

Volume 2 | Issue 2
Fall 2018

www.forest-park-civic.org
forestparkcivic.spfld@gmail.com

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.

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 schools (Kensington, Washington, White Street, Sumner 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 resident and/or business in Forest Park.

All are welcome.



HELLO FOREST PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEMBERS



What a good summer it has been. This summer the F.P.C.A. continued its tradition with

a wonderful Illumination Night event, supported the Springfield Puerto Rican Parade contingent march in NYC, supported the Forest Park Library branch with the purchase of an oversized checker game for their summer activities, participated in “Our neighborhood through our eyes” photograph exhibit at the library and supported the National Night out event with the rental of an Arcade truck for the use of our youth. Thanks to Wayne Nelson and Beate Bolen for their help staffing a table for the F.P.C.A. during the National Night Out.

During our regular meeting we heard great presentations from Greening the X, met the new C-3 team, and supported the McKnight neighborhood council in their effort to develop the McKnight Rail Trail Project.

My friends, the City of Springfield is undergoing major changes and we must stay vigilant that those changes do not negatively impact our beloved Forest Park. Please feel free to contact me with any concerns or ideas to improve our beloved Forest Park at victordavila@comcast.net

Best,

Victor Dávila



ILLUMINATION NIGHT 2018

Thank you to Katie Plante, the residents of Bronson Terrace and vicinity, and all the hardworking volunteers that gave so generously of their time, talent and resources to make the 29th Annual Illumination Night, held on June 23rd on Bronson Terrace, such a big successful.

Our winners for their creative decorating of house and yard are:

Best Theme:

48 Park Edge- In Full Bloom
109 Bronson Terrace-Sports Theme

435 Trafton Rd.-Patriotic Theme
Honorable mention for creativity and lighting:

76 Bronson Terrace
46 Bronson Terrace
425 Trafton Rd.



Bike Parade - Illumination Night on Bronson Terrace

FARMER'S MARKET AT FOREST PARK

Contributed by Belle Rita Novak

The Farmers' Market at Forest Park is two thirds done for this

21st season. Even with all of the rain we've had this summer, the produce is gorgeous. It is such a pleasure to make a meal with just items from the market.

In addition to produce, we have beef, pork, chicken, dairy products, baked goods, both sweet and savory, honey, maple products, wine and hard cider, prepared food to either eat at the market, or take home, beverages, and more. You almost don't have to go to the grocery store at this time of year.

We are fortunate to have lots of farms in Western Massachusetts, and the people who are willing to do the hard work of farming. I encourage everyone to patronize either a farmers' market, or farm stand. Go out of your way if necessary to give them your support.

Last year a new program started in Massachusetts called the Healthy Incentive Program aka HIP. This is for folks who receive SNAP (food stamp) benefits. Depending on the size of one's family, they get either \$40, \$60, or \$80 per month in fresh fruits and vegetables. The customer goes to a participating farmer, chooses what they want, brings it to the cashier, and the money for the purchase comes out of the shopper's SNAP account. Then, when the transaction is over, the money used goes right back into the shopper's SNAP account. It doesn't matter how much the person gets in benefits. Some people only get \$15 in SNAP

benefits, but they still get the full HIP benefit.

HIP is a win-win program. The SNAP beneficiaries and the farmers benefit.

Our market runs through the end of October. Our Saturday winter market begins the second Saturday of November.

www.farmersmarketatforestpark.com

FROM THE FOREST PARK BRANCH LIBRARY

Contributed by Maeleah Carlisle

380 Belmont Ave.
Springfield, MA. 413-
263-6843.

New programs for the fall:

Adults:

Saturdays, 11:15 am

Knot Just Knitters:

Whether you knit, crochet, cross-stitch or crewel, this is the place for you. New members are welcome and current members are willing to teach their skills. Some yarn and needles are provided, but donations of such items will always be welcome.

Recommended for ages 13 and up.

Teens:

RAD Springfield is returning with their *Bike Repair Clinic*, **Thursday, September 27, 4:30 p.m., October 18 and 25th.** Teens, bring your bike and learn how to repair or maintain it

Friday, September 28, 3:15 p.m., *Community Chess for Teens.* Come test out your chess skills or learn how to play chess with a community police officer. Food provided. Recommended ages 11-18 years.

Thursday, October 11, *Written in the Stars: Star Lab-* Leave Earth with us as the Springfield Science Museum. StarLab will be at the Forest Park Library with their portable planetarium. Explore the widest reaches of the universe in celebration of Teen Read Week and learn about all of the mysteries of space.

Presentation start times will be at 4 P.M. and at 5 P.M.

Children:

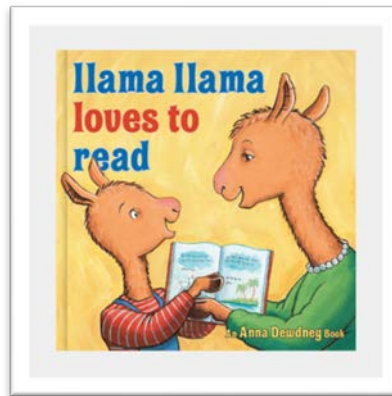
Read to Momo: A Dog Who Listens will return on **Wednesday's at 3:30 p.m.** beginning in September.

