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Board Matter

August 3, 2009

Madam Chairman—On Tuesday, August 25 at 7:30 pm, members of the Springfield community will march over Veterans Bridge in the heart of the Springfield revitalization district and hold a community celebration at the American Legion end of the bridge. The celebration will feature music, food from local restaurants, and—quite possibly—a few notables will feel the urge to say a few words.

This year's BridgeWalk will have an added feature. In addition Fort Belvoir's participation that we have been honored to have since the first BridgeWalk in 2001, this year's event will feature an Army Community Covenant signing. The covenant is an affirmation of support by state and local communities to active, guard, and reserve service members and their families.

The BridgeWalk is a community building event that began eight years ago to mark the installation of new lighting on the Amherst Avenue Bridge in central Springfield. Veterans Bridge (also known as the Amherst Avenue Bridge) crosses over Old Keene Mill Road and links both sides of Springfield's commercial revitalization area. The bridge is a gateway to central Springfield. With its acorn lights, wide sidewalks, pedestrian stairway, and attractive façade, it dovetails nicely with the community's vision for a revitalized Springfield and is an attractive gateway to the central business district.

Madam Chairman—I invite my colleagues to join me on August 25 and see how we celebrate community in Lee District and without objection, I ask the Office of Public Affairs to advertise this event.