civic leaders and visitors through programming and events.

HELLO DEAR FOREST PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEMBERS!



My name is Victor Davila, the new president of the FPCA. Thank you, Laura Walsh for your dedication and a wonderful job. I am honored to head the oldest civic association of the city and will continue to strive for excellence and the neighborhood pride that makes

the FPCA unique in the city.

Forest Park is one of the largest neighborhoods in Springfield with approximately 25,000 residents.

FPCA is the oldest civic association in the city (1964)

Forest Park neighborhood has 6 public school (Kensington, Washington, White Street, Summer Avenue, Beal Elementary, and Forest Park Middle School), a public library, the largest park in Springfield, a golf course, and many businesses and organizations.

Membership in the FPCA is open to any residents and/or business in Forest Park. All are welcome.

Last year was a wonderful year for the FPCA. We have supported many neighborhood events and organizations, from our schools, library and Farmer's Market, to our strong traditions like Illumination Night, the Halloween Party, and Annual Meeting. We look forward to continuing to enjoy these traditions and adding new ones too.

And welcome back to the newsletter! Starting again with this issue, we are excited to be able to offer our members a quarterly newsletter as a means to stay connected to current neighborhood events, connect with new members and our neighborhood as a whole! Content ideas and contributors are always welcome, share your ideas via email: beatebolen@gmail.com and let us know what's important to you! We aim to distribute the newsletter seasonally with at least a Spring, Fall, & Winter edition.

The newsletter is also a great tool to re-introduce the Association to neighborhood newcomers and new members! So welcome back and I hope you enjoy this edition of the revamped Forest Park Civic Association newsletter!

Best,

Victor Dávila

President, FPCA

OUR 29TH ANNUAL ILLUMINATION NIGHT IS JUNE 18TH

This year Illumination Night will be held Saturday, June 16, 2018 on Bronson Terrace. This is a highly anticipated annual event that includes a kids' parade at 6:30 pm. Neighborhood children are encouraged to decorate their bikes, scooters, wagons or ride on toy, wear costumes and ride around the terrace. Following the kids parade there will be live music, strawberry shortcake, lemonade and a raffle from 7-10pm. Illumination Night is a wonderful tradition of the FPCA that builds a sense of community and allows neighbors the opportunity to meet and mingle. The event is held on a different street in the neighborhood each year.

*Saturday, June
16th Bronson
Terrace*

*6:30 p.m. Kids'
Parade &
Strawberry
Shortcake*

*7:30 - 10 PM
Raffle Drawing,
Porch Judging,
Live Music
& Illuminaria*

This year the neighbors on Bronson Terrace and surrounding streets will decorate and illuminate their porches or front yards. A small prize and bragging rights will be awarded to the best decorated house! Get those bright ideas and your imaginations flowing! We look forward to seeing all of our Forest Park neighbors on Bronson Terrace in June!

Contributed by Katie Plante

FARMER'S MARKET AT FOREST PARK

Spring is here and that means the return of the outdoor Farmer's Market at Forest Park. The market is open weekly on Tuesdays, May through October, rain or shine, from 12:30 to 6 p.m. and is the largest in this part of the Pioneer Valley. Visitors to the Farmer's Market will find a wide range of offerings, from about 30 vendors with a product range which includes dairy, meat, baked goods, produce, kettle corn, honey, maple products, cheese, fresh juice, prepared food, wine, hard cider, soap and lotion, relishes, salsas, ham and jelly, plants, micro-greens, and more! Market visitors can access the market through both the Sumner Avenue and Trafton Road entrances to Forest Park. The vehicle fee is waived for Market-goers.

www.farmersmarketatforestpark.com

www.facebook.com/farmersmarketatforestpark

C3 CORNER: UPDATE FROM THE C3 FOREST PARK TEAM

Good news for Forest Park—the “C-3 Forest Park Safe Community Engagement Initiative” has recently expanded! Under the supervision of Sergeant Ariel Toledo, there are now seven Springfield Police Dept. officers assigned to the unit, plus one state trooper. In addition, there is representation from the Sheriff’s Dept. of Hampden County, plus the ongoing contributions of the Police Community Liaison and the C3 Civilian Coordinator. A number of community partners also participate regularly, including representatives of the Hampden District Attorney’s office, Springfield City Library, Springfield Public Schools, Boy Scouts, Gandara Stop Access Coalition, Roca Inc., MA Parents United, and Dunn and Phillips, P.C., along with many others. Forest Park C-3 is funded through the Springfield Police Dept. and focuses on improving our Forest Park neighborhood safety and community.