Small Talk Springfield, **Saturday September 8, 9:30am for 13 weeks.**

Parents with children ages 0-32 months will learn fun new ways to talk, read and play with their baby. Call Jennifer Johnston 263-6828 ext. 293 or email

jjohnston@springfieldlibrary.org to register.

Llama Llama Loves the Library! **Tuesday September 18, 10:30am,**



Llama Llama will come visit the library in costume! Enjoy some llama stories, crafts and activities.

November is Dinovember: Dinosaurs have invaded the library! Visit the Forest Park Branch and see what they are up to now! Every time you visit, you may enter our raffle for a "Dino Prize." For families with children ages 2 - 12.

World Kindness Month. **November 1 through November 30.**

Celebrate World Kindness! Come in all month long and leave anonymous words of kindness on one of our autumn leaves. We will enter you in a raffle for a \$15 gift card. Stop by on World Kindness Day, **Tuesday, Nov. 13,** for a special treat! During open hours,

Check our website for our full listing of programs at www.springfieldlibrary.org

LIBRARY SERVICE: Did you know you can get personal recommendations for Your Next Great Story? Visit bit.ly/YourNextGreatStory and tell us about what you like to read, watch or listen to. Our librarians will e-mail or mail you a list of recommendations or you can pick up the list at your favorite Springfield City Library branch.



STOP ACCESS DRUG FREE COMMUNITIES COALITION
Contributed by Sharon Hall-Smith

The Stop Access Drug Free Communities Coalition is a city-wide coalition of residents and organizations, managed by the Gandara Center, working together to promote youth success by preventing and reducing underage drinking and marijuana use, specifically in the Forest Park, Maple High / Six Corners, and South End neighborhoods.

Drug Free Communities Coalitions includes 12 sectors of the community working to develop comprehensive strategies to reduce youth drug and alcohol use.

Forest Park Civic Association member, Wayne Nelson, is a member of the coalition Steering Committee. Stop Access is funded by the Office of National Drug Control Policy and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, US Department of Health and Human Services.

So far in 2018, the coalition has:

- Coordinated the administration of the Prevention Needs Assessment (PNA) Survey in the Springfield Public Schools,
- Hosted a community presentation of the PNA Survey results at Forest Park Middle School.
- Organized a community forum on Keeping Youth

Healthy & Safe in the Age of Legal Adult Marijuana Use.

Please join us for our Annual Planning Meeting on Thursday, 9/20/18, 2:30-5:00 p.m. and be a part of the solution.

For more information (or for a copy of the PNA survey report), please contact us at 413-733-9024 or shall-smith@gandaracenter.org
Visit our Facebook page at : <https://www.facebook.com/StopAccessSpringfieldCoalition/>



National Night out at Holy Name Church on Tuesday August 7th, 2018. The FPCA donated the use of a mobile Arcade for the kids

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**Wayne Nelson, Katie Plante and Victor Davila on Illumination Night**

*If you have Pictures, stories, articles and ideas you'd like to see in the next FPCA Newsletter, please send them to Beate Bolen at [beatebolen@gmail.com](mailto:beatebolen@gmail.com)*

## ***Upcoming Meetings and Events:***

FPCA Monthly Meetings are usually held the second Tuesday of the month.

### **Tuesday, Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

FPCA Monthly Meeting – 7:00 pm Faith United Church, 52 Sumner Avenue, Springfield

### **Tuesday , Oct. 9th, 2018**

FPCA Monthly Meeting – 7:00 pm Faith United Church, 52 Sumner Avenue, Springfield

### **Sunday Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> 2018 - Halloween Party**

### **Tuesday , Nov. 13th, 2018**

FPCA Monthly Meeting – 7:00 pm Faith United Church, 52 Sumner Avenue, Springfield

### **Tuesday, Dec. 11th, 2018**

FPCA Monthly Meeting – 7:00 pm Faith United Church, 52 Sumner Avenue, Springfield

### **January 2019 & February 2019 Meeting dates TBD**

### **Tuesday, Mar. 12th, 2019**

FPCA Monthly Meeting – 7:00 pm Faith United Church, 52 Sumner Avenue, Springfield

### **Tuesday, Apr. 9th, 2019**

FPCA Monthly Meeting – 7:00 pm Faith United Church, 52 Sumner Avenue, Springfield

### **Tuesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

FPCA Monthly Meeting – 7:00 pm Faith United Church, 52 Sumner Avenue, Springfield

**Visit us on the web at:**

[www.forestparkcivic.org](http://www.forestparkcivic.org)

or

[www.facebook.com/forestparkcivicassoc/](https://www.facebook.com/forestparkcivicassoc/)

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