



Find me on  
Facebook 

View my profile on  
Linked 

Follow me on  
twitter 

- [Board Moves Closer to Giving Themselves a Pay Raise:](#) At Tuesday's Board of Supervisors' meeting the Board voted 8-2 in favor of advertising a public hearing at the January 27<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. Supervisor Smyth and I voted against considering a raise.
- [Board Needs to Lead on Transparency in the Geer Shooting:](#) Very shortly we will get transparency as a result of a court order. In the future it should not take a court order for the county to be transparent.
- [Join Me at a Senior Safety Summit:](#) On Tuesday January 20<sup>th</sup> I will be hosting a Senior Safety Summit at my office (6140 Rolling Road, Springfield) from 6:30 until 8:30pm. County staff will be making presentations on how you can prevent having to make that 911 call.
- [Join Me at a Forum on Human Trafficking:](#) Join me to learn more about the issue of human trafficking in Fairfax County in the West Springfield High School auditorium at 7 p.m. on January 28.

### **Board Moves Closer to Giving Themselves a Pay Raise**

At Tuesday's Board of Supervisors' meeting the Board voted 8-2 in favor of advertising a public hearing at the January 27<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. The public hearing will advertise that the next Board of Supervisors receive an annual salary of \$95,000 (\$100,000 for the Chairman), compared to their current compensation of \$75,000. Supervisor Smyth and I voted against the motion to consider the increase.

The policies of this Board have led to a 14% tax increase on our residents over the least 3 years, a commercial vacancy rate hovering at 19% which is the highest in a quarter of a century, a budget shortfall surpassing \$140 million this year alone, and at the very same Board meeting we voted to send a letter to the bond rating agencies urging them to keep our AAA bond rating intact.

I cannot support even looking at raising our salaries. Our residents don't have the luxury of raising their salaries to pay for Board member raises.

### **Board Needs to Lead on Transparency in the Geer Shooting**

While I am pleased that some information about the shooting has finally been released, I am disappointed in how long this has taken, and how a court order had to be issued for the release of this information.

I have pressed the Board to back transparency since early in this case, but instead we as a Board have opted to follow the well-intentioned but overly-protective advice of the County Attorney's office. Because of that we sit here 16 months later still with no resolution for the Geer family nor the officer, the case in the Federal Government's hands, and see Fairfax County's reputation take hit after hit each day in major media outlets across the nation.

At the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors' meeting yesterday there was a proposal to initiate a search for an expert on information disclosures in cases of police shootings and other serious incidents. The proposal requested that the County Executive work with the Virginia Attorney General's office, and also identify a funding source.

As elected officials it is our job to make policy, not hire an "outside expert" to do our job for us. While in this case it may make sense to get outside advice what we can't do is outsource policy-making.

We currently have the resources of a professional staff at our disposal, which could research national and even international best practices once we determine our policy. And perhaps our biggest resource is our citizens, many of whom that I have met with that have already done work on this issue. The proposal did not include the opportunity for citizen input.

Very shortly we will get transparency as a result of a court order. In the future it should not take a court order for the county to act.

### **Join me at a Senior Safety Summit**

On Tuesday January 20<sup>th</sup> I will be hosting a Senior Safety Summit at my office (6140 Rolling Road, Springfield) from 6:30 until 8:30pm. County staff will be making

presentations on how you can prevent having to make that 911 call.

*Springfield District Supervisor Pat Herrity and the Springfield District Council invite you to attend*

## **Safety in Our Community Preventing the 9-1-1 Call**

**A Senior Health & Safety Seminar**

**Tuesday, January 20, 2015  
6:30 p.m-8:30 p.m.**

**West Springfield Government Center  
6140 Rolling Road, Springfield, VA 22152**

**Presentations by the following  
Fairfax County Agencies:**

Fire & Rescue Department

Police Department

Sheriff's Office

Office of Consumer Affairs

Office of Emergency Management

Health Department



**Presentations will include:**

- Fire and Life Safety/Fall Prevention
- Home and Personal Safety
- Project Lifesaver
- How to Defend yourself from Scams and other Frauds
- Managing Chronic Disease and Diabetes

**For more information, contact:**

Springfield District Supervisor Pat Herrity's office at  
703-451-8873, TTY 711, or email at  
[springfield@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:springfield@fairfaxcounty.gov)

## **Join Me at a Forum on Human Trafficking**

Join me to learn more about the issue of human trafficking in Fairfax County in the [West Springfield High School](#) (6100 Rolling Road, Springfield) auditorium at 7 p.m. on January 28. Detective Bill Woolf, FCPD Human Trafficking Unit, will lead a presentation and will address risk factors, common scenarios and where to go for help. Detective Woolf arrests traffickers, helps rescue teens and works hard to educate the public locally, nationally, and across the globe.

Dr. Liz Payne, FCPS coordinator for Family Life and Physical Education, will share an update on what is being done to provide age-appropriate instruction for students in our schools.

Many people believe teen sex trafficking only happens to runaways or in other more urban settings. But, it is on the rise across Northern Virginia and teens are now being targeted in public venues; bus stops, walking down the street, parties, shopping malls, through social media outlets, and more. Sex traffickers do not discriminate; they recruit victims across ethnic, economic and gender strata. Most teens are unaware they are being drawn in and often don't recognize the signs of manipulation until it is too late.

I hope to see you there.

Web: [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/springfield](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/springfield)

Email: [springfield@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:springfield@fairfaxcounty.gov)

Phone: 703-451-8873