Weekly Meetings - Weekly daytime meetings are now held every Monday at 10AM at Calvary’s Love Church (17-19 Oakland Street, across from the Forest Park Middle School near Sumner Avenue—use the church parking lot and enter through the left ground-floor entrance). The evening meetings continue to be held every Thursday at 6PM at Holy Name Social Center (53 Alderman Street). Please join us for our weekly meetings and special community events—we need your ideas and support! Visit the Forest Park C3 team at one of the weekly meetings or on Facebook: www.facebook.com/forestparkc3police

Essential Goals - The essential goals of C-3 (which stands for “Counter Criminal Continuum Policing”) are to:

- Create a safe and secure environment
- Promote and foster community relationships/partnerships
- Reduce gang activity and violence
- Reduce drug activity, and
- Establish positive and effective youth/parental programs

The Unit has been working especially hard to decrease our neighborhood crime rate, to encourage our many law-abiding citizens to work closely with the officers in their law enforcement efforts, and to support youth mentoring and family educational efforts that will benefit our community.

Recent Community Activities

Over the last several months, C-3 have sponsored numerous neighborhood activities. These community activities have been designed to promote understanding and camaraderie between our local youth and their families and the C-3 officers.

Plans for an Expanded C-3 Summer Basketball League: In order to continue the notable success of the recent C-3 Basketball Leagues, an expanded Forest Park C-

3 Summer League will be held from early May (tentatively starting May 9) into July. This year, students from the neighborhood elementary schools will be part of the league (including Brookings, Kensington, Sumner Ave., Washington St., and White St. Schools), as well as the Forest Park Middle School students.

All interested neighborhood residents, parents, representatives of businesses and community groups are invited to attend the games at the Forest Park Middle School Gymnasium (tentatively on Tuesdays and Wednesdays).

Volunteers from the community or local businesses are always needed to support and publicize the League.

C-3 officers rely greatly on neighbors' feedback as to possible crimes or citizen complaints that affect the neighborhood. Sergeant Ariel Toledo (supervisor) may be reached at 413-478-7490. His E-mail is atoledo@springfieldpolice.net

State Trooper John Driscoll may be reached at 413-386-3747, John.Driscoll@massmail.state.ma.us; Ed Caisse of the Sheriff's Department may be reached at 413-858-0225, Ed.caisse@sdh.state.ma.us, The C-3 Civilian Coordinator is Kim Rivera, 413-504-8618, Kim@maparents.org, and the Police Community Liaison is Magda Colon-Rodriguez, 413-787-6359, mcolon@springfieldpolice.net; Of course, for emergencies, it is always best to call "911."

Contributed by Wayne Nelson

Forest Park Library information:

Our Neighborhood Through Our Eyes 2018: a Community Art Walk and Reception Wed. May 30, 2018, 5:30pm-7pm at the Forest Park Branch Library, 380 Belmont Ave, Springfield MA. -Celebrate the talent of the Sumner Avenue Elementary School Students. Students' photographs and essays reflecting their view of community and the neighborhood will be on display at the Forest Park Branch Library, Drama Studio, Food Zone, Forest Park Eye Care, Cafe Christo, and Trinity United Methodist Church for a week. Join us as we walk to each of the sites. We will conclude at Trinity United Methodist church for refreshments. Special thanks to our community and the C3 Forest Park Police Unit. For more information, call 413-263-6843.

Summer Reading Kickoff Block Party @ the Forest Park Branch Library, Thursday, June 14, 4-6pm Help us kick off our summer reading program by joining the Forest Park Library for a celebratory block party! Our theme this year is *Discover Your Summer: Your Story Your Library*.

Traveling this summer? Did you know you can check out e-books audio books and music for free with your library card? Check out our website at www.springfieldlibrary.org to find out how or call a librarian at 263-6843.

Thursdays in May, 4:30-6:30pm. Bike Repair Workshop for Teens. Join us as RADSpringfield will be hosting a weekly event through the month of May that teaches teens how to maintain and repair their bikes at Forest Park Library.

Toddler Storytime throughout the summer. Tuesdays, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Join us for stories, songs, movement, fingerplays, a craft, and playtime. Adult must accompany children. Presented in collaboration with Home City Families. Recommended for ages 1-3 1/2 years old, siblings welcome.

Afterthoughts Book Discussion Group, Thursday June 7, 1:30-2:30pm We select a new book to discuss every month. Library copies of the book will be available at the branch.

Contributed by Maeleah Carlisle

Upcoming Dates and Events

Tuesday May 8th
FPCA Monthly Meeting – 7:00 pm
Faith United Church
(52 Sumner Avenue).

Tuesday June 12th
FPCA Monthly Meeting –
7:00 pm at Faith
United Church

Saturday June 16th
Illumination Night –
Bronson Terrace –
6:30 pm

No monthly meeting
in July and August –
however there may be
committee meetings

Tuesday September 11th
FPCA Monthly Meeting – 7:00 pm at
Faith United Church
(52 Sumner Avenue).

Visit us on the web at:

www.forestparkcivic.org

or

www.facebook.com/forestparkcivicassoc/

**Forest Park Civic Association
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